



# News

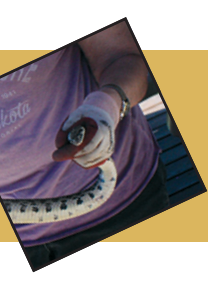
Local People. Local Stories.

Comics	9
Community	3
Property Tax	6
Puzzles	7 & 10
Townsend School	2
History	12
Religion	8
Weather	10

Volume I, Issue No. 52

July 7, 2023

\$1.00



Wranglin' Bull Snakes!—p.2



Broadwater Headlines in Helena!—p.4



Townsend's Travelers!—p.12

## ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION AT HOMETOWN HELENA

Nancy Marks  
Reporter



MT43 News was invited to take part a "Hometown Helena" event at the Montana Club in Helena.

We made the event a Townsend Update with Nancy Marks and Vic Sample speaking about MT43 News; Jeff Langlinais spoke about Rotary; Laura Obert spoke about Fall Fest; John Hahn spoke about BCDC and Julie Dooling spoke about the importance of Community Newspapers to the Legislature in getting information out to the Montana Communities.

The following is Nancy Marks' presentation about MT43 News on the eve of our 1 year anniversary:

Thank you Emily for that special introduction.

Thank you for allowing us to present to the businesses of Helena. I will begin by thanking the businesses of Helena for supporting our new newspaper by advertising in it.

While Townsend area folks don't see themselves as being a bedroom community of Helena there is no doubt we are an integral part of the Helena community. And as a separate town, we very much appreciate that we have such close access to Montana State Government offices, and to good shopping nearby. So many Montana towns are miles from either. Thank you for that.

Mt 43 News's one year anniversary publishing weekly is July 14. They said it couldn't be done! Most new small weeklies fold before that one year rolls up. We cover county commission and city council meetings. The four-day school week has been front and center for District #1 School District. We've followed the story



COME VISIT OUR WEBPAGE: [HTTPS://WWW.MT43NEWS-BUSINESS-SERVICES.COM/](https://www.mt43news-business-services.com/)

closely. School sports has been a big part of our paper along with theater and arts in Townsend.

We are proud that we have made two new paying jobs in Townsend, helping the economy. We also pay our writers and have a high school intern whom we pay also. It's been a great ride with fabulous people to work with who have the chutzpah to put themselves out there in the form of articles and columns. And photos! We have lots of photos of people. We have more photos of exciting events.

We help Helena and the Independent Record Print shop who prints our paper weekly. What a gifted and dedicated group of people that shop has! Diane Chatriand, Alan Barta and his crew and Mike Farr bent over backwards helping us get started. Keep in mind that NONE of the people who agreed to jump into building MT 43 News had ever worked for a newspaper! Our layout person was a paraprofessional at the school and

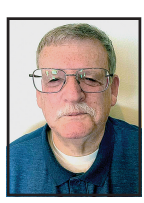
moonlighted cleaning the post office in Townsend!

The greatest gift to Mt43News has been the board of directors who believe in the vision of hometown news. They never faltered last winter when we were in between layout persons, or when the money started to run out. They bring to the table years of experience in technology, legal work setting up our business, and running our books. And the connections: Several board members are Townsend natives who know everybody. That can't hurt!

Although we will never cover state or Helena news, we cannot take the place regional news coverage. However, we appreciate the need for having unbiased and fair coverage of all events and business in Broadwater County. We will continue to enlighten our readers about businesses in Helena and Townsend. We will continue to offer the information in one place – MT 43 News - in print and online. Thank you for your time.

### MT43 NEWS - ONE YEAR OF PUBLISHING

Victor Sample



This week (July 7) will be the 52nd edition of MT43 News – one year of publishing a weekly newspaper. I never really imagined myself working on a newspaper and I am quite surprised to find myself deeply involved with one.

In March of 2022, I received a call from Nancy Marks about a meeting of a group of community members to discuss the viability of starting a new weekly Community Newspaper to replace the Broadwater Reporter. Over the next few months, there were a series of meetings discussing whether a new community newspaper was viable, the nature of the paper (Corporation, LLC, Non-profit) and who would be interested in actually working on the paper.

A large number of community members attended the meetings including Laura Obert, J.B. Howick, Jeff Ross, Nancy Marks, Laura Cater-Woods, John Hahn, Rachael Elliott-Brug, Linda Huth, John Hahn, Angie Janacaro and Kelli Morris. A great cross-section of people who are involved in the community.

In May of 2022, there was a formal vote taken to undertake a community newspaper called MT43 News (thank you Linda Huth) as a corporation. The mission of the newspaper was to gather and distribute factual, unbiased stories which affect the daily lives of Broadwater County residents.

That day a Board of Directors was formed with J.B. Howick (President), Jeff Ross (Vice-President), Nancy Marks (Secretary), Vic Sample (Treasurer) and Rachael Elliott-Brug (Director). J.B. Howick volunteered to draft the corporate bylaws, incorporate them with the MT Secretary of State office, obtain a FEIN from the IRS, etc.

MT43 News was incorporated on June 1, 2022, and we began the task of producing a newspaper. No one involved had any experience with publishing a newspaper!

And what a ride we have been on for the last 12 months!

Over the last 12 months:

- We have 380 subscribers and sell another 200+ papers a week at local stores and restaurants; giving us a circulation of about 600 papers a week.
- We have published over 1500 articles
- More than 150 community members have contributed articles, editorials and letters to the editor
- Over 150 people, companies and organizations have advertised in MT43 News
- We created 2 new jobs in the community
- We have a high school student intern that writes a regular column for us
- Eileen Clarke, Ellie West, Allison Kosto, Linda Huth, Pat Plantenberg, Dee Gannon, Mikayla Kraft, Eliza

MT 43 News- One Year, 2

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS INSPECT FAIRGROUNDS UPDATES

Nancy Marks  
Reporter

As Rodeo and Fair time draws closer, Broadwater County Commissioners toured the fairgrounds update of the Livestock Pavilion and 4-H Building on Tuesday, June 27. It was all hands on deck with the design engineers, the architect and the contractor there to demonstrate progress on the project funded through Canyon Ferry Trust, Graymont Western and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.



Architect Scott Cromwell, Slate Architecture, explains the progress on improvement work at the Fairgrounds 4-H Building June 27. Left to right: Cromwell; Commissioner Darrel Folkvord, AV Contractor Mike Albrecht; Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer; Fair Manager Jessica Erickson; Fairgrounds manager Bill Malone(behind) and Great Western Engineer Karl Yakowick. Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Inspect Fairgrounds, 2

MT 43 NEWS, INC.  
401 BROADWAY STREET STE A  
TOWNSEND, MT 59644-2323

MT 43 News- One Year, 1

McLaughlin and Matt Nelson all regularly submit articles to the paper.

We never imagined how much effort publishing a newspaper would be. It takes 7 people working hard to get the paper out – and we could not have done it without the help and encouragement of Diane Chatriand and Alan Barta at the Helena Independent Record.

Of course, it has not been a smooth trip. There have been many challenges and obstacles to overcome.

Initially, we thought getting a USPS bulk mailing permit would be quite expensive. It actually was not overwhelmingly expensive – but the amount of effort it has taken was huge. After 8 months of working with a USPS representative (and much thanks to Tina Larsen and Sheila Roach at Opportunity Bank for their assistance), we received notice that the permit was approved. Yet at 12 months we are still operating with a “pending” bulk mailing permit.

MT43 News started with the goal of covering the entirety of Broadwater County. It is difficult to cover everything in the Townsend, Toston, Radersburg, Winston and the Silos area. Covering the Wheatland area of Broadwater County has been quite a challenge!

Even with more than 150 community members contributing articles, gathering the news of Broadwater County is a huge task. Nancy Marks is our Reporting Manager. Nancy attends nearly every county, city and school meeting, as well as almost every event in the community. Even then, Nancy cannot possibly do it all – she coordinates the reporting of our Correspondents: Dee Gannon, Mikayla Kraft, Matt Nelson and Eliza McLaughlin to ensure that we cover as much Broadwater County news as we possibly can.

With over 1500 articles published in the last 12 months by over 150 community members, it is a large task to edit all of the articles. Rachael Elliott-Brug, Linda Huth and Laura Cater-Woods have done a truly remarkable job of editing articles. It would be easy for the editors to become a bottleneck, but they flowed the work through remarkably well.

JB Howick took on the job of laying out the newspaper – and what a job he did. The MT43 News Board was extremely happy with the look of the paper! But, laying out the paper turned out to be much more difficult and time-consuming than we could ever have imagined. We experienced a lot of disruption in the look and feel of the paper as we experienced high turnover in the layout editor job.

MT43 News is very appreciative of JB Howick for training our current layout editor – Sarah Tallwhiteman. Sarah learned well from JB and is doing an outstanding job as Ad Editor and Layout Editor. We are very proud of the work she does and how professional the paper looks.

We would also like to thank the Broadwater County and City employees that contribute so much content: Commissioners Agendas, Commissioners Minutes, City Council Minutes and the Justice of the Peace get submitted to us every week. It would be impossible to cover Broadwater County news without them!

The first year is now behind us and we are all looking forward to year two. We could not do this without the support of the Broadwater Community. Thank you to all that have helped us be successful.

Inspect Fairgrounds, 1

Mike Albrecht of AV Construction, Bozeman, walked through the new restrooms now attached to the north side of the 4-H building. The work continues insulating, drywalling and painting the rooms along with the installation of sinks, stools and urinals. Scott Cromwell of Slate Architecture, Helena, explained they had a hard time ordering and receiving the double door which will allow entrance to the building from the east side. The 12ft overhead door has been covered over by the restroom addition. It has been replaced by an 8ft overhead door.



Dick Anderson Construction workers shown attaching roof for the Fairgrounds Livestock Pavilion last week. Photo Credit: Nancy Marks

Great West Engineering associate Karl Yakowick detailed the two-phase project which included redoing the sewer drain fields and septic systems which were more than 50 years old and did not work well.

The Livestock Pavilion south of the Livestock building is now complete with metal roofing. It is an open-air building to be used for the 4-H Livestock competitions and auctions. Dick Anderson Construction, Helena completed the contract for \$388,000.

Fairgrounds Manager Bill Malone and Fair Manager Jessica Erickson were on hand for the walk-through.

SOD BEING INSTALLED AT SKATE PARK!

Patrick Plantenberg



Since the skate park was installed about a year ago in Holloway Park, it has been a very popular place for kids and adults! Drive by almost any day and you will see skaters, bikers, scooters, etc. crafting their skills.

The other thing you’d see as you drove by was the bare dirt surrounding the skate park - until last week. The sprinkler system was finally finished, and sod installed on all but 2,000 square feet of the skate park.

How wonderful the skate park looks because of the new sod and the new pavilion installed by the Amish working for the Broadwater County Parks and Recreation Board.



First group of volunteers on June 21st. Photo Credits: Pat Plantenberg

The sod was purchased from SodWorks at a discount by STOKe (Science, Technology, Outdoor Knowledge, and Entrepreneurship), the force behind getting the skatepark built. The first load of 2,000 square feet of sod was delivered, installed, and stapled on the steep



Part of second group of volunteers laying sod. Photo Credits: Pat Plantenberg

slopes by a large group of people on June 21st on the southern end of the skate park. A week later, 6,000 square feet of sod arrived, and another large group of folks showed up and laid the sod around all but the last 2,000 square feet on the west end of the skate park! Wow! The groups worked hard and fast!

The evening after the sod was installed Jeff Ament (the Pearl Jam bassist who donated \$50,000 to help get the skatepark built) and his friends showed up and skated on the park for awhile as well as some other adults from Texas and Georgia!

It takes a village! It was so nice to see so many people turn out to complete the work at the skatepark. Many organizations and volunteers helped lay sod including members from: STOKe, Rotary Club of Townsend and spouses, Missouri Valley Marketing, Broadwater County Parks and Recreation Board, Hahn Ranch, Old Baldy 4H Club, Townsend Flooring, Townsend Schools administration and students, Townsend Tree Board, Townsend Seed, Broadwater County Development Corporation, Holloway Park neighbors, and probably a few we forgot.

This past week, pavers were installed around the pavilion. The rest of the sod should be installed by July 8th.

Thank you to all who helped make the skate park a reality in Townsend!

BULL SNAKES AND RATTLE SNAKES ON THE MOVE

Hugh Van Swearingen



As the weather turns warm and the ground dries out, we begin to see more rattlesnakes and bull snakes. This snake ended up snared in the bird netting Nancy Marks uses to save her plants from deer. The adult bull snake was about 4 feet in length and fairly docile after it was released from the death-strangling bird netting. She has had both bull snakes and rattlesnakes in the same predicament in previous years.

