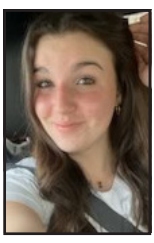


SkillsUSA Club Prepares for State Competition

Karsyn Sangray
Broadwater High School Student Intern



SkillsUSA has been hard at work with work nights and an event in East Helena. Kaden Bruins has been leading his club through this year. So far there have been a district leadership conference and an event in East Helena. With State coming in just a few short months, our club is working endlessly to prepare. With work nights about once a week that last multiple hours, the group is putting in the work to perfect their pieces.

President Kaden Bruins is looking forward to State, competing, and hopefully winning. "My competition is Welding Sculpture, we have a few kids in different welding things, and one in carpentry."

Our school does a great job of having a great variety in the competitions. No two people do the same thing and have the same way of competing.

Some of the biggest obstacles the club faces in competition isn't the competition, it's finding something to make. Kaden doesn't have a set plan, but he is looking to make something unique and perfect.

Ross MacDonald is another huge part in the club. Last year he competed in combo welding and

wood furniture. He got first place in wood furniture so he chose to focus on just combo welding this year. "In combo welding we go through all of the welding techniques. Last year I didn't do as well as I wanted to. We didn't have a lot of time, so this year I'm focused on speeding my layout up."

SkillsUSA is represented by five symbols. These symbols are the shield, gear, torch, orbital circles, and hand. The shield represents patriotism, the gear represents the industrial society, the torch represents knowledge, the orbital circles represent technology, and the hand represents the individual. Each of these symbols signifies what it means to be in the SkillsUSA club. Members work hard to meet these expectations and are required to be models of it. Each year there is a SkillsUSA theme, and for the 2024-2025 school year is: Ignite Your Potential.



Teacher and advisor Clint Watson watches as students ready projects for upcoming welding competition. Karsyn Sangray, Broadwater High School Photographer

We expect great things from them and look forward to seeing how they perform at State, which is in Great Falls April. 3-6. Working at it now, the group is ensuring that when State comes they are ready to compete, and ready to bring medals home.

With Kaden leading the group, and returners like Ross and Kaden, our Skills team is preparing for greatness.

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. 01.03.25

Dignity of Age

Father Cody Williams
Holy Cross Parish



As the world continues to shift and change, we often do not take the time to reflect on these changes. Some of these changes have led to incredible advancements for humanity and greater opportunities for everyone. Some of these changes were detrimental to our understanding of our humanity. For instance, our advancements in medical technology vastly increased the health of people around the world and created cures for most diseases and health issues. Conversely, the advances in medical technology have become so expensive that a serious health issue could almost bankrupt a family. The increase in globalization through technology has brought the world closer together. Today a person's situation in a foreign country is known by everyone within hours allowing people to understand and sympathize with each other. Additionally, so much information is shared that our privacy is diminished. These few examples illustrate some of the challenges and benefits of our advancements.

I want to turn our attention to another aspect of society that is often forgotten: the elderly. If we went back 100 years ago, most elderly lived in the homes of their children, were cared for by their children, and died in their homes. At that time, 80% of people died in their homes whereas 20% would die in hospitals and institutions. Fast forward to our modern day and 60% of people die in nursing homes and care facilities whereas

40% die in their homes. This shift has drastically affected our understanding of the dignity of age, the value of life and death, and the value of people. Through media like comic strips and TV shows, the aged are seen as an "inconvenience" or the effects of age become too much of a burden for society. The result is nursing homes and care facilities where specialized care can assist those who cannot find the help they need from other sources. By encouraging elder care in facilities, the youth don't get to experience the wisdom of the past, spend time caring for their elders, or experience the dignity of age. Instead, we become a society of progress and industry, focused on survival in a rapidly shifting age.

Another aspect of society closely tied to the issues of elder care is childcare and family life. Families are more isolated from their relatives than in any other age in human history. For generations people lived in multi-generational houses where the elders would help care for the youth and the youth would care for their elders. Most modern families struggle to raise

their families in a culture that needs childcare due to challenges with family support. Parents continually struggle to raise enough money to support the constant needs of their children, leading to less time for family life. The challenges posed by modern families are not addressed at the social level. Instead, sources like schools, daycares, and sports have become the standard place of child development. These changes caused divorce rates to skyrocket, increased child developmental issues, increased feelings of anxiety, social isolation, depression, and suicidal ideation. Family support is one of the most critical indicators of child and societal well-being.

On Monday, December 16th Holy Cross Church will host the next Faith Night starting at 6:00 pm. We will explore this topic of the dignity of age by examining these issues and working towards solutions or ways to better support each other. Our final activity of the night will be making tie blankets for the nursing home residents in Townsend. All are encouraged and welcome to join us.

FAA Opens Pathway for Secondary Ramp Area for Townsend Airport Project

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will allow Broadwater County to add a secondary ramp area as part of an upcoming project to improve the Townsend Airport.

At the Nov. 25 Broadwater County Commission meeting, Chair Darryl Folkvord explained that the FAA originally rejected the additional ramp area as part of the grant-funded project but has since reversed itself.

"Since then they've reconsidered," Folkvord said. "They see it as a safety issue, and they've decided to re-award that part" of the original grant. The county will need to submit a new grant application for the funds.

The \$214,500 price tag for the ramp was included in the original bid for the project, Folkvord said, so the total cost to the county for the project will not change. The improvements will cost \$4.012 million – \$2 million less than the original estimate for the project.

The county will need to access the funding for the addition from the bipartisan infrastructure fund, which requires a new grant application for the funding.

Improvements at the Townsend Airport will begin in the spring of 2025.

Townsend Woman Graduates in Veterinary Medicine

Reagan Cotton
Montana State University News Service

Townsend, Montana, is roughly 60 miles northwest of the Montana State University campus in Bozeman. For Lainee Hill Colombik, that proximity to her hometown fulfilled her top priority when pursuing education in veterinary medicine.



Lainee Hill Colombik will graduate from WIMU Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine in the spring. She plans to return to practice in rural Montana. Photo Provided

Now in her fourth year of veterinary school through the WIMU Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine, Colombik lives further afield in Pullman, Washington, but once her studies culminate in May, she will return to Montana and launch a professional life she's been working toward for more than a decade.

Growing up in Townsend, Colombik was involved in 4H and FFA, but she wanted her college studies to blend her love Townsend Woman,

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Townsend Christmas Stroll

Saturday December 7th
4 pm-7 pm

Parade & Santa

Parade starts @ 5:00
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- The Mint - The Fishtale - 12/6-9th (Tix on sale)
- The Legion - 12/10-12th (Tix on sale)
- DRAWING @ The Betsy 12/13 @ 6 pm



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Season's Greetings!

Join the holiday magic at Townsend's Christmas Stroll!
J Steele Realty LLC is thrilled to celebrate the season with you.
See you there!



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(406) 416-3287

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200 Broadway St, Townsend, MT
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Need a souvenir for your trip? Photographs of bears, moose, wolves and so much more. Come check it out!
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Specializing in 3D printed articulated animals, dice towers and home decor. Custom orders are always welcome.
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- Woodshaper Unique- Pennie Kittilson**
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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

Fri 6
NO SCHOOL
 4:30pm: HSBB vs Twin Bridges
 HSWR @ Cascade

Sat 7
 HSWR @ Cascade
 MSGBB @ Twin Bridges Tourney
 Speech and Drama @ Columbus

Sun 8
 5:00 pm: Football Banquet - Elementary Commons
 DFFA Sweet Grass Showdown

Mon 9
 FFA Sweet Grass Showdown
 9:00 am: Shakespeare in the Schools - BHS Stage Gym
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Library Classroom
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym


Tue 10
 8:55am: Pre-K PE - 63 Gym
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Community Room
 6:00 pm: School Board Meeting - Community Room
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Wed 11
 8:55 pm: Pre-K PE
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Community Room
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Stage Gym
 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Open Gym
 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Pickleball - Stage Gym

Thu 12
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Community Room
 4:00pm: MSGBB vs. Ennis
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym
 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Crochet - Library Classroom

Fri 13
NO SCHOOL
 HSBB @ Manhattan Tourney
 HSWR @ Whitehall Duals

Sat 14
 HSBB @ Manhattan Tourney
 HSWR @ Whitehall Duals
 Speech and Drama Workshop





Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Three Forks School Calendar

DECEMBER

Fri 6
 9:00am: JHGGB Tournament

Sat 7
 HS Wrestling @ Manhattan
 10:00am: JHGGB Tournament
 5:30am: Speech and Drama - Columbus

Tue 10
 HS Wrestling Mixer East Helena - Home

Wed 11
 6:00pm: Elem 2YK-4th grade Holiday Concert - New Gym
 6:00pm: Parent Action Council - High School Library
 7:30pm: Band and Choir Holiday Concert grades 6-12 - Three Forks School Auditorium

Thu 12
 JHGGB - Whitehall
 12:20pm - NHS Meeting - Large Conference Room

Fri 3
 HS Basketball Magris Tourney
 HS Wrestling Butte Duals - Butte

Sat 14
 HS Basketball Magris Tourney
 HS Wrestling Butte Duals - Butte



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

FAITH NIGHT



Dignity of Age
 How do we respect each other?
 How do we care for the elderly?
 What is the value of age?

We will be making blankets for the nursing home residents in Townsend.



