



Prevention is Key!—p.3



STOKEd to be a Cook!—p.4



Honored to be of Service!—p.12

COPING WITH BITTERLY COLD WEATHER

Nancy Marks
Reporter



The sign on the bank in Townsend reads minus 22 degrees. It is midday, Friday, January 12. Broadway is empty of cars. Businesses are closed except for the bars and the hardware store. How do people deal with the first extreme cold spell of winter?



The bank's reader board reflected what Broadwater County citizens already knew: Baby It's cold outside!
Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

Even though the weather report warned well in advance that bitterly cold weather was on its way, many



Railroad maintenance crews were tasked with heating steel rails with blow torch fires to reconnect rail sections that had separated on Saturday
Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

people waited too long to avoid the pitfalls of frozen pipes, dead batteries and not caring for animals.

JB Howick of Townsend Hardware related how the cold affected his business. "It's a horrible reality that hardware stores do really well during weather crises," Howick said his store started the day with 30 milk barn heaters. By 4 o'clock he had only three in stock. People made a run for heat tape, extension cords, insulation and heat lamps. "Mostly they are trying to save their

chickens and thaw out their well houses," he said.

For those who need to call a plumber when pipes are frozen, Special K owner Danny Kurk advises them to close all basement vents, and then have an electrician hardwire in a heating element near the problem area. Kurk said he had 70 calls on Saturday beginning at 6:00 a.m. He and one assistant took calls for the shutdown of propane tank regulators and frozen pipes. "I left

Coping, 3

TOWNSEND BUSINESS LEADERS REORGANIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MT 43 News Staff

Several Townsend business owners gathered Wednesday, January 10 at The Betsy Bar to reboot the Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC). Realtor Jenni Fellenz and auto repair shop owner Keith Hartmann were elected co-presidents. Jenny Clowes remains treasurer and Rachael Brug is secretary.

The co-presidents emphasized a move to support both new and existing businesses on Front Street and Broadway. Ways to deliver that support would be to put out a packet with contact information about Townsend's business district and services. Reading Leaves owner Rachael Brug told of the importance of reaching out when people are just setting up their businesses. "We want to see others thrive so we need to offer resource support," she said.

The conversation surrounded a comment from C Hangin' C owner Cassie Cooper who also owns a business in Dillon. She related Dillon Chamber members

reached out to her to offer help in whatever she needed. "We, the businesses on Front Street in Townsend, feel left out of the Chamber. The Chamber needs to do something to include Front Street businesses in Chamber activities," she said.

Fellenz pointed out the chamber had made a video of Goose Bay Glass some years ago to run on the TACC website. Townsend area businesses will receive a link to the website. "We will make a priority of getting videos of other Townsend businesses on the website," she said.



Realtor Jenni Fellenz and auto repair shop owner Keith Hartmann will co-chair Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce this year.
Photo Credits: Nancy Marks

In years past, TACC activities had been led and organized by one or two people, according to Fellenz. "The Christmas Stroll came off very successfully because business owners jumped in to organize the activity, but two months before we didn't know if it was even going to happen. If we can figure out how to come together, we can work as a team," she said.

New City Council member Doug Sitton suggested someone be designated to go business to business to invite them to meetings and to become involved in Chamber activities. "We are the new Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce as of today," he said.

Fellenz suggested the group make up a Google Calendar with new business ribbon cuttings featured on the website. In the past chamber has sponsored "After Hours" activities at each business so owners could network and learn about each other's businesses. "The activity could include appetizers and beverages as well as drawings with prizes from other members," she said.

A recent TACC endeavor is placing a digital sign close to Highway 287 to educate people who drive Townsend **Business Leaders, 4**

COATS HANGING ON BROADWAY

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

You have probably noticed the coats hanging on the street light poles on Broadway Street in the 200 block.



Jenni and crew hung new and barely used coats on light posts in the 200 block of Broadway for the taking.
Photo Credits: Jenni Fellenz

Realtor Jenni Fellenz thought it was perfect weather for a coat donation program to give to those who might not have one. Jenni, her helper Kevin Reed and Car Quest owner Tiffany Simpson decided last fall to gather new and barely used coats for a drive in Townsend. "Anyone who needs a coat from the array on Broadway may help



Jenni Fellenz
Photo Credits: Jenni Fellenz

Coats Hanging, 4

BULLDOG BASKETBALL

Gary Bauman
MT43 News Sports Correspondent

Townsend Bulldogs Travel to Boulder

The Bulldogs travel to Boulder on Thursday to take on the Jefferson Panthers in the Elkhorn Rivalry. Both teams came out of the gates shooting very well, shooting almost 63% in the first quarter, the Dogs down three. Sawyer Horne, who finished with a season-high 25 points went 4 for 4 in the quarter. At the end of the half, Jefferson's Marcus Lee's key three-pointers had their lead up to 4 points 41-37, but the Dogs just wouldn't go away. Tavyn Anderson, who finished the game with 21 points and 4 assists, had the dogs to within 3 again with some big-time drives to the basket. Hunter Stevens broke the game wide-open in the fourth quarter. Stevens, who had 26 points on the night led the Panthers to a 12-point victory, 84-72.

Sawyer Horne 25, Tavyn Anderson 21, Ryedan Reed 16, Grady Erickson 6, Deegan Mattson 4

5-3 Townsend Lady Bulldogs Take on the 7-1 Jefferson Lady Panthers

Coach David Lawson's Lady Bulldogs traveled to Boulder on Thursday to try to upset the high-powered Jefferson Panthers. Jefferson was ready for the Dogs. They limited the Bulldog scoring in the first half to just 9 points as the Dogs struggled from the field, making just 2 out of 30 attempts. The Dogs found themselves down 34-9 early in the first half and were doing anything they could do to get more shot attempts. Kaitlyn Noyes had 7 offensive and 5 defensive rebounds and Holly Newman was the only Bulldog scoring in double digits. But the Panthers, led by Cameron Toney's 17 points were just too much, as the Lady Dogs fell 65-35 to the Jefferson Panthers.

Holly Newman 10, Kaitlyn Noyes 6, Ella Begger 5, Emily Bird 4, Jazel Ragen 4, Bryleigh Erickson 2, Cassidy Flynn 2, Emmalin Fischer 1, Abby Wickens 1

TOWNSEND SCHOOLS WELCOMES NEW RESOURCE OFFICER

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Sargeant Tony Cordova will act as the new School Resource Officer. Cordova was cleared by Broadwater County Commissioners and the Sheriff's office to fill the position through a memorandum of agreement. Cordova's office will be in the Junior High building and will serve as a high-profile safety connection to students in both elementary and high schools.

Cordova was presented at the January 9 School Board meeting. Board president Jason Noyes indicated a need for a detailed job description of the position so teachers, administration and Cordova know what is expected of him.

The position will be paid for as regular deputy wages through the sheriff's office. The school will fund training and provide an office.

Cordova, who has served in the Broadwater County Sheriff's Department since 2013 expressed his interest in the position because he has law enforcement connections who are also school resource personnel. Cordova will serve in the position until June when school is out for the summer. He will then return to duties in the Sheriff's department.

A Townsend native, Cordova graduated from Broadwater High School in 2012.

The board tackled the question of whether to keep offering retirement incentives for teachers eligible for retirement. Several teachers will qualify for retirement according to Superintendent Susie Hedalen. The board moved to give two \$15,000 retirement incentive payments for the year 2024.

Lump sum incentives are offered to teachers who are at their highest pay level. New teachers are hired at lower pay levels so through employee wage savings, monies eventually build up to offer incentives for the next group of retiring teachers. Hedalen pointed out that rebuilding the fund takes a long time, so giving incentives every year becomes very expensive for the board. "As a strategic tool, we need to think about whether we can offer incentives next year or if we do, at what level," Chairman Noyes pointed out.

The board voted to reimburse Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) for the \$32,903 grant the school received to pay for playground equipment. The grant which was administered by FWP, came through the National Park Service. The grant included a restriction that the land on which the playground was built, would

be a playground in perpetuity. The new elementary school was then built on the playground which voided the agreement between FWP and Townsend Schools, so the board was required to pay back the grant.

The school roof replacement project has been completed. The cost of \$472,630 will be reimbursed by the school's insurance company.

The board voted to approve a \$55,000 purchase of a 57-passenger bus with handicapped access from Bulldog Bus Lines, owned by Jeremy Rice. The 2004 model bus has been reconditioned.

In her report, Superintendent Hedalen said the activities committee continues to work on setting up a high school baseball program. She also reported that the school radio survey had 44 responses. Fifty-three percent of the respondents listen to the radio; 46 percent listen online. She explained the students in Joe Horne's media arts class were helping to run the station now, and several Townsend businesses had contributed to keeping the station operating. Sports games are broadcast every year on the station. American Recovery Act (ARA) funds have been used to keep the station running. Hedalen encouraged the public to complete the radio listening survey in person at the Library or on the Townsend Schools website.

SAFETY ON ICE

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



Anglers, skaters, and others are encouraged to practice safety on ice.

HELENA – It took a while to get here, but winter finally hit Montana.

That means winter enthusiasts will be heading out to recreate. Whether ice fishing, ice skating, hunting, snowmobiling or just taking a walk, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks staff reminds recreationists that safety should be the number one concern during a day out on (or near) the ice.

Here are some safety tips:

- Anglers and other recreationists should be familiar with the water body they plan to fish or recreate on. Pay close attention to the changing conditions of the ice.
- If you have even the slightest doubt about the safety of the ice — stay off of it. Nothing is ever worth a fall into frigid water.
- Blue or "clear" ice is usually hard. Watch out for opaque, gray, dark or porous spots in the ice that could be weak, soft areas. Ice also tends to thin more quickly at the shorelines or near structures protruding through the ice such as rocks, stumps and trees.
- Note areas on the ice that look "different" — they usually are. Many times, thinner areas of ice (caused by springs, gas pockets, sunken islands, points, etc.) have a different color or look to them. Use extreme caution or stay away from these areas.

The following are recommended minimum ice thickness guidelines (for good, clear ice*):

- * Under 4 inches: STAY OFF
- * 4 inches: individual angler ice fishing or other activities on foot
- * 7 inches: snowmobile or ATV
- * 10 inches: small car**
- * 12 inches: truck or SUV**
- *for white ice or "snow ice," double the above minimum
- **not recommended, but if you must, proceed at your own risk
- * Watch for pressure ridges. These are areas of weak or unstable ice where the ice has cracked and heaved due to expansion from freezing.
- * Test the ice ahead of you with an ice spud bar or an auger.
- * Don't leave children unsupervised on the ice.
- * Waterbodies do not freeze at the same thickness everywhere. For example, some ponds have windmills to aerate water for fish survival, and ice may be thin near these areas.

* Moving water — rivers, streams and springs — weaken ice by wearing it away from underneath. Avoid going on ice on rivers and streams, or where a river or stream enters a lake, pond or reservoir.

* The least safe ice usually occurs early and late in the season, when the weather is warmer and less predictable.

