

Warm Weather Encourages Christmas Strollers



Flags carried by American Legion Post 42 members, including the Auxillary and Sons of the Legion at the start of the parade. Matt Nelson Photo



Mr. and Mrs. Santa, Gene and Jim Hoff, welcome little ones at the gazebo. Hoff and his wife also were Santa at C Hangin' C open house and the East Helena Stroll. They live in Helena. Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

MT43 News Staff Reporter

The weather was almost balmy Saturday, 53 degrees at one point when the annual Christmas Stroll began on Broadway. Crafters and food vendors plied more than usual booths all over town.

Theo Peachey, a fifth grader at an East Helena grade school, stood behind his woodcraft booth along with his father in the Jeannie Steel building. Under the watchful eye of his father, Menno, Theo explained how he gathered reclaimed wood from his father's lumber mill and old barns to make exceptional crosses, birdhouses, bread baskets and lighted Christmas trees. A quiet, but direct young man, he said he had already learned how to use a nail gun, a chop saw and a table saw. He comes by his artistic talent honestly. His mother Kaila displayed pottery dishes as well.

On the opposite end of Broadway, the Rocky Mountain Rough Hands 4-H club was selling their usual steak sandwiches. According to Club President Cassidy Flynn, this is the second year the club offered sandwiches at the stroll. Her father Warren Flynn is the official griller. When asked if he had any experience grilling steaks for large numbers of people, he laughed. Warren has been cooking for the well-known nonprofit Bible Camp since he was young. "I can't even count how many steaks I've grilled through the years," he said. Cassidy explained the money raised

goes to events such as Deep Creek Cemetery cleanup day, Townsend baseball, tree plantings and Broadwater Fair and Rodeo events.

Halfway down the street James Blythe from Banshee Entertainment of Helena played the Christmas music. Blythe, a Scotsman, dressed in full regalia with hat and kilt. He has been acting as a DJ for 14 years with the business bringing karaoke to venues such as the Commercial Bar here in town, and in Basin, Montana.

At the gazebo, a tree stood silently in memory of Mary Alice Upton, a long-time State Bank of Townsend employee and huge supporter of all things Townsend. She organized the Christmas Connection for toys and clothes for those in need. She helped start the Christmas Stroll through Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce where she served as secretary for years. She also served as Mayor of Townsend for 29 years and was active in the American Legion Auxiliary. Mary Alice passed



Theo Peachey and his dad take care of their wood carving and pottery booth at Jennie Steele's building during the Stroll. Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

away in September of this year.

Chamber member Doug Sitton was more than pleased with the success of this year's stroll. "The Christmas spirit was alive and well in Townsend. That kind of spirit and joy can't be bought," he said.

LOOK INSIDE FOR MORE STROLL PICTURES!

<p>EARLY DEADLINES for HOLIDAY EDITIONS</p>	<p>GET READY?</p>	Ad Date & Time	Article Date & Time	Print Date
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fri. 12.20.24 @ 10AM • Fri. 12.27.24 @ 10AM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fri. 12.20.24 @ 12PM • Fri. 12.27.24 @ 12PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fri. 12.27.24 • Fri. 01.03.25

Broadwater Food Pantry Changes Operation Managers

MT43 News Staff Reporter

It was the fifth Saturday of the month. Broadwater Food Pantry bustled with customers. By 8:30 a.m. the chairs were full of folks waiting to shop for groceries. They joked and visited with each other; many with smiles and cheerful greetings.

None were more cheerful than the Food Pantry's new operations manager, Trina Bergman. She has taken Karoline Nelson's place at the helm, organizing, buying extra food commodities and being available to take in large food donations or answer emergency calls. Nelson had served as operations manager for 14 years.

Bergman, who lives in the Silos area, came to Townsend last year from Southwest Washington. After retiring 10 years ago she and her husband ran sheep and poultry on a small acreage. They followed relatives to Townsend. She was working full time as a dental assistant so had never done much volunteer work. Now

she wanted to get involved in the community. She had been serving the food pantry with Trailhead church. Before she knew it, she was the new operations manager.

The position involves many work hours, but Bergman said she finds it very fulfilling. She said she could not get over the excitement and energy from the high school kids when they brought in 2,180 pounds of food on October 30 from their "Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat" community event. "That's more than a ton of food. I was on a high seeing all those kids getting into community giving. It's a great feeling," she said

Broadwater Food Pantry gave out 30 turkeys with all the trimmings this Thanksgiving, plus 22 ham dinners. "We're serving many more homeless, elderly and single women. Many are in new circumstances so need the barest of essentials such as toothbrushes and toilet paper. We serve one family with eight children. We are averaging about 30 families with up to 70 members. Several families are living in campers at KOA campground because they can find nowhere else to live. There is more and more need for people to feed their families," she explained.

The Food Pantry has expanded its services to work with Broadwater Health Department's Homemakers' Program. The program serves about 10 clients for which the homemaker comes to the pantry to pick up groceries for her clients. Health Department workers Mindy Shaeffer and Megan Poe established the program two years ago.

The Pantry, temporarily located on Broadway, is open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Workers offer a 5th Saturday if there is one in the month. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. until 10:45 am. Donations can be made on the 1st and 3rd Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or on 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Please call Trina at (360) 562-1971 or President Daryl Blumhagen at (406) 980-0800 for more information or to give large food donations.



Trina Bergman, Food Pantry Operations Manager Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Rai Rai Juneau stands beside the Blue Star Memorial in her native Blackfeet regalia after walking with the American Legion Post and Auxiliary Honor Guard in Saturday's Christmas Parade. Photo Credit: Brandie Reichman

PLAYERS of the WEEK

Townsend Booster Club

Girls basketball:

Holly Newman is a junior and started in our game against Twin Bridges. She was a driving force in our defense, getting her team ignited in the second quarter. Holly's defensive drive included five steals and one defensive rebound. To round out her game on the offensive side, Holly had two offensive rebounds, one assist, and 15 points with an 85% accuracy for her two-pointers and 33% on her three-pointers.



Holly Newman
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Boys basketball:

Tavyn Anderson is the player of the week by leading the Bulldogs in scoring at 16 points against the Twin Bridges Falcons. Shooting at 62%, Tavyn shows that he takes the best possible shots in the game and also gets his teammates involved with two additional assists. Super proud of Tavyn and the rest of the Bulldogs this game with everyone getting to play and almost every single guy on the roster scoring! A great start to the season! Congrats Tavyn!



Tavyn Anderson
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Wrestling:

Parker Hunt didn't have the perfect start to the season that he wanted, placing 5th at the Badger Invitational. He is the player of the week because of how much he has grown and improved on and off the mat. After his matches, he would ask what he could work on and he would also know what he wanted to work on in practice for the week. He is growing into a great wrestler and role model for the team.



Parker Hunt
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Broadwater vs Twin Bridges: High School Basketball



Broadwater High School basketball player Degan Mattson goes up for a layup in Friday's game against Twin Bridges. Kelly Morris Photography



Broadwater High School girls' basketball player Holly Newman goes up for a layup in Friday's game against Twin Bridges. Kelly Morris Photography

Speech and Drama Club Starts Its Season

Karsyn Sangray
Broadwater High School Student Intern



We expect great things from our BHS Speech and Drama Club since the club took first last year at the state competition. Led by Coach Denise Bakkum, the club dominates the meets throughout the season. In two out of the three meets our team has been able to place. All thirty of the members contributed their blood, sweat and tears to their performance.

Even though losing the seniors from last year has been hard, the newbies are proving their worth and placing first in their events. Campbell Kirksey and Ava Boaz performed Classical Theater, with their piece, 'Anne of Green Gables'. In their first meet, the duo placed first in all their rounds and were able to place overall. Campbell described the group's chemistry saying, "Usually we try to take deep breaths and center ourselves. We run lines in between rounds and hype ourselves up on the way. My favorite part of Speech and Drama is the people. They are absolute and total goofballs. I love them all."

This group of 'absolute goofballs' can be serious when it comes to the competition. They take their parts seriously and try their best to beat the other teams. Our team isn't just known for their drama kids, but their speech team is exceptional as well. Jenna Smucker, doing Humorous Oral Interpretation, was able to place first in Lewistown. Jenna loves to watch and support her team, especially when they bring home the first-place trophies. Her favorite part of her speech is, "Making judges cry by how funny I am. And I can make the room a positive environment even with everyone being serious".



Speech and Drama Club member Jenna Smucker does Humorous Oral Interpretation. Karsyn Sangray, Photographer



Campbell Kirksey competes in Classical Theater doing 'Anne of Green Gables.' Karsyn Sangray, Photographer

Rough Hands 4-H Club Serves at Christmas Stroll

Denise White Thompson
Rancher and Columnist



The Christmas Stroll was so well attended this year. Beautiful weather, great items for sale, talented locals sharing their skills, great music, and an awesome parade! Everyone was in a festive mood.

