

Ducks Unlimited Banquet a Success

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The annual Ducks Unlimited (DU) banquet on Saturday, November 9, brought 180 people to Watson Event Center to enjoy both silent and live auctions, dinner and community.

Representatives of Willie's Distillery in Ennis were there to not only to showcase their new flavors (Huckleberry Sweet Cream Liqueur & Salted Caramel Cream Liqueur) but also many Banded Raffle Items from Willies: Snowcrest Vodka, Cattledog Whiskey, Montana Honey Moonshine, to name a few. They also had a no-host bar that had a variety of Willie's signature drinks (and many more).

There were 36 live auction items and 16 guns of assorted calibers that were raffled to excited attendees. This reporter was fortunate to bid on (and win) a beautiful crosscut saw.

A dinner of Prime Rib brought everyone to their feet to stand in line for the feast. That's when you could really see the amount of people who were there. 180 makes a significant line. Significant monies go



Auction Item
Dee Gannon Photo



Well attended at Watson's Event Center
Dee Gannon Photo

to Ducks Unlimited. This year's banquet and auction brought \$40,000 to be given to DU.

Thank you to the Sponsors of 2024's DU Banquet: Erick Sorenson, Bob Scott (Robert's Tire), Tanner Tripp Ernie & Renee Lundberg, Mike Clingan (MT Outdoor Imagery), Dan & Bernadette Swenson (Shauber Surveying), Jesse & Lareissa Swenson (Sapphire Behavioral Health), John Fuchs (Commercial Bar), Joe & Kim Kondelik, Ross Johnson, Lloyd Studer, Don & Jenny Shauber and James Ritten. The Underwriters and donors are just as important: Jim Leitzke, Eagle Beverage, Willie's Distillery, Capital Sports, Smoothbore Enterprises, Cadillac Custom Cabinets, Juniper

Maiden, Opportunity Bank, MT Outdoor Imagery, Old Baldy Golf Course, Bob's Supermarket, Erick Sorenson, Don & Jenny Shauber, Townsend Hardware, Townsend Spirits, Rocky Mountain Supply, Sapphire Behavioral Health, Jeannie Steele Realty, Riley stove, Mountie Moose, Bird's Nest, Creative Closet, Goose Bay Glass, Shauber Surveying, Watson's Gym and Ducks Unlimited. Please patronize these donors; they do so much for our community.

Ducks Unlimited is an American 501 non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of wetlands and associated upland habitats for waterfowl, other wildlife and people.

EARLY DEADLINES for HOLIDAY EDITIONS



Print Date	Ad Date & Time	Article Date & Time
• Fri. 11.29.24	Fri. 11.22.24 @ 10AM	Fri. 11.22.24 @ 12PM
• Fri. 12.27.24	Fri. 12.20.24 @ 10AM	Fri. 12.20.24 @ 12PM
• Fri. 01.3.25	Fri. 12.27.24 @ 10AM	Fri. 12.27.24 @ 12PM

Lions and Rotary Christmas Dinner and Light Tour

Bob Brastrup
Townsend Lions Club

The morning coffee group was gathered at the Commercial one December 2005 morning and the conversations centered around whether there would be enough ice for the Lions Perch Derby, the weather, and the upcoming Christmas Concerts at the school. During a lull in the conversation, Bill Kearns mentioned that there was a person who would have a lonely Christmas because she had lost a spouse and was house bound. Bill and Anita were taking her out to dinner that night after which they were going to tour the Christmas lights in town.

What a wonderful idea! There were a couple of Lion Club members who took the idea to the club and suggested the club sponsor a Christmas meal and light tour for area senior citizens. The club enthusiastically endorsed the idea and began making plans for 2006.

Cost for the project was a big unknown. Joe and Bev Baze obtained a grant from Walmart which covered the program costs for the first two years. Since then, the Lion and Rotary Clubs have financed the program.

Obtaining names of people to invite to the event was time consuming and the club asked the Townsend Rotary Club if they would like to co-sponsor the event. They were happy to join the program. This year marks the 19th year for the event!

Each year there are a number of people who are unable to attend the meal and tour due to illness and

other circumstances. Those individuals are provided with a poinsettia.

The meal is served at the Senior Center and Carol Anderson has been the outstanding chef since that first meal in 2006. Rides to the dinner are provided for those who have limited transportation. Following the dinner, participants are given a bus tour of the Townsend Christmas lights.

Members of various student school organizations have helped serve the meal and led the singing during the tour. One year, as the tour passed an especially well-lit residence, one person was heard to exclaim, "I wouldn't want their light bill!"

This year's event will be held December 9 and 10. The number of participants is limited due to the facility size. If you want to participate you can let your interest be known by calling Teena Larson at 406-980-1044 or Angie Wintrow at 406-980-1607.

Residents are asked to leave their decorations on until 9 p.m. on December 9 and 10 so those on the tour can enjoy them.

Thanks to Bill and Anita Kearns for the establishment of a wonderful Townsend tradition and to everyone who supports the various Lions and Rotary fund-raising programs. It is the profit

Senior Dinner and Light Tour

The Townsend Rotary Club and the Townsend Lions Club are excited to once again be sponsoring the Annual Senior Citizens Dinner and Christmas Light Tour.

"It will be on December 9th and December 10th. Everyone will have a great time!"

Dinner will be served at 5:00 and the light tour will start at 6:00.
Dinner will be prepared and served at the Townsend Senior Citizens Center. Rides will be provided to the event for anyone that needs one.

Please plan on attending and having a terrific evening!

Rotary and Lions Clubs will be calling Seniors for reservations. You can also call Teena Larson at 406-980-1044 or Angie Wintrow at 406-980-1607 for more information or to reserve your spot.

from those programs that provide the financing for the various events sponsored by these clubs.

East Helena Man Sentenced to 10 Years for Firing Gun in Townsend Robbery

Independent Record Staff

An East Helena man who fired a gun during a robbery of a Townsend gas station was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in prison, to be followed by three years of supervised release, officials said.

Samuel James Collins, 34, pleaded guilty in July to possessing and discharging a firearm during a crime of violence, U.S. Attorney Jesse Laslovich said.

Chief U.S. District Judge Brian M. Morris presided in Great Falls.

In court documents, the government alleged that on Oct. 16, 2023, Broadwater County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a reported armed robbery at the Town Pump gas station in Townsend.

Two employees told law enforcement that a man entered wearing a hooded blanket coat, was not wearing pants or shoes, and fired a round from a pistol. The



Security camera scene at Town Pump the night of October 16, 2023.
Photo Credit: United States Attorney's Office

suspect demanded money, and the employees complied. The suspect left in a pickup truck with an estimated \$330 in cash. Video surveillance from the business captured the incident.

Published in the Nov. 15 Independent Record.

Broadwater Bulldog Cross Country Awards



Kaden Bruins, Gavin Green, Nolan Flynn, and Ross MacDonald show their hard-earned awards.
MT43 News Sports Reporter

Kaelyn Sangray, Kyla Meissner, and Elaine MacDonald celebrate their 2024 XC season.
MT43 News Sports Reporter

MT43 News Sports Reporter

The Broadwater Bulldog cross-country team wrapped up their season with their award banquet on Tuesday. Longtime coach, Brooke Dolan, called this group of ten boys and nine girls a special team that “truly cares about each other, whether that be cheering each other’s achievements or consoling a bad day”.

Constant improvement was the theme of the season, as personal records were eclipsed many times over. It is hard to compare week-to-week in cross-country as the course and conditions can vary greatly. However, 2024’s season had the unique advantage of running the same course in Missoula at the Mountain West Classic and the State Competition in nearly identical conditions exactly one month apart. The men’s team averaged an improvement of 54 seconds, while the ladies improved by an astonishing 1:51.

This team just kept working, which assistant coach, Louis Ingalls equated to success in life beyond running. Setting that example of persistence and determination were the incredible group of seniors: Kaden Bruins, Nolan Flynn, Grace Kroeger, Ross MacDonald, Scarlett McDaniel and Kaelyn Sangray.

One of the most difficult accomplishments in fall sports is to stand on the podium at the completion of the state cross-country meet; the top 15 runners automatically earn all-state honors with that feat. A look at the numbers: 337 boys and 253 girls competed in class B this year, which means the top 4-5 percent earn this honor. Townsend had three atop the podium this season: Kyla Meissner, Elaine MacDonald, and Nolan Flynn.

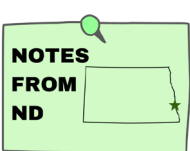
Each of these athletes who trained more than 300 miles in preparation for 30 miles of racing during a short 2 ½ month season each deserves an award but a few notable mentions. Bulldog Award recipients define Bulldog Cross-country, who show spirit through their

perseverance and work ethic. The Bulldog Award was presented to Kaden Bruins and Elaine MacDonald. Teamwork is what defines the Team Award, granted to those who serve as secondary coaches and who are always “doing the right thing even when no one is looking”. The Team Award was bestowed to Gavin Green and Kaelyn Sangray.

The men’s MVP Award was earned by Nolan Flynn, who coach Dolan says was “one of the smartest runners I’ve ever coached”. Ever the determined runner, Nolan’s last regular season race saw him breaking the school record by a remarkable 30 seconds! The women’s MVP Award was given to Kyla Meissner, a sophomore who coach Dolan’s “expectations of her are endless”. Lastly, the Lifetime Bulldog Award was presented to Ross MacDonald who is “a quiet force who brings kindness and friendship to the team”. Ross’s senior season was his seventh as a Bulldog XC runner, as it was also for Kaelyn Sangray.

Notes from ND

Mikayla Kraft
School Correspondent



Thanksgiving is coming up, and during the little free time I had, I did what every single person does at the start of the Holidays. I pondered all of the recent changes that have happened and every single thing I am thankful for. Obviously, this doesn’t come to mind for most people unless you are at the Thanksgiving Dinner table, but for those who don’t have a secure lifestyle yet or have been going through intense changes, this thought isn’t uncommon.

I am thankful for the short time that I have spent at NDSU. I have made friends that will last a lifetime, found a community of Christians my age that I can grow with during my time on campus, learned what independence looks like, started a life of my own, grown an appreciation for the way I was raised, and so much more. All of these things have helped me to continue to mature as a young adult.

In addition, on the 27th, I fly back to Montana and will be in the Townsend/Helena area for only two and a half days. This will be my first trip back since I moved onto the NDSU campus. Not only am I incredibly thankful to be able to go home for even only a few days to see my family, but I am also thankful that it has been at little expense to me. Mom and Dad offered to pay for a two-way flight to Montana and back, the only thing I would need to pay for being overnight parking at the airport.

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you,” Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:18. This year has been filled with endings, tears, and a wide range of negative emotions, but through it all, there was joy and peace. I barely remember the negative times in this past year, but these positives stick out clearly. This one is for the 2025 seniors. Be thankful for everything you have gotten to experience this year. It goes by fast, but these will be moments to be thankful for for many years to come.



GO BULLDOGS!!

4-H Members Recognized at Annual Achievement Night

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



On Sunday, November 17, 2024, the 4-H Building was packed as Broadwater County 4-H celebrated its annual 4-H Achievement Night, recognizing 4-H members, volunteers and community members for their achievements and contributions from the past 4-H year.

One of the highlights of the event is recognizing senior-level 4-H members who have gone above and beyond to learn and excel in 4-H. The Achievement Award is given to a 4-H member who has become a skilled, productive and self-directed leader by attaining a broad knowledge of 4-H projects and activities. This year’s recipient was Grace Kroeger.

The recipient of the Leadership Award was Kayla McDonald. This award is given to members who have learned to identify and understand roles, attitudes and tasks necessary for effective lifelong leadership.

The Citizenship Award is given to members who have practiced leadership skills and roles to participate in community affairs and show social responsibility by respecting and responding to the needs of others. The award went to Kaitlyn Noyes.

