



Chance to Apply Yourself!—p.3



MT Outdoors!—p.4



Can You Take the Heat?—p.9

BROADWATER COMMUNITY THEATER CELEBRATES NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Nancy Marks
Reporter



Broadwater Community Theater (BCT) closed out its 2023 arts entertainment year with a dance at the Lodge on New Year's Eve. The Queen City Swing Band from Helena entertained 50 attendees with a wide variety of very danceable tunes including a few polkas. The young and not-so-young crowd also enjoyed a fine assortment of "heavy hors d'oeuvres" and libations.

Owen Franks of Helena formed the band in 1992. Later Nancy Trudell revived and built up the participation in a swing band genre. The band performs everything



Helena Band swings out amid revolving lights and a stage decorated by Carla Amundson. Photo Credit: Nancy Marks



Townsend folks get down to the beat of good music and fun New Year's Eve at The Lodge. Photo Credit: Patrick Plantenberg

from fox trots to jitterbug. They play for weddings, birthdays and anniversary events. The usual nine-person band plays once a month at Last Chance Tango Club of Helena where dancers enjoy salsa and tango music.

Broadwater Community Theater also announced

the beginning of its 2024 fundraising campaign to continue bringing the arts- whether music, dance, drama or comedy to Broadwater County. Members of the BCT Board were introduced including LaRinda Spencer, Jim Domino, Patrick Plantenberg, Tina Homann, Nancy Marks, Carla Amundson, Anne Hall, Birdi Kribs, Pastor Mele Moa and Destiny Spencer.

Broadwater Community Theater is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization so all donations are tax-deductible. Upcoming events at the Lodge include the annual Valentine's Day STOKE (Science, Technology, Outdoor Knowledge, and Entrepreneurship) Fun-Raiser and the annual Broadwater County High School Speech and Drama Showcase in late February or early March.

If you have any ideas of potential performances you would like to see or you would like to become a sponsor for BCT, please contact Nancy Marks at 406-266-3710.

ROAD TRIP AROUND MONTANA

HELENA'S WESTERN MONTANA RAILROAD ASSOC. MUSEUM

Brenda Phillips



On Saturday, December 30, we went to Helena to check out the Western Montana Railroad Association Museum. Neither of us were aware of this unknown gem. We saw a news report on TV that in honor of the Montana Rail Link's final days in operation they were having a special showing of the model railroad layout.

The display is at 619 Last Chance Gulch. They are open Saturdays from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm for public tours. There is no charge but they do accept donations

to keep this labor of love going for all generation to see.

The Association is a group of Railroad enthusiasts that want to share their love of trains and railroads and their history in Montana. Many current and historic railroad companies are represented in this display, including Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Montana Rail Link, Great Northern and other local. As a child my dad was a mechanic on trains in the railyard in Great Falls.



Townsend water tower Photo Credits: Brenda Phillips

The model towns that have been built by hand are representing south western Montana, with many cities, such as Anaconda, Bonner, Garrison, Helena, Lewistown, Harlowton and many others. You can imagine the surprise on this girl's face to see the roundhouse of the Great Falls yard where my dad worked. I raised my kids in a house across the street from the Great Falls

NEW YEAR BRINGS LOWER TAXES TO MONTANANS

Kyle Schmauch
Senate Republicans Communications Manager

Montanans are now paying lower taxes after state legislation lowering income tax rates went into effect on January 1st.

"There's no way legislative Republicans would rather ring in the New Year than by celebrating lower taxes for Montanans," said Sen. Jason Ellsworth, R-Hamilton, the President of the Montana Senate.

Two bills lowering Montanans' income taxes became law on Monday when they went into effect.

Senate Bill 399, passed in the 2021 legislative session, simplified Montana's tax code by reducing the number of income tax brackets from seven to two, tying state taxable income to federal taxable income, and removing several tax credits.

SB 399's tax changes eliminated income taxes for an estimated 70,000 low-income Montanans.

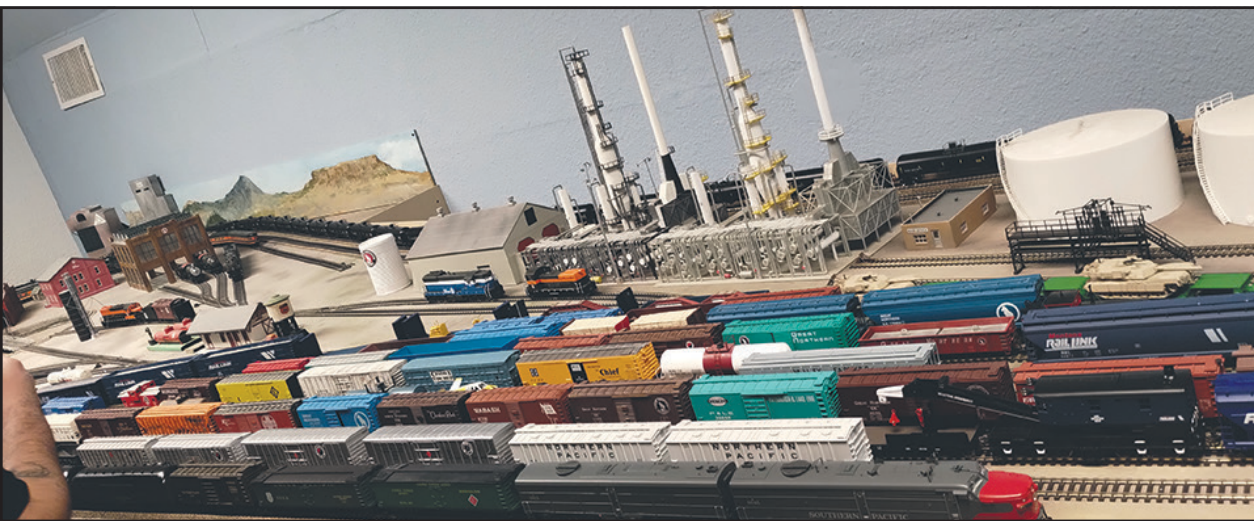
"My bill made the biggest possible tax cut for the lowest income Montanans, dropping their income tax rate to zero," said Sen. Greg Hertz, R-Polson, the sponsor of SB 399. "Between 50,000 and 90,000 Montanans who have low incomes won't have to pay any income taxes going forward."

The second new law, Senate Bill 121, cut Montana's top income tax rate from 6.5% to 5.9% and increased the earned-income tax credit from 3% to 10%. Those changes total about \$170 million in annual tax relief.

Almost all Montanans with full-time jobs pay the highest income tax rate and will see their taxes lowered by SB 121. The increase in the earned income tax credit will benefit Montanans with lower incomes.

"My bill saves Montanans \$170 million in taxes every year, freeing up more of their hard-earned money

Road Trip, 1



Great Falls Rail yard
Photo Credits: Brenda Phillips



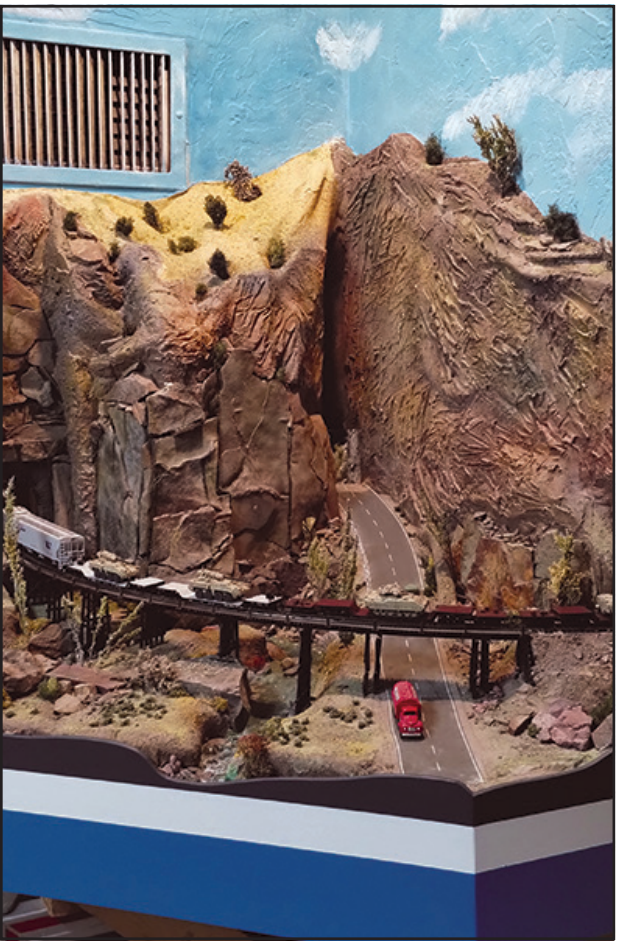
Sieben Area - Train of Tanks
Photo Credits: Brenda Phillips

yard. We talked about the noise of the trains coming and going all night long, rattling the house as they crashed together coupling up, but we got used to it.



Under Construction: a Butte, Anaconda and Pacific train pulling ore to the Anaconda smelter with Butte in the background
Photo Credits: Western Montana Railroad Historical Association

All of the Association's members were very friendly and willing to share their knowledge of all the aspects of this project. As we listened to the conversation, we learned fun historical information.



Wolf Creek Canyon
Photo Credits: Brenda Phillips



Townsend Trestle in progress
Photo Credits: Brenda Phillips

We visited with Ron and he showed us the Wolf Creek Canyon area that they are just finishing. Because of limited space it is not exact, but you can see a very nice likeness of that area.

When we told him we are from Townsend and he showed us the water tower – complete with star - sitting up on a shelf for safety. They are working on a Townsend section. I recognized the railroad trestle that is just north of town. He said they replicated 2 of the 4 spans – not enough room for all 4. When the rest of this model area is finished, they will bring the water tower off the shelf and place it in town. So we will be going back, to check on their progress. We learned that Townsend was a stopping point for the steam trains as they needed to fill with water, about every 30 miles.