The food - WOW!!!

We found ourselves hovering around the lively and scrumptious Rocky Mountain Rough Hands 4-H (RMH) stand. It is downright incredible what that club brings to the community at the Christmas Stroll and throughout the year. Their booth included a wonderful steak sandwich dinner, (with these delectable New York Strip steaks from Bob's Supermarket) prepared by Warren Flynn, Jarred Graveley and Clint Reynolds, sautéed mushrooms, peppers and onions, Becky's homemade horseradish sauce, a bag of chips and bottle of water - all for only \$10. AMAZING! Then one could stroll over and order up a warm and rich Gourmet Hot Chocolate and pick from a myriad of toppings and stir it all up with hand-dipped chocolate-covered spoons. Mmm! The hot chocolate table was donation only - UNBELIEVABLE!

Then club members, Sawyer Harrigfeld, Stetson and Cinch Reynolds, made these delightful handmade items for a raffle table to help raise money for 4-H Exchange. The craftsmanship by these young men was remarkable.

All the club families pitching in at every turn and doing so in such a professional and pleasant fashion was a site to see. The club's float for the parade was adorable, and it was such a delight to see the kids having such a great time dancing and caroling. What a pleasure to witness, not only this 4-H Club but also everyone who participated and helped make this year's Christmas Stroll such a success, ya reckon?

The Rocky Mountain Rough Hands was created in 2019 by Becky Flynn and Josie Reynolds, after their club, the Old Baldy 4-H Club, got too big. The Rough Hands have been going great guns ever since! They truly live the 4-H pledge, "I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world".

Becky and Josie have also shared the leadership reins with Jess Erickson and now Kendyl Harrigfeld. The club works extra hard "To Make the Best Better" (4-H motto), and give back to this great community, with nearly \$3000 given back to the community in 2023/2024. They understand what SERVICE is. They care deeply about YOU, and they certainly appreciate YOUR support. Businesses and folks like YOU and those who purchased livestock animals from RMRH members in 2024 (Graymont, Hamilton Honey, Elkhorn Veterinary Clinic, Ehlke Herefords, Rocky Mountain Supply, Bob Graveley, Devon Zeadow, Alpine Analytical, Churchill Equipment, Taves Consulting, Ron and Tracy Kaler, Lane Construction, and Lehrkinds Coca Cola) are the heartbeat of this entire county and our beautiful small-town USA. Kudos!

So, I will take the liberty, on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Rough Hands, to say THANK YOU to this extra special community and have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous 2025.

(Current Club Members: Cinch, Stetson and Rosyn Reynolds, Myla and Blair Graveley, Cassidy Flynn, Bryleigh and Grady Erickson, Sawyer, Hallee and Brooklyn Harrigfeld, Kayla McDonald, Ryal and Abigail Lancello, Bentley and Greyson Hoppe, and Evie and Thea Moos.)

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

Denise Thompson



4-H Club Exchange members Sawyer Harrigfeld and Seth Stetson encourage strollers to donate for their upcoming trip to Pennsylvania next year. Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Broadwater High School Junior Kaitlyn Noyes, her mother Karen Noyes, and Kay Crusch, home-schooled by her parents Jessica and Eric, at 4-H Interstate Exchange booth for gift wrapping and a raffle. Matt Nelson Photo

Townsend School Calendar

DECEMBER



Fri 13
NO SCHOOL
 High School Basketball @ Manhattan Tournament
 High School Wrestling @ Whitehall Duals

Sat 14
 High School Basketball @ Manhattan Tournament
 Speech & Drama Workshop

Mon 16
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Community Room
 7:00 pm: Middle School/High School Winter Concert

Tue 17
 8:55 am: Pre-K PE - 63 Gym
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Community Room
 6:00 pm: Elementary Winter Concerts (k thru 2)
 7:00 pm: Elementary Winter Concerts (3 - 5)

Wed 18
 8:55 am: Pre-K PE - 63 Gym
 2:30 pm: 5th Grade Project - Community Room
 6:15 pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Stage Gym
 7:00 pm: Old Baldy - Open Gym
 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Pickleball - Stage Gym

Thu 19
 3:00 pm: High School Basketball - Whitehall
 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Crochet - Library Classroom

Fri 20
 12:00 pm: **EARLY RELEASE**
 High School Wrestling - Great Falls CMR
 4:00 pm: Interact Movie Night - stage gym

Sat 21
 High School Wrestling - Great Falls CMR

Mon 23- Wed 1
NO SCHOOL- WINTER BREAK



Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Three Forks School Calendar

DECEMBER



Fri 13
 High School Basketball Magris Tourney
 High School Wrestling Butte Duals - Butte

Sat 14
 High School Basketball Magris Tourney
 High School Wrestling Butte Duals - Butte

Mon 16
 6:30 pm: School Board Meeting - Large Conference Room
 6:30 pm: Three Forks School District Board Meeting at Conference Room

Tue 17
 12:00 pm: High School FCCLA meeting
 3:00 pm: High School Basketball - Boulder
 4:30 pm: Speech & Drama Christmas Party

Wed 18
 12:00 pm: Middle School FCCLA meeting

Thu 19
 High School Wrestling Mixer @ East Helena
 12:00 pm: Middle School Book Club
 3:00 pm: High School Basketball at Ennis

Fri 20
 TBD: High School Wrestling @ CMR Holiday Classic in Great Falls
 12:00 pm: JV GB/JV-C BB vs GV Homeschool

Sat 21
 TBD: High School Wrestling @ CMR Holiday Classic in Great Falls

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

Wine Tasting: December 16th

“Best in Class” MVP event.
 The best selling wines for the past year will be featured.

At The Betsy, 217 Broadway
Space limited to the first 60 people.

Buy tickets online:
BetsySportZone.com



TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

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
 6:00 pm: Broadwater Community Theater: 2024 Christmas Dinner Theater at The Lodge, 131 S Spruce **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**
 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 **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
 6:00 pm: Doug Sitton and Jodie Toney Present Wine Tasting at The Betsy **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
 7:00 pm: Townsend Middle School/High School Winter Concert

Tuesday 17
 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 18
 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
 7:00 PM: Rural Fire Board Meeting every 3rd Wednesday at Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

Thursday 19
 Townsend Crimson Red Hat Ladies Lunch the 3rd Thursday, Contact Sandy for information- 406-949-0081
 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
 6:30 pm: The Rock **FREE** Family Night with activities and snacks at Mountain Valley Church, 110 E St

Friday 20
 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 21
 11:00- 4:00 pm: Winter Market, **FREE ADMISSION** at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
 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

Tuesday 24
 4:30 pm: Candlelight Christmas Eve at Trailhead Church **SEE AD ON PAGE 4**

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Monday 16
 2:00 pm: Commission Working Meeting
 6:00 pm: Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 17
 10:00 am: Commission Working Meeting (in the Commissioner's Office)
 11:30 am: Trust Board
 6:00 pm: Noxious Weed Board Meeting

Wednesday 18
 10:00 am: Commission Meeting
 6:00 pm: Airport Board



KITTY: Free to Good Home!

1 1/2 yr old Black & White neutered male cat.
 Very friendly good mouser.
 Call Susan 406-980-0650

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**

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MORE OPEN POSITIONS ON PAGE 5!

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

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

Saturday 14
 12:00 pm: Three Forks Community Library - Cookie and Gingerbread House Display (Main Library Closed)

Tuesday 17
 1:00 pm: Three Forks Community Library - Mah Jongg

Thursday 19
 10:30 am: Three Forks Community Library - Storytime
 6:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with www.twang.com at Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Friday 20
 11:00 am: LEGO Club

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



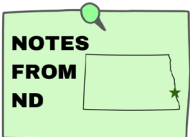
Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!
 406-266-3110
 7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT
topgun3110@gmail.com
topgunautobodytownsend.com

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 semester has flown by incredibly fast. It feels like just yesterday that I said goodbye to my parents and made myself comfortable in my new home. However, this week is Dead Week: the preparation week before Finals Week, and I am studying nonstop to ensure that I can even pass the class and get college credits.

All classes are different. In some classes, the final exam barely impacts the final grade. However, in some, the final exam is weighted, meaning it could be worth a larger percentage of the grade. I have learned that checking the syllabus helps a lot during these situations. In the syllabus, there is always a section identifying the grading system and the weights of each assignment category.

Because most of my classes revolve around the sciences and I am on the pre-vet track, I cannot gamble with any of my test scores. Thus, I believe I need to put as much effort as I can into all of my classes. Throughout the week, I put together a few study strategies to hopefully help prepare me for the dreaded finals for Anatomy, Chemistry, Trigonometry, and Biology.

For Anatomy and Chemistry, I work through all of the previous exams, assignments, and study guides/practice problems. These classes are rooted in understanding how animal systems and the microscopic world work, so working through the information question-by-question helps recall the information. I also see as I work through these problems that they are being committed to my long-term memory, especially as I continue to put the concepts into practice.

