



Raising Help for Hunter!—p.3



Mural of Great Mystery!—p.9



Born to Fly!—p.12

## Kansas Farmer, Video Producer was Keynote Speaker at Ag Appreciation Dinner

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Tune in to YouTube to listen to Kansas farmers Greg Peterson and his brothers. Their farm humor set to the likes of popular bands Smashmouth and ACDC will remove the drudgery of everyday farm chores instantly. The series, called, Peterson Farm Brothers, is and brainchild of Greg, 32, Nathan, 29 and Kendal 26. The music videos have 250 million followers. They have produced social media programs for 12 years on Youtube and on their social media pages.

Peterson, the keynote speaker at Ag Appreciation Day Dinner Saturday, made his combined experience in raising cows and corn along while using his music minor from college, sparked the crowd. A large crowd of people, some



Farmer and video producer Greg Peterson (center) and his brothers Nathan and Kendal at their farm near Assaria, Kansas. Photo Provided by Peterson Farm Bros

Ag Appreciation, 4

### Senior Spotlight: Trista Moos

Mikayla Kraft  
School Correspondent



“Drama” is one of the best words to describe Trista Moos. This isn’t the mischief idea of drama, but the entertainment skill of showing drama on a stage platform. Trista has always been a creative soul who loves bringing emotion to her audience and joy to those around her. Her unique personality attracts those around her from far and wide.

Before moving to Townsend at age five, Trista moved between Las Vegas and Missoula with her mom. She was blessed with two younger brothers, Ryker, a seventh-grade student, and Quade, a second-grade student. She has a family full of entrepreneurs including her mother who owns Cottonwood Creations and her father who owns Lite Electric. Her parents have instilled in her the ability to recognize valued leadership positions and appreciate a hard work ethic. In final words about her home life, she said, “My family is chaotic at times, but I love them nonetheless.”



Trista Moos  
Mikayla Kraft Photo

“[Speech and Drama] showed me what it was like to have a home away from home... This team has shown me unconditional love and supported me through the good and bad times.” Trista stated, in addition, that her coach has also been highly impactful in her career, “Coach Bakkum has given me a place where I can be myself and I will forever be grateful for her.”

Trista plans to continue her Speech and Drama-related adventure after high school. She plans to attend the University of Montana in Missoula to major in Theatre Arts and minor in Theatre Education. After college, she plans to use this degree to be a drama teacher and instill that same comforting space that her coach, Mrs. Bakkum, has provided her to her future students. When she leaves she will miss the teachers that kept her moving forward positively even when they didn’t realize it. Trista is destined for greatness and the community has played a substantial role in helping her achieve those dreams.

### District Embarks on Strategic Plan

Linda Kent  
MT43 News Staff Reporter

Townsend’s School Board, along with school staff and administration, kicked off the district’s strategic planning efforts on Feb. 22 with a working session facilitated by Andy Sever of the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA).

The district last finalized a strategic plan in 2018. That plan is available on the district’s website. A review began in 2020 but was put on hold due to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. A second revision began in 2022 and was delayed due to significant changes to the school board’s composition after the 2022 trustee election.

The objective of the multi-session planning process, Sever said, is “to identify, ‘This is where we’re headed, and this is the right direction,’ and come to agreement.” The planning process first identifies a core purpose and set of values with an eye to setting the aspirational, long-term, and short-term goals for the community’s schools.

In the first session, attendees worked in small groups to draft the purpose and values statements. These statements will likely undergo several revisions, Sever noted, before being finalized.

Team members developed an initial purpose statement in the first session: “Developing each student’s full potential now and as future members of society and community both locally and globally.”

Planning will continue in a second public work session to be scheduled by the end of March. In addition to refining the district’s purpose statement and agreeing on draft values statements, the second session will aim to draft a “Big Audacious Goal” and define an envisioned, 20-year-plus future state of the schools.

A third and final session will center around trend analysis and establishing one-to-two-year goals.



Veteran teachers Jamee Cameron (left) and Jami Lawson (right) discuss elements of Townsend School District’s core purpose. Linda Kent Photo

## Lions Present Flags to First Grade

**Bob Brastrup**  
Townsend Lions Club

The Learning Stairs at the Townsend Elementary School were alive with excitement when, in honor of Presidents' Day, the Broadwater County Lions presented sixty-five Townsend first-grade elementary students with an American flag and a lapel pin.

American Legion members Jen Dalrymple and Linda Cousineau demonstrated how to unfold and fold the flag. The students were asked how many times was the flag folded to make the triangle. The voices rang out as they counted 13 folds. The students were stumped when asked why the flag was folded as a triangle. It was explained that George Washington, during the Revolutionary War wore a three-pointed hat and that design was adopted as the correct way to fold and store the flag.

The students learned the stars in the field of blue are always on the observer's left and that the flag is on the left and at the highest point when shown with other flags.

The students learned the 13 red and white stripes represent the original 13 colonies while the fifty 5-pointed white stars in the field of blue represent the 50 states. There was a lot of serious thought when asked what was the last state to be admitted to the union. One brave student correctly stated Hawaii. Hawaii was admitted in 1960. The students were presented with a sheet showing the 27



First Grade Students with Their Flags  
Bob Brastrup Photo

different design changes the flag has gone through since Congress recognized the first one in 1877.

Jen explained the significance of the colors. Red represents valor and bravery; white signifies purity and innocence; blue represents perseverance, justice and vigilance.

Lion Program Chair Richard Heida stated he considers this presentation to be one of the club's most important events.

Lions Patti and Don Hanson, Kennedy Vogl, Christina Hartmann, Bob and Sheri Brastrup also assisted with the presentations to the four 1st grade classes.



Left to Right: Holly Hazlett, Lion- Don Hanson and Torren Dana  
Bob Brastrup Photo

## STOKE FUN'RAISER A HUGE SUCCESS!

Amanda Domino

On February 14, 2024, Valentine's Day, the STOKE youth empowerment organization had its third annual Valentine's Day Fun'Raiser and Dinner. With an incredible group of about 35 people, STOKE raised over \$10,000. That included all the generous in-kind donations and through the silent auction. Remember, all STOKE programs are free for the children!

With a HUGE HEART, Jeff Langlinais ran events. The live auction included selling two lovely quilts as well as a magnificent Watercolor donated by our local artist Lynn Cain. The live auction was followed by the masterful gaming at Dropster which rewarded the lucky winners with a ski trip to Showdown Ski Area along with a \$100 gift certificate to Jesse's BBQ in WSS., a float trip down the Missouri, a Lone Mountain cooler full of Rauser pork, a relaxing retreat at Fairmont Hot Springs, and a night at Chico Hot Springs

A special thank you to all who participated and helped STOKE provide a night of supporting our local children. Patrick Plantenburg and Mary Mistik, as well as Tammy Hahn for all of their continued support, Liz Wishman for helping throughout the evening, and once again Carla Amundson blessed us all with her piano serenades and the singing of love songs.

This year STOKE youth members and their projects were highlighted. Some of our new First Lego League participants, Kathyrn Six, Skylar Sellay, Karter Schmaus, Jaden Flynn, Zoey and First Tech Challenge student, Max Sellay, displayed their projects including the First Lego League winning State Competition's "Innovative Robot". Later in the evening, the First Lego League Group performed their research-based Sleep Study skit, which won the Regional Competition, Best Innovative Project award. This project illuminated the importance for their Middle School peers to get enough sleep. Members include Logan Barkhurst, Nykia Mondragon, Destiny Grandy-selling beautiful earrings and bracelets she created in the STOKE Sewing Sisters program, and Zoey Osborne- for presenting her STOKE's pottery creations. Christian also presented a small pitcher created in pottery class and a call-in from Kayden Greene- who provided a testimonial on how STOKE has provided him the incentive to move forward with his artistic skills in pottery and metallurgy. ! If you see these youths, give them a high-five for their efforts! Our amazing community's support will continue to help us provide programs in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM), sewing, cooking, pottery, and outdoor activities. STOKE is still looking for a donor for a Hidden Hollow Horseback Riding trip for six STOKE children. The event includes introductory training about horseback riding and a two-hour horseback ride at Hidden Hollow Ranch. The total cost is \$475. If you would like to earmark a donation toward the Hidden Hollow STOKE trip, please contact Amanda Domino at 406-459-7379.

Thank you once again to this amazing community for "Getting Positively STOKED"!

# \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP

## INFO ON PAGE 4!

## Little Guy and Middle School Wrestling

**Becky Hunt**  
MT43 News Sports Correspondent

**Little Guy Wrestling**  
Little Guy Wrestling hosted 7 teams, with a total of 340 wrestlers at their home meet on Saturday. The event was a little slow to get going with some issues getting TrackWrestling up and running properly, once those were settled the meet was fast-paced and seemingly ran smoothly.

The little Dawgs did not disappoint and showed up ready to roll on the mats. There was a visible improvement with many on their stance, moves, and knowledge. Impressive what one week of practice can make.

Townsend came in at 2nd place for team scores. 55 total placers. 20 - 1st place; 16 - 2nd place; 9 - 3rd place; 10 - 4th place. The overall team had 150 wins to 106 losses.

### Middle School Wrestling

This year's middle school team has grown to about 16 wrestlers, 6 of those being girls. Broadwater High School added girls wrestling to their program this past season, thus allowing these athletes to continue participating in this sport once they enter high school. Six of the wrestlers are in eighth grade, and moving into their freshman year they will have a significant



Brendan Estrada. Brendan's first match of the day was intense, winning 10-8 with a 2 point take down in over time.  
Becky Hunt Photo

boost to the high school wrestling program filling the majority of current empty weight brackets.

The middle school hosted a mixer Friday afternoon with 7 teams in attendance. The Bulldogs dominated the mats with many wins by fall over their opponents.

Saturday middle school wrestled in the Townsend Little Guy Tournament, middle school / JR high division. They brought home 2 - 1st place; 4 - 2nd place; 3 - 3rd place; 4 - 4th place.

Little Guy Wrestling's next event will be in Livingston on Saturday, March 2nd.

Middle School travels to Anaconda on Tuesday the 27th, Butte Central on the 29th, and Dillon on Saturday the 2nd of March.

Good Luck Dawgs! Get the "W" and bring home some medals!