Both bull snakes (also call gopher snakes) and rattlesnakes are ferocious mice killers. They rid gardens and grasslands of grasshoppers and unwanted insects. Please do not kill them, but shoo them away from living



Nancy Marks holds a 4ft adult bull snake she rescued from bird netting in her yard over the weekend. Photo Credits: Hugh Van Swearingen

areas. Be careful walking in tall grass. According to Amphibians and Reptiles of Montana, both rattlers and bull snakes can climb trees. Snakes over 8ft in length have been documented.

Please do not kill snakes; instead, shoo them away from living areas. Be careful walking in tall grass which is good snake habitat.

BROADWAY BLOCK PARTY BRINGS OUT THE BIKES

Nancy Marks Reporter

The inaugural Broadway Street Block Party brought out beautiful motorcycles and great music Saturday evening as part of Townsend’s Fourth of July events. It was a tough lift for the organizers however.



Admirers enjoyed seeing bikes and more bikes on the street. Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Townsend School Calendar
Jul 11 - Jul 13 Summer camp at commona
Jul 11 6:00PM School Board Meeting at Community Room

NorthWestern Energy
Delivering a Bright Future
Sponsor of Townsend School Page

7th Annual BROADWATER COUNTY County Wide Yard Sale
Missouri Valley Marketing
Saturday July 22nd
Contact Pam @ (406)422-7028 to put your sale on the map!
Participation is free, donations accepted.

# TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDARS

- July 7**  
 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry  
 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- July 8**  
 6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945  
 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
- July 10**  
 5:00pm Flynn's Bible Camp: Men's Bible Camp at Flynn's Cabin - Dry Creek  
 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
- July 11**  
 5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry  
 6:00pm Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway
- July 12**  
 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- July 13**  
 3:00pm Farmer's Market  
 7:00pm Al-Anon at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
- July 14**  
 5:00pm Historic Canton Church Presents: Mary Bradford as Nancy Cooper Russel - Wife and Manager  
 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry  
 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- July 15**  
 8:30am Broadwater Rod and Gun Club 2023 Walleye Derby at Silos Recreation Area, Canyon Ferry Lake  
 6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945  
 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

## County and Government Calendar

- July 11**  
 1:00pm Planning Board at Flynn Building
- July 12**  
 10:00am Commission Meeting at Flynn Building  
 7:00pm Noxious Weed Board Meeting at Flynn Building
- Do you know of or have a free event open to the community?**  
 Email us, [mt43news@mt43news.com](mailto:mt43news@mt43news.com), or call our office, 406-266-0086, so we can add you to our Community Calendar!
- Interested in advertising to make your event more noticeable?**  
**Perfect!**  
 Check out our Ad Submission Form at [mt43news.com](http://mt43news.com) and email or call us! We would love to help! 
- You can also stop in at our office: 401 Broadway. We'd love to see you!**

## JOB OPENING

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Chief Administrative Officer Broadwater County is currently seeking a

highly motivated individual for their Part-Time Chief Administrative Officer that will report directly to the Board of County Commissioners.

The successful candidate must be able to assist the County Commissioners in the management of all county operations and departments under their supervision and is responsible for managing logistics and activities essential to running county business.

The CAO will enhance the operational effectiveness of Broadwater County by facilitating a diverse range of processes and procedures at all levels of county management. Education may vary; an advanced degree in Public Administration, Business Administration, Public Finance or Law is preferred, but not required.

This position is a Permanent, Part-time (up to 30 hours/week) vacancy starting at \$31.49/hr.

To apply, please email your cover letter and resume directly to Melinda Reidy at [envhealth@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:envhealth@co.broadwater.mt.us) by Monday, July 10 at 5:00 pm.

Resumes and cover letters received by July 10, 2023 will be favorably considered.

This position is open until filled. For full job description, please visit the Broadwater County website at [www.broadwatercountymt.com](http://www.broadwatercountymt.com). Broadwater County is an equal opportunity employer. Broadwater County shall, upon request, provide reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified individuals with disabilities.

## 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 ROD AND GUN CLUB WALLEYE DERBY



July 15, 2023 (8:30am-2:30pm) on Canyon Ferry Out of Broadwater Bay near the Silos

Maximum 90 2-person teams Forms can be found

at [www.broadwaterrodandgun.com](http://www.broadwaterrodandgun.com)

Please fill out entry form and include entry fee.

Make checks out to Broadwater Rod & Gun Club and mail to PO BOX 641 Townsend Mt 59644

\*\*\*\*\*Entry fee is discounted to \$100 if post-marked, or received, by July 1, 2023\*\*\*\*\*

**HURRY AND GET YOUR ENTRY IN BEFORE JULY 1, 2023 TO SAVE \$50.00!!!!**

A first prize of \$1,000 is based on a full field (90 2-person teams). Each of three team categories – female/female, male/female, adult/child (17 & under) – will have cash prizes. Contestants may have five people in the boat but only 2 fishing. The derby is a catch and release format but one fish per entrant can be kept as a trophy. A mandatory pre-tournament rules meeting will be held on July 14, 2023 @ 7pm at the Broadwater Rod & Gun Club indoor shooting range at 96 Canton Lane Townsend, Mt

For information contact:

Debi Randolph [debi.randolph@gmail.com](mailto:debi.randolph@gmail.com) or 406-451-6035 (texting is best)

Doug Breker at 406-949-0070 or email [dbreker@mt.net](mailto:dbreker@mt.net)

Send Entry Forms to:

Broadwater Rod & Gun Club Derby, PO Box 641, Townsend, MT, 59644

Please include your email address! That is how we let you know your entry is received and any updates.

## TOWNSEND ROTARY INDUCTS NEW PRESIDENT

Pat Pantenberg  
 Rotarian



On June 27th, the Rotary Club of Townsend held its annual installation of new officers for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Jeanine Stone is the new president replacing Diane Brown. Jeanine works for the Montana Department of Corrections and has been serving as secretary of the club.

Jeanine hopes to continue Rotary's service to the community which began in 1939. Since joining the club, she has been active in many Rotary projects including the Bike Safety Rodeo with the Broadwater County Health Department, Slice of Summer celebrations, and Fall Fest to name a few. Please welcome Jeanine as she leads the club for the coming year.



Incoming Rotary president Jeanine Stone (left) receiving the gavel for outgoing president Diane Brown (right). Photo Credit: Pat Plantenberg

And thank you Diane year for your great year of service to the Rotary Club of Townsend as president.

About Rotary:

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated

to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.2 million members of more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work impacts lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world.

For more information, visit [www.townsendrotary.org](http://www.townsendrotary.org)

## DELA CHATRIAND RECEIVES AWARD FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LIONS PRESIDENT

Bob Brastrup  
 Townsend Lions Club

At a recent club meeting, Montana Lions District Governor Scott Dornfeld, on behalf of the Lions International President, presented Dela Chatriand with the International President's Certificate of Appreciation for her work on behalf of the Lions organization.



Dela Chatriand receiving the International President's Certificate of Appreciation Photo Credit: Lions Club

The District Governor stated the Lion's motto is "We Serve" and Dela has been demonstrating that since she joined the Broadwater County Lions Club in 2015.

Shortly after joining she participated in a 2-day leadership training forum

organized by the state Lions Leadership Committee. At the conclusion of the forum, participants were asked to submit ideas for the next forum. The committee was so impressed by Dela's suggestions that they placed her on the committee and gave her the responsibility of organizing and conducting the next forum. Since then, she has conducted more than five leadership forums for Lions from throughout Montana.

She has also been the Northern Region Chairperson for several years. Coordinating Lion activities with other Montana clubs.

She is the outgoing president of the Broadwater County Lions Club and is the chair of several club activities. In the past two years, the Youth Committee has donated \$2,400 to Townsend Youth Baseball and \$1,700 to purchase a swing for the handicapped at the school.

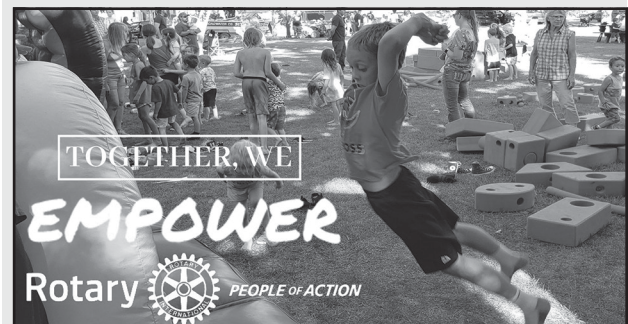
## ROTARY'S SLICE OF SUMMER CELEBRATIONS

Pat Pantenberg  
 Rotarian

July 20 and August 17th!

The Rotary Club of Townsend's first 2023 Slice of Summer family fun event will be held on Thursday, July 20 in Heritage Fun Park.

Slice of Summer includes Youth Activities that run from 2:00-5:00 pm and Family Activities that run from 5:00-8:00 pm. Rotary is paying for free youth swimming from 1-4 and 6-8 pm. Other youth activities will include a free bouncy room, face painting, or tattoos, games, etc. Family activities include free musical entertainment and reasonably priced food and drink. Food and drinks will be served starting mid-afternoon for families through 8 pm. Music begins at 5 pm and goes on to 8 pm.



Kids having fun at Slice of Summer Photo Credit: Pat Plantenberg

Slice of Summer started after Broadwater County High School students mentioned in interviews for Rotary scholarships that Townsend needed some summer fun events for families like the Alive at Five event in Helena.

Slice of Summer, 4

**Slice of Summer, 3**

If you have any displays, events, or activities you would like to show off at Slice of Summer please let Rotary know.

Rotary needs some volunteers to help pull off this great family event. If you can help or if you have any questions, please call Slice of Summer coordinator Patrick Plantenberg at 431-4615.

*About Rotary:*

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.2 million members of more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work impacts lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit <https://www.townsendrotary.org> or [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

# RUTH LEMMON OF TOSTON ON THE IOWA CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE HONOR LIST

**Emilie Jenson**  
Public Information Coordinator



We received notice from the Iowa Central Community College that Ruth Lemmon of Toston has been included in the President's List. To be included in the President's list, a student must achieve a 4.0 GPA.

Congratulations, Ruth from MT43 News and the entire Broadwater County Community!

# WORKING TOWARDS COMMUNITY CHILDCARE SOLUTIONS

**Allison Kosto**  
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



Did you know that the labor force participation rate for Broadwater County is 47.7%? This is a figure that was established by the US Department of Labor Statistics. It is the percentage of the population that is either working or actively looking for work. By comparison, the state labor force participation rate is 62.3%. Why is our rate so much lower than the state rate? This is where it gets interesting and there are multiple factors that play into this figure. However, research shows that an influencer in workforce participation is the lack of affordable childcare.

A survey done by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry in 2020 found that about 6% of the state's labor force relies on childcare arrangements to remain in the labor force. However, that same survey also found that Montana's licensed childcare capacity

only meets about 47% of the demand. In Broadwater County, this is even lower.

As of September 2022, there were six licensed childcare providers in Broadwater County which had the capacity for 66 children. There are an estimated 407 children under the age of 6 in the county, and about 156 children currently have working parents. It is probable that not all these children need childcare. However, last fall the childcare providers would have been able to provide care for less than half of that population. This also doesn't consider parents who are currently not working because of a lack of childcare.

Now, the really bad news. Since September 2022, three licensed childcare providers have closed their doors in Broadwater County. Two closed from March to May of 2023. This just leaves three licensed providers in Townsend, and one of these providers is Headstart. Headstart is an early learning program targeted at low-income families that operates during the school year. It's a great program, but it's not a traditional daycare, so now we are down to two licensed childcare providers that provide daycare services. In total, they have the capacity for about 20 children. And on top of that, there are no licensed providers that will take infants in Townsend.

So what does this mean for the Townsend community and local businesses? Hardly a day goes by when I don't hear about a local business looking for employees. Employee recruitment and retention is also a major issue in our community. Could this issue be directly linked to the lack of childcare? In my opinion, as well as what the research and data show, there is likely a strong connection. If parents do not have access to reliable and affordable childcare, then one parent will often opt to stay at home while their children are young.


So what can be done about this? Currently, there is a small group of interested community members who are looking at possible solutions. This group was formed from one of the priority areas identified in the Community Review that took place in 2022. They are looking at examples from other communities that successfully came together to manage the childcare gap. A good example is the city of Boulder which pooled resources from the school, city and a local nonprofit to develop a successful daycare. One of the major barriers for Townsend continues to be finding an adequate location for a childcare facility.

