

East Helena News

Town Pump Opens a New Store in East Helena



Early morning at the new Town Pump in East Helena.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Food preparation employees are proud of their new kitchen facility. Kitchen Crew from left: Clarissa, Monica, Lisa and Michael
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Operations manager Clancy Forward points out the many choices of grocery stock the new Town Pump carries. He noted in an interview their grocery prices would be competitive.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



The 'Pepsi Guy' Jackson Latzel grins as he shows off his wares at the new Town Pump.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Nancy Marks
MT43 News Photographer



It is a new day in East Helena. Town Pump, Inc. has opened its new facility on the outskirts of East Helena at 3680 Highway 12.

The new store and Lucky Lil's Casino hosted an open house on Thursday, Nov. 21. It will replace Town Pump's former facility on Wiley Drive. Employees at the former location will move to the new location, according to Director of Corporate Communications Bill McGladdery. Town Pump, Inc. has its corporate offices in Butte.

Town Pump opened its first gas station and convenience store in East Helena in 1968. Its store, at So. Lane Street and Hwy 287, will continue to operate. This new facility is the 106th Town Pump.

According to McGladdery the new facility, situated on 15 acres, includes a 22,500-square-foot convenience store with a casino which has a 3,500-square-foot spacious lounge and liquor store. The facility includes an outdoor patio and 20 television screens in its sports bar.

The convenience store features many new grocery items such as different kinds of milk, and staples such as ketchup, cereal and bread. Operations Manager Clancy Forward described the Beer Cave as a spacious 1,600 square foot room filled with local brews as well as the old standbys. He pointed out the upscale food preparation area with an open kitchen where food preparation employees may be seen making those special Town Pump sandwiches and corn dogs.

The facility plans to reach out to over-the-road truckers who need shower stalls and ice for their coolers. Two well-designed shower rooms welcome truckers. In the

back room are two huge ice-making machines. There are 24 gasoline pumps in front of the building, along with nine diesel dispensaries behind it. Next spring, RV dump service stations will be available.

Heritage Foods Grocery Manager Doug Carpenter welcomed the new business, saying, "It's Good for them and good for East Helena."

He did not anticipate a huge effect on his store saying the new convenience store may affect his lunch business for a while, but overall would be good for both businesses.

Editor's Note: Mt43News will be widening its coverage to include East Helena news in the coming months since many Broadwater County residents work in Helena and have children who attend school in the East Helena School District.

Montana Heritage Center to Open in 2025

Victor Sample
Secretary of Visit Southwest Montana



Last week on November 21, 2024, Rachael Brug, Linda Huth, Nancy Marks and I were on a tour of the new Montana Heritage Center in Helena, located at 225 N. Roberts.

The Montana Heritage Center will replace the old Montana Historical Society Museum. Construction of the new Heritage Center began in the Fall of 2020 and will cost nearly \$100 million.

The new Heritage Center will also include the old (but remodeled) Montana History Museum. The new Center will add 66,000 square feet to the old History Museum. It includes a 15,000 square foot "Homeland Gallery", a larger Charley Russell Gallery, a 7,000 square foot Event Center and a state-of-the-art woodworking shop for creating the exhibits.

The exhibits are still not created and there is much construction yet to be completed, but the new Heritage Center is nearing completion. The Heritage Center is set to open to the public in 2025.

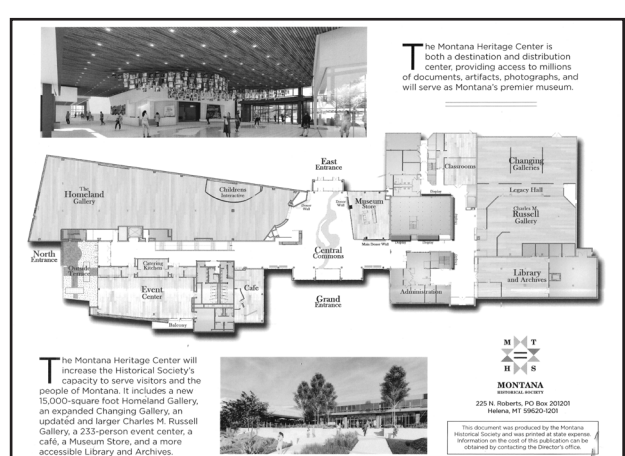


Linda Huth and Rachael Brug, along with a Heritage Center Construction Manager, touring the Heritage Center building.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

In addition to the actual Heritage Center building (and over 66,000 historical artifacts), the Center has funding to bring in school children from every corner of Montana. The Center will pay for the transportation, lodging and food to allow every school district to be able to have a "field trip" to the new Heritage Center.

The new Heritage Center will be a tremendous asset to Montana that every Montanan can be proud of – it truly will be a jewel of Montana.

Southwest Montana, our local regional tourism partner, scheduled the tour of the Montana Heritage



Layout of the new Montana Heritage Center main floor
Montana Heritage Center Photo

Center building. Rachael Brug and I are on the Southwest Montana Board of Directors. Southwest Montana Executive Director Sarah Bannon and PR Manager Maria Pochervina hosted the event and allowed us to invite Linda Huth (Broadwater County Museum Curator) and Nancy Marks to join us on the tour.

For more information on Southwest Montana, Inc. visit <https://members.southwestmt.com/partners>

To view the Southwest Montana tourism website, visit <https://southwestmt.com/>

HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PRODUCTION & SUCCESS!

Grady Erickson
BHS Reporter



Read the story on page 4!

CK May, COP Construction Awarded City Water Project Contracts

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Townsend's City Council awarded the contracts to install a new water tower and repair and improve the city's water infrastructure to two Montana firms during their Nov. 19 meeting.
Read more on page 6!

EARLY DEADLINES
for
HOLIDAY EDITIONS



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

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES, ARTS AND CRAFTS AT EAST HELENA'S 2024 CHRISTMAS STROLL!



2024 East Helena Downtown Christmas Stroll and Arts and Crafts Show
 Thursday December 5, 2024
 5:30 - 8:30

PRECISION BUSINESS RESOURCES IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS!



PAYROLL, BOOKKEEPING, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND INDIVIDUAL & BUSINESS TAXES

CALL US TODAY!
 TOWNSEND: 266-0062 EAST HELENA: 442-6206

Have a Wonderful Time at the E Helena Christmas Stroll!



OrthoRehab PHYSICAL THERAPY
 119 W Main Street East Helena | 406.634.3550
 101 B St, Townsend | 406.521.1885

Have Fun at the Christmas Stroll!



CALAMITY ANN'S HAIR DEN
 Kendra Pizzini, Owner/Operator
 119 East Main St | 406-277-5355

Montana Made Sheepskin Slippers Made from American Raised Sheep



HIGH PLAINS SHEEPSKIN
 5 West Main St, E Helena | 406-227-8965
 hpsheepskin.com

J4 AUTOMOTIVE

THE MAN STORE
 East Helena 406-227-6519
 Helena 406-443-8084
 Beer, Wine, Cigars and Gifts.

You know who they want that tag to be from:



Cliff's JEWELRY
 See you at the Stroll!
 19 W Main St, E Helena | (406) 442-2570

Enjoy the Christmas Stroll!



PEAK PHYSICAL THERAPY & Sports Rehab
 Peak Physical Therapy and Sports Rehab
 6 W Main St, East Helena, MT 59635 | 406-502-1799



Save The Date

THE MAGIC OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS ALL ABOUT SHARING JOYFUL TIMES WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS.

VALLEY BANK INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE FUN AS WE CELEBRATE THE ANNUAL EAST HELENA CHRISTMAS STROLL!

WHEN: DECEMBER 5TH, 2024
 5:30-8:30 PM

WHERE: MAIN ST. EAST HELENA

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



Enjoy the E Helena Christmas Stroll!




3012 Canyon Ferry Rd, East Helena | (406) 227-8506

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS STROLL!



"Where You're a Neighbor Not a Number!"

HERITAGE Food Store
 109 S Lane Ave, East Helena
 (406) 227-5304

Serving the community for 50 Years!

This Holiday Season, get your loved ones the gift of wholesome, local news.




WE WILL SEE YOU AT THE EAST HELENA CHRISTMAS STROLL!