Spencer Braaten and Cinch Reynolds were the recipients of the Agriculture Award, which is given to members who have demonstrated leadership qualities in agricultural project areas and challenged themselves to continue learning about their project while participating in other facets of the program.

The I Challenge You Award is given to emerging leaders who have the qualities and abilities to lead and to challenge them to achieve their highest potential to influence others through lives of leadership and service. This award went to Emma Delgado, Cheyanne Douglas, Joseph Kroeger and Addy Mosher.

The Friend of 4-H Award goes to a community member, organization or business who has provided a unique contribution to the 4-H program. This year the award went to Julianne Hill for her commitment and support of the 4-H program as the Secretary and Treasurer of the 4-H Livestock Committee for over ten years. The 4-H Spirit Award was given to Brandon and Danyel Henke who are 4-H leaders to give countless hours to support the program.

Receiving the Club Historian Award was Cheyanne Douglas of the Raderburg Rattlers 4-H Club and Lexi Davies and Grace McLaughlin of the Winston Eager Beavers 4-H Club. The following members were

recognized for outstanding 4-H stories: Grace Kroeger, Cheyanne Douglas and Grace McLaughlin.

The following members were recognized for year completion, project work, contests, livestock carcass quality, or Cloverbuds:

Crow Creek Clovers 4-H Club: Anna Dabling, Levi Dabling, Zoe Dabling, Nathan Ferguson, Wyatt Ferguson, Kortney Merritt, Parker Merritt, Ryker Merritt, Blake Roberts, Chayce Roberts, Olivia Roberts, Cole Shumway, Conner Shumway, Barrett Teske and Taylor Teske.

Elkhorn Clovers 4-H Club: Emma Delgado, Magdalena Delgado, Oliver Delgado, Rigoberto Delgado, Patrick Des Chene, Danika Kockler, Bridger Kool, Cole Mikula and Aby Osborne.

Old Baldy 4-H Club: Ava Boaz, Kayley Conner, Hannah Funkhouser, Haylie Funkhouser, Bennett Kirksey, Campbell Kirksey, Everett Kirksey, Titus Kirksey, Grace Kroeger, Abigail McCauley, Calvin McCauley, Evan McCauley, Arabella McDaniel, Scarlett McDaniel, Kyla Meissner, Addyson Mosher, Jazel Ragen, Elena Ragen, Kaelyn Sangray, Kensley Sangray, Quincy Santi, Tana Santi, Karolyn Schmaus, Karter Schmaus, Caleb Swanson, Claire Swanson, Madelyne Truesdell, MaKenzie Truesdell and Parker Truesdell.

Radersburg Rattlers 4-H Club: Cheyanne Douglas, Gage Douglas, Autumn Henke, Charos Neal, Savannah Paulsen McLaughlin, Codie Skillman and Creighton Wright.

Rocky Mountain Rough Hands 4-H Club: Bryleigh Erickson, Grady Erickson, Cassidy Flynn, Colby Flynn, Myla Graveley, Brooklyn Harrigfeld, Hallee Harrigfeld, Sawyer Harrigfeld, Bentley Hoppe, Greyson Hoppe, Jeffrey Klompfen, Ryal Lancello, Kayla McDonald, Evie Moos, Thea Moos, Cinch Reynolds, Rosyn Reynolds and Stetson Reynolds.

Toston Blue Ribbon 4-H Club: Andrew Beatty, Anna Beatty, Emily Bird, Tanner Bird, Tyler Bird, Spencer Braaten, Caleb Crusch, Katey Crusch, Kay Crusch, Jayden Flynn, Kaylee Flynn, Aiden Kitto, Alex Kitto, Kenzie Knaub, Mishayla Lambott, Kaitlyn Noyes, Kathryn Six, Zola Six, Emily Taves, Teigen Volkman and Tucker Volkman.

Winston Eager Beavers 4-H Club: Landen Davies, Lexi Davies, Lucas Davies, Clara Davis, John Davis, Joseph Kroeger, Barrett MacDonald, Elaine MacDonald, Ross MacDonald, Grace McLaughlin, Easton Skovold, Zaiden Skovold, Augustus Van Duin, Charlie Voss, Ava Watne, Cecelia Watne and Scarlett Watne.

For information about 4-H, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406.266.9242 or broadwater@montana.edu. 4-H is a youth development program of Montana State University Extension.

We now offer Sponsorship Advertising!

Local Individuals and Businesses are invited to sponsor a local cause for a month!

- Broadwater Senior Center: Service Available
- Townsend Cat Network: Cat of the Month



Call us at 406.266.0086
Or stop in at 408 Broadway
between 10-2 Mon-Fri

Townsend School Calendar

NOVEMBER

Fri 22
NO SCHOOL-Teacher PIR
 MSGBB - Manhattan Christian Tourney
 6:00 pm: Old Baldy-Studio Ceramics - Pottery Guild


Sat 23
 7:00 pm: StuCo Snowball

Mon 25
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Tue 26
 8:55 am: Pre-K PE - Gym
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Wed 27
 8:55 am: Prek-K PE - Gym
 7:00 pm: Open Gym - Old Baldy
 7:30 pm: Pickleball - Old Baldy - Stage Gym

Thu 28- Fri 29
NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break



NorthWestern Energy

Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Three Forks School Calendar

NOVEMBER

Wed 27- Fri 29
NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break



THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Friday 22
 11:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - LEGO Club

Tuesday 26
 1:00 pm: Three Forks Public Library - Mah Jongg

Wednesday 27
 5:30 pm: Bozeman Music with Steven Stephen at Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Thursday 28
 Three Forks Public Library CLOSED for Thanksgiving

Friday 29
 Three Forks Public Library CLOSED for Thanksgiving




BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Monday 25
 10:00 am: Commission Meeting
 2:00 pm: Commission Working Meeting- CANCELED
 3:00 pm: Board of Health Meeting

Tuesday 26
 10:00 am: Commission Working Meeting (in the Commissioner's Office) - CANCELED

Wednesday 27
 10:00 am: Commission Meeting - RESCHEDULED to November 25, 2024



LIBRARY HOURS

Three Forks Community Library

FALL HOURS:
 Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 10:00am to 5:00pm
 Tuesdays - 10:00am - 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 the website: threeforkslibrary.weebly.com

Broadwater School and Community Library

FALL HOURS:
 Monday-Thursday -- 4:00 - 7:00pm
 Friday-Saturday -- 9:00am - 4:00pm
 Sunday -- 12:00 - 5:00pm
 Curbside also available please call: (406)441-3461

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.
Next meeting: December 18th, 7:00PM
 At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St
 See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

MT43 NEWS EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINE SCHEDULE

Thanksgiving

Advertisement deadline:
 Friday, November 22nd, 10:00 AM

Article deadline:
 Friday, November 22nd, 12:00 PM

Print, mail and distribute to vendors:
 Wednesday, November 27th.

Christmas Stroll

Special ad request deadline:
 Friday, November 29th to Print Friday, December 6.

Christmas

Advertisement deadline:
 Friday, December 20th 10:00 AM

Article deadline:
 Friday, December 20th, 12:00 PM

Print, mail and distribute to vendors:
 Thursday, December 26th

New Year

Advertisement deadline:
 Friday 10:00 AM

Article deadline:
 Friday, Dec 27th, 12:00 PM

Print, mail and distribute to vendors:
 Thursday, Jan 2nd, 2025

TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Now- Sat 30
 Dollar for Dollar Food Pantry Donation Match- **Donate at the Pantry, Bob's or Town Pump**

Friday 22
 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

Saturday 23
 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

Monday 25
 6:00 pm: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805

Tuesday 26
 5:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Food and Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club
 5:30 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Wednesday 27
 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Thursday 28
 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 29
 -Rock Your Plaid at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
 -Black Friday at Townsend Hardware, 204 Broadway
SEE AD ON PAGE 12
 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

Saturday 30
 Hallelujah Saturday at Townsend Hardware, 204 Broadway
SEE AD ON PAGE 12
 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

DECEMBER

Saturday 14
 8:00- 4:00 pm: Broadwater Rod and Gun Club Pistol Course
SEE PAGE 9 FOR TICKET INFO

Just in time for the holidays, MT43 News has adjusted Advertising Rates!

To find our updated Ad Submission Form,

- Visit MT43News.com or
- Stop by 408 Broadway between 10am - 2pm Monday through Friday

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• Fri. 01.3.25	• Fri. 12.27.24 @ 10AM	• Fri. 12.27.24 @ 12PM

MONTANA HEALTH QUOTE

HEALTH INSURANCE
 Individual and Family Plans for 2025

Call for a quote!



Local Agent, Martin Burrig
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ROUTINE RETURNS!

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

Highway 12 Market Place

Handmade & Collectables

Monday- Saturday 10:00am - 4:00pm
200 Broadway St, Townsend, MT
(406) 465-3588

Come in and Shop with our Local vendors!

Bighorn Photos- Jordan Anderson
Need a souvenir for your trip? Photographs of bears, moose, wolves and so much more. Come check it out!

Big Sky 3D Crafts- Laura Thayer
Specializing in 3D printed articulated animals, dice towers and home decor. Custom orders are always welcome.

Big Sky Angels- Laura Stevenson
Montana Crafted: Crochet Items- animals, bags, decor and more, Handpainted-Ornaments and Re-purposed Art


Touch of Twyla's Greeting Cards
Handcrafted Cards, Incense and Incense Burners, Beanies and Diamond Painting Kits.

Woodshaper Unique- Pennie Kittilson
Knives: Bowie and folding, Jewelry: earrings, necklaces, real insect jewelry and Artisan Gifts: plaques, boxes, sun catchers, keychains, magnets

Ya Reckon

Denise Thompson

October is known as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Following is an excerpt from Part 2 in my Epilogue, A Chapter in my Life Story. Why share about my cancer journey in an agricultural column? Well, ranch life literally brought me back to life! The connection is powerful and real and worth sharing. Perhaps this selection will be a blessing to someone in some way, ya reckon?



From March 21, 2019:

“You don’t know this new me; I put my pieces back differently.”

A year ago at this time I had just finished my five weeks of radiation in Zion, Illinois. I was frail and weak; both physically and emotionally! I was grieving!

“The thing about grief is it opens the door to the room in your soul where all your other grief is stored.” (All Things New, John Eldridge)

And as my dear friend, Debbie Holland, pointed out, “THERE IS NO DETOUR AROUND GRIEF!”

I was literally trying to not only release the talons Cancer had on me, but also finish climbing a mountain of other ‘stuff’ that was in front of me!

My dear friend and ‘soul-mother’ (Becky) died in 2017, after a 19-year battle with breast cancer. I was with her at the end, comforting her, praying with her... just loving her!! I was with her at the end, consoling her elderly husband who was beside himself with grief!! I was with her at the end, watching my dear friend...a

Ya Reckon, 1

Townsend's 3rd Annual Native American Heritage Month Celebration

Laura Stevenson

Did you know that New York was the first state to establish an "American Indian Day" in 1916? This effort was to acknowledge the many contributions and accomplishments of the First Nation's people. As part of the bicentennial commemoration in 1976 President Gerald Ford authorized the October 10-16th "Native American Awareness Week."

In 1986 Congress passed S.J. Res.390, requesting that the president designate November 23-30th, as "American Indian Week". Cited from www.senate.gov.

Learning about this was a motivating initiative behind sponsoring an event within our Townsend community. The celebration is intended to spark awareness and excitement around learning more about our local and rich Native American culture.

This year our event kicked off at 11:00 AM, on Sunday, November 4th, at the amazing Townsend Elementary School facility. The kitchen cafeteria area was perfect, allowing us the space for the drummers, dancers, vendors and those who came to have some lunch and expand their appreciation and knowledge of our First Nation's people.