What can you do to help? Here is what the group needs from the community:

- Group participants who are interested in exploring solutions or who may have ideas. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 11th at 10:00 am. Contact me for details.
- Possible locations for a daycare. This could be an un- or under-utilized business space, a home, a church, etc.
- Local entrepreneurs who are interested in starting their own childcare business. The reality is that we need multiple solutions to this problem. There are resources available for individuals to start their own business.
- Businesses who are interested in being part of the solution who may have space, resources, supplies, etc. for childcare providers.

As a working mother of three, I know firsthand the challenges of childcare in our community. However, I'm optimistic that our community can find a solution. If you are interested in being involved with this effort, please contact me at MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or [allison.kosto@montana.edu](mailto:allison.kosto@montana.edu)

**"There is nothing more important than developing the courage to pursue what you think Hashem created you for."**

  
**~Rabbi Shmuel Reichman**

# THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<b>July 9</b>	11:00AM Stevenson Park Gazebo RESERVED (Langel Family) at City Hall 7:00PM - 11:50PM Bridger Brewing's Summer Concert Series featuring Paul Cauthen
<b>July 10</b>	5:30PM Three Forks Rodeo Arena Board of Directors - Final Prep Meeting at Rodeo Grounds
<b>July 11</b>	6:00PM City Council meeting at City Hall 6:30PM Three Rivers Mosquito Control Board at United Methodist Church Annex 7:00PM Fire Department monthly business & annual meeting at Fire Hall
<b>July 12</b>	1:00PM Mahjongg @ Three Forks Community Library 3:00PM - 5:00PM Summer Dance Session @ Three Forks Masonic Lodge 4:00PM Dungeons & Dragons Club @ Three Forks Community Library 5:15PM Three Forks Community Library at Library
<b>July 13</b>	2:00PM Farmer's Market RESERVED @ John Q. Adams Milwaukee Railroad Park (TF Chamber) at John Q. Adams Milwaukee Railroad Park 4:00PM Stick Horse Derby @ Farmers Market
<b>July 14</b>	11:00AM - 2:00PM Community BBQ @ First Security Bank 7:00PM Three Forks Rodeo at Three Forks Rodeo Grounds (Gates Open at 6:00PM) Street Dance after Rodeo
<b>July 15</b>	6:00AM - 10:00AM Fireman's Breakfast @ Three Forks Fire Department 11:00AM Rodeo Parade 1:00PM Stevenson Park Gazebo RESERVED at Gazebo 64 Stevenson Park 7:00PM Three Forks Rodeo at Three Forks Rodeo Grounds (Gates Open at 6:00PM)

# BROADWATER BUSINESS AND NONPROFITS HEADLINE AT HOMETOWN HELENA

**Nancy Marks**  
Reporter

Whether Broadwater County volunteers lay sod at the new skatepark in Townsend, or grill brats at Fall Fest, they get involved in so many events and new businesses. Everybody does everything. That's what Hometown Helena members learned about Broadwater County happenings Thursday, June 29 at the Montana Club in Helena.

Hometown Helena is a loose-knit organization of Lewis and Clark businesses and nonprofit managers who gather one week a month to learn what is happening in and around Helena. While the 7:00 a.m. gathering hour is a little daunting, the interest and enthusiasm from Helena businesses members kept MT 43 News, Townsend Rotary and Broadwater County Development Corporation (BCDC) presenters encouraged.

Nancy Marks and Vic Sample gave a review of MT 43 News, a new weekly newspaper in Townsend. The newspaper will have its first-anniversary publishing on July 14. Sample also sits on the newly formed Broadband Advisory Board as its secretary. Jeff Langlinais, Hometown Helena, 7

## MT 43 News, Inc.

Published & edited by the Board of Directors

First Publication Date: July 15, 2022

401 Broadway Street Suite A  
Townsend MT 59644-2323  
(406) 266-0086

MT 43 News is published Thursday of each week in Townsend, MT. Its service area is Broadwater County, MT.

MT43News@MT43News.com

**Deadlines**

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

**Letter Policy**

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

- 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

press, but we reserve the right to refuse publication of any letter. We will make a reasonable effort to resolve any issues we may have with the submitter.

- Letters may discuss any subject, but are expected to deal with only one subject per-letter and be 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and length. We further reserve the right to require documentation or evidence when discussing the behavior, motivation, or lives of other people.
- Letters to the Editor may not be used as a thank-you, sales pitch, or any type of solicitation. These must apply to paid space.
- Letters should be submitted via email (MT43News@MT43News.com) in plain text. Please do not attach any files.

• Headlines and bylines will be determined by the Editor at the editor's sole discretion.

**Political Letters and Editorials**

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

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

**Advertising Policy**

MT 43 News, Inc. reserves the right to reject any advertising. Visit our website (MT43News.com) or visit our offices for our rate sheet and image rules.

- Periodically, relevant advertising will be used to fill necessary space. Advertisers will not be charged for this additional advertising.

**Affiliation**

Letters to the editor, guest columns, Op-Ed, editorials and advertising do not necessarily reflect the opinion of MT 43 News, Inc. or any of its executives, employees, or advertisers.

ISSN 2833-2571

USPS Bulk Mailing Permit #43

©2023 MT 43 News, Inc. All rights reserved. The contents of this newspaper may not be reproduced, redistributed or archived, in whole or in part, physically or electronically, without the written permission of MT 43 News, Inc.



**JUNE 30, 2023**

**Dee Gannon**  
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Christopher Abbott's courtroom on Friday, June 30 is as follows:

Forrest Martens appeared for a Petition to Revoke a suspended sentence, on a DUI. Allegations are that he failed to remain law abiding; which he denied. He will have an Evidentiary Hearing in Lewis & Clark County Courthouse on Thursday, September 7.

Terry Mountain Sheep had a Status Hearing. He has had a screening by Dr. Smelko (the State's Mental Health professional); who deemed Mountain Sheep unfit to stand trial because of a Traumatic Brain Injury. His release is to be effective on July 7; considering that his family is willing to pick him up and care for him. There must be motions filed to find him treatment or dismiss charges, by July 14.

Levi Gadaire appeared for a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to amended charges of criminal possession of a dangerous drug (felony), and criminal possession of drug paraphernalia. In his elocution, he stated that he knowingly possessed methamphetamine while in Broadwater County. He will be sentenced on August 11. A pre-sentence investigation is ordered. His co-defendant, Joseph Matt, is scheduled for a jury trial on July 18.

Turner Kinnick appeared for Sentencing to an amended charge of criminal endangerment and tampering with a witness. On count 1, he is Sentenced to three years D.O.C. deferred. On count 2, he has five years deferred, with the ability to get a half-time early discharge if he applies for it and it is approved. He must pay the Office of Public Defenders \$200; he must pay fees and surcharges, and a \$100 fine. He must abide by his conditions of release and have no contact with the victim unless approved.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORT - JULY 7, 2023**

**Kelsi Anderson**  
Justice Court Clerk

**MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES**

- Madoc Williams, Cheyenne, WY: day speed \$70.00
- Bryce Tasker, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Ashlyn Parriman, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Dana Hodge, Great Falls: day speed \$20.00
- Steven Hertzman, Richmon, BC: day speed \$20.00
- Damian Gonzales, Three Forks: interstate day speed \$120.00
- Anthony Grover, Billings: interstate night speed \$70.00
- Brittini Frampton, Townsend: day speed \$20.00
- Cory Eli, Vaughn: careless driving \$85.00
- Benjamin Brown, Laurel: restricted speed \$85.00
- Paul Bottomley, Bozeman: day speed \$70.00
- Aaron Wardell, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Brandon Riggs, Belgrade: expired registration \$85.00
- William Lowry, Deer Lodge: day speed \$20.00
- Katie Hansen, Jackson, WY: day speed \$20.00
- James Ferreira, Helena: day speed \$70.00
- Jaeger Evinger, Townsend: day speed \$20.00
- Elizabeth Baur, Steamboat Springs, CO: day speed \$20.00
- Candace Arredondo, Helena: expired registration \$85.00
- Darian Locatelli, Bozeman: day speed \$70.00
- Kyler Meredith, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Megan Dunbar, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Shawna Johnson, Deer Lodge: interstate day speed \$40.00
- Daniel Nyman, Billings: day speed \$20.00
- Kenneth Lang, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Jacob Roundy, Three Forks: night speed \$20.00
- Caleb Pottratz, Black Eagle: day speed \$20.00

**MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS**

**MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES**

Michal Larson – Townsend – day speed, pleaded guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months, \$70.00 fine and enroll and complete Traffic School.  
Kelly Phillips – Townsend – owner permitting operation of vehicle without liability insurance-3rd offense, pleaded guilty, sentenced to ten days in jail all suspended for a period of six months on conditions, \$535.00 fines and fees, license plates and registration of the vehicle driven at the time of the offense are suspended until proof of compliance is provided to MVD; day speed, pleaded guilty, \$70.00 fine.

**BROADWATER COUNTY FINES**

Geoffrey Von Kinder – Great Falls – Driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs-1st offense, pleaded guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$1085.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete Act program.

**BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES**

Carson Veoeller, Whitefish: night speed \$20.00  
Dylan Steinmetz, East Helena: night speed \$20.00  
Jeffrey Holycross, Helena: night speed \$20.00  
Gary Gavin, Helena: day speed \$20.00  
Thomas Jenks, Oceanside, CA: day speed \$20.00  
Robert Hilliard, Whitehall: night speed \$20.00  
Abby Jensen, Raymond, AB: day speed \$20.00  
William Wells, Townsend: Driving without a valid driver's license \$135.00

**BILLINGS CLINIC BROADWATER UPGRADES DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES**

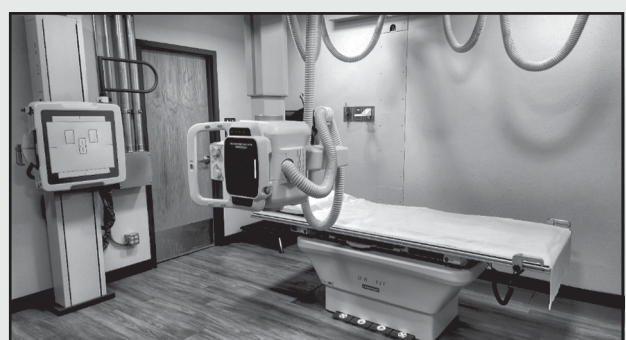
**Justin Tiffany**  
MBA - Billings Clinic Broadwater Director Of Clinic and Ancillary Services



If you haven't needed an x-ray lately you may not have noticed one of Billings Clinic Broadwater's latest upgrades – a completely revamped x-ray suite.

Thanks to the generous support of the Broadwater County Health Foundation, Billings Clinic Broadwater purchased a new fully digital CareStream x-ray system and remodeled its existing radiology room to create a modern space that improves the patient experience.

This cutting-edge X-ray system makes taking images faster, especially helpful in critical cases where time is of the essence. With this new X-ray suite, images can be sent to the radiologists within minutes. It uses digital sensors to capture high-resolution images that allow for immediate acquisition, display, and manipulation of the images. The result is improved image quality, which helps radiologists to make more accurate diagnoses and enhances the overall quality of patient care.



new x-ray system

The digital sensors used in this system are highly sensitive and require lower radiation doses compared to traditional X-rays. This reduction in radiation exposure is beneficial to patients, as it minimizes potential risks associated with repeated or prolonged exposure, particularly for pediatric and elderly populations.

Bringing this new technology to Billings Clinic Broadwater is a major advancement in diagnostic imaging technology for patients in Broadwater County and beyond, and demonstrates Billings Clinic Broadwater's commitment to delivering high-quality health care to our patients and community.

Thank you again to the Broadwater County Health Foundation for its incredible support in bringing this technology to Townsend.

**BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA JULY 12**

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](http://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, July 12, 2023

**10:00 AM** Public Comment on any subject not on the agenda, and that the Commission has jurisdiction over

**10:00 AM** Discussion/Decision, Stahly Engineering, Old Town Bridge Contract

**10:05 AM** Discussion/Decision, Jania Hatfield, Deputy County Attorney; Angie Paulsen, Clerk and Recorder, Road Abandonment Process

**10:10 AM** Discussion/Decision, Angie Paulsen, Clerk & Recorder, Broadwater County Logo & Seal

**10:15 AM** Discussion/Decision, Broadwater County Sheriff's Office; Mobile Mapping Upgrade\_3FOs C7

Thursday, July 13, 2023

**10:00 AM** Weekly Working Meeting with Jania Hatfield, Deputy County Attorney, in the Commission Office regarding projects and deadlines

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE WILL BE IN THE FLYNN BUILDING ON JULY 19, 2023 FROM 12-3PM AND 430 PM-7PM.**

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: BROADWATER COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS WILL BE IN THE FLYNN BUILDING AUGUST 2ND FROM 6PM-8PM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED SOLID WASTE CHANGES.**

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, Chairman  
(406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050

Darrel Folkvord, Vice Chairman  
(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213

Lindsey Richtmyer  
(406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834

E-mail: [commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto: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)

The Commissioners may be attending these board meetings (except the Planning Board)

- BC Weed Board on July 12th at 7pm
- BC Local Advisory Council on July 12th at 2PM
- Broadband Advisory Board on July 14th at 8AM
- City/County Parks & Rec on July 17th at 6PM
- Board of Health on July 18th at 1pm
- Broadwater County- Three Forks Mosquito Board on July 18th at 3:30pm
- Broadwater County- Townsend Mosquito Board on July 18th at 4pm
- LEPC on July 20th at 1pm

# MONTANA PROPERTY TAXES EXPLAINED

Eric Dietrich  
Montana Free Press



*This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press and is republished here*

*courtesy of the Montana Free Press*

Property owners across Montana are receiving their 2023 reappraisal letters from the state Department of Revenue this month, notices that are in many cases indicating the valuations used to calculate their property tax bills have risen dramatically since the last reappraisal cycle in 2021. However, with property values rising across the board, the department’s efforts to estimate your new tax obligation may overstate what you’ll actually owe when your county treasurer sends over your tax bill this fall. This piece is an effort to explain why.

Property taxes are the primary way Montanans pay for local government services including schools, law enforcement and fire departments, among other things. But the math used to calculate them can be quite complex, making it hard to understand who’s paying how much and why. It can also be hard to know what’s going to happen to your taxes when your home’s value rises.

In the hope of providing some clarity, here’s a simplified model of a Montana school district.

It has one school.

Let’s say the school costs \$40,000 a year to run. That’s a very inexpensive school — but, as you’ll see, it serves a very small district.

In the real world, schools are funded by money from many sources, including the state and federal governments. For the sake of keeping this example simple, let’s say this one is funded only by local property taxes.

This is the school district.

The district includes a factory, one office building and three houses (one of them a bit bigger than the other two). Those properties compose the tax base that the school district can draw on to fund its operations.

The tax system divides the cost of the school budget among the properties in the tax base. Here’s how that math works:

1) The assessed value of each property is estimated by the Montana Department of Revenue. That can be a complicated process, but most homes are assessed at the department’s best estimate of what they would sell for on the current market. In most cases, property values include the value of both structures and the underlying land.

2) The assessed value is multiplied by a property class rate to produce its taxable value. The property class rate is different for different types of property. The commercial properties in our example are converted to taxable value at a higher rate, 1.89%, than the residential properties, which are converted at 1.35%. Those rates are set by the Legislature to balance tax burden between different types of property.

3) Tax bills are allocated proportionally to each property’s share of the tax base. This is typically done by calculating millage rates (more on those in a bit), but the important thing to understand is that your taxes are proportional to your taxable value. So, for example, a home that represents 8% of the tax base is responsible for 8% of the school budget. Of course, in the real world, with many more taxable homes and businesses in a school district, your share of the school budget is much smaller.

A couple of things to note here: This math means that residential properties worth the same amount pay the same amount — as is the case with the two \$300,000 homes in our simple example. And more expensive homes, such as our \$600,000 house, pay more.

So what happens if property value assessments go up — as they have across Montana in recent years? Let’s first look at what happens if every property within the tax base doubles in value:

As it turns out, when assessed values rise evenly

across the board, everyone’s share of the school bill stays the same. That’s because what matters isn’t your absolute property value, but instead the proportion of the tax base your property represents.

So does that mean you should rest easy if the state department of revenue has told you your home value spiked this reappraisal cycle? After all, your neighbors’ values are probably headed up too.

Well, maybe. Because things are of course a bit more complicated than that.

For starters, let’s see what happens when residential home values rise faster than other types of properties — a dynamic that’s common in communities across Montana right now. For the sake of simplicity, let’s assume home values in our example school district double, while the factory and office properties stay constant at their original level.

When home values rise faster than other types of property, tax burden shifts from those other property classes onto homeowners and landlords who rent out residential properties. Again, that’s because taxes are levied proportionally to each property’s share of the tax base.

Secondly, let’s look at what happens when that school budget grows. Let’s say the school board votes to give the school’s only employee a raise that bumps the budget to \$45,000. (That’s a 12.5% increase.) Let’s also assume property values stay constant:

This one is pretty straightforward. All property owners pay 12.5% more, proportional to the spending increase.

Let’s do one final example where the factory is closed, reducing its property value to zero. Again, let’s assume other property values and the school budget stay constant.

With the tax base significantly smaller, the portion of the school budget that was previously paid for by the factory owners now shifts to the district’s commercial and residential properties. That substantially increases their tax bills.

Conversely, new development — such as home construction, or a new hotel being built in the district, grows the tax base, spreading the cost of running local services across more properties. However, growth also typically brings higher bills for local governments (e.g., more kids to teach, which means hiring more teachers and maybe building a bigger school) — so taxpayers don’t necessarily come out ahead when a district’s tax base grows.

In the real world, shifts like these are happening an on ongoing basis across Montana’s hundreds of thousands of individual properties, combining in ways that can be baffling to researchers and elected officials — much less to individual taxpayers. Additionally, taxpayers have to contend with multiple multiple taxing jurisdictions layered on top of one another.

If you look at your tax bill (or your landlord’s, which you can often look up online if you’re a renter), you’ll probably see a stack of different line items contributing to the total at the bottom. Sometimes you’ll see those items expressed in terms of “millage rates” or “mills.”

Mills are a source of endless confusion for public officials, taxpayers and journalists tasked with writing about tax policy. But they’re essentially just a way of describing tax rates, an indication of how much tax is owed for each dollar of property’s taxable value. Mills are usually expressed as dollars owed per thousand dollars of taxable value (hence the name “mills,” which is derived from the Latin word for “thousand”).

Mills are calculated by dividing the total amount of money a school district or other tax jurisdiction wants to collect by the value of its tax base, then multiplying that by 1,000.

So for our original school example above:

That means the school district is levying 812 mills of property taxes. You can calculate each property’s school tax by applying that millage rate to its taxable value:

Note that you have to divide by 1,000 in these calculations to strip out the mill factor.

In the real world, some property taxes are actually defined in terms of mills. The Montana University System’s six-mill levy, for example, levies six mills worth of taxes to help fund public colleges. The state also collects 95 mills of taxes to equalize funding between rich and poor school districts (this is one of the details we’re neglecting with our example district’s

simplified budget).

Unlike most local taxes, which are based on taxing jurisdiction budgets and then translated into mills for tax bills, mill-based taxes do scale directly with property value increases. If your assessed property value doubles, you’ll be responsible for paying twice as much into Montana’s six-mill higher education levy, for example.

Here’s a how layered taxes from multiple government entities combine to build a hypothetical tax bill for one homeowner in our example district:

Stating taxes in terms of mills means you can add the rates assessed by different taxing entities together to get a combined tax rate — 1,713 mills in our example. Because of the way math works, applying that combined rate to your property’s taxable value gives you the same total tax as calculating each tax line individually and summing the result.

One last thing to address before we’re done: If you’re a Montana homeowner who’s trying to take the information in this piece and square it with the various property tax documents you get in the mail, you should know that there are a couple of different entities involved in administering the property tax math.

First, appraising your property — determining the assessed value used for these calculations — is the responsibility of the Montana Department of Revenue. The revenue department, which reports to the governor and has branch offices scattered around the state, reappraises residential properties every other year.

Your tax bill, however, is calculated by your county treasurer, who combines the state appraisals with the budgets passed by county commissioners, city councilors and school board trustees. Property tax payments are due in Montana twice a year, in November and May. If you have a mortgage, the actual payments are likely processed through your bank, which typically bundles taxes with your monthly mortgage payments.

If you’re a Montana homeowner reading this piece in summer 2023, you’ve likely received a reappraisal notice from the Montana Department of Revenue — and, given how much home prices have grown in recent years, it probably tells you your taxable value has gone up significantly.

Those reappraisal notices include an estimate for your next annual tax bill, which will show it increasing proportionately to your home value. But if you call your county treasurer and ask, they’ll probably tell you that the state’s estimate won’t be what you see when they send your actual tax bill out this fall.

Here’s why: If you look closely at the fine print, the 2023 appraisal notice will tell you that its tax estimate is based on your new taxable value and last year’s millage rate. Last year’s millage rate, however, is based on last year’s taxable values. And, when property values have risen dramatically across the board, that means the current year’s tax base is going to be much larger than last year’s — just like in our ‘Case 1’ example above.

All that means taxing jurisdictions like our little school district will, in theory, be able to assess fewer mills of taxes, assuming they hold their budgets constant.

Furthermore, state law caps how quickly local governments can expand their tax collections, limiting the growth of taxes cities and counties can collect on existing properties to half the rate of inflation. That statute exempts new developments coming onto the tax rolls, as well as voter-approved tax increases. It also doesn’t cover some non-tax fees.

The long and short of all that? If you’ve received a reappraisal notice saying your property value has risen by 30, 40, or 50% or more, that doesn’t necessarily mean your taxes will rise that much — because most other Montana taxpayers are in the same boat. You won’t know for sure, however, until your county treasurer sends you your tax bill this fall.

There’s plenty more that could be explored about what goes into your final tax bill — the state’s property tax assistance programs, for example, or how you can appeal your tax valuation if you think it’s wrong, or (if you really want to get into the weeds) the tax increment finance districts that, in some parts of the state, divert some property tax dollars to economic development efforts.

Let’s leave things here for now though. If you have further questions or would like better clarity on some of the questions addressed here, please reach out at [edietrich@montanafreepress.org](mailto:edietrich@montanafreepress.org).

**MT 43 News subscribers who have been with us almost a full year, look for a reminder from us in the mail!**

**New subscribers can follow the same directions to join our family!**

**Don’t remember when you signed up? Call us at 406-266-0086 or stop in most week days 10am-2pm! We would love to help you!**

## Renewal Reminder

To renew visit [mt43news.com](http://mt43news.com) or our office at

**401 Broadway St.  
Townsend, MT 59644**

Your support inspires us to be better every day.

MT 43 News Team

# 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

# COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PASS FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Nancy Marks  
Reporter

During Public Comment House District #64 legislator Jane Gillette from Gallatin County commented that anyone who might have property tax rebates coming to them must sign up with the Department of Revenue.

Governmental Finance specialist Bill Jarocki of Helena was front and center further explaining the 2023-2024 budget for Broadwater County Departments and Boards. Last week Jarocki explained to the department heads and the commissioners how to use the new spreadsheet concept. Use of the "worksheet" he said will help department heads track excessive use of monies. "Over time, the worksheet will show a pattern of experience in order to save money," he said.

Jarocki reviewed Broadwater County revenues. He pointed out in the worksheet the amounts of federal monies coming to the county and entitlement funds. "These funds, when available, help pay down expenses so running the government does not cost as much in county taxpayer monies," he said.

The county's general fund is in good shape because the departments and boards have stayed within their budgets with the help of County Financial Officer Debbie Reynolds.

As an example, he showed the County Health Department worksheet with many different sources of federal and grant monies, even though the department still has a line item for county taxpayer funds. Additionally, he pointed out Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) monies are saved by the commissioners for emergency or special projects during the year. "Last year's budget revenues were at \$3.4 million. I see next year coming in at about \$4 million depending on how much property tax appraisals change in the fastest-growing county in the state," he pointed out.

The worksheet did not review School District #1 revenues and expenditures since its funds come from the Office of Public Instruction (OPI). They only "pass-through" the County Treasurer's office, so are not counted in the overall costs of running government offices, Jarocki said.

