



A New Doc in Town!—p.2



The Heart of Christmas!—p.11



For the Love of Chocolate!—p.12

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BOOST NEEDED SCHOOL FAMILIES

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Superintendent of Townsend Schools Susie Hedalen worried about some of her students and their families who might not have a good Christmas. Those families would be the homeless, foster parents and military families.

She reached out to the Knights of Columbus who were able to put together Christmas dinners for 16 families in Townsend. Donna Cutshaw called each family to coordinate delivery. “Most families accepted but one family said no, please give to someone who might need the dinner,” Cutshaw reported.

Bob’s Supermarket donated all the turkeys. Jerry Solwey, acting Treasurer of the East Helena Council raised \$470 in pledges from the Helena, East Helena and Townsend Knights.

Other donations came from Reser’s Foods, Mounty Moose Bakery and Matt Graham who



From Left: David and Donna Cutshaw, Susie Hedalen, Keyana Fiset (age 4), Jerry Solwey, Manoah Fiset (age 2) with Dad Mike Fiset and Ed Boucher. Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

donated all the potatoes. “The school kicked in to pay for the milk and rolls,” Hedalen said.

Hedalen pointed out the group worked with the

Townsend Christmas Connection which distributes presents for needy families.

EAST HELENA WOMAN IN NATIONAL BAKING CONTEST

The Helena Independent Record

This article was originally published in the Helena Independent Record on December 16, 2023:

An East Helena woman is in the running to win the greatest Baker competition sponsored by Bake from Scratch magazine.

Shantel Rusher said she could win the contest presented by Buddy Valastro, better known as TV’s “Cake Boss,” if she gets enough people to vote for her online.



Shantel Rusher Baked Cake Photo Credits: Shantel Rusher

The person who gets the most votes gets not only to meet Valastro, but \$10,000 and a two-page spot in

Bake from Scratch magazine.

Rusher, who works for the Montana State Fund as a project specialist, admits she is a baker but not the greatest cook. She said online that she has been baking since she was 5 and would use the \$10,000 for “seed money” to buy a food truck.

“I love to bake cookies and cupcakes,” she said in a telephone interview, adding her husband and coworkers were big fans.

She said earlier this week she is in the No. 5 spot in her groups but needs to get to the No. 1 on proceed in the running.

“I have quite a few people (supporting me), but you have to have a lot to make it to No. 1,” she said, adding the contest goes until Jan. 4.

To vote, go to: <https://greatestbaker.com/2023/shantel-rusher>. People can vote once a day.

TOWNSEND MAYOR MIKE EVANS RETIRES

MT 43 News Staff

Mike Evans is easy to talk to. When it came time to interview him about his retirement as mayor of Townsend, he fell right into his life in Townsend, what he most enjoyed, what was most difficult, and where he goes from here.

Evans served the city for 24 years: sixteen on the city council and the last eight years as mayor. His final day on the job was December 29.



Mike Evans Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Townsend Mayor, 5

A CHANGING OF THE GUARD FOR TOWNSEND CITY COUNCIL

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Mayor Mike Evans pounded his last gavel at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 19. Evans’ last day in office will be Dec. 29. Newly elected Mayor Vicki Rauser will preside over council meetings beginning in January 2024.

Townsend Hardware owner JB Howick was unanimously appointed to serve as Ward I representative. His was the only letter of interest received by the council. The Council position for Ward 2 remains unfilled. Council member Ken Urich has resigned from the position.



Vicki Rauser Photo Credits: Vicki Rauser

Council members debated the issue of who a new compliance officer would report to when one is hired. According to new Public Works Director Eric Crusch, the person has historically answered to the public works department head. Council member Vicki Rauser suggested the compliance officer should be under the supervision of the mayor and work out of City Hall. Major Evans pointed out he receives as many calls about loose dogs, weeds and abandoned cars as does the public works director. The council concluded that director Crusch should train the new person, and then turn over supervision to the mayor. The position, advertised as a part-time position of 20 hours, will be open until filled.

The Council approved a second reading of the ordinance to revise the penalties for violations within

Changing of the Guard, 5

BULLDOG BASKETBALL UPDATE

Gary Bauman
MT43 News Sports Correspondent

Twin Bridges Lady Falcons are too much for the Lady Dogs

Monday night the Townsend Lady Dogs hosted the Twin Bridges Lady Falcons in a non-conference matchup. The Falcons proved why they were the defending runner-up state champions in class C with a 64-41 romp of the Bulldogs.

The Lady Dogs played good defense by causing 22 turnovers to the high-powered offense of the Falcons, led by senior Emma Konen who finished with 18 points. Yet it was the rebounding ratio that ultimately did the Bulldogs in, losing that battle 37-27. The Dogs were led by Kaitlyn Noyes with 13 total points, 8 in the first quarter along with 8 rebounds. Coach Lawson was very proud of his team though they fell behind early, down by 14 at the half, but they never quit. He was very happy with their grit all game and is excited about the game on Tuesday against the Three Forks Wolves.

Kaitlyn Noyes 13, Holly Newman 11, Emmalin Fischer 8, Ella Begger 4, Bryleigh Erickson 3, Cassidy Flynn 2

Lady Dogs host the Three Forks Wolves

Tuesday night the Lady Dogs hosted fellow 5B division rival Three Forks in the 4th game in 5 days at home. It was a back-and-forth game early in the first quarter with the Bulldogs finding themselves behind by one with a score of 14-15. Coach David Lawson made some early adjustments to try to give his team an advantage. “Three Forks presented a lot of problems for us at the beginning of the game with shooters. We made adjustments by aggressively forcing their shooters to dribble instead of catch and shoot,” he said.

This would prove to be the key as the Bulldogs went on a 16-7 run in the second quarter that saw the Wolves make just 2 of 17 field goals. The Lady Dogs came out of the half hitting key shots and extending the lead behind the sophomore trio of Kaitlyn Noyes with 17 points and 15 rebounds, Holly Newman with 12 points and Emmalin Fisher with 15 points and 5 assists, along with Senior Ella Begger who added 6 more assists to go with her 5 points. The final score of the game was 63-42 as the Lady Dogs improved to 4-2 and 2-0 in the conference.

Kaitlyn Noyes 17, Emmalin Fischer 15, Holly Newman 12, Cassidy Flynn 7, Ella Begger 5, Jazel Ragen 3, Bryleigh Erickson 2, Taylor Cartwright 2

Bulldogs take on non-conference foe, Twin Bridges

The Townsend Bulldogs got a much-needed win against the Twin Bridges Falcons on Monday.



BHS Boys Bball vs Twin Bridges-18: The Bulldogs Grady Erickson goes up strong against the Twin Bridges Falcons
Photo Credits: Kelly Morris

Deegan Mattson started the Bulldogs offense with a couple of key shots in the first quarter, where the Dogs found themselves down 2, 11-13.

From there, the Bulldog found their rhythm, outscoring the Falcons 23-11 in the second quarter. Mattson, who finished the game with 13 points, 9 rebounds and 3 assists, and Tavyn Anderson, who finished with 14 points and 4 offensive rebounds, orchestrated an attack that the fans had not seen yet this year from this Bulldog offense. The third quarter was a lot similar to the 2nd, with the Bulldog defense only letting up 1 field goal in 14 attempts, extending the lead to 28 points. The Dogs had 11 players in the book with points, defeating the Falcons 66-39.

Tavyn Anderson 14, Deegan Mattson 13, Grady Erickson 9, Peyton Toney 6, Trenton Hoveland 5, Ryedan

Reed 5, Sawyer Horne 4, Blake Graham 4, Tannen Tuffelmire 3, Wyatt Robertson 2, Kaden Richtmyer 1

Bulldogs play host to the Three Forks Wolves

Tuesday night the Three Forks Wolves came to town to face the Bulldogs in a matchup of the southern 5B conference.



BHS Girls Bball vs Three Forks - The Bulldogs Kaitlyn Noyes had a big night against the Lady Wolves of Three Forks
Photo Credits: Kelly Morris

The Wolves led 22-4 after the first quarter after the Dogs couldn't find the net in their first 7 attempts. Hot shooter Dylan Swensen, who finished the game with 26, kept the Wolves out front going into the half 34-15. The Bulldogs kept pace in the 3rd quarter, but just couldn't get the game back to single digits, as they trailed going into the final quarter 44-25. 6'1" junior Deegan Mattson led the Dogs with 9 points, and 4 rebounds but he was not able to bring the Dogs back as they dropped their second conference game against the Wolves, 57-35.

Deegan Mattson 9, Tavyn Anderson 6, Grady Erickson 6, Ryedan Reed 3, Trenton Hoveland 3, Sawyer Horne 2, Kaden Richtmyer 2, Peyton Toney 2, Marek Robertson 2

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES GAIN TRACTION IN BROADWATER COUNTY

Nancy Marks
Reporter



Treeline Psychiatry has opened a counseling service in Townsend on Broadway. Carly Sell a licensed psychiatrist, is now seeing patients. She, along with several other county health services, a counselor at Billings Clinic Broadwater and other private counselors in Townsend, are making every effort to meet the needs of adults and children who need help with depression and suicidal thoughts.

She and her partner Michelle Herron operate a practice in Helena. Sell had gained numerous patients who are from Townsend, so decided to open an office in Townsend.



Carly Sell
Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Sell explained her background and her role in helping people. She graduated in 2007 with a bachelor's

degree in nursing from Carroll College.” I knew from the beginning I wanted to be a psychiatric nurse. I served for 13 years at Shodair Children’s Hospital where I worked my way up from nurse to program director. I loved working with kids and their families,” she said.