2024 Middle School Wrestling Team  
Becky Hunt Photo

## Townsend School Calendar

### MARCH

<b>Fri 1</b>	NO SCHOOL	
<b>Sat 2</b>	8:00AM MSWR @ Dillon MSWR-State @ Lewistown	
<b>Mon 4</b>	7:30AM - D/C College Writing at community room 6:00PM Spring Sports Parent Meeting	
<b>Tue 5</b>	7:00 PM - Booster Club Meeting at The Bridge 7:30AM - D/C College Writing at community room	
<b>Wed 6</b>	7:00 PM - Old Baldy Adult Open Gym at BHS 63 Gym 7:00 PM - Old Baldy Adult Pickleball at BHS Stage Gym 7:30AM - D/C College Writing at community room MS Science Fair at Stage Gym	
<b>Thu 7</b>	7:30AM - D/C College Writing at community room	
<b>Fri 8</b>	NO SCHOOL	
<b>Sat 9</b>	MSWR @ Conrad	
<b>Sun 10 - Tue 12</b>	State BPA @ Billings	




**NorthWestern Energy**  
Delivering a Bright Future

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## Three Forks School Calendar

### MARCH

<b>Tue 5</b>	HS FCCLA Meeting Lunchtime	
<b>Wed 6</b>	MS FCCLA Meeting at Lunch	
<b>Thu 7- Sat 9</b>	Basketball State Metra TBD	
<b>Thu 7</b>	7:30PM Adult Ed - Community Choir at MS/HS Music Room MS Book Club at Lunch	

## COME ONE COME ALL!



### HOLY CROSS PARISH FISH FRY

IN THE PARISH CENTER @ 101 S WALNUT ST. TOWNSEND, MT

**MARCH 1ST AND 15TH, 2024 FROM 5 - 7 PM**

**MENU: FISH, CLAM CHOWDER, MAC & CHEESE AND COLESLAW**

**\$13/PLATE OR \$40 FOR FAMILY OF 4**

QUESTIONS: CONTACT RICHARD @ 406-980-1447



## TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### MARCH

<b>Friday 1</b>	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 5:00PM- 7:00PM Fish Fry at Holy Cross Parish <b>SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS</b>
<b>Saturday 2</b>	4:30 pm: Dinner and Death: A Murder Mystery Dinner Party at The Lodge of Townsend 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
<b>Sunday 3</b>	5:45PM FREE Townsend Community Family Night at Holy Cross Parish <b>SEE AD ON PAGE 4</b> STOKE Ski Club at Showdown Ski Area
<b>Tuesday 5</b>	5:30 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry 6:00 pm: Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway
<b>Wednesday 6</b>	1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
<b>Thursday 7</b>	7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
<b>Friday 8</b>	9:30AM Vigilante Electric Annual Meeting <b>SEE AD ON PAGE 4</b> 10:00 AM: Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 12:00 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
<b>Saturday 9</b>	6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
<b>Friday 15</b>	5:00PM- 7:00PM Fish Fry at Holy Cross Parish <b>SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS</b>
<b>Saturday 16</b>	8:00am- 4:00pm Basic Pistol Course, Broadwater Rod & Gun <b>SEE RSVP AD ON PAGE 4</b>

## THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

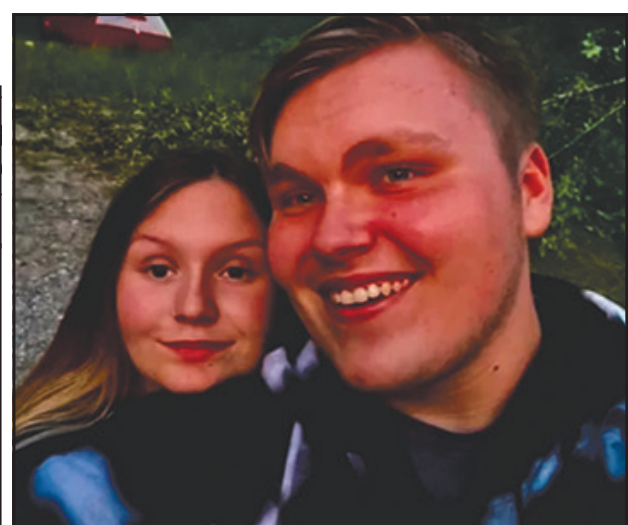
### MARCH

<b>Friday 1</b>	12:00 PM: Executive Forum for Elected Officials 1:00 PM: Three Forks Public Library - LEGO Club
<b>Saturday 2</b>	11:00 AM: Three Forks Public Library - Chess Club
<b>Tuesday 5</b>	1:00 PM: Three Forks Public Library - Mah Jongg 4:00 PM: Three Forks Public Library - Middle School Book Club 7:00 PM: Three Forks Fire Department Business Meeting at City Hall
<b>Wednesday 6</b>	5:15 PM: Three Forks Public Library - Library Board Meeting
<b>Thursday 7</b>	10:00 AM: Three Forks Public Library - Storytime 6:00 PM: Three Forks Music Night with Clint Anderson and Montana Gazette at Bridger Brewing Three Forks
<b>Friday 8</b>	2:00 PM: Three Forks Public Library - Crafternoon: Hand Stamped Bracelet
<b>Saturday 9</b>	Three Forks Public Library CLOSED

## Calling On Hunter's Community to Help

Sarah Taylor

Hi, my name is Sarah, I'm raising funds for my brother Hunter Liedle. Jan. 2024 Hunter got a stage four Hodgkins lymphoma diagnosis at the age of 21 this has been a tragic turn of events for Hunter.



Hunter Liedle  
Sarah Taylor Photo

For those of you who don't know, my little brother, Hunter, has been diagnosed with stage four Hodgkins lymphoma. My family and I are raising money for Hunters expenses.

I'm calling on his community to help ease this massive financial burden. Anything helps!

I'll also be taking Venmo donations if anyone wants to avoid processing fees! 100% of all donations will go directly to Hunter.

Hunter and his girlfriend, Maddy, recently made a move from Washington to Townsend, Montana. They barely had time to settle into their new home and establish themselves in the community with local jobs before the diagnosis.

Hunter currently does not have health insurance, he also had to quit his job.

Every 14 days for the next 6 months Hunter will receive chemo.

I'm asking for your help to ease the financial burden for Hunter, Medical bills have began to stack, needing gas to and from appointments, food to nourish him while his body is unable to work and of course living expenses.

He has his whole life ahead of him, let's support this young man in one of the hardest things he will face in his life.

Hunter is fighting this and we are fighting next to him in prayer and support. Anyone who will fight with us, let's go! Your donations will be received by Hunter directly for his expenses.

### FARM & RANCH CREDIT SERVICES, INC.

319 BROADWAY STREET, TOWNSEND.

## HELP WANTED!

### OFFICE MANAGER / FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

BENEFITS: 401K / INSURANCE STIPEND BUILT INTO PAY (NO PLAN OFFERED)

SEND RESUME TO [CHASE@FRCSMONTANA.COM](mailto:CHASE@FRCSMONTANA.COM)  
OR MAIL TO PO BOX 1004, TOWNSEND, MT 59644

## SEASONAL HIRE, APPLY NOW!

The City of Townsend is actively seeking a Pool Manager for the 2024 Summer season.

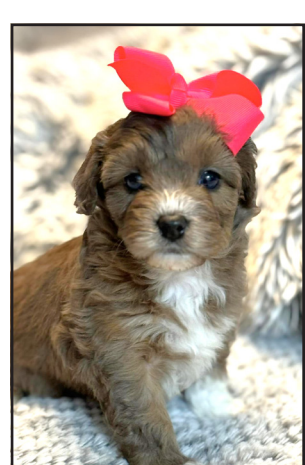
Please stop by City Hall for the job description and an application or visit the Townsend City website at [townsendmontana.net](http://townsendmontana.net).

**The deadline to turn in an application is March 15th at 5:00 p.m.**

Any questions, please call City Hall at (406) 266-3911.

## FOR SALE!

\$2500 Cavapoos (Cavalier King Charles X Toy Poodle) FIB. Hypoallergenic and non-shedding. Merle, apricot, black, brindle available. Genetic health tested around 15lbs full grown. In Townsend call/text 406-750-7546



## 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](http://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



**Vigilante Electric Cooperative**  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

**86th Annual Meeting of Members**

**Friday, March 8, 2024**

As a reminder to members, Vigilante Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting will be held in the **Beier Auditorium** on the campus of the University of Montana—Wester. Registration will begin at **9:30 a.m.** in the auditorium foyer, with the meeting commencing at **10:30 a.m.** Lunch for registered members and their guests will be served following the meeting.

**CREATED GOOD**  
TOWNSEND COMMUNITY FAMILY NIGHT

Join us for **FREE DINNER** and **ACTIVITIES!**  
Let's explore our humanity and rediscover our goodness together.

**March 3rd**  
What does it mean to be forgiven?

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




**Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!**

406-266-3110  
7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT  
topgunt3110@gmail.com  
topgunautobodytownsend.com

**Ag Appreciation, 1**

bringing their small children spent an exciting night picking out their choice of items on the extensive silent auction items. Farmers and ranchers visited with their neighbors. Candidates running for office gladhanded prospective voters.

The annual event, organized by Broadwater High School Club Future Farmers of America (FFA), raised funds for the club's competition events around the state and the country. FFA members, assisted by the county 4-H club members, served approximately 325 persons. Everyone enjoyed chef Gayle Watson's signature specialty of prime rib and cheesy potato dinner at the Watson Event Center on Litening Barn Road.

FFA President Mikayla Kraft commented the event was the largest they had ever had. "We are able to reach so many people in our community. We hope it helps instill the fact that agriculture should not be kept down on the farm, but is a driving force in our community. Advocates such as Greg Peterson with his YouTube videos show people where their food comes from, not from the grocery store, but through the hard-working hands of farmers and ranchers," she explained.

Broadwater County 4-H 406 Exchange Club members were auctioned off in groups to work for whoever bid the highest for an afternoon's labor. The highest bidders were Graymont Western Lime Plant who donated the labor to Townsend Tree Board. Other bidders were Jane Gillette, incumbent running for House District 77; Candidate for House District 77 Kyle McMurray and Warren Flynn Ranch. The money goes to pay for the exchange club's trip to Bradford County, Pennsylvania next year and to pay for that state's 4-H club to come here this summer.

Chairman Dallas Diehl presented the District Conservation Awards to Hahn Ranch for the Good Neighbor Award and the Agriculture Business Award went to Tiffany Simpson, Townsend Auto Parts.