Mon. Dec. 16th
 6:00-7:30 pm
 Holy Cross Parish
 101 S. Walnut St.
 Free Event & Dinner

TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

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- 7:00 pm: 2024 Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Stroll at Broadway **SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS**
 5:00 pm: Christmas Stroll Parade starts
 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

Monday 9
 5:00 pm: 2023 Rotary and Lions Senior Dinner and Christmas Light Tour **FREE** at Senior Center
 6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805

Tuesday 10
 5:00 pm: 2024 Rotary and Lions Senior Dinner and Christmas Light Tour **FREE** at Senior Center
 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 11
 9:00 AM: **FREE** Billings Clinic Transit Bus to Helena-2nd Wednesday Every Month at Billings Clinic
 1:00 pm: Assistance in applying for and receiving Military Benefits at American Legion Post 42 every second Wednesday
 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Thursday 12
 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 13
 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 14
 8:00- 4:00 pm: Broadwater Rod and Gun Club Pistol Course-Download the class application: www.broadwaterrodandgun.com
 5:00 pm: Doors open for Broadwater Community Theater's 2024 Dinner Theater- "A Crazy Christmas" at The Lodge, 131 S Spruce **SEE AD ON PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS**
 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
 7:00 PM: The Chosen **FREE** Movie Night with Popcorn and Snacks- 2d Saturday each Month at Holy Cross Church, 101 S Walnut

Monday 16
 6:00- 7:00 pm: **FREE** Family Event and Dinner- "Dignity of Age" at Holy Cross Parish, 101 S Walnut
READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 1; SEE AD ON THIS PAGE

Wednesday 18
 6:30 pm: The Rock **FREE** Family Night with activities and snacks at Mountain Valley Church, 110 E St
 7:00 PM: Rural Fire Board Meeting every 3rd Wednesday at Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St

Thursday 21
 11:00- 4:00 pm: Winter Market, **FREE ADMISSION** at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Monday 9
 2:00pm : Commission Working Meeting

Tuesday 10
 10:00am : Commission Working Meeting (in the Commissioners Office)
 6:00pm : Solid Waste Board

Wednesday 11
 10:00am : Commission Meeting

LOCAL JOBS WANTED

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

DEPUTY CLERK JOB OPENING

The Broadwater County Clerk of District Court's Office is looking to hire a full-time Deputy Clerk. This position is for 40 hours per week. Beginning pay is \$19.00 -\$19.50 per hour with a full benefit package. Attention to detail, discretion and good customer service skills are a must in this position. The job is typically during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Physical attendance at the workplace is essential. A full job description and application can be obtained on the Broadwater County website, www.broadwatercountymt.com and at the Clerk of Courts Office, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT. Please email resume and cover letter to aplymale@mt.gov. The job is open until filled. Veterans and Disabled preferences are applicable. Broadwater County is an equal-opportunity employer.
Published December 6 & 13, 2024

MNAXLP

EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINE SCHEDULE FOR MT43 NEWS:

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

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

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

Saturday 7
 1:00am: Three Forks Community Library - Open

Tuesday 10
 1:00pm: Three Forks Community Library - Mah Jongg
 6:00pm: Three Forks Community Library - Book Club

Wednesday 11
 5:30pm: Bozeman Music Night with Aaron Banfield at Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Thursday 12
 10:30am: Three Forks Community Library - Storytime
 6:00pm: Three Forks Music Night with Jack Gilk at Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Friday 13
 10:00am: Three Forks Community Library - Drop off Cooks and Gingerbread Houses
 11:00am: Three Forks Community Library - LEGO Club


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topgunautobodytownsend.com

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>

Notes from ND

Mikayla Kraft
MT43 News Correspondent



This past week was my first time going home in four months, and I couldn't wait to be home. I spent Monday and Tuesday cleaning my room, catching up on homework, and taking care of absolutely everything that needed to be done. Therefore, when 6 a.m. rolled around on Wednesday morning, I could grab my suitcase and drive to the airport. The flights were a hassle as all of my connecting flights were delayed for at least an hour, but once I made it home and walked out of the airport to hug my parents, I knew it was worth it.

That evening, I went to Trailhead Christian Fellowship for the Thanksgiving Eve service and spent time with my church family. Talking with them seemed to last forever, and I was incredibly thankful for every bit of it. I was able to come back to the church family that raised me and

spend time with Jesus alongside them. Later in the evening, we went back home and I got to say hi to my grandfather who decided to join us for Thanksgiving the next day. At home, the house was full and there was so much conversation to go around.

Thursday was Thanksgiving, and not only did I get to spend it with my family, but I got to spend it eating home-cooked meals. Every Thanksgiving morning, the family sits down to watch the Thanksgiving Day parade and eats pies made the night before for breakfast. After, I spent my day peeling potatoes, spraying the turkey in the smoker, and working on other dishes for our meal that evening. When I wasn't cooking, I spent the day talking to my family, and helping out wherever help was needed. As we sat down for a meal with our family friends, the Lamb family, and my grandpa, I was so glad to have made the trip over, even if it was only for a few days, to spend time with the people who raised me.

Friday and Saturday were filled with milk deliveries and little chores around the house, taking a break to go to the Movie Theater to watch Moana 2 on Friday and drop me off at the Helena airport on Saturday. The time had gone by so fast, but all of the time meant something so much more. It made me appreciate the family I had back home and who made me who I am today, even though I don't see them often and am never around. Now I am back to finish the final few weeks of the semester, and I couldn't feel more recharged than I do right now.



In the dirt with my favorite gardening partner, my mom
Mikayla Kraft Photo

Montana Stock Growers Accepting Scholarship Applications

Cheyenne Leach
Montana Stockgrowers Communications Coordinator



Montana Stockgrowers Foundation (MSF) is accepting applications for its annual Education Heritage Scholarship Program. Scholarships will be awarded to three students in the amounts of one \$5,000 scholarship and two \$2,500 scholarships.

Each year, MSF awards college students, who are seeking a career beneficial to ranching, with a scholarship. To be eligible applicants must be currently enrolled in college and have completed at least one semester in college, be a member of Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA),

or have at least one parent/guardian who is a member and demonstrate a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Applicants enrolled in vocational and out of state schools will be accepted.

Applicants must complete the online application form, include a copy of their current transcript, write a 500-word essay discussing their educational pursuits, and include two letters of recommendation. Applications are due January 31, 2025. Students can apply online at www.mtbeefoundation.org.

For questions, please contact the MSGA office at (406) 442-3420 or foundation@mtbeef.org. If students are interested in these scholarships but are not currently a member of MSGA, join today. Student memberships start at just \$20 per year and can be found at <https://www.mtbeef.org/membership/>.

Townsend Woman, 1

of agriculture with her enduring interest in medicine. Colombik and her husband, Caden, who is from Miles City, both completed undergraduate degrees in animal science from the College of Agriculture's Department of Animal and Range Sciences in 2021 and progressed to veterinary school.

They are two members of the WIMU program's class of 2025, and both felt the pull to remain in Montana for as long as possible. Up to 16 students are admitted annually at the MSU campus for the WIMU program, making for a close-knit group that Colombik said has contributed greatly to their success and persistence.

"I felt like it was important for us to be in that small class size because it gave us one-on-one experience with all of our professors," Colombik said. "The amount of care that our professors had that first year and their desire to get to know us had such an impact on how seriously we took the program and how invested we were in our studies, because we knew other people were invested in us."

WIMU gets its acronym from the four states it serves: Washington, Idaho, Montana and Utah. Students complete their first year of veterinary coursework in their home states before coalescing into a larger cohort at Washington State University for their final three years.

"The WIMU Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine at Montana State University offers an exceptional veterinary education with a small class size, dedicated learning facilities and clinical training with an emphasis on community engagement," said Garrett Ryerson, one of the program's instructors at MSU. "As our program enters its 11th year, we are focused on continuing to prepare veterinary students to meet the changing needs of Montanans. We are pleased to report that most of our students choose to return to their home state after graduation, serving in a variety of capacities in communities large and small."

Colombik described the first year of studies as "learning what is normal," studying basic body systems, anatomy and physiology. Once students arrived in Pullman, they progressed to learning "what is abnormal," diagnosing diseases and disorders. In their third and fourth years, students move into clinical rotations and apply their knowledge in practices, learning different aspects of veterinary medicine in two-week phases.

It was that diversity of exposure that Colombik said will help her reach her goal of returning to Montana to start her career.

"When you come back to more rural areas, you have to go into mixed animal practice," she said. "We both grew up in rural communities and want to continue to be in rural communities, and so we have focused really hard during school to develop the skill set to be good mixed-animal practitioners, and that takes a lot of intentionality."

In addition to clinical and classroom training, the WIMU program includes a required preceptorship, in which students shadow staff in an operational clinic, rather than at the referral hospital on the WSU campus. It's there that Colombik said the non-medical skills are built: interacting with both animals and their humans, learning the business of running an independent veterinary clinic and getting a taste for what the day-to-day work is like after graduation. It also offered opportunities for mentorship and support from faculty and professional veterinarians in real-life situations.

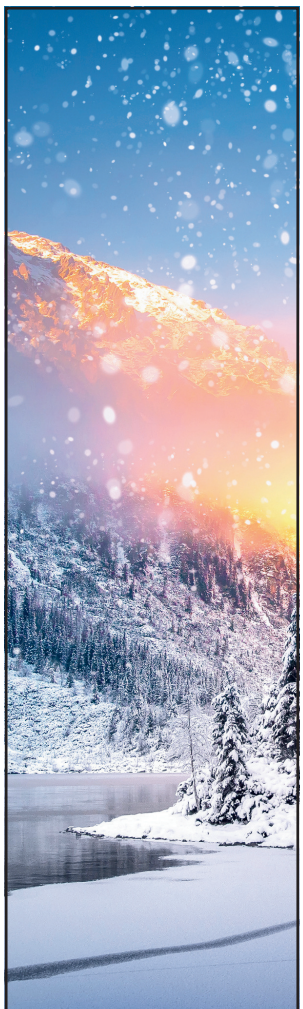
Montana is one of many states with a documented shortage of veterinarians, particularly in rural and agricultural communities. Laine and Caden Colombik hope to be two of the many MSU WIMU graduates who have returned to practice in Montana. "It takes a special kind of person," Colombik said. The small class of students who began at MSU in their first year remain close, and she called that community a great benefit over the ensuing years.