If we miss you at the Stroll, you can call or come by our office to order your gift subscriptions!
 Mon - Fri, 10am - 2pm | 406.266.0086 | 408 Broadway

Townsend School Calendar

DECEMBER



Sun 1
8:00 am: Rick Kitto - Stage Gym

Mon 2
6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice at Elementary Gym

Tue 3
8:55 am: Pre-K PE - 63 Gym
6:00 pm: Girls HSBB Blue/White Scrimmage
6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym
7:00 pm: Boys HSBB Blue/White Scrimmage
7:00 pm: Booster Club Meeting - The Bridge
7:00 pm: Internet Safety for Parents - Library Classroom

Wed 4
8:55 am: Pre- K PE - 63 Gym
6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym
6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Stage Gym
7:00 pm: Old Baldy Open Gym
7:30 pm: Old Baldy Pickleball - Stage Gym

Thu 5
Q2 Midterms
4:00 pm: Middle School Girls Basketball
6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym
7:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Crochet - Library Classroom

Fri 6
4:30 pm: High School Basketball vs Twin Bridges
High School Wrestling - Cascade

Sat 7
High School Wrestling - Cascade
Middle School Girls Basketball - Twin Bridges Tournament
Speech and Drama - Columbus

Sun 8
FFA Sweet Grass Showdown
5:00 pm: Football Banquet

Mon 9
FFA Sweet Grass Showdown



NorthWestern Energy
Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Three Forks School Calendar

DECEMBER



Mon 2
8th Grade PE Bowling Trip
Junior High Girls Basketball vs. Livingston

Tue 3
Lunch Time: High School FCCLA Meeting

Wed 4
6th and 7th Grade PE Bowling Trip
Lunch Time: Middle School FCCLA Meeting

Thu 5
4:30 pm: High School Girls Basketball vs West Yellowstone
Junior High Girls Basketball at Townsend
Lunch: Middle School Book Club

Fri 6
9:00 am: Junior High Girls Basketball Tournament

Sat 7
TBD: High School Wrestling - Manhattan
10:00 am: Junior High Girls Basketball Tournament
5:30 am: Speech, Drama & Debate - Columbus

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>

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

EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINE SCHEDULE FOR MT43 NEWS:

Townsend 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**

Fri 29- Sun 1
-Rock Your Plaid at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
SEE AD ON THIS PAGE

Friday 29
-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
- Ladies' Day Out at Local Businesses **SEE READING LEAVES AD ON THIS PAGE**
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

Monday 2
1:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Membership Meeting at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway

Tuesday 3
5:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Food and Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway
5:30 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Wednesday 4
1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Thursday 5
7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 6
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 7
4:00 pm: 2024 Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Stroll at Broadway and Front St
5:00 pm: Christmas Stroll Parade
6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
6:00 pm: Dinner with Chef Heather Hatwan at the Lodge of Townsend
6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

Saturday 14
8:00- 4:00 pm: Broadwater Rod and Gun Club Pistol Course
SEE CLASSIFIED AD ON THIS PAGE FOR REGISTRATION INFO

Thursday 21
11:00- 4:00 pm: Winter Market at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Monday 2
2:00 pm: Commission Working Meeting - CANCELED

Tuesday 3
10:00 am: Commission Working Meeting (in the Commissioner's Office) - CANCELED

Wednesday 4
10:00 am: Commission Meeting - CANCELED

UPCOMING EVENTS @ READING LEAVES BOOKSTORE

PLAID FRIDAY
Wear Plaid take 10% off all book purchases!
FRI SAT & SUN

NOVEMBER 29

LADIES DAY OUT
Shop participating businesses for all kinds of raffles & specials!
ALL DAY

NOVEMBER 30

CHRISTMAS STROLL
We have a FULL HOUSE of VENDORS!
4-7 PM

DECEMBER 07

WINTER MARKET
Stop in and shop your favorite Farmer's Market Vendors!
11-4

DECEMBER 21

Watch for random specials and extended shopping hours Thursday nights!

LOCAL JOBS WANTED

Part Time Housekeeper in Townsend
For Information Call Milo 406-266-3130

BROADWATER ROD AND GUN CLUB BASIC PISTOL COURSE

Location: 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.broadwater-rodandgun.com
Questions? Call Virgil Binkley (406) 980-1548

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Friday 29
11:00 am: Three Forks Community Library - LEGGO Club

DECEMBER

Tuesday 3
1:00 pm: Three Forks Community Library - Mah Jongg Club
5:15 pm: Three Forks Community Library Board Meeting

Wednesday 4
5:30 pm: Bozeman Music Night with Jody and the Woodflowers at Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Thursday 5
10:30 am: Three Forks Community Library - Storytime
6:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with Katie Hall at Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Friday 6
11:00 am: Three Forks Community Library - LEGGO Club

Saturday 7
Three Forks Community Library OPEN

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-Ornamentals 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

The Birds Nest & Swazi's Rock Shop

Unique Gifts, Antiques & Treasures
125 S Pine St, Townsend MT
(406)266-1335

HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB

PRODUCTION & SUCCESS

Grady Erickson
BHS Reporter



On Tuesday, November 19th, the stage gym was a high school play

“Employees must wash hands before murder”. The story starts with Ashleys (played by Millie Sims) first day at the Burgertorium where all of the other staff are wacky. The day takes a wild turn when it is announced that the health inspector (played by Jazlyn Martin) is having a surprise visit. That’s when the health inspector discovers the manager (played by Haylie Reinke) murdered in the fridge. So, the health inspector started an investigation of all the staff, questioning them one by one. The guilty suspect was the evil Tape Worm (played by Hannah Hall) who had been terrorizing the Burgertorium. The story ends with the Tapeworm getting away with the murder after realizing that it is immune to criminal prosecution.

Overall, the play was very high quality, and I could tell a lot of practice was put into the production. The seasonal plays at Broadwater High School are always high quality and they are worth a watch.



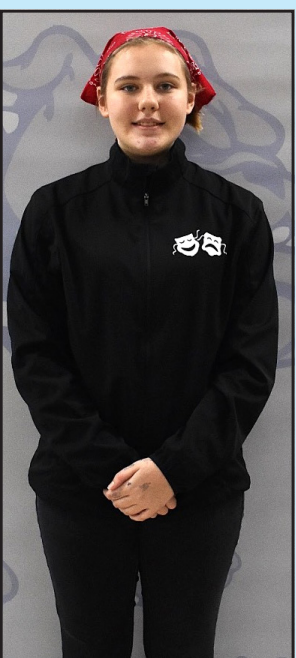
Townsend Booster Club

Bulldog Speech and Drama

Ava Boaz & Campbell Kirksey!

Freshman/sophomore duo Ava Boaz and Campbell Kirksey are making waves in their very first tournament! Performing a delightful cutting of Anne of Green Gables, these talented newcomers achieved the rare feat of "picket-fencing," receiving first place in every round.

Their charm, chemistry, and dedication lit up the room in Lewistown on November 16 and we couldn’t be prouder of this dynamic duo. Bravo, Ava and Campbell—this is just the beginning of your incredible journey!



Ava Boaz
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Campbell Kirksey
Townsend Booster Club Photo

We now offer Sponsorship Advertising!

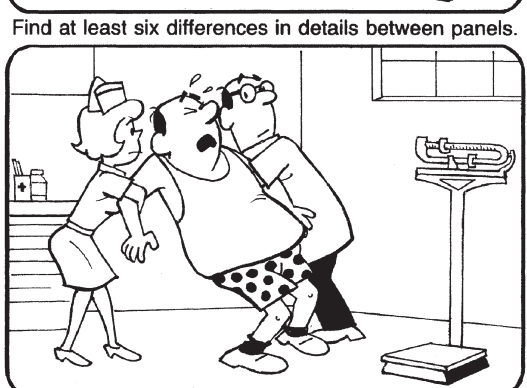
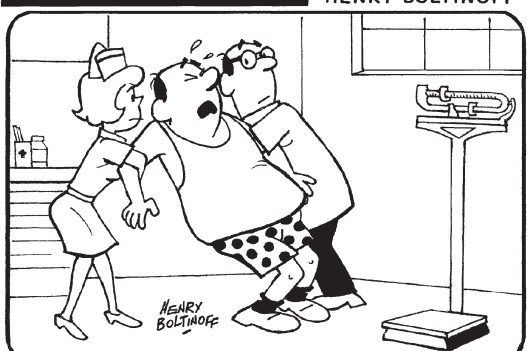
Local Individuals and Businesses are invited to sponsor a local cause for a month!