## BOARD APPROVES FINAL BUDGET

Finance Officer Kelly presented the resolution to pass the budget based on the changes made by Senate Bill 332 passed by this year's legislative session. The modified property tax schedules will be based on house appraisals of \$100,000, \$300,000 and \$600,000, she

said. These numbers reflect the dramatic rise in property values in the county. The commissioners voted to adopt the July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 budget resolution. Commissioner Darrel Folkvord commented balancing this budget was very challenging because the officers had to work off last year's values but still cover this year's expenses. "This is the first time we've used this type of spreadsheet. It was pretty difficult. Next year will be easier, I hope because we will understand it better," Kelly commented.

Community Development and Planning Director Nichole Brown gave a report on the Reimagining Rural conference held at the Watson Center on June 13. Her take was that we aren't just a farm and ranch community if we call ourselves "rural," but that we are not trying to turn Broadwater County into an "urban" center either. "We all need to find our place in the community," she said.

Commissioner Lyndsey Richtmyer reported the conference emphasized empowering the community to be self-sustaining with help finding grants and using matching funds to fund county needs such as housing and child care.

## BROADBAND ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

Commissioner Richtmyer reported on Broadband Advisory Committee activity. The state will have a five-year rollout plan for the \$629 million allotted to the state by the federal government for broadband installation. "The amount is a lot less than we had hoped for, so winning allocations for Broadwater County will be challenging, even though the county is considered in the "high cost" category." We are talking to the various broadband companies to see how to get as many houses on high-speed internet as possible before residents must resort to wireless services," she said.

Richtmyer said the board is trying to get the public involved to build a map of actual broadband services to challenge the state map. It will be decidedly different from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) map as well. "Broadwater County residents are underserved and unserved when each house has less than 100mg of service. We have the second lowest internet service in the state, behind Wibaux County. This affects our education, our business production and our overall economic health," she said.

Richtmyer encouraged the public to attend the Broadband Advisory Committee meetings held on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Flynn Building

## RENAMING SPOKANE AIRWAY BEACON

Commissioner Folkvord presented a resolution to rename the Spokane Airway Beacon situated on top of Spokane Hill near Winston. It will be renamed Mike Ferguson Beacon. Ferguson who lives at Townsend Municipal Airport has been involved with flying all his life as well as serving on the Montana Board of Aeronautics. Folkvord explained the beacon is historic, from the 1930s when pilots flew their planes with visual flight rules (VFR), they flew "beacon to beacon." The Commissioners approved the resolution.

Hometown Helena, 4

who is the President of MT 43 News and a long-time Townsend Rotary member, gave his take on the Rotary annual fundraiser, Fall Fest. Langlains acts as Fall Fest Chairman as well as holds a Montana Rotary assistant governor position.

Former County Commissioner Laura Obert encouraged anyone who wanted to reserve a booth space at Fall Fest to contact her. Fall Fest, held the first week in October, attracts over 100 vendors from all over the state. As Vendors Chair, she emphasized the event is free, as is the Sunday "Show and Shine" car show held on Broadway Street. In past years the event saw up to 10,000 participants. All different genres of music entertain the crowd from Friday night through Sunday afternoon as beer drinkers enjoy tap beer and freshly cooked, locally made bratwurst sandwiches.

Money raised from the once-a-year event funds the many events organized by Rotary including scholarships for high school students, high school student club Interact, Parade floats, Senior Citizens Christmas Lights Tour and Dinner and grants to many of the county's nonprofit organizations.



From left: Fall Fest Vendor Chairperson Laura Obert, Mt43News officers Nancy Marks and Vic Sample, retired financial planner and Townsend native Peter Sullivan, Legislator Julie Dooling and Rotarian Jeff Langlains  
Photo Credits: Shawn White Wolf, Helena

John Hahn, who attended electronically, explained the crucial role of Broadwater County Development Corporation (BCDC) in the county. The organization puts out a newsletter enumerating the various nonprofit events in the county. He highlighted the Community Review Events that BCDC hosted last fall and through the winter months. The ongoing work of several committees includes researching a pedestrian bridge across the Missouri River to extend the trail to the Silos. The committees are also looking at pursuing a community building with an indoor swimming pool and forming an entity to build affordable housing in Broadwater County.

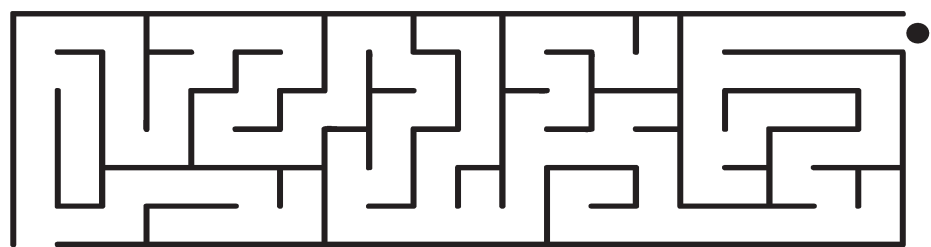
Hahn is also involved in the after-school student program Science, Technology, Outdoor Activity, Knowledge and Entrepreneurship (STOKE). The STOKE group was able to obtain a grant to build the skate park and install landscaping at Holloway Park in Townsend. STOKE leaders teach students activities such as robotics, art, and sewing. Most importantly they learn to volunteer at many events.

United Way officer Emily McVey organized the hour event which was hosted by long-time chairman and former Helena Mayor, Jim Smith.

## Super Crossword

- IT'S MEANINGLESS**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Carter-era FBI sting
  - 7 "It costs — and a leg"
  - 12 "Likely story!"
  - 16 Learning inst.
  - 19 Spanning structure
  - 20 Gorme with Grammys
  - 21 Mag online
  - 22 Boxer Clay, renamed
  - 23 Withstanding decay
  - 25 Dak., in the 1800s
  - 26 Sawmill item
  - 27 Org. for drs.
  - 28 Haughty type
  - 29 Reggae singer with the Waiters
  - 31 Pureed fruit product since the mid-1800s
  - 36 Top-drawer
  - 37 Is storming
  - 38 Antonym: Abbr.
  - 39 Maker of Tater Tots
  - 41 It induces an immune response
  - 44 Trash collection service
  - 48 "Our Gang" girl
  - 49 Evict
  - 50 Raw resource
  - 51 Racing units
  - 52 Furniture with four sleeping units
  - 55 Trachea-to-lung tubes
  - 58 TV trophy
  - 59 Partake of
  - 60 French for "good"
  - 61 Winfrey of "Selma"
  - 65 Small inlet
  - 66 Medieval stronghold near Cork, Ireland
  - 71 "— had it!"
  - 72 With 6-Down, relay some information
  - 74 Rustic hotels
  - 75 Eighth mo.
  - 76 Like both-sex dorms
  - 77 Experienced again
  - 80 Seepage in a boat's bottom
  - 83 Exhaust conduit, e.g.
  - 86 Cavity-fighting org.
  - 87 Golf great Ballesteros
  - 88 Actress Graff
  - 89 Chef who was a judge on ABC's "The Taste"
  - 93 Novelist Sidney
  - 95 "Good Times" actor Walker
  - 96 12, on some clocks
  - 97 Speedskater
  - 98 Celine of Ohno
  - 99 Part of many a kid's lunchbox meal
  - 106 Cow stomach, on a menu
  - 108 Fix, as a knot
  - 109 Xbox competitor
  - 110 AOL competitor
  - 111 Yoo- (chocolate drinks)
  - 112 10 answers in this puzzle
  - 116 Tenth mo.
  - 117 Guitar relative
  - 118 Prickly shrub
  - 119 State of hypnosis
  - 120 Co. top dog
  - 121 Pro votes
  - 122 Pungent salad green
  - 123 Gossipy meddlers
- DOWN**
- 1 James A. Garfield's "A"
  - 2 — -Seltzer
  - 3 Occupy, as a desk
  - 4 USN VIP
  - 5 Become older
  - 6 See 72-Across
  - 7 — Fables
  - 8 Sominex competitor
  - 9 Have — with destiny
  - 10 — Tin Tin
  - 11 Got together
  - 12 Old Mexican
  - 13 Seven, in Seville
  - 14 As to
  - 15 Luxury Italian car
  - 16 Second-largest city in Greece
  - 17 Shut entirely
  - 18 Tall
  - 24 With an inky implement
  - 29 Stage after larva
  - 30 Bicycle pedal attachment
  - 32 Soft felt hat
  - 33 Actress Katey
  - 34 Categorize
  - 35 PD alert
  - 39 Big oil gp.
  - 40 College-level H.S. courses
  - 41 Some vipers
  - 42 "Skyfall"
  - 43 actress Harris
  - 44 Writer Capote
  - 44 Holster item
  - 45 Invite (to)
  - 46 Get reduced in price
  - 47 Suffix with north
  - 49 Surpass in competition
  - 53 Wriggly fish
  - 54 Sheep's cry
  - 55 Razor brand
  - 56 Stephen of films
  - 57 Weeding aid
  - 60 Fly- (pilots' stunts)
  - 62 Ran amok
  - 63 Brand of bath additives
  - 64 Actress Tippi
  - 66 Slangy "sweetie"
  - 67 Denver-to-Bismarck dir.
  - 68 Call a halt to
  - 69 Pull sharply
  - 70 Size bigger than med.
  - 73 Imagine
  - 76 Young and in-experienced
  - 88 Really weak
  - 79 First lady McKinley
  - 80 Stinging flier
  - 81 Wall creeper
  - 82 Hold and use
  - 83 Part of many a kid's lunchbox meal, for short
  - 84 Shimmer, as an opal
  - 85 It's stuffed into an olive
  - 87 Potato cover
  - 90 After point number eight
  - 91 Bar on a car
  - 92 2016 Summer Olympics locale
  - 93 1992 Summer Olympics locale
  - 94 Frankness
  - 97 Fall flowers
  - 99 Regional life
  - 100 Church parts
  - 101 Bert's bestie
  - 102 Some RSVPs
  - 103 Defiant kid's declaration
  - 104 About, timewise
  - 105 Masks
  - 106 College VIP
  - 107 Rakish guy
  - 112 "SNL" aier
  - 113 NHL's Bobby
  - 114 "Fore
  - 115 Pale-looking

## Kids' Maze



©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

# INSIDE INSPIRATION

## AN ACT OF KINDNESS

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



Summer has many activities, and our days seem to slip away. This past week I had my granddaughters for Nana camp. It was a week of learning, growing, and exploring.

It was a week when I had to think about the positive impact I wanted to instill in them. We began the first day of Nana camp with a craft. I googled some fun ideas and found a YouTube tutorial on string art. It would be a fun and fairly easy project, and as it turns out, they loved the activity.

As we ventured into day two of Nana's camp, we had a day in Helena where they would be introduced to the state capital's history. We boarded the tour train, toured the capital, visited the cathedral, and showed them the house I grew up in. The lady selling tickets to the tour train was kind, smiled, and asked the girls if they were excited to board.

Day two was also their cooking day. The first request was sweet potato fries, but I told them we couldn't just have that for dinner, so they decided they wanted to learn how to cook steak and sautéed mushrooms. It was such a great experience as they made the complete dinner from start to finish.

Day three was our Act of Kindness Day. Since I visit the two senior centers in our local community every holiday, it would be fitting if the girls participated in their acts of kindness to the senior centers. I bought some blank note cards and had the girls decorate and write a Fourth of July quote on each of the 26 cards, as there are valuable lessons in our everyday life.

It was so fun to take the girls and watch them deliver their handwritten note cards, craft, and cupcakes to the centers. The lady receiving them was so gracious and kind to the girls and told them how much they appreciated the thoughtfulness of the cards and gifts. To see the smiles on their faces knowing that what they just did was a valuable lesson in kindness.

From the centers, we made our way to the hot springs; it was there that we experienced something different from what I was teaching them that day.

My eldest granddaughter discovered a pair of sunglasses in the lady's restroom. Unsure about what to do, she turned to me for guidance. I told her to head toward the front desk, convinced that the rightful owners would be looking for their sunglasses. I watched as she gracefully approached the receptionist and politely said, "Excuse me, I found these sunglasses in the lady's restroom." Entrusting them to the receptionist's care, she received no acknowledgment.

I took it upon myself to mention to the attendant that today had been designated our "act of kindness day." I believed wholeheartedly that returning the sunglasses was my granddaughter's act of kindness. Although met with a glance, the receptionist chose not to express gratitude for their safe return nor offer a single positive remark to her.

What this scenario did, though, was allow me to explain to my granddaughters that what she did was still the right thing to do as it was an act of kindness. We can affect others positively by speaking and treating others with kindness - kindness is contagious.

The desire to understand the reason for someone's comment, or lack of, is woven into all of us. Many people have trouble looking at the good in others and themselves. Yet, we all long to be seen as special, important, worthy of love, or simply good enough.