In Biology and Trigonometry, repetition is my best friend. Biology is primarily focused on being able to convey understanding through diagrams, so repeatedly creating diagrams and models grows my understanding of the material. I don't believe that this is the best study

method for this class and it makes me slightly nervous for the final exam, however, I haven't found a better study method for this style of class. Trigonometry is full of simple repetition and formulas while using complex concepts. Doing different problems over and over again solidifies the steps to solving the mathematical problems.

As my first semester in college ends, I have learned that you cannot get through each semester by "faking it until you make it". I have to continuously study, and when it seems like it is almost over and I can relax, I have to study harder than I have ever studied before to achieve a good grade in each of my classes. However, in the midst of all of the stress, I never change my normal schedule in regards to meeting up with friends, church, or even my eating and sleep schedule. The brain cannot function well when social settings are avoided. The brain cannot function well when the wrong foods or even barely any foods are eaten, and it cannot function well with little or too much sleep. The times are stressful but never forget to balance everything and take care of yourself!

Future Farmers of America

Ashley Sanderson
2024-2025 Broadwater FFA Reporter



November 6th, 2024 - December 5th, 2024

November was definitely another successful month for the Broadwater Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter. We attended the Montana Ag Expo at Montana State University on

November 14th-16th. The time and effort that members put into practicing for their Career Development Events and Leadership Development Events really showed in competition.

Broadwater FFA had members competing in several competitions this year. These competitions include Creed Speaking, Ag Sales, Employment Skills, Ag Mechanics, Agronomy, Floriculture, Horse Evaluation, Livestock Evaluation, and Veterinary Science.

I would like to highlight 3 members who did exceptionally well in their competitions at the Montana Ag Expo. Cheyanne Douglas placed 2nd individually in Jr. Veterinary Science, Emma Delgado placed 9th individually in Jr. Veterinary Science, and Alexis Fryer placed 9th individually in Horse Evaluation. All three of these competitors are freshmen, and for Emma and Alexis, this was their first competition. Placing in the top 10 is a huge accomplishment and I'm looking forward to seeing where these new members go during their FFA journey.

On November 19th, 2024 we held the monthly meeting of the Broadwater FFA chapter. We discussed upcoming events and reported on what our chapter has accomplished during the month of November.

I'm incredibly proud of all of the members of our chapter that competed at the Montana Ag Expo and I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish during the next month.

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



A widespread lawn weed, common plantain, is also known for its medicinal properties and edible qualities. Common plantain is also called broadleaf plantain. It is believed to have antimicrobial and antioxidant attributes and has a history of a wide range of uses including boosting the immune system, treating ulcers, diarrhea and fatigue, and treating foot injuries. Its young leaves, which look like spinach, can be used in salad.

Description & Habitat:



Common Plantain
Photo Credit: Robert Vidéki, *Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org*

Native to Europe, common plantain was introduced to North America in the seventeenth century as an edible and medicinal plant. It is now widespread across North America including throughout Montana. It is most commonly found in lawns and gardens but can be seen in a broad range of habitats including disturbed areas, meadows and fields. It can handle trampling and compacted soils.

Common plantain is a perennial plant (life cycle of more than two years). It forms a rosette close to the ground with a long leafless flower spike. The spike has

small inconspicuous green to white flowers. Each plant can produce up to 20,000 seeds which can remain viable in the soil for up to 60 years. Leaves are oval, much like spinach. They have a smooth and almost leathery texture. Common plantain has a shallow fibrous taproot. It does not have a visible stem.

Common plantain reproduces by seed. However, it has a low growing structure that makes it difficult to control, especially in turfgrass systems. It has the ability to regrow from pieces of its root crown and is resistant to several types of herbicides.

Management:

Maintaining a healthy and dense lawn or plant community will help reduce common plantain. Mowing and grazing is not effective, because the plants will regrow from the roots. Hand pulling can be effective to prevent the plant from going to seed. Make sure to get the entire root system so that it can not regrow. A little moisture in the ground helps with pulling. Mulching is an effective control method where practical. Landscape fabric or organic mulch at least 3 inches thick is necessary.

Herbicide can be effective and can often be strategized through spot spraying. Common plantain has shown resistance to 2,4-D. Commonly used chemicals include Banvel, Trimec and Remedy. Tank mixing with more than one herbicide is ideal. Preemergent herbicides can also be effective in lawns and perennial landscape areas. Always read and follow the entire label when applying herbicide. Common chemical names are used for clarity but does not imply endorsement of a product or brand. For assistance on weed identification and management, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242.

TOWNSEND CHRISTMAS STROLL PHOTOS



Johnny and the Wingnuts: Phil Moles, Tia Tallwhiteman, John Larsen, Kianna Tallwhiteman, Sam Goode and Lauri Moos sang and played music in the Reading Leaves Bookstore Community Nook. Matt Nelson Photo



DJ James Flythe worked the music booth to create a great atmosphere for the Stroll. Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer



Rotary Club Float
Matt Nelson Photo



Car Quest Float
Matt Nelson Photo

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.



December 6

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Micheal Menahan's courtroom on Friday, December 6 is as follows:

Kelly Krumenacker had an Initial Appearance on multiple charges. Ct 1 incest; ct2 assault on a minor; ct 3 assault on a peace officer; ct 4 obstructing a peace officer; ct4 unlawful transactions with a minor. Omnibus is due January 24, 2025; Pre-trial is set for June 20; with the Jury Trial scheduled for July 14.

Brett Kaiser had an Initial Appearance for a fugitive complaint. He has a warrant out of Washington State. He is extradited to Washington; they have 18 days to pick him up, or transport.

Richard Karp has a Petition to Revoke on his 5th DUI out of Yellowstone County. He will be seen in court again on December 20.

Jordan Hart had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of criminal child endangerment and DUI. Omnibus is due by February 14, 2025; Pre-Trial is set for April 11; with the Jury Trial scheduled for June 9. Most of her previous conditions are in effect.

Douglas Knight had an Initial Appearance on a charge of criminal possession of dangerous drugs; in addition to his previous charges of partner/family member assault and criminal possession of drug paraphernalia. Pre-Trial has been continued until March 8, 2025; with the Jury Trial scheduled for April 28.

Joseph Carr had an Initial Appearance on a few charges. Ct 1 4th or subsequent DUI; ct 2 tampering or fabrication of evidence; ct 3 obstructing a peace officer; ct 4 driving while license suspended (2nd); ct 5 open container. He will be arraigned on December 20.

Evan Welch had his Pre-Trial continued until March 7, 2025; with the Jury Trial scheduled for April 28. He will have a Status Hearing on January 10.

Bobby Jones had his Pre-Trial; with the Jury Trial confirmed on January 6, 2025.

Priscella Evans appeared for Sentencing. She was sentenced a year ago to chemical dependency treatment. Since then, she has completed treatment and is in sober living. She receives 12 days credit time served (street time) with a carryover of credit time served on her previous sentence. She is committed to three years D.O.C. suspended and must complete aftercare.

Samuel Cooper was to have a Change of Plea; but was not present. He will have a Status Hearing on December 13.

Man Faces 15 Years for Shooting Dog

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



A Townsend man, Gabriel Puga, pled Guilty to possession of a firearm when prohibited by law; is charged with shooting his girlfriend's dog in an incident in March 2024.

Puga faces 15 years in prison, a quarter million dollars in fines and three years of supervised release, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Montana. Puga appeared for the firearm charge on December 4.

Puga has been in court multiple times in Broadwater County, convicted on charges of felony criminal endangerment; prohibiting possession of firearms and/or ammunition.

In March 2024, Puga argued with his girlfriend about her dogs, while threatening her multiple times with a gun. According to the department, Puga took his girlfriend's .380 caliber pistol and her one-year-old white Labrador Retriever and went up in the mountains with a friend. Puga then took the friend's .45 caliber pistol and shot the dog. Afterward, he returned the friend's pistol.

Puga then returned to the girlfriend's house, telling her he had shot the dog, and showing her a photo of the dog's pawprint in the snow.

Law Enforcement recovered the deceased dog, along with the .45 caliber casings that match the friend's pistol.

Sentencing is set for April 16, 2025. Puga remains in custody.

NOTICE OF TOWNSEND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

FOR COOPER SPRINGS MAJOR SUBDIVISION PHASING SCHEDULE CHANGE

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

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

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

Published November 29, 2024, and December 13, 2024

MNAXLP

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

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

NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING OPENS FOR 2025 SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICT AND TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 ELECTIONS

NOTICE is hereby given that candidate filing opens December 12, 2024, for the Special Purpose District and Townsend School District No. 1 Board of Trustees elections to be held May 6, 2025.