**\$1000 SCHOLARSHIP FORMS AVAILABLE**

The Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders is again sponsoring two scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00 for graduating seniors planning to attend an IN-STATE SCHOOL. The last day of acceptance of applications is March 15, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

Application forms are available at the Clerk and Recorder's office at the courthouse in Townsend, the Guidance Counselors at Three Forks High School, or Townsend High School.

Completed application forms must be returned to the Clerk and Recorder's office located at the Broadwater County courthouse by Friday, March 15, 2024. Applications will be judged on the basis of scholarship, need, school and civic involvement.

The two winners and alternates will be notified after May 1, 2024, and the scholarship will be given directly to the school of the student's choice after the school has accepted the student.

/s/ Angie Paulsen, Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder

**Black Butte Copper Clears Court Hurdle**

Amanda Eggert  
Montana Free Press



The Montana Supreme Court on February 26 issued a decision that brings a central Montana copper mine one step closer to operation.

In a 5-2 decision, the justices wrote that the Montana Department of Environmental Quality made a "reasoned decision" when it issued a permit to Tintina Montana Incorporated (now Sandfire Resources America) to extract approximately 14 million tons of copper from a mine in Meagher County. "Compiling an extensive record of scientific studies, expert examinations, engineering reports, testing, and comparison with other mining facilities around the world, and after considering a wide range of comments from members of the public, . . . DEQ made a scientifically driven permitting decision that was supported by substantial evidence," Justice Beth Baker wrote in the ruling.

The justices ordered a lower court to reinstate a permit it had vacated for the Black Butte project located along a tributary of the Smith River, which the justices deemed "an undisputed Montana treasure."

Montana Trout Unlimited, Montana Environmental Information Center, American Rivers and Earthworks had challenged DEQ's decision to issue the permit, arguing that Montana regulators shouldn't treat the Black Butte project as a "guinea pig" for a mining design that's untested in the state and that the mining operations could impair water quality in Sheep Creek and the Smith River.

More specifically, they challenged DEQ's finding that mine tailings – the material that's left over after ore is removed – would remain secure with the use of a cement-aided technique that aims to make them more stable in the event of heavy precipitation or an

earthquake. They also argued that Tintina's water treatment plan would produce nitrogen four to six times the allowable standard, which could exacerbate the oxygen-depleting algal blooms that occasionally challenge the Smith, a lazy central Montana river that supports a trout fishery, agricultural irrigation and a high-sought-after recreational floating experience.

Baker and the concurring justices – Mike McGrath, James Shea, Jim Rice and Dirk Sandefur-devoted more than half of the 65-page majority opinion to technical aspects of the project and its anticipated water quality impacts in their assessment that the DEQ complied with the Montana law in its handling of Tintina's proposal. The application, first submitted to DEQ in 2015, includes nearly 90,000 pages of documents, the concurring justices noted.

In the dissenting opinion, Justices Ingrid Gustafson and Laurie McKinnon countered that the DEQ generated an "inadequate analysis unsupported by the record" by failing to thoroughly examine the benefits of alternatives that would pose less of a risk to water quality. "We would affirm the District Court's determination that DEQ's issuance of the mine permit was arbitrary, capricious, and unlawful, and remand to DEQ," Gustafson and McKinnon wrote.

In an emailed statement Sandfire Resources CEO Lincoln Greenidge thanked the court. "Today's victory in the Montana Supreme Court is a validation of the thoughtful and deliberate efforts of the Sandfire America team to design a world-class, environmentally safe mining project from the beginning," Greenidge said. "Now we look forward to progressing the project in a safe, responsible and sustainable manner."

DEQ did not provide a comment to the Montana Free Press on February 26.

*This story was originally published by Montana Free Press at montanafreepress.org*



**BROADWATER ROD AND GUN CLUB**

**BASIC PISTOL COURSE**

96 CANTON LANE, TOWNSEND  
INDOOR SHOOTING RANGE

**COURSE DATE**  
**Sat March 16, 2024 8am – 4 pm**

**Course will include 2 hours of live shooting training.**

**APPLICATION FEE \$45.00 NON REFUNDABLE**  
(payment due with registration form)

**MAX CLASS SIZE 10**

*Please plan to bring a sack lunch. Doughnuts, water and coffee will be provided.*

**Download the class application:**  
[www.broadwaterrodandgun.com](http://www.broadwaterrodandgun.com)

**OR pick up a hard copy at Rocky Mountain Supply**

**Questions? Call Virgil Binkley (406) 980-1548**




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

**Canyon Ferry Gun Works**



**Gunsmith**  
**Specializing in cleaning and servicing of handguns and rifles**  
**(406) 980-1919 | Townsend**

**MT 43 News, Inc.**

Published & edited by the Board of Directors	USPS Bulk Mailing Permit #43 First Publication Date: July 15, 2022	employees, or advertisers.	the week the letter was submitted.	email (MT43News@MT43News.com) in plain text. Please do not attach any files.
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ISSN 2833-2571				

# 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.



## STATE OF MONTANA COUNTY OF BROADWATER

Before me, the undersigned authority, this day personally appeared, Satterfield, Gina Berry, who being first duly sworn, under oath deposes and says that the affiant is domiciled in and maintains a place of abode in the City of Townsend, County of Broadwater, State of Montana which she recognizes and intends to maintain as her permanent home; and that her abode in Montana constitutes her predominant and principle home, and affiant intends to continue it permanently as such; affiant further declares and affirms the Registrar of Titles is authorized to receive for registration of memorials upon any outstanding certificate of title an official birth certificate pertaining to a registered owner named (GINA LORRINA BERRY) in said certificate of title showing the date of birth of said registered owner (GINA LORRINA BERRY), providing there is attached to said birth certificate an affidavit of an affiant who states that he/she is familiar with the facts recited, stating that the party named in said birth certificate is the same party as one of the owners named in said certificate of title; and that thereafter the Registrar of Titles shall treat said registered owner (GINA LORRINA BERRY) as having attained the age of the majority at a date 18 years after the date of birth shown by said certificate. Affiant further declares, the natural person known as the Nobilissima Felicitas Express Trust holds a claim of ownership of said Certificate of Title No. 23015309-1, dated January 25th, 2023. Affiant further declares that the filing of this affidavit is to be accepted by all persons or any court as proof of such permanent domicile.

Affiant signature Satterfield, Gina Berry  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of January, A.D. 2024.

Mandi Lavonne Hall, Notary Public for the State of Montana  
My Commission Expires: January 19, 2029

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“Satterfield, Gina Berry” (the Settlor, Trust Protector and a Co-Trustee) of the NOBILISSIMA FELICITAS EXPRESS TRUST, grants the Secured Party security interest in all of the debtor’s property and interest in property in the sum certain amount of \$2,070,000,000.00 (Two Billion Seventy Million Dollars) exercised by a \$9,000,000,000.00 USD (Nine Billion Dollars) Lien referenced with the “Montana” Secretary of State Financing Statement and in the Organic Public Record “Broadwater” Records Clerk Office non-Uniform Commercial Code Central Filing. For each trade-name/trademark used, per each occurrence of use (violations/infringement), plus triple damages, plus cost for each such use, as well as for each and every use of any and all derivatives of, and variations in the spelling of GINA BERRY FAMILY OF SATTERFIELD ESTATE©®, GINA BERRY SATTERFIELD©®, GINA SATTERFIELD©®, SATTERFIELD, GINA BERRY©®, GINA

BERRY SATTERFIELD ESTATE©® and NOBILISSIMA FELICITAS EXPRESS TRUST©®, the trust office shall refer to the Affidavit of Schedule of Fees for summary judgment granted by any court of record in the matters of equity.  
Copyright Notice No 00081078-1  
**Printed February 9, 16, 23 and March 1, 2024**  
MNAXLP

## MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

KOLODKA HOMES LLC, Plaintiff,  
v.  
DAVID SCHNELL a/k/a DAVID LOREN SCHNELL, DEBORAH FAY SCHNELL, and JOHN DOES 1-5, Defendants.  
Case No. DV-2023-41

### SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MONTANA TO DAVID SCHNELL a/k/a DAVID LOREN SCHNELL:

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

This action is brought for the purpose of excluding Defendant from any interest in the real property identified in the Complaint, and to foreclose a construction lien upon the real property described in the Complaint on file in the above-entitled action, which real property is situated in the County of Broadwater, State of Montana, in which you may have or claim an interest, and described as follows:

Lot 114 of Rolling Glen Ranch Subdivision, recorded in Book 1 of Plats, page 965, located in Sections 31 and 32, Township 3 North, Range 1 East, P.M.M., Broadwater County, Montana. WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 12th day of February, 2024.

(COURT SEAL)  
By: Desiree Taves, Deputy Clerk  
Jessica Penkal Hodges, HODGES LAW GROUP PLLC  
251 Edleweiss Drive Ste 3A, Bozeman, MT, 59718  
Tel: (406) 582-9676 | hodges@jphodgeslaw.com  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
**Printed February 23, March 1 and 8, 2024**  
MNAXLP

## TOSTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 2024 Annual Meeting and Election of Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner for Division 1 (All lands west of Highway 287 and South of Lone Mountain Road) will be held at the Toston Irrigation District Office, 8711 US Highway 287, Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 7:00PM.  
**Publish February 23 & March 1**  
MNAXLP

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Solid Waste Board will hold a public hearing on March 12th, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Flynn Building for the purpose of hearing comments on the Resolution for Non Household Material Definition and Fee List for Broadwater County Solid Waste Department as stated in MCA 7-13-232 (6).

A copy of the resolution and attachment is available in the Clerk & Recorder’s Office and the County website, <http://www.broadwatercountymt.com> for public review. Written comments are also being accepted and should be sent to: Public Works Department, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644.

Email comments are being accepted and should be sent to [tgraveley@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:tgraveley@co.broadwater.mt.us) or [mmasolo@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:mmasolo@co.broadwater.mt.us)  
**Publish March 1, 2024 and March 8, 2024**  
MNAXLP

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on March 13th, 2024 at 10:05 am in the Flynn Building for the purpose of hearing comments on the Resolution for Non-Household Material Definition and Fee List for Broadwater County Solid Waste Department as stated in MCA 7-13-232 (6).

A copy of the resolution and attachment is available in the Clerk & Recorder’s Office and the County website, <http://www.broadwatercountymt.com> for public review. Written comments are also being accepted and should be sent to: Public Works Department, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644.