"A lot of the advice I give kids who are thinking about applying to vet school is that you need to find a group of people that understand what you're going through, because vet school is really hard and not a lot of people outside of that community understand," she said. "If you have a really close-knit group, you can struggle together and study together and enjoy vet school together. It was really nice to come to Pullman and already have made those friends."

BROADWATER COMMUNITY THEATER
PRESENTS
2024 Dinner Theater
"A Crazy Christmas"

DECEMBER 14 6:00 PM

131 S Spruce, The Lodge, Townsend MT
DOORS OPEN AT 5PM ~ DINNER BEGINS AT 6:00PM
\$40 PER TICKET, NO HOST BAR
TICKETS ON SALE AT READING LEAVES BOOK STORE AND ONLINE
AT [HTTPS://LODGEOFTOWNSEND.COM/CRAZY-CHRISTMAS](https://lodgeoftownsend.com/crazy-christmas)
YOU CAN USE THIS QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS



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LEGAL NOTICES



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

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

NOTICE: SEEKING PROPOSALS

The City of Townsend is seeking proposals from qualified firms or individuals to provide legal services to the City Council, Mayor, and authorized staff. In addition, the firm or individual will act as the City Attorney.

Applicants must be currently licensed to practice law in the State of Montana.

A complete scope of work to be provided under the awarded contract may be obtained by contacting the City of Townsend, 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT, 59644, (406)266-3911 or by email to kari@townsendmontana.net.

All proposals must be received by 1:00 p.m. December 20, 2024.

Published December 6 and 13, 2024

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT BROADWATER COUNTY

GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of GITSIT Mortgage Loan Trust BBPLC1, Plaintiff, v.

Unknown Heirs and Devises of the Estate of Jane Stevens Dunn; Unknown Heirs and Devises of the Estate of Leslie F. Dunn; and Unknown Parties in possession of or with an interest in the real property commonly known as: 1160 US Highway 12 East, Townsend, MT 59644,

DEFENDANTS. SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
Case No.: DV-4-2024-0000052-FO

To: Unknown Heirs and Devises of the Estate of Jane Stevens Dunn ; and Unknown Parties in possession of or with an interest in the real property commonly known as: 1160 US Highway 12 East, Townsend, MT 59644

A lawsuit has been filed against you for amongst other things, foreclosure of real property located in the County of Broadwater, State of Montana. The real property has an address of 1160 US Highway 12 East, Townsend, MT 59644 and is more particularly described as follows:

TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST, P.M.M., Broadwater County, Montana

A tract of land situated in Lot 4 of Section 30, and Lot 1 of Section 31, Township 7 North, Range 4 East, described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the south line of Section 30 and the southerly 50 foot right-of-way line of U.S. Highway No. 12; thence N. 43°36' E, 229.3 feet along the highway right-of-way; thence S. 22°51'07" E., 180.26 feet to a point on the south line of Section 30; thence west 56.86 feet along the section line; thence S. 48°08' W., 228.9 feet; thence S. 76°45'39" W., 76.02 feet; thence N. 77°25' W., 114.93 feet to a point on the Highway right-of-way; thence northeasterly 236.09 feet along a curve to the left with a 766.3 foot radius to the point of beginning, according to Certificate of Survey recorded in Book 1 of Plats, Page 223.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you or (42 days if you are the State of Montana, a state agency, or a state officer or employee, or 60 days if you are the United States of America, or federal agency), you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure. Do not include the day you were served in your calculation of time. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, if plaintiff is represented by an attorney, whose name and address are listed above.

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

Date: November 26, 2024

/s/ CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Published December 6, 13 and 20, 2024

MNAXLP

TOSTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE COMMISSIONER ELECTION

Nomination Petitions for Water Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner for Division 2 (All lands West of Highway 287 and North of Lone Mountain Road) to be elected at the March 13, 2025 Annual Meeting may be picked up by qualifying landowners at the Toston Irrigation District Office, 8711 Hwy 287, Toston, MT 59643.

The petitions must be returned to the District Office no later than December 27, 2024.

Published December 5 and 13, 2024

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN MICHAEL KREITINGER, Deceased.

Probate No. CDP-24-21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

Dated December 6, 2024.

/s/ Peter T. Simon

GALLATIN ELDER LAW & ESTATE PLANNING PLLC
Attorney for Personal Representative

Published December 6, 13 and 20, 2024

MNAXLP

Three Accused of Poaching in the Elkhorns

Seaborn Larson
Montana State News Bureau

Three people have been charged with a host of hunting violations following a yearlong investigation led by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Prosecutors in Broadwater County say two of the defendants illegally harvested three six-point bull elk with rifles during the 2023 archery season in Hunting District 380, which covers the Elkhorn Mountains and where permits to harvest a bull elk can only be obtained through a lottery process with extremely narrow chances.



A herd of elk as seen in the Elk Horns mountains near Helena. Montana Department of Corrections and Fish, Wildlife and Parks File Photo

Broadwater county prosecutors said the two primarily involved, Tylor Castona and Alisha Byrd, also poached three whitetail buck deer near Townsend in the following month. One of those deer was shot at night and left on the ground for waste when the landowner turned his lights on to investigate the gunshots around midnight. The landowner called FWP that night, triggering an investigation that uncovered the alleged poaching spree of deer, elk and a spike bull elk taken over the two-month period.

Tylor Castona is currently in custody at Montana State Prison following a conviction earlier this year for sexual assault.

As measured by an FWP game warden, one of those bucks met the regulatory criteria to be considered a trophy, meaning the defendants could face additional \$8,000 in restitution if convicted of the charge relating to that buck.

According to charges filed Oct. 8, Castona and Byrd of East Helena face a combined 29 criminal counts and both are facing felony tampering with witness charges for allegedly attempting to coordinate their stories ahead of interviews with game wardens investigating the case. Castona faces an additional felony tampering charge for deleting GPS waypoints on the mapping tool OnX Maps once they learned game wardens were investigating the case.

Aside from the felony tampering charges, Castona is accused of two counts of hunting without a license, four counts of unlawful possession or transportation of
Accused of Poaching, 6

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson
Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Douglas Stevens, Townsend: ROW violation \$85.00
Gabriel Mcauliffe, Bozeman: no insurance-1st offense \$285.00, Night speed \$120.00

Gregorio Corona, Stockton, CA: night speed \$120.00
Vincent Principe, Jackson, WY: day speed \$20.00
Jessica Alley, Bayonne, NJ: day speed \$70.00

Caitlin Clark, Bozeman: day speed \$70.00
Richard Dionicio, Margate, FL: MT resident operate w/foreign DL \$85.00

Justin Montoya, Billings: day speed \$20.00
Lorrain Odonnell, Helena: day speed \$70.00
Morgan Tielking, Helena: day speed \$70.00

Casey Wilson, Helena: day speed \$70.00
Daiel Flores, Missoula: day speed \$70.00, Driving without a valid DL \$135.00, No insurance-1st offense \$285.00

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS

1

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Joshua Plymale – Townsend – careless driving, plead guilty, \$85.00 fines and fees; fail to give notice of accident by quickest means/apparent damage over \$1,000.00-1st offense, plead guilty, \$275.00 fines and fees.

Dakota Stark – Butte – driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs- 1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$685.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete ACT program.

Angel Alvarado – Bell Gardens, CA - driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs- 1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$885.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete ACT program.

Clay Nelson – Bozeman – driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked-1st offense, plead guilty, \$185.00 fines and fees.

Sydney Snyder – Apple Valley, MN – day speed, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months, \$20.00 fine, enroll and complete Traffic School.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

George Andersono, Pace, FL: violation of commission orders or rules \$135.00

Michael Murphy, Belgrade: failure to obtain landowner permission \$285.00

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Rose Mascarenas – Helena – night speed, plead guilty, \$120.00 fine.

Jason Burns- Helena – failure to obtain landowner permission- 2nd offense, plead guilty, \$735.00 fine and fees, hunting, fishing and trapping privileges suspended for three years.

BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Lana Crawford, Bozeman: restricted speed \$105.00
Jefferson Salan, Helena: day speed \$20.00

Lucas Rowsey, Helena: day speed \$70.00
Brady Corn, Great Falls: night speed \$120.00

David Hatch, Trout Creek: restricted zone \$55.00
John Crawford, Swarthmore, PA: day speed \$70.00
Emery Dawson, San Diego, CA: night speed \$20.00

James Hardman, Helena: no insurance- 1st offense \$285.00, Day speed \$120.00
Hayden Reich, Three Forks: night speed \$20.00, Expired registration \$85.00

Emmet Sasser, East Helena: night speed \$20.00
Ivy Everson, Bigfork: night speed \$20.00
Shawn Boylan, East Helena: day speed \$20.00

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Timothy Buxton – MT 14th Judicial District Court, \$10,000.00 bond

Timothy Buxton- 1st Judicial District Court of Idaho, No Bond

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.

Accused of Poaching 5

a game animal, four counts of killing over the limit, two counts of unlawful use of artificial light while hunting, two counts of illegal transfer of hunting licenses, one count of waste of a game animal and one count of failing to obtain a landowner's permission to hunt.