Growing up in Great Falls there was a similar railroad club at the fairgrounds. We would check it out every year at fair time. I am aware that the model has grown over the years but I haven't been back to see it.



Tunnel
Photo Credits: Brenda Phillips

After our adventure in Helena on Saturday, we plan to visit the Montana Museum of Railroad History in Great Falls on our next trip to Great Falls. It is open Saturday 12:00 to 4:00 pm and Thursday evening 7:00-9:00 at the MT ExpoPark. This model replicates the rail lines from Shelby to Butte.

Projects like this help us find little pieces of history and memories in a building, business, movie theater, train trestle and scenery. The rivers and dams, tunnels and railroad crossings, highways and driveways that are along these miles of track are each replicating a piece of Montana history. You need to look for the smallest details, such as the cattle yards, the fisherman in the river, the logs in the lumber yard, a dog, or bear or the star on our water tower. I remember as a kid, finding the skinny dipper under the bridge! Stay tuned for more Montana Adventures.



MORE TRAIN MUSEUM PHOTOS ON PAGE 11!

Lower Taxes, 1

to spend as they see fit,” said Sen. Becky Beard, R-Elliston, the sponsor of SB 121. “Conservatives serving in the Legislature understand that Montanans’ income is their money, not the government’s, and they should keep as much of it as possible.”

Legislative Democrats uniformly voted against both SB 399 and SB 121.

“Taken together, these new laws provide broad tax relief to Montanans across income levels,” added Ellsworth. “This is a prime example of Republicans providing financial relief to Montanans by running the state’s budget responsibly and conservatively, allowing us to cut taxes.”

Income taxes are levied by the state and are the primary source of state government revenue. The income tax rebates provided by the Legislature in 2023, as well as the property tax “rebates” provided in 2023 and 2024, were all paid for by a budget surplus of excess income taxes.

“Many people don’t understand that the property tax relief that was called a ‘rebate’ wasn’t a rebate of property taxes paid, but was actually funded by income tax money,” explained Hertz, who chairs the Senate’s Tax Committee. “State government doesn’t collect property taxes to fund its services; that’s done by counties, cities, and school districts.”

“I’m excited to continue working on property tax relief beyond what the Legislature has already done, but it’s important for Montanans to understand that anything the Legislature does on property taxes is in response to local governments’ and schools’ needs and budgets, not state government spending,” said Ellsworth. “The income tax cuts that just went into effect are the result of the spending that the Legislature directly controls: the state’s budget.”

Governor Greg Gianforte is expected to appoint members to his recently announced Property Tax Task Force later this month, including state Senate experts on tax policy.

MORE THAN \$1 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR MONTANA STUDENTS

Rebecca Connors
Marketing & Communications Director



More than \$1 million in scholarships are available for Montana students via the Montana Community

Foundation. Students can apply for funding between January 1st and March 31st, 2024. A variety of scholarships are available for four-year or two-year colleges, certificate courses, non-traditional students, vocational studies, and more. For more information or to apply, please visit MTCF.org to take the scholarship eligibility quiz and find the right scholarship for you!

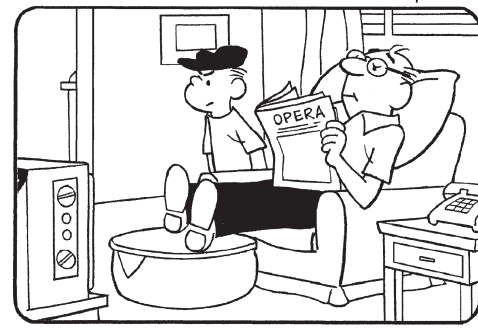
About the Montana Community Foundation: The Montana Community Foundation’s mission is to cultivate a culture of giving so Montana communities can flourish. Founded in 1988, MCF manages more than \$150 million in assets and administers more than 1,400 philanthropic funds and planned gifts. Since its founding, MCF has reinvested more than \$100 million in Montana through scholarships, grants, and programs. In 2023, MCF awarded more than \$1 million in scholarship dollars to students across Montana to help them achieve their educational dreams.

Learn more at mtcf.org.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Ottoman is turned. 2. Drawer is added. 3. Phone is moved. 4. Legs are shorter. 5. Hat is turned around. 6. Boy is

Three Forks School Calendar

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
Jan 8	4:00PM MS Boys Basketball @ Whitehall
Jan 9	4:00PM MS Boys Basketball vs Ennis HS Wrestling @ Livingston Dual
Jan 11	3:00PM HS Basketball vs Manhattan (home) NHS Meeting Lunch Break - Mrs. Berghausen's Rm.
Jan 12 - Jan 13	HS Wrestling @ Cowboy Classic Miles City
Jan 12	3:00PM HS Basketball @ Lone Peak 4:00PM MS Boys Basketball vs Manhattan Chr.
Jan 13	10:00AM MS Boys Basketball @ Manhattan Speech and Drama at Townsend



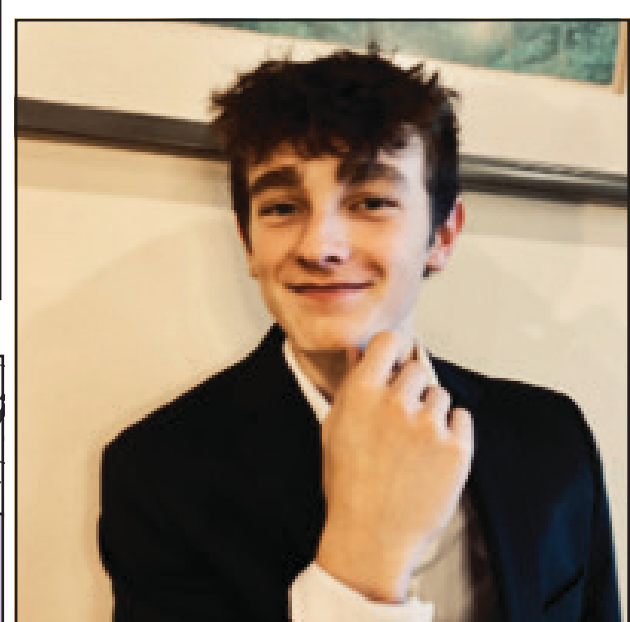
THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 5	1:00PM Three Forks Library - LEGO Club
January 6	11:00AM- 2:00PM Three Forks Library Open
January 8	5:15PM Three Forks Library - Friends of the Library Meetings 5:30PM Three Forks Rodeo Arena Board Meeting at City Hall
January 9	1:00PM Three Forks Library - Mah Jongg 6:00PM City Council Meeting at City Hall 7:00PM Three Forks Volunteer Firefighters' Business Meeting at Fire Hall
January 10	5:15PM Three Forks Community Library Board of Directors Meeting at Library Board Room
January 11	10:00AM Three Forks Library - Story Time 6:00PM Three Forks Music Night with Jody and the Woodflow-ers at Bridger Brewing Three Forks
January 12	2:00PM Three Forks Library - Crafternoon: Crochet 2:00PM Open Court at City Hall
January 13	Three Forks Library CLOSED

THE LANDON HULL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP NOW OPEN

Rebecca Connors
Marketing & Communications Director

Helena, Mont., January 2, 2024 – The Landon Hull Memorial Scholarship opened on January 1 and has funds to support students seeking a degree in psychology or counseling or enrolled in the WWAMI Medical Education program studying medicine with the intent to practice psychiatry. The annual award amount is \$4,500 and is intended for undergraduate college students in their junior or senior year, or those pursuing graduate or medical degrees. 2024 marks the first year of this scholarship.



Landon Hull
Photo Credits: Montana Community Foundation

A Bozeman native, Landon Hull was studying Psychology as a freshman at Montana State University when he died by suicide on November 6, 2022, just 5 days past his 18th birthday. Suicide is the leading cause of death among young adults between 15 and 24. In Montana, the CDC notes that suicide is the seventh leading cause of death and data suggests Montana has the highest suicide rate among all states, with a rate of 28.77 deaths per 100,000 residents. Despite these alarming statistics, the expansion of mental health resources remains stagnant.

“Most people who knew Landon had no idea how much he struggled. They only knew the humorous, energetic, creative side of him,” noted Landon’s mother, Kimmelin Hull. “His family saw his struggle to be at peace with himself and to manage the extreme mood swings that came with bipolar disorder. In the end, Montana simply lacked the breadth and depth of resources Landon needed.”

Following Landon’s death and reflecting on their experience, the Hull family decided to be part of the solution. “Through this scholarship, we want to help bridge the persistent gap between Montana’s mental healthcare needs and the number of professionals providing that care,” stated Kimmelin. The intent of the scholarship is to generate more mental health professionals in Montana providing counseling, therapy, or psychiatric care, expanding access for Montanans. The scholarship commemorates Landon’s desire to be a counselor, and his ambition to help others in crisis.

To learn more or to apply for the Landon Hull Memorial Scholarship, please visit <https://mtcf.org/scholarship/landon-hull-memorial-scholarship>. Individuals may also contact the Montana Community Foundation at (406) 443-8313 or scholarship@mtcf.org.