Email comments are being accepted and should be sent to [tgraveley@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:tgraveley@co.broadwater.mt.us) or [mmasolo@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:mmasolo@co.broadwater.mt.us)  
**Publish: March 1, 2024 and March 8, 2024**  
MNAXLP

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING on a Resolution to Terminate the Interlocal Agreement for Townsend City-County Airport and Transfer the Airport Strip Property to Broadwater County, Montana. City of Townsend, City Hall 110 Broadway at 6:30 p.m. on March 5, 2024.  
**Printing February 23 and March 1, 2024**  
MNAXLP

## DECLARATION OF INTENT FOR SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE AVAILABLE

The school board trustee terms of Jason Noyes, Vanessa Flynn, and Daniel Truesdell will expire May 2024.

An election will be held May, 2024 to elect two (2) three-year terms and one (1) one-year term trustees. A trustee must: be qualified to vote in a district; and be a resident of the School District (20-3-305 and 20-3-338 MCA).

Interested parties must complete a Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy by March 28, 2024. Forms are available during business hours with the Broadwater County Clerk and Records Office.

**Published March 1, 8 and 15, 2024**



## February 23, 2024

**Dee Gannon**  
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Christopher Abbott’s courtroom on Friday, February 23 is as follows:

Colleen Nickerson had her Petition to Revoke continued until April 26, 2024.

Steven Barnes is out of state and needs a psychosexual evaluation. He must appear on March 22 for a Status Hearing and to be heard on bond. He must also schedule his evaluation while he is in-state.

Joseph Johnson had an Initial Appearance on a Petition to Revoke a four-year deferred sentence. The allegations are that he was terminated from his programming because of meth and fentanyl use, and failure to remain employed. His Evidentiary Hearing will be on April 5. He is released on his own recognizance to his mother. He will not consume alcohol or drugs and will comply with all previous conditions.

Kyler Stewart had an Initial Appearance on a Petition to Revoke a second deferred sentence; offering a denial to alleged charges of failure to remain law-abiding, partner/family member assault. He had a positive test for alcohol. He is released on his own recognizance, but he must have 24/7 monitoring for alcohol/drugs and comply with prior conditions.

Richard Karp had an Initial Appearance on 1.) charges of 5+ DUI, open container and possession of marijuana. His Arraignment will be March 1. 2.) A Petition to Revoke, alleges that a firearm was found in his vehicle and also found alcohol. He will have an Admit/Deny Hearing on March 1, as well.

Jocelyn Roberts had an Omnibus memo signed. Pre-Trial will be held on July 26; with the Jury Trial scheduled for August 18, 2024.

Ian Blaylock had an Evidentiary Hearing, telling the Court that he completed treatment and that he has complied with Adult Probation and Parole. He Admits the allegations of 1) violating the employment condition; 2) failing to report to AP&P; 3) he moved without authorization and 4) that he ceased to report to Adult Probation & Parole. He is Sentenced to six months in the county jail; all suspended except for 10 days. He must serve his sentence in no less than 2 increments of 5 days, although he may serve 10 days in a row.

## Justice of the Peace Report March 1st

**Kelsi Anderson**  
Justice Court Clerk

### MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Kyle Weeks, Plains: day speed \$20.00  
Nicole Dedman, Bozeman: day speed \$120.00  
Mark Scott, Helena: night speed \$20.00  
Adam Ryland-Davis, Clancy: night speed \$70.00  
Eric Parrish, Hesperia, CA: day speed \$70.00  
Arthur Jackson, Ulm: No insurance-1st offense \$285.00  
Night speed \$20.00

JOP, 5

Benjamin Fried, Great Falls: night speed \$20.00

Cornelia Binkley, Libby: day speed \$120.00

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

1

**BROADWATER COUNTY FINES**

Elijah Ticknor – Townsend – habitual offender, plead guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but 14 days suspended on conditions, \$1025.00 fines and fees; operating without liability insurance in effect-4th or subsequent offense, plead guilty, sentenced to ten days in jail with all time suspended on conditions, \$525.00 fines and fees, DL suspended until proof of compliance provided to MVD.

Alex Heigh – Helena – night speed, plead guilty, \$70.00 fine; unlawful possession of open alcoholic beverage container in MV on highway, plead guilty, \$75.00 fine; driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs-1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$685.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete Act program.

Kole Eischens – Townsend – partner or family member assault, causing reasonable apprehension of bodily injury to partner or family member-1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$185.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete 40 hours Batterer’s education.

Travis Rogers – Townsend - partner or family member assault, causing bodily injury to partner or family member-2nd offense, plead guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but three days suspended on conditions, \$385.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete 40 hours Batterer’s education.

Aubrey Million – Townsend – possessing intoxicating substances while under the age of 21 (under age 18)-1st offense, plead guilty, \$185.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete MIP program and complete 20 hours of community service.

**BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES**

Michael Cary	Billings night speed	\$20.00
Krystal Watson	Ennis restricted speed	\$55.00
Wyatt Rauch	Clancy day speed	\$20.00

**INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION**

Dustin Redfox – Great Falls Municipal Court, \$1925.00  
Dustin Redfox – Great Falls Municipal Court, \$620.00  
Dustin Redfox - Great Falls Municipal Court, \$1020.00  
Dustin Redfox – Pondera CO. Justice Court, \$385.00  
Samuel Cooper III- MT 13th Judicial District, No bond  
Samuel Cooper III – MT 13th Judicial District, No bond  
Samuel Cooper III – MT 13th Judicial District, \$10,000.00 bond

**County Commission Accepts \$617,000 Airport Reconstruction Grant**

Linda Kent  
MT43 News Staff Reporter

Broadwater County Commissioners accepted more than \$600,000 in grant funding from the Montana Department of Transportation’s (MTDOT’s) Aeronautics division for a major reconstruction project at the city-county airport at their regular Feb. 21 meeting.

The grant – which must be met with local funds and is dependent on a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant offer – would help pay for the reconstruction of taxiways, aprons and other infrastructure at the facility.

“The fact they funded the full amount is over the top,” Commission Chair Darrel Folkvord said. “Generally, they fund a portion. We are very, very grateful.”

The grant becomes available on July 1 of this year. It represents 10 percent of the cost of planned reconstruction at the airport.

Also in the Feb. 21 meeting:

- Commissioners renewed the county’s contract with Sanitarian Megan Bullock of Gravel Bar Consulting as well as the contract with Montana’s Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS). Bullock will continue her work as a liaison between county residents and the state Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). She will also, under the DPHHS contract, inspect and license county retail and wholesale food sellers – including fair and Fall Fest vendor trailer parks and campgrounds, and accommodations.
- A county government review study will be up for voter approval on the June 6 primary ballot. Cities

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](http://www.broadwatercountymt.com), in the window of the Flynn Building at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, and in the local MT43 Newspaper.

Monday, March 4, 2024

**11:00 AM** Working Meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, regarding projects and deadlines. This will be in the Commission Office

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

**9:30 AM** Litigation Strategy Meeting - UMWK v. Broadwater County DV 2002-038

Public Comment

Meeting is Subject to Closure to Discuss Litigation Strategy

**3:00 PM** Working Meeting with Deputy County Attorney, Kay Minor, regarding projects and deadlines.

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

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

**10:00 AM** Discussion/Decision, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director, Resolution for the Annual Temporary Limitations of Traffic on Designated Roads in Broadwater County

**10:10 AM** Discussion/Decision, Jessica Bushnell, Noxious Weed and Mosquito Coordinator, Updates for Boards and Departments

**10:15 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown,

and counties are required by the state to ask voters whether to review and study the forms of local government every 10 years. If approved, five study commissioners will be elected in November.

- Commissioners accepted an amendment to the Bridger Brewing East Major Subdivision preliminary plat and Findings of Facts and Order, which will add an internal access road for Tracts 4 and 5, rather than relying on roads to be constructed in the Montana Crossroads Subdivision. If necessary, Bridger Brewing may obtain a bond to guarantee road completion.
- The commission also approved improvements to the access road on Drouillard Island in the Madison River, just west of Three Forks. Commission approval was needed because the road lies in the county floodplain.

**Bruce Seeds Receives Grant Award**

Allison Kosto  
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



HELENA, Mont. – Director Christy Clark and the Agriculture Development Council announced recipients of the state’s \$818,954 investment in innovative, value-added agriculture projects through the Montana Department of Agriculture’s Growth Through Agriculture (GTA) program.

From Plevna to Kalispell, a total of 22 agricultural businesses throughout the state were awarded funds to advance Montana’s agricultural economy.

“Year after year, MDA’s Growth Through Agriculture program focuses on giving our agricultural businesses

**Commissioners’ Agenda**

Community Development and Planning Director, Mark Wood Family Transfer Exemption Request

**10:20 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Dykema Boundary Relocation; Amended Plat of the Darlinton Minor Subdivision and Amended Plat of the Rahn Minor Subdivision

**10:30 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Rolling Glen Ranch Estates; Requests an extension of Preliminary Plat to May 31, 2024

**10:35 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Cookson Family Transfer Request; Amended Lazy Hm Estates Tracts 5&6

**1:00 PM** Discussion/Decision, Proceed to Draft an Agreement with the Montana Department of Transportation for the Removal of the Toston Bridge

*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](mailto: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
- Trust Board Meeting on March 12th at 11:30 AM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting/Public Hearing on March 12th at 6 PM
- Mental Health LAC on March 13th at 2 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on March 14th at 7 PM
- Board of Health Meeting on March 18th at 2 PM
- County Parks and Rec Board Meeting on March 18th at 6 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on March 19th at 6 PM
- Airport Meeting on March 20th at 6 PM
- Broadband Meeting on March 28th at 4 PM

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

**It’s your future. Let’s protect it.®**



Dustin Gillaspie  
410 Broadway, Townsend, MT  
406.442.0456  
[fbfs.com/find-an-agent/](http://fbfs.com/find-an-agent/)  
dustingillaspie@mt.com



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

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

the opportunity to grow and expand in order to add more value to their product and improve their bottom lines,” Montana Director of Agriculture Christy Clark said. “The Department of Agriculture is proud to invest in these innovative projects that will add value to Montana agriculture as well as contribute to economic development and local communities.”

The GTA program was established by the Montana Legislature in 1987 to strengthen and diversify Montana’s agriculture industry through the development of new agricultural products and processes.

The GTA program offers funding in the form of a grant or loan or both and funding is determined by a seven-member Agriculture Development Council (Council) during scheduled meetings. The Council members are appointed by the Governor. Growth Through Agriculture funding requires the investment of at least \$1 in matching funds for every \$1 in program grant or loan assistance received.