The Last Chance Community Pow Wow Committee brought our celebration to life with their delicious Indian Tacos and Frybread, The Magpie Singers and Dancers and Stories from our Elders.

The atmosphere was filled with the smell of fresh frybread the sounds of singing, drumming, and jingle dancers. I observed an engaged crowd, tapping their heels in sync with the rhythm of the drum and perusing the vendors' wares.

The dancers were brightly dressed in their beautiful regalia; some with jingle cones and detailed beadwork which they had created themselves.

Cary Youpee from the Magpie Singers explained the significance of the drums, songs and introduced the dances.

Elders Daniel Pocha and Louise Fischer enlightened listeners with traditional stories about Creator, life lessons and history of their tribes.

Helena Indian Alliance had a vendor booth filled with information of the resources and the variety of services they offer in Helena.

Bones, Stones, and Brass Indigenous Crafts brought skillfully hand-crafted merchandise including drums made of elk and buffalo skins, turtle shell rattles, hand-beaded jewelry, ribbon skirts and cedar boxes.

Local artist, Amy Lee Smith of Raven's Earthbound Creations, displayed animal pelts, beaded/shell jewelry, and a pair of baby moccasins. She had pictures of her grandfather and was excited to share with anyone who had questions about her craft in her booth.

The Last Chance Community Pow Wow booth displayed information about the demonstrations and events they hold all throughout the State. They also had unique gifts, such as Native American angel ornaments, beautiful artwork and photographs of horse and buffalo. So much to look at and purchase.

An area was available for children young and old to play "Ring the Stick", a popular Native American game played by children. The player tosses the ring into the air and tries catching it with the end of the stick. The game is useful in teaching about the importance of goals, dreams and eye-hand coordination.

Townsend locals and some from surrounding areas



Magpie Singers and Dancers Kicked off the event after a brief introduction from Cary Youpee, the Drum Keeper
Sarah Tallwhiteman Photo



Elder, Daniel Pocha, entertains the crowd
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Tia Tallwhiteman, Tina Marcum, Elder Louise Fischer and Jerrica Marcum
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Townsend local artist, Amy Lee Smith, with her Raven's Earthbound Creations
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Bones, Stones and Brass, Indigenous Crafts of Deer Lodge displayed their handcrafted wares
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Linda Kinsey from Helena Indian Alliance gave out information about programs that support healthy living
Sarah Tallwhiteman Photo

all enjoyed the celebration event; it is estimated that approximately 150 community members celebrated with us this year!

All was made possible because of the contributions of so many, for which we would like to say Thank YOU!:

- Last Chance Community Pow Wow Committee
- Magpie Singers and Dancers
- Helena Indian Alliance
- Story Tellers: Elders Daniel Pocha and Louise Fischer
- Vendors: Raven's Earthbound Creations & Bones, Stones and Brass
- Our local Businesses, The Bird's Nest and HWY 12 Marketplace, who donated bottled water which enabled us to offer "free" water to all participants.
- Juanita Bray and John Larsen, for donating the colored fliers.
- Townsend Schools: Rachael Brug, Jim Riddle and School Staff
- Private Sponsors

See you all next year!



The frybread line went strong for nearly three full hours!
Sarah Tallwhiteman Photo

Group Takes Another Run at Capping Montana Property Taxes

Eric Dietrich
Montana Free Press



MTFP This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press on November 14, 2024. https://montanafreepress.org/2024/11/13/group-takes-another-run-at-initiative-to-cap-montana-property-taxes/?utm_medium=email

New iteration would cap tax value growth at 2% a year on primary residences that don't change ownership.

The initiative would require the state to value homes for tax purposes annually, as opposed to the current two-year cycle, and limit the annual growth in assessed value for primary residences that don't change ownership to 2% a year. When a home is sold, its assessment would generally reset to market value.

Under current law, residential properties are assessed by the state Department of Revenue for tax purposes at the department's best estimate for their market value. As market values spiked amid the state's housing crunch in recent years, that translated into higher tax valuations and higher tax bills for most homeowners.

The series of tax cap initiatives advanced by Monforton's group, similar to California's landmark Prop 13, have broadly sought to shield homeowners from rising taxes. Opponents, including the Montana Federation of Public Employees and the Montana Association of Realtors, have worried the measures would upend the tax system that funds K-12 education, law enforcement and most other local government services. They've also worried that having a tax benefit created by long-term residence would discourage homeowners from upgrading to new homes.

The proposal follows 2022's Constitutional Amendment 121, which failed to clear a ballot collection

threshold after it faced litigation and a \$300,000 opposition campaign. Another push last year by Monforton's group died in the courts after Attorney General Austin Knudsen and the Montana Supreme Court declared that the 2024 iteration of the proposal included too many provisions to comply with the state's single-subject rule.

Monforton said that the new iteration of his group's initiative has been revised to account for last year's court ruling, focusing only on capping tax valuations rather than both valuations and tax rates. He's optimistic that the new proposal will withstand inevitable legal scrutiny.

"We anticipate a blizzard of lawsuits from the state and special interests who will try to prevent homeowners from getting real relief," he said. "And we're confident we'll prevail in the courts."

To download the full initiative go to:

<https://montanafreepress.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/2026-Property-Tax-Initiative.pdf>

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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Water Users (Pursuant to Section 85-2-307, MCA)
 The following application has been submitted to appropriate water in the State of Montana.
 THIS FOREST SERVICE APPLICATION WAS SUBMITTED PURSUANT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE-MONTANA COMPACT AS PRESENTED IN §85-20-1401, MCA.
 OBJECTION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 21, 2024. OBJECTIONS TO THIS APPLICATION MUST BE FILED ON AN OBJECTION TO APPLICATION, FORM NO. 611 AND MUST PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL CREDIBLE INFORMATION. THE SPECIFIC STATUTE PERTAINING TO THESE REQUIREMENTS CAN BE FOUND AT §85-20-1401, ARTICLE VI, MCA. MAIL THE COMPLETED FORM POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE THE SPECIFIED DEADLINE AND \$50.00 FILING FEE TO THE DNRC, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601. THE FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE AT <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Rights/application-status-environmental-assessments/>.
 DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS APPLICATION TO: ATTN: ATTILA J FOLNAGY, (PHONE: (406)444-6630, EMAIL: AFOLNAGY@MT.GOV), 2705 SPURGIN RD, BLDG C, PO BOX 5004, MISSOULA, MT 59804-5004.
 Application Number: 411 30120157
 Owners: USA (DEPT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE)
 WATER RIGHTS PROGRAM MANAGER, NORTHERN REGION, 26 FORT MISSOULA RD, MISSOULA, MT 59804-7203
 Priority Date: OCTOBER 15, 2018 at 02:25 P.M.
 Purpose (Use): INSTREAM FISHERY
 Maximum Flow Rate: 10.50 CFS
 Source Name: RAY CREEK
 Source Type: SURFACE WATER
 Period of Diversion: JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31
 Point of Diversion and Means of Diversion:
 Diversion Means: INSTREAM
 Twp 8N; Rge 4E; County BROADWATER Sec 20;
 ID 1; Qtr Sec: SE Sec 29
 ID 2; Qtr Sec: NE
 ID 3; Qtr Sec: NW
 ID 4; Qtr Sec: SW Sec 30
 ID 5; Qtr Sec: SE Sec 31
 ID 6; Qtr Sec: NE
 ID 7; Qtr Sec: SE
 Twp 7N; Rge 4E; County BROADWATER Sec 6;
 ID 8; Qtr Sec: NE
 ID 9; Qtr Sec: NW
 Purpose (Use): INSTREAM FISHERY
 Period of Use: JANUARY 1 to DECEMBER 31
 Place of Use:
 Twp 8N; Rge 4E; County BROADWATER Sec 20
 ID 1; Qtr Sec: SE Sec 29
 ID 2; Qtr Sec: NE
 ID 3; Qtr Sec: NW
 ID 4; Qtr Sec: SW Sec 30
 ID 5; Qtr Sec: SE Sec 31
 ID 6; Qtr Sec: NE
 ID 7; Qtr Sec: SE
 Twp 7N; Rge 4E; County BROADWATER Sec 6
 ID 8; Qtr Sec: NE
 ID 9; Qtr Sec: NW
 Remarks:
 THIS WATER RIGHT IS FOR INSTREAM USE; THERE IS NO DIVERSION, IMPOUNDMENT, OR WITHDRAWAL ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE AND THE USE DOES NOT CAUSE A NET LOSS OF WATER IN THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY.
 LOCATION OF DOWNSTREAM END OF REACH, NOT TO EXTEND BEYOND FOREST SERVICE BOUNDARY; LATITUDE 46.39459N, LONGITUDE 111.27435W DECIMAL DEGREES, IN THE NENW OF SECTION 6, T7N, R4E, BROADWATER, COUNTY. LOCATION OF UPSTREAM END OF REACH; LATITUDE 46.42724N, LONGITUDE 111.24825W DECIMAL DEGREES, IN THE SWSE OF SECTION 20, T8N, R4E, BROADWATER COUNTY.
PUBLISHED November 22, 2024
MNAXLP

LEGAL NOTICE

Broadwater County is soliciting RFPs Request for Proposals for Solid Waste Disposal
 The sealed bids will be accepted by the Broadwater County Public Works Department at 515 Broadway Street, Townsend, MT 59644. Proposal Due Date December 6th, 2024, by 4:00p.m. No late bids will be accepted.
 Details can be found at <http://www.broadwatercountymt.com> under Public Notices.
PUBLISHED November 8, 15 and 22
MNALXP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Probate No. KEVIN EDWARD WYSE, Deceased.
 NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sandra Gruninger has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
 Claims must be mailed to Sandra Gruninger, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested at 203 North Ewing Street, Helena, Montana, 59601, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.
 Dated this 6th day of November. Sandra Gruninger, Personal Representative JACKSON, MURDO & GRANT, P.C.
 Erin M. Lyndes Attorneys for Personal Representative
Published November 15, 22 and 29, 2024
MNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Broadwater County Planning Board will be taking comments regarding a proposed subsequent minor subdivision, Amended Lot 44 Wheatland Meadows Subsequent Minor Subdivision.
 A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 1:30 pm in The Flynn Building located at 416 Broadway Street, Townsend.
 The proposed subdivision is located in Section 9, Township 2 North, Range 1 East, Broadwater County. The property is located off of Wheatland Meadows Drive approximately one mile (1) mile northwest of the I-90/ Highway 287 interchange. There is 1 lot being reviewed to remove a public access easement.
 Written comments are also being accepted.
 Broadwater County Planning Board
Published November 22 and 29, 2024
MNAXLP

NOTICE TO BROADWATER COUNTY TAXPAYERS FOR MOBILE HOME PROPERTY TAXES

The 2024 MOBILE HOME PROPERTY 2nd half taxes are due by 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2024. After that date the 1st half becomes delinquent with interest accruing at the rate of 5/6 of 1% per month and penalty of 2% of the tax.
 **Please Include Tax ID or Payment Stub with your check
ALL PROPERTY TAXES MAY BE PAID ONLINE. SEE OUR WEBSITE broadwatercountymt.com FOR DETAILS
 Melissa Franks, Treasurer Broadwater County
Published November 22 and 29, 2024
MNAXLP

NOTICE TO BROADWATER COUNTY TAXPAYERS FOR REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAXES

The 2024 REAL ESTATE PROPERTY 1st half taxes are due by 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2024. After that date the 1nd half becomes delinquent with interest accruing at the rate of 5/6 of 1% per month and penalty of 2% of the tax.
 **Please Include Tax ID or Payment Stub with your check
ALL PROPERTY TAXES MAY BE PAID ONLINE. SEE OUR WEBSITE broadwatercountymt.com FOR DETAILS.
 Melissa Franks, Treasurer Broadwater County
Published November 22 and 29, 2024
MNAXLP



November 15

Dee Gannon
 MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Kathy Seeley's courtroom on Friday, November 15 is as follows:

Tylor Castona got new dates for his multiple illegal hunting charges. They include: tampering with evidence and witnesses, (2x) hunting or trapping without a license, (4x) unlawful possession of a game animal, (2x) unlawful transferring a tag or license, (4x) over limit of elk or deer, (2x) illegal license transfer, (2x) using artificial light, waste of a game animal, and failure to obtain permission to hunt private property. Omnibus is due by December 20; Pre-Trial is set for February 14, 2025; Jury trial is scheduled for March 16, 2025.
 Johnny Huffman appeared for an Evidentiary Hearing on charges of criminal endangerment, partner/family member assault (1st offense), partner/family member assault (2nd), intimidation, and tampering with or fabricating physical evidence. There is a question of credit for time served. Sentencing is set for December 20.
 Robert Mack appeared for a Waiver of Extradition; commission of a crime in another state. The State signs the waiver, giving the Commonwealth of Virginia 20 days to pick up the prisoner.