To learn more about Landon’s story, please visit: <https://youtu.be/WPDxVnt70tk?si=ha1jmqlqcQa9-55v>

Townsend School Calendar

Jan 5 - Jan 6	HSWR @ Ronan S&D @ Huntley
Jan 5	4:30PM HSBB @ Manhattan
Jan 6	1:00PM HSBB vs Lone Peak
Jan 9	6:00PM - School Board Meeting at Community Room 6:00PM HSWR @ Harrison 4:00PM MSBBB @ Fairfield
Jan 10	7:00PM - Old Baldy Adult Open Gym at BHS 63 Gym 7:00PM - Old Baldy Adult Pickleball at BHS Stage Gym
Jan 11	End of Q2 4:00PM HSBB @ Boulder
Jan 12 - Jan 13	HSWR @ Choteau
Jan 12	NO SCHOOL 4:00PM HSBB @ Ennis 2:00PM MSBBB vs Manhattan
Jan 13	10:00PM MSBBB @ Belgrade S&D Home Meet



TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 5	Food Pantry Donation 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 SEE IMAGE ON THIS PAGE
January 8	6:00PM Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
January 9	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 10	1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
January 11	7:00pm Al-Anon at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
January 12	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 13	6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

LIBRARY HOURS

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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 COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

January 9	1:00pm Planning Board at Flynn Building
January 10	10:00am Commissioners Meeting 3:00pm Commission Working Meeting at Flynn Building
January 11	4:00pm Broadband Advisory Board Meeting at Flynn Building



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

BROADWATER SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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

LEYLAND INSURANCE

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406-438-7315
LEYLANDMT.COM

TURNING 65 SOON?
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!

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OPULENCE HEALTH

PRIMARY CARE AND AESTHETICS

MEDICAL-VEINS-SKIN-IV INFUSIONS
(406) 502-1700
251 Saddle Dr. Helena, MT

HOLIDAY RECYCLING

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Recycle Christmas lights:

Christmas Light recycling is up! Please bring old strings of lights or extension cords ready for the trash over to Reading Leaves Books and put them in the recycling bin instead!



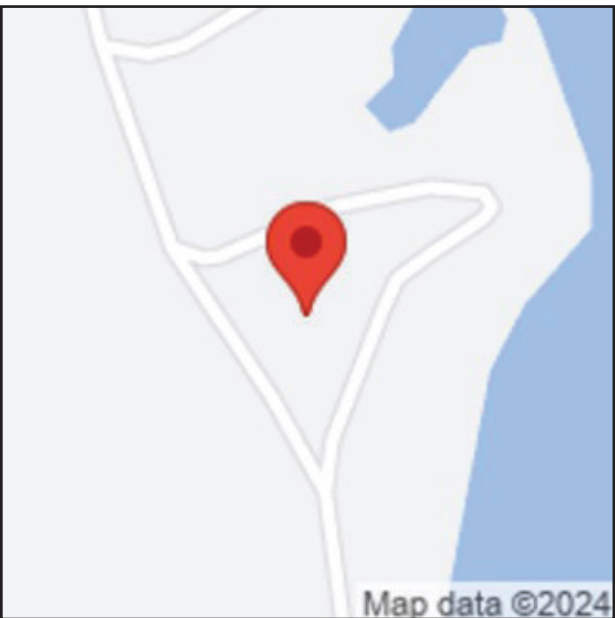
They prefer if the bulbs are removed but have a volunteer willing to remove them if you get them into the bin!

Recycle Christmas trees:

The Boy Scouts Troop 214 & 218 are collecting Christmas trees. Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks will sink the trees into Canyon Ferry this spring to support the perch habitat.

There are a couple options to contribute your tree.

- You can email the Scouts at: troop214helena@gmail.com and arrange for them to pick up for a \$10 donation.
- You can go directly to the drop-off location in the Silos area past the Silos Campground. Look for the sign that says, "NO DUMPING". The trees can be dropped behind that sign.



Only donate real trees that are not flocked and have been cleaned of all decorations and light strings. Please, no wreaths or tree clippings. Thanks!



The Birds Nest & Rock Room

Antiques, Crafts and Rare Gems

125 S Pine St, Townsend MT
(406)266-1335

TOWNSEND SCHOOLS RADIO STATION SURVEY

Susie Hedalen

Townsend School District is surveying the community regarding the KDGZ Radio Station.

The survey will be conducted from December 11th through January 31st.

There is an online link on Facebook and on the Townsend Schools website at:

<https://www.townsend.k12.mt.us/article/1373690>

Hard copies will be available at the school library and can also be download from the MT43 News website at:

<https://mt43news-business-services.com/sites/mt43news-business-services.com/files/KDGZsurvey.pdf>

You can submit hard copies to the school/community library in the evenings or fill it out online there.

KDGZ Radio Survey

We are looking into the long term viability of our school radio and would like public input on if/how you use the radio.

* Indicates required question

- What is your age range?
Mark only one oval.
 - 15-30
 - 31-50
 - 51-70
 - 70+
- What do you listen to on the radio, please choose all that apply *
Check all that apply.
 - I listen to the music
 - I listen to sporting events
 - I listen to school related content (holocaust stories, ect...)
 - I do not regularly listen to the radio.
- How do you listen to the radio?
Mark only one oval.
 - I listen to the radio on 98.3
 - I listen online
- What are your thoughts on the radio moving online only and just broadcasting games
Mark only one oval.
 - I would not like that
 - I am ok with that
 - Other: _____
- I would like to listen to more of: _____
- I would pay for advertising on 98.3, my business is: _____
- I would be willing to financially support continuing the radio. My community organization is: _____
- I would be willing to financially support the radio with an annual contribution of: _____
- Do you have any other thoughts you would like to share with the school concerning the radio? _____

GIVE THE GIFT OF FITNESS THIS CHRISTMAS

WE HAVE GIFT CERTIFICATES, COFFEE, V-42 MERCH, PRE-WORKOUT + PROTEIN POWDERS & MORE THAN ANY FIT ELF COULD HANDLE

MONTANA OUTDOORS 43RD ISSUE IS AVAILABLE

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



Montana Outdoors 43rd Annual Photo Issue, 01/01/2024.

With news of “generative” artificial intelligence (AI) spreading faster than fake pictures of Pope Francis in a puffy coat, I want to reassure Montana Outdoors readers that the photos in this magazine are the real deal.

Generative AI refers to computer models or algorithms that create (generate) brand-new output such as text, photos, or videos. An AI image generator such as DALL-E 2 can take descriptions of nature and produce photos of startling and realistic clarity and color, artistically composed.

Ramifications for professional and amateur photographers are significant. Instead of an intrepid photographer trekking into the Purcells to capture a stunning photo of a Canada lynx in its natural surroundings, someone in their pajamas can bang one out on a smartphone while waiting for their coffee to brew.

That’s not to mention the threats AI images pose to wildlife conservation. Imagine someone using the technology to create a photo of several black-footed ferrets—the rarest mammal in North America—frolicking in a park in downtown Missoula. Maybe these little carnivores aren’t so endangered after all?

To ensure that no AI-generated photos sneak into Montana Outdoors, we closely examine the original image files (and the data embedded in them) in search of any hint of fakery or manipulation. We also rely on our submitting photographers to adhere to the highest level of ethical standards, which also includes not sending photos taken outside of Montana or any captive animals.

But enough of this talk of photographic fakery. You’ve come for the visual banquet that is the Montana Outdoors photo issue. And once again, as has been the case since 1981, it is our pleasure to present to our subscribers the beauty and splendor of Montana’s wildlife and scenery. We hope you enjoy looking at these images as much as we did selecting them.

—Tom Dickson
Editor



Cover of the 43rd Annual Photo Issue of Montana Outdoors
Photo Credits: FWP

To view the 43rd Annual Photo Issue visit the MT43 News website at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/MontanaOutdoors43>

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

MT43News@MT43News.com

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.

- 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.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
LEROY JOHN MILLER,
Deceased.
Probate No. DP-2023-19

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mike Millay has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or their claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at Silverman Law Office, PLLC, P.O. Box 4423, Helena, Montana 59604, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 15th day of December 2023

/s/ Mike Millay

P.O. Box 911, Townsend, MT 59644

Printed January 5, 12 and 19, 2024

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
JOANN ARLENE SHINDOLL, Deceased.
Probate No. ADP-23-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Constance E. Shindoll has been appointed Personal Representative of this estate. Claims against the decedent must be presented within four months after the first publication of this notice or be forever barred. Claims must be either mailed to the Personal Representative via her Attorney, Peter T. Simon (303 Broadway St, Townsend, MT 59644) return receipt requested, or filed with the Clerk of the above-titled Court.

Dated January 5, 2024.

/s/ Peter T. Simon

Gallatin Elder Law & Estate Planning PLLC

Attorney for Personal Representative

Printed January 5, 12, 19, 2024

MNAXLP

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

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.



COURT BEAT

12-29-23

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Christopher Abbott's courtroom on Friday, December 29, is as follows:

Tanner York had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of 1) felony burglary 2) felony criminal mischief 3) felony theft (over \$5,000) and 4) tampering with witnesses or evidence. Omnibus is due March 8, 2024; Pre-Trial is set for May 10; with the Jury Trial scheduled for June 10.

Tylor Castona did not argue his current \$50,000 bond.

Kyle Mostad had an Initial Appearance on a Petition to Revoke a deferred disposition. January 26 will be his Admit/Deny Hearing.

Jocelyn Rogers had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to a charge of felony intimidation. Omnibus is due February 23, 2024; Pre-Trial is set for July 26; with the Jury Trial scheduled on August 19.

Samuel Cascadden's Initial Appearance is continued until January 12.

Gabriel Puga had Sentencing to a no contest to a charge of felony criminal endangerment. He is Sentenced to three-years, deferred; he must attend 40 hours of anger management; he must not possess alcohol nor firearms; and, he must have a chemical dependence evaluation within 60 days. He must pay fees and surcharges of \$80; he must pay \$50 fine.

Everett Meiro will have a Suppression Hearing on January 26, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. Pre-Trial is set for March 22; with the Jury Trial scheduled for April 22.

Julie Humphries will have a Change of Plea on January 26, 2024.