Byrd, beyond the felony tampering charge, is accused of hunting without a license, three counts of unlawful possession or transportation of a game animal, two counts of unlawfully transferring hunting licenses, killing over the limit, two counts of wasting a game animal and one count of failing to obtain a landowner's permission to hunt.

Charging documents filed in Broadwater County against the pair, following multiple interviews with the defendants, lay out the events as such:

In early October 2023, weeks before the rifle season opened, Byrd told investigators she was with Castona when she shot a six-point bull in the Elkhorn Mountains when she did not have a permit to hunt bull elk there. Only 0.94% of hunters who applied for that tag drew it in the 2023 season.

The two placed a GPS marker on the spot and drove to Helena to pick up Tracer Castona, Tylor's nephew, to help them retrieve the bull elk. Tracer Castona faces two misdemeanor charges in Broadwater County Justice Court for his alleged role in retrieving the animal.

On the return drive to recover first bull elk that night, Tylor Castona shot another six-point bull that crossed the road. According to charging documents, Castona turned his headlights into the field and shot it with a rifle.

Byrd also told investigators Castona killed the third six-point bull earlier that year during archery season in another Helena area hunting district managed for hunter opportunity on mature bull elk. A GPS marker for this area investigators were able to retrieve from Castona's OnX account was created on Sept. 17.

Byrd also used her general elk tag on a spike bull elk in the Elkhorn Mountains in late October, but she told investigators the elk was too far away and Castona shot and killed it.

Law enforcement's first foray into the alleged poaching activities came just after midnight on Nov. 15, 2023. A landowner called the FWP tip line to report a person had fired at a deer in their headlights near Beaver Creek Road. The vehicle fled when the landowner flipped his lights on, but the landowner recorded a video of the red pickup in retreat, according to charging documents.

What began as a sweeping prosecution for three bull elk poached in Musselshell County ended last month a man's hunting privileges being revoked.

Montana Highway Patrol and an FWP game warden responded to the area, and the trooper, Eric Arnold, pulled a red pickup over for traveling 73 miles per hour in a 65-mph zone. Castona and Byrd were in the pickup, both wearing hunting clothes, according to court documents. The two denied being in the area of the reported night hunting but said they had successfully harvested an elk on private land earlier that day.

Warden Troy Hinck met the property owner and found a dead whitetail buck in the field, as well as an elk carcass disposed of further down the road. Hinck noted that road had recently been graded, and matched the tire tracks from the elk to the scene of the dead buck, according to court documents.

FWP investigators interviewed Castona at his home in East Helena on Nov. 16; he denied shooting an animal on Beaver Creek Road or driving in that area. In a second interview, Castona changed his story, according to prosecutors, now admitting to driving on Beaver Creek Road but claiming he saw someone else shooting at the deer, and that he only went to the area to check on the activity.

The following day, Byrd called Warden Hinck and said she and Castona had killed elk on public lands earlier that season, and that she and Castona had killed two whitetail bucks on a section of state land, according to court documents. The officers had noted two large whitetail deer heads, each five-point bucks, at Castona's residence.

Byrd said she and Castona shot the deer with a single rifle, and Hinck responded with doubt that they had shot two large whitetail bucks with a single rifle in the daytime.

On Nov. 20, Hinck obtained a search warrant and seized three elk antler sets, all six-point bulls, and two whitetail deer antler sets, both five-point bucks, according to charging documents.

A 32-year-old Great Falls man admitted to illegally killing two bull elk in the Elkhorn Mountains southeast of Helena in a plea agreement in B...

Byrd voluntarily met with FWP investigators again in December, this time admitting Castona had beamed his headlights into the field near Beaver Creek Road before shooting a buck, according to court records. Castona went to find the deer, but returned to the pickup and fled when the landowner turned the lights on, she told them.

Byrd reportedly told investigators she and Castona had colluded to create a story regarding another vehicle in the area where the buck was shot, prosecutors wrote

in charging documents. The two five-point bucks were likewise both shot by Castona while he was hunting alone, Byrd told investigators, although she agreed to put her deer tag on one of the bucks, according to charging documents.

In this interview, Byrd reported the incidents in which she and Castona had illegally killed the bull elk. Investigators recovered waypoints Castona created but later deleted on OnX; charging documents repeatedly describe these points helped confirm the incidents Byrd reported to law enforcement.

All three people charged in the spree pleaded not guilty at their initial appearances.

Castona is currently in custody at Montana State Prison following a conviction earlier this year for sexual assault.



Tylor Castona
Montana Department of Corrections and Fish, Wildlife and Parks File Photo

The Broadwater County and Lewis and Clark County sheriff's offices both assisted in the investigation.

FWP urges anyone with possible information about illegal harvests to visit bit.ly/mttps23 to provide details or call the FWP violation reporting hotline at 1-800-TIP-MONT.

This article was originally published in the Helena Independent Record November 26, 2024.

Court Beat Reporter, Dee Gannon, first reported this story in the November 22 issue of MT43News.

Montana Farm Bureau Applauds Judge's Dismissal of Trapping Case

Rebecca Colnar
Montana Farm Bureau Communications Specialist

A lawsuit filed in Montana challenging the state's wolf and coyote trapping practices has been dismissed by U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy, a decision which has been applauded by the Montana Farm Bureau.

The lawsuit, brought by Flathead-Lolo-Bitterroot Citizen Task Force and Wild Earth Guardians, argued that the state's current trapping regulations could harm grizzly bears. The defendants, the state of Montana, rejected the argument on the basis that trapping has not previously affected grizzly bears in a tangible way.

The Montana Farm Bureau, along with other livestock organizations, were defendant-intervenors in the case.

"Farm Bureau's claims included that the scope of the area limiting trapping is overly broad and includes areas of Montana outside of grizzly bear habitat, and that the plaintiffs have no credible expert witness establishing the possibility of a 'take' caused by coyote trapping and snaring," noted MFBF President Cyndi Johnson.

Judge Malloy dismissed the case because both parties agreed the rule is unnecessary due to the new Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks trapping regulations.

While the new regulations include some of what the plaintiffs were looking for, they don't go into effect until or if a grizzly bear is snared. The regulations do require a free trapping permit. Those who are trapping for livestock protection inside of the geographic scope identified by federal court order must complete and sign a declaration identifying the producer's name, that the producer has provided permission for trapping activities to occur on their private or leased property, and the county where such activities will occur.

An amendment by the Fish and Wildlife Commission to the regulations had added a change from 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 several agricultural groups including MFBF.

Farm Bureau points out that the rule will have an annual review allowing for the adaptation and removal of language as more information is collected.

"We are gratified that Judge Molloy dismissed the case," said Johnson. "Montana Farm Bureau has worked closely with the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission to ensure that ranchers' and landowners' privacy will remain protected, and livestock producers can continue to control predators that may harm their cattle, sheep and other livestock."

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.

Monday, December 9, 2024

3:00 PM Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in CAO office, regarding projects and deadlines

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

10:00 AM Working meeting in Commission Office with Kay Minor, Deputy County Attorney, regarding projects and deadlines

Wednesday, December 11, 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 Zoning Regulations Permit Application

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Heinemann Boundary Relocation exemption request, S14 & 23, T7N, R1E

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Durocher Boundary Relocation exemption request, S11, 13 & 14, T6N, R3E

10:15 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Swenson Family Transfer exemption request, S32, T7N, R2E

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

- Trust Board Meeting on December 10th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Public Hearing & 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)

DINE LOCAL BROADWATER

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

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS



American Legion Hall 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	The Betsy Sports Zone 217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close Closed Monday Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com	C Hangin' C Mercantile & Creamery 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	Copy Cup 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	Fishtale Tavern 209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 11:00PM Daily Specials: Facebook Bar hours may vary	Mint Cafe 305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867 Dining Hours: Mon - Wed 8:00AM - 2:00 PM, Thur - Fri 8:00AM - 8:00PM Sat - Sun 7:00AM - 7:00PM Menu: themintbarandgrill.com/menu
Bread and Butter Cafe 205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM- 2:00PM Menu available on Facebook Closed Sunday and Monday	Bunkhouse Bar & Grill 8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - Close Grill off at 10:00PM	Commercial Bar 101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook	Deep Creek Pizza 415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Menu: www.deepcreekpizzaco.com, Facebook and Instagram Closed Sunday	Full Bell Deli 209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459 Dining Hours: 7:30AM - 8:00PM Every Day Menu: fullbellidelimt.com	TB's Diner 316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Fri - Tue 7:00AM - 8:00PM Wed - Thu CLOSED Specials: Facebook

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 12/06	Sat 12/07	Sun 12/08	Mon 12/09	Tue 12/10
Mostly Clear	Very Light Rain Showers	Light Snow	Light Snow	Very Light Snow Showers
45° 35°	44° 36°	38° 28°	32° 22°	31° 27°
0%	0 in	1 in	0 in	5%
⇒ 7 13 mph	⇒ 14 22 mph	⇒ 14 25 mph	⇒ 8 14 mph	⇒ 8 14 mph

Precipitation:

July: 0.040" October: 0.174"
 August: 0.402" November: 0.079"
 September: 3.637" December: 0.000"
 2023: 13.669" 2024: 10.903"