The need for mental health services has grown tremendously since COVID and the use of the internet has caused so much isolation for children and adults Sell explained. She compared mental health to medical health: “As nurses and doctors, we provide medicines or physical therapy for those with medical problems. It is the same with mental health. We give patients the tools to make better lifestyle choices, or help with medications.”

Psychiatric counseling involves seeing the whole person, not just their problems. “Each person is different. Two people may have depression and trauma, but each reacts differently to their situation, so each person needs different support. My job is to ask the questions that have not been asked before,” she explained.

Sell pointed out that rural areas such as Broadwater County have a greater need for services for teenagers. In her counseling, she tries to help teens understand it is okay to talk about their feelings of being alone and depressed. “I try to give voice to their scary thoughts and to have them feel my office is a safe place for them,” she said.

Treeline Psychiatry takes most insurances, but also self-pay. The counselors work with other mental health providers in the area and with Townsend Schools. Their practice includes referrals from the Montana Department of Family Services counseling foster and adoptive families. “We want to give everyone a voice. We want to be one more person in the kid’s corner,” she concluded.

Sell lives in Winston with her husband of 20 years, Justin. They have three children, two of whom attend Townsend Schools.

For more information or an appointment with Sell, please call (406) 422-6355 or leave a message on the website.

FWP TO REQUIRE FIELD DAY FOR YOUTH WHO TAKE HUNTER OR BOWHUNTER EDUCATION ONLINE

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



Starting Jan. 1, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks will require Hunter and Bowhunter Education students age 12 to 17 who take the online course to pass an in-person field day. Students in that age group must pass both the online exam and the field day to earn a course completion certificate.

For Hunter Education, the in-person field day will require students to practice and demonstrate key safety skills related to firearm handling, the four main rules of firearm safety, and the PROVE procedure, which stands for “Point, Remove, Observe, Verify, and Examine”. Students will demonstrate how to safely cross a fence with a firearm, hand off a firearm, and remove a firearm from a vehicle, among other practical safety skills. In addition, students will discuss hunting ethics, landowner relations, land ownership and access, FWP’s Block Management Program, wildlife conservation, and more. In-person field days for Bowhunter Education will similarly feature hands-on safety practice and demonstrations.

Students who are 12 to 17 and are currently in progress with the online Hunter or Bowhunter Education courses must complete their coursework before Jan. 1, or they will be required to complete an in-person field day. Montana law requires everyone born after Jan. 1, 1985, to complete a Hunter or Bowhunter Education course before purchasing or applying for Montana hunting licenses. Students 10 years and older can take an in-person course. Students 18 and older can take the online-only course.

Instructor-led in-person courses are an excellent way to provide new hunters with a hands-on learning experience and can be particularly beneficial for people who have minimal experience in the field or handling firearms. These courses are taught by dedicated volunteer instructors, often from local communities.

For more information on course options, becoming a volunteer instructor and to sign up for an in-person or online course, visit fwp.mt.gov/hunt.

Three Forks School Calendar

Jan 2	Return to School 4:00PM MS Boys Basketball @ Townsend 5:15-6:45pm Girls Scouts in the Cafeteria Contact person Christine Sinks 406-871-8304 HS FCCLA Meeting Lunchtime
Jan 3	MS FCCLA meeting @ Lunch
Jan 4	3:00PM HS Basketball @ Twin Bridges MS Book Club at Lunch
Jan 5 - Jan 6	HS Wrestling @ Ronan Duals
Jan 5	3:00PM HS Basketball vs Whitehall (home)
Jan 6	10:00AM Little Wolves Player / Parent Meeting Speech and Drama at Huntly Project



THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 30	Three Forks Library CLOSED
January 1	Three Forks Library CLOSED City Hall CLOSED in Observance of New Year's Day
January 2	1:00 PM: Three Forks Library - Mah Jongg 4:00 PM: Three Forks Library - Middle School Book Club
January 4	10:00 AM: Three Forks Library - Story Time 6:00 PM: Three Forks Music Night with Brendan Nolan at Bridger Brewing Three Forks
January 5	6:00 PM: Three Forks Library - LEGO Club
January 6	11:00am- 2:00pm Three Forks Library Open

THREE FORKS LIBRARY UPDATE

Jaime Ewan
Director- Three Forks Public Library



We are starting a monthly craft class called "Crafternoon". The first Crafternoon Class will be "All About Crocheting". Our Librarian Laura Brewer will teach a class on basic stitches. We will have yarn available and a few crochet hooks for the class. We just ask if they have yarn and hook to bring them. We will teach a craft on the second Friday of every month, and the fourth Friday of every month will be a drop-in crafternoon. During the drop-in event, you can bring your own supplies and craft with others. Every month we will teach a different craft. In February we will set up our Cricut machine and teach a class on creating and making vinyl stickers. There will not be a fee for these classes!

Townsend School Calendar

Jan 2	7:00PM Booster Club Meeting at The Bridge 4:15PM MSBBB vs Three Forks
Jan 3	7:00PM Old Baldy Adult Open Gym at BHS 63 Gym 7:00PM Old Baldy Adult Pickleball at BHS Stage Gym
Jan 4	MSU Extension Big Sky Leadership Class in community room
Jan 5 - Jan 6	HSWR @ Ronan S&D @ Huntley
Jan 5	4:30PM HSBB @ Manhattan
Jan 6	1:00PM HSBB vs Lone Peak



TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 29	10:00AM Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 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
December 30	6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30pm Magic The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway 8:00pm- 1:00 Mabels Rage plays LIVE at The Betsy READ LAST WEEK'S PAPER FOR DETAILS!
December 31	6:00pm Canyon Ferry Brewing Live Bingo @ Canyon Ferry Brewery 6:30pm Broadwater Community Theater Presents: New Year's Eve with Queen City Swing at The Lodge, 131 S Spruce READ LAST WEEK'S PAPER FOR DETAILS!
January 1	10:30am Noon Year's Eve Party Family Friendly at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
January 2	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
January 3	1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
January 4	7:00pm Al-Anon at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
January 5	Food Pantry Hours Change READ MORE ON PAGE 8 10:00AM Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 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
January 6	6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
January 7	FREE Family Night Christmas Party at Holy Cross Parish, 101 S. Walnut in Townsend INFO BELOW!

DPHHS URGES CONSUMERS TO DISPOSE OF RECALLED QUAKER OATS PRODUCTS

DPHHS



Montanans are advised to check their homes; and discard recalled products. State health officials said today the Quaker Oats Company has announced a recall of several types of granola bars and granola cereals because they may be contaminated with Salmonella. The recalled product was for sale at several Montana retail locations including grocery stores, gas stations, and vending machines. The recalled product was sold in packages, singles, and snack boxes with other brands. A complete list of recalled products can be found here: [download \(fda.gov\)](https://www.fda.gov). Salmonella is a type of bacteria that can cause diarrheal illness if eaten. Most people infected with Salmonella experience diarrhea, fever, and stomach cramps. Symptoms usually start six hours to six days after swallowing the bacteria, and most people recover without treatment in four to seven days. Children younger than age five, adults 65 years and older, and people with weakened immune systems are at risk for more severe illness that could require medical treatment or hospitalization. If you believe you have an illness due to Salmonella, please contact your healthcare provider. Consumers who have the recalled product should dispose of it. Contact Quaker Consumer Relations at 1-800-492-9322 or visit <http://www.quakergranolarecall.com> for additional information or product reimbursement. As of December 15, 2023, there have been no confirmed reports of illness associated with the recalled products in Montana or elsewhere in the United States. For more information, see the December 15th, 2023 company announcement.

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

January 3	10:00am Commission Meeting at Flynn Building 3:00pm Commission Working Meeting at Flynn Building
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LIBRARY HOURS

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

HOLIDAY HOURS:
CLOSED Dec 30- Jan 1

REGULAR HOURS:
Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesday - 9:00am - 7:00pm
1st Saturday of the month: 11:00am - 2:00pm
Contact the library for details on clubs and events for a variety of ages at (406) 285-3747, or visit their website: threeforkslibrary.weebly.com

BROADWATER SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LIBRARY

HOLIDAY HOURS:
CLOSED Dec 31- Jan 1

REGULAR HOURS:
Monday through Thursday 4:00- 7:00PM
Friday through Saturday 9:00AM- 4:00PM
Sunday 12:00- 5:00PM
Curbside available. Please call (406)441-3461

Holy Cross Parish wishes you a Merry Christmas!

Come join us in celebrating our Savior's birth!

Christmas Eve Sunday 12/24/23 Mass at 9:00 pm	Christmas Day Monday 12/25/23 Mass at 8:00 am
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Family Night Christmas Party
Sunday 1/7/24 at 5:45pm

101 S. Walnut Townsend

The Birds Nest & Rock Room

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

125 S Pine St, Townsend MT

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(406) 502-1700

251 Saddle Dr. Helena, MT

Barnes Jewelry

357 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena MT

406-442-3000



BROADWATER COUNTY CHILDCARE SURVEY

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



We are collaborating with the community to learn more about how we can improve childcare in Broadwater County. Please take a few minutes to complete a survey about your childcare needs. The survey is for Broadwater County residents with children ages 0-18.

To take the survey, visit the MT43 News website at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/ChildcareSurvey>

Our county was selected to be a part of a statewide community cohort with Montana Child Care Business Connect, working to improve access to childcare in Townsend. The survey is part of this initiative and takes less than 10 minutes to complete. Responses are anonymous. However, if you submit your contact information with it, you will be entered for a chance to win local gift cards! The survey ends January 10. Thank you for your support!

THE VALUE OF FORAGE TESTING

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent

Feeding hay seems easy... toss it over the fence or off the back of the truck. If the animals are hungry, they will eat it, and all is well. Right?! Well... the actual physical process of feeding hay is fairly straightforward but hay itself is more complex. It's a diverse mix of protein, nutrients, energy and more. Every bale of hay is different. Every animal's nutritional needs are different, and even personal preferences can vary. How do you know if what you are feeding meets the nutritional needs of your animals? It's not like each bale is equipped with a nutritional label like food at the grocery store. However, it's still possible to get nutrient information for all the forage that you feed.