Micheal Coyle had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to multiple charges. Charges one and two are sexual abuse of children; with the victim under the age of 12, and the perpetrator over the age of 18. Charges three and four are sexual abuse of children when the victim is less than 16; and the perpetrator is three years or more, older. Omnibus is due February 9, 2024; Pre-Trial is May 10; with the Jury Trial scheduled for June 10.

YOU DESERVE FASTER INTERNET!

Broadwater County Broadband Advisory Board

The Broadwater County Broadband Advisory Board needs your help.

Do you use Montana Internet or Global Net?

Are you signed up for their fastest level of service?

If you can answer yes to both questions, please visit <https://mt43news-business-services.com/internet> and complete a short form.

You will be contacted by a Broadband Board member with more information on how you can help improve internet in Broadwater County.

Vic Sample

Chairman of the Broadband Advisory Board

NEW DOG STATION AT MCCARTHY PARK

J. B. Howick

Townsend City Council



Townsend residents are noticing the new dog station at McCarthy Park. Generously donated by recently retired City Council member Ken Urich and his wife, the new dog station will help keep McCarthy Park clean and welcoming for everyone. Mayor Rauser and the City Council are considering adding dog stations to the other parks in Townsend but remind residents and visitors that no park has been designated a "dog park," meaning that leash ordinances are still in effect in all parks.



NW ENERGY RATE INCREASE VS SSI

I get Social Security Disability and received a 3.2% raise this year.

Now Northwestern Energy is raising rates 28%.

Public Service Commissioners receive \$111,179 in wages a year. I wonder if they will help those on fixed incomes pay their electric bills.

I would like to thank all five Public Service Commissioners; Randy Pinnocci, Tony O'Connell, James Brown, Jennifer Fiedler and Ann Bukacek, all Republicans, for giving people another reason NOT to vote Republican in the 2024 election.

Doug Purcell

Townsend

ELECTION HIGHLIGHT: THE NEW YEAR OFFERS CHANCE FOR NEW DIRECTION

Joel Krautter



There's always something special about the early days of a new year. Optimism. Opportunity for change and making things better. It's how I felt growing up in Montana at the beginning of a new sports season. Whatever disappointments or mistakes might have happened the previous season, a new season was like starting a new chapter, where hard work, dedication and teamwork, can make anything possible.

2023 is like the previous season and much needs to be done to make things better. In 2023, our state and nation were filled with chaos. Here in Montana, increased property tax bills hit many Montanans hard. Inflation meant that even with a pay raise, many folks were still sliding backwards after buying groceries and paying bills. Our national debt continued to soar unchecked, going from \$31 trillion in January 2023 to nearing \$34 trillion now. The US Border Patrol recorded more than 2.4 million encounters in Fiscal Year 2023 at the southern border, including 169 individuals who are on the terrorist watchlist and were trying to enter the country illegally. Every few months Congress

Election Highlight,

Election Highlight, 5

lurched from the brink of one government shutdown to the next, while also being without a Speaker of the House for three-weeks, paralyzing federal legislation. And this was just some of the chaos.

None of that 2023 chaos helped the people of Montana or our country. Nor did it project an image of American strength to our adversaries abroad.

But now it's a new year – a new start - which means in 2024 'we the people' of Montana have an opportunity to make choices at the ballot box that can make better our state, our nation and the lives of our families. Will we continue down the path of political dysfunction, chaos, gamesmanship, and unsustainable spending - leading America toward oblivion? Or, will we demand a new and better direction for the good of our state and country?

Will we squander this opportunity like an ill-conceived New Year's resolution? Or, will we resolutely force change for the better to happen?

My hope is that Montanans choose the latter route, to crush chaos and choose a positive future for all.

I'm running for Congress in Montana's eastern congressional district because to get needed change we desperately need a new generation of leadership in Washington. Only then can we make a course change from the dysfunctional path we're on. Fixing our country's problems won't happen overnight or be easy - I know that. But let us begin!

I am willing to be your agent for change for the better. Montanans deserve a Representative who offers a chance to make that positive change in direction. On June 4th, in the Republican primary for Congress, the people of eastern and central Montana can send a powerful message to Washington, DC - that in 2024, we are investing in a new generation of problem-solving leadership. Together we can begin the hard but necessary task of getting our country back on the right track. With your support, I'm ready to do the work!

Joel Krautter is a Republican candidate for Congress in Montana's 2nd congressional district, covering eastern and central Montana, who is an attorney and small business owner in Billings and Sidney and a former State Legislator.

2023-004-007, 2024 Budget Broadwater County Health Department.

10:15 AM Discussion/Decision, Inter-Local Agreement Formation, Authority and Administration of Abatement Region 4 for the Opioid Settlement

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Everett Family Transfer (Township 7 North, Range 1 East, Section 3)

10:25 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Swenson Family Transfer Township 7 North, Range 2 East, Section 33)

10:30 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Albe Minor Subdivision (Township 7 North, Range 1 East, Section 3) requests Preliminary Plat Approval

10:40 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Juniper Ridge Minor Subdivision (Township 7 North, Range 3 East, Section 29) requests Preliminary Plat Approval

10:50 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Smith Minor Subdivision (Township 7N, Range 2 East, Section 27) requests Preliminary Plat 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)

- Rancher Roundtable on January 9th at 12 PM (Noon) at the Lodge
- 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
- Broadband Meeting on January 11th at 4 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
- Health Board Meeting on January 29th at 2 PM
- Park and Rec Board Meeting on January 29th at 6 PM
- Fair Board on January 30th at 5:30 PM
- Planning Public Hearing & Regular Meeting on January 31st at 6 PM

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

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REVIEW END-OF-YEAR REPORTS

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Several county boards and departments checked in to report activities before the County Commissioners Wed. Dec. 20 at a regular meeting.

Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer reported Parks and Recreation Board member Jen Dalrymple agreed to write a grant to the Broadwater County Trust Board for funds to be completed by January 5. The board will be replacing swings in Heritage Park as an Eagle Scout project.

Broadwater County Sheriiff's Office Detention Commander Johnnie Spurlock reported rates for holding inmates from other counties would go from \$69.00 to \$82.90, the same rate used by the Montana Department of Corrections. The rates, which will go into effect sometime in February, are some of the lowest in the state. Cascade and Yellowstone County are the largest users of Broadwater's center. Commissioners approved the resolution to raise county detention rates.

A cost-share program was approved by the commissioners as presented by Noxious Weed and Mosquito Director Jessica Bushnell. The first come, first served program for ranchers and landowners will pay for help spraying and using biological control of their noxious weeds in 2024. She will post information on the weed board website, but interested people may pick up applications at her courthouse office.

Public Health Director Ruby Taylor presented a grant she received from Montana Crisis Management to collect data on how many crisis calls Broadwater County receives. The planning grant will run 18 months. Megan Poe will facilitate the grant in the county office. Taylor related her office does not have resources for counselors so she shares with the school. The school has two counselors who are "overwhelmed." "A lot of kids are not getting the help they need," she related.

Other service organizations working in Broadwater County such as Family Promise works mostly with the homeless so does not emphasize mental health issues. Also, her department works with Helena Friendship Center who share phone and gas cards. Commissioners approved her request to accept the Montana Health Care Foundation Systems Requirement Analysis (SRA) contract.

Taylor reported she now has flu and COVID vaccines available to the public. COVID boosters are no longer federally paid for, but most insurances pay for the shot. Regarding the RSV vaccine, she has some of the expensive vaccine available, but is "super expensive at \$330 per shot" so she only encourages those 60 and over with lung issues to take the shot. She has no RSV vaccine available for children.

Old Baldy Golf Course Superintendent Cory Bakkum reported they were asking for a \$70,000 Broadwater County Trust Board grant to replace the course's pump system. The old pump is on its last legs. The new pump would also irrigate the undeveloped area of the golf course. Bakkum related the course sees many golfers from out of town including from Helena and Three Forks. The commissioners approved the request to accept the grant.

Commissioner and Airport liaison Darrel Folkvord gave a year-end financial report for certification of the board's budget. An engineering plan to resurface the runways is complete. The four-year project may be delayed another year due to lack of federal funding. The current runways are thirty years old, he said. Due to increased use of the airport for life flights the runways need to be updated. Commissioners approved the certified financial report.

BIG SKY BIG LEADERSHIP SERIES: LEADERSHIP STYLES

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



This is the first in a series of articles sharing concepts from the Big Sky, Big Leadership program. Currently, in its third year, this is a nine-month program that helps participants gain leadership skills as well as learn more about issues and resources in the county. This series of articles highlights some of the leadership skills that are incorporated into the class starting with leadership styles.

Leadership style refers to a leader's characteristics, behaviors and methods when working with others. Style is shaped by a variety of factors including the leader's experiences, personality, values and skills. It can be influenced by a specific situation and have a major impact on the outcome of that situation. Some leaders may have the ability to modify or change their leadership style, but often have a preference or natural tendency towards one style.

There has been lots of research on leadership styles and there are many different variations of leadership styles depending on the source. However, here are some that are fairly consistent across the literature.

Bureaucratic Leadership

This is sometimes also called authoritative leadership. It is a leadership style that thrives on clear structure, rules and organization. It is a traditional leadership structure

COMMISSIONERS AGENDA JAN 10, 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.