It's time for all of us to get involved in spreading kindness - kindness travels. We can make a difference just by our conversations. Become an ambassador of kindness, offering kindness and respect to everyone you meet.

Let us not be afraid to commit some random act of kindness. Those intentional acts do add value to others. Take an honest look within yourselves at how you communicate with others, and then make the necessary changes if needed.

Remember, acts of kindness have the power to uplift and inspire others. Empowering others can make a positive difference in their lives and contribute to building a more compassionate and supportive community.

"Be the reason someone smiles. Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people. ~Roy T. Bennett

To connect with Ellie FB/IG @coachelliewest

# 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. 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. (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

**CELEBRATE LOVED ONES AND IMPORTANT OCCASIONS WITH YOUR BROADWATER COMMUNITY!**  
**MT 43 NEWS WOULD LOVE TO PRINT YOUR NOTICES!**

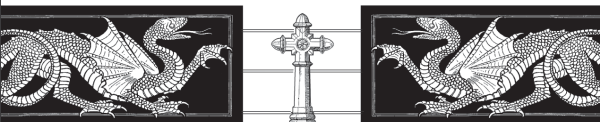


**BIRTHDAYS  
ANNIVERSARIES  
GRADUATIONS  
WEDDINGS  
FAMILY REUNIONS  
ETC**

**GET STARTED BY:**  
• VISITING OUR WEBSITE  
• EMAILING US  
• CALLING IN  
• STOPPING BY

Website: mt43news.com Email: mt43news@mt43news.com  
Phone: 406-266-0086 Address: 401 Broadway St, Townsend MT  
**WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU!**

### THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



*For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.*

2 JOHN 1:7,8

# SENIOR CENTER

**SR. CENTER MEALS FOR JULY 10 - JULY 15**  
**516 2nd Street, Townsend MT**

**Monday, July 10**  
Swedish Meatballs  
Mashed Potatoes  
Tossed Salad  
Whole Grain Bread  
Apricot Halves

**Tuesday, July 11**  
Roast Pork  
Mashed Potatoes  
Key Largo Vegetables  
Whole Grain Roll  
Applesauce

**Wednesday, July 12**  
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce  
Green Beans  
Golden Corn  
Fruit Cocktail  
Cookie

**Thursday, Jul 13**  
Baked Cod  
Rice Pilaf  
Carrot Coins  
Bean Medley  
Sweet Peaches

**Friday, July 14**  
Polish Sausage  
Sauerkraut  
Steamed Potatoes  
California Vegetables  
Whole Grain Roll  
Pineapple

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.

## 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**  
Corn dog with Fruits and Veggies

**Thursday**  
BBQ Pork with Fruits and Veggies

**Friday**  
Burrito with Fruits and Veggies

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

## TOWNSEND LIONS CLUB DELIVER FATHER'S DAY GIFTS

**Dela Chatriand**  
*Townsend Lions Club*

The Broadwater Lions Club delivered Father's Day/ Summer puzzles and dark chocolate to each of the gentlemen residents at our local nursing homes on Saturday, June 17.



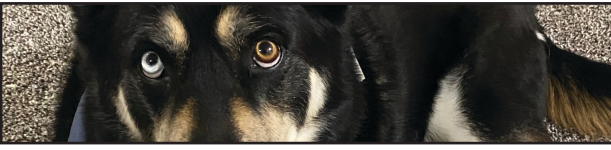
Lions Dela Chatriand and Teena Larson Get ready to deliver puzzles and chocolate!  
Photo Credit: Dela Chatriand

The Lions purchased the puzzles and dark chocolate to give out. Lions Teena Larson and Dela Chatriand delivered the gifts to each male resident at Serenity Point, the Billings Clinic Broadwater, and Silver Springs.

We appreciate each of the nursing homes letting us come and visit. We appreciate the staff's help at each place and enjoy talking with the residents. The gentlemen liked the puzzles and chocolate.



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

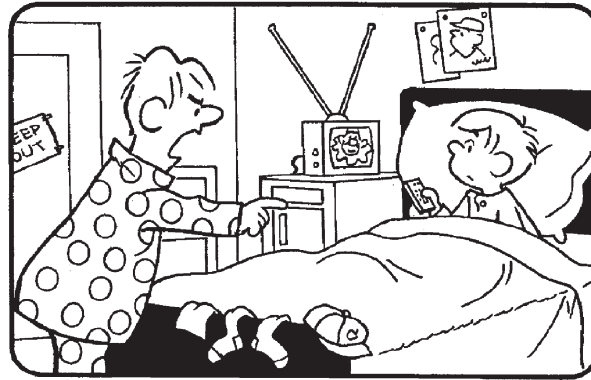


GRIN and BEAR IT by Waqar

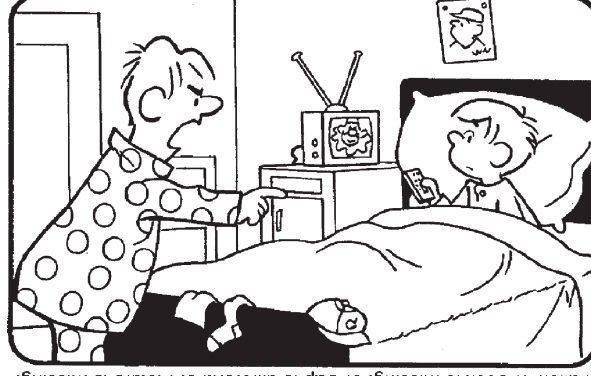


"I'll take the fifth. ... I need a drink!"

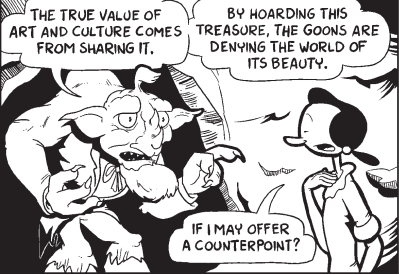
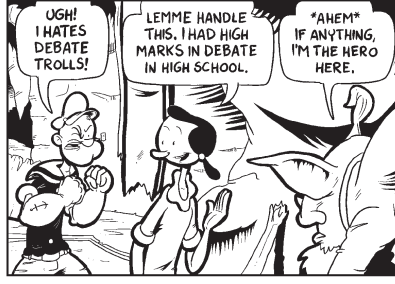
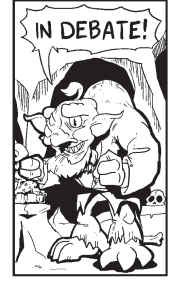
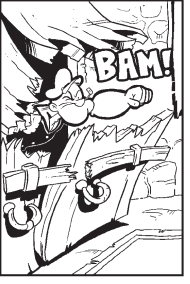
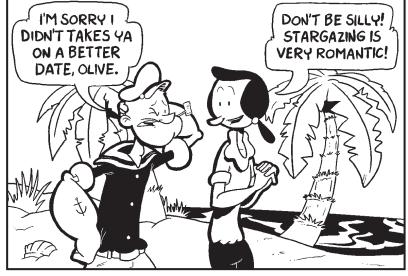
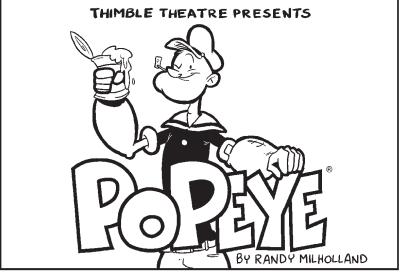
HOCUS-FOCUS by HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sign is missing. 2. Antenna is different. 3. Handle is smaller. 4. Sock is missing. 5. Cap is different. 6. Picture is missing.



Americanisms



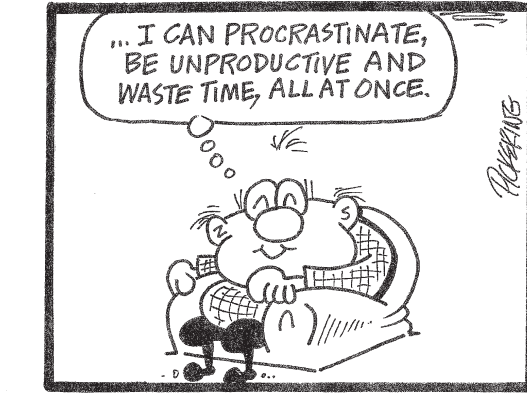
"It is the love of country that has lighted and that keeps glowing the holy fire of patriotism."  
— J. Horace McFarland

© 2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

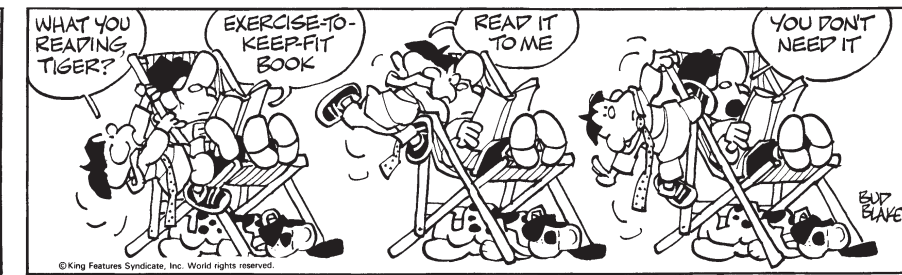
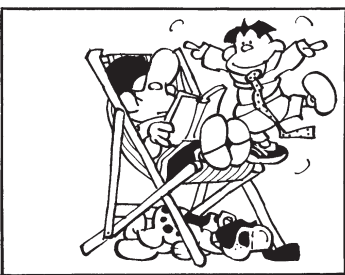
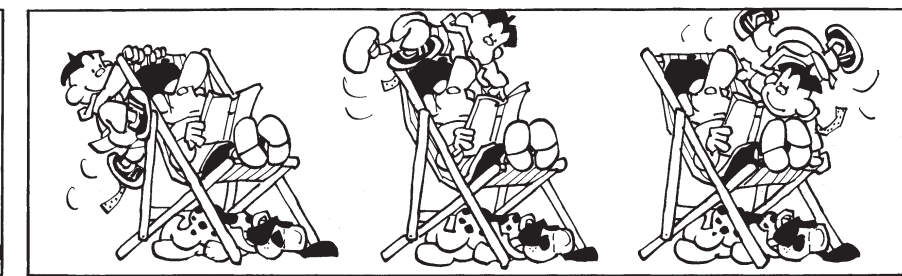
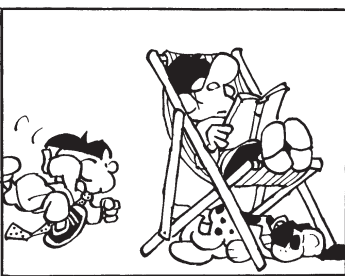
Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps



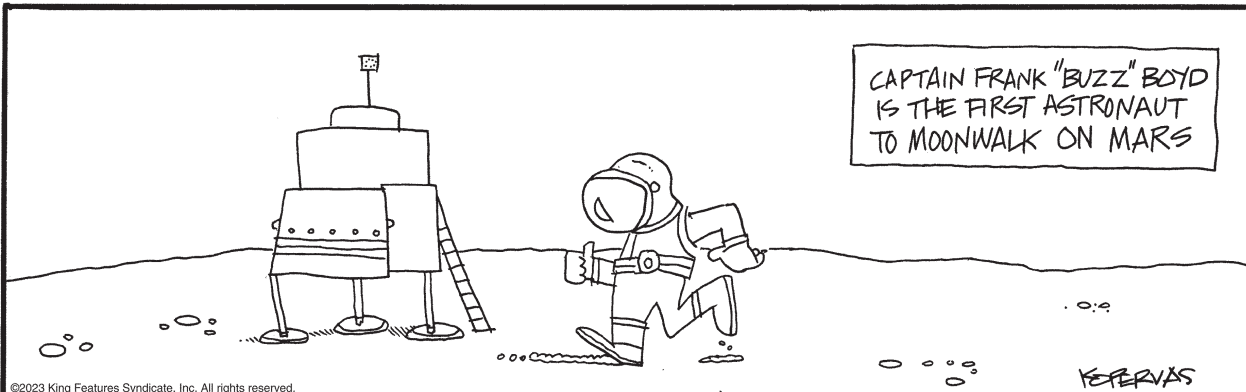
The Spats by Jeff Pickering



TIGER by BUD BLAKE



Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas



**It's your future. Let's protect it.**

Dustin Gillaspie  
410 Broadway, Townsend, MT  
406.442.0456  
fbfs.com/find-an-agent/  
dustingillaspie

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company\* West Des Moines, IA. Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company Laramie, WY. \*Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. PR-SM-B (10-21)

East Helena 406-227-6519  
Helena 406-443-8084

**BSE EXCAVATING**

7200 HWY 287, TOWNSEND, MT

**BRANDON BAKKEN**  
**SHANE TEW**  
**P - 266-3772**  
**C - 980-1100**

**Special K**

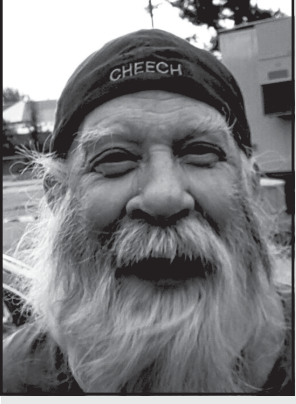
Plumbing and Heating

Danny Kurk - Owner  
Open 24/7  
Townsend, MT  
(406)922-1315  
dannykurk@gmail.com

# OBITUARY

**DENNIS (CHEECH) ALTON LEWIS**  
**MAY 20, 1952 ~ JUNE 21, 2023**

**Family of Dennis A. Lewis**



Dennis A. Lewis AKA Cheech passed away on June 21, 2023, at age 71 and went to be with his Lord and Savior. He accepted the Lord as his Savior in 2022.