Special Purpose District and School Trustee Candidates file their Declaration for Nomination and Oath of Candidacy with Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder's Office at 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644. Candidate filing forms can be found on Broadwater County Elections website <https://www.broadwatercountymt.com/elections>. Incumbents must re-file even if elected or appointed to an unexpired term. Should you have any questions, please email elections@co.broadwater.mt.us or call 406-266-3405.

DATED this 9th day of December, 2024.

/s/ ANGIE PAULSEN

BROADWATER COUNTY

Clerk and Recorder | Elections Administrator | County Surveyor

Published December 13, 2024

MNAXLP

Broadwater County Sheriff's Office November Agency Report

Nick Rauser
Sheriff



Calls for Service 1471
Traffic Stops 101
Felony Cases 3
Cases Opened 52
Misdemeanor Cases 14

DUI Arrests 7

Jail Bookings 42

Warrant Arrests 5

Assault 2

Sex Offenses 1

Partner Family Member Assault 5

Proactive Patrols

North/LF Baum/ Jimmy Green/ Winston/Silo Area 8

South/ Three Forks Area 42

Toston/Radersburg Area 6

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

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 Devisees of the Estate of Jane Stevens Dunn; Unknown Heirs and Devisees 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 Devisees 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

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson
Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Bailey Nagel, Three Forks: day speed \$70.00
Tanner Brown, Belgrade: day speed \$20.00
Shavon Cape, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
Lucy Orellana, Bozeman: no insurance-1st \$285.00, Day speed \$70.00
Luke Dowdy, Helena: day speed \$70.00
Nicole Dedman, Bozeman: night speed \$120.00
Curtiss Hancock, Toston: day speed \$70.00
Morgan Hancock, Toston: day speed \$120.00
Sydney Jackson, Hot Springs: night speed \$40.00
Kody Kambic, Helena: day speed \$70.00
Micah Leach, Bozeman: night speed \$120.00
Patrick Pitsch, Helena: night speed \$70.00
Daniel Roope, Helena: night speed \$20.00
Sara Virostko, Billings: day speed \$70.00
Logan Cold, Helena: day speed \$120.00
Benjamin Elze, Townsend: night speed \$200.00
Haley Hensley, Toston: day speed \$20.00
Jerilyn Little, Helena: night speed \$70.00
Jesus Terrero, Bozeman: driving w/o valid DL \$135.00,
Unlawful possession of marijuana in MV on Hwy \$75.00
Frank Rask, Great Falls: day speed \$70.00

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Ozair Butt – Helena – day speed, plead guilty, \$120.00 fine.
Morgan Stearns – Clancy – night speed, plead guilty, \$20.00 fine.
Luis Samada-Cremadelly – Katy, TX- operate vehicle that has not been properly registered, plead guilty, \$85.00 fines and fees; driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked-1st offense, plead guilty, \$135.00 fines and fees; reckless driving-1st offense, plead guilty, \$85.00 fines and fees.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Galen Mann – Townsend – failure to obtain landowner permission-1st \$285.00
Timothy Denton – Townsend – failure to obtain landowner permission for hunting-1st offense, plead guilty, \$135.00 fines and fees.
Brandon Henke – Townsend – failure to obtain landowner permission for hunting-1st offense, plead guilty, \$135.00 fines and fees.

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Ian Anderson – Wolf Creek – driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs-3rd offense, plead guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but thirty days suspended on conditions, \$2585.00 fines and fee, enroll and complete Act program followed by monthly monitoring for one year.
Malaki Roberts – East Helena – possessing intoxicating substances while under the age of 21 (under age 18)-1st offense, plead guilty, \$185.00 fines and fees, 20 hours of community service and enroll and complete MIP class.

BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Michael Aguirre, Townsend: restricted speed \$85.00
James Brown, Dillon: day speed \$120.00
Anfernee Cooper, Helena: day speed \$120.00
April Cardoza, Helena: stop sign violation \$85.00
Hernandez Erwill, Miami, FL: night speed \$20.00
Gregory Eason, Helena: night speed \$70.00
Joseph Fabian, Bozeman: night speed \$120.00
Dillon Fortner, Billings: improper pass \$85.00
Michelle Gruener, Mesa, AZ: night speed \$20.00
Christopher Graves, Missoula: night speed \$70.00
Andrew Mulvaney, Helena: day speed \$200.00
James Richmond, Helena: night speed \$20.00
Jason Small, Busby: night speed \$70.00
Cooper Smith, Manhattan: day speed \$20.00
Echo Saunders, Gardiner: night speed \$70.00
Sean Southard, Louisville, KY: expired registration \$85.00

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Shannon Masterson – Flathead Co. Justice Court, \$3000.00 bond
Brett Kaiser – Superior Court of the State of Washington, 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.

Three Forks Area Ambulance Community Report

Barbara Mutter
Three Forks Ambulance Service



Three Forks Ambulance had 27 calls for service in November 2024.

We focused crew training this month on certifications to administer medications and insert more advanced airways — both are special endorsements at the state level for EMTs. We'd like to give a special shoutout to EMT Hudspeth, our amazing Training Officer who works hard every month to provide excellent development opportunities to our crew!

There continues to be a strong need for local drivers who can operate the ambulance for our EMTs. We will train from zero experience and drivers must be licensed, and 18 years of age or older. See our website, 3faa.org for more information or to fill out the interest form.

Our November calls included:

- 15 transports to the hospital with 3 paramedic intercepts for pain medications, 4 calls where AMR came from Bozeman to provide needed backup because our volunteer crew was unable to respond.
- 1 refusal where the patient declined transport
- 4 calls canceled before we responded (but we still woke up for them!)
- 2 calls for motor vehicle accidents (MVAs) where no patient was found
- 1 call where we were canceled after arriving on scene

We are planning to offer an EMT class in the evenings from February - April, and scholarships may be available. More details are coming soon on our website.

As a non-profit organization, Three Forks Area Ambulance operates without tax levies.

Our service is supported solely through insurance billing, donations, and grants. Over the past five years, we have averaged over 320 calls annually, and we will surpass that number this year. As of November 30, 2024, we have responded to over 300 calls. Our dedicated volunteer EMTs and drivers continue to work tirelessly to meet our community's emergency medical needs.

We appreciate your ongoing support. Please see our website, 3faa.org, if you are interested in supporting our mission financially.

Thank you!

Auditors Say State Property Tax Rolls Have Missed \$1.2 Billion of New Construction

Eric Dietrich
Montana Free Press



This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press on December 6, 2024, and is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.

https://montanafreepress.org/2024/12/05/auditors-say-state-property-tax-rolls-have-missed-1-2-billion-of-new-construction/?utm_medium=email

Legislative auditors say the Montana Department of Revenue is struggling to keep tabs on new development, meaning existing taxpayers pay more than they should.

The Montana Department of Revenue, responsible for maintaining the property listings used to calculate property tax bills, is losing track of hundreds of millions of dollars a year in new construction as it struggles to keep its data updated, according to a study published Thursday by legislative auditors.

The auditors say the department's approach to tracking new development and property-value-boosting renovations, which relies primarily on reviewing building permits, is failing to ensure that construction activity is quickly and accurately reflected in the tax rolls. That means lower tax bills for people who own newly built or renovated properties, but less money collected for public services and higher bills for other taxpayers.

Auditors suggest that the department improve its efforts to reliably track building permits filed with other state and local government agencies and also expand its efforts to use aerial imagery to identify development that isn't captured via building permits. They also say the revenue department can do a better job of managing in-person property inspections that help keep its data current and do more to retain field office staff.

In a formal response to the audit findings, revenue director Brendan Beatty writes that the department generally agrees with those recommendations, but noted that implementing many of them would require State **Property Tax**, 9

BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA

Daylene Hansen
Executive Administrative Assistant



BROADWATER COUNTY
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.broadwatercountymt.com, in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline.

Monday, December 16, 2024

10:00 AM Working meeting on Teams, with Kay Minor, Deputy County Attorney, regarding projects and deadlines

2:00 PM Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in Flynn Building, regarding projects and deadlines

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

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

10:00 AM Discussion, Appointment and introduction of New County Attorney

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director, Broadwater County Solid Waste Disposal Contract-Bid Award

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Amended Lot 44 Wheatland Meadows Subsequent Minor Subdivision

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

- County Parks & Recreation Meeting on December 16th at 6:00 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on December 17th at 11:30 AM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on December 17th at 6:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on December 18th at 6:00 PM
- Mental Health Local Advisory Council Meeting on January 8th at 2:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on January 9th at 5:15 PM
- Board of Health Meeting on January 13th at 3:00 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on January 14th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Meeting on January 14th at 1:00 PM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on January 14th at 6:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on January 15th 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!