Forage testing is a process that allows you to see the nutritional quality of hay or other forage types. It helps you be able to match your animal's nutritional needs to the feed. This is extremely valuable for several reasons. First, and most importantly, it helps your animals stay healthy and happy by ensuring they are getting adequate nutrition. Additionally, if you are feeding animals for meat or dairy products, it helps make sure that your animals are growing and productive to reach the end goals.

Finally, it helps you be more strategic in purchasing hay that fits your animal's needs. The hay market is highly dynamic. A few years ago during the drought, hay prices were extremely high, and people were often left with whatever was available and unable to be selective. This year, hay is plentiful and there are many options. However, due to fluctuating weather in

the summer and fall, the quality is highly variable and it's important to be aware of what you are purchasing. For example, hay that has been rained on several times will be of poorer quality than that which was put up in sunshine. Grass or alfalfa that was at full maturity will have lesser quality than forage that was baled at a lower maturity. There are lots of factors that affect hay quality and years like this one provide you with many options to consider.

The first step in forage testing is proper sampling. The main goal here is to make sure you are getting an accurate representation of the entire lot. For hay, a lot is typically defined as hay taken from a single field from a single cutting. If there is a large variation in the lot, then it might be beneficial to send in more than one sample for testing, but in most cases one sample from the lot is sufficient.

To take samples from baled hay, it is recommended to use a hay probe. A hay probe is ideal instead of using your hands or another tool because it minimizes leaf loss and allows you to reach the interior of the bale. One is available to borrow from the Extension Office or you can purchase one from a farm supply company. Next, you'll need a bucket, a gallon Ziplock bag and a cordless drill. If a drill isn't available, a hand crank is sufficient but it's a lot more work!

Using a hay probe, collect core samples from a minimum of 10 percent of the bales in the lot. Collect two core samples from each bale. Except for small square bales which only require one core sample. For round bales, samples should be collected from the (rounded) sides, not the ends. Square bales, on the other hand, should be sampled from an end. This is important to get a cross-section of the hay within the bale. Place all of the core samples into one Ziplock bag for the lot, and it's ready to send to the lab.

There are many labs available that conduct forage testing with a variety of testing options. Your local MSU Extension Office can also handle it for you and send it to a lab. Once the results are in, your local Extension Agent or livestock nutritionist can help interpret the results to make sure the forage is meeting the nutritional needs of your livestock. If it is not, you can look at options to improve nutrient availability often through supplementation. It might also be time to look at other hay or forage options.

If you are purchasing hay, ask the producer if they have already tested their hay. There is a good chance they have and will share the results with you. There are many factors that affect forage quality so don't be afraid to reach out for help. If you have any questions about forage testing or livestock nutrition, stop by your local MSU Extension Office at 416 Broadway or contact us at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.

Need Childcare?

Take our survey!



In collaboration with Montana Child Care Business Connect (MCCBC), we are surveying Broadwater County residents to determine child care needs (ages 0-18) in Townsend.

To participate:

1. Scan the code with your phone.
2. Answer a few questions related to your child care needs.
3. (Optional) Submit your information for a chance to win a giftcard to a local business!*

*All responses will remain confidential.



Survey ends January 10th, 2024

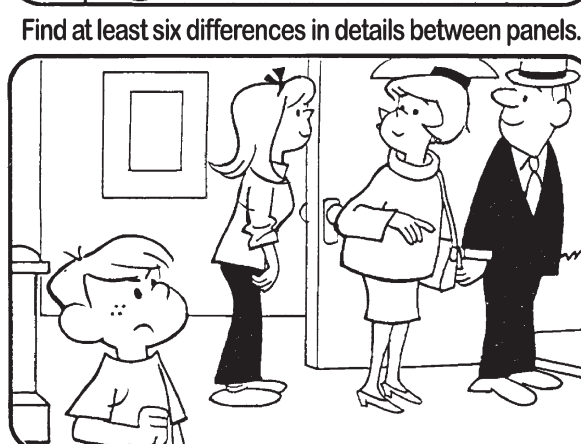
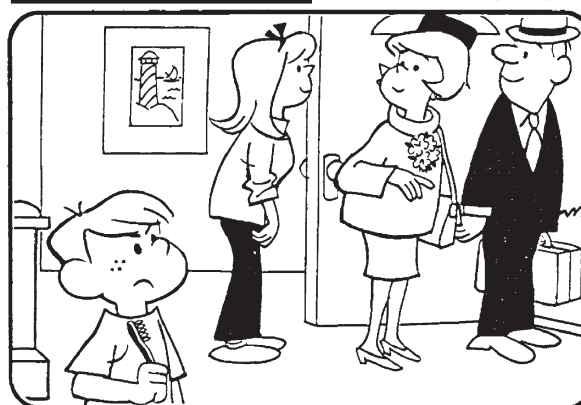
Survey results will be summarized and shared with the public at a community meeting taking place February 8th, 6:00 PM at The Lodge of Townsend.



For more information contact: Allison Kosto at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Picture is missing. 2. Toothbrush is missing. 3. Body is slimmer. 4. Hat is smaller. 5. Corsage is missing. 6. Suitcase is missing.

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Advertising: **Tuesday 10 a.m.**

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- 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 political 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.

LEGAL NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID

Separate sealed bids for procurement of Old Town Bridge West Superstructure will be received by Broadwater County at the office of Broadwater County Commissioners until 10:00AM local time on 1/10/2024 and then publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after the stipulated time shall be returned unopened.

The procurement consists of

Design and furnishing of 800 linear feet of prestressed concrete bulb-tee beams in accordance with the Project Manual.

The contract documents, consisting of half size Drawings and Project Manual, may be examined or obtained at the office of: Stahly Engineering & Associates

851 Bridger Dr. Suite 1

Bozeman, MT 59715

(406) 442-8594

in accordance with Article 2.1 of Instructions to Bidders. Required fee of \$30 per set, which is not refundable.

In addition, the Drawings and Project Manual may also be examined at the following locations:

Montana Bid.com

Montana Plan Exchanges

Any questions regarding this project should be directed to Adam Hagel, PE at Stahly Engineering & Associates, (406) 601-4070.

Contractor and any of the Contractor's Subcontractors bidding or doing work on this project will be required to be registered with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI). Forms for registration are available from the Department of Labor and Industry, PO Box 8011, 1805 Prospect, Helena MT 59604-8011. Information on registration can be obtained by calling (406) 444-7734. All laborers and mechanics employed by Contractor or Subcontractors in performance of the construction work shall be paid wages at rates as required by the laws of the Broadwater County and the State of Montana. The Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Each bid or proposal must be accompanied by a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond payable to

Broadwater County, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total amount of the bid. Successful Bidders shall furnish an approved Performance Bond and a Labor and Materials Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. Insurance, as required, shall be provided by the successful Bidder(s) and a certificate(s) of that insurance shall be provided.

This project is funded in part or in whole with grant/loan funding from MCEP.

Award of the project will be contingent upon receiving funding and award concurrence from

MCEP. Bids may only be withdrawn as provided in Section 16.02 of the Instructions to Bidders after the scheduled time for the public opening of bids.

The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals received, to waive informalities, to postpone the award of the contract for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, and to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bid that is in the best interest of the Owner.

Broadwater County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Published at MT43 News, Montana, this 29th day of December, 2023 and 5th day of January, 2023.

MNAXLP

Townsend Mayor, 1

He said that getting the new sewer lagoon built was his proudest accomplishment. "The old lagoon was 20 years old. I worried about dumping bad water into Canyon Ferry Lake causing the city's share of algae in the lake."

Evans said he looks forward to the city's next big project which is getting more water into the system. "I'll be glad to see better water pressure in people's sinks and showers," he said.

Evans is especially pleased with the council's updating of city ordinances, which had not been done for many years. But to this day, one ordinance still refers to hitching an animal, such as a horse, to a fence or railing. When asked why that outdated ordinance was not removed, Evans told the story: "John Flynn was city attorney at the time. He insisted we keep that ordinance intact to remember the old west, so we have left it in for his sake," Evans explained.

How Evans came to Townsend was interesting. He was working in Helena as a contract lineman with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union and had met Montana Power Company area manager Chuck Holling. When Holling retired, the Montana Power supervisor asked who should replace him. Holling responded, "Hire that big Indian from the contract linemen's crew; he's good," Evans related. Evans ended up working 33 years for Montana Power and its successor Northwestern Energy.

Evans was born in Butte, grew up on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and graduated from Winifred High School. He is the oldest of seven siblings. He is a member of the Little Shell Chippewa Nation.

Evans and his family loved Townsend from the start. His daughter Chelsey was in kindergarten, Josie was a baby and his son Jayden was four months old when they

came. One day soon after they arrived, the principal at the school, Jerry Rodacker, "chased me down" to ask if he would coach the kids' basketball and football teams. He coached girls' basketball for 24 or so years. "I really enjoyed coaching the kids. They called me 'Mister Evans' when they saw me on the street, even when they were 30 years old," he laughed.

Evans said he had no real experience with city affairs when he joined the city council. He was on the council when the city hired Tim Rauser as public works director whom Evans felt was very good at his job. "That made it a lot easier for me," Evans said.

Evans said the worst time for him on the council was when city clerk Diana Mell passed away. "We all depended on her knowledge of how things ran. She really knew the history of the city," he said.

What comes next? "Well for sure I'm not leaving Townsend. My brother Dennis is moving back to Montana from Seattle, so we'll be doing some fishing with those big boy toys instead of floating across the river on a log like we did when we were kids," he said with a smile.