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

10:00 AM Working Meeting with OPX Networks in the Flynn Building

Wednesday, January 10, 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, Joint Application, Kathy Thompson, Stahly Engineering, Joint Application for Old Town West Bridge- Beam Procurement

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Ruby Taylor, Public Health Director, Homemaker and Skilled Nursing Contract, #2024-004-007; Rocky Mountain Development Center


10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Ruby Taylor, Public Health Director, First Modification to Contract No

WEATHER INFO CONTRIBUTED BY JEFF ROSS


Fri 1/05	Sat 1/06	Sun 1/07	Mon 1/08	Tue 1/09
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Light Snow
33° 17°	31° 17°	26° 10°	26° 17°	33° 14°
0% ⇨ 4 15 mph	0% ⇨ 5 14 mph	0% ⇨ 1 6 mph	0% ⇨ 6 17 mph	0 in ⇨ 8 17 mph

Precipitation:

August: 1.34"	September: 4.39"
October: 0.760"	November: 0.398"
December: 0.080"	January: 0.00"
2023: 13.669"	2024: 0.00"

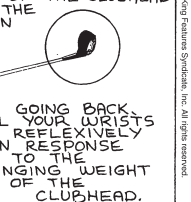


Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



TO IMPROVE YOUR TEMPO, TRY TO SENSE THE WEIGHT OF THE CLUBHEAD AGAINST THE TENSION OF THE SHAFT.

GOING BACK, FEEL YOUR WRISTS COCKING REFLEXIVELY IN RESPONSE TO THE SWINGING WEIGHT OF THE CLUBHEAD.

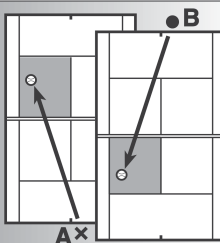


SEEK THAT SAME SENSE OF SHAFT TENSION AS YOU START BACK TO THE BALL. UNTIL THE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE OF THE CLUBHEAD FORCES YOU TO RELEASE IT INTO THE BALL BY UNCOILING YOUR WRISTS.


STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

TENNIS RULES

In a 12-point tiebreaker, player A serves first to the "deuce" side. The serve is then switched to player B, who serves the second point to the "ad" side.



Many players don't realize that they do NOT switch sides simply because a set has ended. They only switch sides when the combined number of games played equals an odd number.



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: L equals N

XTLFU MCWX OBU LMFSPBLOW
 OLR GBMVOVWI ZM QPLSTLZ OS
 LTZQS, T CMPWR FOWW SQU D
 VURSTDU GBUIUBX.

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KNIGHT MOVES

P	S	L
B		O
S	E	I

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!

Merge

Blunt

PUBRAT

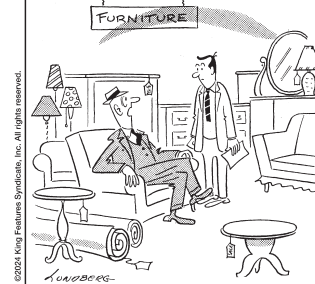
Chunk

PLUM

Cad

SACRAL

TODAY'S WORD



"My wife is very _____.
 She's always exactly half an hour late!"



Super Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Pet doc
- 4 "Come again?"
- 8 Treats maliciously
- 12 Tennis player Borg
- 19 Narcissist's problem
- 21 Actress Address
- 22 Ate, as prey
- 23 Football Hall of Famer Bronko
- 24 Arrive on wheels
- 25 Frankie or Cleo of song
- 26 Start of a riddle
- 29 Noise in a comic book
- 30 Exotica singer Sumac
- 31 "The Human Stain" novelist Philip
- 32 Cure-all
- 37 Race of people in an H.G. Wells novella
- 39 Some sorority letters
- 40 Donations to the destitute
- 44 Riddle, part 2
- 48 Like much greasy food
- 49 See 83-Across
- 50 Corp. leader
- 51 Skip over, as a vowel
- 52 World War II film, when tripled
- 53 Charged bit
- 55 Place — (be active on eBay, say)
- 57 Cheap cigar
- 58 Riddle, part 3
- 63 Simile
- 66 Chaney of film
- 67 Song-belted Merman
- 68 On a pension, maybe: Abbr.
- 69 Military draft gp.
- 70 Riddle, part 4
- 75 ZZ Top album whose name is Spanish for "The Crazy One"
- 76 Hamm and Farrow
- 77 Neilher's partner
- 78 Tingly feeling
- 82 Totally tired
- 83 With 49-Across, touter of green eggs and ham
- 84 "Yes" vote
- 86 Early arcade giant
- 87 End of the riddle
- 93 — Flush (bathroom brand)
- 94 Architect I.M. —
- 95 Made angry
- 96 Florida fruits
- 97 R&B great Marvin
- 99 Not at all new
- 100 Golf club
- 102 Riddle's answer
- 111 Stalin-era labor camp
- 112 Polecat's kin
- 113 Urge against
- 114 Muscat native
- 115 Do over
- 116 Office squawker
- 117 Fender dings
- 118 Mimics a mad mutt
- 119 Helper of Frankenstein
- 120 Inventor Whitney

DOWN

- 1 "—, vidi, vici"
- 2 "The Keep" novelist
- 3 Forum wear
- 4 Angel's instrument
- 5 Drunk
- 6 Writer Gogol
- 7 Third-largest city in Israel
- 8 Ride a wave
- 9 Eighth-brightest star in the sky
- 10 Like a hajji's religion
- 11 Second-largest city in Oklahoma
- 12 Charles Lamb's alias
- 13 Bay Area California city
- 14 Equivalent of A sharp
- 15 Lee Tracy's "Bombshell" co-star
- 16 Like praiseful poetry
- 17 Gossipy Barrett
- 18 Bakersfield-to-Boise dir.
- 20 Letters before 39-Across
- 27 Swiss watch brand
- 28 Clueless
- 32 Fizzle sound
- 33 Sisek, informally
- 34 Hair removal brand
- 35 Top squad
- 36 Mooer's mouthful
- 38 On the — (fleeing)
- 39 "— say more?"
- 41 Actresses Vivien and Janet
- 42 In — res (mid-plot)
- 43 Clay pigeons to be shot, informally
- 45 Three x three
- 46 Frozen spear
- 47 Eats away at
- 53 "Were — it all over again ..."
- 54 "It can't be!"
- 55 One of the Three Musketeers
- 56 Nickname for singer Justin, with "the"
- 57 Derisive smile
- 59 One of the three Furies
- 60 R&R alone
- 61 "— boy!"
- 62 Pisa's river
- 63 Nuclear trials, for short
- 64 Class of antimicrobial drugs, in the British spelling
- 65 Actress Sorkin who once hosted "America's Funniest People"
- 71 Like animals that don't roam
- 72 So-called "fifth taste"
- 73 Apartment near the super's, perhaps
- 74 Mesh well
- 79 Piquancy
- 80 Ontario tribe
- 81 Cat's warning
- 83 Pittsburgh footballers
- 84 "Chances —"
- 85 "Catch my drift, bro?"
- 86 Pie-mode link
- 88 1974 CIA parody film
- 89 More lacteal
- 90 Not cardinal, as a number
- 91 Plundering
- 92 Writer Sábato
- 98 Patronage
- 99 "— Loompa"
- 101 Half-diameters
- 102 Journalist Brit
- 103 Zing
- 104 Lucy Liu's "Kill Bill" role
- 105 Insect traps
- 106 Exploiter
- 107 Mongrel mutt
- 108 Frilly material
- 109 Shrine figure
- 110 Moore of "G.I. Jane"
- 111 Shrine figure

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Renewal Reminder

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 ~MT 43 News Team

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Mail check or deliver to 401 Broadway St. Ste A, Townsend MT 59644 or visit www.MT43News.com



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: Thursday, January 11
JAN 8 - JAN 12
 Tuna Noodle Casserole
 Green Peas
 Carrot Raisin Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Sweet Pears

Monday, January 8
 Sloppy Joes on a Bun
 Baked Beans
 Creamy Coleslaw
 Pineapple
 Dessert

Tuesday, January 9
 Roasted Turkey
 Mashed Potatoes
 Green Beans
 Garden Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Plump Peaches

Wednesday, January 10
 Pork Chops
 Steamed Potatoes
 Sliced Beets
 Dinner Salad with Beans
 Whole Grain Bread
 Apricots

Friday, January 12
 Montana Pasties
 Key Largo Vegetable
 Tossed Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Fruit Cocktail

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.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*Do not let your heart envy sinners,
 But be zealous for the fear
 of the Lord all the day;
 For surely there is a hereafter,
 And your hope will not be cut off.*

PROVERBS 23: 17, 18

Detail of "Woman listening with outstretched arms to the choir of angels in the clouds above her" by Gijssbert de Groot (1691)

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FOOD PANTRY UPDATE - JANUARY 5

Karoline Nelson
 Operations Manager

The Latter-Day Saints Church will be staffing the food pantry during the month of January.

Food pantry supplies were distributed to 28 families serving 49 people on December 30th. This included ten from the Home Maker Program.

We will be open this Saturday, January 6, being the 1st Saturday of the month.

A big "Thank You!" to the Ehlke and the Hollister families for their recent donation of beef and breakfast sausage. Also thanks to the Woodrings for their donation of eggs and to the Bar L Diamond Inc. for their beef and money donation.

With old man winter here, please do not drop off donations at the back door. They may go unnoticed and freeze.

The food pantry will only be open for the distribution of food and receiving foods on the first and third full weekends. If there is a 5th Saturday, we will be open then also.

Items needed this week:

Chili, Can Stew, Soups, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Skillet meals or Hamburger Helper.

Distribution Hours:

Saturday distribution hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 10:45. 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.

The food pantry is open to accept donations from 9:30 to 11:00 am on the first and third Friday of the month or you may drop them off on Saturday between 9:00 and 10:45. If there is a 5th Friday and Saturday, we will be open then also. If these new donation times won't work for you, you may call Karoline or Daryl and we can set up a time for your donation.

You may mail cash donations to Broadwater Food Pantry, P. O. Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644. The food pantry is located at 315 Broadway.