**2024 GROWTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE AWARDS**

Bruce Seed Farm – Townsend: \$25,000 “Seed Processing Facility”

The Montana Department of Agriculture is serving Montana Agriculture and growing prosperity under the Big Sky. For more information on department programs and services, visit [agr.mt.gov](http://agr.mt.gov).

Weather info contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 3/01  Light Snow 40°   27° * 0 in ⇨ 10   19 mph	Sat 3/02  Light Snow 35°   17° * 1 in ⇨ 9   19 mph	Sun 3/03  Light Snow 27°   15° * 0 in ⇨ 10   15 mph	Mon 3/04  Partly Cloudy 31°   20° ● 19% ⇨ 9   19 mph	Tue 3/05  Very Light Snow Showers 35°   26° * 0 in ⇨ 10   17 mph
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**Precipitation:**

September: 4.39"	October: 0.76"
November: 0.398"	December: 0.08"
January: 0.047"	February: 0.291"
2023: 13.669"	2024: 0.339"

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

Need advice?  
**Our Two Cents**  
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".

**Wheat Montana Bakery & Deli**  
Three Forks Deli Hours  
7 am to 6 pm daily

STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

**DRILL A SPOT**  
It's important to keep your opponent off-guard during a match. Don't get into predictable patterns. One strategy is to hit the ball to the same spot a few times in a row, emphasizing a certain area on the court. It will get him thinking that it's your favorite shot.

Your opponent might assume you'll hit to that spot again - now you've got him thinking! One play is to hit to that same spot several times, and when he's used to hitting it from there, hit a short angle to the opposite side and you'll catch him off-guard!

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

**ESTABLISH THE CORRECT POSTURE AT ADDRESS. BEND FROM THE HIPS WITH YOUR BACK STRAIGHT SO THAT YOUR ARMS HANG STRAIGHT DOWN AS YOU LIGHTLY GROUND THE CLUB BEHIND THE BALL.**

**FLEX YOUR KNEES SLIGHTLY AND SET YOUR LEFT ARM AND THE CLUB SHAFT IN A STRAIGHT LINE FROM YOUR LEFT SHOULDER TO THE BALL.**

**AVOID TENSION ABOVE THE WAIST AND FEEL "SPRINGY" BELOW IT.**

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

WY ZJH AGJKKIL V AIMQWSILI  
VML V SVGGJQ, W UJMLIG  
WY ZJH'L IML HS UWQN V  
UVROWI-QVROWI.

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**KNIGHT MOVES**

M	R	U
T		O
C	P	E

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!

Solve  
**CHIRPE**

Fantasy  
**ARMED**

Distort  
**BLAGER**

Record  
**ATTONE**

**TODAY'S WORD**

"That's my \_\_\_\_\_ date. I haven't seen what he looks like all evening."

**Super Crossword** INTERPRETING ALL THE SIGNS

**ACROSS**

1 Friendly and cheerful	44 Test taker	89 Leaned back	3 Court divider	39 --do-well	81 Light snack
7 Custard	46 Sailors, informally	93 Negev's land	4 Chants	40 Bill of tennis	82 Small rodents, jocularly
12 Peevish state	47 "The Villain" actor Jack	98 "Fatal Attraction" Oscar nominee	5 Actor Baldwin	41 "Hurry it up!"	83 Sore feeling
16 Air gun	50 Gain's offset	100 Feta, for one	6 Vega's constellation	42 Actress Ward	84 Slumber
19 With no secrecy	51 Ignited	103 Official order	7 Grill-marked sandwiches	45 Balm	86 Star of "I'm No Angel"
20 Caribbean resort island	53 "If I Only Had the Nerve" singer	104 Prevarication	8 French forest region	48 Female grad	87 Slower than allegretto
21 Physiquest, for short	59 "Ka-POW!"	105 Spiral-shelled mollusk	9 Brand of faucet filters	49 Chatty birds	88 Like booties
22 Suffix with east	60 Me, in Lyon	106 Rep on the street	10 Cry like —	52 Apple buy	90 Cream-filled pastries
23 Door-bashing device	63 On — with (equal to)	107 Luxury writing implement	11 Bank bought by Chase, for short	53 Went spelunking	91 Big head
25 Working hard	64 One of the Kennedys	110 Eye ring	12 Govt. advances for mom-and-pops	54 Think aloud	92 Contributor
26 Grazing field	65 Org. with merit badges	113 Rhinoplasty doc	13 Opposite of destined	55 Prison units	94 Covered anew, as a book
27 Politician Alexandria — Cortez	67 Leaning	114 Nastase of tennis fame	14 "And When —" (1969 hit)	56 2012 Ben Affleck thriller	95 — Lingus
28 Bud Light mascot Spuds MacKenzie, for one	69 Mother of Jesus	115 Halibut, sole and flounder	15 Certain high-heel feature	57 Turkish money unit	96 Suffix with Senegal
31 A verb often follows it	71 Things to step on in washrooms	122 Eldest of the Musketeers	16 Go-Go's singer Carlisle	58 Bitterly cold	97 Guided
34 Vex	73 Moon that's home to the Ewoks	123 1998 Masters champ Mark	17 Offspring producer	59 Adherents of an Iranian religion	99 In harm's way
36 Winning tic-tac-toe row	74 Top-secret U.S. org.	124 One of the Kennedys	18 Ones entrapping	60 Thousand: Prefix	101 Transversely
37 "Hoarders" channel	75 Dialect of Aramaic	125 Hug's partner	24 "Vidi," in English	61 — acid (fat product)	102 Those people
38 "Full House" acting pair	76 Ad biz award	126 Century's 100	29 "Slow" primate	62 "There, there"	103 100-buck bill
41 Sideways-moving arachnid	77 French article	127 All 12 of its symbols are featured in this puzzle	30 Bonnie of blues rock	63 "Georgia politician Bob	108 Roman 1,052
43 Judo teacher	78 CEO's deg.		31 Antis' votes	64 Michael of the band R.E.M.	109 Auction website
	79 Flashy, diving soccer move		32 Corrida cry	65 Georgia politician Bob	110 "The Wizard —"
	80 Dog in "The Thin Man"		33 Sailor's org.	66 Michael of the band R.E.M.	111 "Bali —"
	81 Hockey's Phil, to fans		35 It runs on a 52-Down	67 Small nail	112 Celeb's ride
	82 Put a flaw in			68 "— la Douce"	116 Radio host Charlamagne — God
	83 Dog in "The Thin Man"			69 Drink-related party abbr.	117 "Epoch"
	84 Hockey's Phil, to fans			70 Suffix with micro- or kaleido-	118 Epoch
	85 Hockey's Phil, to fans			71 Read quickly	119 Small pouch
	86 Manufacture			72 "I'm c-c-cold!"	
				73 Start to wake	

**DOWN**

1 Dollop	2 Clean air org.
----------	------------------

**Kids' Maze**

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate   ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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~MT 43 News Team

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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  
**Last Thursday of the month:** 6:30- 8:00pm The Rock Youth Ministry: K-3rd Grades and 4th-Senior High | Parent Bible Study  
 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 Margie Urich (406) 599-9848  
**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  
**Wednesday:** 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**

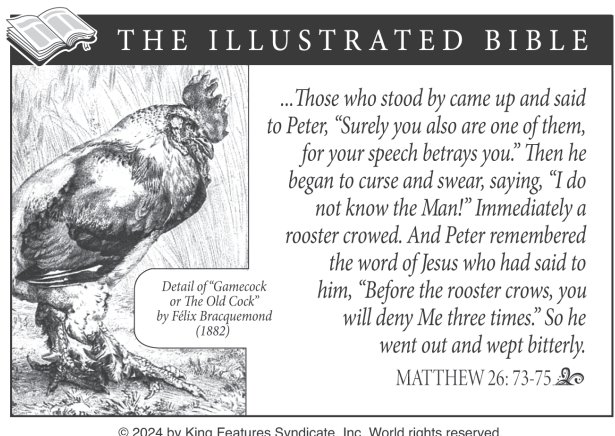
**SR. CENTER MEALS** *Thursday, March 7*  
**MARCH 4 - MARCH 8** Roast Pork  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 Key Largo Vegetables  
 Dinner Salad with Beans

**Monday, March 4** Whole Grain Bread  
 Baked Apples

**Friday, March 8** Fish Patty  
 Macaroni and Cheese  
 Carrot Coins  
 Crisp Coleslaw  
 Plump Peaches

**Tuesday, March 5** Baked Chicken  
 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.

**Wednesday, March 6** Chili Con Carne  
 Golden Corn  
 Garden Salad  
 Fresh Baked Biscuit  
 Zesty Pineapple  
 Desert



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

**New Farmers Market Manager**

**Don Hettinger**  
 Farmers Market

I believe it only fitting to let our customers and the community know of the changing of the guard at the Farmers Market. For thirteen years Chris and I have been faithful to the market for Townsend and Broadwater County. Chris was the market manager and in that time we did not miss a Thursday market day. But like it or not age is creeping up on us and the ability to keep up the pace is more difficult.

At our annual winter business meeting of vendors and interested persons, a unanimous vote of confirmation was given to Sheree Beauchamp to be the new market manager. Sheree is very qualified having administrative experience in the Civil Service with the Military.

She and her husband Sam own and operate Hardway Farm in the Radersburg area and have been vendors at the market for 6 years with goat milk soaps and lotions. Their farm-fresh eggs are also available. This past market season they added a food vending service in which Sam prepares wonderful mouth-watering smoked brisket, Texas style, in their smokehouse trailer. My taste buds can attest to that! Many of you have seen them at the market and have experienced the great food they prepare. Just for the record, Sam was a chef in the Navy.

They come with new energy bringing new ideas to enhance the market. So, any questions about the market should now be addressed to Sheree as the new market manager. Call her at 406-465-4977. We are happy to pass the baton to Sheree and Sam Beauchamp.

The Hettinger Farm will still be attending the market with all the goodies we produce. We want to thank each and every one of you who have encouraged, helped and patronized the Townsend Farmers Market over the years. Like last year the market will open at the end of May which is only three months away.

See you there!