* Remember, NO ICE is 100 percent safe.

* Snowmobiling and ATV use on the ice will reduce steering ability.

* Groups should avoid crossing ice in a single-file group. If the first person breaks through, the rest of

Safety on Ice, 4

Townsend School Calendar

Jan 19 - Jan 20	HSWR @ Home-B/C Duals
Jan 19	NO SCHOOL
Jan 20	10:00AM MSBBB @ Manhattan 2:30PM HSBB @ Harrison (BBB Only) S&D @ Columbus-Divisionals
Jan 22	7:30AM D/C College Writing at community room
Jan 23	7:30AM D/C College Writing at community room
Jan 23	2:30PM GBB @ Shields Valley 4:15PM MSBBB vs Ennis 7:00PM S&D Senior Showcase/Senior Night
Jan 24	7:00PM Old Baldy Adult Open Gym at BHS 63 Gym 7:00PM Old Baldy Adult Pickleball at BHS Stage Gym 7:30AM D/C College Writing at community room
Jan 25	4:00PM HSBB @ Sheridan 6:00PM HSWR @ Home-Harry Hall Mixer-Senior Night 7:30AM D/C College Writing at community room
Jan 26 - Jan 27	S&D @ Choteau-State
Jan 26	NO SCHOOL 4:00PM HSBB @ Twin Bridges (GBB Only) 6:00PM HSWR @ Anaconda-Copper Shamrock FFA District Speaking @ Townsend
Jan 27	1:00PM HSBB @ Three Forks FFA Fergus Mechanics MSBBB @ Twin Bridges Tourney



Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Three Forks School Calendar

Jan 19 - Jan 20	HS Wrestling @ Class A Duals Butte
Jan 19	3:00PM HS Basketball vs Jefferson (home) Speech and Drama Divisional @ Columbus
Jan 20	1:00PM HS Basketball @ Ennis
Jan 22	4:00PM C-Squad Boys BB vs. Butte in Old Gym
Jan 22	Start of 2nd semester
Jan 23	2:30PM HS Basketball @ Manhattan Christian HS Wrestling @ Dillon Duals/Tri
Jan 25	Student Council Meeting @ Lunch 4:00PM MS Boys Basketball @ Belgrade 5:00PM HS Wrestling @ Home - Senior Night - Livingston/Flor- ence Tri
Jan 26 - Jan 27	HS Wrestling @ Hardin/Lockwood (invite)
Jan 26	2:00PM MS Boys Basketball vs Manhattan Speech and Drama State at Choteau
Jan 27	1:00PM HS Basketball vs Townsend (home)



CREATED GOOD
TOWNSEND COMMUNITY FAMILY NIGHT
Join us for **FREE DINNER and ACTIVITIES!**
Let's explore our humanity and rediscover our goodness together.

5:45-7:00 pm
Holy Cross Parish Center
101 S. Walnut
Townsend

February 4th:
What Do I Do With My Life?

TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- January 19**
 10:00AM Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library
 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- January 20**
 9:00am Suicide Prevention Class - American Legion Post 42 at American Legion Club, 211 Broadway **READ ARTICLE ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**
 6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
- January 22**
 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
 6:00PM Broadwater Democrats Meeting in the Backroom of The Mint at 305 Broadway **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION**
- January 23**
 5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 6:00pm Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway
- January 24**
 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- January 25**
 5:30pm Stoke Hosts Cooking Class at The Lodge of Townsend at The Lodge of Townsend
 7:00pm Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
- January 26**
 10:00am Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library
 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- January 27**
 6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
- January 27**
 12:00-1:00PM Medicare 101: A FREE Educational Seminar at Lewis & Clark Library in Helena (**RSVP: TURN TO PAGE 8 TO READ MORE, SEE LEYLAND INSURANCE AD ON THIS PAGE**)
 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
- February 1**
 7:00PM Fire Dept Meeting (Volunteers Needed) at Fire Station **SEE AD ON PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS**
- February 4**
 FREE Townsend Community Family Night at Holy Cross Parish **SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS**

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- January 19**
 9:00AM Regional Housing Coalition Meeting at TBD
 1:00PM Three Forks Library - LEGO Club
- January 20**
 Three Forks Library CLOSED
- January 23**
 1:00PM Three Forks Library - Mah Jongg
- January 25**
 10:00AM Three Forks Library - Story Time
 6:00PM Three Forks Music Night with Road Runner at Bridger Brewing Three Forks
- January 26**
 2:00PM Three Forks Library - Crafternoon Drop-In
- January 27**
 Three Forks Library CLOSED

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

- January 22**
 11:00am Commission Working Meeting at Flynn Building
 2:00pm Public Project Briefings with Bill Jarocki at Flynn Building
- January 24**
 10:00am Broadwater County Commissioner's Meeting at Flynn Building
 3:00pm Commission Working Meeting at Flynn Building
- February 8**
 6:30pm Public Hearing on the Draft Update to the City of Townsend Subdivision Regulations **SEE LEGAL AD ON PAGE 5 FOR MORE DETAILS**

Coping 1

my truck running for 18 hours, just moving from one job to the other,” he said.

Sometimes a closed regulator is a blessing. One lady whose propane was closed off called a heating company. He fixed the propane regulator but noticed a vent outside that was not connected to anything. The vent had slipped off its holding outside causing it to angle up inside and become disconnected from her propane water heater. The disconnect created a danger of carbon monoxide flow into the basement. The worker was able to reattach the vent with his tools. Fortunately, none of her family suffered monoxide symptoms like headaches and nausea. She felt lucky the heating company employee noticed the loose vent.

Montana Rail Link had problems with separated rails near Townsend. Saturday morning workers were out heating steel rails with blowtorches so the rails could be reattached.

Dr. Kim Zimmerman of the Elkhorn Veterinary Clinic reminds folks with pets not to think animals with fur can withstand the below-zero weather without bad effects. “Even big dogs used to the outside can develop hypothermia and frozen feet. If a dog is biting at its feet or shivering, it needs to be inside right away. They should have shelter and some kind of bedding like straw. They need clean open water and more food to keep up their energy level,” she pointed out.

As for inside animals such as small dogs and cats, Zimmerman suggested cutting back their feed ration so they do not gain weight during the cold period when they are less active.

Cold weather expands the workload of farmers and ranchers. They fight to get and keep tractors running, hay feeders operating and open water for their animals. Predation becomes even more of a problem.

John Ingalls of the Round Grove Ranch runs 300 head of cattle. He and his crew must move them to fields with natural brush windbreaks or wood storm shelters. They need to chop ice from waterways multiple times a day or make sure the animals have access to a heated water station. “I watch the weather station very closely. Since we are only 70 days out from calving, we feed extra rations of feed to maintain both energy and gain in the animals. The key to helping cows weather cold is to feed them extra oats three or four days before the below-zero weather hits,” he said.

Kelly Ingalls, John’s brother, runs two bands of sheep in winter pasture near Lone Mountain and in the Limestones. He, like his brother, feeds his animals extra rations days before a storm hits. Herders provide each animal with half a pound of oats per day and 20 percent more a day or two before the temperature drops.



Newly sheared sheep in a late winter storm in 2023. Photo credit: Kelly Ingalls

The overall strategy Ingalls said is to feed them to keep up their energy. Sheep have heavy wool this time of year which protects them. Feeding them extra oats keeps them in good health.

An animal in good health is more able to avoid being killed by predators such as coyotes. “We try hard to resist predation by not conditioning coyotes to eat sheep,” Ingalls said. “We maintain dogs to chase off the coyotes,” Ingalls said he keeps three dogs for each band, including the Pakistani Akbash dog, which is extremely aggressive toward coyotes, and the gentle white Great Pyrenees.

“We also make sure there are no straggler sheep who might be easy catches for the coyotes. If an animal dies by chance, the herders hurry to pick it up. That way coyotes do not become accustomed to eating tasty mutton,” he explained.

Feeding sheep oats in an open pasture is not as easy as it seems. Ingalls related a story about how the sheep know that oats are stored on a nearby trailer. They can’t open the sacks of oats, so they eat the electrical wires of the taillights on the trailer. “I never have any taillights on that trailer,” he laughed.

SUICIDE PREVENTION class
 American Legion Post 42
JAN 20 - 9 AM
 The class is free - coffee and donuts provided
 211 Broadway St, Townsend, MT call Tony 406-490-3401

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Tony Wagner
 American Legion



Did you know that the state of Montana has one of the highest suicide rates in the nation, according to the statistics of the last several years? Did you know that in the US, veterans are dying of suicide at a rate of 18 per day? This statistic is down from 22 per day a decade ago. We, as citizens, need to intercede in order to save our friends and family from this fate.

If you would like to learn more about how to help those in your circle of friends, you may be interested to know that the Veterans Administration is providing a Suicide Prevention Class at the American Legion Post 42 in Townsend Mt.

The class is free and while some of it is geared for veterans, the majority of the class is general and applies to all. The class will be held on Saturday, January 20, at 0900 at American Legion Post 42 in Townsend, MT. 211 Broadway St.

We are hoping that many of you will attend. We’ll have free coffee and donuts.

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 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

BROADWATER DEMOCRATS MEETING
 IN THE BACKROOM OF THE MINT
MONDAY, January 22: 6:00PM
 Two speakers will report on party activity.
 For more information, call Gayle Clifford (406) 581-8538

Special K
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dannyjkurk@gmail.com

LEYLAND INSURANCE
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TURNING 65 SOON?
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!

Townsend Business Leaders, 1

through town about what is happening in Townsend. According to the Montana State Highway Department, 8,000 cars pass through Townsend daily.

Chamber members Tim McAlpine, Doug Breker and Tim Pool had worked with City Council and Townsend Schools to erect a new sign at the Front Street and Broadway Street intersection. The current sign is on railroad property. To install a digital sign on the site was not workable because of setback restrictions and was cost-prohibitive, according to Hartmann. "That location is off the table," he said.

While members scout out another location, the chamber asked YESCO sign company employee Ben Toney to design a digital sign. Toney presented a design proposal that would include a permanent sign with a digital sign below. Monies set aside from Canyon Ferry Walleye Festival proceeds would pay for the sign.

Chamber meetings are set for the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is delayed due to Valentine's Day and is scheduled for February 21st, 6 pm at Canyon Ferry Brewing. Business owners, City Council members and the public are invited to attend.

A+ Storage

**SEVERAL SIZES OF STORAGE UNITS
BOATS, RV's & TRAILER STORAGE
IN TOWNSEND, MT**

**WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN YOU
NEED US!**

406-266-5377, 406-580-5425

Coats Hanging 1

themselves to a coat," Jenni explained.

For people who need hats, gloves and scarves, the organizers arranged for the items to be picked up at Car Quest Auto Parts on Front Street. As of Monday January 15, individuals had claimed 103 coats, according to Jenni.

Interest in helping others less fortunate than herself came easy to Jenni. She related she had a "tough" childhood. Jenni was raised in Fairfield, Montana. When she didn't have a coat one year, she had to borrow her dad's coat. "Finally, my brother bought me a coat. I cried I was so glad to get one," she said.