Big Sky Leadership, 6
 with one primary leader and followers underneath. The leader provides the overall direction with guidance and feedback to the team members. While this style can be highly effective in some situations, leaders should be cautious not to micromanage. This structure is common in government.

Transactional Leadership

Also referred to as managerial leadership. It is a style that also has a clear structure and relies on rewards and punishments. In this system, the leader establishes well-defined goals and tasks along with clear expectations about the reward system. Teams (or team members) are rewarded for their work such as a bonus for work well done or may be punished if goals are not met. This leadership style is common in business.

Servant Leadership

This leadership style places priority on the needs of the team. Leaders see value in relationships with team members and are often empathetic, good listeners and have the ability to see multiple perspectives. Team members are included in decisions when feasible and are encouraged to suggest new solutions and solve problems together.

Transformational Leadership

A transformational leader is someone who has strong communication skills to inspire others and create a shared vision among the team. Leaders see potential in individual strengths and empower others on the team by delegating roles and responsibilities. They are comfortable with change and are constantly looking towards the future.

Delegative Leadership

Also known as "laissez-faire" leadership, this style focuses on delegating to team members. It is considered a hands-off leadership style and often known as one of the least directive forms of leadership. Leaders have trust that their team members will get the job done. They tend to not get very involved or provide feedback or guidance. It allows team members creative freedom to meet their goals. This leadership style is most effective with experienced and productive team members. It is less effective with new team members.

Some leaders have the ability to change their leadership style depending on the situation. However, being aware of your natural leadership style is the first step to being adaptive and responsive to the needs of your team or the situation.

My leadership journey started many years ago as a 4-H youth where I learned and practiced leadership skills in a safe supportive environment. In college, this journey continued when I took my skills to the next level through collegiate organizations and teaching a leadership course in graduate school. As a professional, I continue to add to my arsenal of skills. In my opinion, leadership is not a single skill but a combination of knowledge, skills and attitudes that help a person develop a leadership quality. It is a destiny that is constantly shaping and changing to be better. What's your leadership journey?!

For more information about Big Sky Big Leadership or to request a presentation about leadership styles, contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County 406-266-9242 or Allison.kosto@montana.edu.

APPLICATION PERIOD STARTS JAN. 2 FOR SMITH RIVER PERMITS

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



Floaters hoping for a Smith River permit can apply from Jan. 2 through Feb. 15. However, a few changes are coming this year that applicants should be aware of.

Celebrated for its spectacular scenery, remote location and excellent trout fishing, the Smith River is one of Montana's most sought-after outdoor recreation experiences. Permits are required to float the 59-mile section of river between Camp Baker and Eden Bridge and are issued each year through a lottery. Parties of up to 15 people can float with one permit. A person applying for a Smith River permit must be a minimum of 12 years of age at the time they submit their permit application.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks staff will remove pit toilets at the float-in campsites along the Smith River during the spring of 2024. All float parties, private and commercial, will be required to pack out their human waste from the Smith River corridor. This requirement is similar to many other river systems in the West and

Application Period, 9

NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Service Available
 At MT43 News Office
 In the Reading Leaves Building
 401 Broadway St, Townsend, Mt
 Hours 10:00 - 2:00pm weekdays
Or by Appointment
 Contact: Brenda Hess Phillips
 406-231-9752

Application Period, 8

necessary to keep the corridor pristine for visitors now and for decades to come. The rules implementing this pack-out system were passed by the Montana Parks Board in late 2023.

Floater will need to pack portable toilet systems. To see a list of FWP-approved, portable, hard-sided toilets that will be allowed, click here. Alternative waste disposal systems, including bag systems, such as Clean Waste and RESTOP2, will not be allowed.

Floater can clean and sanitize their portable toilet system with a SCAT (Sanitizing Containers with Alternative Technology) machine, which has been installed at the Eden Bridge take-out.

“Removal of the pit toilets will not only help reduce impacts to natural and cultural resources but also allow more time for the river rangers to focus on other duties, such as public safety and recreation ecology projects like noxious weed control and stabilizing erosion at boat camp landings,” said Colin Maas, FWP Recreation Manager for the Smith River.

2024 is the first year applicants can buy a bonus point for the Smith River Permit. A bonus point is essentially an extra chance you can purchase for the permit drawing. These points accumulate year after year if you are unsuccessful in the drawing. Residents can purchase a bonus point for \$5; nonresidents can purchase a bonus point for \$50. The bonus point is applied to your application the year it is purchased. You can apply for a permit through FWP’s online licensing system. For more information on bonus points, click here.

Finally, starting in 2024, the number of permits available for nonresidents may not exceed 10 percent of the available permits. This new law was passed as part of House Bill 846 in the 2023 Legislative Session.

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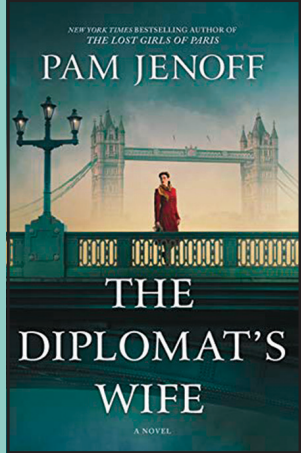
**BOOK REVIEW:
THE DIPLOMAT'S WIFE**

Jim Beck

The Diplomat's Wife by Pam Jenoff – Fiction

Marta Nederman is rescued from a Nazi prison in the waning days of WWII. Away from the brutality of the prison, she is taken to an Allied displaced person’s camp where she is able to recover. At the camp, Marta forms a bond with her nurse and a fellow patient. The American soldier who rescued her sparks a passion in Marta that ignites as she reunites with him in France after her recovery. Sadly, an airplane accident steals her newfound love from her.

After her recuperation, Marta’s travels take her to France and then to England where she is befriended by the aunt of her friend from the displaced person’s camp. While in London she is hired as a secretary in the British Foreign Office and soon marries a British diplomat. Once the Foreign Office realizes that Marta was in the Polish resistance, she is asked to travel back to Poland to make contact with some of her former operatives. After her arrival in Poland, she realizes that not all of her friends are who they claim to be and she may be in serious peril. At this point Marta’s life becomes filled with intrigue, danger, and more than a few surprises.



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bcrfdfire@live.com

**TOWNSEND TREES
PLANTED FOR
SPECIAL PURPOSES**

Patrick Plantenberg
Tree Board Chair



This is the nineteenth 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.

88) *Pyrus ussuriensis* 'Bailfrost', Mountain Frost Ussurian Pear; planted in 2012 on the north side of the swimming pool in memory of Barbara L. Stoner.

The tree was planted in 2012 on the north side of the swimming pool in memory of Barbara L. Stoner - The Greatest Mother and Grandmother in the Whole World. The tree was donated by Barbara’s four daughters and planted by family and the Tree Board. The tree is treated for fireblight annually and is in good condition.

89) *Prunus padus*, Mayday Tree; planted in 2019 south of the Alliance Church parking lot in memory of Cathy Brown.

This original Ginnala Maple (*Acer ginnala*) tree was planted in 2009 south of the Alliance Church parking lot in memory of Cathy Brown. Loving Wife, Mother, and Grandmother. Missed by All. Loved by All. July of 2009 to Heaven. The Brown Family. The tree was planted by family and friends. The original tree died and was replaced in 2019 with the Mayday Tree. The tree is treated for fireblight annually and is in good condition.

90) *Fraxinus americana* ‘Autumn Purple’, Autumn Purple White Ash; planted in 2012 in the Heritage Park playground in memory of Joni Shearer.

This tree was planted in 2012 in the Heritage Park playground in memory of Joni Shearer. The tree was planted by friends, family, and the Tree Board. The tree is located west of the east swing set. The tree is in good condition.

91) *Aesculus glabra*, Ohio Buckeye; planted in 2013 north of the Community Library to honor the BCHS Class of 1962.

This tree was planted in 2013 north of the Community Library to honor the BCHS Class of 1962. The tree was planted on Arbor Day 2013 by the Class of 1962, the Tree Board, and Townsend School District #1 students. The tree was donated by the Class of 1962. The tree is in good condition.

92) *Pyrus ussuriensis*, ‘Mordak’, Prairie Gem Flowering Pear; planted in 2012 at the Broadwater County Health Service building at 124 N. Cedar to honor Diana (Dana) Hall.

This tree was planted in 2012 at the Broadwater County Health Service (BCHS) building at 124 N. Cedar to honor Diana (Dana) Hall’s 35 years of service to the community while employed at Broadwater County Health Services. The tree was planted by BCHS employees and the Tree Board. The tree was donated by Broadwater County. The tree is treated for fireblight annually and is in poor condition and will be replaced in 2024.

top ten
WORLD'S LARGEST METEORITES

1. Hoba West, Grootfontein, South Africa	54.4 TONS
2. Ahnighito (The Tent), Cape York, West Greenland	30.9 TONS
3. Bacubirito, Mexico	27 TONS
4. Mbozi, Tanganyika	25 TONS
5. Agpalilik, Cape York, West Greenland	20.1 TONS
6. Armani, Western Mongolia	20 TONS
7. Chupaderos, Mexico	14 TONS
8. Willamette, Oregon	14 TONS
9. Campo del Cielo, Argentina	13 TONS
10. Mundrabilla, Western Australia	12 TONS

Source: The Travel Almanac
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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When is Three King’s Day celebrated typically?
2. TELEVISION: In the drama series “Mad Men,” what product is presumed to be Don Draper’s last advertisement?
3. GEOGRAPHY: What is a chain or collection of islands called?
4. MOVIES: To which city is the McCallister family traveling in the holiday classic “Home Alone”?
5. LEGAL: What is a moot court?
6. LITERATURE: What is the name of the heroine in “The Scarlet Letter”?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of nut is used in marzipan?
8. MUSIC: What is the gift on the 11th day in the song “The Twelve Days of Christmas”?
9. SCIENCE: How much of the Earth’s surface is covered with water?
10. HISTORY: What are the two Japanese cities that the United States hit with atomic bombs in WWII?