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

ONLY \$50!

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

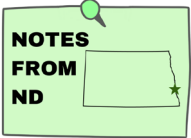
HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Scale is shorter. 3. Nurse's foot is shorter. 4. Cabinet is not as wide. 5. Window is smaller. 6. Sock is shorter.

Mikayla Kraft
MT43 News Correspondent



Ask any college student what it is like to be living college life in the middle of November and they will tell you that they are holding on for dear life. Finals week is just around the corner and everyone is excited for Thanksgiving Break and Winter Break. I am living proof of this feeling. The class load has not decreased, but the routine is as monotonous as ever and I am burned out. Luckily, this week has had some events outside of the normal routine.

On Tuesday at 8 am, I registered for my Spring Semester Classes and was able to register for 17 credits. This next semester I will focus on fulfilling as many Gen Eds as possible and working toward my Agribusiness minor. I will take General Animal Sciences, General Biology 2 w/ Lab, General Chemistry 2 w/ Lab, Intro to Entrepreneurship, and Wellness 111. Unfortunately, I was supposed to also be taking College Composition 2, but I was put on the waitlist. If I do not get into the class this semester I plan to take it during the summer.

On Wednesday night, I attended the Midwest Poultry Consortium event and learned about the poultry industry and the innovations within the industry. I attended with

my friends Gwen, Sophia, and Laura. We were also introduced to COE (Center of Excellence Internship Program) where we could attend two summer sessions at either Minnesota State University or Iowa State University to earn 18 credits to be transferred to our college. We would also be required to participate in an internship within the poultry industry. Unfortunately, the path is not within my interest, but having the ability to explore what the poultry industry was about was fulfilling.

On Thursday, I went on a coffee date with my friend Regan and enjoyed each other's company amid the busy season. That evening I got together with my friend group for dinner before going to the weekly Chi Alpha service. Getting to socialize and focus on our Heavenly Father was incredibly uplifting as I waited for the break.

This time of the semester is difficult for everybody, but I know that I am not alone and I can still find ways to balance my school life and my social life to make times more enjoyable. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “If you can’t fly then run if you can’t run then walk if you can’t walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward,” and even if crawling is the only way I can make it to the semester finish line, I will do it. However, I am going to give my best to finish the race running with encouragement, energized, and more knowledgeable.

Broadwater Community Theater Hosts Evening of Fun and Food

MT43 News Staff Reporter



A "Crazy Christmas" play will highlight Broadwater Community Theater’s (BCY) annual dinner fundraising event on Saturday, December 14 at The Lodge.

The adult skit, written by BCT president LaRinda Spencer, is an edgy spoof in which characters Sheriff Delmar and the DJ of the local radio station, KMAS, write the usual stress of the season from their parts. The sheriff loves Christmas, DJ is the Grinch of the two. An unexpected turn of events comes to the sheriff’s

office, which brings out the best in each of them. All’s well that ends well. Spencer includes no spoilers here. Diners must come to the gala event to learn how the play ends and enjoy dinner and beverages at this once-a-year community event.

The annual event begins the sponsorship drive for Broadwater Community Theater. The nonprofit theater, in its sixth year, hosts children’s plays, adult skits, dance classes, Queen City Swing dances and Grand Street Theater summer camps for elementary school students. It is affiliated with the children’s afterschool program STROKE.

Tickets go on sale at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway, December 2 through December 10. No tickets will be sold at the door. For more information please call LaRinda at (406) 475-4016.

Opportunity Bank of Montana Donates \$75,000 to St. Peter’s Health Foundation to Support Variety of Community Health Initiatives

Jacquelyn Tescher
Saint Peter's Health Supervisor of Public Relations



The St. Peter’s Health Foundation is thrilled to announce a generous

donation of \$75,000 from Opportunity Bank of Montana. This substantial contribution will be used toward health initiatives in the Helena community.

Laura Clark, President and Chief Executive Officer of Opportunity Bank of Montana, expressed her enthusiasm for the partnership, stating, "As a Montana community bank, we are dedicated to making a positive impact in the communities we serve. We are proud to support St. Peter’s Health in increasing access to quality care for individuals in Helena and our surrounding communities".

This funding will create an endowment fund to support a variety of upcoming St. Peter’s initiatives, including the expansion of community-based services, and mental health programs, increasing access to care, and improving the overall health infrastructure within the Helena community. This initiative aligns with St. Peter’s mission to improve the health, wellness and quality of life of the people and communities it serves.

"At the heart of our mission is the commitment to

provide strong financial futures and strengthen our communities. Access to high-quality health care is essential to the overall well-being of our community and by supporting these initiatives, we are reinforcing our commitment to creating positive, lasting change," said Clark.

St. Peter’s Health Chief Executive Officer Wade Johnson, expressed gratitude for the donation, saying, "We are incredibly grateful for the support from Opportunity Bank of Montana. This funding will significantly enhance our ability to provide comprehensive health care services to those in need."

Stephen Mason, Executive Vice President of the St. Peter’s Health Foundation, added, "Opportunity Bank of Montana has thoughtfully supported St. Peter’s Health for more than 30 years through donations and volunteer executive leadership. Their new endowed fund is innovative and offers much-needed flexibility that will help us transform health and wellness services today and for generations to come. We are grateful to Laura and the Opportunity Bank of Montana Board of Directors for choosing to help make us better for our patients and the communities we serve."

For more information about St. Peter’s Health and the programs supported by this donation, please visit www.sphealth.org. For more information about Opportunity Bank of Montana, please visit www.opportunitybank.com.

TOPGUN
Autobody
Townsend, MT

Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!

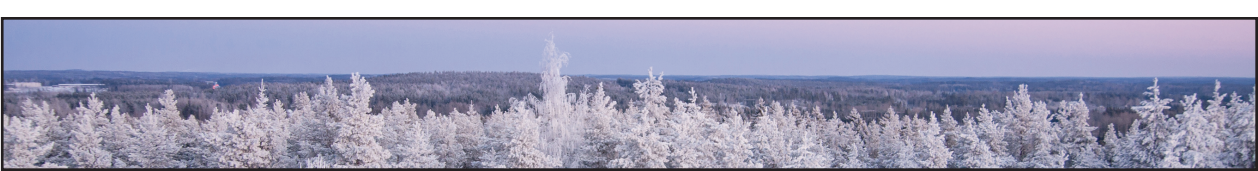
406-266-3110
7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT
topgunt3110@gmail.com
topgunautobodytownsend.com

MONTANA HEALTH QUOTE

HEALTH INSURANCE
Individual and Family Plans for 2025

Call for a quote!

Local Agent, Martin Burright
406 579 6482



LEGAL NOTICES



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

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT 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 OF TOWNSEND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

FOR COOPER SPRINGS MAJOR SUBDIVISION PHASING SCHEDULE CHANGE

Pursuant to the City of Townsend Subdivision Regulations, the Townsend City Council will conduct a public hearing on December 17, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. to receive public comment on a proposal from the applicant to change the schedule of the phasing for Copper Springs Major Subdivision. The applicant proposes to extend the Phase 1 schedule to December 2028, Phase 2 to December 2030, and Phase 3 to December 2032.

Requests for information and questions on the proposal may be directed to the Townsend Contract Planner Jeremy Fadness, WWC Engineering, 1275 Maple Street Suite F, Helena, MT 59601, (406)-443-3962. Written comments may be directed to the City Clerk, Kari Williams, 110 Broadway in Townsend or mailed to 110 Broadway, Townsend, Montana 59644. Written comments must be received by 4:00 p.m. on December 17, 2024. Interested parties are invited to attend a Public Hearing and make known their views and concerns on the proposed phasing changes for the Copper Springs Major Subdivision. The City Council Public Hearing will be held on December 17, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 110 Broadway in Townsend.