His feelings about Townsend were evident: "This is my kids' hometown. That's important to me because when I was growing up, my family was always moving, so I'm not going anywhere."

Evans said he plans to take his four-year-old granddaughter out to catch her first fish.

Changing of the Guard, 1

the city. City Attorney Peter Simon and a council committee had worked for several months to revise the outdated and inconsistent wording of the ordinance.

Council members voted to approve the cost of repairs for garbage truck number 2, which has a hydraulic leak and to replace the PLC (computer brain). Funds will come from cash in the current garbage fund. Public Works Director Eric Kroeger explained that the trucks are damaged from garbage in bins which is not kitchen waste, but instead items such as exercise bikes and refrigerators. Council members suggested the city include a notice on people's water bills stating garbage bins are for kitchen waste only.

JOBS & VACANCIES

Animal Control and Compliance Officer

The City of Townsend is seeking a part-time employee for the Animal Control and Compliance Officer position.

This position will answer directly to the mayor.

The primary objective of this position is to enforce compliance with City Codes and State Laws governing animals, along with other City Codes.

Must possess valid MT Driver's License and successfully pass a Criminal Justice Information Network background check. Must possess an Animal Control Basic Certification or have the ability to become certified within one year of employment.

Other essential job functions and experience requirements along with the full job description can be found with the application packet at Townsend's City Hall located at 110 Broadway.

An application along with a resume must be submitted in a sealed envelope to Peter Simon, City Attorney located at 303 Broadway Street Townsend, MT by 1:00p.m. January 12, 2024.

Ward II Council Position

The City of Townsend is seeking letters of interest to fill one council position for Ward II.

Ward II includes S Harrison on Broadway to the east side of S Cedar.

Please drop off letters of interest by 5:00p.m. January 12, 2024, to the City Hall at 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT.

COMMISSIONERS AGENDA - JAN 3, 2024

Melinda Banks
Administrative Assistant



BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
515 Broadway, Townsend
Meetings are held at the Flynn Building on 416 Broadway St.

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

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting. Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Mail and

items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded.

OFFICIAL agendas are posted in the Courthouse (1st floor bulletin board), on our website at www.broadwatercountymt.com, in the window of the Flynn Building at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, and in the local MT43 Newspaper

Monday, January 1, 2024

OFFICES ARE CLOSED

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

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

10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director, Montana DNRC Land Use Application for Solid Waste Canister Sites

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Applicants for the Solid Waste Board

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Resolution for Broadwater County Commission to Assume the Duties of the Broadwater County Solid Waste District Board

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Resolution Declaring Broadwater County Sheriff's Department K-9, Max to be Retired and Ownership Transferred to Tony Cardova

10:25 AM Discussion/Decision, Commission Election of Officers

10:30 AM Discussion and Decision, Resolutions and Policies for 2023

Resolution: establishing Mileage, Lodging, and Per Diem Rates for Broadwater County Business Travel

Resolution: establishing Hours of Operation

Resolution: establishing Regular Meeting Dates and Times of Broadwater Commission

Resolution: establishing Meeting Agenda and Open Meeting Policy

Resolution: establishing Broadwater County Public Process Policy

10:35 AM Discussion/Decision, FY 2024 Senate Bill 536 Award; Old Town West Bridge Replacement Project; \$1,814,491

10:40 AM Discussion/Decision, Joint Application for Proposed Work in MT Streams, etc., December 2023 Old Town Bridge

10:45 AM Discussion/Decision, Inter-Local Agreement Formation, Authority and Administration of Abatement Region 4 for the Opioid Settlement

10:50 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Albe Minor Subdivision (Township 7 North, Range 1 East, Section 3) requests Preliminary Platt Approval

3:00 PM Weekly Working Meeting with Deputy County Attorney Kaylan Minor, in the Commission Office regarding projects and deadlines

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

Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)

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

- Solid Waste Board Meeting on January 9th at 6 PM
- LAC Meeting on January 10th at 2 PM
- Community Childcare Group (MSU Extension) on January 11th at 2 PM
- Fair Board on January 11th at 7 PM
- OFFICES ARE CLOSED JANUARY 15TH
- Trust Board on January 16th at 11:30 AM
- Weed Board Meeting on January 16th at 6 PM
- Airport Meeting on January 17th at 6 PM
- LEPC Meeting on January 18th at 1 PM
- Broadband Meeting on January 25th at 4 PM

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

GROUPS SUE MONTANA OVER UNLAWFUL FACTORY FARM WATER POLLUTION PERMIT

Upper Missouri Waterkeeper

State permits lack sufficient monitoring provisions to safeguard clean water.

Bozeman, MT — On Friday, Upper Missouri Waterkeeper, Food & Water Watch and Center for Food Safety sued the Montana Department of Environmental Quality over its statewide water pollution permit for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), also called factory farms. The groups are challenging Montana's revised CAFO General Permit, issued November 15, 2023, which lacks monitoring provisions to track and measure water pollution from factory farms, a critical Clean Water Act requirement necessary to safeguard Montanan's constitutional right to a clean and healthful environment.

Factory farms discharge pollutants such as nitrogen and phosphorus — two of the most pervasive pollutants degrading Montana's waterways — as well as pathogens, heavy metals, and pharmaceuticals, linked to algae blooms, fish kills, birth defects and cancers. Following a federal Court of Appeals opinion in a 2021 lawsuit brought by Food & Water Watch and Snake River Waterkeeper, Montana factory farm water pollution permits must include monitoring provisions.

"Montana's failure to require pollution monitoring at dirty factory farms amounts to allowing these facilities to operate in a black box. Without proper oversight and enforcement, a permit is little more than a piece of paper," said Food & Water Watch Staff Attorney Dani Replogle. "The courts to address this issue are crystal clear that the Clean Water Act requires CAFO water pollution permits to include critical monitoring provisions; the Department of Environmental Quality's willful disregard of this fact will not stand in court."

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, yet once again, we see the Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality favor big industry at the expense of our clean water resources," said Guy Alsentzer, Executive Director of Upper Missouri Waterkeeper. "The department's failure to adequately protect the public and Montana's water from known industrial scale pollution unnecessarily threatens all other water uses, and our keynote fisheries."

Montana's General Permit for CAFOs sets pollution limits and management standards for the majority of industrial CAFOs in the state, which currently includes over 100 industrial operations. Effective monitoring is key to addressing factory farm water pollution, providing valuable information about whether factory farms are following their permits, ensuring the safety of Montana's waters, and determining whether existing regulations of the CAFO industry are sufficient to protect public health and the environment.

"Montana is the home of the most beautiful rivers and lakes on the planet, renowned for its fishing and recreation, as well as its organic farming," said George Kimbrell, legal director for the Center for Food Safety. "There is absolutely no place in Big Sky country for mega factory farms to be allowed to pollute waterways without responsible regulation."

The plaintiff organizations are represented by attorneys from Upper Missouri Waterkeeper, Food & Water Watch, Center for Food Safety and Daniel C. Snyder, Environmental Enforcement Project at Public Justice.

PROPOSED RESURFACING ON US 12 NEAR WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

Natalie Stout
MDT Public Involvement Specialist

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Mont. - The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) would like to announce and invite the public to comment on a proposal to resurface about nine miles of US Highway 12 (US 12), south of White Sulphur Springs. The project begins near the US 12 with US Highway 89 (US 89) junction, and extends north, ending at West South Street in White Sulphur Springs.

Proposed work includes milling the existing surface,

applying a new overlay, and finishing with a seal and cover (chip seal), upgraded pavement markings, signage, and guardrail. The purpose of the project is to extend the service life of the roadway and enhance safety features.

Construction is tentatively planned for 2025 depending on the completion of the design and the availability of funds. No new right-of-way or utility relocations will be needed.

Partnering with the community is an important part of properly planning for future projects. MDT welcomes the public to provide ideas and comments on the proposed project. Comments may be submitted online at <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/contact/comment-form.aspx> or in writing to the Montana Department of Transportation, Butte office, PO Box 3068, Butte, MT 59702-3068. Please note that comments are for project UPN 10267000.

The public is encouraged to contact Butte District Preconstruction Engineer, Dave Gates, at 406-494-9636 or Project Design Engineer, Rebecca Barbula, at 406-444-6227 with questions or comments about the project.

About MDT:

We are B.U.I.L.D.E.R.S. At MDT, our mission is to plan, build, operate, and maintain a safe and resilient transportation infrastructure to move Montana forward by setting the gold standard for a highly effective, innovative, and people-centric department of transportation. For more information about MDT and the work we do on behalf of Montana's traveling public, visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/>.

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

PROPOSED RESURFACING ON I 90 NEAR THREE FORKS

Natalie Stout
MDT Public Involvement Specialist

THREE FORKS, Mont. - The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) would like to announce and invite the public to comment on a proposal to resurface about five miles of Interstate 90 (I 90), near Three Forks. The project begins west of the US 287 Interchange, Exit 274, and extends east, ending near the Three Forks Interchange, Exit 278.

Proposed work includes milling the existing surface, applying a new overlay, and finishing with a seal and cover (chip seal), upgraded pavement markings, signage, and guardrail. The purpose of the project is to extend the service life of the roadway and enhance safety features.

Construction is tentatively planned for 2025 depending on the completion of the design and the availability of funds. No new right-of-way or utility relocations will be needed.

Partnering with the community is an important part of properly planning for future projects. MDT welcomes the public to provide ideas and comments on the proposed project. Comments may be submitted online at <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/contact/comment-form.aspx> or in writing to Montana Department of Transportation, Butte office, PO Box 3068, Butte, MT 59702-3068. Please note that comments are for project UPN 10254000.