Jenni has sponsored several drives in the past in Townsend including backpack giveaways for school children, and a pumpkin drop on Broadway. Jenni drops around 200 pumpkins the week before Halloween so school kids can carve their own pumpkins.

Barnes

Jewelry

357 N Last Chance Gulch,
Helena MT
406-442-3000

HI-CALIBER GUNS

**Buying Used and Unused Firearms
Purchasing Rates are Based on Current
Bluebook of Gun Values
Contact Darrell Spidell
406 521-5169, hicaliber@olyphen.com**

Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!
406-266-3110
7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT
topgunt3110@gmail.com
topgunautobodytownsend.com

Safety on Ice, 2

the group may not be able to stop or maneuver in time to avoid it.

Some other common ice-safety reminders to keep in mind include:

- * Consider changes in the weather (and ice conditions) during the prior 24 hours. Wind, rain and sun can drastically decay ice in a short time.

- * It's a good idea to wear a life jacket (PFD) or carry a throwable flotation device or rope while out on the ice — safe ice anglers and recreationists do it all the time.

- * Dress warm but practical. Many styles of ice fishing jackets and bibs provide extra buoyancy to help keep you afloat if you do fall through.

- * Before you leave the house, tell someone where you plan to go and when you plan to return.

- * Carry a pair of ice picks (long spikes on a heavy string around your neck). If you break through the ice, you can use the spikes to grip the ice and pull yourself out of the water.

FWP wishes all anglers and recreationists a safe and adventurous winter.

It's your future. Let's protect it.®

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

**FARM BUREAU
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

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

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company*West Des Moines, IA. Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/Laramie, WY. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. PR-5M-B (10-21)

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: What state is the setting for the 1990s movie "Twister"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Lake Okeechobee is in which U.S. state?
3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president adopted the expression, "Speak softly and carry a big stick"?
4. MUSIC: Actor/singer Jared Leto also is the front man for which rock music band?
5. HISTORY: The U.S. Civil War ended in 1865 when Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union forces in which Virginia town?
6. SCIENCE: Which element has the symbol Pb?
7. GAMES: What is the destination in the board game Candy Land?
8. TELEVISION: Who was the long-running host of "American Bandstand"?
9. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of Alaska?
10. LITERATURE: Who is the author of the autobiographical work "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"?

Trivia Answers, 11

WEED OF THE MONTH: BIG SAGEBRUSH

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent

Although some people don't like it, the sweet smell of sage immediately gives me a nostalgic feeling of the home we call Montana. Big sagebrush, also called Big Sage, is one of Montana's most well-known and easily recognized native plants. In moderation, it provides many ecological benefits. However, it can also be invasive by choking out grasses and forbs.

Description & Habitat

Native to the western half of the United States and Canada, big sage had many uses among the American Indians as a laxative, tea substitute, general tonic, hair and eye wash, treating colds and diarrhea, and antiseptic for wounds. It is found in valleys, basins and mountain slopes at elevations between 2,500 to 10,000 feet. It prefers dry, well-drained soils or gravelly soils. It does not tolerate excessive sub-moisture.

Big Sage is easily identifiable. It is an evergreen shrub that can grow 1 to 13 feet tall. Leaves are blue-gray to blue-green in color due to dense gray hairs. Flowers are yellow and often inconspicuous. Plants are very aromatic with the smell being described as bitter to pleasant. Big sage has a unique two-part root system with a deep tap root and a shallow root system. Numerous studies have shown that sagebrush plants create "hydraulic lift" where soil moisture is brought nearer to the surface by the tap root during the day and then released during the night. This makes it very drought-tolerant.

Big sagebrush may be the most important shrub on western rangelands. Sage grouse are the heaviest user of sagebrush which makes up over 70 percent of its diet. Wildlife also feed on the plants, especially during the

Big Sage Brush, 11

FREE

Science • Technology • Outdoors
Knowledge • Entrepreneurship

FREE

COOKING CLASSES

Learn to shop, prep, cook and ENJOY the food you make! Starting with preparing menus, making shopping lists, and creating skills in the kitchen; we will eat, learn, and even feed your families by the end of a six-week class.

If you simply like to eat, cook, or want a new skill for a future job, register for a spot!

REGISTRATION:

WHO: Students in GRADES 6-8 or GRADES 9-12; Only 4 spots per group available. First come first serve!

WHEN: Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 5:30 PM—6:30 PM or Thursday, January 25, 2024; 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

WHERE: The Lodge of Townsend, 131 S. Spruce, Townsend, MT 59644

HOW: Complete STROKE Registration Form (Parent signature required for students under 18 years old).

For more information, please call;

- ⇒ Amanda Domino (406) 459-7379
- ⇒ Tina Homann (406) 360-4408.

LEARN TO FEED YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND EVEN PREPARE TO ENTER THE WORKFORCE!

DATES:
FEBRUARY 1, 2024 - MARCH 7, 2024

GRADES 6-8
THURSDAYS
4:30 - 6:00 PM

GRADES 9-12
THURSDAYS
6:15 - 8:00 PM

START BY CREATING MENU IDEAS - AND FINISH BY PREPARING MEALS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

MT 43 News, Inc.

<p>Published & edited by the Board of Directors</p> <p>401 Broadway Street Suite A Townsend MT 59644-2323 (406) 266-0086</p> <p>MT43News@MT43News.com</p> <p>Deadlines Stories, News & Letters to the Editor: Tuesday 12 p.m. Advertising: Tuesday 10 a.m.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">©2023 MT 43 News, Inc. All rights reserved. The contents of this newspaper may not be reproduced, redistributed or archived, in whole or in part, physically or electronically, without the written permission of MT 43 News, Inc.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">ISSN 2833-2571</p>	<p>USPS Bulk Mailing Permit #43 First Publication Date: July 15, 2022</p> <p>MT 43 News is published Thursday of each week in Townsend, MT. Its service area is Broadwater County, MT.</p> <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodically, relevant advertising will be used to fill necessary space. Advertisers will not be charged for this additional advertising. <p>Affiliation Letters to the editor, guest columns, Op-Ed, editorials and advertising do not necessarily reflect the opinion of MT 43 News, Inc. or any of its executives,</p>	<p>employees, or advertisers.</p> <p>Letter Policy MT 43 News, Inc. welcomes letters to the editor on subjects of general community interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>the week the letter was submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT43 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. <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal notices are required to print in local newspapers and may hold private or public interest. Here you may read about Probate Notices, Estate Settlements and other Judicial Actions as well as Important Broadwater County 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

Helena Independent Record Notice of a Floodplain Permit Application in Broadwater County

Per the requirements of the County Floodplain Regulations the County is providing notice to the public that DROUILLARD ISLAND LLC is proposing to raise the elevation of the existing ranch road by placing fill along the alignment to create a consistent grade.

The project is located within the Special Flood Hazard Area of the Jefferson River.

Staff at the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Floodplain Program have reviewed the application and are comfortable with the proposed project design.

The project is in NW 1/4 of Section 27, Township 2N, Range 1E, Broadwater County; Latitude 45° 54' 4.965" N; Longitude 111° 35' 20.775" W.

For more information on this proposed floodplain permit application, contact the County's contract Floodplain Administrator, Jerry Grebenc at Great West Engineering at 406-495-6153 or via email at: jgrebenc@greatwesteng.com

Published January 19, 2024

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE UPDATE TO THE CITY OF TOWNSEND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The City of Townsend Planning Board has prepared a draft update to the City of Townsend Subdivision Regulations and we invite you to provide comment on the updates. The subdivision regulation updates consist of revisions to the regulations based on changes in Montana State Law regarding subdivisions.

For additional information, contact Jeremy Fadness, WWC Engineering, 1275 Maple Street Suite F, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-3962. Written comments may be directed to the City of Townsend Planning Board, 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644.

The public comment period ends on February 8, 2024.

Hard copies of the draft Subdivision Regulation Updates can be viewed at Townsend City Hall. Further, an electronic copy can be requested by contacting Jeremy Fadness, WWC Engineering, 1275 Maple Street Suite F, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-3962.

A public hearing on the draft update to the City of Townsend Subdivision Regulations will be conducted by the City of Townsend Planning Board on February 8, 2024, 6:30 p.m. at the Townsend City Hall, 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644.

Published January 19 & 26, 2024

MNAXLP



1-12-24

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Michael McMahon's courtroom on Friday, January 12 is as follows:

Samuel Cascadden had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of 1) deceptive practices over the amount of \$5,000. 2) theft of over \$5,000 3) unsworn deception to police officers. Omnibus is due March 8; Pre-Trial May 10; Jury Trial is scheduled for June 10.

Kale Murgel had a Change of Plea. According to the Plea Agreement, Murgel pleaded Guilty to the amended charge of 1) criminal endangerment, 2) misdemeanor assault. 3) misdemeanor assault. In his elocution, Murgel related that in July of 2022, I had an argument with my brother, which I threatened. My mother and father got involved in Broadwater County. A Pre-Sentence Investigation is ordered. He will be sentenced on February 23, 2024.

Michael Coyle had a Pre-Trial Conference on a global resolution. Coyle is in custody. There will be a Status Hearing on February 9; Pre-Trial is set for May 10; Jury Trial is scheduled for June 10, 2024.

Tylor Castona had a Pre-Trial Conference, but his case may be resolved in the near future. As of now, his Jury Trial will commence on February 5; the State believes it will be a three- or four-day trial. Vor Dire (jury selection) will be at the Townsend Fairgrounds, with 150 jurors pulled. Jury instructions are to be filed by January 26.

Randall Buffington will have a Change of Plea on February 9, 2024. The case is close to a resolution.

John Loving's Jury Trial of February 5 is vacated. A \$5,000 arrest warrant is issued.

SANGRAY CASE DISMISSED

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent

December 20, 2023, brought about an 'old' case to Justice Court, on a charge of hunting without permission in Broadwater County. The Attorney General's Office, specifically Assistant Attorney General Micheal Gee, had the case (and trial) dismissed with prejudice (meaning the case cannot be reheard in any court). The reason he gave was that the AG's office doesn't have enough evidence to find Joshua Sangray Guilty of hunting without permission or trespassing.

The case stemmed on a 'corner crossing,' where someone moves from one corner of public land to the other parcel of public land where the corners meet. The problem with this is that sometimes the person has to step on private land to reach that other corner. There are 8.3 million acres of public land in the West that is 'corner-locked' and only accessible by stepping on (or across) private land, according to Montana-based onXmaps.

Cory Swanson handed off the prosecution of the case to the Attorney General's Office; as he was being deployed by the National Guard last year.

In April of this year, a Wyoming U.S. District Court Judge, Scott Skavdahl ruled in favor of four Missouri hunters, saying that they did not trespass when they crossed from public land to public land using a ladder, next to Fred Eshelman's Elk Montana Ranch, according to a story by WyoFile.com

Eshelman has appealed the ruling to the 10th District Court.