## Big Sky Big Leadership Series: Gracious Space

**Allison Kosto**  
 MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



*This is the final article in a series sharing concepts from the Big Sky, Big Leadership program. Currently in its third year, this is a nine-month program that helps participants gain leadership skills as well as learn more about issues and resources in the county. This series highlights some of the leadership skills that are incorporated into the class. This month the focus is on Gracious Space.*

When you hear the words 'gracious space' what do you think of? I think of my grandparent's home when I'm always welcomed with a smile and a hug. Next, we sit down to visit at the table or in the living room. There is always the offer of a cup of coffee and a cookie, and if you stay long enough there will be dinner on the table. There are so many happy memories here.

While Gracious Space in terms of a leadership tool is not this exact situation, it is a similar concept. Developed by the Center for Ethical Leadership, Gracious Space is a framework that creates a welcoming and inclusive environment to help groups work better together. It creates an atmosphere that allows for diverse perspectives where people can feel comfortable sharing, asking questions and learning from each other. Gracious Space is a spirit and a setting where we invite the 'stranger' and learn in public. These are the four m,j,k of Gracious Space.

### Spirit

The spirit of Gracious Space is intentionally creating a supportive environment. This includes your spirit, the group's spirit and the spirit of the work you are doing. You can't control how others show up, but you can control yourself. Be aware of your emotions. Being present both physically and emotionally is incredibly important. When you are absent spiritually, it affects the whole group and the work that you are doing. One technique that you can use to define a group's spirit is through developing group norms or working agreements which define the rules for how the group will interact and work together. The ultimate goal is to create an environment where group members feel safe and free to learn, explore and interact.

**Setting**

To establish a Gracious Space, pay attention to the physical environment. Physical space has the ability to support or impede the work. Consider the hospitality, room arrangement, comfort and location. Sometimes just simply greeting people at the door or by name as they come into the room can relieve a level of anxiety and contribute to a Gracious Space.

**Invite the Stranger**

This tenet refers to the willingness and ability to seek out different people, ideas and perspectives, even if they are different, inconvenient or uncomfortable. The first step is to identify the 'stranger' to figure out what voice is missing and what you might be able to learn from this person. Next, strategically ask this person to be a part of your group. Make sure to use the other tenets of Gracious Space to make this person feel comfortable and a welcomed valued voice. Sometimes this can 'rock the boat' a little but it's important to remember that for groups to have long-term success and to tackle complex issues, the stranger is incredibly important. There are times when it might be difficult or impossible to find the stranger or get him/her into the room. If that is the case, take the time as a group to still consider the perspectives of this person.

**Learn in Public**

Learning in public can be uncomfortable. However, when you are open to this possibility it opens the door to new opportunities. People who create a Gracious Space, listen more and judge less. It requires us to let go of always being right, to be vulnerable and to learn from differences. It means taking risks and even making mistakes. However, this is a space that allows us to work across boundaries, share diverse perspectives and discover transformative solutions. This tenet takes self-awareness to be strategic and pay attention to your own learning.

Together, these four tenets of Gracious Space can be transformative. They allow groups to get to the next level by bringing a positive spirit, attending to the physical setting, inviting the stranger and learning together. For more information about Big Sky Big Leadership or to request a presentation about Gracious Space, contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or Allison.kosto@montana.edu. Gracious Space is a licensed program through the Center for Ethical Leadership and must be taught by a certified facilitator.



**LETTERS  
to the  
EDITOR**



**No Single Vote Should Count That Much**

Representative Matt Rosendale's article in the MT 43 News (Feb 23, 2024). Representative Rosendale announced his withdrawal from the Senate race because his opponent had been endorsed by Donald Trump. No American should feel compelled to withdraw their candidacy due to the vote of a single person. No single person should have that much influence in any aspect of American politics. It doesn't matter if you do or do not like Matt Rosendale. It doesn't matter if you do or do not like Donald Trump. The fact that Mr. Rosendale withdrew because of Mr. Trump's endorsement means your vote never mattered. Mr. Rosendale lost that Senate race to one, single vote.

Republicans are not the only group suffering from this deplorable situation. Everyone is holding their breath to know who billionaire entertainer Taylor Swift will endorse. She endorsed Joe Biden in 2020. With 270 million Instagram subscribers worldwide she has considerable influence. Some think she doesn't have that much influence, but let her endorse a congressional candidate in one state and watch how much influence she has. I find Ms. Swift's influence as deplorable as Mr. Trump's, and it is unconscionable that anyone should feel they cannot campaign against and overcome a single vote.

Love him or hate him, Montanans lost a valuable candidate when he decided he couldn't overcome Donald Trump's endorsement. Not your endorsement. Not mine. Trump's. Mr. Rosendale lost the Senate race to one, single vote. And the voter doesn't even live here.

Should we not allow endorsements? You'll find I'm guilty. I've put political signs on our storefront. But I'd like to believe if I thought or knew that I had so much influence that my one endorsement could ensure a loss, if not a win, I wouldn't post the signs. I believe that's a responsible use of my influence.

So, if I have any influence, let me convince you of this: register to vote right now and vote in the upcoming primaries on June 4th, then in the general election on November 5th. Encourage everyone you know to do the same. And don't vote for anybody because you think someone who endorsed them is smarter or wiser than you. Vote for someone because you feel they'll do the best job for you.

**JB Howick**  
*A Concerned Citizen*

**Voter Questions Election Rhetoric**

This election season is already too long. Try to listen to the news at night and there are more political ads than news. We mute all of them, both parties. As soon as the mailers start to come, many land in the garbage. We don't need the same one over and over. Just think how many people could be fed and find affordable housing or health insurance with the money spent. One person told me they donate because they want certain things done. So it is true, they are buying that person's vote. If I give a million dollars, I would get what I want. Too bad Burger King and Walmart employees. Who is going to help them?

Another point is that John Tester is the only person in this from Montana. I haven't checked the new ones that have filed, but I will.

We hear so much about Biden's age. He is too old. Do you realize that Donald Trump is 77, the same age Biden was when he was elected? He has made some mistakes but you never hear about them if you don't investigate. I wonder who would have the nerve to have each one take a memory test like all Medicare patients. Have you noticed one party isn't allowed to practice free will? The boss has told the leaders of the house who he should endorse. The boss told him not to bring the immigration policy to a vote. Makes me think they are afraid of someone. Sounds like Russia.

**Sharon Obrigewitch**  
*Townsend, MT*

**Townsend and Broadwater Government Review**

**Nancy Marks and Keith Hammond**

*Keith Hammonds, Publisher of the Boulder Monitor  
Adapted by Nancy Marks, MT 43 News*

Broadwater County and Townsend have had the same forms of government in place for as long as anyone can remember. But on June 4, voters will have the opportunity to decide if they'd like to contemplate something different.

Montana's state constitution requires that, every 10 years, all municipalities and counties ask voters to choose whether to establish a commission to study their current form of government and consider alternatives. It is a uniquely Montana requirement, intended to give citizens the power to decide if their local government is appropriately structured. Montana is, in fact, the only U.S. state with such a mandate, yielding a decennial process that's both geeky and, viewed through the lens of democratic function, gripping.

Broadwater County Commissioners and Townsend City Council have approved the required ballot initiatives at their respective meetings February 21 and 20. The initiatives don't constitute a commitment to change anything. They simply let voters decide to elect a commission charged with completing a study along with an Ex-officio member who is appointed by the governing body. If voters say yes, at least three study commissioners are elected in the following general election Nov. 5.

The commission then has up to two years to do its work. It must hold at least one public meeting to disseminate information and invite comment and then another to present its findings. Ultimately, the commission can either decide on no change to the existing government form or recommend something new. That recommendation can entail an amendment to the current plan of government, or a new plan. The commission also can recommend a consolidation of a county and municipality or the merger of multiple counties. Any recommendation would go before voters.

For the study to go forward, voters must approve a mill levy or an amount of funding not to exceed a dollar amount, to support expenses of the commission. Estimate of potential expenses vary and ultimately are up to the county or municipality: the Local Government Center at Montana State University, which advises governments

on the study process, has described a sample budget of \$17,000 for studies by smaller municipalities, but it notes that actual expenses depend on local needs and expectations.

Townsend City Council allocated up to \$22,600 for the study at its February 20 meeting. County Commissioners put the number at \$27,000, should the voters opt to commission a study.

In 2004 and a decade earlier, in 1994, Broadwater County voters opted for a study commission, but they voted not to change forms of government. Statewide, according to the Local Government Center, the number of study commissions has declined over time. In 2014, voters in just 11 of 56 counties voted for commissions and none of those studies produced recommendations for change. Among municipalities in 2014, 49 supported study commissioners: only five produced ballot proposals for changes, down from 28 in 2006 – and none of those passed.

Besides the charter model, there are five essential forms of local government described by state law: Broadwater County and most other counties operate under a Commission government wherein commissioners, elected to six-year terms, collectively head the county's legislative, executive and administrative functions other than the powers and duties of local government not specifically reserved by law or ordinance to other elected officers - County Attorney, Sheriff, Treasurer, Clerk and Recorder, Clerk of District Court and Justice of the Peace.

In the "Presiding Officer" version, a chair elected by the commissioners is head of the local government.

Townsend, like most Montana municipalities, has a Council-Executive model. City councilors and a mayor are elected officials, with the mayor given oversight over most city departments.

An alternative to the Council-Executive model is the Council-Manager form, which requires the city council to appoint a paid manager, an administrative officer responsible to the council for the government's function.

The Town Meeting government, by contrast, consists of an assembly of qualified electors from a community, which decides on rules, resolutions and ordinances. The Town Meeting form is available only to communities of fewer than 2,000 people.

For more information on voter outcomes in past years, go to MSU County Voter Review Outcomes.

**WHAT DO YOU KNOW?**

**MT 43 News Staff**

Broadwater Community Development Corporation awarded Townsend Hardware a storefront grant recently. When owner JB Howick removed the siding, he found this hand-painted mural.

Does anyone know when and by who it was painted? We're curious to find out more! Send your answer to [mt43news@mt43news.com](mailto:mt43news@mt43news.com), stop by the office at 401 Broadway or call (406) 266-0086. Regular office hours are 10am- 2pm, Monday through Friday.