The public is encouraged to contact Butte District Preconstruction Engineer, Dave Gates, at 406-494-9636 or Project Design Engineer, Rebecca Barbula, at 406-444-6227 with questions or comments about the project.

About MDT:

We are B.U.I.L.D.E.R.S. At MDT, our mission is to plan, build, operate, and maintain a safe and resilient transportation infrastructure to move Montana forward by setting the gold standard for a highly effective, innovative, and people-centric department of transportation. For more information about MDT and the work we do on behalf of Montana's traveling public, visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/>.

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WHAT'S NEXT IN THE PUSH TO RESTORE SOUTHERN MONTANA'S PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

Amanda Eggert
Montana Free Press

This article was written by Amanda Eggert of the Montana Free Press (MFTP) and was published on December 18, 2023 by the Montana Free Press.

The article is published in MT43 News courtesy of the Montana Free Press.



Last week the Federal Railroad Administration announced that it awarded a \$500,000 grant to the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority (BSPRA) to explore the feasibility of restoring passenger rail service along the North Coast Hiawatha route, which passed through many of Montana's largest cities along its Chicago-to-Seattle route before the service was scrapped four decades ago. The planning grant will allow the authority, which formed in 2020 under an obscure, century-old piece of Montana law, to catalog what needs to happen to get passenger train service running once more through Billings, Bozeman, Missoula and smaller communities in between.

MFTP caught up with the Missoula County Commissioner and BSPRA board president Dave Strohmaier to better understand the state's prospects for expanded long-distance train travel. His comments have been edited for length and clarity.

MFTP: What does this planning grant mean for the North Coast Hiawatha route and BSPRA more generally?

Strohmaier: Two big things that were nested under the bipartisan Infrastructure Act are playing out now. The \$500,000 grant we were awarded last week puts us in the planning pipeline for project implementation. It's huge for us.

We also helped develop language in the 2021 Infrastructure Act directing the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Railroad Administration to study former Amtrak routes that could be brought back into service as well as brand new routes of 750 miles or more. The final report for the Amtrak daily long-distance service study is expected next spring or summer, and we expect to be included in it.

Between the two developments, I think it's now almost certain that the Federal Railroad Administration will recommend that Congress restore the North Coast Hiawatha route.

MFTP: What kind of railroad infrastructure improvements will be needed to get the North Coast Hiawatha operational again?

Strohmaier: Fortunately, this is all existing infrastructure — it's not as if we're rolling back the clock to 1883 and building a brand new railroad. The grant serves as a foundational, preliminary step that will help us develop a service development plan, which will outline the investments needed to restore stations, install additional signals and build sections of double-track.

Independent — because of you. Portrait of John S. Adams, founder of Montana Free Press.

Since North Coast Hiawatha service was discontinued in 1979, some stations have been repurposed for other uses, for example, while others have sat empty. There are also places where double tracking might have to be built to avoid congestion with freight traffic. The service development plan will detail all of that.

MFTP: Rail authority skeptics express concern that restoring the North Coast Hiawatha will come at the expense of rural Hi-Line communities such as Havre, Wolf Point and Cut Bank that are served by Amtrak's Empire Builder. How do you respond to those concerns?

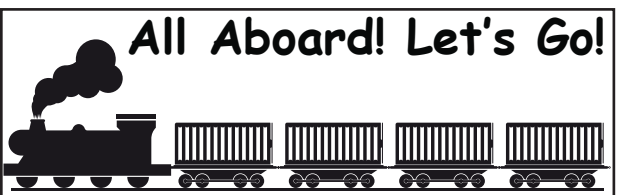
Strohmaier: We need a healthy and vibrant Empire Builder in order to have a healthy and vibrant North Coast Hiawatha route, and that's one reason we were a co-applicant with Amtrak on a successful \$14.9 million grant to do railroad infrastructure work up near Malta. Establishing a section of double track there will help alleviate congestion between freight and passenger rail traffic.

This does not need to be a zero-sum game where if you add service somewhere it must be lost somewhere else. I get where some of the skeptics are coming from after living so long in a place of scarcity, but we don't

Passenger Rail Service, 6

have just one airport or one interstate in Montana and I think there's room for more than one passenger rail route.

We commissioned a high-level socioeconomic analysis a few years ago that estimated that restoring the North Coast Hiawatha would draw up to 426,000 riders per year, contributing \$271 million in economic benefit to communities along the route. It's also beneficial to have some redundancy in the passenger rail system. Wouldn't it be nice, for example, if out-of-state riders had the option of taking Empire Builder into the state and returning home on the North Coast of the Hiawatha?



JUDGE'S ORDER HALTS WOLF TRAPPING AND SNARING SEASON IN MOST OF MONTANA

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



HELENA – Wolf trapping and snaring in Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) administrative regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and in Hill, Blaine, and Phillips counties won't start until Jan. 1 and will run through Feb. 15, according to a federal court injunction issued Tuesday evening. In areas in eastern Montana

outside FWP administrative regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and Hill, Blaine, and Phillips counties the order does not apply, and the wolf trapping and snaring season will start November 27 and run through March 15 as described in the 2023 wolf regulations.

The wolf hunting season, separate from trapping and snaring, remains in place and is open through March 15 as described in the 2023 wolf regulations. Wolf harvest quotas are still in place for FWP regions and can be tracked via the Wolf Harvest Dashboard.

FWP and the Fish and Wildlife Commission have worked diligently to assemble and implement sound science-based management for wolves and grizzly bears, including the wolf regulations impacted by this ruling. The recovered status of grizzly bears in the Northern Continental Divide and Yellowstone ecosystems is testimony to this effort. The State of Montana has appealed the ruling. FWP staff will continue to track the denning status of grizzly bears in case an appeal is successful, and the injunction is overturned.

WEATHER INFO CONTRIBUTED BY JEFF ROSS

Fri 12/29	Sat 12/30	Sun 12/31	Mon 1/01	Tue 1/02
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear
39° 26°	41° 25°	40° 25°	39° 24°	36° 21°
0% Precip	0% Precip	0% Precip	0% Precip	0% Precip
5 10 mph	5 8 mph	4 8 mph	3 7 mph	3 8 mph

Precipitation:

July: 1.181"	August: 1.34"
September: 4.39"	October: 0.760"
November: 0.398"	December: 0.07"
2022: 15.272"	2023: 13.598"

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: X equals T

VLXXLSI ILZX XP NMSR QULVVLSI
MAPBX WPSILI XWMX IXPJ MZQ
SLNBIL XP FLLJ UMFVHZT:
AMVF RMHV.

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KNIGHT MOVES

L	B	I
N		I
U	D	G

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

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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!

Walk
RATED [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Path
OUTER [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Brand
BELLA [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Figure
PHASE [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

TODAY'S WORD [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

"I'd hate to see the _____."

Super Crossword

FORGET THE WHOLE THING

ACROSS

1 Warning about a racy web pic
5 "West Side Story" knife
9 Seasoned vet
15 Bro
19 French for "yours"
20 Treat for feet, for short
21 Pope after Marcellus II
22 Scads
23 RFORM
26 Rapper Snoop —
27 Variety show hosts, e.g.
28 ACLU interests: Abbr.
29 Farming unit
31 Pasty luau food
32 Flight takeoff abbr.
33 NTR
38 "Peek —!"
40 Classic comic Martha
41 Uplifting poems
42 Place full of video games
43 UBL
46 Chicken cordon —
47 British chums
48 Stars and Stripes' nation

49 —"wester (certain storm)
50 "Oh, God!"
54 Cousins of aves.
55 Name of some newspapers
57 GHTE
62 Actors Fiennes and Macchio
65 Very top
66 Flying
67 TRONI
72 Cast out of the country
73 Official helper
74 Pays out
75 EAKI
79 Diner check
80 Start for existing
83 Name of some newspapers

100 Chimney grime
101 Great serves
102 HEER
105 2000-15 CBS series
106 Writer Rand
107 Blood type, in brief
108 Total
109 Wakes up
112 Writer Uris
114 NTEEN
119 Peel, as fruit
120 Excited
121 Cozy corner
122 Pierce player
123 Cast off hair
124 Swan constellation
125 Forest sight
126 Saclike growth

DOWN

1 Neck back
2 Mushroom feature
3 Some plays on ground
4 Fiancee
5 Colo. — (city S. of Denver)
6 Skirt line
7 "Just go ahead and try!"
8 Wine merchants
9 Unlock, in poems
10 Resting place for a napkin
11 Drinker's hwy. offense
12 Implores
13 Christina of "Bel Ami"
14 Put too high a price on
15 Papa
16 Perfect word
17 Be charitable
18 Gas guzzler
24 Multivolume U.K. lexicon
25 Chicago winter hrs.
30 Blarney
33 Mushroom feature
34 King, in Lyon
35 Hubbub
36 Novelist
37 Runs furtively with short, quick steps
38 Heads of fleets: Abbr.
39 Regatta entry
40 Upshot
44 Evan of figure skating
45 Univ. helpers
46 Web automaton
49 Brother of Moe and Curly
51 Deep black, in poems
52 Break in friendship
53 Hairy TV cousin
56 "Science Friday" ailer
58 Person tying shoes
59 Onetime transportation agcy.
60 Foods created by biotech
61 Flood-prevention sack
62 One sharing your blood
63 Songwriter Carmichael
64 Salon noise
67 Large-scale public show
68 Untrue tales
69 Neighbor of Mont.
70 Caress
71 How money may be lost
72 Sci-fi gift
76 Belonging naturally
77 "One Mic" rapper
78 "— ToK" (#1 hit for Keshia)
80 On the nose
81 Viking letter
82 Rescue crew VIPs
86 Occupant
87 Represented
89 Peruvian singer with a wide range
91 Notorious emperor
92 OR workers
93 Rust may be a sign of it
94 DVR remote abbr.
95 Cain, to Eve
96 Hair-raising sites?
97 "Is that so?"
98 Poe's "radiant maiden"
99 Yuletide quaff
103 Destitute
104 Tic — -toe
105 Gear tooth
109 Yard tool
110 Outer limits
111 Sports datum
113 TV neighbor of Homer
115 Pewter, mostly
116 Univ. website suffix
117 Vetoes' votes
118 Rival of Wade