Super Crossword

BREEDS ON THE DECLINE

ACROSS

- 1 Lagoons
- 6 Jaunty greeting
- 10 Basics
- 14 Aid in crime
- 18 Full of vitality
- 19 Purim's month
- 20 Patio cooker
- 22 Sage guide
- 23 Pope after Sergius II
- 24 Acting Ward
- 25 "Same here"
- 26 Arab country
- 27 Player hitting to prepare for a spike
- 30 Energetic journalist
- 32 Chicago-to-Tampa dir.
- 33 Suffix with leopard
- 34 Caroling song
- 35 Journalist covering a particular sector
- 38 To be, to Bardot
- 39 Lock of hair
- 40 Dubai's country, for short
- 41 "Kung Fu Hustle" director and star
- 45 Canonized Mlle.
- 46 Campers under canvas
- 50 Field unit
- 51 Jarred
- 55 Having no commercials
- 56 High-scoring hoops shot
- 59 Met or La Scala frequenter
- 61 "That didn't escape my notice"
- 62 Prior to, to bards
- 63 Pooch's cry
- 65 Country singer Blake
- 67 Andrea (ill-fated ship)
- 69 Swimming sensation at the 1972 Olympics
- 71 Nine-sided shape
- 75 Comic buffoon
- 78 Entertainer Zadora
- 81 Deli salad
- 84 Injury rehab professional
- 86 Scattering in the field
- 88 Baja blanket
- 90 Vandals, e.g.
- 92 Gillette brand
- 93 Genghis Khan followers
- 95 Silvery gray
- 96 Deliverer of a fine spray
- 99 Text-scanning device, briefly
- 100 Revises text
- 103 First letter of the Arabic alphabet
- 104 130-to-135-pound bout competitor
- 108 "— Well That Ends Well"
- 109 Cavity fillers' org.
- 112 According to Sheriff's star
- 114 Popular yoga pose ... or something found seven times in this puzzle
- 117 Color shade
- 119 Research facility
- 121 TV "Warrior Princess"
- 122 Duck with soft feathers
- 123 Tortilla treat
- 124 One of the singing Braxton sisters
- 125 Eternally
- 126 Love, to Lucia
- 127 Place of bliss
- 128 Stuck-up type
- 129 Relaxation
- 130 Crowded
- DOWN**
- 1 Give birth, as a whale
- 2 Margarines
- 3 Forerunners of cellos
- 4 Pernicious
- 5 Like July, order-wise
- 6 Dinosaurs, so to speak
- 7 Exemplar
- 8 Passageway
- 9 Brand of toothbrushes
- 10 DOJ heads
- 11 She wrote "Jane Eyre"
- 12 Apple quaffs
- 13 Most sluggish
- 14 Past time
- 15 Lousy pieces of advice
- 16 Rub out
- 17 Piano fixer
- 21 Talk like Dafny Duck
- 28 Past time
- 29 See 27-Across
- 31 See 30-Across
- 36 Sports sites
- 37 Snitching sort
- 38 Sort of sword
- 41 Fill totally
- 42 Sch. worker
- 43 Went wrong
- 44 See 41-Across
- 45 Give a bias to
- 47 Wildlife-tracking aids
- 48 Lulu Hogg player Peggy
- 49 Stitch up
- 52 GI address
- 53 "Blech!"
- 54 "The Raven" poet
- 57 Spanish river
- 58 See 56-Across
- 60 Red Muppet
- 64 Infant's cry
- 66 Nabisco treat
- 68 Doing sentry duty
- 70 See 69-Across
- 72 H.S.-level exam
- 73 "... bug — feature?"
- 74 Quarterback great Joe
- 75 Relief sound
- 76 Mao — tung
- 77 Other, to Gabriela
- 79 About
- 80 Petri dish gel
- 81 Old JFK jet
- 82 Meadow
- 83 Haughtiness
- 85 Gridiron score after a throw, in brief
- 87 Street urchin
- 89 Alternative to "Section 2"
- 91 Steadfast
- 94 Spring farm machines
- 97 Earthen pot
- 98 Interpret wrongly
- 101 Starts eating, informally
- 102 "— kick from champagne" (Cole Porter lyric)
- 104 Milk, in Italy
- 105 Homer epic
- 106 Bulb unit
- 107 See 104-Across
- 108 Two of Henry VIII's wives
- 109 Append
- 110 Active sorts
- 111 Match up
- 115 "— Only Just Begun"
- 116 Very thin coin
- 118 2,000 pounds
- 120 See 119-Across

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

Cringe

CREOIL

Expert

TAPED

Gripe

TABLE

Adorn

PARED

TODAY'S WORD

"It doesn't matter much about the color — he has a long _____."

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: A equals P

HDXC GKV AKAVFWEX WC
 XIAEG IXWQKH HNED FKEL KT
 IWFX LDXXA, N'Q BKCLNQXU
 EDWE UWI-NTNBWENKC.

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KNIGHT MOVES

R	S	O
O		A
B	R	M

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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OUR WALK IN FAITH

Elkhorn Community Fellowship
 126 N Cedar St. Townsend
 Pastor Eric Crusch (406) 949-0183
Sunday: 11:00am- Services
Wednesday: 4:00 - 5:30pm Team KID for K - 5th Grades
 | 6:00 - 7:30pm Youth Group for 6 - 12th Grades

Faith Baptist Church
 5 Jack Farm Rd. Townsend
 Pastor Mike Wenzel (406) 266-4219
Sunday: 10:00am Sunday School | 11:00am Morning Service | 6:00pm Evening Service
Wednesday: 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer

Holy Cross Catholic Church
 101 S Walnut St. Townsend
 Parish Contact (406) 266-4811
 email: office@holycrossmt.org
Sunday: 3:30pm - 4:15pm (or by appt.) Reconciliation | 4:30pm- Mass | 5:30pm (during the school year) Dinner with 6:00pm Religious Ed for all Grades
 Adult Education Programs found on holycrossmt.org
Monday: 9:00am Mass | 9:30am Adoration
Tuesday: 9:00am Mass

Mountain Valley Church (of the CMA)
 110 E Street Townsend
 Pastor Eric Krueger (406) 465-5895
 MountainValleyChurch.org
Sunday: 10:00am Services with Nursery, Kids and Youth Ministry
Last Thursday of the month: 6:30- 8:00pm The Rock Youth Ministry: K-3rd Grades and 4th-Senior High | Parent Bible Study
 Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406
 Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.

Radersburg Baptist Church
 7 Main St. Radersburg
 Pastor Richard Summerlin (406) 410-0458
Sunday: 9:45am Sunday School | 11:00am Worship

Set Free Christian Fellowship
 318 Broadway St. Townsend; PO Box 1163

Pastor Carol Bergstad (406) 461-2181
Sunday: 9:30am Service | 7:00pm Set Free Recovery
Thursday: 7:00pm Bible Study

Seventh Day Adventist Church
 200 N Cedar St. Townsend
 Pastor Ney Khut (269)-362-5768
Saturday: 9:30 Service | 10:30am Bible Study

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod
 301 N Cherry St. Townsend
 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 9 - DEC 13	Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Golden Corn Garden Salad Whole Grain Bread Plump Peaches
Monday, December 9	Thursday, December 12
Goulash Egg Noodles German Vegetables Carrot Raisin Salad Whole Grain Bread Fruit Cocktail	Chicken and Rice Casserole Green Peas Purple Beets Whole Grain Bread Mandarin Oranges
Tuesday, December 10	Friday, December 13
BBQ Pork Ribs Corn Bread Baked Beans Crisp Coleslaw Applesauce	Chicken Fried Steak Steamed Potatoes Green Beans Tossed Salad Whole Grain Bread Fruit Crisp
Wednesday, December 11	
Carol's Meat Loaf	

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 408 Broadway St, Townsend, MT
 Mon - Fri 10:00 - 2:00pm

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



Before Holidays, let me point out those things and people who just rub us the wrong way - as opposed to massage therapists who rub us the RIGHT way.

As I have mentioned before, I like routine: those things that we do every day that are comfortable, so we do them in some semblance of order. In the late afternoon like most of US older people, I like a nap. Just an hour or so but a good deep cat nap is great! And it helps keep you healthy. Afternoon naps help us cope with life in general, however...when the weather is warm, I like the window open but then all the neighborhood "doggies" start to bark and howl. I don't hate dogs I just don't like having them yipping and barking all the time! It's like slowing down in the evening, and the phone rings with telemarketers!

Now, annoying people: there is a "lady" who goes around on TV and meetings who has been married 5 times, but SHE decided to start giving advice on marriage. What? Oh yes, she has had 5 failed marriages and people still go to her, give her money to ask advice. Go into the bathroom, look in the mirror and wipe STUPID off your forehead!

How many folks believe that the "dancing monkeys" in Hollywood really KNOW about running anything in the lives of regular people like us? Just because someone works making believe they are someone else, for a living doesn't mean they actually understand how we feel, doing our regular work and keeping a household running. Having a family that we don't send off to live with 3 nannies, who they barely know until they are of age to begin acting like their mommies and Daddies.

Celebrities are celebrated for playing (mostly) real people on TV and in movies. That's it. They are worrying about where their chai lattes with extra foam and hot but not too hot, are coming from. Bravo Sierra! Live your own life, be real and enjoy the moments when the craziness slows down a bit. Want to ask advice on something? Look around and find the folks who actually do the job or know about what it is you are looking for!

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

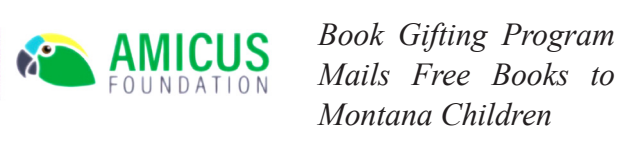
The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.

PROVERBS 28:1

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Amicus Foundation Announces Funding to Support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Southwest Montana

Melissa Denison
Executive Assistant & Grants Manager



November 14, 2024, Southwest Montana- Amicus Foundation has announced funding to provide free books to Montana children through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a book gifting program started by Dolly Parton to foster a love of reading among young children. Each child enrolled in the program receives one book per month from birth to age five at no cost to families.

The Amicus Foundation has committed to covering the book and mailing costs for the program in six Montana counties for the next five years. The

counties include Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Jefferson, Madison, and Silver Bow County.