*Left and Right Sides of Mural on Storefront at Townsend Hardware  
Nancy Marks Photo*

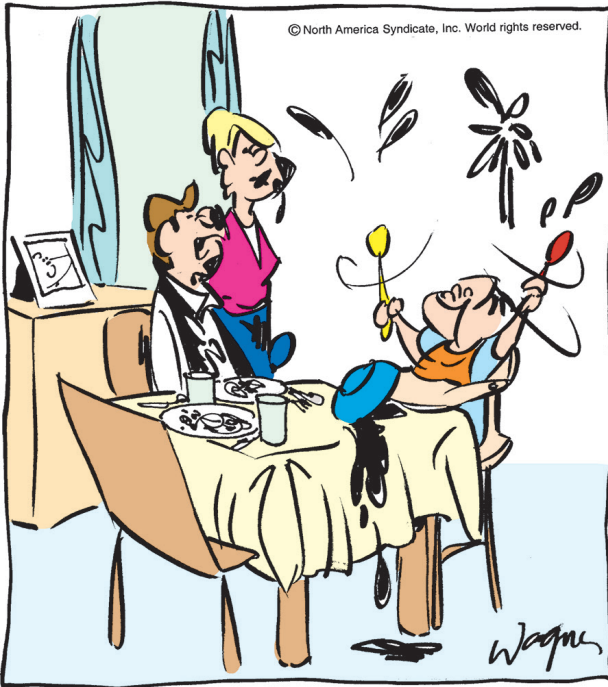
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**Just Like Cats & Dogs** by Dave T. Phipps



Mahto just found out March 4th is **NATIONAL SNACK DAY!** What's your favorite snack?

**GRIN and BEAR IT** by Wayne



"Otis really seems to enjoy the dining experience."

**"3-5, 45-minute exercise sessions a week delivered optimal mental health benefits."** UCLA Health



MOVE YOUR BODY TO MOVE YOUR MOOD

**CryptoQuip**  
answer  
If you crossed a centipede and a parrot, I wonder if you'd end up with a walkie-talkie.

**"BE YOURSELF. EVERYONE ELSE IS ALREADY TAKEN."**  
- OSCAR WILDE

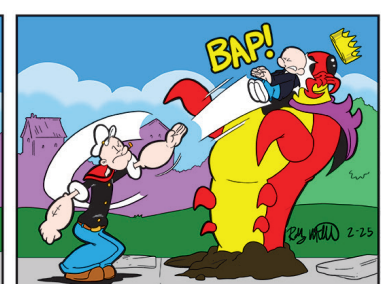
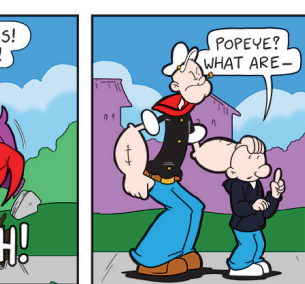
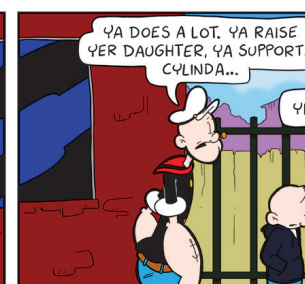
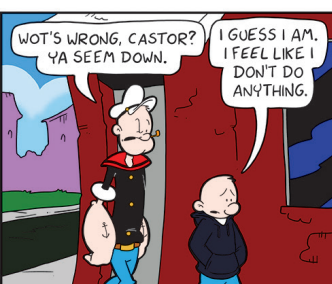
**KNIGHT MOVES**  
Answer

M	R	U
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COMPUTER

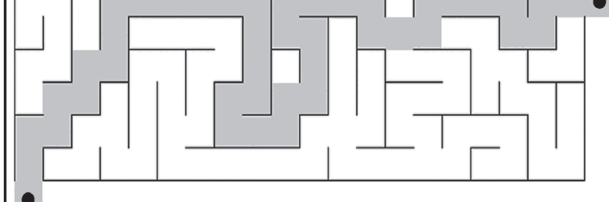
**SCRAMBLERS**  
solution  
1. Cipher 2. Dream; 3. Garble; 4. Notate  
Today's Word  
**BLIND**

**THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS POPEYE**  
BY RANDY MILHOLLAND



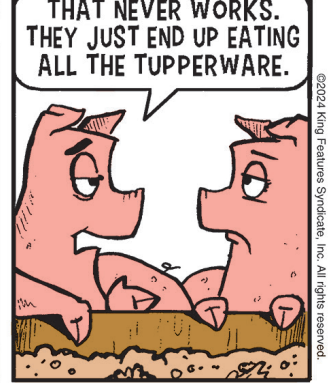
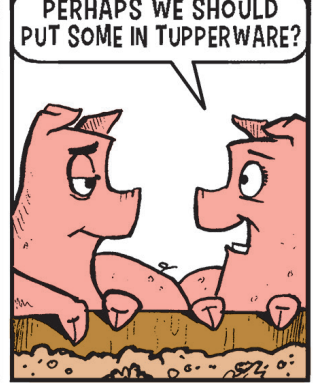
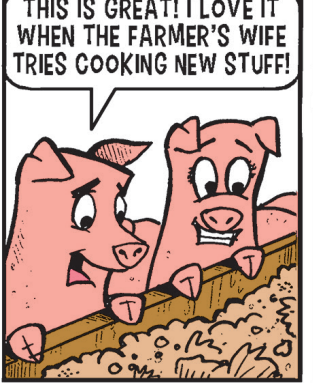
**Barnes Jewelry**  
357 N Last Chance Gulch,  
Helena MT  
406-442-3000

**Kids' Maze Solution**



**Amber Waves**

by Dave T. Phipps



**LEYLAND INSURANCE**

**MARK LEYLAND**  
406-438-7315  
LEYLANDMT.COM  
TURNING 65 SOON?  
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!

**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

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

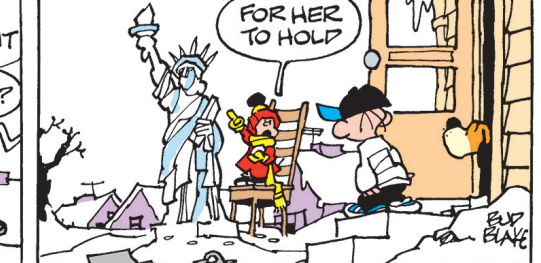
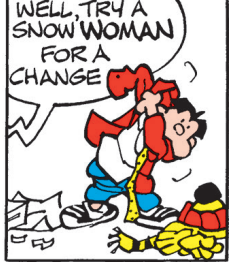
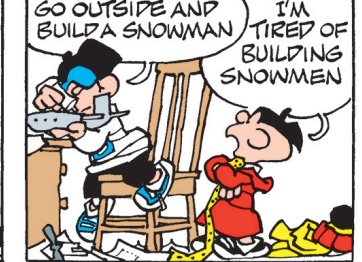
**The Spats**

by Jeff Pickering



**TIGER**

by BUD BLAKE



**Out on a Limb**

by Gary Kopervas



**BSE EXCAVATING**  
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**BRANDON BAKKEN**  
**SHANE TEW**  
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C - (406)980-1100

**Super Crossword**

Answers

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




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## Council Approves 'Playable' Heritage Park Project

Linda Kent  
 MT43 News Staff Reporter

Updated swings and bouncers for Heritage Park's play equipment area got a boost on Feb. 20 as Townsend's City Council greenlit a local teen's Eagle Scout project. Townsend Troop 212 Scout John Sommer and his mother, Stacy Sommer of Helena's Playable Playgrounds, presented John's proposal to replace the existing adult and toddler swing sets with updated equipment, featuring additional equipment to improve accessibility.

Stacy Sommer, a veteran of numerous playground improvement efforts in the region, including the purchase and installation of the tall play structure at Townsend Elementary, explained that the park's swing bays are out-of-date and need to be replaced. The project replaces those with four new belt swings, two bucket swings for toddlers, a high-backed accessible swing, and a "generational swing" which would allow an adult and child to swing together. The project also replaces two bouncers which are no longer in use.

The city was asked to remove and dispose of the existing equipment. Stacy Sommer estimated that the work might take anywhere from less than an hour to several days, depending on what the equipment is sitting on.

Funding for the approximately \$15,000 project comes from a \$10,000 matching grant from Townsend's Rotary Club. The group plans to pursue additional grant funding from Walmart, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and others. Project team members also plan to seek donations of concrete and post-hole digging equipment. Scouts and Rotary Club members will provide labor for the installation, with insurance for the project covered by Boy Scouts of America.

The work would need to be completed by September to meet the requirements for John Sommer's Eagle Scout award.

Council member JB Howick asked for clarification on whether the city would be responsible for the maintenance of the equipment. Stacy Sommer said she expected Townsend Rotary would assume the responsibility but did not have confirmation. Maintenance, she continued, would primarily consist of inspecting and replacing the swings' belts and buckets at a cost of \$130-200 per unit every two or so years.

The council approved the project in a 5-1 vote. Howick dissented, citing the lack of a written agreement regarding maintenance.

Also on the Feb. 20 agenda:

- A public hearing will be held at the beginning of the March 5 city council meeting to gain comment on the plan to end its interlocal agreement with Broadwater County for the City-County airport.
- Councilors adopted a resolution to place a five-member city government review board on the June primary ballot. A review of local government is required every 10 years by Montana law. The elected board

would conduct the study and recommend whether to retain the city's current council and mayor structure or adopt a council and city manager structure.

- The council voted to conditionally approve the annexation of land adjacent to the current city limits north of Cherry Street. The property, owned by Out of the Box, L.L.C., is planned to house a condominium development. The city's approval of the annexation is dependent on the completion of infrastructure projects by Out of the Box, including water and sewer extensions, extension of North Cherry Street, completion of boulevards and sidewalks, and related fees and permits.
- Public Works Director Eric Crutsch presented three estimates for inspecting the sewer line between South Cherry and South Walnut streets and locating service locations. The work comes in anticipation of the planned Copper Springs Subdivision, which will include the installation of a new sewer lift station in the project's planned third phase. The estimates included a low bid of approximately \$600 for a television scan of the line only and two bids of \$6,000 and \$6,800 for a scan and measurement of each tap. The council asked Crutsch to follow up with the low bidder to determine whether the additional measurement service could be provided and what additional cost might be incurred.
- Heather Healea was appointed to the city's planning board, replacing city council member JB Howick. Howick will resume his previous role as an observer.
- Jim Beck presented the results of his annual community water flow study. The study collected daily throughput volume at Townsend's lift station and the city's sewer lagoon outlet, as well as the output of the city's wells during 2023. Beck told the council the data showed nothing of concern from the previous year. Beck also included a plot of the surface water levels near the city's lift station for 2023, contrasted with similar data from each of the previous five years.
- Shawn Simon of the Townsend Volunteer Fire Department presented estimates for replacing 16 sets of air tanks, masks, and packs for the city's volunteers. The estimate from SeaWestern Fire Fighting Equipment put the cost of 16 new sets, good for about 15 years, at \$47,000. That estimate would only be valid through April. Certified used equipment, which would need to be recertified or replaced in two years, at around \$8,900.