Because of this decision, the director of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks issued a press release stating that 'corner crossing' is illegal in Montana. However, Montana lawyers countered this, saying it is not settled case law.

October 3, 2021, FWP warden, Sgt. Justin Hawkaluk received a call from Jeff Brozovich, the then-manager of the G/T Ranch, reporting that someone was possibly trespassing and hunting on the G/T property. G/T is located at the base of the Big Belt Mountains. The trespass allegedly occurred off of Gravelly Lane. In that area, two blocks of BLM acreage are connected at the corners with G/T land connected at the other two corners. October 9, Brozovich called Hawkaluk again, saying he spoke to Sangray on G/T Ranch property; which was confirmed later by survey, that the interaction, was indeed, on G/T land. On October 17, a trail camera on the ranch clearly showed Sangray, on G/T

property, carrying a bow and wearing camouflage.

The G/T Ranch was at the center of another hunting incident in 2014. Landowners and hunters clashed when a concentration of about 500 elk attracted hunters on the opening weekend of the season. A frenzied shootout resulted in 30 elk kills and three hunters cited for hunting without permission. The incident raised concerns about hunting ethics; which prompted the Legislature to consider stronger penalties for hunting violations.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SIFT THROUGH FAMILY LAND TRANSFERS, SUBDIVISIONS

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

At their regular meeting on January 10 County Commissioners sifted through five applications for either family land transfers or planned subdivision applications.

Commissioner chairman Darrel Folkvord pointed out during the proceedings that the immediate family land transfer law was originally set up to allow farmers and ranchers to transfer land to their children so the land could continue as agricultural land. "Now we see a pattern of subdivision development that is not covered by law," he said.

Community Development and Planning Director Nichole Brown presented the Everett Family Transfer Exemption to two daughters in the Arcadia minor subdivision which was platted in 1980. The subdivision is located off Valley Drive northwest of Townsend. The family transfer was approved.

Brown also presented the Swenson Family Transfer Exemption of land off Jack Farm Road east of Townsend. It was approved. Folkvord pointed out that the gifted land cannot be sold for at least two years following the transfer.

Dan and Steve Upton, owners of the Able Minor Subdivision located off Valley Drive and Antelope Road northwest of Townsend, questioned some of the commission's conditions in their request for approval. The owners questioned whether they must build a road to satisfy access requirements for one of the four lots. The commissioners maintain one lot is landlocked so they must have access before the subdivision can be approved. "It is an undue burden on us to have to build a road into that lot. The burden should be on whoever buys the lot," Steve Upton remarked.

A second condition the developers questioned was their responsibility for road maintenance on Antelope Road. Folkvord explained the law requires developers to pay for upkeep on the road based on how many average daily trips will be added to the county road. "Cars traveling from your subdivision will impact the people who already live there and use the road, so a percentage of upkeep must be paid by the new subdivision," he said.

The developers and the commission agreed a road plan must be certified by a professional engineer. Commissioners tabled the request for a preliminary plat approval.

Mary Heinemann, developer of the Juniper Ridge Minor Subdivision asked for preliminary approval of an 87-acre parcel of land to be divided into two parcels. The proposed subdivision is located 7 miles east of Townsend off Montana State Highway 12 East. Commissioners tabled the request due to questions concerning the steep terrain in the subdivision.

Commissioners tabled preliminary approval of the Smith Minor Subdivision, an 80-acre parcel located on Highway 284 east of Townsend. The planned four 20-acre lots are owned by developer Smith Land Company of Washington State. Ed Shindoll, Townsend City Fire Chief and Planning Board member voiced his thoughts about turning the agricultural land into family homes. "It is painful to see this prime farm ground be subdivided," he said.

Commissioner Folkvord also commented on the board's intentions: "We try to do our best to protect our prime farmlands but must go by the regulations in the law," he said.

County Planner Brown pointed out that since the county has no agricultural land use zoning, the commissioners' hands are tied.



Crosscurrent Real Estate
Jake Cartwright, Broker
(406)980-0642
crosscurrentre.com
101 B Street, Suite C

BROADWATER COMMISSIONERS AGENDA JAN 24, 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

Wednesday, January 24, 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, Julie Zipperian, Centennial Insurance, Renewal Application for Broadwater County 2024/2025 Insurance Policy

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Solid Waste Board; Letter of Interest for the final Board Position

10:25 AM Discussion/Decision, MCEP Grant, Montana Department of Commerce Montana Coal Endowment Program Contract #MT-MCEP-CG-25-047; \$750,000

10:30 AM Discussion/Decision, Old Town Bridge West- Beam Supply Project Award, Notice of Award to Rinker Materials, for \$329,904.00

10:35 AM Discussion/Decision, TV District Extension of Contracts

3:00 PM Working Meeting with Deputy County Attorney, Kay 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, Vice Chairman
(406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050

Darrel Folkvord, 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)

- Bill Jarocki, Weekly Meeting with Press/Public Every Monday at 2 PM in his office starting on January 22nd
- TV District Board Meeting on January 22 at 8:30 AM
- Park and Rec Board Meeting on January 29th at 6 PM
- Broadband Meeting on January 25th at 4 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)

ELECTION HIGHLIGHT

MONTANA'S ATTORNEY GENERAL MUST STAND UP FOR OUR VALUES

Ben Alke

There is no place like Montana. Our state is defined by rugged landscapes and rugged individualism. Montanans cherish our freedoms, work hard, act with integrity, and treat each other with respect. We also know that actions speak louder than words.

As the 2024 elections approach, we should use Montana values to assess our candidates and ask ourselves: Do they represent the interests of all Montanans or the interests of one political extreme or another? Do they focus on doing their job or on advancing their political careers? Do they bring people together or drive us apart?

This is especially true for the Attorney General – a position critical to maintaining our way of life. The Attorney General protects Montanans by impartially enforcing the laws, defending our freedoms, and guarding Montana's legal and ethical standards. The office is not a stepping-stone for career politicians. It is an essential part of our democracy. Unfortunately, the current Attorney General has failed to meet the standards for that office set by his predecessors, both Republican and Democrat.

The 1972 Montana State Constitution establishes our freedoms and prevents government overreach. It provides that power does not belong to the government but is derived from the people, to be used for the benefit of the people. The Attorney General's role is not to wield the law for personal gain or political favors. Whoever holds this role serves as an impartial enforcer of our constitutional rights and laws to ensure the freedom and privacy of all Montanans are upheld. The Attorney General must focus on protecting Montanans, not bringing Washington-style politics to Montana.

I am running for Attorney General to uphold those principles. I have been defending the rights of Montanans in court for almost 20 years. I have represented individuals and businesses, fought for access to public lands, taken on the government, challenged powerful corporate interests, and defended law enforcement.

I am a husband, father of four, and a fourth-generation Montanan. I am not running for public office because it is in my best interests. I am running because I am concerned about our state and our country. In my view, the government is not functioning well because everything has become hyperpolitical. And I think people are sick and tired of it.

My promise is that I will do the job of Attorney General and that I will do it well. I will place the safety, security, and freedom of Montanans first. I will administer justice impartially and fairly based only on the facts and the law and without regard for politics. I will reduce crime and promote public safety by focusing on what can be done in our state.

The 2024 elections provide an opportunity for Montanans to stand up for our values. We can ignore identity politics and focus on the ideals of freedom and justice that made this country great. We can unite against divisiveness and protect the foundations of our democracy. We can ensure that our children inherit the same Montana that we had an opportunity to enjoy.

Ben Alke
Candidate, Montana Attorney General, 2024
benalke@alkeformontana.com



Ben Alke
Photo Credits: Ben Alke

TOWNSEND TREES PLANTED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

Patrick Plantenberg
Tree Board



This is the 21st 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.

98) *Fraxinus americana* 'Autumn Purple', Autumn Purple White Ash; planted in 2012 at 141 S. Cedar Street to celebrate Augusta McDonnell's graduation. The tree was planted by the family and the Tree Board. The tree was donated by Beth Ihle. The tree is in good condition.

99) *Aesculus x carnea* 'Ft. McNair', Ft. McNair Red Horsechestnut; planted in 2015 in Veteran's Park in memory of Tom Cotter. Tom Cotter was a graduate of Broadwater County High School. Even though he moved away, he made a positive difference in our community through his giving. The tree is the second tree west of the sidewalk to the Veteran's Memorial on the north side of the park. The tree was planted by the Tree Board. The tree was donated by Bill Kearns. The tree is in fair condition.

100) *Juglans nigra*, Black Walnut; planted in 2017 in Veteran's Park in memory of Robert 'Bob' E. Bagley. August 4, 1941 - July 14, 2016. US Army Decorated Veteran SP4 18th Airborne, November 4, 1963 - October 31, 1969. Forever Loved Brother, Uncle, Great Uncle, and Friend to Many. Donated and Planted by Bagley Families, Neil Schafer Families, and Friends. The tree is the sixth tree west of the sidewalk to the Veteran's Memorial on the north side of the park. The tree is in good condition.

101) *Acer saccharum* 'Green Mountain', Green Mountain Sugar Maple; planted in 2017 at the Broadwater County Detention Center in honor of Deputy Mason Moore, Husband, Father, Son, and Great Friend. E.O.W. May 16, 2017. Dedicated in August 2017. Donated by Opportunity Bank of Montana. The tree is the second tree east of the main entrance north of the building. The tree is in good condition.

102) *Acer saccharum* 'Green Mountain', Green Mountain Sugar Maple; planted in June 2018 at the Broadwater County Courthouse in memory of Dominic Stefano. The tree was planted by Family and Friends. The tree was donated by Kelsi Anderson and Tana & Waylon Williams. The tree is the second tree west of the man entrance close to the Broadway sidewalk. The tree is in good condition.

BROADWATER NOXIOUS WEED COST SHARE PROGRAM

Jessica Bushnell

Broadwater County Weed and Mosquito Control

The Broadwater County Noxious Weed Board is proud to present their new cost-share program available to Broadwater County Residents. The Broadwater County Chemical and Biological Control Agent Cost Share Program aims to help residents offset the cost of herbicides and biological control agents.

The Board has recognized that the cost of noxious weed treatment can be a barrier for landowners and would like to provide some resources. Successful applicants can receive a reimbursement of 50% of money spent; up to \$500.

There is no funding for mowing, organic herbicides, soil sterilant, or commercial applicators.

The application can be found at <https://www.broadwatercountymt.com/noxious-weed-mosquito-districts> and paper copies in the basement of the courthouse next to the DMV.

The application asks for fairly detailed information and if landowners have any questions or would like help please reach out to Jessica Bushnell, Noxious Weed Coordinator: brweed@co.broadwater.mt.us or 406-266-9243.

The program has two application cycles, spring applications are due February 28th and fall applications are due July 1st.