The Amicus Foundation was established in Montana in 2015 by John and Sheila Lake of Cameron, Montana with a focus on strategic investments in conservation, education, faith, families, health, and veterans.

"My wife, Sheila, and I are pleased to support Imagination Library and help further its impact in Montana, the place we call home," said Mr. Lake. "One focus of the Amicus Foundation is supporting families, and Imagination Library is such a benefit to Montana families. The program encourages families to read aloud together and promotes early literacy that better prepares young children for school."

Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting free, high-quality books each month to children from birth to age five and is available across Montana. Age-appropriate books are mailed directly to the homes of registered children each month, starting about 10 weeks after their registration is received. Parents or guardians may register their children online by filling out a brief form at www.imaginationlibrary.com.

In June of 2023, First Lady Gianforte joined Dolly Parton in announcing the statewide expansion of Imagination Library in Montana, making the program available to children from birth to five years old in every county in Montana, regardless of a family's income. The Treasure State Foundation (TSF), founded in 2021 by the First Lady to ensure future First Spouses in Montana can promote the public good with their causes, serves as Montana's statewide sponsor for Imagination Library.

"We are very grateful to the Amicus Foundation for making this commitment to early literacy in Montana," said First Lady Gianforte, TSF Chairwoman. "Many Montana children will benefit from this generosity as they open their mailboxes each month to find the gift of reading inside."

For more information about Imagination Library, contact Teal Whitaker, outreach coordinator for Imagination Library of Montana, at teal@treasurestatefoundation.org or (406) 581-8976.

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.

SCAN ME

PSC Votes To Lower Northwestern Energy's Electricity Rates



PSC Building
Photo Credit: Eliza Wiley / MTFP

Amanda Eggert
Montana Free Press



This article by Amanda Eggert was originally published in the Montana Free Press on November 27, 2024. It is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press. https://montanafreepress.org/2024/11/26/psc-votes-to-lower-northwestern-energys-electricity-rates/?utm_medium=email

The commission's decision also incorporates a modest increase in natural gas rates.

The typical NorthWestern Energy residential customer will see a \$7.96 decrease in their monthly electricity bill following the Montana Public Service Commission's decision to adopt a temporary rate structure.

On Tuesday, commissioners authorized the 7.2% rate decrease at the recommendation of PSC staff, who determined that falling natural gas prices and a shifting regional energy market are working in electricity consumers' favor.

The PSC is the elected utility board tasked with balancing the financial health of monopoly utilities with the concerns of their customers, who cannot shop around for other providers. The largest utility the PSC regulates is NorthWestern Energy, which serves about two-thirds of Montana's electricity and natural gas customers.

In July, NorthWestern Energy requested a \$193 million rate increase to recoup investments in its generation, distribution and transmission systems, earn a 10.8% return on equity for its shareholders, and cover the company's rising property tax bill. NorthWestern broke its request into two pieces, asking for a smaller interim increase to address the lag between its initial filing and the commission's final order, which isn't expected until next year.

NorthWestern incorporated a "bridge rate" in its interim electricity rate request, arguing that it should have the authority to recover \$58 million for the anticipated "market benefit" of its new gas plant in Laurel as soon as the plant entered into service. Late last month, NorthWestern mostly hit that milestone, pumping uncommonly cheap natural gas into 16 of the Yellowstone County Generating Station's (YCGS) 18 engines and feeding that electricity into the grid.

The PSC's order allows the utility to start recovering some of the costs associated with operating YCGS, but commissioners balked at the \$58 million bridge rate. In denying it, PSC staff suggested that NorthWestern had missed the mark by a wide margin.

"The bridge rate is more than the proposed cost of

service for YCGS by approximately \$57 million dollars, resulting in a significant overcharge to customers," PSC rate analyst Brooke Umsted explained to the commission during Tuesday's proceedings. "The proposed bridge rate does not comply with generally established principles of utility rate regulation."

Umsted also noted that having YCGS in service means that NorthWestern can sell more power to other utilities, which serves to offset some of the power generation expenses incorporated in NorthWestern's customers' bills. The decreased rates arose from a reduction in the Power Costs and Credits Adjustment Mechanism, a type of cost tracker that helps energy companies reduce the lag between when they purchase plant fuel and market power and when they can bill customers for those purchases.

Though the commission denied significant pieces of NorthWestern's interim rate request, the commission largely complied with a couple of the South Dakota-based utility's smaller asks. In addition to approving the company's property tax-related increase in full, an increase of about \$7.6 million that will go into effect in January, the PSC agreed to a temporary increase in natural gas rates to reflect investments in the transmission, distribution, storage and production of natural gas.

The average residential customer using 65 therms of natural gas a month will therefore see a \$4.38 increase in their natural gas bill.

Commissioners James Brown, Jennifer Fielder, Tony O'Donnell and Anne Bukacek voted for the interim rate structure. Commissioner Randy Pinocci was not present for the proceeding.

In a press release touting the PSC's order, PSC President James Brown said the commission "has once again satisfied its obligation to customers of NorthWestern Energy to ensure utility rates are fair and justified."

"The entire commission recognizes that Montanans have been facing historically high prices for everything from housing to health care, food to insurance, diesel fuel and gasoline for the last four years. Going into the holiday season this year, electricity bills will be going down for NorthWestern's electricity customers in the interim period, more than offsetting a smaller increase in their natural gas bills."

In the coming months, the PSC, the Montana Consumer Counsel, the Montana Environmental Information Center, and a cohort of Northwestern's largest customers will continue to review outstanding issues in the larger rate case, including the prudence of NorthWestern's investment in YCGS. If the proceeding follows the same trajectory as Northwestern's last rate case, a handful of intervening parties will enter into a settlement agreement sometime next spring.

Respect for Landowners Can Continue Even After Hunting Season Wraps Up

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



With less than a week to go before the final day of the general season, hunters can help ensure the future of public access for generations to come. During these final days, remember "It's Up to Us. Respect access. Protect the hunt". This is a message from FWP and partners to encourage hunters to always practice conscientious behavior and show respect for private land and the access landowners provide.

There are five actions hunters can take to show respect for landowners to ensure the hunting tradition continues:

- Plan ahead for access
- Respect private property
- Practice safe hunting behavior
- Turn in poachers – visit tipmont.mt.gov
- Gratitude goes a long way

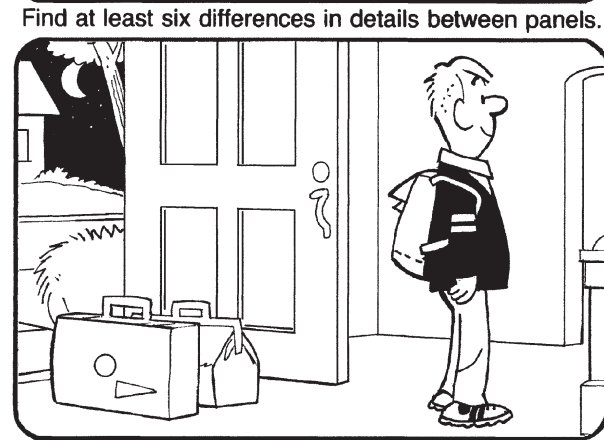
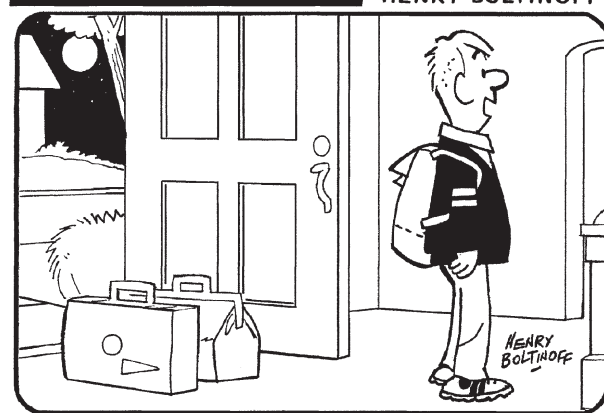
Hunters can also show their commitment to developing and maintaining good relationships with landowners by going through the Hunter-Landowner Stewardship Program. Through the online program, hunters learn more about safety, access programs and tools, personal responsibility and special considerations for hunting on private land. Those who complete the program and take the multiple-choice test by Feb. 15, 2025, will have the opportunity to win a pair of Leupold binoculars, donated by Capital Sports in Helena.

Hunters are also encouraged to participate in the #ItsUpToUsChallengeFWP on Instagram. Follow @MontanaFWP on Instagram and post a photo demonstrating "It's Up to Us" hunting behavior. Use the hashtags #ItsUpToUs, #ProtectTheHunt, #RespectAccess and #ItsUpToUsChallengeFWP. You could win an "It's up to us" T-shirt.

For more information on hunting ethics, working with landowners and to link to all the partners involved, go to fwp.mt.gov/ItsUpToUs.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Suitcase is larger. 2. Backpack is smaller. 3. Moon is different. 4. Window is added. 5. Mouth is closed. 6. Bush is larger.

CryptoQuip

answer

When you populate an empty meadow with lots of male sheep, I'd consider that ram-ification.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Recoil
2. Adept;
3. Bleat;
4. Drape

Today's Word

BEARD

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

R	S	O
O	A	
B	R	M

BARROOMS

BLM To Conduct Controlled Burns of Slash Piles Through March 2025

Chelsea Lair
BLM Media Contact

The Bureau of Land Management's Butte Field Office will conduct controlled burns of slash piles from Dec. 3, 2024, through March 2025. These burns will take place in Beaverhead, Broadwater, Silver Bow and Lewis and Clark Counties, specifically in areas near Wise River, Townsend, Helena, and Marysville, Montana.