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

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~MT 43 News Team

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406-231-9752

OUR WALK IN FAITH

Elkhorn Community Fellowship

126 N Cedar St. Townsend
Pastor Eric Crusch (406) 949-0183

Sunday: 11:00am- Services

Wednesday: 4:00 - 5:30pm Team KID for K - 5th Grades
| 6:00 - 7:30pm Youth Group for 6 - 12th Grades

Faith Baptist Church

5 Jack Farm Rd. Townsend
Pastor Mike Wenzel (406) 266-4219

Sunday: 10:00am Sunday School | 11:00am Morning Service | 6:00pm Evening Service

Wednesday: 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer

Holy Cross Catholic Church

101 S Walnut St. Townsend
Parish Contact (406) 266-4811
email: office@holycrossmt.org

Sunday: 3:30pm - 4:15pm (or by appt.) Reconciliation | 4:30pm- Mass | 5:30pm (during the school year) Dinner with 6:00pm Religious Ed for all Grades

Adult Education Programs found on holycrossmt.org

Monday: 9:00am Mass | 9:30am Adoration

Tuesday: 9:00am Mass

Mountain Valley Church (of the CMA)

110 E Street Townsend
Pastor Eric Krueger (406) 465-5895
MountainValleyChurch.org

Sunday: 10:00am Services with Nursery, Kids and Youth Ministry

Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406
Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.

Radersburg Baptist Church

7 Main St. Radersburg
Pastor Richard Summerlin (406) 410-0458

Sunday: 9:45am Sunday School | 11:00am Worship

Set Free Christian Fellowship

318 Broadway St. Townsend; PO Box 1163
Pastor Carol Bergstad (406) 461-2181

Sunday: 9:30am Service | 7:00pm Set Free Recovery

Thursday: 7:00pm Bible Study

Seventh Day Adventist Church

200 N Cedar St. Townsend
Pastor Ney Khut (269)-362-5768

Saturday: 9:30 Service | 10:30am Bible Study

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod

301 N Cherry St. Townsend
Council President Ross Johnson (406) 465-3791

Sunday: 9:30am Services

Second Tuesday of the month: 6:00pm Women of the ELCA meet.

Bible Studies meet weekly. Call for more information.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

916 Broadway St. Townsend
Bishop Matt Graham (406) 266-4255

Sunday: 8:30am Choir Practice | 9:30am Sacrament Meeting | 10:40am Sunday School

Tuesday: 6:00 - 9:00pm Family History Center Open For Family History Center appointment call Director, Rebecca Mitchell, (406) 980-0270

Wednesday: 6:30pm Youth Activities

Townsend United Methodist Church

200 N Cedar St. Townsend
Pastor Mele Moa (406) 266-3390

TownsendUMC.org

Sunday: 9:00am Services

Trailhead Christian Fellowship

20 Trailhead View Dr. (5 mi. north of Townsend)
Pastor Mark Roelofs (406) 266-4406

Sunday: 9:00am Sunday School and Christian Education | 10:00am Services

Wednesday: 4:25 - 5:50pm Awana Program for K- 6th Grades | 6:15 - 8:00pm Youth Group for 7th-12th Grades



SR. CENTER MEALS:
JAN 1 - JAN 5
516 2nd Street,
Townsend MT

Monday, January 1

CLOSED: New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 2

BBQ Pork Ribs
Corn Bread
Baked Beans
Crisp Coleslaw
Applesauce

Wednesday, January 3

Carol's Meat Loaf
Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
Garden Salad
Golden Corn
Whole Grain Bread
Plump Peaches

Thursday, January 4

Chicken and Rice

Casserole

Green Peas
Purple Beets
Whole Grain Bread
Mandarin Oranges

Friday, January 5

Chicken Fried Steak
Steamed Potatoes
Green Beans
Tossed Salad
Whole Grain Bread
Fruit Crisp

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.

FOOD PANTRY NOTICE OF NEW DONATION TIMES

Karoline Nelson
Operations Manager

Effective Friday, January 5th donations will not be accepted from 3 PM to 5 PM. The new donation times will be on Fridays from 9:30 AM to 11 AM, and on Saturday mornings from 9 AM to 10:45 AM, for the first and third weekends, and if necessary, the fifth Saturday of the month.

Distribution Hours:

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

How to Donate:

Bob's Supermarket has donation boxes at the checkout counters. For donations of meat or other perishable items or for emergency food distribution, please call Karoline at 406-438-3981 or Daryl at 406-980-0800. You may mail cash donations to Broadwater Food Pantry, P. O. Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644. The food pantry is located at 315 Broadway. Thanks go to all the people who donate food.

TOWNSEND TREES PLANTED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

Patrick Plantenberg
Tree Board Chair



This is the eighteenth of a series of articles about trees planted in Townsend and Broadwater County to honor people, special events, or for other purposes.

The Tree Board hopes people will come forward with more information on other trees planted on public as well as private property so the tree and its purpose can be documented.

83) Malus species 'Klehm Bechtel', Klehm Bechtel Crabapple; planted in 2014 at 611 Broadway in memory of Autumn Elizabeth Steiner.

The tree was planted in 2014 at 611 Broadway in memory of Autumn Elizabeth Steiner, a stillborn child born on September 4, 2013, to Tammy Annette Steiner. The tree was donated by Tony Steiner and planted by the Tree Board. The tree is the second tree in the boulevard west of North Cherry Street. The tree is treated for fireblight annually and is in good condition.

84) Betula pendula, European White Birch; planted in 2012 at the Broadwater County Museum to honor Dolly McMaster.

This tree was planted in 2012 at the Broadwater County Museum to honor Dolly McMaster for the McMasters' contributions to Broadwater County. The tree is located on the north side of the museum in the boulevard. It is the closest tree to the corner with North Walnut Street. The tree was planted by Dolly McMaster, friends, family, and the Tree Board. The tree is in good condition.

85) Betula papyrifera, Paper Birch; planted in 2014 at the Broadwater County Museum as a memorial tree for Bud McMaster.

This tree was planted in 2014 at the Broadwater County Museum to honor Bud McMaster for the McMasters' contributions to Broadwater County. A European White Birch was originally planted in 2012 and died. The Paper Birch was planted in 2014. The tree is located on the north side of the museum in the boulevard. It is the second tree west of the corner of North Walnut Street. The tree was planted by Dolly McMaster, friends, family, and the Tree Board. The top third of the tree died over the winter of 2021-2022. It was pruned by the Tree Board in 2022. The tree is in good condition.

86) Euonymus alatus, Burning Bush Tree; planted in 2012 at the Broadwater County Museum in memory of Rose Flynn.

This tree was planted in the spring of 2012 at the Broadwater County Museum in loving memory of Rose Flynn. Rose was dedicated to family, faith, friends, community, and the preservation of heritage. The tree was planted by the family and the Tree Board. The tree is on the east side of the museum south of the museum sign. The tree was donated by the Broadwater County Museum. The tree has suffered some dieback in recent winters. The tree is in fair condition.

87) Aesculus x carnea 'Fort McNair', Fort McNair Red Horsechestnut; planted in 2014 at the Broadwater County Museum in memory of John Prather.

The tree was planted in 2014 at the Broadwater County Museum in memory of John Prather. John was a Navy veteran and a Lockheed Martin engineer. He enjoyed playing Santa at the museum and being called "Rocket Man". The tree was donated by his wife Elizabeth and planted by friends, family, and the Tree Board. The tree has suffered some winter dieback and is in fair condition.

DEADLINE FOR FWP'S NEW MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP ART CONTEST EXTENDED

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



The stamp art contest is now on Jan. 31. The Wetlands Protection Advisory Council will select the winning piece of art in February. The winning artist will receive a \$2,000 cash prize and be featured on promotional materials throughout 2024.

In addition to the extended deadline, some changes have been made to contest rules, including artwork previously used in production or entered into any state or federal stamp competition can be submitted. Details on contest rules and entry information can be found at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/BirdStamp>

The winning artwork will be on display in the Capitol in Helena and announced by Gov. Greg Gianforte in late February.

The 2024 migratory bird stamp will not be required to hunt migratory birds in Montana. To hunt migratory birds, hunters will need a current Montana migratory bird license and their federal duck stamp, the same as in years past.

However, beginning in 2024 those who purchase a migratory bird license will receive a free collectible sticker showing the winning artwork, information about the Migratory Bird Wetland Program and information about how to make additional contributions. Purchasing a migratory bird license is a great way to support wetland habitat conservation. FWP will work with the Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation and other partners to provide other ways to donate to wetlands conservation. More information on other donation opportunities will be available in early 2024.

The 2024 Migratory Bird Stamp will help raise additional awareness of the importance of wetland habitat and its benefits to wildlife, landowners, and water quality. Wetlands are critical for many wildlife and aquatic species, as well as providing critical ecosystem functions like flood control, groundwater recharge and water purification. FWP's Migratory Bird Wetland Program helps landowners and other conservation partners develop and fund projects that protect, conserve, enhance or create high-quality wetland habitat.

EASY VENISON STIR FRY WITH SWEET POTATO FRIES

Eileen Clarke
Rifles and Recipes

This is a pretty spicy sauce: about as hot as I could tolerate and, though I was prepared to add a bit of sugar to my water, the sweet potato fries saved me. (1/4 teaspoon in 8 ounces of water cures the fiery mouth. Even better than dairy.)