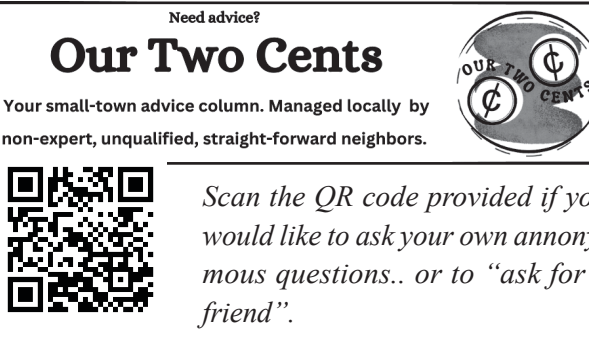
ANSWERS

1. Jan. 6, the 12th day of Christmas.
 2. Coca-Cola.
 3. An archipelago.
 4. Paris, France.
 5. A simulated court to give law students a chance to practice what they have learned.
 6. Hester Prynne.
 7. Almond.
 8. 11 pipers piping.
 9. Almost 71%.
 10. Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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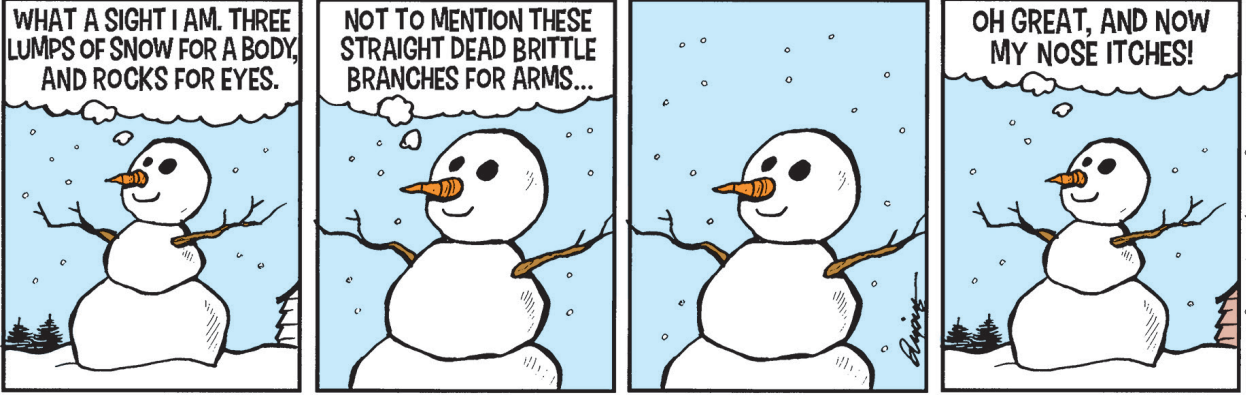
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CryptoQuip
answer
Since owls are nocturnal and probably go hunting at night, I would call them bedtime preyers.

SCRAMBLERS
solution
1. Unite 2. Abrupt; 3. Lump; 4. Rascal
Today's Word
PUNCTUAL

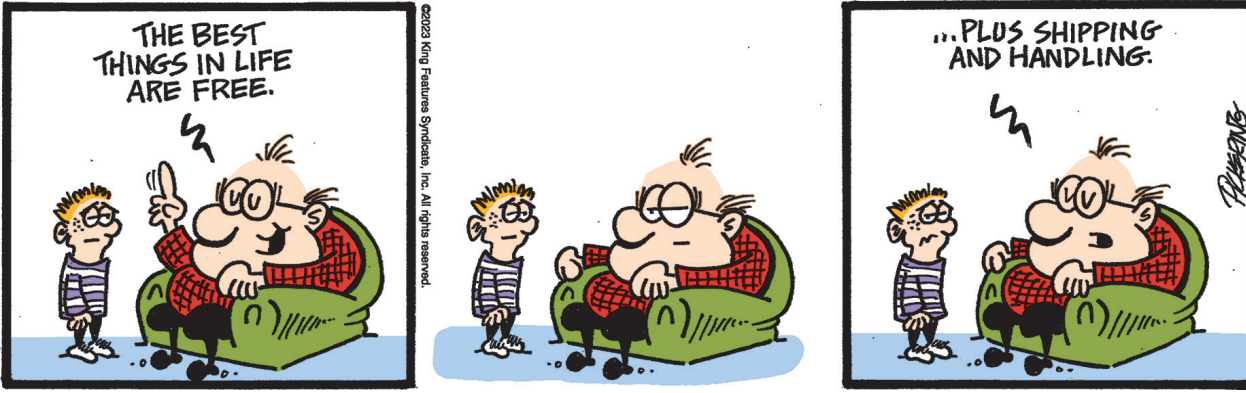
Amber Waves



KNIGHT MOVES
Answer
POSSIBLE

P	S	L
B		O
S	E	I

The Spats



Kids' Maze Solution

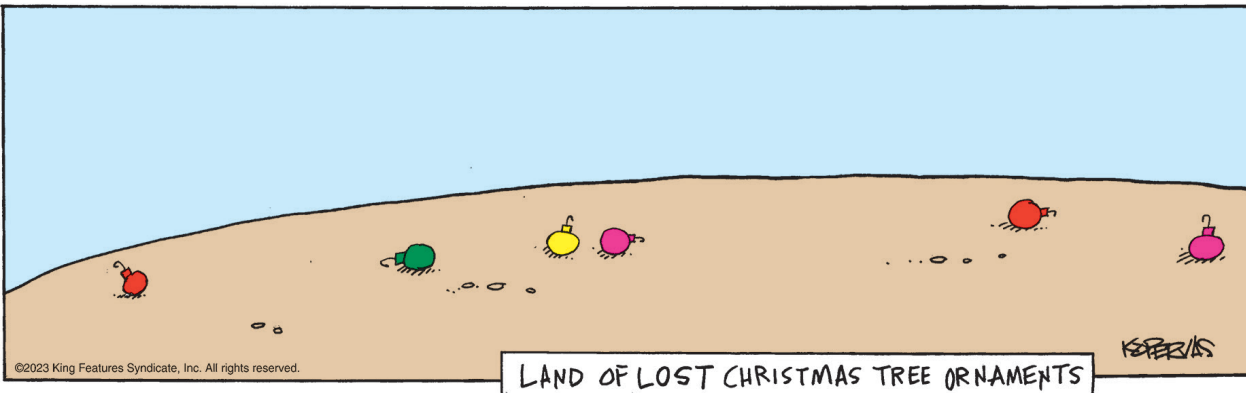
TIGER



Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Out on a Limb



Super Crossword
Answers

VET	HUNH	SPITES	BJORN
EGOMANIA	URSULA	FEDON	
NAGURSKI	ROLLIN	LAIN	
INASPOOF	FCASABLANCA		
	BLAMYA	ROTH	
PANACEA	ELOINUS	ALMS	
FEATURING	ANCIENT	GREEK	
FRIED	IAM	CEO	ELIDE
TORA	ION	ABID	STOGIE
	MATHEMATICS	DIANS	WHAT
ASA	LON	ETHEL	RETSS
TURNE	DOUTTO	BEONE	OF
ELLOCO	MIA	S	NOR
SPENT	SAM	AYE	ATARI
THEMOST	MEMORABLE	LINES	
SANI	PEI	IRE	ORANGES
	GAYE	OLD	IRON
HERES	LOOKING	GATE	UCLID
GULAG	ERMINE	DIS	SUADE
OMANI	REPEAT	INTER	COM
DENTS	SNARLS	IGOR	ELI

WHAT DO MONTANA'S INDEPENDENT RANCHERS NEED TO SURVIVE? CUSTOMERS.

Susan Shain
High Country News



This story was originally published on Oct. 31, 2023, at High Country News.

In a squat 1,100-square-foot building on the outskirts of Helena lies a pile of enormous tongues. They are thick and leaden, stacked on a steel table like fish out of water. The bovines from which they came hulk nearby, cold carcasses hanging from cold hooks. Bearded men, their white coats covered in blood, rhythmically chop livers, punctuating the hum of industrial refrigeration.

This small meat-processing facility, which a group of ranchers started under the name Old-Salt Co-op, is one of many that have appeared across the country recently. "Small" is an understatement: Old Salt can process the equivalent of 20 cattle per week, while major meatpackers butcher thousands per day.

Just four companies process 85% of American beef, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Though the consolidation has long affected ranchers, it wasn't until the pandemic — when the industry made headlines with bottlenecks, price hikes and COVID-19 outbreaks among workers — that the general public noticed. Even the White House got involved, pledging \$1 billion to boost the nation's independent meat-processing capacity. In Montana, a state with more cows than people, this helped at least 17 plants open or expand.

But in all the excitement — the ribbon cuttings on shiny new facilities, the feel-good of fighting for the little guy — it's easy to forget: What happens after that local chuck gets wrapped in cellophane? Since most independent ranchers and processors lack the volume to supply major grocery chains, their survival rides not only on how much brisket they produce, but on how many people buy it.

Without a strong customer base, Rebecca Thistlethwaite, director of the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network at Oregon State University, fears that many small processors will fail. She cited a University of Illinois study that suggested success is contingent upon local demand. "It's not a field of dreams situation; it's not an 'If you build it, they will come,'" Thistlethwaite said. "You can't build supply chains without having that end consumer."

Local meatpackers used to be more common. In 1980, the four largest companies processed just 36% of the nation's beef. The authors of a recent USDA report wrote that they "knew of no mature American industry that displayed as dramatic a change in concentration in as short a time."