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 Belli 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

Contact MT43 News to list your business NOW!
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 Bernadette Swenson, PLS
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YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE

Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 12/13	Sat 12/14	Sun 12/15	Mon 12/16	Tue 12/17
Partly Cloudy	Very Light Wintry Mix	Light Snow	Very Light Snow	Very Light Snow
41° 30°	41° 33°	38° 27°	32° 26°	33° 24°
☁ 3%	❄ 0 in	❄ 0 in	☁ 23%	☁ 14%
⇒ 6 16 mph	⇒ 17 28 mph	⇒ 9 17 mph	⇒ 8 14 mph	⇒ 7 13 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

ACROSS

- 1 The United States' landmass, with "the"
- 9 Rafter's challenge
- 15 Shul scroll
- 20 Another similar thing
- 21 Barack and Michelle
- 22 Give the slip
- 23 Like babies who throw tantrums when you try to put diapers on them?
- 25 News outlets
- 26 RBI or ERA
- 27 Film lead-in to "Cop"
- 28 Photo —
- 29 More nimble
- 30 Trellis climber
- 32 Having a sore mouth from working long hours at a kissing booth?
- 36 Joint a sock often covers
- 39 Chipped in, in poker
- 40 Beckett title character
- 41 Intense fire used as an energy source?

DOWN

- 46 Pie — mode
- 49 Abbr. on a road map
- 50 With 44-Down, decay of building timbers
- 51 Colon part
- 52 Communist Joseph
- 55 Egyptian god of the dead
- 57 Declaration while pointing at a group of workers on strike?
- 62 Scent sensor
- 63 George at Gettysburg
- 64 Airy melody
- 65 Statement when you're nearly ready to complete a collage?
- 72 The "A" of "A-Rod"
- 73 Depart
- 74 Air out
- 77 Mesmerizing horse movement?
- 83 Limb-bending muscle
- 85 Is theatrical
- 86 Pod item
- 87 Color grade
- 88 Actress
- 89 Tangle of hair

TEEPYES

- 6 Indian dish
- 7 Height: Prefix
- 8 The whole —
- 9 King, in Caen
- 10 Belly muscles
- 11 Jean — (perfume brand)
- 12 Windows ad catchphrase
- 13 Language of Copenhagen, to locals
- 14 New jet in '68
- 15 Worked as an office sub
- 16 Carry too far
- 17 Howard Stern's area
- 18 "Bye, Brigitte"
- 19 Bodily pump
- 24 Conductor Georg
- 29 "Every seat sold" abbr.
- 31 "La Traviata" composer
- 33 Spy novelist
- 34 Shareable PC file
- 35 Vainglory
- 36 Chef's tie-on
- 37 "Untrue!"
- 38 Maryland congressman — Mfume
- 39 Even a bit of
- 42 Taxing gp.
- 43 Mag bigwigs
- 44 See 50-Across
- 45 High degree
- 47 Falsification
- 48 Cookout pest
- 52 BBQ rod
- 53 Mosaic piece
- 54 On the go
- 56 Withdraw
- 57 — Aviv
- 58 Deli meat
- 59 Foofaraw
- 60 Model S car
- 61 Otherwise
- 63 Long skirt
- 66 Balm plant
- 67 Meshes
- 68 A fifth of fifty
- 69 D.C. donor
- 70 Abbr. on a road map
- 71 Dallasites or Houstonians
- 75 — word (single-occasion coinage)
- 76 Plate holders
- 77 Skirt edge
- 78 Diva Sumac
- 79 Broken bits of ceramic material
- 80 Tax doc. pro
- 81 House animal
- 82 Novelist Santha Rama —
- 83 Festivity
- 84 Pigeon perch
- 87 Males
- 90 Rapa — (Easter Island)
- 91 Solar beam
- 92 Frazier foe
- 93 Sheet fabric
- 94 Website visit unit
- 95 Pilot Amelia, perhaps
- 97 Actress McDaniel of "Gone With the Wind"
- 98 Comes up
- 99 Nero's 2,100
- 102 Bigwig
- 103 Florida city
- 104 "Uncle!" crier, perhaps
- 105 Explorer — de León
- 106 Stratagems
- 107 Disney film of 2016
- 111 Nevada city
- 113 Highest point
- 114 — -Pei
- 115 Mama birds
- 117 Golf average
- 118 Ending for opal
- 119 Extra NBA periods
- 120 — Plains

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Switch

WASP _____

RAISE _____

Smooth

MYCARE _____

Prance

VORTAC _____

TODAY'S WORD

“While you were gone, the house seemed _____ except for the sink!”

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: X equals O

SVJ JXFIDXGQ SXHGIUTHE
 SOIKOIU XU HXK T CTNI FQ
 KYUNIQ KX DI JYMMYCIHK?
 FXTJK MIUKVTHCQ!

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KNIGHT MOVES

I	I	S
G		R
R	T	N

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



SENIOR CENTER

SR. CENTER MEALS: Wednesday, December 18
DEC 16 - DEC 20

516 2nd Street, Townsend MT
 406-266-3995

Monday, December 16
 Sloppy Joes on a Bun
 Baked Beans
 Creamy Coleslaw
 Fresh Fruit

Thursday, December 19
 Chicken ALA King
 Mashed Potatoes
 Green Beans
 Garden Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Plump Peaches

Tuesday, December 17
 Pork Chops
 Steamed Potatoes
 Sliced Beets
 Dinner salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Apricots
 Birthday Cake

Friday, December 20
 Tuna Noodle Casserole
 Green Peas
 Carrot Raisin Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Sweet Pears

Montana Pasties
 Key Largo Vegetables
 Tossed Salad
 Whole Grain Bread
 Fruit Cocktail

NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Service Available

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

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



Who Keeps Turning the Clock / Calendar Faster?

Can you believe it, the Christmas stroll is over already? Is it just me or does everyone seem to be hurrying a bit too much lately? Fall Fest was just starting to show up...last week? And now our annual Christmas Stroll has come and gone!

How many of you went downtown to the Christmas Stroll? (Put your hands down I can't really see you.) we went down fairly early, and weren't disappointed, mostly...the D.J. kept busy however what happened to "Traditional" Christmas music? You know Bingo singing "White Christmas" and all the other GREAT Christmas songs. ("Bingo" would be Bing Crosby.) I heard several...kind of...rap Christmas stuff. In every wonderful store, people were greeting each other as happens every year, but it seemed like THIS year EVERYONE wanted to stop just inside every door and talk, while folks were trying to get inside! C'mon people it's cold outside and the warm goodies are inside. Please be polite and move aside.

One thing that I have harped about before, but seems to have been corrected, is the great Holiday parade didn't stop in the middle of the street on mid-Broadway. This is a wonderful thing. People who come down to the stroll want to see each other and give holiday greetings. That is the beautiful thing about the Stroll! The parade though short, was very nicely done. I love seeing our younger folks dressed up and acting as characters from Christmas stories. The warm goodies (that I'm not supposed to eat) were everywhere! Well, it's the Holidays I can't be good ALL year round.

Seeing the gazebo all decorated up and set up for Santa is always a treat. Thanks to all who helped decorate the downtown area. There were so many urchins out and about, there will be NO shortage of young'uns to stock the Elementary school for the next century or so. Seeing Families all strolling is a beautiful sight. Where was the great "Roasted Nuts" guy this year? That is always one of my favorites.

Oh also, maybe I just missed it was the horse-drawn hayride going on? So many questions I know. This is all for making a great holiday season. Enjoy my people, stay warm and get your wood in. (don't get run over by any Reindeer.)

The Magic of Christmas

Ellie West
 Master Certified Practitioner NLP,
 TimeLine Therapy, Hypnotherapy
 & Certified Enneagram Coach



Even though Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, Christmas is a close second. It is wrapped in its cherished traditions—cutting down the tree, baking, wrapping gifts, and celebrating with loved ones. Yet, in the thick of all the preparation, I've realized how easily the heart of Christmas can get lost in the hustle.

In my quest to create the perfect celebration, there have been years when my to-do list overshadowed the joy of simply celebrating. This year, I paused to reflect on what Christmas truly means; earlier this year, we decided not to have a traditional Christmas. It wasn't an easy choice, but it came down to spending quality time with the people I love most.

The older I get, the more I realize that life here on earth is but a fleeting moment. Yes, Christmas is one of the most joyful celebrations of the year, but for many, joy feels distant, and celebration becomes a challenge.

However, I've learned that embracing the beauty of this season can help us rise above our circumstances and reconnect with the deep joy at the heart of Christmas.

We don't celebrate for festivities but to remember and be grateful for all God has done. Celebration doesn't require a grand party; it's an opportunity to honor meaningful moments and reflect on what truly matters.

Yet, let's be honest—sometimes, the weight of Christmas pulls at us. The pressure to perform, meet expectations, and create a magical season for everyone can leave us drained. We lose our peace, let go of our focus, and settle for merely surviving the holidays.

But what if the celebration is less about perfection and more about intention? What if it's a discipline—a habit of seeking goodness in our lives and encouraging others to see it, too?