County Board Openings

Broadwater County Commission



Broadwater County has several board positions opening in 2025! The County needs and appreciates all our volunteer board members and encourages resident involvement.

The County is currently accepting letters of interest for positions on the following boards:

- Airport Board
- Broadwater Trust Board
- Tax Appeal Board
- Fair Board
- Museum Board
- Planning Board
- Noxious Weed Board
- County Parks & Recreation Board
- Mental Health Local Advisory Council

Each board position is a 3-year term. Letters of interest can be addressed to the board and submitted to dhansen@co.broadwater.mt.us by November 30, 2024.

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson
 Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Mitchell Nieters, Townsend: day speed \$20.00
 Patrick Mcgrath, Helena: day speed \$20.00
 Kyle Knecht, Saylorburg, PA: day speed \$70.00
 Windy Johnson, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
 Benjamin Daniels, Townsend: day speed \$70.00

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Don Baker – Belgrade – careless driving, plead guilty, \$55.00 fines and fees.
 Dawson Button – Helena – unlawful possession of marijuana, products, or paraphernalia in motor vehicle on highway, plead guilty, \$75.00 fine; possessing intoxicating substances while under the age of 21 (over 18)-1st offense, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months, \$185.00 fines and fees, complete 20 hours of community service and enroll and complete Alive @ 25.
 Joseph Robinette – Bozeman – driving without a valid driver's license, plead guilty, \$85.00 fines and fees.
 Naomi Jutzi- Bozeman – day speed, plead guilty, \$40.00 fine.
 Payton Schmidt – Great Falls – day speed, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months, \$70.00 fine, enroll and complete Alive @ 25.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Paul Vogl, Townsend: violation of commission or dept rules \$135.00

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Landi White – Townsend – disorderly conduct, plead no contest, sentenced to ten days in jail with all time suspended on condition, \$135.00 fines and fees.
 Douglas Knight – East Helena – unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but two days suspended, \$301.78 restitution; theft-unauthorized control over property-3rd offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but five days suspended on conditions, credit given for jail time served for all fines and fees and jail time.
 Wyatt Metzger- Three Forks – driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs- 3rd offense, plead guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but thirty days suspended, \$2585.00 fines and fees and enroll and complete ACT program followed by monthly monitoring for one year.

BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Loryn Perschon, Helena: night speed \$70.00
 William Mines, Townsend: night speed \$70.00
 Kayla Martinez, Whitehall: no insurance-1st offense \$285.00
 Jenny Mcdonald, Helena: night speed \$20.00
 Matthew Ercoli, Holmes Beach, FL: fail to signal turn within 300 ft \$85.00
 Nathan Bilyeu, Helena: night speed \$20.00
 Racheal Bashaw, Great Falls: night speed \$20.00
 INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION
 Meggan Thiele aka Meggan Edwards – Lewis and Clark Co. Justice Court, No bond
 Caleb Harwood – Probation and parole hold, No bond
 Robert Mack – Circuit Court of the State of Virginia, No bond
 Meggan Thiele aka Meggan Edwards – MT 1st Judicial District Court, Lewis and Clark Co., No bond

City Council Sheriffs: November 5

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Broadwater County Sheriff's officers fielded more than 2,800 calls within Townsend City limits between Aug. 1 and Oct. 31 of this year, Capt. Mark Wood told the Townsend City Council Nov. 5. "For the city, I think we're doing pretty good," Capt. Wood said, responding to a question from Townsend mayor Vickie Rauser about whether crime in the community is on the increase. "We're doing a lot of proactive policing."

"Fall Fest was eventful but uneventful for us," Wood said. Good weather encouraged significantly larger participation in the annual community event. "Funny how much more people that brings to town, and how few calls we get about it, compared to other events."

One area where the county is not seeing a decline, Wood said, is DUIs. While there were seven DUIs issued in the city, the southern end of the county is still seeing a significant number of alcohol-related wrong-way drivers on I-90. Wood said the county is working with Three Forks, Gallatin County, and the Montana Highway Patrol to curb the potentially dangerous drunk driving in that area.

Across the quarter, the department saw 84 new cases originating in Townsend, Wood said. Including three assaults – which included the assault of a county detention officer-, 12 vehicle accidents including four hit-and-run accidents, four domestic violence cases, eight theft cases, and six animal control calls, which are addressed in coordination with the city.

Townsend Schools Begins Search for Interim, Permanent Superintendent

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Townsend K-12 District School Board has opened the search for an interim and permanent superintendent, following the election of current superintendent Susie Hedalen as State Superintendent of Schools.

Hedalen has not yet tendered her resignation to the board. However, she told trustees that she would be doing so soon, with Dec. 9 likely her last day in her current role.

"I've had a most incredible experience," Hedalen said of time at Townsend Schools. "I would have been able to accomplish what I've accomplished without the support of my team."

Board Chairman Jason Noyes said during the Trustee's regular Nov. 12 meeting that board members had held a working session earlier in the year to identify a strategy should Hedalen leave the district for state office. At that time, Noyes continued, the board agreed that the building principals would be asked to step in to cover Hedalen's duties, with veteran principal Brad Racht acting as point person for decision-making.

Noyes added that advertising for an interim principal would address accreditation concerns that may arise prior to the hire of a permanent superintendent. However, he said, in his discussions with several current and former superintendents, finding someone to fill the role short-term might be difficult.

The deadline for applicants for the short-term position will be Dec. 9. The permanent hire position will close in early January.

Revenue Department Says Property Taxes Could Rise Again

Eric Dietrich
Montana Free Press



MTFP This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press on November 19, 2024, and is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.

Home values continue to rise faster than other property types, pulling tax burden onto homeowners.

Montana Department of Revenue staff told a legislative committee Monday that next year's reappraisal cycle could produce a partial repeat of last year's jarring tax spike as the state's surging real estate market continues to translate into higher residential taxes.

The department expects the market value of the average Montana residential property to be reappraised at 21% higher when it completes next year's reappraisal cycle. A staff economist said Monday that if the Legislature doesn't rebalance state tax statutes, the higher values will likely result in the average residential tax bill rising by 11% next fall while taxes stay roughly constant or fall on other types of property.

Last year's reappraisal cycle saw the median residential property value increase by about 40%, producing a 21% increase in the median tax bill, according to a Montana Free Press analysis of revenue department data.

Most property taxes in Montana are calculated proportionally to a property's share of a town, county or school district's overall tax base, meaning a \$600,000 house will, in theory, pay twice as much of the local school's electricity bill than a \$300,000 house next door. As such, when residential property values rise relative to other types of property (stores or farm fields, for example) residences end up shouldering a greater share of the tax burden.

Monday's presentation by department staff, an exercise required by state law in advance of each reappraisal cycle, also detailed how lawmakers could tweak conversion rates embedded in the state tax code to rebalance the tax system by shifting less burden onto homes and more onto property classes that have seen slower value growth. Those rates determine how much of a property's market value is converted to taxable value, the figure that is actually fed into the broader property tax formula.

Currently, for example, residential properties have 1.35% of their market value converted to taxable value. Revenue department staff have calculated that dialing that rate down to 1.11%, would reduce residential taxes and increase taxes on other property types enough to, on average, offset the effect of rising home values for the upcoming reappraisal cycle.

Other findings from the department's Monday committee presentation include the following:

The revenue department expects commercial property values to rise by 8.3% and agricultural property values by 5.4% in next year's reappraisal cycle.

While eastern Montana counties were generally spared the dramatic residential appraisal increases seen across western Montana in the last appraisal cycle, the department expects many of them to catch up this time around. Residential property values in Scobey's Daniels County, for example, are expected to rise by 31% in the new cycle, while values in Bozeman's Gallatin County rise a comparatively moderate 10%.

As such, eastern Montana communities would likely see the highest tax bill increases next year if lawmakers leave the tax statute governed by current law. The department projects that residential property taxes in Carter County, for example, could rise by 23%. In Fergus County, around Lewistown, they could rise by 17%.

While Republican Gov. Greg Gianforte and prominent lawmakers from both parties have said addressing rising homeowner property taxes is a top priority when the Legislature convenes early next year, it's unclear precisely what form those efforts will take or how much of past or future tax increases they might offset.

Gianforte and some legislative allies have, for example, pitched a "homestead exemption" proposal that would seek to lower residential property taxes on primary residences, including long-term rentals, by raising taxes on second homes and vacation rentals. Gianforte said last week he believes that approach, which would involve tweaking the market-to-taxable conversion rates, could reduce homeowners' property taxes by 15%.

A tax bill that rises by 11% next year on top of last year's 21% typical increase would place a 34% cumulative increase on the property owner.

Farm Bureau Speaks Out on Montana Trapping Regulations

Rebecca Colnar
Montana Farm Bureau Communications Specialist

The Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF) provided comments to the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission on trapping regulations that include an amendment that protects livestock producers' privacy.

The trapping regulations enacted by the commission require trappers to obtain a free trapping permit to trap any species excluding only wet sets and live traps in known grizzly bear habitat. Should there be an incidental take of a grizzly bear, additional regulations will go into place for recreational trapping. These additional requirements do not apply to trapping for livestock protection. Originally, the trappers were required to file an affidavit with the Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP) disclosing that they were trapping for livestock protection and the name and contact information of the livestock owners.

Commission Chair Lesley Robinson brought an amendment to change the regulations from an affidavit requirement to a declaration that trappers will carry on their person. The declarations will certify that trappers are trapping predators on behalf of a named livestock producer. FWP will not house the declarations containing producer information.

This amendment was made to address privacy concerns brought by agricultural groups including MFBF and the Montana Woolgrowers. MFBF commended the FWP and the Commission for crafting a workable solution for livestock producers that moves Montana towards the state management of grizzly bears.

MFBF's Director of State Affairs, Karli Johnson, said during testimony Tuesday, "Trapping is a controversial topic that warrants public discourse. However, these conversations absolutely do not belong on the doorsteps of ranchers that are engaging in legal and responsible behaviors to protect their livestock."

MFBF supported that the rules should be limited to known grizzly bear territory and not blanketed across the entire state. In addition, the rule will have an annual review allowing for the adaptation and removal of language as more information is collected.

To ensure the success of ranchers in grizzly bear country, it is crucial to exempt livestock-protection trapping from additional regulations and recognize its importance as a management tool.

"We appreciate the Department's recognition that trapping and snaring for livestock protection are necessary activities that do not endanger non-target species," Johnson added. "Montana Farm Bureau especially wants to thank Committee Chair Robinson for her recognition of the need for privacy for livestock producers and bringing this common-sense amendment that takes producer information out of the hands of the department," Johnson said.



THANK YOU!

I wanted to publicly express my appreciation to the administrative staff of the Townsend schools, but most of all, to the wonderful young men and women who participated in the Veteran's Day special assembly.