Americanisms



*"To handle yourself,
use your head, to handle
others, use your heart."
— Eleanor Roosevelt*

WEATHER INFO CONTRIBUTED BY JEFF ROSS

Fri 1/19	Sat 1/20	Sun 1/21	Mon 1/22	Tue 1/23
Light Snow	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
25° 21° ● 22% ⇨ 6 13 mph	38° 26° ● 8%	38° 24° ● 13%	38° 24° ● 1%	37° 24° ● 3%
	⇨ 8 12 mph	⇨ 9 16 mph	⇨ 9 13 mph	⇨ 8 12 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"

BSE EXCAVATING

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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: D equals G

LO BZP PN UNPDOI IOUH NP ESZE

NUK INBJOE EN UYAE NAA ESO

DINCPK. YE'F PNE ESICFE-LNIESH.

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KNIGHT MOVES

E	P	Y
O		E
M	E	L

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!

Rancor

CLAIM E

Delight

RIP E D

Cruise

ASC O T

Cease

PE A L S

TODAY'S WORD

"Why, no, I didn't tell a soul. I didn't know it was a _____."

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

IS AN INVOLUNTARY RESPONSE TO THE BALL FINISHING RIGHT. HABITUAL SLICERS INvariably SET-UP WITH THEIR SHOULDERS ALIGNED LEFT. THIS DELIVERS THE CLUBHEAD FROM OUT TO IN ACROSS THE TARGET LINE AT IMPACT.

SOLVING THE PROBLEM INVOLVES SQUARING UP AT ADDRESS. THEN MAKING THE SWING PATH MATCH THE NEW ALIGNMENT - IN OTHER WORDS, OVERCOMING THE TENDENCY TO STILL SEND THE CLUB "OUT AND OVER."

YOU'LL DO THAT MUCH FASTER ON THE PRACTICE TEE THAN YOU WILL ON THE GOLF COURSE.

STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

DOUBLES: RETURN PLACEMENT

Don't get caught up in trying to hit the ball harder than your opponent. Against a strong serve, one of the receiver's best options is to chip the backhand crosscourt at the server's feet.

Another good choice is the deep lob down the line - effective as a change of pace or a good way to get your opponents off the net.

Super Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Combination spear and battle-ax
- 8 Provo native
- 13 Dawn deity
- 16 Some fast autos
- 19 Virtual merchant
- 20 Strong cordage fiber
- 21 Performs a charade of
- 23 Thai money used to buy a Jacuzzi?
- 25 Height when upright
- 26 Protest at which people lie on the ground
- 27 Bright red Indian money?
- 29 "Madam" counterpart
- 32 "The Dance" painter Henri
- 35 Biceps locale
- 36 Powerful auto engine
- 37 "You missed your chance for folding over that Korean money"?
- 42 Already-included tips, e.g.
- 43 Lima locale
- 44 "Rapa" (1994 film)
- 45 Like even scores
- 46 Feel sore
- 48 Refusals
- 51 She sang "Constant Craving"
- 56 Rocker Brian
- 57 Facts, in brief
- 59 Gobble up Iraqi money?
- 62 Gal entering society
- 63 Jazz's Chick
- 65 Chaise place
- 66 Cognizant of
- 67 School where students learn about Swedish money?
- 72 Norway's capital
- 74 — facias (certain writ)
- 75 Used skillfully
- 76 "— favor, señor"
- 79 Forms Ghanaian money into a cylinder shape?
- 83 Brain tests, for short
- 84 Suffix with meth-
- 85 Venture out on one's own
- 86 — Leppard
- 87 Some PC readouts
- 89 Kicked out of the game, for short
- 90 Radio spots
- 92 Bruins' sch.
- 94 Major shock
- 96 Query after someone is told they look like Iranian money?
- 103 German auto
- 104 Tampa Bay NFLer
- 105 Over browned cracker brand
- 12 Tennis-playing guy
- 13 Kodak founder
- 14 Prefix with -geniar
- 15 Pentagram
- 16 Reach as high as
- 17 Large, deep serving dish
- 18 Painter Jan
- 22 R-X fillers
- 24 Attending to the matter
- 28 Certain Wall St. trader
- 29 Said
- 30 Antiseptic element
- 31 Bucking bovines
- 33 Jr., last year
- 34 Spirited horse
- 38 Eye coverer
- 39 Takeoff strip
- 40 Often-pickled veggie
- 41 Pirate "Captain"
- 46 From scratch
- 47 Compelled
- 49 In the lead
- 50 Squelched
- 52 Cat that roars
- 53 "The Piano" Oscar winner
- 54 Cable TV's — Geo —
- 55 Miracle —
- 57 Here, in Lyon
- 58 Election mo.
- 60 Elected (to)
- 61 Virginia Tech team name
- 64 Cold — (frigid)
- 68 Court plea, for short
- 69 Very angry
- 70 Rule, in brief
- 71 More than loads up (on)
- 72 Assoc.
- 73 Great Lakes' — Canals
- 77 Like a single-guy band
- 78 Traditional Irish brow
- 80 Make laugh uproariously
- 81 Hoopla
- 82 "You Be —" (1986 hit for Run-DM.C.)
- 88 Jargon
- 89 Women's patriotic gp.
- 91 Secondary field of study
- 93 George who played Danny Ocean
- 94 Mosaic tile
- 95 Long rodent feature
- 96 Most suitable
- 97 Assess again
- 98 Skip over in speech
- 99 Chalice, e.g.
- 100 Nailed the test
- 101 Desert of Mongolia
- 102 Some purple shades
- 103 Mio of films
- 108 Piper's wear
- 109 Twisty fish
- 110 Average
- 112 Comic Johnson
- 115 Uno plus due
- 116 H.S. proficiency test
- 117 Gallery work
- 118 Teachers' gp.
- 119 Ham-marsjököld once of the U.N.

DOWN

- 1 Use an ax on
- 2 One "A" of NCAA: Abbr.
- 3 Chou En-
- 4 Nest dweller
- 5 "If I Can't Have You" singer
- 6 Says again
- 7 Rive — (Paris' Right Bank)
- 8 E-address
- 9 Bistro bill
- 10 Unpaid player
- 11 Classic
- 12 Tennis-playing guy
- 13 Kodak founder
- 14 Prefix with -geniar
- 15 Pentagram
- 16 Reach as high as
- 17 Large, deep serving dish
- 18 Painter Jan
- 22 R-X fillers
- 24 Attending to the matter
- 28 Certain Wall St. trader
- 29 Said
- 30 Antiseptic element
- 31 Bucking bovines
- 33 Jr., last year
- 34 Spirited horse
- 38 Eye coverer
- 39 Takeoff strip
- 40 Often-pickled veggie
- 41 Pirate "Captain"
- 46 From scratch
- 47 Compelled
- 49 In the lead
- 50 Squelched
- 52 Cat that roars
- 53 "The Piano" Oscar winner
- 54 Cable TV's — Geo —
- 55 Miracle —
- 57 Here, in Lyon
- 58 Election mo.
- 60 Elected (to)
- 61 Virginia Tech team name
- 64 Cold — (frigid)
- 68 Court plea, for short
- 69 Very angry
- 70 Rule, in brief
- 71 More than loads up (on)
- 72 Assoc.
- 73 Great Lakes' — Canals
- 77 Like a single-guy band
- 78 Traditional Irish brow
- 80 Make laugh uproariously
- 81 Hoopla
- 82 "You Be —" (1986 hit for Run-DM.C.)
- 88 Jargon
- 89 Women's patriotic gp.
- 91 Secondary field of study
- 93 George who played Danny Ocean
- 94 Mosaic tile
- 95 Long rodent feature
- 96 Most suitable
- 97 Assess again
- 98 Skip over in speech
- 99 Chalice, e.g.
- 100 Nailed the test
- 101 Desert of Mongolia
- 102 Some purple shades
- 103 Mio of films
- 108 Piper's wear
- 109 Twisty fish
- 110 Average
- 112 Comic Johnson
- 115 Uno plus due
- 116 H.S. proficiency test
- 117 Gallery work
- 118 Teachers' gp.
- 119 Ham-marsjököld once of the U.N.

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Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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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

SENIOR CENTER



SR. CENTER MEALS: Thursday, January 25
JAN 22 - JAN 26
 Chili Con Carne
 Corn Bread
 German Vegetables
 Tossed Salad
 Apricots

Monday, January 22
 Hamburger on a Bun
 Potato Triangles
 Carrot Coins
 Crisp Coleslaw
 Juicy Pears

Tuesday, January 23
 Sweet-N-Sour Pork
 Fried Brown Rice
 Oriental Vegetables
 Four Bean Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Baked Apples

Wednesday, January 24
 Chicken ALA King
 Steamed Potatoes
 Purple Beets
 Carrot Raisin Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Sweat Peaches

Friday, January 26
 Tater Tot Casserole
 Garden Peas
 Tossed Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Pineapple
 Dessert

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.

LIFE IS LIKE AMISH FRIENDSHIP BREAD

Reverend Charles Wei



This article was originally published by the Independent Record on January 10, 2024.

There was a funny trend about 20 years ago, when people were giving each other Ziplock bags of mysterious beige goo. It was a starter, a living mixture of flour, water, and yeast that you had to feed and take care of, kind of like a pet. It was used to make Amish friendship bread, which was kind of like a coffee cake.

Amish friendship bread starter is pretty similar to a sourdough starter, but with the Amish friendship bread, the whole point is that over the course of ten days, you feed it so much and it grows so big that after you remove a portion to make the cake, you have enough to give four portions away, to four different people, so that they can start Amish friendship bread journeys of their own. And, even after giving all of that away, and using some of it to make the cake, you're still left with enough starter to feed and take care of, so that the cycle can start again.

The problem is, that after a few cycles, you start running out of friends to give the starter to, not to mention all of the people to whom you've already given starters, who have to find friends of their own to share their baby starters with. After 30 days, if everyone stuck with it, feeding and growing and taking care of their starters and giving four new baby starters to four new people every ten days, you would have 80 Amish friendship bread starters being tended to, and growing, until they were ready to be divided and foisted upon the next group of unwitting starter caregivers. In just five months, there would be more than enough starters for every single person in world to have one of their own.

If you haven't been lucky enough to be the recipient of one of these baby starters, you can make one for yourself by combining:

- ¼ cup room temperature water
- 1 package active dry yeast, about 2¼ tsp
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup milk

The directions for how to care for your starter are as follows:

Day 1: Do nothing.
 Taking care of an Amish friendship bread starter is a great metaphor for life. Like the first bag of starter you receive, the world is a gift, given to us with no strings attached. It is impossibly vast, and understanding it is beyond our imagination. This is why we speak of it through metaphor and story. We do nothing to be worthy of this gift. It has been given to us freely with grace and love.

Day 2: Mush the bag. Day 3: Mush the bag. Day 4: Mush the bag. Day 5: Mush the bag
 Even though we did not create the world, that does not mean that we can neglect it. Heaven and earth mean different things to different people, but we all have to live together on this one tiny planet. When we care for the world, we take care of ourselves. When we are kind to one another, we are kind to ourselves. We don't need to perform miracles. We just need to mush the bag.