As for the meat, I've made this with venison as well as wild pig, and would bet it would also work for pale upland birds like pheasant and Forest grouse. Finally, do you have an air fryer? If not, just follow the oven directions on the frozen fries bag and allow for a little more time.

Easy Venison or Wild Pig Stir Fry with Sweet Potato Fries

Serves 3-4 (Expand at will.)



Easy Venison Stir Fry with Sweet Potato Fries
Photo Credits: Eileen Clarke

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup Hoisin sauce
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 1/2 to 2 teaspoons chili-garlic sauce
- 4 teaspoons grated garlic*
- 1 teaspoon toasted sesame oil
- 2 tablespoons neutral oil, in all, for cooking**
- 3/4 to 1 pound wild pig or venison, sliced thin
- 1 yellow onion, sliced from pole to pole
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 20 pea pods, chopped in half
- 1 pound bag frozen sweet potato fries

Easiest Way to Grate Ginger:

*First, don't use the smallest grater side. It's true that the smaller you grate/mince/shred it, the more flavor any spice has, but that's more work. It's a lot faster to use a larger grating surface.

Second, if you scrape away the woody skin on a long side, then you have a much longer surface to grate, and you get more grated stuff for each swipe.

**Neutral oil is a foodie term for those oils that don't have an obvious flavor like canola, avocado, etc., rather than olive oil or toasted sesame oil which might alter the flavor of any dish.

Cooking

1. Combine the sauce ingredients: soy sauce, hoisin sauce, honey, chili garlic sauce, ginger, and toasted sesame oil. Leave the plain oil for the cooking. Stir well.

2. In a large skillet, heat 1 tablespoon of the plain oil over medium-high heat and when the oil is hot, lightly brown the meat. Transfer the meat to a bowl and add the second tablespoon of oil. Add the sliced onion, celery and pea pods to the pan and sauté until the veggies start to brown lightly, about 5-7 minutes.

3. As the veggies brown, start your air fryer so it preheats. After about 5 minutes, start the sweet potatoes according to package directions.

Return the meat to the pan and stir it into the veggies. Once the meat has warmed up again, stir the sauce to the veggies and meat to coat everything. Lower the heat to medium-low, and let the sauce cook thicken, 5-7 minutes.

Serving

Grab some sweet potato fries with tongs (they'll be very hot, so don't grab them by hand) and spread them out among three to four bowls. Divide the stir fry among the bowls and serve.

Eileen Clarke has written a pyramid of game cookbooks, but this recipe is on her blog, at www.riflesandrecipes.com. If you like this one, check out the cookbooks. Sausage, jerky, soups and chilies, bullet-to-fork game care or a pheasant phanatic, there's a book for that. And the post-Christmas sale starts January 1. 406-521-0273.

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Thank you to our Subscribers and Supporters for finishing and beginning another year with us!

We wish you blessings of good health, hope and joy in the coming new year!

~MT43 News Board and Staff

HAPPY NEW YEAR

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: In which city is the Brandenburg Gate located?
2. TELEVISION: Which 1990s TV show catapulted actor George Clooney to fame?
3. MOVIES: Which department store is featured in the 1947 holiday film, "Miracle on 34th Street"?
4. LEGAL: What kind of legislative body is bicameral?
5. FOOD & DRINK: What is the main ingredient in guacamole?
6. LITERATURE: In "The Night Before Christmas" poem, how many reindeer does Santa Claus have?
7. CHEMISTRY: Which chemical element's symbol is C?
8. HISTORY: Who is the first female chancellor of Germany?
9. MUSIC: Which female French singer had a hit song with "La Vie en Rose"?
10. SCIENCE: When did the Krakatoa volcano have its last major eruption?

Answers

1. Berlin, Germany.
2. "ER."
3. Macy's.
4. A legislative body with two chambers, like House and Senate.
5. Avocado.
6. Eight.
7. Carbon.
8. Angela Merkel.
9. Edith Piaf.
10. 1883.

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110 N. Oak St., Townsend



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

HOLD ON...THIS MOVIE IS BEGINNING WITH AN ELEGANT FONT AND SOFT MUSIC. IF SOMEBODY BREAKS INTO SONG, I'LL BE IN THE CAR.

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GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner

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"I was a designated driver New Year's Eve. Don't I get credit for it?"

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THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS
POPEYE
BY RANDY MILHOLLAND

AND AS THE SEA HAG HEARD THE PEOPLE OF SWEETHAVEN SINGING CHRISTMAS SONGS, SHE FELT HER HEART GROW FIVE TIMES BIGGER.

I FOUND YOUR HEART PILLS!

GOOD JOB, LINDEN. I DON'T NEED TO SPEND ANOTHER CHRISTMAS EVE IN THE E.R.

SANTA! YOU CAME! I'VE BEEN REALLY--

— GOOD? YOU'RE NOT SANTA!

I AM TONIGHT, KID.

"HELLO. I AM KRUNKLES. SANTA HIRED ME THROUGH IJOLLY, A YULETIDE APP. TO DELIVER YOUR GIFTS.

"JOLLY GUARANTEES ALL THE HOLIDAY CHEER AT A FRACTION OF THE COST."

I THOUGHT I'D GET TO SEE THE REAL SANTA.

WELCOME TO THE GIG ECONOMY. PLEASE RATE YOUR EXPERIENCE. FIVE STARS WOULD HELP ME OUT.

NO TIP, HUH?

"THANK YOU FOR USING IJOLLY FOR ALL YOUR MERRY NEEDS."

THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO AMUSE YOURSELF THAN MESSING WITH OUR KID, CASTOR.

YEAH, BUT NAME ONE THAT'S NEARLY AS FUN!

I LEFT OUT COOKIES!

CAN'T WAIT TO PAY MY RENT IN BAKED GOODS.

CryptoQuip
answer

Letters sent to farm dwellers about horses that stop and refuse to keep walking:
balk mail.

SCRAMBLERS
solution

1. Tread 2. Route; 3. Label; 4. Shape
Today's Word
LOSER

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

HEY, DAD, SINCE CHRISTMAS IS OVER, IT'S ONLY 3 SHORT MONTHS UNTIL MY BIRTHDAY.

I FIGURE WE CAN JUST ADD NEW STUFF I WANT TO MY CHRISTMAS LIST I USED.

THERE ARE STILL THINGS ON THAT I DIDN'T GET, BEING SANTA DROPPED THE BALL.

Bring on the SNOW!

Please?

KNIGHT MOVES
Answer

L	B	I
N	I	
U	D	G

BUILDING

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

I NEED SOME BUTTER AND JAM...

...CUZ I'M TOAST!!

Kids' Maze Solution

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

TIGER by BUD BLAKE

I'LL BE THE UMPIRE

AND KEEP SCORE TOO

YOUR GAME, HUGO...

WHAT DYA WANNA DO NEXT?

Super Crossword
Answers

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

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

BACK IN THE DAY...
HAPPY NEW YEAR 1983 HA

DO YOU THINK WE CAN STAY UP TILL DAWN?

TODAY...
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024 HA

DO YOU THINK WE CAN STAY UP PAST 10:00 PM?

2023 CHRISTMAS CONNECTION

Brett Anderson

Thank you to everyone who made this year such a success. This year our generous community helped 58 families that includes over 255 people!! 113 of those people were kids and our Angel Tree angels shopped for 108 of them!

Thanks to the families and businesses who took Angel Tree tags and shopped for children in need within these families so that they were able to have presents under their Christmas trees this year!

Without our angel tree angels we would never be able to operate and help these children. Special toy donations and the amazing assistance of Toys for Tots of Helena made it possible for kids to get more than one gift under the tree this year. A special thank you to 4H for giving families who wanted a fresh Christmas tree, not only that but also a stand and lights.



Christmas Connection volunteers getting ready to do a LOT of gift wrapping.
Photo Credits: Christmas Connection



Toys for Tots volunteers getting ready to get to work.
Photo Credits: Christmas Connection

Donations this year were higher than they have been in a few years helping us to reach our goals for the year and also to be able to help us accomplish our mission of getting Christmas dinner and gifts to those families in need within our community. We would like to thank the following people and businesses for their donations of money or goods needed... Townsend Drug & Spirits, Bread & Butter Café, senior citizens from the Senior Center, Helping Hands, Bob's Supermarket, Pam & Victor Sample, Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church, Tory & Lindsay Richtmyer, Carol Anderson, Brenda Phillips, Tayla Snapp, Townsend Rodeo, the Senior Center, Mountie Moose Bakery, the Potato Sellers, the Food Bank, Watson Irrigation, Costco, Rocky Mountain Supply, and True Value Town & Ranch Supply, and many more that wish to remain anonymous. This also includes many who put money in the donation jars at our fundraising events this year!!

Service to others is, in this Christmas Elf's opinion, one of the most important ways to help others feel God's love and healing power. Hours of volunteering is no easy task especially when life is so busy, but this year we have 250+ hours of time donated to this cause by our entire board, Tayla, Danni, Ryeann, Ed, Vivian, Jamie, Nancy, Ellen, Nate, Teresa, Christine, Michael, Arthur, Iain, Wyatt, Whitney, Donovan, Alex, Dawn, Jeff, Isaac, Spencer, David, Krystal, Amber, Jill, Judy, Elaine, Laura, Alex, Lisa, Kyzer, Archer, Patrick, Mary, Ephraim, Simeon, Jaiden, Judy, Val, Rachael, Monique and many others.

Special thanks go out to everyone who works

at Reading Leaves and especially Rachael for being our center of operations during the holiday season. Not only do they allow us to put up the angel tree and receive applications, they give out applications, wrap presents, take note of who took angel tree gifts and are our cheerleaders when we are overwhelmed!!