The celebration was terrific, the speeches and lessons given were great. The best part was the two students reading their letters.

Thank you to all the students who were there for being Americans worth fighting for.

God bless America!!

Fred L. Pratt
RMC USN (Retired)

Biden Ev Mandate Bad for Montana Ranching and Farming

As a longtime rancher and legislator, protecting rural Montanans from legislation that infringes upon economic liberties and promotes government interference is my top priority. This is why I vehemently oppose the Biden administration's new tailpipe emissions rule.

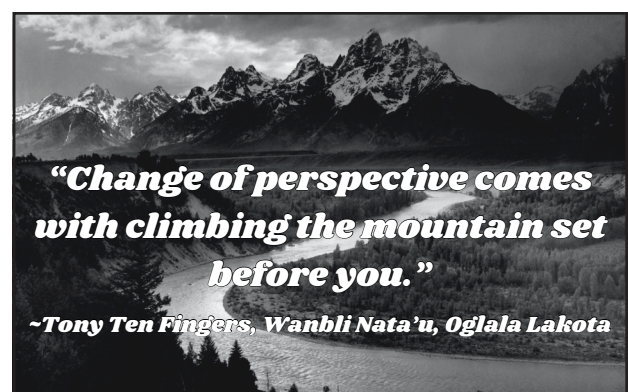
The rule dictates that by 2032, at least 56% of new vehicle sales must be Electric Vehicles (EVs). This will severely hurt Montana ranchers, farmers, and workers by increasing personal expenditures to comply with the EPA mandate.

Requiring Montana families to purchase electric cars and/or trucks is simply unfair, especially with the lack of reliability and affordability of these vehicles. Making matters worse, the mandate disregards the lack of proper charging infrastructure across Montana's rural communities. With little to no affordable EV options and being forced to travel greater distances for sufficient recharge, this rule cuts into ranchers' and farmers' ability to live with economic ease.

In a ranching and farming state that produced \$4.54 billion in agricultural products, spanning to more than 24,000 farms and ranches, Montanans need its political leaders to stand up for this critical industry.

Our Congressional representatives must speak up and stop this federal mandate, including supporting the bipartisan Congressional Review Act legislation. Senator Tester is Montana's only Congressional member that has not yet co-sponsored this legislation, despite touting to be Congress' only active farmer. I urge Senator Tester to stand with Montana ranchers and farmers and oppose the EPA's federal overreach.

Sen. Steve Hinebauch
Senate District 18, Wibaux, MT



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SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS **Dates and times may vary due to events, seasons or holidays. Call the restaurant with any questions. Happy Dining!**

<h3>American Legion Hall</h3> <p>211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611 Dining Hours: Tuesday Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM Special Event with Food: 11/11-Free Veteran's Day Lunch! Bar hours may vary</p>	<h3>The Betsy Sports Zone</h3> <p>217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Wed - Sat 3:00PM - 12:00AM Closed Sun, Mon & Tues Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com</p>	<h3>C Hangin' C Mercantile & Creamery</h3> <p>310 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-9087 Dining Hours: Mon - Sat 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sun 8:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: Facebook changinmerc.square.site</p>	<h3>Copy Cup</h3> <p>303 N Front St, Townsend (406) 980-8400 Please call on business hours Drinks and Pastry Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM Closed Sunday</p>	<h3>Fishtale Tavern</h3> <p>209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 11:00PM Daily Specials: Facebook Bar hours may vary</p>	<h3>Mint Cafe</h3> <p>305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867 Dining Hours: Mon - Wed 8:00AM - 2:00PM, Thur - Fri 8:00AM - 8:00PM Sat - Sun 7:00AM - 7:00PM Menu: themintbarandgrill.com/menu</p>
<h3>Bread and Butter Cafe</h3> <p>205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM- 2:00PM Menu available on Facebook Closed Sunday and Monday</p>	<h3>Bunkhouse Bar & Grill</h3> <p>8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - Close Grill off at 10:00PM</p>	<h3>Commercial Bar</h3> <p>101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook</p>	<h3>Deep Creek Pizza</h3> <p>415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Menu: www.deepcreekpizzaco.com, Facebook and Instagram Closed Sunday</p>	<h3>Full Belli Deli</h3> <p>209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459 Dining Hours: 7:30AM - 8:00PM Every Day Menu: fullbellidelimt.com</p>	<h3>TB's Diner</h3> <p>316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Fri - Tue 7:00AM - 8:00PM Wed - Thu CLOSED Specials: Facebook</p>

Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 11/22	Sat 11/23	Sun 11/24	Mon 11/25	Tue 11/26
Drizzle	Light Wintry Mix	Light Snow	Very Light Snow	Very Light Snow
47° 38°	38° 26°	27° 19°	25° 23°	29° 24°
50% 8 16 mph	1 in 10 16 mph	0 in 8 13 mph	0 in 7 13 mph	0 in 6 11 mph

Precipitation:

June: 0.968"	September: 3.637"
July: 0.040"	October: 0.174"
August: 0.402"	November: 0.040"
2023: 13.669"	2024: 10.864"

Super Crossword "TAKE THAT!"

ACROSS

- 1 Printed news sources
- 7 Rival of Nike
- 13 More potent, as liquor
- 20 Supposed evil repeller
- 21 Stephen King's "Lot"
- 22 Grow bigger
- 23 "The Client List" actress
- 24 Result of vandalism
- 26 Match draw
- 27 "Them's fightin' words!"
- 28 Suffix with Canton
- 29 Right fielder
- 30 Officials at first or third
- 34 Inner self, to Jung
- 36 Quarterback Manning
- 37 Eight minus two
- 38 Nav. officer
- 40 Sweater with a pattern of raised bands
- 45 Ripens
- 47 Auto exhaust and such
- 52 River craft

DOWN

- 54 Nav. officer
- 55 Rainbow, e.g.
- 56 Incentive
- 57 Cardiologist
- 62 Return to 000
- 63 Digital holiday greeting
- 64 Shipping box: Abbr.
- 65 Digital color inits.
- 67 Suffix with host
- 68 Kuwaiti royal
- 71 Peck upon
- 75 Italy's Villa d'
- 76 Prefix with partisan
- 77 Singer Des'
- 78 English lav
- 79 Have an — mystery
- 81 Peter out
- 83 Belief that people are noticing you more than they really are
- 90 Total up wrongly
- 92 Source of 24/7 \$20 bills
- 93 Hot tub site
- 94 More subtle, as a point
- 95 Presidential hopeful's bid
- 100 Old Icelandic literary work
- 101 Dais stand
- 102 Suffix with cannon
- 103 "Oh, gross!"
- 105 President pro
- 106 Fighting it out
- 108 Thor and Indra
- 113 Spanish for "hand"
- 117 Forbid
- 118 "Symposium" philosopher
- 119 Peter out
- 120 Personal psychosocial conflict
- 123 Subsides
- 127 Pop flop of 1985
- 128 Catalog again
- 129 Manorial home
- 130 Whole number
- 131 Unlocked
- 132 What the stars of nine answers in this puzzle might be
- 1 Lobby gp.
- 2 Comedian
- 3 Saloon
- 4 Upper crust
- 5 Holy artifacts
- 6 Canonized ninth-century pope
- 7 Savory jelly
- 8 — Vader
- 9 "You beat me this game"
- 10 Removal from office
- 11 Prayer ender
- 12 Russ. or Ukr., formerly
- 13 Prompt for the iPhone's personal assistant
- 14 Nativeness to a certain region only
- 15 In the style of
- 16 Agatha Christie's title
- 17 Tehran locale
- 18 Kellogg's waffle
- 19 "Cheers" actor Roger
- 25 Eight plus two
- 30 Ocean liner?
- 31 Pond slime
- 32 Tuscan city
- 33 Wood splitter
- 34 Oto or Hopi
- 35 Sponge up
- 39 Give a poker hand, e.g.
- 41 Toy with a tail
- 42 Sounds
- 43 Build a financial portfolio
- 44 Fly of Africa
- 46 More miffed
- 48 Gives ear to
- 49 "Ltd." cousin
- 50 15-season CBS series
- 51 They often work with DJs
- 53 List-limiting abbr.
- 58 "For heaven's —!"
- 59 Snoops
- 60 Keep — head (stay calm)
- 61 "Have a bite"
- 66 Richard of "Primal Fear"
- 68 Nail coating
- 69 Item hanging above a crib
- 70 "Be there shortly"
- 72 Small racer in a groove
- 73 Grew irate
- 74 Religion in 17-Down
- 75 Escort in "The Hunger Games"
- 77 Brew colored from oxidation
- 80 Slightly amiss
- 82 Social skill
- 84 Pot's partner
- 85 EarthLink or MSN
- 86 High no. for a valedictorian
- 87 "Is there no — this?!"
- 88 Handed over
- 89 Trolleys
- 91 All-terrain motorcycle
- 96 How Jesus walked, miraculously
- 97 Aetna alternative
- 98 What a H.S. dropout may earn
- 99 Syringe parts
- 104 Most crooked
- 107 At least one
- 109 Welcomes to one's home
- 110 Of service
- 111 Snooped (around)
- 112 Arrive at
- 113 Skirt style
- 114 Yemen city
- 115 Pond wriggler
- 116 Previously
- 118 Job of some cooks
- 121 Dress fancily, with "out"
- 122 — Magnon
- 124 Maglie of the old Giants
- 125 Adaptable truck, in brief
- 126 Corral

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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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!

Entity: **BINGE**

Loose: **RAFTID**

Debris: **SUEFER**

Game: **PORTS**

TODAY'S WORD

"When you pass those little cars, I wish you'd go _____ them!"

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: N equals S

IPJF MW OWT LJBB NWGUSWMO
 IPW NFWZN TNRVK JV RBBVUNN-
 FXUJFRVK NTSNFJVLU?
 J GUMRLRVU MXWZZUX.

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KNIGHT MOVES

F	Y	N
I		F
A	I	T

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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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
 Steve Ward, Synod authorized minister (406) 220-8911
 Office hours Mon & Wed 9 am to noon
 Council President Margie Urich (406) 599-9848
Sunday: 9:30am Services
Second Tuesday of the month: 4:00pm 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



SR. CENTER MEALS: Pumpkin Pie
Nov 25 - Nov 29 *Wednesday, November 27*
 516 2nd Street, Sweet-N-Sour Pork
 Townsend MT Fried Brown Rice
 406-266-3995 Oriental Vegetables
Monday, November 25 Four Bean Salad
 Hamburger on a Bun Whole Grain Bread
 Potato Triangles Baked Apples
 Carrot Coins **Thursday, November 28**
 Juicy Pears **CLOSED for Thanksgiving**
 Dessert
Tuesday, November 26 *Friday, November 29*
 Thanksgiving Dinner **CLOSED - Day After Thanksgiving**
 Roasted Turkey
 Mashed Potatoes *Give Thanks!*
 Green Beans
 Whole Grain Bread

NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Service Available

At MT43 News Office
 408 Broadway St, Townsend, MT
 Mon - Fri 10:00 - 2:00pm

Or by Appointment
 Contact: Brenda Phillips
 406-231-9752



How Are You Feeling?

I'm not sure why all medical types ask EVERYONE, "Are you depressed?" Or "How often are you depressed?" It seems like they all want us to say, "All the time". Nope, I remember coming back from Iraq and going through a physical, including the Psych evaluation (Don't go there!) and they asked me about being depressed, I had to think and I remembered I was, for some reason, during high school, in 1971.

I was really depressed one evening. I remember walking around feeling bad...UNTIL I walked up around the end of the block. It was very foggy, and while watching the cars disappear into the fog it was like someone flipped a switch. All of a sudden it felt like I was high! From then on, all my life I have never been depressed. I understand many medical people are always looking for what's wrong with people, but must everything be about depression?