Time can slip by if we don't pause to recognize the blessings of each season. Discontentment often arises when we focus on what we lack or feel we cannot change. We chase comfort and stability, yet these pursuits alone can leave us feeling empty.

This year, I've learned that contentment and desire can coexist. Longing for something more doesn't mean our souls cannot rest in God's presence. Contentment is an inward assurance that God is good and in control, regardless of what surrounds us.

Paul beautifully expresses this in Philippians 4:12-13: "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well-fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Paul's peace came not from his circumstances but from his faith. Like Paul, we can find peace and contentment by anchoring our hearts in God, who created us.

This Christmas, take a moment—grab a journal or open a note on your phone—and let your thoughts flow freely.

Don't worry about perfect wording; focus on healing and connection. Start by facing your discontent honestly and invite God to work in your heart:

- Acknowledge the depth of your wounds
- Grieve them fully
- Dare to envision a new beginning that only God can create

Let this season remind you that hope is alive—not because we receive everything we desire but because our struggles are temporary, and God's love endures forever.

By processing, grieving, and healing, you may uncover a deeper joy and love for this season—a glorious season of contentment and celebration of God's goodness.

Christmas is more than a holiday; it's a love story worth celebrating. God came near, not in grandeur but in humility, to bring us peace, joy, and eternal love. He understands your heart, loves you unconditionally, and longs to remind you that His presence is the greatest gift.

As Max Lucado beautifully put it: "The magic of Christmas is not in the presents but in His presence."

This year let's celebrate not by chasing perfection, but by embracing His presence and reflecting on the love that makes Christmas truly meaningful.

To connect with Ellie FB: www.facebook.com/coachelliewest

BREAKING NEWS

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AREA DEATH

Scott Rogers

Family of Scott Rogers

July 28, 1965 – November 18, 2024

Scott Rogers, age 59 of Townsend passed away on November 18, 2024.

Services are pending at this time and will be announced when they're complete.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE

Sharon Doig

Jen Dalrymple

Sharon P. Doig, age 77 of Townsend passed away on December 8, 2024.



Sharon Doig
Photo Provided by Jen Dalrymple

Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 13th at Shepherd of the Valley Church, 301 N. Cherry Street, in Townsend. A reception will follow the service in the fellowship hall of the church.

Burial with Military Honors will follow the reception at 2:00 at the Montana State Veterans Cemetery at Fort Harrison.

Please visit www.stevensonwilke.com to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Sharon.

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

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

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

State Property Tax, 6

the state Legislature to authorize additional funding.

Auditors, department representatives and lawmakers will discuss the study at a meeting of the state's Legislative Audit Committee set for Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

While property tax rolls are maintained at the county level in many states, Montana's 1972 Constitution makes tracking properties for tax purposes a responsibility of state government. As such, the revenue department keeps a database of each of the state's roughly one million distinct properties and their estimated value (much of that data is accessible to the public via the Montana State Library's Montana Cadastral website).

In theory, when a vacant lot is developed into a higher-value home or business — or when a homeowner makes their property more valuable by, say, adding an addition — the department updates its records. Then, when it comes time to calculate fall tax bills each year, the list of properties for each of Montana's 56 counties is passed to county treasurers, who factor in the collection rates necessary to fund local government budgets and mail bills to property owners.

Those tax bills are calculated proportionately to each property's share of the local tax base — meaning an \$800,000 house is theoretically responsible for twice the share of school and law enforcement budgets as a \$400,000 house next door. If the owner of that \$800,000 house completes a home renovation that adds \$100,000 to their property value, their tax bill should, in theory, rise for the next tax year as their property becomes a greater share of the tax base. Assuming that local government budgets stay constant, their neighbors' bills should decrease slightly in turn.

If, however, the state revenue department fails to get that renovation factored into the property tax rolls, the \$800,000 house doesn't see the tax increase, and its neighbors don't see the corresponding decrease.

Furthermore, new construction is also a key funding source for many local government budgets. Under state law, city and county tax collection growth is capped at half the rate of inflation, with an exception for taxes levied on new development. As a result, many local government leaders say they rely on taxes from new development to keep their budgets workable when public expenses — say, gas for police cars or salaries for librarians — grow with inflation.

As such, the notion that the revenue department may not be keeping up with new development has been a major source of concern for local government leaders. Earlier this year, for example, Bozeman-area local government officials expressed frustration that the revenue department had fallen behind with tracking new construction in Gallatin County, saying the dynamic could harm services and force existing property owners to overpay.

The new audit report indicates that the Gallatin County situation is indicative of broader challenges for the department.

Auditors note that taxpayers aren't necessarily inclined to voluntarily report property improvements that could result in higher tax bills. They also note that the department's reliance on building permits puts it at the mercy of the different permitting standards that apply in different parts of the state. Rural areas, for instance, often don't require full-fledged building permits for single-family homes.

In some cases, the auditors write, the department says local building officials are hesitant to share permit data because the local officials believe doing so could discourage property owners from filing for building permits. They add that there's currently no state law that requires local jurisdictions to routinely share permit data with the revenue department in a standardized form.

The auditors also note that department staff often don't have time to check properties to ensure the accuracy of the department's data. They say more than a third of residential and commercial properties in Montana haven't been inspected by the department to check the accuracy of their valuations in the past six years. Additionally, more than one in five of those properties haven't been inspected by the department in more than a decade, auditors say, noting that they're particularly concerned about properties in rural areas that can be difficult for department staff to access.

At a state level, the auditors say they estimate that the revenue department is failing to identify about 14% of the new value of residential construction each year between 2018 and 2023, an amount that represents about \$300 million annually or \$1.2 billion over the six-year period. They say that figure translates into about \$8 million in annual property tax collections.

In comparison, the auditors say, the total value of residential properties across Montana was about \$114 billion in 2023 and Montana taxpayers paid about \$1 billion in property taxes on residential properties in 2022.

MORE STROLL PHOTOS!



Cowboy digging in his pouch for candy to throw to the kids.
Matt Nelson Photo



Carol Anderson and her daughter-in-law Brett Hughes. Carol is the cook and leader of the Townsend Senior Center. Brett runs Broadwater County Christmas Connections!
Matt Nelson Photo



Snow Globe friends Lilli, KK and Kenzy
Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

HOCUS - FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Pillow is larger. 2. Picture on wall is moved. 3. Mouth is different. 4. Necklace is added. 5. Apron is different. 6. Wristwatch is added.

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

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• Fri. 12.27.24 @ 10AM	• Fri. 12.27.24 @ 12PM	• Fri. 01.03.25

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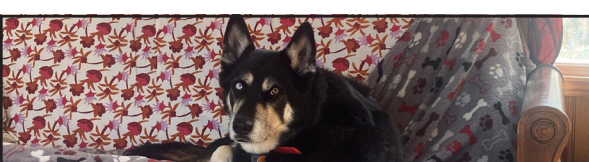
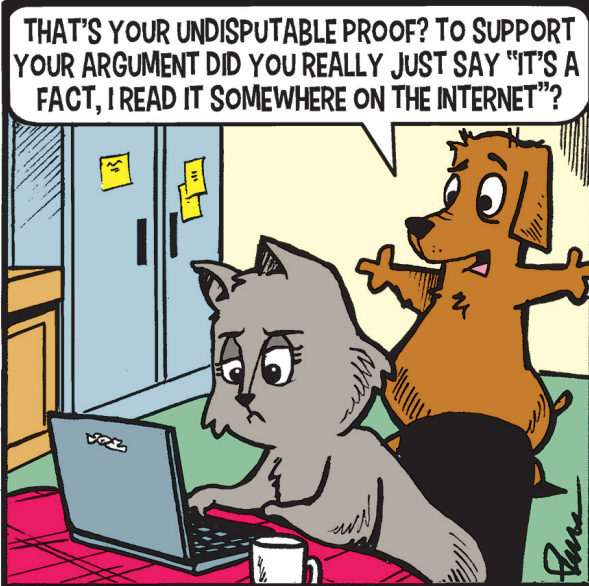
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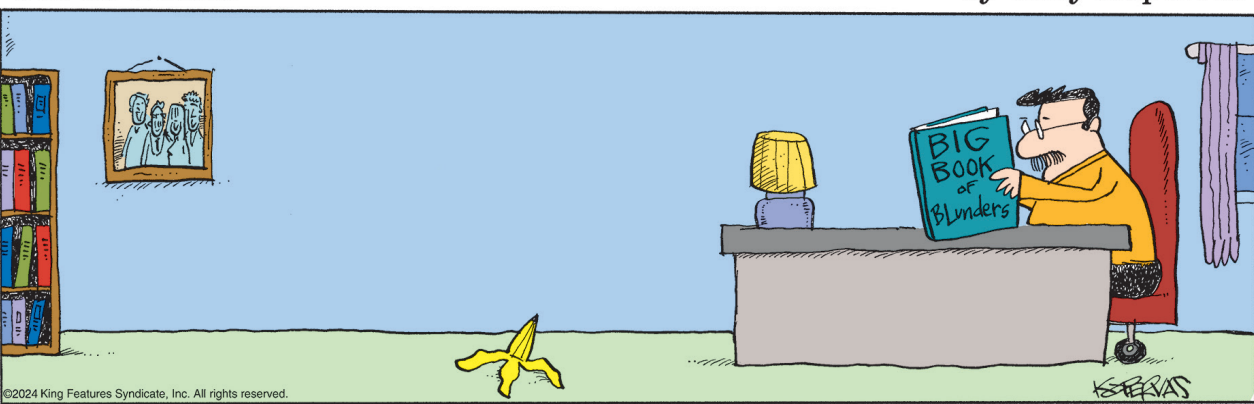
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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