ADA Notice: The City of Townsend is committed to providing access to persons with disabilities for its meetings in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Montana Human Rights Act. The City will not exclude persons with disabilities from participation at its meetings or otherwise deny them the City's services, programs, or activities. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations to participate in the City's meetings, services, programs or activities should contact the City Clerk as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to arrange for the requested accommodation, at any of the following:

Published November 29, 2024, and December 13, 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

NOTICE FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

The City of Townsend is accepting letters of interest for an open council position in Ward I. Ward 1 includes the territory north of Broadway and east of Cedar St. If you reside in Ward I, please submit a letter of interest to City Hall 110 Broadway Townsend, MT by 1:00 p.m. on December 13, 2024.

For further information, please contact Kari Williams at (406)266-3911.

Published November 29 and December 6, 2024

MNAXLP

NOTICE: DITCH RIDER NEEDED

Ditch Rider needed in Toston, Montana. March 1 - October 31. Mechanical/electrical knowledge of large irrigation pumps required, with working knowledge of canals and pipelines.

Must be on-call for emergencies.

Applicator license and personal pickup required - mileage reimbursed.

Compensation DOE. Call: 406-266-1630

Published November 29, December 6, 13 and 20, 2024

MNAXLP



November 22

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Christopher Abbott's courtroom on Friday, November 22 is as follows:

Micheal Gerkhe had a Pre-Trial Conference on a De Novo** trial out of Justice Court. His Jury Trial will be on January 21.

**De Novo Trial is when the judge is not bound by the previous decision and can introduce new rulings on the facts presented.

Broadwater County Sheriff's Office October 2024 Agency Report

Nick Rauser
Sheriff



Calls for Service 1731
Traffic Stops 92
Felony Cases 2
Cases Opened 45
Misdemeanor Cases 14

DUI Arrests 4

Jail Bookings 46

Warrant Arrests 4

Sex Offenses 1

Domestic Violence 0

Theft 5 (2 stolen vehicles)

Proactive Patrols

North/LF Baum/ Jimmy Green/ Winston/Silo Area 10

South/ Three Forks Area 33

Toston/Radersburg Area 9

The content of this report does not reflect the full scope of activities conducted by the Sheriff's Office.

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.

Broadwater County Commissioners Agenda

Daylene Hansen
Administrative Assistant



BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

515 Broadway, Townsend

Meetings are held at the Flynn Building on 416 Broadway St.

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

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, 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.

Commissioners at MACo training December 2 - 4, 2024

No Commission Meeting December 4, 2024

Thursday, December 5, 2024

11:30 AM Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in Flynn Building, regarding projects and deadlines

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 – ongoing 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

- Trust Board Meeting on December 10th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Public Hearing & Meeting on December 10th at 1:00 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) Due to a MACO meeting, there will be usual Commissioner's meeting on Dec 4. There will be a working meeting on Dec 5.

Surrounding Community Newspapers

MT43 News Staff

We have copies of newspapers from around our area at our office that you can stop by and read.

- The Monitor (from Boulder),
- The Cascade Courier
- Choteau Acantha,
- Three Forks Voice
- The Meagher County News
- Whitehall Ledger

Regular business hours are 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

CK May, COP Construction Awarded City Water Project Contracts

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Townsend's City Council awarded the contracts to install a new water tower and repair and improve the city's water infrastructure to two Montana firms during their Nov. 19 meeting. CK May Excavating of Belgrade and COP Construction, LLC of Billings were the low bidders for each schedule of the project, at \$3.029 million for infrastructure and \$8.232 million for the water tower installation, respectively.

Council Member Heather Healea recommended the council accept the recommendation of Robert Peccia and Associates in selecting CK May and COP Construction.

"In my professional opinion, I feel these bids are fair and accurate, and the budget is well accommodated," Healea said. "I don't see any major issues with scope gaps or anything that might blow the budget out of the water. Of course, there are always contingencies."

Total cost for the project, Mayor Vickie Rauser said, is approximately \$14 million, more than \$2 million less than estimated for the project.

"This is really getting real now," Rauser said, accepting the council's vote of approval.

City Attorney Peter Simon confirmed for the council that the city either owns or has legal access to all the property involved in the project.

With the bids accepted, work may begin as early as December, with full construction estimated to be completed by 2026.

Council Begins Search for New City Attorney

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Townsend's City Council opened its search for a new city attorney this week, following notice from current city attorney Peter Simon that he would not be renewing his contract to provide legal counsel to the city after the first of the new year.

Simon, who has represented the city since 2018, advised the Council that he would not be renewing his contract at the Nov. 5 regular meeting. He cited the difficulty balancing the work of his private practice with the ongoing city projects among his reasons for stepping away from advising the City of Townsend.

In addition to drafting resolutions, advising the city on a wide range of legal issues, and researching and providing the city with recommendations on a variety of topics, the eventual city attorney may also be expected to represent the city in criminal and civil matters.

With the election of current County Attorney Cory Swanson as chief justice of the state's highest court and the departure of Deputy County Attorney Jenna Hatfield, the eventual Townsend City Attorney may also be asked to resume the role of prosecuting civil cases on behalf of the city.

The city will be accepting proposals from prospective attorneys through Dec. 20, 2024. Simon said he would be willing to extend his current contract for a few months should the search for his replacement extend past Jan. 1.

Candlelight Tours at Lewis & Clark Caverns

Morgan Jacobsen
Montana FWP Communications Coordinator



Candlelight tours are offered at Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park. Tickets can be purchased online or by phone starting Dec. 2

Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park will once again host candlelight tours of the entire developed cave route.

This special event allows visitors to see and enjoy the caverns by the warm, festive glow of candle lanterns—the same way the first explorers viewed them. Participants must make a reservation and purchase tickets prior to their tour.

Tours will be offered from Dec. 20-22 and Dec. 27-29. The starting times of these tours will vary, depending on park staffing for the day.

Park staff will provide tour guides, candles, lanterns and hot drinks. The cost for this unique event is \$25 for visitors ages 15 and older and \$15 for visitors ages 5 to 14. All participants must be at least 5 years of age. Nonresident visitors must pay an \$8-per-vehicle entrance fee as they enter the park.

Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis and must be purchased online or by phone starting Dec. 2 at 8 a.m. Mountain Standard Time. To purchase tickets, click here or call 1-855-922-6768. No tickets will be sold at the park visitor center.

What to expect:

Candlelight tours follow the entire developed cave route, with a ¾-mile uphill walk on a potentially icy and snowy path to reach the cave entrance. Visitors must complete this within 30 minutes to be eligible for

the tour. Participants are encouraged to be prepared for winter conditions on roads and trails at the park.

Walking the ¾-mile underground trail involves turning, bending, duck waddling and a slide. The first half will use the cave lights, and the second half will use the glow of candle lanterns. The tour provides an intimate look at cave formations, known as speleothems. Visitors will visit Decision Rock, the Cathedral Room, the Pit, the Garden of the Gods, the Brown Waterfall Room and the Paradise Room. The tour concludes with a flat, half-mile walk back to the visitor center on a potentially icy or snowy path. The total walking distance is 2 miles.

During the tour, visitors will pass near hibernating bats. White-nose syndrome, a fungus that affects bats but not people, has reached Montana. Bat mortalities from the disease have exceeded 80 percent in some areas. Managers are requiring precautions from visitors to reduce additional stressors to this fragile cave resource. Visitors cannot bring any clothing or other items that have been to another cave or mine in the past five years.

All tours are by a trained guide. No self-guided tours are available. The cave has an average temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit and over 90 percent humidity year-round, regardless of outside weather. Most areas are dimly lit, and some are narrow and enclosed. Visitors should consider bringing a warm jacket, good walking shoes and bottled water. Pets, strollers, backpacks and purses are not allowed.

Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park is about 15 miles southeast of Whitehall, along Montana Highway 2. For more information about the park, call 406-287-3541.

Montana Community Foundation Launches Montana Impact Investing Program

Rebecca Connors
Communications & Marketing Director

Creating Measurable, Positive, Local Impact

This past spring, the Montana Community Foundation (MCF) launched the Montana Impact Investing Program, an innovative program aimed at delivering positive and measurable social impacts to local communities. With this unprecedented commitment, MCF will invest 5% of its total investable assets, equating to approximately \$9 million, into Montana-based opportunities.

The Montana Impact Investing Program seeks to achieve a meaningful impact that benefits Montana communities, leverage capital, and realize a positive return on investments to continue to reinvest in projects throughout the state. By channeling investment capital into initiatives that address some of Montana's greatest challenges, this program aims to support long-term, meaningful change for all Montanans. This November, MCF made its first investments, with a focus on addressing affordable housing in Montana.