The cause of that consolidation: economies of scale. "As larger processors have demonstrated lower costs of production," said Eric Belasco, a professor of agricultural economics at Montana State University, "it's just been harder for a smaller processing facility to compete."

While that created better margins for the "Big Four" meatpackers JBS, Tyson, Cargill and Marfrig (formerly National Beef) — it hasn't lowered prices for consumers. Since the early '80s, the inflation-adjusted cost of ground beef has risen by about 30%.

Ranchers haven't benefited either. Data on net profits is difficult to find, but gross profits are certainly down. Fifty years ago, ranchers got 60 cents of every dollar that consumers spent on beef; today, it's 39 cents, according to the White House, which noted the decline when announcing its \$1 billion investment. While that money supports facility expansion and workforce development, it doesn't help build markets for local meat.

Two decades ago, Lisa Wade Mayorga, whose family has ranched in Montana since 1903, abandoned the Big Four and began selling beef directly to consumers. Unlike many independent ranchers, who must travel long distances to process their meat, she had a small facility nearby.

But earlier this year, it went up for sale, putting Wade Mayorga's business in jeopardy. So she joined four other ranching families to form the Glacier Independent Ranchers, 12

Train Museum Photos Continued

Article Starts on Page 1



Museum Sign
Photo Credits: Brenda Philips



Great Falls round house
Photo Credits: Brenda Philips



River and Trestle
Photo Credits: Brenda Philips



Dam on the River
Photo Credits: Brenda Philips



A long Freight Train heading up Pipestone Pass
Photo Credits: Western Montana Railroad Historical Association



Photo Credits: Western Montana Railroad Historical Association

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

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& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

JANUARY 4

1940

Local Briefs

Miss Margaret Kenney came out from Helena to visit her parents over the holidays.

Miss Mary Connors came out from Helena for the New Year holiday joining the family here.

Mrs. Wm. Duede returned last week from Anaconda where she had visited her daughter, Mrs. Elmer Peterson, and new granddaughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mitchell are in Townsend this week. Mr. Mitchell is working for the Montana Power Company assisting in putting in the Winston beacon light line.

Mrs. Cora Poole spent last week in Helena visiting friends and relatives.

Three couples spent the New Year vacation at the Magruder camp on Deep Creek including Mr. and Mrs. Tony Peterson Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ragen and Mr. and Mrs. Magurder.

Skating and skiing gave holiday vacationers sport here. Skating was found on river backup places and on sloughs while the bountiful fall of snow in the valley over the weekend provided first skiers some snow for early tryouts.

Miss Mary Agnes Graveley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Graveley, spent Christmas vacation at the ranch home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Graveley. On New Year's day Mr. and Mrs. Allan Graveley and family visited the ranch home.

1968

"Crow Creek News" by Mrs. Ray Horne

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Fandrich of Helena, Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Reister and family of Butte and Mr. and Mrs. Abe Fandrich and Abe of Townsend were Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Horne and family,

Dirk and Marjo Reister and Abe Fandrich remained for a few days visit with the Horne children.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Williams and family were Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams in Radersburg.

Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Willy Hossfeld and family were Mr. and Mrs. John Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hossfeld and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Burtch and daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Webb, Susan and Ray were hosts at Christmas dinner to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Webb and family and Art Berg.

Mr. and Mrs. George Dundas and family were Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dundas and Dorothy in Three Forks.

Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Junior Lewis were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Benson of Denver, Mr. and Mrs. Lou Gloege and family, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Gloege and family of Helena, Mrs. Mabel Williams of Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lewis and family and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sanderson and family.

Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Hensley were Robert Hensley of San Diego, Pat Hensley of Missoula, Mary Ann Hensley, who attends Carrol College, Mr. and Mrs. Erv Davis and family of Bozeman, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hensley of Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Torbett Hensley, Mrs. Verna Hensley and Joe Hensley.

Enjoying Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. George Hensley and daughters were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hensley and family and Mr. and Mrs. Don Summerfeld.

Miss Roene Taylor, who attends Colorado Women's College at Denver, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hensley and family.

1996

Around Town News

Don and JoAnn Marks enjoyed the company of all their children and grandchildren over the Christmas holiday. Christmas day they all were dinner guests at the home of their son, Jeff Marks. Included in the festivities were Jim and Karen Marks, Emily and Neil, Missoula; John Marks, and Denise and John Hartman, Chris, Brooke and Allison, Bozeman; Joe Marks and Dominick and

Jerry and Brenda Marks, Helena; Donna and Scott Harris, Sarra and Shannon, East Helena; Jay Marks and Kamy Gannon, Bozeman; Jack Marks, Missoula; and Irla Wooten, Jason and Ian, East Helena.

Forrest and Marion Kitto, Pam and Leonard Lambott, Carmen and Wendy, Rod and Linda Kitto, Tod and Brit-tany, Toston; Gertrud Lambott, Townsend; Karen Lambott Bozeman, and Wanda Lambott Phoenix Az. were all dinner guests Christmas day at the home of Barbara and Duane Durkee, Shannon and Shawn in Helena.

Charlotte and Don Lewis hosted dinner Christmas eve for Jo Lewis, Doris and Martin Mingay, Craig and Clint, and Geri and Larry Zollinger, Townsend, and Mary Jo Lewis of Butte.

Hank and Mary Walker spent Christmas in Helena at the home of their daughter and family, Karen and Bill Barraugh, Kristen and Brenda. Joining them were their daughter and family, Linda and Wayne Krahe, Matt, Andrea and Kelly, Choteau; Wayne's mother, Evelyn Krahe, New York; Pearl Barraugh, Townsend and Bill Walker, Bozeman.

Grace and Bill Berberet spent Christmas at the home of their daughter and family, Barbara and Rick DeMartin, Levi and Jessie.

Dick and Jean Buckingham hosted dinner Christmas day for Betsy and Dave Riley, Jessie and Josh, Helena; Harry Buckingham, Fort Benton; Cole Briedenbach, Missoula and Arnold Richardson, Townsend.

Darleen and Ken Doig traveled to Centerville, UT over Christmas to visit her daughter, Dorothy and Vern Jones, Bree and Bryan.

Christmas day dinner guests of Mary Upton were Tom Upton and Cynthia Berger, Phoenix; Burce and Dianna Mell, Townsend; Donna Wickre, Jessie and Amy and Clark Pennington, East Helena and Dane, and Donna Upton and Caitlyn, California.

Lillian Fisher spent Saturday through Thursday in Havre visiting her daughter and family, Carla and Ken Spackman, Amy and Joel.

Dorothy Colby visited her daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Ken Magdall at Kings Hill for the Christmas holiday. Her grandchildren, Bill and Jeannine Albee, Michael and Sari Bozeman visited Dorothy last week.

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Independent Ranchers, 11

Processing Cooperative, which is purchasing the plant. Though the co-op has applied for a federal grant for new equipment, its ultimate success depends on whether its members can attract and retain enough customers.

For independent ranchers, major chains — like Walmart, where 26% of America's food dollars go, are basically out of the question. "To get into a chain grocery store, you have to have volume," explained Bill Jones, general manager of the Montana Premium Processing Cooperative, which opened in January. And since it takes two years and roughly \$2,500 to raise a single head of cattle, Jones said it's "a heck of a challenge" for ranchers to establish enough volume to interest a grocery chain.

Jones said the ranchers in his cooperative sell their meat online, at farmers markets or to local grocers and restaurants. "And then some are doing all three," he added.

Old Salt, the Helena plant with the tongues on the table, is taking yet another approach. Rather than each ranch running its own marketing and social media and fighting for a sliver of the same small pie — Montana only has 1.1 million people, after all — the company has united four ranches under a single brand.

"There's a lot of cannibalization of each other in local food," said Cole Mannix, an Old Salt co-founder whose family has been ranching in Montana for five generations. "So we decided to try to consolidate that into one kind of regional effort." Old Salt has also gone beyond selling meat online: opening a

buzzy burger stand in the heart of Helena, organizing a festival and cookouts and ranch tours, and building a butcher-shop-slash-grill that will showcase its products and host community events.

Mannix hopes those efforts convince Montanans there's a value in local meat — a value that a Walmart rib-eye can't offer. "How can all these breweries survive?" he asked. "Because they're a place for people to hang out. Local food is about human connection."

Zoe Barnard, who lives in Helena with her partner and their four children, believes that buying locally raised, grass-fed beef is healthier for her family and her community. And, since independent ranchers typically manage their cattle from birth to burger, rather than sending them to feedlots, she also believes it's more humane and ecologically sustainable. "It's just such a bizarre thing that you would go to the supermarket in Montana and buy meat that had come from Brazil," she said.

LOCAL FOOD IS ABOUT HUMAN CONNECTION

Barnard gets an Old Salt meat box every six weeks. Since it's more expensive than shopping at the store, she serves red meat only once or twice a week. Barnard has also convinced several of her friends to get on board. "I'm like, this is the best meat I've ever tasted," she said. "I don't even get into my politics."

Whether Old Salt can find more people like Barnard is an open question — and a critical one. As Mannix put it: "If customers don't change their buying habits, local meat really doesn't have a chance."

Thistlethwaite, of Oregon State University, agrees.

"I don't think [local meat processors] are going to survive unless we see consumers step up more seriously," she said. "But that's not really a message that is easy to tell. I get it: Beef is super expensive right now, it's a luxury item in my household." While Thistlethwaite said locally processed meat is often available in bulk — and is usually cheaper per pound than beef from the grocery store — she acknowledged it's not an option for many families, owing to the high up-front cost and requisite freezer space.

So Thistlethwaite thinks institutions like schools, prisons, hospitals, universities and government agencies should start buying meat locally. "That would make a huge impact," she said. "There needs to be more than just household consumers purchasing local and regional meat."

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