"Removing dead and downed trees and burning slash piles is essential to reducing fuel loading, improving forestry health and protecting nearby communities," said Greg Campbell, Butte Field Office fuels management specialist.

The designated burn areas include:

- Jerry Creek, Tie Creek and Calvert Loop area

near Wise River

- Ottawa Gulch, and Lost Horse Gulch near Marysville
- Rader Creek Off-Highway Vehicle area near Townsend
- Nelson Gulch/Mount Helena area west of Helena

The timing of these prescribed burns is contingent upon favorable weather and fuel conditions. The BLM will conduct these burns when the ground is snow-covered or when surrounding fuels are sufficiently wet to minimize the risk of unwanted fire spread. Burning will only proceed when weather conditions and forecasts indicate adequate smoke dispersion. BLM fire managers will oversee the burns to ensure safety and effectiveness.

For further inquiries, please contact the Butte Field Office at 406-533-7600.

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

To find our updated Ad Submission Form,

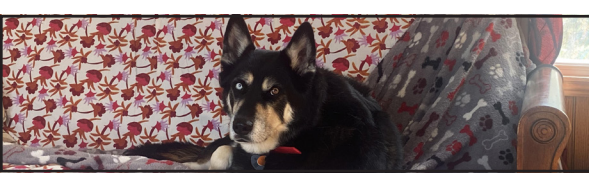
- Visit MT43News.com or
- Stop by 408 Broadway between 10am - 2pm Monday through Friday

EARLY DEADLINES for HOLIDAY EDITIONS

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. 01.03.25

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



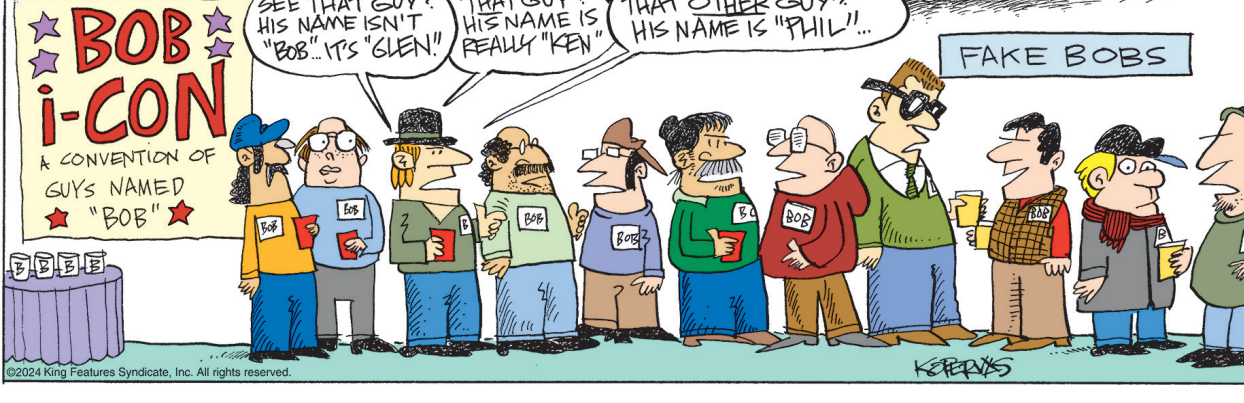
GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner



"My client was merely trying to finish his Christmas shopping early ... before the stores opened."

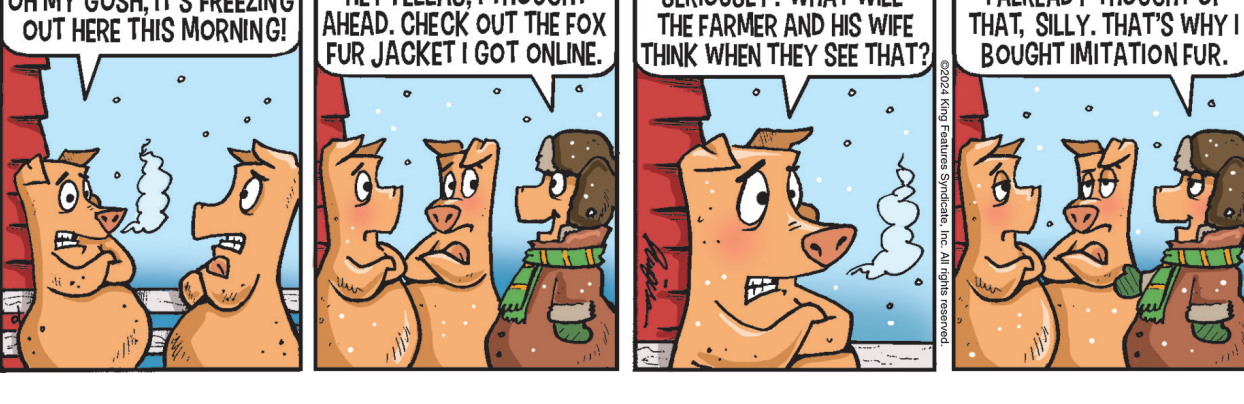
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



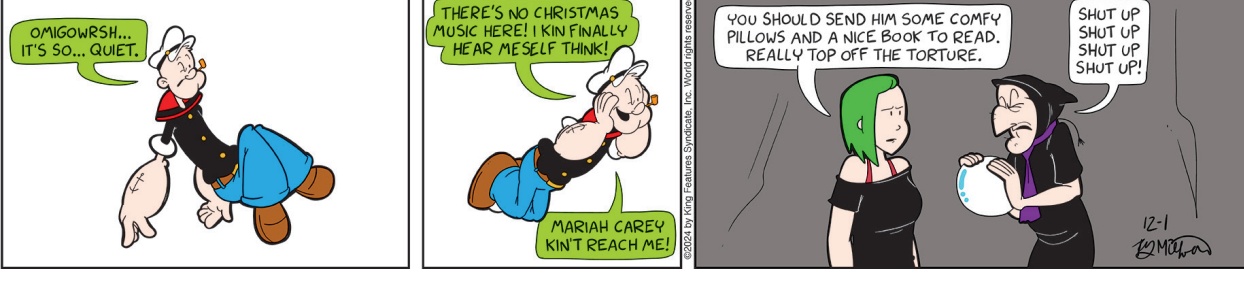
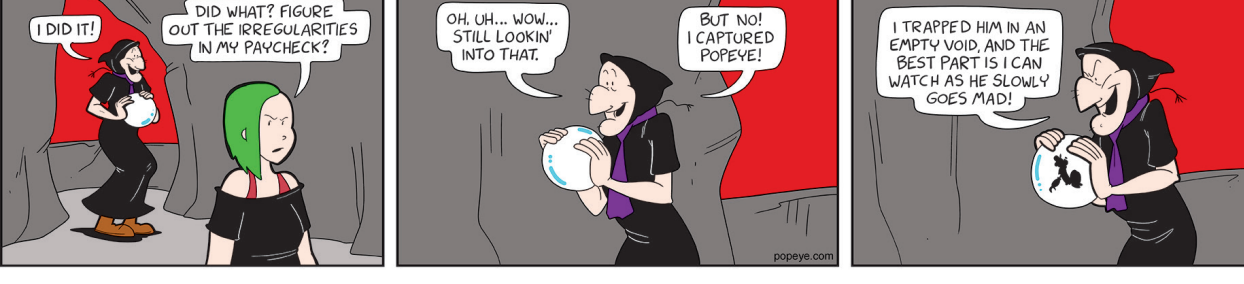
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Americanisms



"If we make it through December, everything's gonna be all right, I know."
— Merle Haggard



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

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Super Crossword

Answers

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

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Broadwater Conservation District Welcomes Climate Corps Member

Denise White Thompson
Rancher and Columnist



Agriculture faces endless obstacles on many fronts. It is vital that we educate and involve others, especially the next generation. Ya reckon?

Broadwater Conservation District (BCD) is glad to introduce Ms. Hannah Overby, our new Working Lands Climate Corps member, through the Conservation Legacy and AmeriCorps program, who will be working at BCD and Gallatin County Conservation District (GCCD) for an eleven-month term.

The mission statement of the program: "Conservation Legacy engages future leaders who protect, restore, and enhance our nation's lands through community-based service.

We envision a world with healthy lands, air and water; thriving people and resilient communities."

Conservation Legacy focuses on engaging powerful leadership of the next generation, inclusivity, healing people by healing the land, community first, and service as a path to a better future.

Ms. Overby is a 21 year old from Northern California, who will be focusing on sustainable agriculture and forestry while she is at BCD. Hannah is the youngest of four children and grew up in the outskirts of the Bay area where her Dad was a pastor at a local church for over 20 years. Her family moved to Auburn in 2017 where her mom is a nurse and her dad is a computer programmer.

When Hannah moved to Auburn, she immediately jumped into anything related to agriculture: 4-H (showed horses), FFA (showed pigs and participated in a couple of competitions), worked seasonally at a Mandarin Orchard, helped her FFA leader and her grandma with their sheep, worked as a ranch hand, and helped her swine breeder with chores.

Hannah loves spending time with family and friends, doing ranch chores, outdoor activities, drawing, and helping others. She has an Associate of Arts degree in Sustainable Agriculture

and has plans to further her education in Ag Business, with a focus on Ranch and Farm Management.

Vince and I are hosting this thoughtful young woman while she is at BCD and GCCD. I also have the pleasure of working with Hannah at the district, so I sat down with her and asked her a few questions:

What is your draw to agriculture?

From a young age, I was always outside and I have always loved animals. Whenever we would travel to my grandparents they had horses, pigs and steers and I loved being a part of that, no matter the chore.