Dennis was born on June 20, 1952, in Cadillac, MI to Albert J. and Helen B. Lewis. Dennis was the 7th son of a 7th son. He

enjoyed music and watching movies. Dennis came from a large family of 14; seven boys and seven girls.

Still living are 4 sisters, Marjory Tallman, Bonnie Matyancyk, Emma (Wilbert) Rohlman, Marilyn Houghton, brother, Terry (Joyce) Lewis and brother-in-law, Jerry Vokes and numerous nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Helena "Sis" Sherman and her husband Max, Betty Vokes, Judy Vandeboss and her husband Mike, and 5 brothers, Albert and his wife Flossie, James and his wife Freda, Robert and his wife Linda, Harold and Jack Lewis.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. Due to Dennis, at his death, being indigent, in lieu of flowers donations to help with his health care and funeral costs would be appreciated. Please send any donations to: Terry Lewis, P.O. Box 334, Townsend, MT 59644

Simple Cremation Montana has assisted the family. Remembrances and condolences may be sent to the family at [simplecremationmontana@gmail.com](mailto:simplecremationmontana@gmail.com).  
 Obituary provided by Simple Cremation

to the sport was mentoring his nephew, John Edward Ragen who, in turn, would spend the better part of 60 years in the same sport. And that's what you could call a lot of "corporate" memory.

Who knew: Ed was part of a racing oddity in July 1961, a true Montana Daily Double. Gary Danelson's Montana Policy won the first race and Ed's Steve O'Gaunt won the second race. In both races there was a dead heat for second place and the dead heats involved horses #3 and #8.

Ed's nephew, John E. Ragen was born December 11, 1927, and as a young lad traveled with his uncle "learning the ropes." John worked as a hot walker, groom, pony boy and galloper. He would eventually find his calling as a racing official. John was respected in all of the many posts he held and was known for his fairness.

In December 1952 John married Sharley Williams and raised a family. Daughter, Patti, and son, Dan, made their way with Mom and Dad, traveling to racetracks from Spokane to Saskatoon, Regina, and Winnipeg.

At the Downs, John held various positions including Outrider, Horse Identifier, Clerk of Scales and Assistant Racing Secretary. The last duties he performed at the Downs were in the mid-1970s, but he carried on in the business in Washington and Montana. All told, he worked in Canada for more than 30 years.



1965 Manitoba Derby. Vic Clare on Whitey and John Ragen (right) on JB, stand tall at St. Charles Golf and Country Club  
 Photo Credits: Bob Gates

There's no better time to highlight the most significant difference in Eddie's and John's lives. Uncle Ed never married. John had a wife and two kids and that made things complicated. Together, John and his partner-for-life, Sharley, made a commitment to the racetrack lifestyle.

Those in the horse business will tell you that spouses who live that life don't always get the credit they deserve. Mrs. Ragen never complained, but the difficulties and sacrifices of raising a family "on the road" couldn't have been easy. By the way, Patti tells us that her Mom will be 91 years young this July 21st and still lives in her own home!

John passed on October 10, 2005, and he'd be annoyed if we didn't spend time talking about his horse JB. JB was always known as just plain old JB. Dan

explained that was his name when his Dad first got him.

According to Dan, who is a graded stakes-winning trainer now retired, JB was the smartest horse he ever knew. He was also a character, who for one reason or another decided to drop John one day, right in front of the grandstand. He then galloped off and took his place by the starting gate, leaving John to walk to the gate, as the crowd in the stands cheered. JB had spunk!

Normally one would expect a funeral program to bear the photo of the person being remembered -- not John Edward Ragen. The photo on the front page of his card was none other than that of JB.

Dan said he had an easier time of it when he traveled the racing circuit because of the friends his Dad and Uncle Eddie made along the way.

"Eddie and Dad taught me how to listen to the horses and always do what was best for them. Any success I had in horse racing I owe to them."

Patti and Dan Regan at Assinboia Downs in the early days.

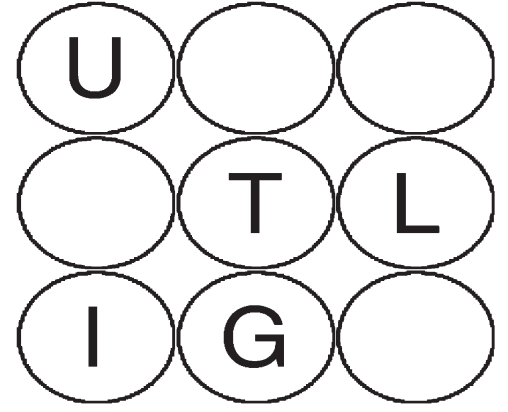
Of her Uncle Eddie, Patti said:  
 "Great Uncle Eddie just loved children and having no children of his own, he loved Dan and me like his own grandchildren. My grandad, his brother, died when Dan and I were in third grade, so Uncle Eddie filled that grandfather role for us for all those years after."

Is there anything like a daughter's love for her father?  
 "The night of Dad's funeral, as I drove home to our ranch, there was a full moon and an old Tex Ritter tune called 'Just Beyond the Moon' (I'll walk just beyond the moon then I'll stop and wait for you) came on the radio. I know someday, I will meet him there."

Thanks to Patti and Dan for sharing remembrances of their life and times on the backstretch of Assiniboia Downs. You have to believe that Uncle Eddie, their Dad and JB are all...

Nodding their heads in approval!

## WORD SPIRAL



Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.

©2023 King Features Syndicate

## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: G equals U

BFWZT FWTF NP COT G.M. QOTWT  
 LTNLBT FBQFDM LGC PNWCO  
 CNXM NP TPPNWC: COT ZWTFC  
 LFYXM WTZYNX.

©2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

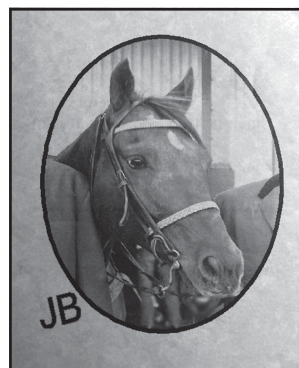
## SCRAMBLERS

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!

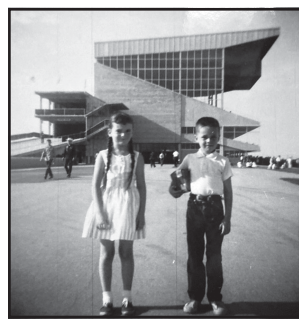
Logic ASNORE [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Tier EARLY [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Grin SKRIM [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Group PLANE [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

TODAY'S WORD

"Tell me all about yourself—your dreams, your ambitions, your \_\_\_\_\_"



JB on the front page of John Ragen's funeral program  
 Photo Credits: Bob Gates



Patti and Dan Regan at Assinboia Downs in the early days  
 Photo Credits: Bob Gates

## KNIGHT MOVES



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.

© 2023 King Features Syndicate

## THE RAGENS - BORN INTO RACING : PART 2

Bob Gates

The Ragen family a long history in Broadwater County. This 2-part article is about their storied history in horse racing. The article was written by Bob Gates and posted on the Assinboia Downs Facebook Page. It is published here courtesy of Bob Gates.

### Part II

The Ragens were a multi-generational horse racing family with roots in Ireland. Edward Michael Ragen was one of the original grand old men of racing.

"Eddie" spent more than 70 years racing thoroughbreds, until an injury from a 1981 fall forced him into retirement at the age of 91. One of his many contributions

## Weather info contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 7/07	Sat 7/08	Sun 7/09	Mon 7/10	Tue 7/11
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Thunderstorms	Mostly Clear	Thunderstorms
78°   53°	81°   56°	82°   58°	87°   59°	86°   58°
0% ⇒ 5   21 mph	0% ⇒ 6   18 mph	16% ⇒ 6   19 mph	0% ⇒ 7   19 mph	16% ⇒ 7   22 mph

### Precipitation:

February: 0.736"	March: 0.622"
April: 0.630"	May: 1.181"
June: 3.669"	July: 0.15"
2022: 15.272"	2023: 5.63"

Circle your subscription!

## Subscribe To MT 43 News and save!

	1Mo	1Yr	2Yr	3Yr
Email-only:	\$3	\$30	\$54	\$76
Print (in-county):	\$5	\$49	\$88	\$125
Print (in-state):	\$7	\$69	\$124	\$176
Print (National):	\$9	\$99	\$178	\$252
Print (International):	\$11	\$125	\$225	\$319
Print Snowbird:	N/A	\$74	\$138	\$200

Snowbird rate includes two address changes per year. Gift subscriptions are also

available! All print editions include access to the online edition.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check or deliver to 401 Broadway St. Ste A, Townsend MT 59644 or visit [www.MT43News.com](http://www.MT43News.com)

**Block Party, 2**



American Legion leader Larry Westfall and assistant present the flag for the Star Spangled Banner. Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Amber and Jim Burgess, owners of the Fishtale Tavern and Commercial Bar owner John Fuchs had worked on planning the event since last February when they approached Townsend City Council about closing off two blocks of Broadway to set up a bandstand and promote a motorcycle “Show and Shine” event. Council members approved the event, along with support from Sheriff Nick Rauser who agreed to monitor the event.

It fell upon the City Staff to file the proper application to the Montana Department of Highways Bozeman District which has jurisdiction over Broadway Street as a part of US Highway 12, according to Fuchs. He said he learned the paperwork needed to go from Townsend to the Three Forks Highway Department, then to Bozeman and back. “Since we didn’t hear back, or receive our permit in the mail, on the first of last week I started calling the Bozeman office. Turns out we did not have a signage and detour plan in place for the application. We really started to hustle then,” he explained.



Townsend's Karilyn Gifford bought her first road bike, a 2010 Harley Heritage Softail and has put 1,500 miles on it. Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

By the time everything was in place, it was Thursday. In the meantime, Fuchs called on Townsend Rotary and Pat Plantenberg who came up with street barriers as well as Townsend Division Department of Highways employee Scott Hufnagel who provided signs. With the proper signs and barriers plan in place, finally, Thursday afternoon, Fuchs received the permit. Whew!



DJ Ian McGuire of White Sulphur Springs gives a thumbs up as his high intensity speakers belt out “We Will Rock You.” Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Mrs. Burgess said otherwise planning went very well. They were able to gather enough sponsors at \$500 and \$250 donations that they could pay the disc jockey, Ian McGuire of White Sulphur Springs and the various bands who played until 1:00 a.m. as promised in the organizers’ program.

Both Mrs. Burgess and Fuchs gave much praise to Townsend businesses, the Sheriff’s Department and an Emergency Medical Technician, JD Burgess, all of whom donated their time to making the event successful. “I am hoping we can make this even bigger and better next year since we learned the ropes about how to make it happen. We would like to have family activities early in the day, then more entertainment for the adults in the evening,” she said as she ate her hotdog on the run.

**CANYON FERRY LAKE TROUT DEVILED SPREAD**

Eileen Clarke  
*Rifles and Recipes*

We all know that the trout in Canyon Ferry Reservoir have deep orange flesh, more like salmon than small stream trout. So I long ago added those lovely trout to this Deviled Salmon Spread’s repertoire. With the hot weather finally arriving, both the cooking method—microwave—and the finished product are a cool evening treat. And if you do actually have some salmon in the freezer, don’t hesitate.