Significant Partnerships for Meaningful Impact
In its inaugural year, MCF has partnered with two exceptional organizations: Native American Community Development Corporation Financial Services, Inc. (NACDC) and NeighborWorks Montana (NWMT). Each organization will receive \$1 million in loans to amplify their community impact, specifically to support affordable housing. NACDC Financial Services, Inc. will use the funding to expand its Home Loan Program, focusing on affordable housing for Indigenous communities across Montana. Angie Main, Executive Director of NACDC, shared, "We are very pleased to receive this investment from MCF. This partnership will change the lives and quality of life for those Native Americans who obtain financing through NACDC Financial Services. Together we create the opportunity for homeownership dreams to come true."

The Federal Reserve reports Montana homeownership rates were 71% in 2023 and 68% in 2021. 2021 data from ProsperityNow.org, the homeownership rate in Montana stands at 70% for white owners, yet is only 51% for Native Americans. This disparity underscores the unique challenges Native communities face, particularly on reservations, where the inability to collateralize trust land makes obtaining a mortgage nearly impossible.

The challenges extend beyond reservations into urban areas. According to 2022 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data, the mortgage denial rate for Native Americans in Montana's urban

centers is 25.8%, more than double the rate for their White counterparts, which is 12.7%. These statistics reflect systemic barriers that limit access to stable housing for Native communities across the state.

NeighborWorks Montana will deploy their investment to advance diverse lending initiatives, such as down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers and real estate development financing. NWMT's goal is to grow its loan pool to \$65 million by 2027, impacting families and preserving affordable housing across urban and rural Montana. Their focus on innovative homeownership pathways ensures greater access to safe, affordable homes. "The Montana Community Foundation's investment gives us a lot of flexibility to meet a range of housing needs across the state," noted Kaia Peterson, Executive Director of NWMT. "Having MCF invest in this way is a real milestone for Montana impact investing, and we are so appreciative of their support in helping us provide housing solutions for all Montanans."

"Impact investing allows us to leverage capital in ways that create measurable and lasting benefits for Montana communities," said Mary Rutherford, President & CEO of the Montana Community Foundation. "We are excited to partner with organizations that are directly improving the quality of life for so many. This is just the beginning of our mission to bring meaningful change to Montanans."

About the Montana Impact Investing Program
Through meaningful investments, the Montana Impact Investing Program at Montana Community Foundation seeks to support communities struggling with disinvestment including to rural places, tribal communities, or regions experiencing population loss.

In 2024, MCF began the Impact Investing Program in a phased approach in order to learn from our partners and ensure we were prepared to support organizations in need of investment. In 2025, MCF will continue to accept applications by an invitation-only process. Eventually, the program will accept applications on a competitive basis. Over the next five years, MCF aims to invest a total of \$9 million in impactful projects across Montana. With this commitment, MCF continues to fulfill its mission of unleashing charitable capital to foster vibrant and resilient communities.

For questions about the Montana Impact Investing Program, please contact Mary Rutherford, President & CEO at (406) 475-4609 or maryr@mtcf.org. To learn, please visit https://mtcf.org/impact/montana-impact-investing-program.

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

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

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Contact MT43 News to list your business NOW!
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Bernadette Swenson, PLS
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 406-266-4602 schaubersurvey@gmail.com

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Danny Stubbendick

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YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE

DINE LOCAL BROADWATER

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

Thu 11/28	Fri 11/29	Sat 11/30	Sun 12/01	Mon 12/02
Very Light Snow Showers 35° 25° 0 in 5 12 mph	Light Snow 31° 22° 0 in 6 11 mph	Very Light Snow Showers 31° 23° 25% 6 12 mph	Partly Cloudy 34° 26° 3% 7 13 mph	Partly Cloudy 35° 27° 3% 7 12 mph

Precipitation:

June: 0.968"	September: 3.637"
July: 0.040"	October: 0.174"
August: 0.402"	November: 0.079"
2023: 13.669"	2024: 10.903"

Super Crossword

NOT A SINGLE SPOT

ACROSS

- 1 Hoover, e.g.
- 7 Hertz rival
- 12 Military vehicle for recon
- 20 Roma's place
- 21 Go into a major tizzy
- 22 Worth of a security at its face
- 23 Rare musical gift
- 25 Being filmed
- 26 Aug. follower
- 27 Feel awful
- 28 Tree's anchor
- 30 Sandbox toy
- 31 Elicitor of a rave review
- 39 Newton and Asimov
- 41 Beats of life
- 42 Klutzy sorts
- 43 Naiad or dryad
- 44 Plant swelling
- 46 Ben of "Zoolander"
- 49 Mint quality
- 54 "13th" director DuVernay
- 55 Styne of song
- 56 TV spots
- 57 Vaper's item
- 58 How-to unit

DOWN

- 1 Big cheeses
- 2 Suited to
- 3 Goldfish and minnows are members of it
- 4 Samuelsson who got the winning goal in the 1991 Stanley Cup
- 5 Driver's 180
- 6 Large parrots
- 7 Cider fruit
- 8 Chou En- pic
- 9 Picnic pest tube inits.
- 10 Emceeing aid
- 11 Earthy hues, to Brits
- 12 Satirizes
- 13 Division of a long poem
- 14 Tolkien brute
- 15 Coll. in the Old Dominion State
- 16 Home of the NFL's Bucs
- 17 Symbol of a fresh start
- 18 Gold-related
- 19 "Royal," in 20-Across
- 24 Up to, in brief
- 29 Metal in rocks
- 32 Small error
- 33 German for "eight"
- 34 Design detail
- 35 — wrestling
- 36 Strategy
- 37 Quaint news-paper section
- 38 Primary
- 39 Dressed for nighty-night
- 40 IHOP topping
- 44 Result
- 45 — Moines
- 46 Autograph: Abbr.
- 84 Partly open
- 85 Neuwirth of "Cheers"
- 86 Nonclerical
- 87 "Me? Never!"
- 89 Husbands-to-be
- 93 Tots' haulers
- 94 — discount
- 95 Smartphone pic, often
- 96 Railing sites
- 97 Sunni's faith
- 98 Animated 2016 Disney film
- 99 After a time
- 100 Sup at home
- 101 Adobe Acrobat file
- 106 Forever — day
- 107 "Manhattan Beach" novelist Jennifer
- 109 Sooner than, poetically
- 110 Sch. in Terre Haute
- 112 Gig hookup
- 113 FedEx rival
- 114 Zodiac lion
- 115 Dallas Stars' org.
- 116 "Yabba dabba —!"

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

Lost
 SAYTAR

Cancel
 EKOVER

Assert
 TATES

Lean
 LIECINN

TODAY'S WORD

"Please, Mother, we refer to this as a wedding reception ... not a _____ dinner!"

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: K equals L

PIJZMB KBSDRBL DRSD RSW
 PBBM WIXBERSD XZABO EZDR
 XBDSK DI FZJB ZD XILB
 WDLBMFDR: ZLIM IARZOB.

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KNIGHT MOVES

G	D	I
L		P
E	N	A

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:
DEC 2 - DEC 6
516 2nd Street, Townsend MT 406-266-3995

Monday, December 2
 Swedish Meatballs
 Steamed Potatoes
 Green Beans
 Tossed Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Apricot Halves

Tuesday, December 3
 Baked Chicken
 Rice Pilaf
 California Vegetables
 Carrot-Raisin Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Blushing Pears

Wednesday, December 4
 Beef and Veggie Stew
 Fresh Baked Biscuit
 Tossed Salad
 Zesty Pineapple
 Dessert

Thursday, December 5
 Roast Pork
 Mashed Potatoes
 Key Largo Vegetables
 Dinner Salad with Beans
 Whole Grain Bread
 Baked Apples

Friday, December 6
 Fish Patty
 Macaroni and Cheese
 Carrot Coins
 Crisp Coleslaw
 Plump Peaches

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



Thanksgiving Week

Try as we might to slow it down, time keeps marching on! Thus, we find ourselves here in the 2024 Holiday season. Halloween is past and Autumn is definitely in full swing, as if you couldn't tell with the massive leaf fall and any puddles with a crust of ice on them.