Simon said he felt that given the amount of use the equipment would get, the cost of a wholly new set would not be justified. He added that used equipment would still be significantly better than the current packs. Simon also said that the city might be able to obtain a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant for the new equipment. However, like all grants, that funding would not be guaranteed. The council will take the matter under advisement.



## AI: The Confusion Continues

Victor Sample



My wife, Pam, was doing her morning Wordle. She was stuck trying to find a word beginning with the letters "ps".

So, I suggested psychology.

That wasn't the answer so I went to my friendly Google AI (now called Gemini instead of Bard). I asked for a list of words beginning with "ps".

Gemini: There are many, many words that begin with "ps"! Here are some options: Common words: Do you want a list of everyday words like "post", "psycho", or "price"?

So I replied I didn't want words like "post" or "price" since they didn't start with "ps".

Gemini: I apologize for the mistake! You are absolutely right, neither "post" nor "price" starts with "ps." How about Words related to a specific field: Like "psychology," "science," or "music"?

I again pointed out that neither "science" nor "music" starts with the letters "ps".

Gemini: You're right again, I apologize for my repeated mistakes. I still seem to be struggling with understanding your request. Let's start over. You wanted a list of words starting with "ps" that are not "post" or "price."

I said yes, any words that start with "ps".

I then received a list of about 15 words that actually began with "ps" - except for "polystyrene".

I then asked: polystyrene?

Gemini: You're right! "Polystyrene" is indeed a word that starts with "ps." It's a versatile and widely used plastic with a variety of applications.

I pointed out polystyrene begins with "po".

Gemini: I apologize again for the mistake. You are absolutely correct, "polystyrene" starts with "po", not "ps". I seem to be making recurring errors, and I appreciate your patience as I learn and improve.

Is there anything else I can help you with today? Perhaps you have other questions about polystyrene or other words starting with "po"?

The AI engine seems to have lost track of our conversation!

**IN ADDITION TO BEING SHARE A SMILE DAY, WORLD COMPLIMENT DAY AND WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, MARCH 1ST BEGINS INTERNATIONAL IDEAS MONTH!**

# NOTARY PUBLIC

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**Late winter garden tasks**

Preparing for spring gardening can include taking a soil sample to your county extension office (or purchasing an at-home testing kit) to learn what nutrients may need to be purchased and integrated into your soil before planting.

Treading across the earth while it is still wet can lead to soil compaction; this impedes root growth and affects water drainage during the growing season. Plan walkways throughout your planting areas using stones, mulch or gravel.

If soil "heaving" has exposed your in-ground perennials and bulbs and temps are still very cold, protective mulch should stay in place over them and may need to be supplemented. - Brenda Weaver  
 Source: thegrace.com

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# THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

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& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

## February 29

1968

*"Toston Briefs" by Barbara Berberet*

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Rauser, Sr. on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception was held Sunday in the multi-purpose room in Townsend for them and many friends and relatives attended.

Mrs. Lorena Flynn accompanied Mr. and Mrs. McElwee to Ennis Sunday where she and Mrs. McElwee bowled in a tournament.

Visitors at the Bill Hardgrove Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leanhart and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hardgrove of Townsend.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Plummer were callers in Bozeman Monday.

Mrs. Ken Clark and Debbie stayed in Bozeman to attend the basketball tournament.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lane of Three Forks spent the week end at the Franklin Slifka home. Nicole Lane celebrated her first birthday.

Miss Glenda Wallace and Tracy Plummer visited at the Jim Plummer home Sunday afternoon.

Jeff Noyd was a week end guest of Steve Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Finch were week end guests of Mrs. Finch's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Plummer and family.

Mrs. Joyce Miller, Jema and Gay were business callers in Helena Monday.

1996

*Brammer Named NCO of the Year*

Sgt. Robert N. Brammer, son of Jerry and Fleda Brammer

of Townsend, was recently named the Montana National Guard's Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

Brammer, a 1986 graduate of Broadwater High School, is a senior at Montana State University in Bozeman. He and wife, Karin, have a daughter, Margie.

The National Guard's selection process is a year-round recognition of outstanding soldiers. Brammer and Soldier of the year SPC Debbie Selva of Helena will represent Montana at the 5th US Army level and could go on to the National Guard Bureau Soldier of the Year competition.

Runner-up for the NCO of the Year Award was Sgt. John B. Crawford, an Emergency Treatment non-commissioned officer based in Kalispell. Brammer serves the Guard as Team Chief, HHC1-189 Avn BN (CSAB) in Helena.

Soldier of the Year Selva is a helicopter repairer for Helena's Co B 1-112th Avn Bn. In her civilian job, Selva works as a bookkeeper for a casino.

*Leprechaun Festival Planned for March 16*

The Broadwater Health Center Auxiliary recently finalized plans for the ninth annual Leprechaun Festival, March 16, in the Townsend Elementary School Multi-purpose Room.

Chairpersons for the event are Midge Bucy luncheon committee; Donna Byrne, raffle; Pauline Webb and Ruth Zimmerman, handicraft table; Rene Dagnall and Ruth Blaseg, bake sale; Cora Lee Horne, dining room.

The auxiliary has purchased over \$20,000 for the hospital since the groups inception.

Anyone wishing to donate food or handicraft items would be appreciated. For more information, contact Mildred Neild.

1912

*Local Briefs*

Vic Miller, the local desperado, who has been in the pen and other similar resorts, escaped this evening from the county jail while he and other prisoners were dining. Sheriff Doggett will probably catch the villain.

C.H. Shepherd, the polished and erudite clerk of the Townsend Hardware Company, has had tanned the hide of a standard bred coyote and the robe of a fire-eyed bobcat. He is now having these embellished with plush for use in his sleeping and lounging apartments at the McCormick habitat for bachelors.

1940

*Ski Tow Will Be in Operation Sunday*

The Townsend ski club had their tow working for the first time this year last Sunday and many enjoyed the easy way of ascending the hill and the swift descent on their skis. The tow will be running again this coming Sunday when a charge will be made to assist in the expense of operation, the officers report.

The tow is located in Slater's bowl in Deep Creek Canyon, "Skiers' paradise", where no wind blows and where the snow stays longer. Even if Sunday is a thawing day, the snow should be fair in the bowl it is anticipated the skiing should be good.

Do you know what you get when JB forgets to build an advert on Monday? A SALE! 10% off everything Today and Tomorrow!

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## Honoring Our Veterans Jim Lether

Matthew Nelson



Jim Lether served in the U.S. Air Force from September of 1956 until November 1959, most of the time at Misawa AFB in Japan. Although his career field was technically that of Small Arms and Special Weapons, he never really worked it.



*Jim Lether, U.S. Air Force Veteran  
Photo by Matt Nelson*

Originally he is from Holiday Utah, about 20 miles South of Salt Lake City. One of Jim's friends from high school encouraged him to go join the Air Force. His basic training was at Lackland AFB near San Antonio, Texas. From there

he went to Lowry AFB outside of Denver, where he was given his training on Small Arms and Special Weapons. At the time a B-52 was there, and he was trained on some of the weapon systems on it.

Upon graduation, initially, Jim was assigned to go to Europe, and another man was assigned to Japan. However, that guy asked Jim to trade with him, and it didn't matter much to Jim, so that's how he ended up going to Misawa AFB, located on the Northern end of Honshu Island.

Before he left San Francisco for Japan, he was riding with some friends going to Reno, and their car was in a head-on collision with a semi-truck. They wound up in a river. Jim was riding in the back. All of them managed to get out by breaking the windows, but the man next to Jim ended up drowning, and Jim was swept down the river about a mile. He managed to grab onto a tree

branch and bring himself to safety. Some people on the other side of the river saw him and yelled for him stay there, and they came and got him and then found the two men who had been riding in front seat. All were taken by ambulance to Placerville, CA. They were in the hospital for a few days, and after Jim was released he proceeded on to Japan flying in Lockheed Super Constellation, the C-121.

Between the approximately 24 hours of flight time to Tokyo, and another 24 hours by train to Misawa, and a series of misadventures, he finally made it. The base commander met him asked Jim why he was there. Jim said "I have no idea why I am here." The commander told Jim that he was going to be reassigned, he shouldn't be there. He was there for 2 1/2 years not being reassigned! He didn't really have anything to do. All he had to do was maintain contact with the squadron, and volunteered for many duties just to keep busy. He did do some work with the small arms, but what he liked better was doing a lot of hunting and fishing. He was assigned to a barracks with two-man rooms. They had to pay \$2.00 a month for the Japanese people who came in and cleaned their rooms, including changing their sheets, and another \$2.00 a month for the Japanese people who did K.P. Rough life! All Jim had to do every weekly morning was to report for roll call at the hangar at 7 AM.

He met a Captain who was a supply officer, and also a T-33 jet pilot. This Captain grew up in a town in Utah not far from where Jim grew up. Although Jim was enlisted and the other guy was an officer, they established a good friendship. Part of the mission of the Air Force in Misawa was to map South Korea. One day The Captain had to take a part over to Korea, and asked Jim if he would like to fly over there with him. That was the start of

the two of them flying together often, and eventually the Captain taught Jim how to take-off, fly, and land the T-33.

After Jim was honorably discharged from the Air Force, he went to work with the original Frontier Airlines in the operational area, selling tickets, handling baggage, fueling aircraft, etc. When Frontier went under in 1986, Jim transferred to Northwest Airlines. While living in Bozeman, Jim did a lot of hunting and fishing, and eventually moved to Townsend so he could be close to Canyon Ferry Lake. He said he had been fishing the lake for 40 years, and also he had sold real estate for 40 years. Also, in Bozeman he was instrumental in starting the Gallatin County Search and Rescue team. He and other people became diver certified, and unfortunately, recovered several drowning victims. Jim was with the team for 13 years, and even now has a lot of emotion in his voice as he described what he did.

Jim and his wife Pat moved here about three years ago. They are the parents of one daughter and three sons, and they have six grandchildren. They are members of the Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church, which they can easily see from their house.

Jim is a very strong Christian, and also is a very strong patriot. He started being a patriot the day he was born, on July 4th! God Bless.



*Pat and Jim Lether  
Photo Courtesy of Jim Lether*