**Ingredients**

- 1 ½ cups flaked, cooked salmon\*
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon plus ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 hard-boiled egg, chopped\*\*

\*No leftovers? You can microwave fresh, thawed or frozen fish in about 2 minutes. For a 1-inch thick fillet, microwave on high for about 1 minute for thawed, and 2 for frozen. The trick though is to check the fish about halfway through that time suggestion. Then again in 20 seconds, again in 2-3. You get the idea. The fillet is done when the flesh flakes easily, and the sheen is gone, the flesh a flat white. (I’m painting my house this week.) Once done, let the fish cool to room temperature.

**To serve:**

In a medium-sized bowl, combine the mayonnaise, mustard and salt. Add the flaked salmon and the chopped egg. Mix gently, until smooth, and chill. Serve on crackers for an appetizer, or on a hard roll with dill pickles on the side for a midsummer night’s meal.

\*\*To make the perfect hard-boiled eggs: with a safety pin, poke a tiny hole in the fat end of the egg’s shell. Then place the egg gently in a pot with cold water to cover and bring to a low boil on high heat, uncovered. As soon as the water starts to boil, turn the heat down so the water is just barely bubbling and cook for 2 minutes. Do set a timer. It’s easy to get distracted. Remove the pot from the heat, cover it for 15 minutes; then plunge the egg into cold water to cool it quickly. A couple of ice cubes help. Once room temperature, remove the egg from the water and refrigerate it until you’re ready to use. Shell the egg just before adding it to the spread. PS: Unlike microwaving, when you add more eggs to a pot on the stove, you don’t have to increase cooking times.

From my cookbook, Classic Freshwater Fish Cooking, which is out of print, but I find odd copies here and there and offer them at a reduced price. Email or me call if you need more ways to cook trout, panfish, walleye, pike, salmon, etc. 406-521-0273/riflesandrecipes@gmail.com And check out www.riflesandrecipes.com for lots more recipes for everything you hunt. (And reload. Yes, we have handloading recipe books too.)

**Weekly SUDOKU**

**Answer**

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

**Super Crossword**

**Answers**

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

**The Birds Nest & Rock Room**  
125 S Pine St, Townsend MT  
(406)266-1335

**The hogs are BACK. Let yourself Go Hog Wild!**  
Buy whole and half hogs at [tizermeats.com/shop](http://tizermeats.com/shop) TODAY!

**Tri County Disposal**  
406-227-6300

**Crosscurrent Real Estate**  
**Jake Cartwright, Broker**  
(406)980-0642  
[crosscurrentre.com](http://crosscurrentre.com)  
101 B Street, Suite C  
Townsend, MT 59644

**TOPGUN Autobody**  
Townsend, MT  
Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!  
406-266-3110  
7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT  
[topgun3110@gmail.com](mailto:topgun3110@gmail.com)  
[topgunautobodytownsend.com](http://topgunautobodytownsend.com)

**A+ Storage**  
SEVERAL SIZES OF STORAGE UNITS  
BOATS, RV's & TRAILER STORAGE  
IN TOWNSEND, MT  
WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN YOU NEED US!  
406-266-5377, 406-580-5425

**miles for mason**  
follow our social for more details and giveaways

**Kids' Maze Solution**

**CryptoQuip** answer  
Large area of the U.S. where people always put forth tons of effort: The Great Pains region.

**KNIGHT MOVES** Answer  
G H T  
R E  
T O E  
TOGETHER

**SCRAMBLERS** solution  
1. Reason 2. Layer; 3. Smirk; 4. Panel  
Today's Word  
**SALARY**

**Word Spiral**  
Answer  
UROLOGIST

Broadwater County Fair and Rodeo presents...  
**ADAM DOLEAC**  
AUGUST 2, 2023  
7:00 PM  
IN THE FAIRGROUNDS ARENA  
Gates open at 6:00pm

Tickets on sale April 15, 2023 at <https://www.townsendfairgrounds.com/concert>  
Adults: \$18/ \$20 at gate  
Student (ages 13-17): \$13/ \$15 at gate  
Child (age 6-12): \$8/ \$10 at gate  
Kids under 5 are free

# THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY  
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

## July 6, 1939

### Local Briefs

Miss Patricia Whaley, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Whaley of Chicago, is here visiting her grandmother, Mrs. John Whaley, and other relatives. She was the guest of her cousin, Miss Peggy Pennell, at the Fairchild home over the Fourth.

Miss Adele Hardy and Miss Dorothy Doggett came out from Helena to spend the Fourth at home here.

### Canton Valley News

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Plymale and son, Paul, and Miss Leona Nydegger spent Sunday over the range with Mr. and Mrs. Guy Keene, a cousin of Mrs. Plymale. They state that Alta Keene, former Broadwater County high school girl, is in Billings studying beauty culture.

On Monday evening of this week Eddie Meyers and Francis Daly of Helena were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sullivan and on Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Herb Jenkins and daughter, Renell, and Neil Sullivan and Earl James of Helena spent the day at the Sullivan Home.

## 1950

### Valley News

Picnickers at Canyon Ferry on the Fourth were Mr. and Mrs. Sewell Marks and family and Mr. and Mrs. John Walter.

Valley Woman's club met at the club house Wednesday June 21. Mrs. DeVon Domer and Mrs. Howard Perkins were joint hostesses. Mrs. Henry Meyer gave a paper on school systems, old and new, during the afternoon. Schools from the 17th century to the present day. Roll call, members answered with a name of a president of the U.S. Comment of the month: "Atlas was the last person who supported the world before this country took over".

Lunch was served to the following: Mrs. James Hardgrove, Mrs. Wm. Gaab, Mrs. Glenn Kirscher, Mrs. Sewell Marks, Mrs. Tom Perkins, Mrs. Hank Meyer, Mrs. Claude Cartwright and guests, Mrs. Carl Kieckbusch and Mrs. Ray Jenkins.

Next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Tom Perkins, July 19 at her mountain home.

## 1961

### Fourth of July Picnic Was Quite Successful

The Fourth of July picnic at the Townsend boat docks,

sponsored by business and professional men and women of Broadwater County and directed by the Townsend Chamber of Commerce, was a decided success, due in great part to the cooperation of the weatherman who furnished a cloudy, cool day for the event.

The original picnic committee appointed by Bud Davis, president of the Chamber, Don Fogland, Chas. Ross, Fred Black and Keith Valentine are to be commended for their untiring work in soliciting funds and supervising activities. Other committees appointed to assist them included: Fish Derby - Kenneth O'Dell, Willard Whitehead, Loenard Lavender; Food - Frank Carter, Vern Hallenbeck, Joe Cross; Entertainment - Bill Kieckbusch, Mel Carlson, Keith Valentine.

The committee wishes to extend special thanks to Malcolm Henry, Harvey Barraugh, Jim Graham and John Walter for their assistance at the food stand; to the members of the Woman's Club for helping prepare part of the food; Montana Meat Company, Eddy's and Gamer's Bakeries for furnishing part of the food and Petrolane Gas for furnishing gas for cooking.

Chas. Ross estimates there were 500 people served a free lunch and many more went out for the fireworks at night which was put on the by the American Legion. The Legion had a beer stand at the picnic and Babe Ruth baseball had a pop stand and penny pitch for entertainment.

Winners in the various events were; Sack Race - Richy Smith, Steve Sautter, Gary Hoppe, Donna Doig; Kids Peanut Race - Carl Dietzen, Paulette Hanson, Dan Deitzen; Kids 3 Legged Race - Mike Perry and Tim Evans; Women's 3 Legged Race - Dorothy Day and Beverly Day; Horseshoe Pitching - Dick Evans, Jr. and Glenn Johnson; Villa Doig and Darlene Doig; Dennis Scoffield and Bud Sautter; DeVon Domer and his partner; tug of war - Kimpton Haying crew of Crow Creek challenged any 4-man team from Townsend. The Townsend team - Ray Doig, Mosse Herbst, Herb and Rudy Hoppe, out pulled the challengers.

Fish Derby winners were: Steve Valentine, Donna Doig, Steve Day and Paulette Hanson, Randy Herbst, David Tarabochia and Doug Day.

## 1967

### Townsend Has Coin-Operated Car Wash Business

Townsend now has a coin-operated car wash. The new service business is part of Merle's Thunderbird at the south edge of town on highway 287.

A new 35 foot wide addition was built on to the

existing station to house the car wash facility. The addition is divided into two stalls for the car wash business.

Mr. Sears says the equipment includes warm water, 645 pounds of pressure and complete self-cleaning auto service.

A grand opening is planned later.

### Who is Where in the Armed Forces

Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third Class Larry G. Massa, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Massa, has returned to Long Beach, Calif., as a crew member aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Princeton after a five-month tour of duty in the Western Pacific.

He is a landing signal enlisted man in the ship's air department and is responsible for the day and night launches, recovery and moving of all aircraft from the flight deck during amphibious assault operation.

Lance Corporal Richard Thompson, U.S. Marines, is leaving Thursday morning from Butte by plane for Camp Pendleton, Calif., after spending a 20-day leave here with his mother, Mrs. Mary Thompson, and family.

Ensign Frank Grover, who has been based at Kingsville, Texas, the past six months, has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Grover. He was en route to his new assignment at Yorktown, Va. He left Wednesday, July 5, and will drive to Virginia, reporting to his new duties July 10.

Sgt. Cecil W. Hunsaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Hunsaker, arrived home Wednesday, June 28, after a year's tour of duty in Vietnam. His parents met him at the Billings airport. After a 45-day furlough, he will report to Camp Erwin, Calif.

## 1978

### East of Townsend News

Ron, Phyllis and Robbie Marks of Garrison visited Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sewell Marks. Robbie will spend some time here with his grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Rhyneer of Absarokee are visiting at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Perry Rhyneer and Dean.

The Corky Clark family spent the holiday weekend at the lake. Larry and Judy Jones and girls of Billings spent the weekend with the Clarks.

Jeannie, Heather and Angle Flechsenhar of Cascade visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Doug Christie and helped with the three day cattle drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stucky and family attended the piano recital last week in which their daughter, Diana, participated.

# Customer Appreciation Days!

## August 10-12

# Everything at least 10% off!

Soils 25% off!

All Plants 25% off!



Historic  
Townsend Hardware

204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

## ROAD TRIP AROUND MONTANA - FORT BENTON

Brenda Phillips



The weekend of June 23 - 25 was Summer Celebration in Fort Benton, MT. The three-day event included music, art and crafts vendors in the park, a parade, a car show, a street dance, fireworks and a lot of history.

Fort Benton is about a 3-hour drive from Townsend (@165 miles) but there are lots of historical treasures to be found in Fort Benton all year around. We bought a ticket at the Historical Museum on Front Street. The price included admission to that museum, the Historic Fort Benton and the Ag Museum. There were so many

artifacts and antiques to see that it is hard to remember it all. We reminisced about items we saw and the memories that our parents and grandparents had told us about. We often remarked, "grandma had one like that"! There were a lot of art and sculpture pieces throughout the museums.

The Ag Museum had really great displays of the agriculture and history of early Montana. They had antiques to show early home life. It is hard to believe that they got all those old cars, combines and other farm equipment in one building.



"Frontier Town" - Barn  
Photo Credit: Brenda Phillips

Outside there is a replica of a frontier town. As we wandered the streets we found the barn and outbuildings were filled with well-preserved wagons, buggies, sleighs, stagecoaches and hearses.

Standing on the street we could hear the church bell ring as an occasional tourist would dare to ring it.

My 1st thought was farming stuff could be boring - but there is absolutely everything you can imagine, to interest anyone. We spent over 2 hours there and



Statue of Shep the ever loyal dog  
Photo Credit: Brenda Phillips

have decided we'll go back again to find things we may have missed.

There is also the Missouri Breaks Interpretive Center that we'll see on our next trip. We ran out of time on this trip.

We also visited the Grand Union Hotel and the Shep Memorial on the river levy. Shep's story of loyalty has always brought a tear to my eye, since I first heard it, on a field trip to Fort Benton as a kid.

We walked across the Old Bridge which was built in 1888 and was restored by the community.

After a day of walking around town, we took a break at The Freeze for an ice cream treat. This eatery is not as old as the rest of the town but after 60 years it has become a "must-stop" when you are in Fort Benton.

Brenda and Kurt Phillips are from Townsend and enjoy visiting Montana scenery and historic sites.



A big Tractor on display at the Fort Benton AG Museum  
Photo Credit: Brenda Phillips