'Tis a time of family and making plans to gather together. Yes, prepare for future cooler weather but also look at how far we need to go for a family gathering. How often do you get together with the "WHOLE" family? Not just brothers and sisters, but in-laws as well as a few outlaws. Those strange not so easy to get along with, family members the ones that are very seldom referred to in letters and e-mails.

Many of our family members get lost along the way; I'm not talking about the ones who God has called home. Just the people who have never really taken part in the seasonal gatherings. This season try to make contact with folks you don't often remember, unless it's an old story about the early days of your family. You know the ones who everybody asks about while looking through the old dusty photo album. (People still have them, right?)

Turkey does NOT have to be consumed ONLY on holidays. We pick one up now and then as something different to have for dinners. And then have it in just about EVERY meal for weeks. Still, it's good eats. There is something incredibly special about sharing a "festive" holiday table, with the whole family clan. You get to share all the old stories and reminisce about times long past. Never lose sight of those times, THEY are the times and situations that shaped who you are!

DO NOT start putting Christmas decorations up until AFTER Thanksgiving! I saw a cartoon the other day with a Turkey tripping Santa in the snow, saying, "Wait your turn, Fatboy, this is MY season". Nice. Remember the meal is nice, but the family is much more important! So, gather together (be aware of the weather for traveling) and enjoy each other's company.

Happiest Thanksgiving, to one and all. Stay safe and remember the Christmas Stroll is coming SOON!



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.

The Garden Bug

The ghost plant

Monotropa uniflora lacks chlorophyll pigments and appears white. It grows in the decaying debris of dark, dense-growth forests across the Northern Hemisphere. Each stem bears a single delicate flower that hangs downward, which protects its pollen from the rain and lets insect pollinators access it. The clear fluid from its stems has been used to treat eye problems, skin problems, seizures and pain by Native Americans and traditional medicine practitioners. - Brenda Weaver

Source: medium.com

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

"Now acquaint yourself with Him, and be at peace; thereby good will come to you. Receive, please, instruction from His mouth, and lay up His words in your heart."

—JOB 22:21-22—

Detail of "Old Man Reading the Bible" by Julius Komjati (1928)

OBITUARY

Carolyn Maniatis

Family of Carolyn Maniatis



Carolyn Lorraine Maniatis
Photo Provided by Family of Carolyn Lorraine Maniatis

Carolyn Lorraine (Andersen) Maniatis, was born in Chicago, IL on July 24, 1937, and left this world on November 22, 2024, at Billings Clinic where she had been a resident for nearly 2 years.

Carolyn spent most of her life in the suburbs of Southwest Chicago. She married her teenage sweetheart, Jim, at 19 when he returned home from the Korean War. Jim was convinced self-employment was the way to go, and The Button Farm was hatched. They built a successful home business making political buttons and buttons for Recycled Paper Products featuring Sandra Boynton art. Carolyn quickly learned Clip Art; impressing everyone by learning “software”, which was pretty cutting-edge at the time.

After retiring, Carolyn discovered EBay and had success as a seller. Jim was on board, and off they went to many Estate Sales looking for bargains to resell on EBay.

In January of 2020, Jim passed away. In June, Carolyn embarked on another adventure. She hopped into a U-Haul with her Shih Tzu Holly, her daughter Dawn at the wheel, and moved to Winston, Montana. Carolyn enjoyed her time in Montana, the new birds at the feeder, the rugged scenery of the mountains, the people she met, but often wondered aloud why everything was so far apart. I would tell her that was what we liked about Montana!

Carolyn will be remembered as an avid gardener, crafter, and animal lover; she and Jim did their part and adopted many rescue dogs through the years.

Carolyn is survived by her daughter Dawn Reynolds of Winston and Debbie (Mike) McDonald of Tinley Park, IL. She was the adoring Grammy of Martin (Gina) McDonald, and William (Kacie) McDonald; great-grandmother to Cole, Henry and Cody; dearest sister to the late Madeline Karge; cherished aunt and friend of many.

The family would like to thank the staff of Billings Clinic, Broadwater in Townsend for the excellent care that Carolyn received in her time there. Carolyn flourished under their care; their patience, skills and professionalism contributed to contentment in her final days. They became a second family; dementia is hard to comprehend, and their support was appreciated.

Mom was a smart, unique, funny, beautiful lady who will be very missed and will live on in our memories and hearts forever.

A Memorial luncheon to celebrate Carolyn’s life will be held in the near future in Illinois.

Kenneth E. Biggs

Family of Kenneth E. Biggs



Kenneth Biggs
Photo Provided by Family of Kenneth Biggs

Kenneth Eugene Biggs was born May 12, 1928, to Okla and Esther Biggs in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The family moved to Wathena, Kansas where they farmed until 1943. They then moved to Townsend, Montana where Kenny attended and graduated from Broadwater County High School Townsend, Montana class of 1947.

After graduation he joined the US Marine Corp. Signal Battalion, Third Marine Division serving in Guam and China. After his discharge he moved to Omaha, Nebraska where he worked for Wilson and Company meat packers. After 12 years of learning the meat business, he went into business for himself. He moved to Abilene, Texas where he became involved in cattle feeding and ranching. He owned two meat businesses, one retail and one institutional. He also had a construction company and raised Quarter Horses.

Kenny was very involved in civic organizations in Abilene, Texas. He served on the Board of Directors of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Taylor County Coliseum. He was elected president of the West Texas Fair in 1975. That same year he and other business associates chartered the American National Bank in Abeline.

In his retirement, he enjoyed traveling the world.

He was reunited with Nadine, his high school sweetheart, and the two were married in March of 1993. They enjoyed 34 years together traveling extensively, and settling in Billings, MT in 2001.

Kenny was an active member of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Kenny is survived by his wife, Nadine. Two step-daughters, Sandy (John) Camden of Great Falls, MT and Guyla Craft (Joe McKenna) of Little Rock, AK, Grandson Rhode Biggs of San Angelo, Texas and two daughter-in-laws, Susan Gassiot of San Antonio, TX and Jody Ewing of Gillette, WY along with numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Marion Graham, son, Casey Biggs, Stepson Van Ewing and Grandson Kristopher Biggs.

Now is a Good Time for Fire Safety Measures

MT43 News Staff Reporter

It is cold outside. Broadwater County residents would rather not think about the fire season coming up in 2025. Now is a good time to prepare for a possible fire.



Rocky Mountain Junipers trimmed to slow possible fire damage.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Resident Ron Salladay had been forewarned by a forest service worker that if a fire ever roared through his property on River Road, his shop and house would be completely destroyed. “So I hired some help and we cut down most of the juniper trees near the shop. If we ever had a fire, there would only be a few trimmed junipers left,” he explained.



Broadwater County Fire Department Chief Ed Shindoll and workers finish burning slash on River Road.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Rural Fire Department Chief Ed Shindoll was among those burning the slash left from cutting out trees near the shop. His crews from Townsend, Duck Creek and Radersburg Fire Departments burned slash last week at the request of Salladay. He complimented Salladay for being proactive in preparing for a possible fire.



Broadwater Fire Department crews burn slash to assist landowner fire mitigation.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Shindoll encouraged property owners to assess their property’s chances for fire. For questions about preparing property for fire mitigation work, please contact him at (406) 949-5535.


Broadwater County Public Health Department survey regarding Mental Health Trainings


Please take the short survey to help the Public Health Department create Mental Health Training classes. Click on this link or scan the QR code below: <https://form.jotform.com/243164542207047>

Take a Brief
Mental Health Survey


Broadwater County Public Health wants to hear from YOU!

We have the opportunity to offer mental health related trainings to you. Please take this quick survey using the QR code.





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CryptoQuip
answer

Bovine leather that has been somewhat mixed with metal to give it more strength: iron oxhide.

SCRAMBLERS
solution

1. Astray 2. Revoke;
3. State; 4. Incline

Today's Word
VICTORY

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

G	D	I
L		P
E	N	A

PEDALING

Need advice?