There is a book called "Manufacturing Depression" by Gary Greenberg. The history of depression is explained, as to when a doctor was in a pharmacy and heard a guy telling his friend, "Feeling down and just blah?" (this is a medical term) I was too until I took a vitamin." The Doctor listened and he got an idea, "If we could come up with a medicine to fight depression, we could make millions!" Yep, and thus was born the Medical "cures" for all types of depression.

Ever wonder why so many medical folks want to prescribe "medicine" for every feeling we have? Because there is money to be made. Why cure people when you can treat them FOREVER? Don't think there is a cure for cancer? Hmmm well maybe not, then again.... Every time I have gone to the V.A. for a regular yearly checkup, I get asked, "How often are you depressed?" I then sigh and try to explain that my being a bit crazy, keeps me sane. (They don't like that, so they make a note on their chart.)

We all know someone who is depressing; they walk into a store or restaurant and the lights dim. They kind of suck the light out of everything, and everybody around them! We always called them "black clouds". You can try to jolly them out of their doldrums, with a funny story or joke. Many are so caught up with BEING depressed, maybe they do need medicine. MAYBE. I have known several people over the years who seem to enjoy their feeling down all the time. UGH, no thank you. I'm not here to blow sunshine up your butts, however being depressed all the time can drain the life out of YOU, also.

I know winter sometimes can seem dreary but look at the bright side. We are in MONTANA! Embrace the winter! DO things, even if it's reading, get out and see people share stories. Whatever it takes spread the happiness, now GO FORTH and do good!

Broadwater County Commissioners Agenda

Daylene Hansen,
 Administrative Assistant

No Commission Meeting
 Wednesday, November 27, 2024
Thursday, November 28, 2024

Thanksgiving Day – All County offices CLOSED
 Commissioners at MACo training December 2 - 4, 2024

No Commission Meeting December 3, 2024
 The county strives to make the meeting available virtually but cannot guarantee access due to platform failure, internet interruptions, or other potential technological malfunctions

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
- Task Orders

Debi Randolph, Vice Chairman
 (406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050

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

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

E-mail: commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us
 Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)

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

- Board of Health Meeting on November 25th at 3:00 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on December 10th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Meeting on December 10th at 1:30 PM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on December 10th at 6:00 PM
- Mental Health Local Advisory Council Meeting on December 11th at 2:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on December 12th at 5:15 PM
- County Parks & Recreation Meeting on December 16th at 6:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on December 17th at 6:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on December 18th at 6:00 PM

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



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, the 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 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in the Courthouse (1st-floor bulletin board), on our website at www.broadwater-countymt.com, in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline.

Commission Meeting -
 Monday, November 25, 2024

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

10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, Airport - Bullock Contracting – AA#2 by Change Order#1 \$230,565.18

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Airport - RPA Task Order #10 Amended – Project Administration – AIP-018-2025

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Broadwater School and County Library Interlocal Agreement

10:15 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Kauffman/Weaver Boundary Relocation exemption request; S6, T5N, R2E

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Amundson/Wilbur/Galinec Boundary Relocation exemption request; S23, T7N, R1E

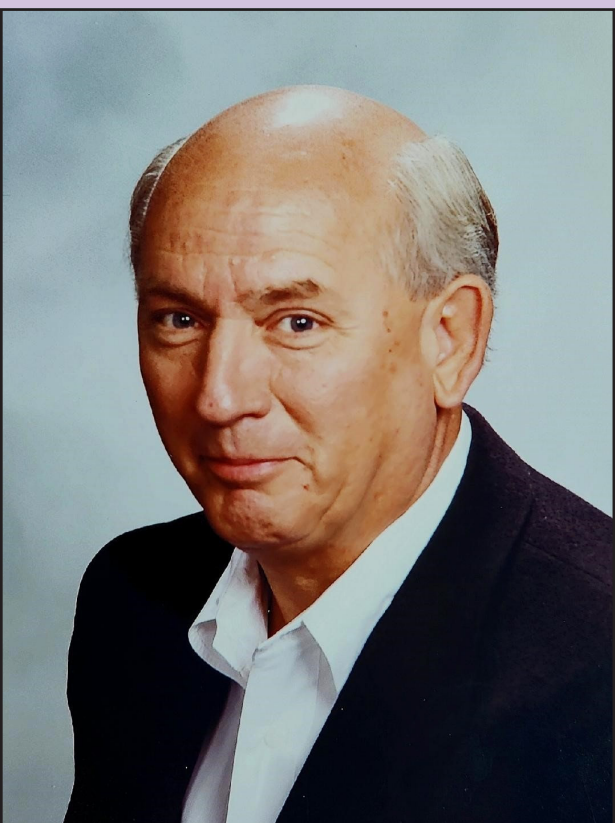
2:00 PM Working meeting in Commission Office with Kay Minor, Deputy County Attorney, regarding projects and deadlines

OBITUARY

David E. Kieffer

Family of David E. Kieffer

David E. Kieffer, age 80, of Townsend
January 4, 1944 – November 14, 2024



David E. Kieffer
Photo Provided by Family of David E. Kieffer

David E. Kieffer age 80, of Townsend, passed away at Peace Hospice in Great Falls, on November 14, 2024.

A funeral Mass is pending at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Townsend. His burial will be at Deep Creek Cemetery in Townsend, Montana.

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Easy Venison Stir Fry with Sweet Potato Fries

Eileen Clarke
Rifles and Recipes

Need an easy, one pan meal with a sauce you can also use for wild game meats of all kinds? I'd start with this one. And feel free to switch out the fries for super-grain brown rice if you'd prefer, but cooked in an air fryer, those sweet potatoes are pretty healthy. They're also a vibrant contrast to the spicy stir fry sauce. As for the meat, I've made this with venison as well as wild pig and would bet it would also work for pale-meated upland birds like pheasant and forest grouse.

Now, keep in mind that this is a pretty spicy sauce: my husband, John, thought it about as hot as he could tolerate, and I thought it just about the same and, though I was prepared to add a bit of sugar to my glass of water, the sweet potato fries saved me. (Just in case, ¼ teaspoon or a single restaurant packet of sugar in 8 ounces of water is a great cure for fiery mouth. Even better than milk.) And, of course, multiply the recipe as you need to.



Venison Stir Fry
Eileen Clarke Photo

Easy Venison or Wild Pig Stir Fry with Sweet Potato Fries

Serves 3-4

Ingredients

- ½ cup soy sauce
- ¼ cup Hoisin sauce
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 ½ to 2 teaspoons chili-garlic sauce
- 4 teaspoons grated ginger
- 1 teaspoon toasted sesame oil
- 2 tablespoons oil, in all
- ¾ to 1 pound wild pig or venison, sliced thin or in small chunks
- 1 yellow onion, sliced from pole to pole*
- 2 stalks celery, chopped

- 20 pea pods, chopped in half
- 1 pound bag frozen sweet potato fries

Cooking

1. Combine the sauce ingredients: soy sauce, hoisin sauce, honey, chili garlic sauce, ginger, and toasted sesame oil. Leave the plain oil for the cooking. Stir well.
2. In a large skillet, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil over medium high heat and when the oil is hot, lightly brown the meat. Transfer the meat to a bowl, and add the second tablespoon of oil. Add the sliced onion, celery and pea pods to the pan and sauté until the veggies start to brown lightly, about 5-7 minutes. As the veggies brown, start your air fryer so it preheats. After about 5 minutes, start the sweet potatoes according to package directions. In our air fryer they take about 12-14 minutes at 360F.
3. Return the meat to the pan, and stir it into the veggies. Once the meat has warmed up again, add the sauce to the pan and stir it around to coat everything. Lower the heat to medium low, and let the sauce cook 5-7 minutes.
4. To serve: Grab some sweet potato fries with tongs (they'll be very very hot, so don't grab them by hand) and divide them among three to four bowls. Divide the stir fry among the bowls and serve.

*I like long slices of onion in a stir fry, so slice them from the root end to the head—what is known as pole to pole. Could also be called cutting with the grain. For other dishes, I'll go across the grain—cutting down the center, fattest part of the onion.

Eileen has written a dozen wild game cookbooks, some of which are still available: check them out on her website www.riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273, Goose Bay Hand Blown Glass and Reading Leaves Bookstore.

The Garden Bug
Herbs for holiday cooking

Bay leaves go into stocks and brines, and can be added to water when cooking pasta.
Parsley is good for blending flavors. It is sold in bunches rather than packaged in plastic.
Rosemary has stiff, needle-like leaves that are quite pungent.
Dried leaves can be crushed, and fresh can be finely chopped.
Sage has a stronger flavor fresh than dried, which is sold both "rubbed" and "ground."
Thyme complements everything from poultry and meat to vegetables and pasta. - Brenda Weaver

Source: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

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BROADWATER ROD AND GUN CLUB
BASIC PISTOL COURSE

96 CANTON LANE, TOWNSEND
INDOOR SHOOTING RANGE

COURSE DATE
Sat December 14, 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
Questions? Call Virgil Binkley (406) 980-1548

Billings Clinic
Broadwater

MAYO CLINIC CARE NETWORK
Member

If you missed your Mammo appointment in October...

Early detection of breast cancer is key to higher survival rates, better prognosis, and lower treatment costs. The most effective way to detect early signs of breast cancer is through breast self awareness, routine breast exams by your personal physician or health care professional, and screening mammograms.

So when should you schedule your screening mammogram? **ASAP!**

Mobile Mammo Bus is Coming to Town:
December 16
Schedule your appointment today.
406-266-3186
110 N. Oak Street, Townsend, MT



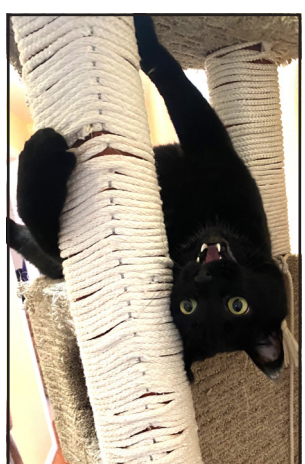
CryptoQuip
answer
What do you call somebody who stops using an illness-treating substance?
A medicine dropper.

SCRAMBLERS
solution
1. Being; 2. Adrift; 3. Refuse; 4. Sport
Today's Word
AROUND

KNIGHT MOVES
Answer

F	Y	N
I		F
A	I	T

AFFINITY



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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner



"Your lawyer's on the phone. Are you in?"

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Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!