Day 6: Add to the bag: 1 cup of flour, 1 cup of sugar, and 1 cup of milk. Mush the bag.
 When you first receive your Amish friendship bread starter, it will be small, just one cup of soft beige paste. But as you care for it, it will grow, and soon it will be so much larger than the small amount that you received. We are like this when we come into the world, small and helpless, completely dependent on the people around us. But, over time, we grow and mature, and have our own experiences, as we begin to understand the wonder that surrounds us.

Day 7: Mush the bag. Day 8: Mush the bag. Day 9: Mush the bag.
Day 10: Add 1 1/2 cups each of milk, flour, and sugar. Mix well. Reserve 5 cups of the starter and set aside.

To the remaining starter add:
 4 eggs
 1½ cups oil, or ½ cup oil and ½ cup applesauce
 ¾ cup milk
 1½ cups sugar
 3 tsp. cinnamon
 ¾ tsp. vanilla
 2¼ tsp. baking powder
 ¾ tsp. baking soda
 ¾ tsp. salt
 3 cups flour
 1 large box of instant vanilla pudding
 Grease the bottom of 2 loaf pans and sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. Pour the batter into the pans and sprinkle the top with sugar and cinnamon. Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool until the bread loosens from the pan easily.

Divide the reserved starter into five 1-cup portions. Save one portion for yourself and give the remaining four to your closest friends.

It is our responsibility to care for the people around us. We often talk about faith and science as if they were opposing forces, but this comes from a lack of understanding. The world is so complicated and impossibly huge, it's no wonder that we have difficulty when we try to share our thoughts with each other. But, the world is always speaking to us, through the wind, the water, and the trees. Humanity speaks to us through the stories that we tell. The universe speaks to us through art and music. All of the mysteries of faith and the divine can even speak to us through Amish friendship bread.

MEDICARE QUESTION ASSISTANCE

Brenda Phillips



Do you have Medicare questions but don't know where or whom to turn to? The TV commercials can be overwhelming and confusing. As you get closer to 65, you may have questions and could use help navigating the many options for health care during retirement. Last year we attended a Medicare seminar at the Lewis & Clark Library with Mark Leyland. Mark is a local agent/broker who is educated and experienced in assisting people with entering the Medicare System in Montana. He is very much a "keep it simple" person. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends and exploring the great Montana outdoors. Mark prides himself on being honest, hardworking, and dependable. He lives in Helena and serves the communities in and around the Helena, Wolf Creek, Townsend, Three Forks, Missoula, Butte, Boulder, and White Sulphur Springs areas. Every person has a different situation and threshold for comfort and risk. If you would like a local guide to help you navigate the many Medicare options, you may consider attending one of the following Medicare Seminars put on by Mark.

Medicare 101: A Free Educational Seminar: January 27, 2024, 12 pm-1 pm at:

The Lewis & Clark Library, Small Community Room, 120 S Last Chance Gulch St, Helena, MT

Medicare 101: A Free Educational Seminar: February 22, 2024, 6-7:00 pm at:

The Reading Leaves, 401 Broadway, Townsend, MT
 Please RSVP for either of these seminars at 406.438.7315 or by email at: mtleyland@yahoo.com

Retirement planning should not start at age 65. Mark would like to help provide information for people of all ages, as they are beginning to plan for entering Medicare and retirement. Asking questions early helps you have the information you need to be ready for retirement. The best way to get the answers you have is to start a conversation. Mark will take his time to fully listen and understand your specific goals and health situation to create the coverage plan you need. This could include any or multiple coverages from the following: Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage, Medigap Insurance, and Prescription Drug plans.

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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

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner

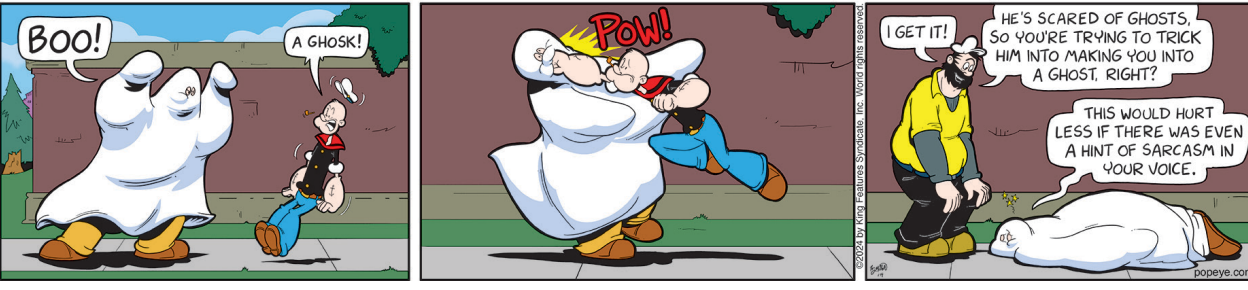
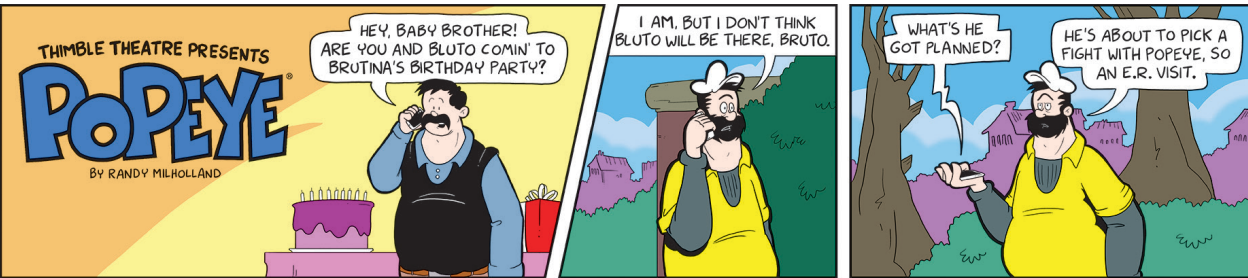


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Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

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 FITNESS THIS CHRISTMAS
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SCRAMBLERS
 solution
 1. Malice 2. Pride; 3. Coast; 4. Lapse
 Today's Word
SECRET

CryptoQuip
 answer
 We can no longer rely on that old rocket to lift off the ground. It's not thrust-worthy.

KNIGHT MOVES
 Answer
 E P Y
 O E
 M E L
 EMPLOYEE



The Spats by Jeff Pickering

Kids' Maze Solution

Weekly SUDOKU
 Answer

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

TIGER by Bud Blake

Super Crossword
 Answers

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

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM ELLERY ALMY JR

Family of William Ellery Almy Jr

William Ellery Almy Jr., born in Philadelphia to William and Gertrude Thayer Almy on September 7, 1926, was a trailblazing adventurer with a vibrant intellect and skilled hands. As the eldest of seven children, he embraced life with boundless curiosity, demonstrating his problem-solving prowess at every opportunity including constructing a treehouse atop the tallest tree on the family property. Engaging in such endeavors not only cultivated his ability to communicate the rationale behind his choices but also fueled his unquenchable thirst for exploration.



William Ellery Almy Jr
Photo Credits: Family of William Ellery Almy Jr

Skipping conventional high school completion, Bill finished a summer Latin class before embarking on college where he refused to let formal schooling hinder his quest for an education. His billiards and card-playing talents flourished more rapidly than his mechanical engineering studies and he transitioned from academia, having acquired what he deemed sufficient skills, to embark on a series of diverse adventures.

As an Army Air Corp Cadet toward the end of WWII, Bill aspired to learn to fly. When the war concluded, and the urgent need for new pilots diminished, he seized the chance to receive his pay and chose civilian life. At a poker table with departing cadets, he accumulated enough cash to enroll in a private flight school, using their cash to fund his flying lessons.

Oregon beckoned him, and he scaled trees to hold mirrors for his coworkers, aiding in recording measurements for topography maps. Always eager to climb higher, both for better pay and personal challenge, Bill never shied away from striving for new heights.

In a pivotal move, Bill arrived in Albion, Montana, to work at the Jim Oliver ranch. This marked the beginning of a new chapter, presenting new opportunities for adventure, skill acquisition, and weather acclimatization as he hoped to journey north to Alaska. Two enduring passions captured his heart and bound him for a lifetime — the resilient school marm, Joyce Darlene Ochsner, whom he met in August and married in November, and the ranch work that would test his grit and provide him with a lifetime filled with challenges and triumphs.

Over the next 68 years, they weathered the storms of life, building a partnership that involved music, dancing, card games, caring for cattle, ranch ownership, livestock auction management, and the upbringing of four children. Their committed partnership allowed them to evolve as individuals and meld their strengths into a formidable team.

In 1960, the ranch at Ismay was purchased and became the canvas for Bill's progressive vision. With the help of family and dedicated employees, Bill cared for the land, ensuring that Keystone Ranches, Inc. reciprocated by supporting its caretakers. His forward-thinking nature led to the development of an innovative watering pipeline system. Embracing cattle AI programs and venturing into the exotic cattle and club calf business showcased his commitment to advancing the livestock industry. Despite lacking a legacy background in agriculture, Bill ardently pursued knowledge through collaborations with experts, extension services, and research stations.

Recognizing a need for improved livestock marketing, Bill along with many other ranchers in the region, helped bring into being Baker Livestock Auction. Quite unintentionally he became the manager at BLA and later purchased the market to continue its operation. In his 60's Bill launched Ismay Livestock Yards to ensure his ability to buy and sell livestock no matter where he lived.

His remarkable journey through life was characterized by an insatiable curiosity and a relentless pursuit of knowledge beyond ranching. He read voraciously and took business, economics and ornithology courses. He participated in the MSU Steer of the Year scholarship program to encourage others into agriculture and ever the mentor, Bill, delighted in guiding young ranchers into the industry he cherished.

Beyond his ranching pursuits, Bill found joy in big band and old cowboy trail music and his talented wife's singing at the piano. Music filled the Almy home and vehicles, momentarily silenced only during livestock reports so he could stay abreast of market trends. Attending events where he could dance with his wife or strategize at the card table brought him great pleasure as well as sitting in the church pew when his wife had the opportunity to preach.

For those who worked alongside him, the rallying cry of "More Cattle!" defined Bill's ethos—a call to action, a reminder to hustle, and a commitment to achievement regardless of circumstances. May his legacy as a respected cattleman resound through the pastures he tended, inspiring us to excel and echo his spirited call, "More Cattle!"

Remaining to continue their earthly journeys are his children/spouses/families: son William E. III (Barb) Almy, grandchildren William E. Almy IV, Gwen (Fr Aaron) Warwick and Emmelia, Adrian, Dominic, Simone, Susie Almy, Lydia, Lucia, William John Henandez, Deborah Almy; son Curtis (Patsy) Almy, Toby-Jeanne Almy; daughter Dawn (Lary) Lamoreux, Rachel and Jimmy Minor and Addison, Cale and Samantha Lamoreux, grandchildren Michelle, Garrett, Noah, Christin and Andrew Sullivan, Emry, Landon; and daughter Libby Almy (Don), grandchildren Chantelle Hennberry (Joel), Leah and Lucas Mostad, Kt (Eric) Foster, Kiana (Jeffery) Johnson, Devon Solberg. Bill is also survived by his sister Nini and brothers John, Charles, and Chris. He is preceded in death by his wife Joyce and siblings who died in their youth, Ann and George.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2024, starting at 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home in Miles City. Funeral services will follow at 1:00 p.m. at Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home in Miles City. Interment will be held at a later date in the family plot of the Custer County Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.stevensonandsons.com.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOHN KENNETH WHITE

Carol Lea White

John Kenneth White passed away quietly in his sleep early Thursday morning, January 11 after becoming ill in September 2023.