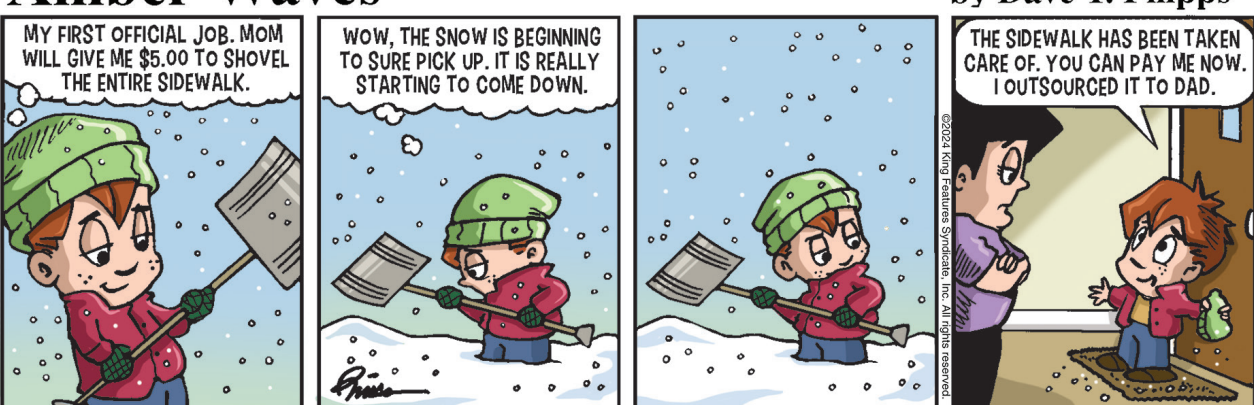
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



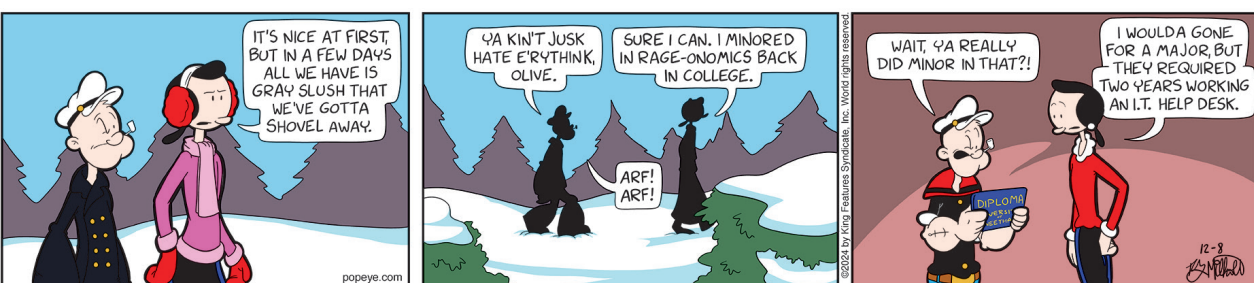
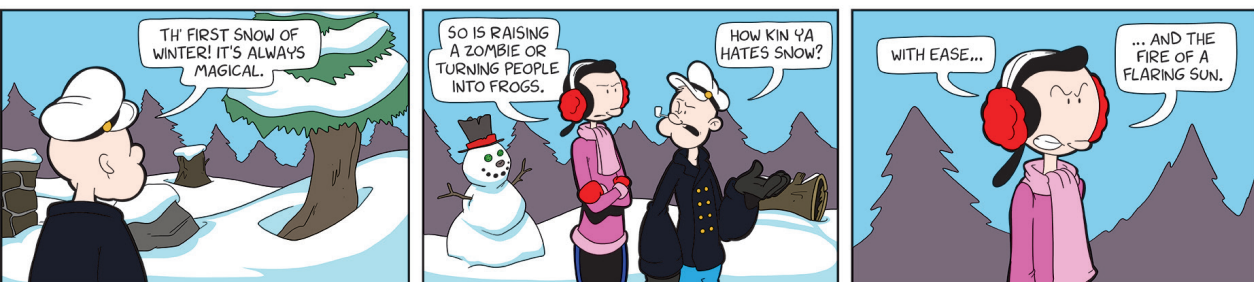
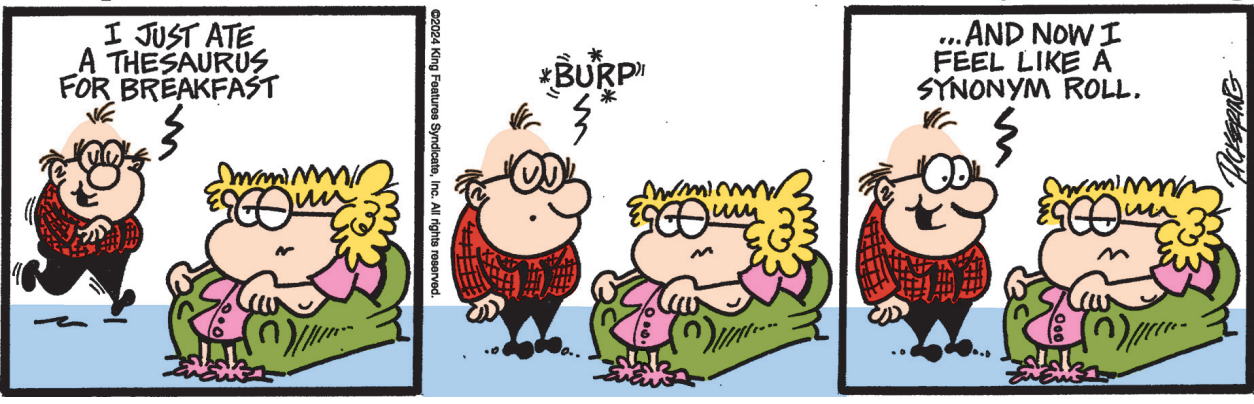
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Americanisms



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Kids' Maze Solution

Barnes Jewelry

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Our Two Cents

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

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

Super Crossword

Answers

A	M	E	R	I	C	A	S	R	A	P	I	D	S	T	O	R	A	H		
S	O	M	E	S	U	C	H	O	B	A	M	A	S	E	V	A	D	E		
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O	L	D	I	E		A	C	C	E	N	T	I	N	N	E	R	M	A	N	
B	A	S	E	S		R	E	E	S	E	S	T	O	A	S	T	E	R	S	

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East Helena News:

East Helena Christmas Stroll Brings Out Hundreds

Nancy Marks
MT43 News Reporter



The night was plenty chilly. No matter-- the crowds were shoulder to shoulder and stroller to stroller as shoppers perused booths on Main Street and in City Hall.

According to Jolene Giarde, one of the organizers of the Stroll, over 100 vendors participated in the event. Montana Kettle Korn held court at City Hall's front door while two 4-H groups sold chili dogs and treats. Inside the auditorium vendors from every walk of life sold trinkets, tea towels, handmade knives and carved wooden plaques.

Grace Heslep's booth in the City Building at the Stroll was filled with cards and prints depicting Montana birds and flowers. Grace, a self-taught artist, didn't begin her career as an entrepreneur in art sales. She taught K-8 grade schools in Laurel, Montana. Though she has no artists in her family, her mom encouraged her to take lessons at age nine. Grace and her family moved to East Helena eight years ago and shows her art at the Helena Farmers' Market every year.

Benjamin Gabriel and his wife Christina of the Crafty Bear booth showed unique graphic designs of steers, bears and all sorts of wildlife. Lazer work on wood, metal, concrete and glass are their specialties. Their daughter sold beaded and tie-dye jewelry this year.



Artist Grace Heslep shows her cards and prints at the Stroll in East Helena. Nancy Marks MT43 News Photographer



Benjamin and Christina Gabriel, stationed at their booth in the City Hall Auditorium. Nancy Marks MT43 News Photographer

Upstairs in City Hall were even more booths of artworks and woven goods.

Young parents with toddlers in tow struggled to get through the slow-moving line, but weren't the toddlers surprised to see The Grinch in costume? Children began somewhat frightened but warmed up to him so they might have a photo taken with him. Costumed participants included vintage choir groups and the jingle-bell lady with lighted pigtailed.