What sparked your interest in the Working Lands Climate Corps Program?

When you contacted me about the position, it sounded extremely interesting and was different than anything else I had done. Having the opportunity to expand my knowledge in many different areas was an exciting prospect. I also looked forward to getting back to Montana, of course.

What do you hope to gain from your experience at the two conservation districts?

Gain more knowledge around agriculture and sustainable Ag, and to be able to take what I have learned and apply to different aspects of my life, give me some more direction as to what I want to do, and allow me to make some connections in the agricultural community.

What do you feel are the top three concerns farmers/ranchers are facing today, and how can you help address these concerns during your time as an AmeriCorps member and after?

Top three concerns would be succession, federal



Hannah Overby, new member working with Broadwater and Gallatin County Conservation Districts. Photo Provided by Hannah Overby

regulations and the disconnect between what farmers/ranchers actually do and how its perceived by others not in the industry or those who are truly unaware. I hope to help educate others, provide tools to the older generations to assist with succession of their farm/ranch business, speak up and be an advocate, and do my best to get folks on the same page so voices can be heard.

What is one thing on your bucket list while you are here in Montana?

Program-related: Help the producers in this area to make their jobs easier in some way; whether that be through a grant program or simply helping them with a chore/task.

Personally: Go to Glacier Park and Flathead Lake

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

Denise Thompson

Pan-roasted Steaks with Mushroom Sauce

Eileen Clarke
Rifles and Recipes

Pan-roasting is a combination of searing in a skillet, then finishing the cooking in the oven. Before sous vide machines, it was the most predictable way to get moist venison steaks, even if you cook them until all the pink is gone. I still pan-roast because it's very quick and I don't have to make room for another specific-use appliance. Be sure to have all your prep work done before starting the pans though.

My friend Rich admits he's pretty methodical at cooking, which translates into slow. When he made this recipe, he had dinked around with the sauce for so long his steaks got a bit more done than he liked them. Don't be Rich. For best results, once you've seared the steaks, leave them in the oven no longer than 10 minutes. No more. The longer you leave them in the oven, the more done they will be, but at 475°F 10 minutes will cook a 1-inch thick steak a still-pinkish medium-rare.

If you have cremini or portobello mushrooms use them. In a pinch, the common white ones are fine, but the others will deepen and expand the flavors.

Pan-roasted Steaks with Mushroom Sauce

Serves 2-4

Ingredients

1 pound steaks, about 1-inch thick

- 5 tablespoons butter
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 ounces mushrooms, sliced
- 1/4 cup Marsala wine
- 3 green onions, chopped

Cooking

1. Trim and dry the steaks with paper towels.
2. Chop and measure the rest of the ingredients, so they're ready to go. (To avoid possibly getting burnt, always pour spirits into a measuring cup first, rather than pouring them directly from the bottle into a hot skillet. Especially hard liquor and fortified wines like Marsala.)
3. Place cast iron skillet #1 in the center of your oven; preheat to 475°F. On the stovetop, bring 2 tablespoons of the butter to a sizzle over medium-high heat in cast iron skillet #2 and sear the steaks on both sides, about 3 minutes.
4. Transfer the steaks to skillet #1 to finish cooking in the oven: in ten minutes, a 3/4-inch steak should be a slightly pink medium; a 1-inch steak, medium rare. Remove the searing pan (#2) from the heat for 30 seconds, then continue.
5. Add the rest of the butter to the pan #2, lower the heat to medium, and sauté the garlic and mushrooms for about 3 minutes or until tender. Add the Marsala to the mushrooms and let it reduce in volume by about half. Then return the steaks to the pan. Spoon the sauce over the steaks a few times, then transfer to a preheated



Eileen Clarke with her "smiling elk" Photo Provided by Eileen Clar

platter. Toss the chopped green onions on top and serve.

Eileen Clarke's all-venison cookbook, Slice of the Wild has 100 recipes for our favorite game including several simple pan sauces for steaks. It's available at www.riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273. There may even still be copies at Goose Bay Glass and Reading Leaves here in Townsend.



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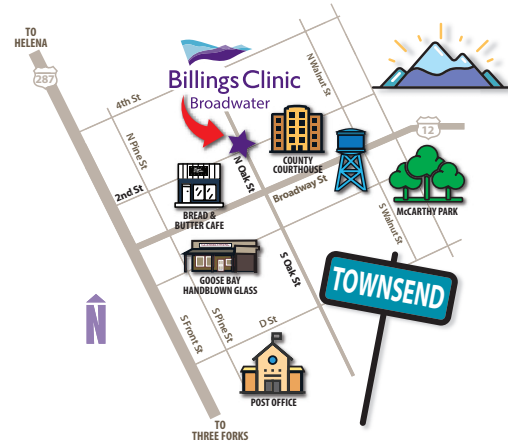


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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

December 6

1912

Doings of a Week

The Townsend Merc Co. is having the store building rewired throughout and a new set of lights put in and we may now look for more light on in this popular business house of Townsend.

The carpenters of the town have a grievance against John Schmidt. The bald-faced German who is presiding officer of the Dixon Brewery. John has been scabbing on the carpenters by going into the building business during his leisure hours. He has demonstrated, however, that he is some wood butcher, as he put up a whole building all by himself in a few days.

Thos. O'Connor of Great Falls former resident of Townsend and brother of our popular undertaker among the dead, was a visitor in town this week and was kept busy greeting old time friends and acquaintances.

1940

Personal News

Mrs. John Whaley has taken up residence in Townsend and is located in one of the Dewey Shields cottages on South Oak Street. This move necessitated bringing in some furniture from the ranch and making comfortable quarters for her daughter, Mary, who is just released from Broadwater Hospital where she has been a patient since last July recovering from an automobile accident.

Miss Ann Whaley, superintendent of nurses at the Broadwater Hospital and head nurse in Bayles-Nash Clinic left today for a vacation and rest in California.

She expects to be away about six weeks.

Mrs. A.F. Kapinos enjoyed a visit from her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Tatman of Manhattan Monday.

Dr. Edmund Kearns of Bozeman spent part of the weekend here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.P. Kearns.

Arlene Perkins returned to Browning after a two weeks vacation with her parents, Mr. and Ms. Thomas Perkins.

1968

Crow Creek News

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Miss Pearl Kitto were Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Kitto and family, Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Kitto and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Kitto of Winston, Mrs. Laure Heeb of Bozeman, Mrs. Lucille Robinson and family of Manhattan and Leonard Lambott of Martinsdale.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hensley and family spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. Don Summerfelt at Canyon Ferry.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Ferrat and family enjoyed Thanksgiving in Big Timber with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Fitzhugh and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Bruce and family spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Hunsaker and family.

Weekend visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Turman and family were Lawrence Berg of Walla Walla, Wash., Norman Taylor of Spokane, Wash., Mrs. Ruby Roberts and Bob Chopper of Billings and Mrs. G.E. Taylor of Bozeman.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lewis and family were Thanksgiving guests of Mrs. Art Chriskie in Helena.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sanderson and family were Mr. and Mrs. Junior Lewis and Mr. and Mrs. Gust Sanderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kolberg and Sharon were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Miller and Sheryll in Butte.

1996

Around Town News

Bill and Grace Berberet spent the Thanksgiving weekend in Spokane at the home of their daughter, Mary Berberet. Other guests were the Berberets' daughters, Trish Nanzanko, Louie and Grace, Spokane; Jean Berberet, Jackson, Wyo.; Jane and Bill Peacock and Charisse and Dorothy Peacock, Imbler, Ore.; and Nicki and Jim Rose, Spokane.

Pearl Barraugh spent Monday through Thursday at the home of her daughter, Norma and Skip Smith. Thanksgiving she was a dinner guest of her son, Ron and Judy Barraugh. Joining them from Townsend were Doris and Jim Huth.

Myrtle Geisser, Kathleen Jepson, Caron Baron, Ken and Nadine Biggs and Jean Schalbrack, Ogden, Utah, returned recently from a nine-day tour of Israel.

Sid and Kelly Holling, Jessica and Grace and Frank and Lisa Bueno, Lisa Marie and Shelby, San Antonio, Texas spent Monday through Saturday here visiting Sid's parents, Chuck and Eleanor Holling.

Deena and Lonnie Gobbs, Casey and Lane, spent Wednesday through Sunday in Culbertson visiting his parents, Howard and Mable Gobbs.

Martin and Doris Mingay, Craig and Clint and Jo Lewis spent 10 days over Thanksgiving in California where they went to visit their son, Chris, in Rio Vista and Martin's brother Bruce and Mary Mingay, Clayton, Calif, and Bruce and Amy Mingay of Priest River, Idaho, who joined them for Thanksgiving dinner in Clayton.

Christmas Stroll 2024
DEC. 7TH 4:00PM-7:00PM

Parade of Lights
Holiday Treats
Local Shopping

And the Jolly Guy! Yo, Santa!

SEASON OF LIGHTS
Historic Townsend Hardware
204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

The Lutheran Church Women Annual Benefit Raffle



First Prize: Gift Card Wreath
WELCA Photo

Darlene Beck
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church



Second Prize: Quilted Throw
WELCA Photo

The Lutheran Church Women (WELCA) holds an annual benefit raffle each year.

This year's raffle will benefit Kids Count, a program in our community that helps provide warm clothing, school supplies, or other necessities.

This year's raffle will feature a wreath worth \$250 in gift cards. The second prize is a beautiful quilted throw.

Tickets will be available at the Creative Closet from 4-7 during the Townsend Stroll. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

The drawing for both items will be on Sunday, December 15th. WELCA will also have an array of baked goods at the Creative Closet.

HAVE FUN AT THE CHRISTMAS STROLL!