He was born on November 12, 1954, to Lester Jack White and Delores Williams White of Townsend. John will be greatly missed. He was a beloved father, son, brother and husband. Above all, John was kind, loving and giving. He never stayed angry for longer than a few moments before his sunny disposition returned.

John knew the mountains, forests and lakes near Townsend from years of hunting, trapping, fishing, 4-wheeling and camping with his family. He used to climb a mountain, shoot a deer and carry it down on his shoulders. His former brother-in-law's son described him as "the strongest man I have ever known."



John Kenneth White
Photo Credits: Family of John Kenneth White

John went to school here in Townsend. Although he was only 5'9" he was a star of the school football team, playing on the line as a guard. When he was 17 he left school & joined the workforce with his father doing construction, working in mines, providing a lawnmowing business and running the best trapline in the state. Later John did housekeeping and maintenance in nursing homes.

John was preceded in death by his father Lester Jack White, his sister Rosemary White Deadmond, his first wife Doreen Monger White, his second wife Tina Howe White and his daughter Katie Marie White. He is survived by his mother Delores Williams White, his third wife Carol Lea Hunter White, his brother Lester Ray White, his sister Barbara White Oliver, his aunt Deborah Jean Etzweiler, his stepson John Gary Sorenson and his son Jack Kenneth White.

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT

Family of Chris Wright

Christopher Wright of Townsend, Montana passed away peacefully on January 11, 2024, at 68 years of age.

He is survived by his loving wife Frances Wright and their six children: Margaret Frances Ruckey (Matt);

Carolyn Marie Wright; Christopher Wright, Jr.; Kathleen Marie Wright (Ron Ranck); Allison Marie Rios (Jose); and Iris Marshall Wright. Christopher is also survived by his seven siblings: Robert Wright (Valerie), David Wright, Margaret Connor (James), Theresa Marie, Timothy Wright (Nancy), Mary Beth Lopresti (John), and Kathleen Jack (William). He was predeceased by his parents R. Donald Wright and Margaret Ann Wright. Christopher had seven grandchildren he loved dearly and numerous nieces and nephews.

Christopher was born November 11, 1955, at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital and brought home to 11 Sunset Drive, Haddonfield, NJ. By the time his family moved to Medford Lakes NJ in 1968, Chris had seven siblings. He graduated from Shawnee High School in 1974.

Christopher attended Georgetown University in Washington, DC on scholarship while landscaping his way to graduation in 1979 with a degree in Psychology. Rather than pursuing a career in that field Chris more naturally gravitated toward business, working with insurance and investment products in Cherry Hill, NJ. It was there that he met his future wife, Fran.

Chosen to open a branch office, Chris and Fran moved to the Pittsburgh suburbs in 1986. They married in 1987 and started a family which would grow to six children. Together they created an independent insurance and investment agency which they operated from 1989 until 2001 when they moved to Berlin, NJ, not far from Fran's mother. Chris was pleasantly surprised to find himself at a Sunday mass seated next to Sister Rosario, who had been his first grade teacher at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Not long after this move Chris was recruited by his brother Bob to work in his real estate appraisal business. It wasn't long before he was assigned to help manage and oversee the renovation of a large apartment property in Wilkes Barre PA. The long commute involved a sacrifice of family time but Chris was determined to see it through. His strong people skills and problem solving ability, along with his indomitable positive outlook were key to the eventual success of that project. He went on to play an important role in managing several other apartment turnaround projects in Pleasantville, NJ and Shippensburg, PA.

When Chris chose early retirement in 2014, he and Fran decided that they had spent enough time living and working in New Jersey and they decided to make a new start in Montana. Fran returned to nursing and Chris used his real estate and construction experience to build their dream home.

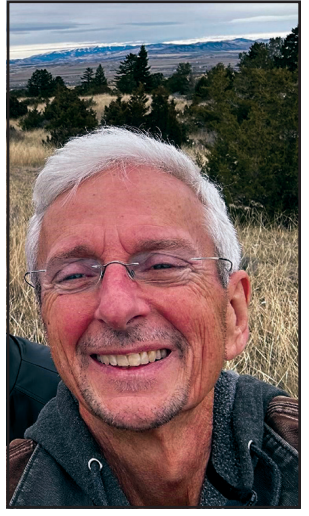
He found a community of Amish farmer-builders who played a significant role in making that dream a reality. After the completion of construction Chris' relationship with them continued when they asked him to act as their driver. Many conversations during long car rides led to a mutually respectful friendship. Chris eventually passed on the role to a neighbor who found new meaning in his own life through serving.

Chris enjoyed involvement in civic associations including the local chapter of Rotary International and the Broadwater County Tax Appeal Board. Through these connections he met many new friends and found great satisfaction in making a positive contribution to his adopted community of Townsend, which he had come to love.

Chris' wife and kids were the most important thing in his life and he never missed an opportunity to express his love and pride for them. He was an untiring and patient caregiver to their disabled daughter Iris. He had his family's highest esteem for the way he carried out the hardest tasks with grace and good humor. He was well known for his lighthearted quips which always got a laugh no matter how many times he said them, like "If I was any better, I would need a parade permit".

Chris was active in his local Catholic parish in Townsend, where he taught CCD classes and served on the Church Budget Committee. His faith was foundational to his life and outlook; he trusted Christ's sacrifice for his own salvation and knew the end of this life would be the beginning of eternal life in God's presence. In this way he was able to face his last days with courage. He had a final "to do" list which he completed within the last weeks before his death. Though he loved life he had an eternal perspective that helped him to face the last stage of his life without fear. He was able to let go of this life at peace. The positive impact of his life will continue on in the hearts of his loved ones.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated 2:00 p.m. Saturday January 20, 2024, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Townsend. Interment will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery in Townsend. Please visit www.stevensonwilke.com to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Chris.

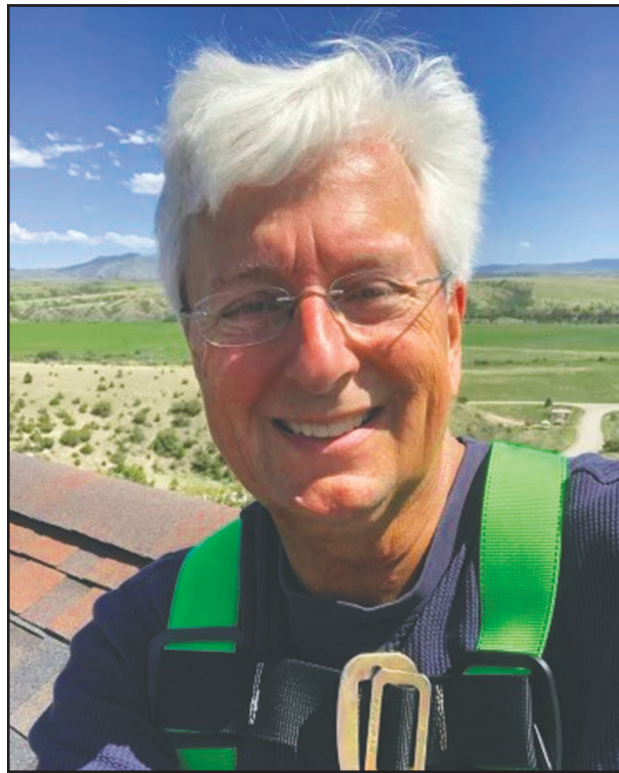


Christopher Wright
Photo Credits: Family of Chris Wright

ROTARY CLUB OF TOWNSEND REMEMBERS CHRIS

Jeff Langlinais
Rotarian

It is with great sadness that we have to say goodbye to a fellow Rotarian, friend, mentor, and fellow traveler of this earth, Chris Wright. Chris was an active member of Rotary and served as our Treasurer for the past nine years. He will surely be missed by all. I knew Chris only a short time. We met when I joined Rotary a couple of years ago. It saddens me that I will not have the opportunity to get to know him better. I have no doubt when I meet up with Chris in the next realm, he will undoubtedly take me on a conversational journey like no other, with twists and turns and an eventual conclusion that may or may not have had anything to do with the original topic (if you know, you know).
Jeanine S., Rotary President



Chris Wright
Photo Credits: Townsend Rotary

Here are what other Rotarians had to say:

“What a great guy! I will surely miss him.” *Jeff L.*

“He will be greatly missed!” *Marry H.*

“I have no words to express how much I’ll miss Chris. Chris was never at a loss for words. What a sad day for his family and friends. We love you, Chris.” *Laura O.*

“I can honestly say that Chris enriched my life and made me a better person.

His approach to many things fiduciary and not I will always remember and think of often.

Our deepest sympathies to his family and the utmost gratitude for sharing him with us.” *Adam S.*

“Even though I knew him for a short time he made an impact in my life. He always called me ‘westy’.

Never forget him.” *Larry W.*

“Chris was an amazing man all around. Words can’t express how appreciative I was of his friendship. He was such a positive light and always reminded me to look at each situation (good or bad) with fresh eyes and a positive heart.

One example: When all of my “crazy stuff hit” and I found myself at a total heartbroken loss - Chris gave me a squeeze and then smiled his amazing smile at me. Stepped back and reminded me that I was looking at this all wrong. He reminded me that I was young, full of life and had all new possibilities in front of me. He said with a huge smile “you are a single lady with NO kids at home! Come on! How fun is this!?!?!?”

“Shortly after this conversation I went and bought some fun stuff! A paddle board, truck and gun!!

Thank you Chris! Thank you for the you that you were. For your smiles, faith and kindness. For your incredible positive personality. For your inspiration.”

Jenni F.

“I have been blessed to work with Chris the past couple of months as he transitioned his treasurer duties to me. In that short time he showed me such strong faith and positivity that he was an absolute inspiration on how to live life to the fullest while passing from this life with dignity. I will always be grateful for the opportunity to know him and only wish it could have been longer.