The Grinch must have his spot in the limelight at the Stroll. Nancy Marks MT43 News Photographer

Mayor Kelly Harris poured free apple cider and kibbized with everyone who stopped for a hot drink. Downtown businesses were open with booths and raffles for strollers. Choirs from Helena and local churches sang all along the route.

Giarde called the night a success. She and volunteers at Valley Bank have organized the event since 1998. The East Helena Business Improvement organization began the idea in the early '90s she said. "We'll begin planning for next year in September," she sighed.



Creative Stitches was open for strollers on Main Street in East Helena. Nancy Marks MT43 News Photographer



The Schramm family at 301 E. Main has been decorating their house for Christmas for many years. Nancy Marks MT43 News Photographer

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trailheadchristianchurch.com

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DECEMBER 14 6:00 PM

131 S Spruce, The Lodge, Townsend MT
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CryptoQuip
answer

Was somebody wondering whether or not I like my turkey to be succulent? Moist certainly!

SCRAMBLERS
solution

1. Swap 2. Arise; 3. Creamy; 4. Cavort

Today's Word
EMPTY

KNIGHT MOVES
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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

December 12

1912

Doings of a Week

Wm. Ragen, county clerk and recorder-elect is busy as a cranberry merchant these days in the office he is soon to assume familiarizing himself with his prospective duties.

Cliff Reynolds, one of the old timers of Broadwater County, arrived in the city yesterday accompanied by his wife. Mr. Reynolds is a prosperous farmer of the Beaver Creek Valley.

J.E. Kanouse shipped out a carload of oats this week to the eastern part of the state.

Merry Hayrackers

Wednesday night several loads of merrymakers made the welkin ring as they drove through town loaded in hay racks with new mown hay for seats, bound for John Whaley's place where the evening was spent in dancing and having a royal good time. All say that if you can't enjoy yourself at John Whaley's farm, there is no use looking any further. Out of town young people together with a goodly portion of Townsend young folks made up the party and after enjoying the dance and luncheon to a late hour came home tired, but happy.

1940

Personal News

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holloway and daughters, Glory May and Mrs. R. Reiber and husband were Helena visitors Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frances Hough had as guests from Radersburg Wednesday, Mrs. Guy Tusing and Mrs. W.A. Miller, who were combining visiting and Christmas shopping.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie D'Arcy left for Livingston on Friday where they will be located this winter. Mr. D'Arcy has a position with the State Water Board.

Miss Aletha Hale, R.N., was in Townsend the first of the week attending the bedside of her nephew, William Kimpton, who is a medical patient at the local hospital

and who is very much better at this writing.

Jack Poole came over from Wisdom last Saturday to spend the weekend. He said it was 20 below when he left there and found 20 above weather here.

1968

Half of Winners Double Value of Prize; Another Drawing to be Held Friday

Five of the ten winners of gift certificates awarded last Friday evening by the Townsend merchants doubled their prize by being present in one of the participating stores when the winners were named

This year, if a person, or spouse, is present in a participating store, their \$5 gift certificate automatically becomes a \$10 certificate.

Winning \$10 certificates last Friday were: Tom Hensley, Francisco Pharmacy; Polly Cross, Gambles; Dorothy Hahn, Coast-to-Coast; Mike Massa, Fryhlings; and Marie Ouren, Neifert-White.

Winning \$5 certificates were: Bill Frey, Green's Market; Chuck Smith, Jr., Bob's Superette; Vera Arnett, Fisher's Radio and TV; C.T. Smith, P-K Variety; and Bob Sullivan, State Bank of Townsend.

Next Friday, December 13, the Chamber and its participating merchants will hold another drawing for ten more \$5 gift certificates. Be sure to be on hand and double the value of yours. It may be your lucky Friday the 13th.

Local Ranchers Donate Calves to Boys Ranch; Picked up Here Last Wednesday

Twenty calves were loaded out for Yellowstone Boys Ranch at Billings last Wednesday. This is only part of the total that will eventually be given to the boys ranch to be fed out and sold and also for food. Pete Cartwright has been contacting ranchers for several weeks lining up calves to be donated. He expects six or seven more will be sent to the ranch. The boys ranch will accept any calf as long as it is healthy. The extra care that can be given to a calf that may be blind is no problem and the calves that would not do good in a large bunch will do well with the extra attention. However, most of the calves loaded out last week were good big healthy calves.

Following is a list of ranchers who have given a

calf so far:

Davis Brothers; John Plymale; John Williams; W.D. Williams; Bill and Albert Kimpton; Hunsaker Brothers; Mike Quinn of Boulder; Buck Anderson; C.A. Ranch, Three Forks; Charles and Robert Masolo; Bill Diehl; Plymale Brothers; Hubert Plymale; Charles Ragen; Dan and Larry Sullivan; Jim Tew, White Sulphur Springs; Bob Harris and Al Grandchamp; Pete and Harry Cartwright; and Thomas Carey, Boulder.

Pete has taken quite an interest in the Boys Ranch at Billings and was instrumental in a similar project for several years. He asks that any ranchers that may not have been contacted as yet and would like to donate a calf to this worthy cause to contact him and he will see it gets to Billings.

During its 12 years of existence, Yellowstone Boys Ranch has given help and a home to over 300 pre-delinquent or neglected boys. They currently have 80 boys to care for. Friends, through programs such as this one, have helped make their existence possible.

1996

BHS Takes 4th at Science Olympiad

Twenty-seven Broadwater High school and Townsend junior high school students participated in the 12th annual Science Olympiad, held in Bozeman Nov. 26. The BHS team finished fourth place among Class B schools and 14th overall.

Eli Clarkson and Elizabeth Welch earned a silver medal for their physics lab; Marc Beck, Amanda Sorenson, Heather Beck and Eric Flynn took fourth place in the Pentathlon competition; Michele Barrett and Kit Moldenhauer placed fifth in Water Quality. Other high school students competing were Ben Hanawalt, Niomi Winslow, Karen Alley, Megan Flynn, and Fred Boner. The high school students were coached by Pat Audet and Pete Robischon.

The junior high team, coached by Marvin Love, included Clint Hunsaker, Levi Hunsaker, Casey Dana, Erika Gutierrez, J.R. Middlemas, Daniel Spatzierath, Meghan Fautsch, Clint Baum, Jacob Updike, Jon Haas, Mike McNulty, Patrick Harrigfeld, Michelle Millay and Eily Wilczek.

**If roses are red
and violets are blue,
then how can I know
my present is new?
By buying from people
you trust I dare say!
For shopping local
comes with benefits that pay!
And your neighbors
are easier to toilet paper anyway.**



A Scandinavian Tradition Lives On

Bob Brastrup

It is not known who invented it. The Norwegians and Swedes both claim that honor. It was first mentioned in Norwegian literature in the 1555 writings of Olaus Magnus.

There are several legends as to how it came about. One is that fishermen left their cod on birch racks to

dry. A Viking raid set fire to the racks, but a rainstorm blew in from the North Sea and extinguished the fire. The fish soaked in the water and ash for a long time before a hungry group gathered the fish and ate them.

Another legend says someone dropped lye on the fish which turned white when the lye was washed off.

There is a theory that men from Dalarna may have soaked the fish in a swamp.

There is also a claim that St. Patrick tried to poison a group of Vikings raiding Ireland with lye soaked fish. The Vikings feasted on the fish and declared it a delicacy. The problem with this story is that St. Patrick lived centuries before the Vikings attacked Ireland.

Yes, this discussion is about Lutefisk. It even has a national day. December 9 is listed as National Lutefisk Day!

Erica Janik, in 2011, wrote that the self-proclaimed lutefisk capital of the world is in Madison, Wisconsin where visitors are welcomed by "Lou T. Fisk", a fiberglass codfish.

Janik also wrote that the same lye used for making lutefisk is what gives pretzels that shiny brown, cures olives, and puts a shine on bagels.

December is the traditional time for our Scandinavian communities to serve lutefisk dinners. In Montana they are usually sponsored by the Sons of Norway or the Daughters of Norway. Many Montana Lutheran churches also serve the dinner. In Butte, the Daughters of Norway hold an annual lutefisk dinner at the Gold Hill Lutheran church.

With this background, Justin Carpenter, Charmayn Barber, Chad and Nancy Heggen, Bob and Sheri Brastrup made the Butte pilgrimage to participate in this cultural tradition. Four members of the group had yet to experience their first taste of this Norwegian delicacy. For Charmayn, one taste was enough. She dined on the meatballs, potatoes, carrots and a fabulous desert. After the lutefisk, she was hesitant to try the lefse.

It was a fun time and, for some, there is desire to attend the Butte event next year.



Left to right: Justin Carpenter, Charmayn Barber, Chad Heggen, Sheri Brastrup, Nancy Heggen
Bob Brastrup Photo