Everyone hard at work
Photo Credits: Christmas Connection

Others who need a special thank you are Ed and Vivian at the Firehall, thank you for being a part of Operation Elf Minion!! We could not do it without the help of Townsend Schools, Senior



A never-ending bounty of gifts
Photo Credits: Christmas Connection

Citizen Dinner Club, Headstart and Reading Leaves for getting applications out to those within our



Gifts of all sizes and types
Photo Credits: Christmas Connection

community. Thank you to the Big Sky Autism Project for letting us do a fundraiser at the Fun Run this summer and to Townsend Rodeo for letting us set up an Ice Cream Booth at the Fair and Rodeo. Thank you to the businesses who housed Toys for Tots boxes. Others who go the extra mile are Bob's Supermarket, Deep Creek Pizza Co, Broadwater County Social Services Committee, Mountie Moose Bakery, the Springdale Colony, MT43, Shirley Wilson and her sewing circle and others who give of their time to assist and donate making our jobs easier.

We are forever grateful for those who sign up for help. You gave us the opportunity to serve you and did so with kindness and patience.

We love you Broadwater County and hope you had a wonderful Christmas and have a blessed New Year!

Love,

The Christmas Connection Board



Angel Tree with gifts



Angel Tree with gifts

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

DECEMBER 28

1939

Townsend Rotary Hears Interesting Talk on Hospitals
Townsend Rotary club held its regular meeting Tuesday evening at 6:30 at the I.O.O.F. hall with the president, Earl W. Brown, presiding.

The meeting was in charge of R.M. O’Hearn and Dr. F.P. Nash. Mr. O’Hearn spoke briefly on programs of the future and suggested that a good number of the programs should be provided by member talent. Dr. Nash then gave an outline of the new addition to Broadwater Hospital and Clinic’s building, informing the club that 15 new patients’ rooms would be provided including eight private rooms for which there had been an increasing demand. “At the present,” said the doctor, “the basement of the addition will not be completed until a demand arises for its use. At its completion the hospital will be able to care for nearly 45 patients.”

Dr. Nash also spoke on hospitals and administration of hospitals in general, stating that hospitals in the recent years “were responsible for increasing longevity from 50 to 65 years”. A brief general discussion on construction, insulation, lighting, acoustics and heating followed and the meeting was adjourned.

1950

Radersburg News

The Christmas program at the schoolhouse this year was the usual success with everyone coming out to watch the plays and the small children to see Santa Clause and receive gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Greaves left last Wednesday for California to spend the holiday season with their daughter, Marie and sons, Charles and David and their families.

Mrs. John Williams drove to Bozeman last week to bring her daughter, Sharley, home for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Bish Williams and Marilyn were Christmas dinner guests of Mrs. Mary Grandchamp.

Mrs. Jack Ralls and children went to Helena Monday evening on the bus. Jack Ralls drove in for them on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Greaves drove to Butte last Saturday to meet Mrs. Greaves’ sister, Millie, who came up from California for the holidays.

1961

John Hunters Win Christmas Home Decorating Contest
The trailer home of Mr. and Mrs. John Hunter at 515 North Cedar with old Santa on the roof, a fireplace and lights all over the place won top prize this year in the Rotary Club Christmas home decoration contest. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter are to be complimented on their fine piece of work.

Second place honors went to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sautter at 611 East Broadway, and third prize went to Miss Sydney Sherwood who was responsible for the attractive display at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Sherwood on South Walnut.

Tony Francisco, president of the Townsend Rotary club made the announcement of the winners yesterday after conferring with the judges. He stated the judges had a number of homes under consideration for the three cash prizes of \$15, \$10 and \$5. Those getting honorable mention were Jack Pooles, Logan Davises, Don Hollaways, Hank Lohrs, Glenn Perry, Jr., John Zipperian, Jr., and Lorraine Olsens.

1967

Who is Where in the Armed Forces

E-4 John Marks left Tuesday after visiting the past week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sewell Marks. John is aboard the Lyman K. Swenson, a destroyer recently returned from a tour in Vietnamese waters. He left by car Tuesday for San Diego with Lt.jg. Gary Cruson, who has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Horne during the holidays.

Pvt. Clyde Retterer was in town last week visiting friends. He is stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas with the Army Reserves.

Howard White is visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard White, on holiday leave. He is now stationed at Newport, R.I., where he is attending Naval Officers Candidate School. This is a four months school and he will graduate March 6 with a commission as Ensign.

CTSN Art Graham arrived Saturday to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Graham, over the holidays. Art has been stationed at Goodfellow Air Force Base in Texas, enrolled in a security school. Upon completion of his leave, he will report to Washington, D.C. Jan .9 where he will take further schooling.

Tom Massa, U.S. Seabees, arrived home Saturday to visit over Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Mike Massa. This leave was due to a delay in orders. Tom will report Thursday to Travis Air Force Base from where he will leave for Quezon City, Philippine Islands, for further duty.

Harvey Delger, construction mechanic with the Seabees, stationed at Gulfport, Miss., is visiting during the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.I. Delger and family. He will report back to Gulfport for further duty when his leave is up.

Lt. Jg. Gary Cruson who has been visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Horne, left Tuesday by car for San Diego where he is now stationed. He is still assigned to the carrier, U.S.S. Bennington.

“Glen Perry Home Winner of Rotary Decoration Prize”
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Perry, who live on North Walnut Street, walked off with first prize money of \$15.00 in the Townsend Christmas home decoration contest sponsored by the Rotary Club.

Second place and a \$10.00 prize went to Rev. Terry Anderson and wife who live on North Cherry, and third place and \$5.00 went to Mr. and Mrs. Lorin Waling on South Cedar street.

Honorable mention in the judging was rated by the AL Zipperians, John Feistners and Donald Beavers.

This annual contest spurs Townsend resident to come up with some beautifully decorated homes for the holiday season, thanks to the Townsend Rotary club.

1978

“Round Town” News

Annabelle Diehl and Delores Morgan of Helena called on Mrs. Arthur Diehl and Annie Bisby last Wednesday.

Christmas day guests at the home of Frank and Evelyn Shearer were Wayne and Joanne Shearer and baby of East Helena, Lawrence and Betty Shearer, Robert and Olivia Ingersoll and Don, Irene and Dan Shearer.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harvey and family spent the holidays visiting in Fort Benton and Havre with their parents and other relatives.

Week end guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Pottruff were their sons, Kerry and Bob of Billings, Doug of Great Falls and Greg of Helena.

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Zollinger and family of Billings spent the holidays visiting at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Lanning and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Zollinger and with other relatives and friends.



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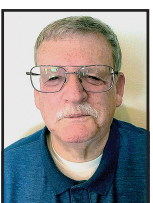
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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

HUMMINGBIRD CHOCOLATES

Victor Sample



For as long as I can remember my Grandma Trusty made and sold Easter candy by the hundreds of pounds from her humble kitchen table in southeastern Pennsylvania. She loved doing it, and her customers loved the product and came back year after year. She also donated countless pounds to raise money for charitable causes.

As her health declined, she lost the strength in her hands to be able to mix and roll hundreds of peanut butter and coconut eggs. Family members tried to help but it wasn’t the same, and grandma finally resorted to making only enough for the immediate family members to enjoy.

In March of 2022, I began making and selling my grandma’s age -old secret recipe for chocolate-covered peanut butter and coconut cream. I’d call her nearly every day with questions on how to measure, keep the moisture levels right, temper the chocolate, get the consistent uniform size or achieve the perfect shiny finished product she always did. Often times

she’d answer the phone by saying “how’s the candy making going!?” She was so excited to be passing on her legacy. Her answers to my questions were almost always the same: “It just takes lots of practice, Dear, you’ll get a feel for it...”



Amy Currence
Photo Credits: Amy Currence

Little did I know God was going to take Grandma home to live with Him on July 7, 2022. Little did I know I would no longer have the luxury of calling her anytime I wanted to and asking for her advice. Little did I know my opportunity to mail her some samples to taste would never happen again.

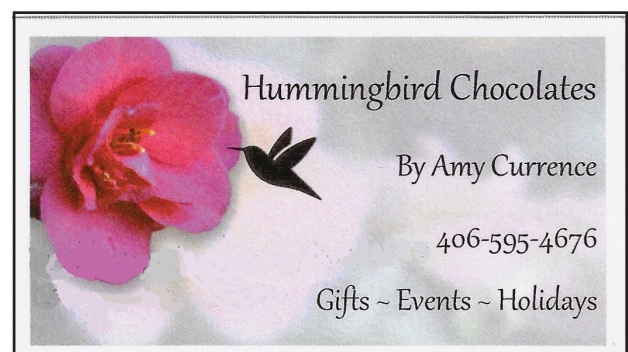
Making chocolate now is different. I no longer have the motivation of hearing grandma’s proud voice full of anticipation for my updates on how many sales

I’d made, or which miniatures (minikins) were her favorite shape.

Fortunately, I inherited the same passion Grandma had for the art of crafting handmade candy. I know the same, premium quality ingredients will be used every time. I also know, no matter how hard I try, no two pieces will ever look identical. But I’m getting the “feel for it”.

Grandma Trusty loved hummingbirds. When a hummingbird shows itself, it does not linger long, but rather offers us a quick sweet moment of joy and amazement. May my chocolates do the same for you.

~ Amy Currence, founder, Hummingbird Chocolates



Humming Bird Chocolate Business
Photo Credits: Amy Currence

To order chocolates from Amy, call (406) 595-4676 or email Amy at eathummingbirdchocolates@gmail.com. Download the Hummingbird Chocolates order form at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/HumminbirdChocolateOrderForm>.