Rest in Peace - you will be dearly missed.” *Barbara M.*

“That is so sad!! He was a great guy ... Feel so bad for his family. He will be missed by so many!” *Kay M.*

“Chris was always a purveyor of the ‘Why not, let’s try it’ attitude. He encouraged others to be inquisitive and explore the possibilities of what they sought. We smile as we remember his inventiveness and creativity, whether building their home or helping out on Rotary projects. Generous with his time and positivity. He will be missed but remains in our hearts. Hugs and prayers for Fran and his family.” *Jen D. and Linda C.*

“Ron and I knew Chris since he moved here from New Jersey and joined Rotary. We were fortunate to meet his brother, Bob, when we traveled to Costa Rica. He has a wonderful family and great kids who we know will give support to Fran and Iris! Sad for their loss! We will miss his smile, laugh and positive energy about everything. What a fun guy! What an interesting person! He’ll be missed!” *Ron and Mary Ann S.*

“Chris moved from New Jersey and loved everything about Montana. Chris was awarded the Rotary Club of Townsend “Rotarian of the Year” Award by the Rotary District Governor Barrie Matthews during the Montana Rotary District Governors’ trip to Townsend in early 2023. Chris has been instrumental in making the financial bookwork for the club much more transparent and easier to follow. The thing Chris will be remembered for most by club members were his lack of ability to finish one

sentence before he started the second sentence and his quick wit. Chris has now taught me how to die with dignity. Thank you, Chris.” *Patrick P.*

“So sorry to hear about Chris’s passing. He was amazing! He will be missed by so many! My deepest condolences to Fran and his entire family.” *Judy S.*

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to Chris for his unerring sacrificial service. His energy, accuracy and integrity will always be remembered, along with his ready laugh, long stories, and absolute charm! We also thank his family and especially his wife, Fran, who is also an active member of our Rotary family. Chris’ life was an inspiration to all of us and he will be greatly missed.

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“There is nothing greater than the opportunity, and responsibility, to live a life devoted to Hashem, striving for ever greater levels of truth.”

~Rabbi Shmuel Reichman

Big Sage Brush, 6
winter. Sagebrush serves as cover and nesting habitat for over 100 species of birds, rabbits and deer. Some livestock such as sheep and goats are able to forage on big sagebrush. However, it is poor forage for cattle, and overgrazing of the plant understory can decrease plant diversity. This can cause the population growth of big sage to accelerate as well as other invasive plants such as cheatgrass. This can lead to rangeland that is dominated by big sage which may warrant control measures.



Big Sage
Photo Credits: Allison Kosto

Management

Avoiding disturbance or overgrazing and maintaining a healthy population of native or desired species is often effective in keeping big sage at a manageable level. Oftentimes, it is not necessary to remove the entire stand of sagebrush. Simply thinning or controlling in a mosaic pattern is sufficient.

The most cost-effective control option is prescribed burning. Fire can increase the prevalence of some weeds so being aware of your current plant inventory and timing is critical. For example, if there is a lot of cheatgrass, burn when there are ripe seeds on the plant so they will be destroyed. Reseeding with desirable species is sometimes necessary. A variety of mechanical methods can also be effective where practical. This includes anchor chaining, harrowing, brush beating, discing or mowers.

Herbicides are also an option and are often used in combination with mechanical controls. New seedlings can be controlled with a spring application of 2,4-D. For more mature plants use 2,4-D LV ester in the spring when new leaves are forming. Spike is another product that can be highly effective in the fall and is often done with an aerial application. Grasses may be temporarily injured, and it can also kill trees and shrubs. Always read and follow the entire label when applying herbicides. Common chemical names are used for clarity but does not imply endorsement of a product or brand.

For assistance on weed identification and management, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Meeting
7:00PM February 1st
The Fire Station, 130 S Cedar St



Contact Ed Shindoll (406) 949-5535
bcrfdfire@live.com

MOTOR HOME DESTROYED BY FIRE ON JOHN WAYNE DRIVE

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Townsend Fire Chief Ed Shindoll reported his crew put out a fire at 25 John Wayne Drive northwest of the Springville subdivision at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 10.

The fire destroyed a motor home, a homemade trailer and a wood outbuilding. Shindoll called the fire suspicious. “The fire apparently started in the motor home. It appeared no one was living there at the time,” he said.

Trivia Questions, 4 Answers

1. Oklahoma.
 2. Florida.
 3. Theodore Roosevelt.
 4. Thirty Seconds to Mars.
 5. Appomattox.
 6. Lead.
 7. Candy Castle.
 8. Dick Clark.
 9. Juneau.
 10. Maya Angelou.
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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://townsendmt.com/internet>

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

Broadwater County Broadband Advisory Board

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Your small-town advice column. Managed locally by non-expert, unqualified, straight-forward neighbors.



Scan the QR code provided if you would like to ask your own anonymous questions.. or to “ask for a friend”.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

JANUARY 18

1940

Radersburg News

The Sunday school is making great strides forward under the supervision of the new superintendent, Mrs. Pete Mosier of the Ohio mine, with 47 present, the air plane contest is soaring their way to loftier heights for the Sunday school enrollment with Frankie Popis and Chas. Kroll as pilots.

The Ben Martin pool hall where men have spent their leisure moments for many years will close its doors. L.A. Berg of the Corner pool room bought out the interests and Radersburg can boast but one pool room.

Fred Schmitz of Townsend was a business visitor in Radersburg Wednesday.

Thos. Williams, Bill Williams and Clyde Bottler were business visitors in Townsend Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Sitton of Helena motored to Radersburg to visit his folks, Mr. and Mrs. John Sitton and with other relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Leach and family of Radersburg spent Saturday at the home ranch of her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Williams and son, Stanley, in the valley.

Roller skating in Radersburg is still going strong. There was a large crowd out Saturday night and a good time enjoyed by old and young.

1968

Winston News

Mrs. Blanche Fouts of Winston visited in Townsend with Annie Bisby recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Clark made a business trip to Great Falls Friday.

Mrs. Al Albright is employed at the Masonic Home in the Helena Valley.

Jim Cox flew a chartered plane to Billings Sunday and reported the air above much warmer than on the ground.

Several Winston residents attended the cutter races in Belgrade Sunday afternoon. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Diehl, Mrs. Bill Diehl, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Masolo, Kenny Hagbom, Tom Perry and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Diehl.

The Townsend Toe Tappers held their monthly square dance at the Winston Hall Friday night and reported a good turnout. Election of officers was held and those elected were: Dave Clark, chairman; Darrell Baum, treasurer; Carynn Bieber, publicity, and Nancy Baum, foods committee. The next dance will be Friday, Feb. 9 and will be a Valentine dance. All square dancers are welcome and the Toe Tappers enjoy having outsiders and adults enjoy their evening of fun. They also believe

the assistance of the adults is a benefit to them.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Baum and daughter, Kimberly and Danny Baum visited with Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Myles and two daughters Sunday afternoon and they all enjoyed sno-mobiling.

1996

Eight Make MSU Honor Roll

Eight Townsend students earned honor roll for fall semester 1995 at Montana State University in Bozeman: Cory Bird, Susan Bradway, Courtney Cox, Ashley Davis, Tracey Kirksey, Marni Kitto, Karen Lambott and Sara Mc Ardle all earned at least a 3.25 grade point average in 15 or more credit hours of classwork to make the list.

Around Town News

The Lutheran Women's Cluster retreat was held Friday and Saturday at the home of Jan Stocks. The group includes members from Dillon, Butte, Helena and Townsend. Locals attending were Helen Burmaster, Sig Wood, Sharon Borer, Marge Urich, Aubra Lewis, Sherrill Dolezilek and Fern Kirley.

Ray Horne traveled to White Sulphur Springs Saturday and Sunday to visit Maurice Crabtree.

Franklin and Judy Slifka hosted a dinner Monday for Rich and Donna Slifka of Bakersfield, Frank Slifka, Marion Cass and Joyce and Bill Lane.

Weekend visitors with Jackie and Don Kynett and Adam were Angela Reighard, Austin and Brenden, Billings; and Lindsey, Kelsey and Darsey, East Helena.

Seeds! Flowers & vegetables, hundreds of varieties. Non-GMO and curated for our area! Now's the time to begin prepping our greenhouses!

Historic Townsend Hardware
204 BROADWAY - PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

Dose goombahs at d'weather service didn't get my lettah. I hatze warm weddah. It'z da last time I bribe themz...

BROADWATER COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE DINNER

Matt Nelson



The Broadwater County Search and Rescue (BCSAR) team held a potluck dinner and awards ceremony on Saturday evening January 13th at the Lodge. Several members and their families attended. The SAR team comes under the command of the Broadwater County Sheriff's office, led by Sheriff Nick Rouser. The president is Eric Crusch. At the start, he led us all in prayer, since he is the pastor of the Elkhorn Community Fellowship Church.

An excellent pulled pork dinner was provided by Mike Speedy and his wife, who cooked it. The rest of the food was great potluck brought by the other members. If anyone left hungry or unsatisfied it was their own fault.

Once the time came when people were wishing they weren't so full so they could eat more pork or dessert, Eric called Speedy (as he likes to be called) up to make a special presentation. Mike works at the Graymont Limestone plant as an electrician. Graymont donated a 2024 Polaris Ranger to the SAR team, so Eric gave Speedy a

special engraved wooden plaque to take to the plant. Speedy is a key member of the SAR team, and last year he was given the Broadwater County Sheriff's Office Search & Rescue Member of The Year Award for 2022.

the summer the Guard will have members jump out of helicopters into Canyon Ferry Lake and then extract them. The BCSAR team has people riding around in a boat to help keep spectators out of the jump area and do other duties as needed. In 2022



L-R Sheriff Nick Rouser, Steve Wyatt, Eric Crusch, Under-Sheriff Brandon Harris. Steve was presented the 2023 award for his exemplary service with the SAR team. Photo Credits: Matt Nelson

This year the 2023 award was given to Steve Wyatt. Sheriff Nick Rouser made the presentation, with Eric and Under-Sheriff Brandon Harris looking on. Once again, this award is well deserved by Steve. Sheriff Rouser and Eric praised the efforts Steve has made, whether going on actual searches or working at the SAR building (called the barn), located at the corner of Pine Street and 6th Street. The Sheriff also gave high praises to the SAR team for all the searches in all kinds of weather, and to their family members, who sit at home wondering how long it will be before they see their loved ones again.

Sometimes the SAR team works with the Montana Army National Guard, supporting their training exercises, too. In

both units worked together in the Limestone Hills to practice using the helicopter crews to extract people on the ground who needed medical attention. Sometimes people riding around in boats become stuck or run out of gas, calling upon the SAR team services. There is training given on ice rescues, or for lost people, or rescuing people out of aircraft wrecks.

A general meeting for all the members of the BCSAR team is held on the last Monday of each month, and training in such items as first aid, water and ice rescue, and search techniques is given on the first Thursday of each month. Both meetings start at 6:30 PM. The SAR building is located at the corner of Pine Street and 6th Street.

Volunteers are always welcome with the BCSAR Team. The people currently serving have a wide background of abilities and talents and are in all adult age groups. The main purpose is to help other people in traumatic situations.

If you have any questions about Search and Rescue or would like to volunteer please call the sheriff's office at 406 266-3441 or the SAR president Eric Crusch at 406 521-0275.



BCSAR President Eric Crusch gave Mike Speedy an award to take to the GRAYMONT Limestone Plant for the purchasing of a 2024 Polaris Ranger. Photo Credits: Matt Nelson