Our Two Cents

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



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



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

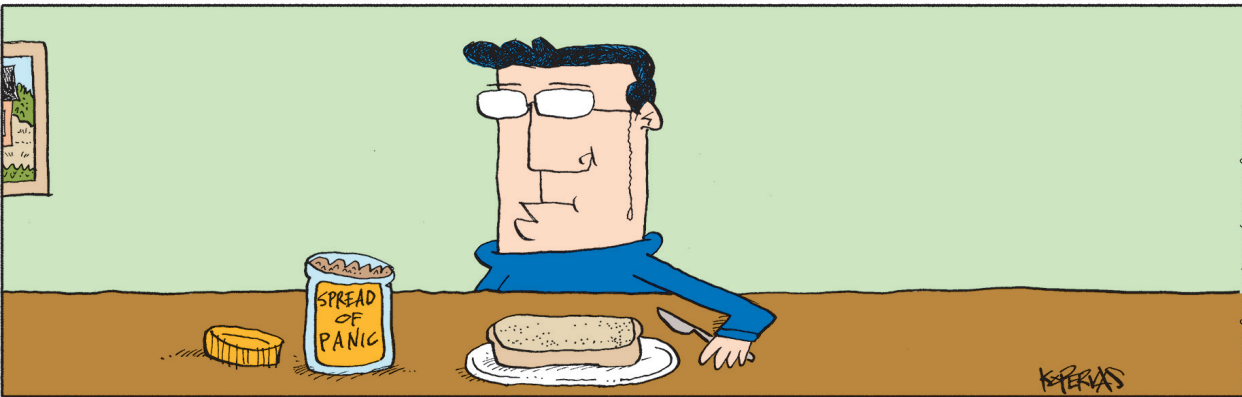


THANKS TO YOU I SHOULD BE FEELING BETTER BY TOMORROW... THAT, AND BECAUSE THAT'S MY LAST SICK DAY.



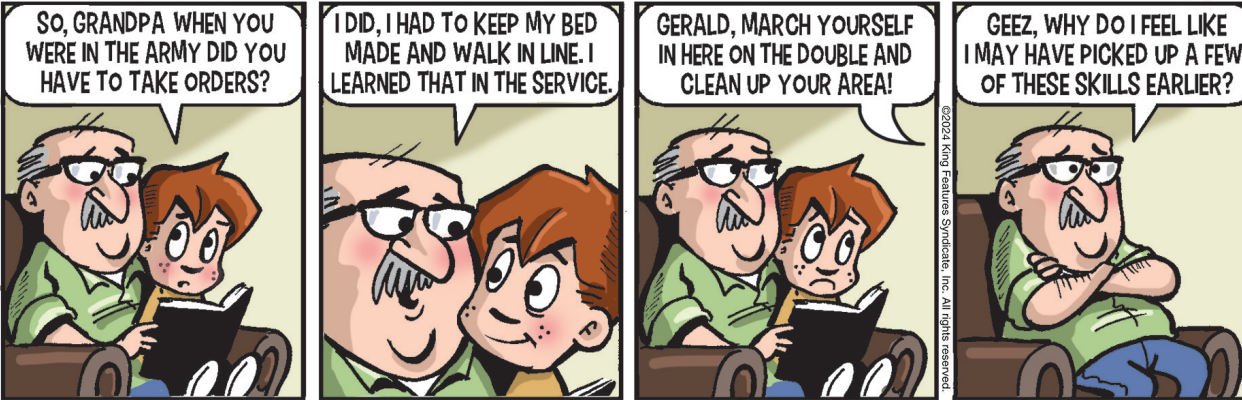
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



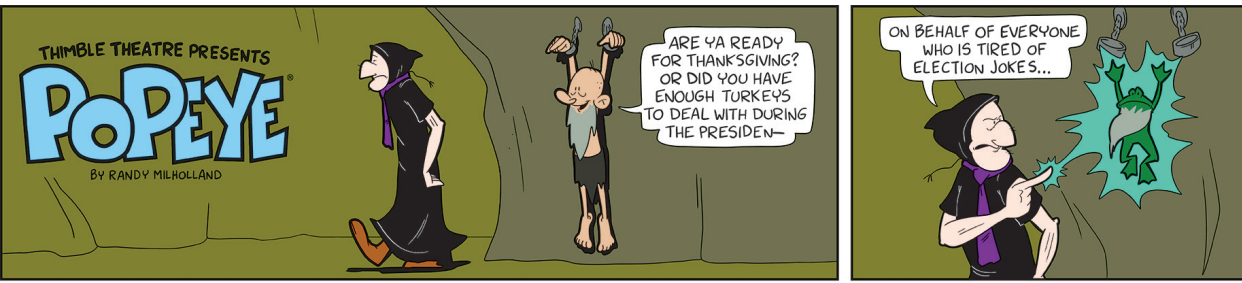
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

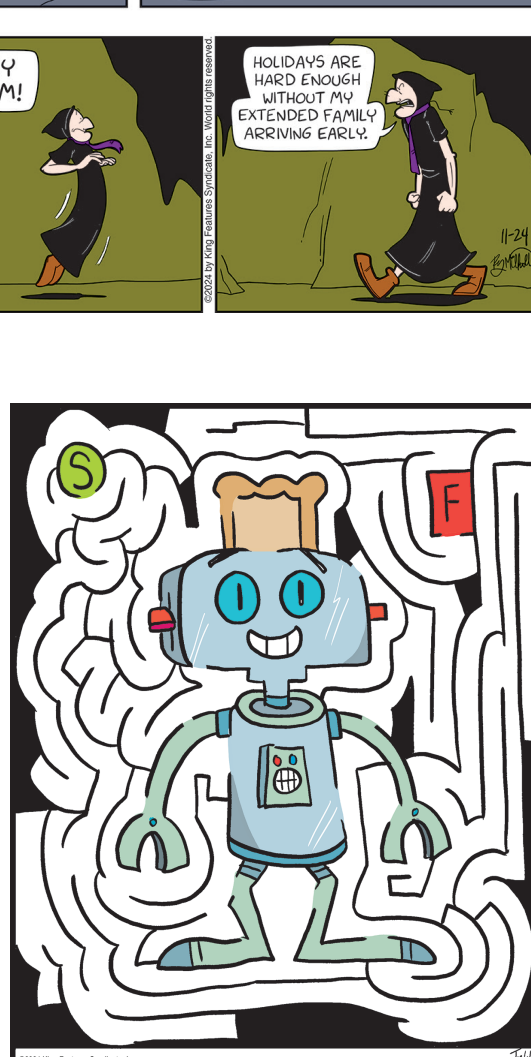


The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Americanisms



"You can only fool reality until the truth comes knocking on your door."
— Michael B. Jordan

GRIN and BEAR IT



"Rodney will be here in a moment. ... He's flirting with your receptionist."

HI-CALIBER GUNS

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

Kids' Maze Solution

Barnes Jewelry

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

ROUTINE RETURNS!

Don't forget to include your health into yours.

Super Crossword

Answers

V	A	C	U	U	M	A	L	A	M	O	S	C	O	U	T	C	A	R							
I	T	A	L	I	A	P	A	N	I	C	P	A	R	V	A	L	U	E							
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BREAKING NEWS

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Ya Reckon



Rider Vince Thompson with historic Doig Ranch homestead in the background at Wall Mountain near White Sulphur Springs. Denise Thompson Photo



Plymale ranch crew gathering cows on Wall Mountain. Denise Thompson Photo

Denise White Thompson
Rancher and Columnist



Homesteads. Cabins. Ranch life. The old stories. The people..those incredible people that bred so much LIFE into this land we call home! This county has such a deep, rich and beautiful history. Within that chronicle lies a number of multi-generation farms and ranches that have shaped this county into what it is today. I, like some of you, yearn to hold on tight to that deep taproot of agricultural history. Vince and I had the pleasure of helping the Plymale Ranch round up cattle this fall. It afforded us the opportunity to ride with some new folks, see some new country and learn more about the area around Wall Mountain and the old Doig Ranch. Much to our surprise, the home was still standing and in relatively good condition. Per the Broadwater Bygones, the Doig Ranch was originally homesteaded by Tom Sherlock. David Doig, his wife Mary and their three children came from Scotland, settled briefly in Helena then bought the Sherlock place.

The homestead is nestled in a secluded, tranquil setting, with Sherlock Creek (often referred to as Spring Creek by some of the local ranchers) meandering by towards Sixteen Mile Creek. Wall Mountain (referred to as Walled Mountain in the Broadwater Bygones) serves as the stately backdrop to this special place, owned and well cared for by Plymale Ranch, one of the treasured generational ranches in the county.