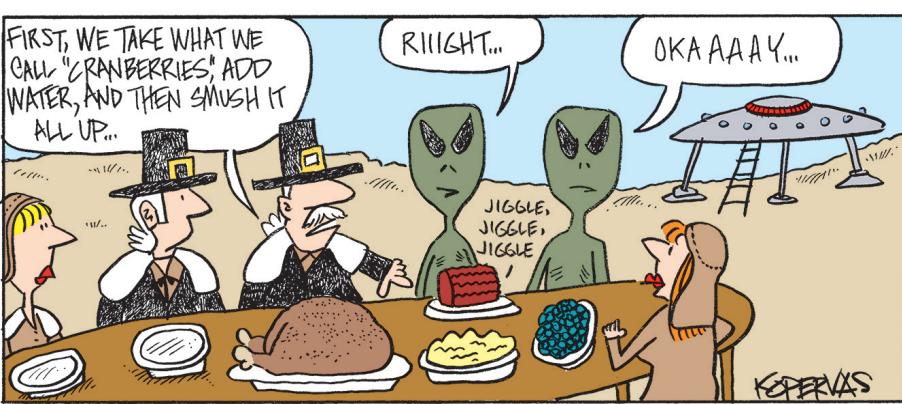
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Kids' Maze Solution

Barnes Jewelry

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

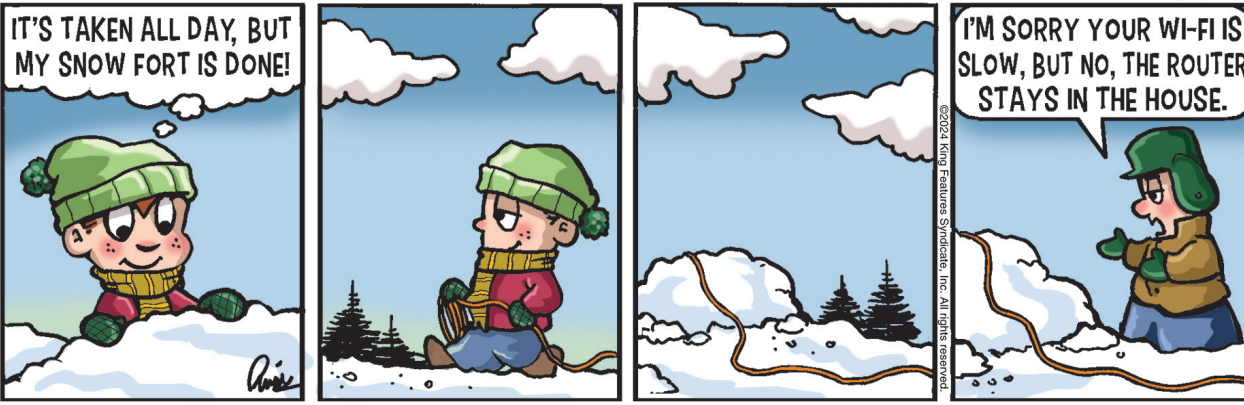
Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

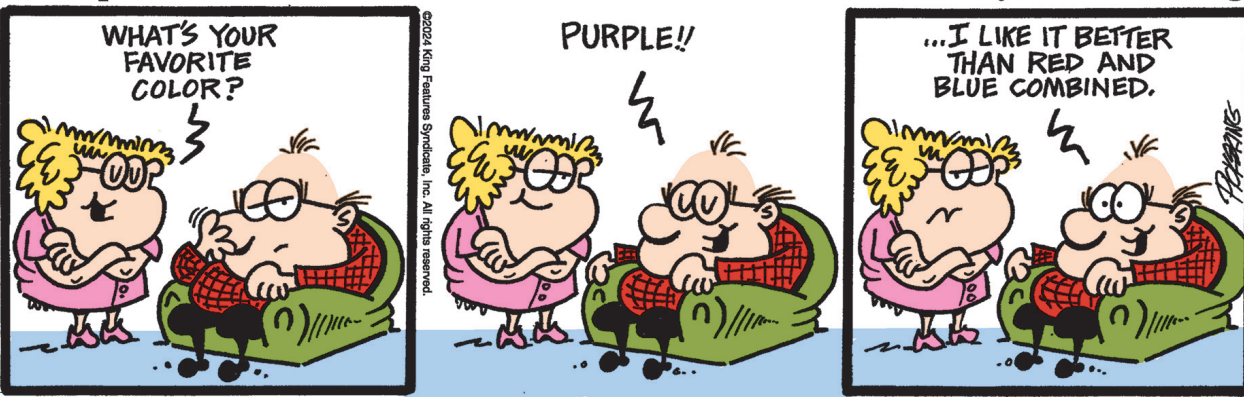
THE PILGRIMS TRY TO EXPLAIN JELLED CRANBERRY SAUCE TO A PAIR OF ALIENS

Amber Waves

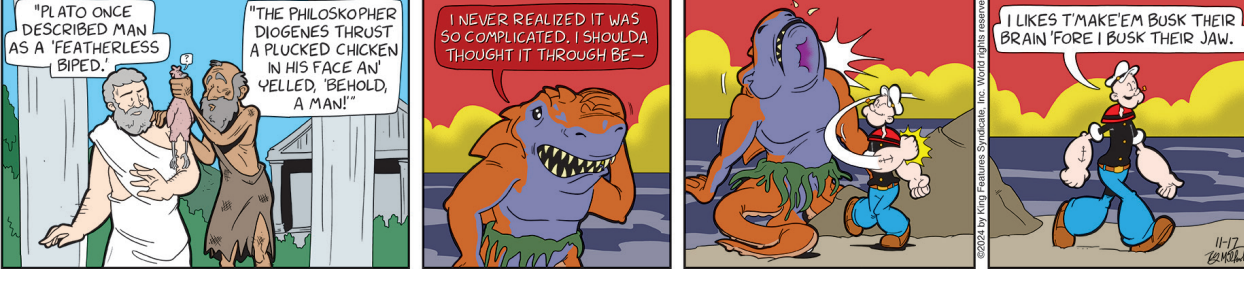


by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

The Birds Nest & Swazi's Rock Shop

Unique Gifts, Antiques & Treasures

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

BREAKING NEWS

DID YOU KNOW...
MT43News keeps you updated between printed editions?!
Visit MT43News.com
Look for local updates and even a few newsworthy items that didn't make print!
Like and follow us on Facebook!

Americanisms

"The only time to eat diet food is while you're waiting for the steak to cook."
— Julia Child

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Ya Reckon, 3

lady with more strength and will and grace and poise and FAITH than I had ever witnessed in one tiny frame of a body.....take her last breath!

A mere 20 days later I learned that I, too, had breast cancer!

I wanted to scream!!

I did SCREAM!!

Everything with Ms. Becky was still so raw!.....I wasn't ready to die!.....but honestly, at that very moment, I wasn't even ready to live!.....A part of me didn't even want to exist! Yes, the massive waves came crashing in!! I was drowning!

How little did I know that my years spent with Ms. Becky would help prepare me in such an important way.

The old adage TIME HEALS is a bunch of malarkey.....unless it is laced with INTENT!!!!

It is a process, at least it has been for me, to get to a place of CLARITY and CREDENCE and CALMNESS.....to maneuver through the storm.....to reset the sail.....and to ultimately embrace the journey, as rugged as it may be! Heck, it's LIFE!

I am a very open person! Like it or not, that is who I am! Author, Jeff Brown says that writing....."is a profound way to excavate our emotional holdings, to give voice to that which heals us, and to validate our right to exist. So much of the madness of the world happens because of repressed emotions."

This is why I believe OUR TRAUMA NEEDS A VOICE!

Cancer is a crazy disease because, even if you are one of the fortunate ones, like me, who has no evidence of disease and is only dealing with some rather annoying side effects, the haunting risk of reoccurrence can make you go MAD if you let it...if you LET it!! I believe we have a choice: we can either let that cripple us from living or use it as 'jet fuel' to propel us to LIVE.....and I choose the later!!

Thus far, I have been tremendously blessed and I am KEENLY aware of that fact! I am one of the 'lucky ones' who gets to rejoice in the blessings instead of being transfixed on the enormous pain.

May I never forget on my best day, that I still need God as desperately as I did on my worst.

If surviving cancer was based on the merits of sheer willpower, there would be few who would succumb to this wretched disease!!

I have known true warriors, in every sense of the word, who have died from cancer! I have known strong Christians who gallantly fought this monster but faced its wrath, nonetheless! I have known precious children, devoted mothers, amazing fathers, and downright remarkable individuals who tried with all their might; but could not beat this ugly disease.....at least in the sense we humans most relate!

I believe wholeheartedly that our days on earth are numbered for each and every one of us! Most certainly, we are all going to die one day. The real question is how are we going to LIVE while we are still ALIVE on this earth? It really isn't about how much time we have left, but more so it is about what we are going to do with that TIME we have left.

"The best we can hope for in this life is a knothole peek at the shining realities ahead. Yet a glimpse is enough. It's enough to convince our hearts that whatever sufferings and sorrows currently assail us aren't worthy of comparison to that which waits over the horizon. —Joni Eareckson Tada

"God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform. He plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm." -William Cowper (Olney Hymns, 1779)

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." 2 Corinthians 12:9

I PRAY for all of you who are battling cancer or anything else that may have a stronghold on your life.

For the Love of Ag, from the heart of a Western woman.

Giving Thanks for the Kentucky Hot Brown



Kentucky Hot Browns
Jon Bennion, Montana Free Press Photo



Slices of hot turkey get placed on a nice piece of toast, topped with a broiled tomato, a cheese sauce, and an "X" of bacon on top.
Jon Bennion, Montana Free Press Photo

Jon Bennion
Montana Free Press



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Meet your new go-to turkey leftovers solution.

Turkey was the defining dish of Thanksgiving when I was growing up. I was particularly partial to the crispy skin as it came right out of the oven. We always had large family gatherings, so the big bird made a lot of sense as the featured protein. Of course, the leftovers became bonus meals on the Friday following the holiday, which is where this column's tasty turkey possibility comes from.

But first, let's talk about the culinary centerpiece. As my world expanded and I learned about traditions and preferences in other households, I heard about people and families doing prime ribs, hams, and vegetarian-centered feasts for Thanksgiving. There is also the "I'm-all-about-the-sides" crowd that gravitates toward mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, appetizers, dinner rolls, stuffing/dressing, or the grand finale of pie.

One recent survey by CBS News said at least two in three Americans will be eating turkey on Thanksgiving. So it turns out the bird is still king, at least for a day. And if you are roasting a turkey there are bound to be leftovers. What to do with them? Turkey sandwiches, turkey pot pie, turkey soup, turkey salad, turkey casserole — the list can go on.

About 10 years ago I discovered my personal favorite turkey leftover dish. It came into the world thanks to a creative chef at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. It's the more-than-a-century-old Kentucky Hot Brown open-face hot sandwich. And in the spirit of giving thanks, I want to thank the good people of Kentucky for giving it to the rest of us.

Slices of hot turkey get placed on a nice piece of toast, topped with a broiled tomato, a cheese sauce, and an "X" of bacon on top. This is definitely a fork-and-knife situation, and perfect for the days following Thanksgiving. If you have family or friends staying over after the holiday, you should serve your guests this Hot Brown recipe for brunch as a nice little surprise.

The jammy tomato, cheese sauce, and bacon take your taste buds in directions you probably didn't experience on Thanksgiving: a little acid from the tomato, the unexpectedly creamy cheese sauce, and a bit of smokiness from the bacon. If you are a person (like me) who can't resist eating a slice or two of bacon before your meal, make a few strips extra.

One fun element of the Kentucky Hot Brown is that you get to put several different kitchen gadgets to work in assembling it: the toaster for the foundational bread, the broiler for the tomato, and the stovetop for the bacon and the cheese sauce. One tip for the broiler: Do not walk away while you are broiling! Just 15 to 30 seconds can be the difference between golden brown and carbonized food. Watch your tomatoes like a hawk and don't get distracted.

Yes, it's a little more work than slapping some white bread around a cold slice of leftover turkey, but your stomach will thank you for this elevated post-feast treat.

HOT BROWN RECIPE

Serves four

- 4 slices thick, crusty bread
- 1 large tomato
- 4-8 1/4-inch slices of leftover baked turkey breast (allow to come to room temperature)
- 1 1/2 cups milk, 2% or whole (allow to come to room temperature)
- 1 tbsp flour
- 8 slices bacon
- 1 tbsp bacon grease
- 1 cup grated white cheddar or provolone
- optional: fresh parsley, hot sauce

Turn on your oven broiler. Line a baking sheet with foil and cut your tomato into 1/2-inch slices. Drizzle the tomato slices with olive oil, salt, and pepper. Put them into the oven so they are 6-8 inches from the broiler and let them go for about 3-4 minutes.

Cook eight slices of bacon in a large sauté pan. Once golden, remove them onto a dish lined with a paper towel. Reserve one tablespoon of the rendered bacon fat. Add the flour, whisk together, and allow it to cook for a minute on medium heat. Add 1 1/2 cup of room-temperature milk and whisk vigorously to remove any lumps. Allow it to simmer and thicken, stirring occasionally. Remove from the heat and add half the grated white cheddar or provolone. Slowly stir the cheese into the sauce and add salt and pepper to taste.