Just like in the good old days, these family ranches work together, relying on kinfolk, friends and neighbors to get the work done. It is not unusual to see three and even four generations working side by side, living off the land and cherishing this lifestyle.

George Washington was quoted as saying, "Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful and most noble employment of man". Perhaps we should do all we can to preserve agriculture and the tales of days gone by, ya reckon?

For the love of Ag, from the heart of a western woman,

Denise Thompson



The next Plymale generation is ready to help: older brother Charlie and twins, Sutton and Sage, children of David and Stephanie Plymale. Denise Thompson Photo



David Plymale counts cows to ensure the entire herd is ready to go home. Denise Thompson Photo



Stephanie and David set up a 'spread' for the crew to enjoy lunch in the great outdoors. Denise Thompson Photo

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

November 28

1912

Dr. Gilham Boosts Broadwater County

Dr. Gilham was a visitor in Helena the first of the week, and he evidently got tangled up with a newspaper reporter. Anyway, the Helena Independent has the following to say of what the doctor said, which is good boosting for one of the best towns and one of the best counties in the state.

“Dr. G.W. Gilham, president of the First National Bank of Townsend, was in the city yesterday. Dr. Gilham has been a resident of Broadwater County for many years and knows as much about that section as anybody. He believes Broadwater County is one of the best in the state, and says the fact that all of the people are prosperous is sufficient to show that what he says of the county as one of the very best, is true.

“Townsend”, Dr. Gilham says, “is improving wonderfully. It is one of the prettiest little towns in the state, it is supplied with all modern improvements, such as an electric lighting system, public telephone, water works, etc. Lately, concrete sidewalks have been laid and other improvements made that make Townsend an ideal place to live in. Many new people have come into the town”, according to Mr. Gilham, possessing a progressive spirit and this spirit has diffused itself in others to the extent that all the population is striving to improve the town in every way possible.

Dr. Gilham also speaks favorably of the mining possibilities of Broadwater County. He says that the camp of Radersburg is one of the best gold mining districts in the state and that it is producing a large

amount of shipping ore. The resources of Broadwater County compare favorably with any other county in the state. There is a large area of farming land, hay land, grazing land, plenty of water, enabling the settlers to diversify their interests as to be sure of remunerative returns every year.

1940

Senior Hop to be Saturday Night

The Senior Hop of Broadwater County High School will have their night when dance lovers will assemble at the spacious high school gym for the annual formal event.

The class has given much thought to the decorations for the dance which will be carried out in nautical effects. The grand march will commence promptly at 10:30 and will be led by the four class officers, Lawrence Simons, Glenn Perry, Carol Ness and Alice D’Arcy. Principal W.L. Emmert is the class sponsor.

Heinie Mockel’s orchestra are slated to play for the big affair and judging from plans and costumes, the ball will be an outstanding social feature of the season.

Personal News

Mrs. Hadley Rice had her daughter, Mrs. Chas. Zimmerman, and baby with her and her husband for Thanksgiving, from Butte.

Miss Cecelia Hazelton and mother motored to Hauser Lake for Thanksgiving enjoying the time with Mrs. Hazelton’s daughter, Mrs. David Myles, and her family.

Students of Carroll College, Helena, returning this week to a belated Thanksgiving vacation are Dan McCarthy, Joe Gabisch, Jack D’Arcy and Charles Ragen.

Bill Lasby and Bill Weed, students at the University at Missoula, were homecomers for the holidays last

weekend.

1968

Winston-Clasoil News

Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cobban and family were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Cobban, who were dinner guests and Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Diehl and children who visited Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hagbom of Regent, N. Dak., and their daughter, Mrs. Blayne McLeod of Townsend, were Monday luncheon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Davies.

David Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Clark of Winston, is stationed at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

1996

Around Town News

Edith Alex and Vivian Bruins were business callers in Helena Sunday.

Stacia Wogamon and Mitch and Roy Maxted, Helena, visited her grandmother, Pearl Barraugh, Sunday.

Saturday Mary Alice Upton hosted a family dinner at her home. Guests were Tom and Nancy Sweeney, Alaska; Barb Booher and Pryde Schultz, Helena; Donna Wiecker, Amy and Jessie, East Helena; Dan and Donna Upton, Matt and Katie, California; Dave and Mary Sitton and Sharon; Jim and Sandy Booher, Jace and Zach; Bill Booher and Barbara Stoner; Steve and Noanie Doan; Steve Upton; and Bruce and Dianna Mell, Townsend and Doug Sitton, Kennewick, Wash.

Friday Doreen Sautter and Ruth Zimmerman helped set up the Methodist Bazaar and Saturday Doreen attended the bazaar and had lunch with Elaine Huckins.

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 – Monte Schnur

Matt Nelson



Monte as a young soldier. Photo Credit: Monte Schnur



LaMonte (Monte) Schnur was in Vietnam with the U.S. Army from November 1965 until April 1966. He spent his time there on water purification projects. He grew up in Wisconsin but came to Montana for a couple of years prior to being drafted, and was heavily involved with hunting, fishing, and trapping. When he entered

the military his occupation was listed as a fur trapper, which is kind of funny.

“This time of year I am especially reminded of Thanksgiving 1965, when I was 23 years old, in the Army in Vietnam. We were treated to a Bob Hope USO show, and it was really special! Anita Bryant was part of the show. It was a big difference from Thanksgiving in Townsend.

The U.S. was really ramping up its military presence, and our job was to get things ready for tens of thousands more troops. My Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) was “clerk” but I don’t think I ever spent a day in an office.

Our Captain and Sergeant Major sent me out to replace the corporal in charge of the water point. Captain Montagne said, ‘Rocky, South Vietnam needs pure water!’ I was glad there were three or four operators assigned who really knew their stuff. We purified water with ERDLators, purifying equipment mounted on trucks. We mixed a flock of quicklime, charcoal, and hydrochloric acid, to purify water of parasites and germs, and remove bad taste.

At the first water point, we were guarded by five Vietnamese policemen with German shepherd guard dogs. We shared our rations with them and their dogs. One of the truckers told me one day that an artillery unit had moved in just down the road a ways. That night we had a pretty serious attack. One of the guards was killed.



Monte's Certificate of Achievement Award Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

Later in the day, some officers came with a Vietnam police officer, all dressed in white. He thanked me and thanked me for feeding his men and I don’t know what all. I have never been thanked like that by anyone.

At our second water point, we had four ERDLators operating, taking water from a creek. This was a jungle, not far from the road. We had two ERDLators operating, and the 159th had two. Together, we pumped into 8 or 10 storage tanks. The 173rd Airborne detailed a company to guard us there. It was a dangerous place, with a lot of VC action. It was a wonderful break to get to see the Bob Hope show while we were at this water point.

I took a crew of 20 local people to our next site to clear the jungle with machetes for several days. They were good workers, and fun to work with. Bulldozers came in and enlarged the cleared area. We had gotten pretty well acquainted in a nearby village. A young lady there knew we were going to be leaving. She told me pretty forcefully, “You go!” At the end of that day, I took our two ERDLators to the compound. That night, a vicious attack destroyed the other two ERDLators at the site, and wiped out the 173rd guards. We heard that all of them were killed. In 2005, I guided a hunter who was talking about his dad being permanently injured while guarding a water point at Tan Hip in Vietnam. It turns out that four of the 173rd company had survived that attack.

The pressure was really on us to produce at the third water point. They were building a 400-bed hospital at Long Binh and getting more troops in all the time. We just couldn’t keep up with only two ERDLators pumping straight from the muddy creek, so I got a crew of

Vietnamese to help build a dam of sandbags. We put floating pumps out in the pond we created. We could provide clear water to trucks that needed it for things like washing floors and still had better capacity to purify water for drinking and medical use. Our production went from about 1000 gallons per day to almost 5000.

“When I was discharged and back home, I received this certificate of achievement and letter of commendation. It means a lot.”

After his honorable discharge in 1966, he came back to Townsend and married Mary Ellen. They have 7 daughters and 13 grandchildren, 4 of whom are boys. Beginning in 1971 they operated Monte's Guiding & Mountain Outfitting for 45 years, leading very successful hunts.



Monte at his home. Photo Credit: Matt Nelson