Lightly toast four slices of bread in a toaster. While they're toasting, move your oven rack to the middle position.

Line another baking sheet with foil and place four pieces of bread on it. Cover the surface of the bread with the sliced turkey and top the turkey with broiled tomato slices. Spoon some cheese sauce over the top, followed by the grated cheese, salt, and pepper. Place under the broiler for a few minutes until the cheese starts to brown. Take it out and make an "X" with the bacon on top of each open-face sandwich. Add the parsley and hot sauce if you like.

St. Peter's Health Awarded Grant to Implement Zero Suicide Prevention Initiative

Jacquelyn Tescher
Saint Peter's Health

Based on the Belief that One Life Lost is One Too Many: St. Peter's Health Awarded \$1.9M SAMHSA Grant to Implement Zero Suicide Prevention Initiative

In a state where the suicide rate is nearly double the national average, St. Peter's Health is taking a bold step to help save lives. St. Peter's is proud to announce that it has joined the Zero Suicide Institute, a national effort to prevent suicide thanks to a five-year \$1.9M grant awarded to the St. Peter's Health Foundation by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Suicide is a critical public health issue in Montana, which consistently ranks as having the highest suicide rates in the nation. According to the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), the state's suicide rate is nearly double the national average, with approximately 28 deaths per 100,000 residents. Several factors contribute to Montana's high suicide rates, including geographic isolation, limited access to mental health care, and economic challenges. Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach that includes increasing awareness and screening, enhancing mental health services, and providing robust support systems for those at risk.

According to St. Peter's Health Senior Director of Population Health, Amy Emmert, RN, Zero Suicide is an organization-wide initiative built on the understanding that everyone can participate in suicide prevention. "It is a

commitment to patient safety and comprehensive suicide care that uses a standardized approach throughout St. Peter's to identify, treat, and support individuals at risk for suicide," says Emmert. "We are going to elevate the way we respond to suicide and suicidal ideation in our community."

For St. Peter's, embracing Zero Suicide means a fundamental shift in how mental health and suicide prevention are approached and treated across the continuum of care. To kick-start this transformative journey, last spring St. Peter's performed a Zero Suicide Organizational Self-Study to identify current practices, followed by a Zero Suicide Workforce Survey, allowing every staff member to participate and gauge their ability and confidence in caring for individuals at risk for suicide.

Adoption efforts are being spearheaded by a diverse team of caregivers from across the organization called the Behavioral Health Service Line Workgroup. It is comprised of representatives from various crucial patient care areas including the Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit, Mobile Crisis Response, Emergency Department, Risk Management, Primary Care, Population Health, Psychiatry, Addiction Medicine, Quality Department, and the Inpatient Medical Unit.

Armed with the findings from both assessments, St. Peter's has now developed a strategy to enhance suicide care under each framework element of the Zero Suicide model. For example, every new employee at St. Peter's, no matter their role, now receives Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training during their first week on the job. This training helps staff feel comfortable and confident when interacting with suicidal individuals, ensuring they feel understood and

encouraged to keep seeking help.

Beyond QPR Training, Emmert says more comprehensive training in suicide care is given to clinical team members. The framework has also outlined how St. Peter's patients are screened for suicide and what response and services are provided if they are identified as at risk for suicide. In addition, last month, St. Peter's announced they received a \$288,000 grant from Helmsley the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust to offer a cutting-edge, proven treatment for patients struggling with severe depression called Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS). St. Peter's Psychiatrist Dr. Brigid Crowley says she looks forward to having this option to treat patients who have struggled to respond conventional therapies for major depression and other conditions.

St. Peter's Health champions Mechille and Pete Johnson also recently created a mental health solutions endowed fund through the St. Peter's Health Foundation to help improve the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients living with mental and behavioral health disease and disorders.

"As Helena's community hospital, our priority is to meet the needs of those we serve, and improving access to mental health care has been at the top of our community's list for many years," says St. Peter's Health Chief Executive Officer Wade Johnson. "I'm proud of our team's passion and willingness to help address this complex and unprecedented health issue through the work they do every day."

This initiative will provide critical support to those in need, ensuring that no one in our community has to face mental health challenges alone.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

November 21

1940

Personal News

Wm. Mackey, who is teaching in the schools of Worden, arrived home today to spend the Thanksgiving vacation. His mother, Mrs. Harry Mackey, spent last weekend in Billings with him, it being his birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Carson and baby daughter, Helen, went to Helena Monday, Mrs. Carson remaining for a week's visit with her sister, Mrs. Les Rogers.

Mrs. Jos. J. Davey and her son, Robert, left for their home in Spokane Sunday after having visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Kearns and other relatives.

Attorney Frank T. Hooks boarded the stub Monday evening for Billings and attended to legal matters the following day, returning in the evening. Train travel beats the icy roads these days, said Mr. Hooks as he seated himself in the comfortable coach of the N.P.'s crack train.

Mrs. R.R. Kimpton and her two sisters, Eloise and Althea Hale, and a guest, Miss Edna Decker were calling in Townsend the first of the week with their aunt, Mrs. T.N. Averill.

1968

Local News

Mrs. Allen Bensley and little daughter accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Lanny White home last Thursday from Tacoma, Wash. To visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Noyd. They left Wednesday for Billings to visit other relatives and friends before returning to their home.

Glen Black of Bozeman spent last week here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Black. The men did some deer and elk hunting and were quite successful,

each getting a deer and Fred an elk.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Riis of Winston called on Annie Bisby on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Heuer, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Plummer, Mrs. Gladys Van Vliet, Mrs. Mauna Harrigfeld and Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Etwiler were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thompson at Lydia's in Butte last Saturday evening.

Mrs. Joe Braley of Manhattan and son, Jim, who is home on furlough from the Army, were visiting friends in Townsend on Monday.

1996

Around Town News

Mrs. Dorothy Hahn visited Edith Alex Saturday.

Tex Pate, Winston, visited Edith Thursday.

Lillian Fisher, Florence Anderson, and Alberta Nave were business callers in Helena Wednesday.

Carol and Lawrence Somers, Port Townsend, Wash., are visiting her mother, Bernice Cartwright.

Darin and David Johnson, Stevensville, were weekend visitors at the home of Ray and Betty Horne.

Howard and Mable Gobbs, Culbertson, are here visiting at the home of their son, Lonnie and Deena Gobbs, Casey and Lane.

Nikke and Steve Ito and son, Connor, of Alaska have been here visiting with her parents, Bill and Joyce Lane, and other relatives in the area. Steve left for home last week, but Nikki and Connor were able to stay on for an extended visit.

Leon and Marsha Belville, Spokane, Wash. visited Loyd and Shirley Belville recently. While here they attended the dedication of the veterans' plaque at Memorial Park on Veteran's Day. Later they enjoyed the dinner at the Legion Club.

1912

Shoot Wooden Ducks

A bunch of duck hunters, comprising of Mayor Faltermeyer, John Schmidt, Bilyus Hayes and A.W. Finch, was out last Sunday after the feathered tribe. The story goes that they went to some good hunting grounds where "blinds" had already been prepared when Hayes, Schmidt and Faltermeyer spied a bunch of ducks enjoying a swim on the bosom of the lake. They crawled about 300 yards on their hands and knees to get in shooting distance and when they reached the desired spot rose up and turned their artillery loose in the poor innocent ducks. But they were decoys, and Hayes, who had emptied his gun, looked about the landscape to see who was looking on; Schmidt, lost for the moment that golden smile, and Faltermeyer, who had a .22 rifle denied taking a shot at all. However, all the audience they had to shooting at wood ducks was Bill Finch, who was in the background on his back waving his wooden leg in the air and having a hearty laugh all to himself.

Doings of a Week

George Stennent, lineman for the electric light company, climbed a pole Monday and when he cut the wires both pole and George went to the mat for the count, the pole coming with him. Besides a broken wrist, Stennent's face was badly lacerated. Dr. Gilham reduced the fractured wrist and the patient is out with his arm in a sling. The pole was an old one and rotted and after cutting the wires, the weight of the lineman was too much for it and it toppled over.

SHOP LOCAL



BLACK & FRIDAY
Hallelujah Saturday!
30% Off Holiday Decorations
20% Off Toys for Tots Purchases
10% Off Power Tools
Nov 29-30
Historic Townsend Hardware
204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

Honoring Our Veterans – Al Barnett

Matt Nelson



Air Force veteran Albert (Al) Barnett, Jr. is a native of Monticello, Minnesota, but has lived near Townsend since 1998.



U.S. Air Force Airman Al Barnett
Photo Credit: Al Barnett

Al joined the Air Force when he was 21, in 1964. He voted for the first time, and one hour later was on a bus going to St. Paul. From there he had three different flights to go to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas for his Basic Training. He had two choices of what he wanted to do. One was air traffic control, and the other was doing some type of drafting. He knew

that he wasn't cut out to be an air traffic controller. After basic training he went to Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where he was trained by the Army to do surveying. The army felt that if he learned to survey, he would know what Longitude and Latitude meant. He also learned photo interpretation and stereo vision so he could look at two photos and see a 3-D relief. He was second in his class, being behind the leader by three hundredths of a point. He chose to go to Barksdale, AFB just out of Shreveport, Louisiana, because his sister lived in Dallas. About every weekend he would visit her, 180 miles away.

He was assigned to the 2nd Resonance Technical Squadron in the building where it was discovered in 1962 that Russian missile launchers were being unloaded in Cuba, which became known as the Cuban Missile Crisis. While Al was a Barksdale, the U-2 aircraft were flying all over the world, and the film they gathered was sent there. Al didn't see any of the actual photos but made charts based upon information and data obtained from the photos that other people supplied. He was very good

at his job. During the time he was there, Vietnam was going on hot and heavy. He actually volunteered to go there but was told that he would not be released to go, because his exceptional skills were needed at Barksdale. He stayed there until his Honorable Discharge in 1968.

While there he was given an award called the Pride Airman, because he excelled in his job and nobody else had to do his work.

One night during one of his return visits from seeing his sister he saw a cross about 30 feet tall, and around the cross there was a fire about 3 or 4 high. Near the fire were a bunch of KKK guys wearing white capes, leaving a lasting but negative impression. He said, "That was one thing I saw that was kind of alarming down in the South. I also saw Martin Luther King in one of his parades in Dallas." I told Al that Rev. King was shot on my birthday in 1968, and Al responded, "Man, that's really too bad. He was a good man."

For two years prior to going into the Air Force, Al had worked as a welder and continued for another eight years after his discharge. He met his wife Anita on one of his trips to Dallas. Anita had three children when Al met her, whom Al adopted, and a couple years later they had a son. Unfortunately, he passed away when he was 40.

Al became a coast-to-coast long-haul trucker several years later, hauling mostly refrigerated cargo, and in 1992 Anita started driving with him as a team member. She stopped driving when they moved to Townsend. Sadly, she passed away in 2018. Al retired from driving in 2007.

When he was 13, his sister paid \$3.00 for him to get his first plane ride, in a Stinson Voyager, like this reporter used to have. In 1977 Al took flying lessons, eventually earning his Commercial Seaplane Rating, and also became a seaplane instructor pilot. Before moving to Townsend, Al had a check ride for one of his

pilot ratings from an instructor in Minneapolis. A few years after arriving here, he went up to Vetter's Aviation in Helena to get a Biennial Flight Review (BFR). While looking over Al's log books the instructor at Vetter's discovered that Al had received his check ride from the same guy that had actually trained the pilots who flew into the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. They wanted to learn to fly but did not care about learning how to land. After the attack, the FBI figured out who the instructor was.

Al is a humble guy, but he has had a lot of interesting experiences.



An older Al Barnett, always with his happy smile.
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson