

Annual Christmas Connection Serves Over Hundred Children

MT43 News Staff Reporter

This year's Christmas Connection social services group was able to pull together food, toys, clothes and quilts for 101 children in 53 families from Broadwater County.

Townsend's Quilting Club provided quilts, Bob's Supermarket, Toys for Tots organization, Mountie Moose, the potato farmers and individuals provided the goods, services and cash for families in need at Christmas time. Anyone could come to the Fire Hall on Cedar Street the Saturday morning before Christmas to load up a "Santa's Sleigh" for their use at home.

President Bret Anderson commented that she was also pleased donors took cards from the Angel Tree at Reading Leaves Bookstore to buy individual gifts for specific requests from children and their families. The Angel Tree began its life in the State Bank of Townsend's lobby. It was moved to Reading Leaves during COVID.

Bret said the group works with about a \$5,000 budget. Donations are accepted year-round, she said, but she sees most of the money come in during this season.



After many hours organizing gifts, putting together sacks for families and visiting, Christmas Connection volunteers take a break to display their handiwork.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

EARLY DEADLINE for NEXT WEEK'S EDITION!

ADS: Fri. 12.27.24 @ 10AM * **ARTICLES: Fri. 12.27.24 @ 12PM** * **PRINT DATE: Fri. 01.03.25**

Community Library Receives Gift That Keeps on Giving

MT43 News Staff Reporter

School and Community Librarian Angie Giono accepted a 3-year subscription to MT43News from Fran Wright in memory of her husband Chris, who had passed away this year.

At an interview at the library, Fran teared up. "I knew he would love the idea of giving his subscription to the library. He loved being around the kids, judging the science fair every year. The paper goes along with that idea of giving to the kids and the community," she said.

She indicated she would like to donate the subscription each year for several years.

Chris and Fran moved to Townsend on a whim in 2016. Chris and Fran were from New Jersey, not far from the Philadelphia area. Fran had expressed an interest in moving to Montana, so she applied for a nursing position at Broadwater Health Center. She got the job. They moved. Chris jumped in with both feet to join Townsend's activities. He became a member of Rotary and enjoyed meeting new people as a volunteer. Later they bought land so he could build their house. "He was a man of many talents, but mostly he really was a farmer of friendships," she laughed.



Fran Wright was pleased to donate an MT43 News subscription to Broadwater School and Community Library, as accepted by Librarian Angie Giono.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Rotary Celebrates Holidays with Seniors

Patrick Plantenberg
Rotarian



Rotarians were busy in December 'Decking the Halls' and 'Wishing Everyone a Merry Christmas'...or at least singing about doing those things. The Rotary Club of Townsend performed three different nights for the residents of the Billing Clinic Broadwater, Serenity Point, and Silver Springs living centers. This is the second year that Rotarians joined voices and performed for the senior residence facilities.

Caroling was open to all Rotarians, past and present, as well as spouses and friends. The first performance was on December 17th at Billings Clinic Broadwater, with 10 people joining the chorus. On December 18th, carolers sang at Serenity Point, with 11 people joining voices to entertain the residents.

The final performance was on December 18th at Silver Springs with 14 revelers showing up to enthusiastically wrap up the 2024 tour. This was a fun event for all who sang and those who listened and sang along. Looking forward to selecting new songs and getting ready to do it all again next year.



Rotary Carolers at Silver Springs
Townsend Rotary Club Photo



Johnny and the Wingnuts performed at the Reading Leaves Bookstore Winter Farmer's Market last Saturday.
L-R: Tia Tallwhiteman, Kianna Tallwhiteman, Phil Moles, John Larsen, Laura Stevenson and Lorrie Moos on the piano.
Photo Credits: Vic Sample

Time Machine Talk Show Christmas Play a Hit at Trailhead Church

Alexa O'Dell
Trailhead Church School Superintendent

The Sunday before Christmas, Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church hosted their annual children's Christmas program, followed by a soup and bread supper. The program included a cast of 38 children ages 4 to 15 years old.

This year's program was entitled The Time Machine Talk Show hosted by a terrific trio, Tammy, Trish, and Tracy Timewarp (Harper Hazlett, Sevgine Flynn, and Kaylee Flynn) who welcomed guests from the first century to discover the truth surrounding Jesus' birth and early years of life.

Guests interviewed included Mary (Jazel Ragen), Joseph (Jayden Flynn), Gabriel (Joshua VanZee), and King Herod (Clayton Rice), along with a heavenly host of angels, several shepherds from the field, and the three wise men.

Each talk show guest provided insights from the ancient scrolls, with wise man Balthazar (Ellie Ragen) even giving the crowd a stern lecture to read our scriptures more regularly.

Advertisements from the talk show's sponsors (filmed by talented Trailhead Youth Group members) were interspersed throughout the program as well.

A big thank you to Amanda Hazlett, program director, for her instruction and guidance to all involved.

The program was well-attended by members of the church and surrounding communities. Fellowship time afterward filled the newly finished multi-purpose space with joy and laughter.



The shepherds during their interview on Time Machine Talk Show
Photo Credits: Alexa O'Dell



The 'Oprah Winfrey' hosts of Time Machine Talk Show Sevgine Flynn, Harper Hazlett and Kaylee Flynn.
Photo Credits: Alexa O'Dell

Thank you for your business and **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

406-266-5248
bobsmt.com

New Year's Day BRUNCH
11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Buffet \$15
\$20 w 1 drink

individual items also available a la carte

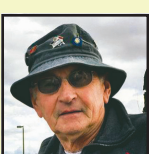
Broadwater Post 42
The American Legion Family

Happy New Year from everyone at the Copy Cup!

303 N Front St, Townsend, MT
(406) 980-8400

Rotary Holiday Light Contest Winners Selected

Pat Plantenberg
Rotarian



Each year, the Rotary Club of Townsend encourages community residents to decorate their homes for the Holidays. Rotary offers a cash award: First place = \$100, Second place = \$50, and Third place = \$25. As always, the judges had trouble deciding what homes to select as there are some great displays again this year.

The 2024 winner is Adam and Roxanne Six located at 202 N. Harrison. Drive by and see the wonderful decorations covering the home and yard!

Second place is Valerie Baraza at 407 N. Maple north of Fourth Street. Valerie has decorated three large spruce trees which dominate the view at the end of North Maple. Great job! How she managed to put lights into those tall spruce trees is baffling! They look wonderful!

Third place is the Isaac and Latasha Wirtz family at 313 North Cherry. The judges were impressed with the stylish yet simple way the family displayed the lights around the house on the corner lot.

The judges could not resist selecting two honorable mention displays they liked this year. The first one is at the home of Steve and Jenny Rushford at 301 N. Walnut. They have an old Ford pickup decorated in the driveway with a Christmas tree decorated in the back of the truck. Very creative and very appropriate



Baraza trees: Three large spruce trees at 407 N. Maple
Townsend Rotary Club Photo



Rushford truck: Old Ford Pickup at 301 N. Walnut
Townsend Rotary Club Photo



Tractors: Decorated Tractors at 302 S. Front Street
Townsend Rotary Club Photo

for the family of John Rushford. The second honorable mention display is the decorated tractors at 302 S. Front Street by the potato cellars. The tractors have been in the Christmas Stroll parade for several years and it is great to see them displayed for the rest of the season for the public to enjoy. Thanks to everyone from Rotary for making Townsend so beautiful for the Holidays!

BROADWATER COMMUNITY THEATER
NEW YEAR'S EVE MUSIC AND DANCE
WITH QUEEN CITY SWING

THE LODGE, 131 S SPRUCE ST
ON DECEMBER 31, 2024

THIS TALENTED NINE-PIECE BAND * BACK IN TOWNSEND
THE BAND PLAYS CLASSIC BIG BAND SOUNDS OF WOODY HERMAN AND THE DORSEY BROTHERS, BUT ALSO JITTERBUG TUNES FROM THE 40'S AND 50'S ~ GREAT DANCE MUSIC RIGHT HERE!

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE 8:00PM-10PM, DOORS OPEN 7:30PM
ADMISSION: \$25 PER PERSON ~ SOLD AT DOOR ONLY
INCLUDES GOOD APPETIZERS
NO HOST BAR WITH CHAMPAGNE
FOR MORE INFORMATION: (406) 475-4016

2025

TOWNSEND FLOORING AND CABINETRY, JAKS HEATING & AIR, JAN HUBBER, ROTARY CLUB OF TOWNSEND, WATSON IRRIGATION, PATRICK PLANTENBERG AND MARY MISTEK, THE BIRD'S NEST, JUDY SCHENK, BOB SAXBY, DAN AND JEANIE MAINWARING, RON AND MARY ANN SALLADAY, BETH INLE, HELENA HANDBASKET, S.T.O.K.E., BRANDON CONROY, SHARON POTENZA, DAUN LANGHWAIS, JOHN AND SHARON HUGHES, HANCY MARKS, GARY AND LEANN BAUMAN, HUGH VAN SWEARINGEN, JENNY CLOUES, JUDY SCHENK JAMES AND KATIE ACKERMAN, KATHLEEN CURTIS, JOHN HAHN, CANYON FERRY BREWERY, COSTCO, BOB'S SUPERMARKET, CANYON WOMEN'S CLUB, RETIRED TEACHERS' CLUB, LARINDA SPENCER REALTY, MARY DUDE, GINNY POOLE, JULIE DIEHL, SPARROW ENTERPRISES, VIC AND PAM SAMPLE, HELEN TURCOTTE, TOM PERRY, OPPORTUNITY BANK, GAILE WATSON, WATSON IRRIGATION

Happy New Year

Celebrate the New Year by getting your loved ones the gift of wholesome, local news.

MT 43 News
Local People. Local Stories.

Call or come in to order your gift subscriptions!
Mon - Fri, 10am - 2pm
406.266.0086 | 408 Broadway

PRECISION BUSINESS RESOURCES IS NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS!

PAYROLL, BOOKKEEPING, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND INDIVIDUAL & BUSINESS TAXES

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

Townsend School Calendar

JANUARY



Wed 1	1st Day of MSBB Practice 7:00 pm: Old Baldy - Open Gym 7:00 pm: Old Baldy - Pickleball in the Stage Gym
Thu 2	3:00 pm: HSBB at Three Forks
Fri 3	High School Wrestling @ Ronan
Sat 4	High School Wrestling @ Ronan Speech and Drama Workshop

Three Forks School Calendar

JANUARY



Wed 1	Lunch: MS FCCLA Meeting
Thu 2	Lunch: MS Book Club 3:00 pm: HS Basketball vs Townsend (Dillon Pool)
Fri 3	HS Wrestling at Bozeman Tournament TBA: JV Boys Basketball at Petra
Sat 4	HS Wrestling at Bozeman Tournament 10:00 am: Little Wolves Basketball Player / Parent Meeting 2:30 pm: HS Basketball at West Yellowstone

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Friday 27	11:00 am: Three Forks Community Library - LEGO Club
Tuesday 31	1:00 pm: Three Forks Community Library - Mah Jongg
JANUARY	
Wednesday 1	Three Forks Community Library - CLOSED
Friday 3	11:00 am: Three Forks Community Library - LEGO Club

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Monday 30	10:00 am: No Commission Meeting 2:00 pm: Commission Working Meeting
Tuesday 31	10:00 am: Commission Working Meeting (in the Commissioner's Office)



Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.
Next meeting: January 15th, 7:00PM
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

LIBRARY HOURS

Three Forks Community Library

FALL HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 10:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesdays - 10:00am - 7:00pm
1st Saturday of the Month: 11:00am - 2:00pm
Contact the library for details on clubs and events for a variety of ages at (406) 285-3747, or visit the website: threeforkslibrary.weebly.com

Broadwater School and Community Library

FALL HOURS:

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

EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINE SCHEDULE FOR MT43 NEWS:

New Year

Advertisement deadline:
Friday, December 27th @ 10:00 AM
Article deadline:
Friday, December 27th @ 12:00 PM
Print, mail and distribute to vendors:
Thursday, January 2nd, 2025

CLASSIFIEDS

ROCK STEADY BOXING CLASS

Are you interested in having an exercise program in Townsend to help with Parkinson's?
Please call Lee Weldon to find out about a possible Rock Steady Boxing class at 406-439-9627.
Happy Holidays!

TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Friday 27	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 28	6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway
Monday 30	6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
Tuesday 31	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 7:30- 10:00 pm: 2025 New Year's Eve Queen City Swing at The Lodge of Townsend, 131 S Spruce SEE AD ON PAGE 4

JANUARY

Wednesday 1	1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St 11:00- 1:30 pm: 2025 American Legion Post #42 New Year's Day Brunch at American Legion Club SEE AD ON PAGE 4
Thursday 2	7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
Friday 3	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 4	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

Highway 12 Market Place

Handmade & Collectables

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

Come in and Shop with our Local vendors!

Bighorn Photos- Jordan Anderson

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

Big Sky 3D Crafts- Laura Thayer

Specializing in 3D printed articulated animals, dice towers and home decor. Custom orders are always welcome.

Big Sky Angels- Laura Stevenson

Montana Crafted: Crochet Items- animals, bags, decor and more, Handpainted-Ornamentals and Re-purposed Art

Touch of Twyla's Greeting Cards

Handcrafted Cards, Incense and Incense Burners, Beanies and Diamond Painting Kits.

Woodshaper Unique- Pennie Kittilson

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

2024 Christmas Stroll Raffle Winner

Brenda Phillips

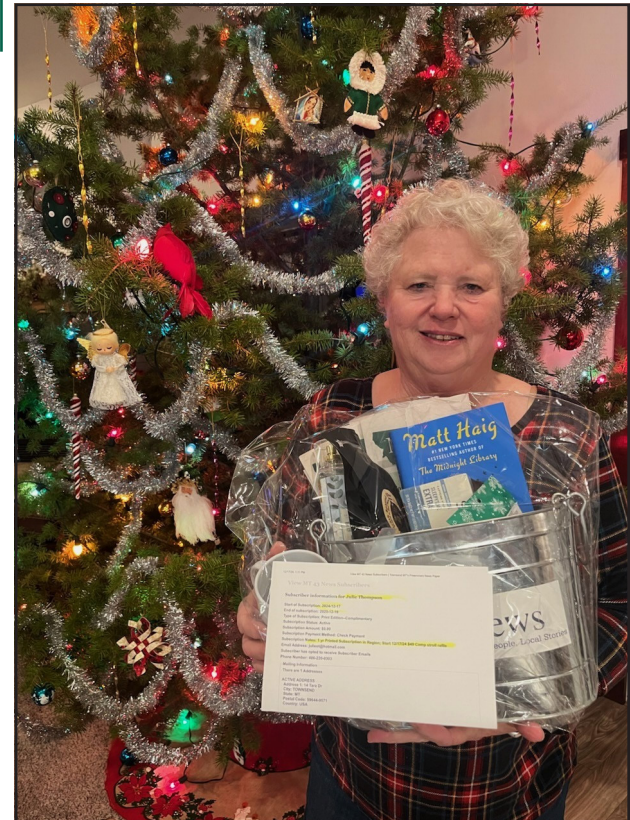


Thanks to all who visited with us during East Helena and Townsend's Christmas stroll. Our staff enjoyed meeting everyone and sharing cookies and cider. Thanks for taking the time to sign up for our raffle.

Julie Thompson is the winner of the raffle basket, which included a one-year subscription to the MT43 News and a \$50 gift card from High Plains Sheepskin.

If we missed you at the stroll, please, stop by our office at 408 Broadway and see us 10:00 -2:00 on weekdays. We can help you with new subscriptions, gift subscriptions and renewals and any of your advertising needs.

MT43 News would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!



Julie Thompson with her raffle basket
Photo Credits: Thompson family

Kevin Bratcher Selected as New Broadwater County Attorney

Linda Kent

MT43 News Staff Reporter



Kevin Bratcher, a Montana Securities and Insurance Commission attorney, was announced as the new Broadwater County Attorney during the Dec. 18 Broadwater County Commission meeting. Bratcher replaces Cory Swanson, who will take the oath of office as the Chief Justice of the Montana Supreme Court on Jan. 6, 2025.



New Broadwater County Attorney Kevin Bratcher introduces himself at the Dec. 18 Broadwater County Commission meeting.
Photo Credits: Linda Kent

A native of Montgomery County, Texas, just north of Houston, who moved to Montana three years ago, said he was encouraged by colleagues to pursue the role of Broadwater County Attorney.

"They thought I'd be a good fit for Broadwater County," Bratcher said.

Bratcher worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Montgomery County, Texas, before moving to Montana. He said his three years as a prosecutor with the Securities and Insurance Commission was "one of the best decisions" he's made, he missed having the connection to a community that being a county attorney would provide.

Bratcher said his interest in the law was sparked by a love of John Wayne films as a child. While he originally planned to be a police officer and holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, he decided to pursue a law degree at South Texas State College of Law.

The new county attorney will be sworn in on Jan. 8, 2025. In the meantime, Bratcher continues to work for the state while transitioning into his new role from Townsend.

Legislative Advocacy Training Held in Townsend

MT43 News Staff Reporter

If you are interested in what bills the 2025 legislature is presenting and passing, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the legislature's new website.



Rachael Prevost and Samantha Ferrat host a legislative advocacy training session at the Fairgrounds. Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Montana Farmers' Union Membership Director Rachel Prevost walked through the new website with several interested members of Broadwater County including farmers, ranchers, newspaper editors and retired people. The one-hour session last week took place at the 4-H Building at the Fairgrounds. It was sponsored by Montana Farmers' Union. MFU Director Samantha Ferrat introduced Prevost.

Prevost began with what to expect during the upcoming session and how to get the most from the Legislative website. She also encouraged participants to play an active role in getting bills before the sessions and to help get them passed. That means testifying before committees. Her handouts included tips on how to be successful in a lobbying effort for a particular bill. She suggested sharing your personal stories about why the issue matters to you. In-person advocacy especially includes being polite and respectful to build a relationship with committee members.

Prevost presented a "roadmap" which gave pointers on how to be an effective advocate for your interests. She suggested sending a note to your legislator before the session begins letting them know which issues you are following. They will be familiar with your name. Then read the weekly updates on the website or closely follow emails from organizations who champion the issue of your interest.

Most importantly, she said, is to show up at the hearings to testify. "Constituent testimony carries a lot of impact in the Capitol," she pointed out.

After School Program Visits the Broadwater County Museum

Ruby Eirich & Linda Huth

This year, the After School Program has been partnering with local businesses to provide hands-on learning experiences for registered students.

On Friday, December 13th, students from the After School Program were invited to the Broadwater County Museum for an in-depth tour hosted by the Broadwater County Historical Society. Prior to the tour, students wrote down their questions about the museum and preserving history. 24 students from kindergarten to 6th grade were accompanied by the After School Program Coordinator, Ruby Eirich, as well as program staff, Eileen Ryce, Sheila Rivera, and Lexi Davies.

Students entered the museum expecting to see dusty dinosaur bones and left with their first look into the birth of their hometown, Townsend, Montana.

"This is what Bob's used to look like?" one student exclaimed while touring the storefront exhibit.

The fan favorites of the tour were the buffalo robe, school desks, and sheepherders wagon!

If your business would like to welcome students from the After School Program for a tour to learn more about the places in our community and career exploration, please reach out via email to Ruby Eirich at reirich@townsend.k12.mt.us

Senior Holiday Dinner and Light Tour

Pat Plantenberg
Rotarian



On December 9th and 10th, the Rotary Club of Townsend and the Broadwater Area Lions Club sponsored a Senior Holiday Dinner with all the trimmings at the Townsend Senior Center followed by a tour of the Holiday lights throughout town.

Townsend School District #1 and Silver Springs donated the use of their buses to tour the Seniors around town.

Over 70 seniors were served meals over the two-day event. Rotarians provide a bag of home-baked Holiday cookies for each Senior.

For those shut-ins who could not make the dinner, the Clubs purchase and give away poinsettias. The event is loved by all and has been happening since about 2006.

Thanks to all who helped make the event memorable for the seniors.

Tree Board and Rotary Help Light Up Business

Patrick Plantenberg
Tree Board Chair



Each year, the Townsend Tree Board and Rotary Club of Townsend members, light up over 40 trees in the business district for the Holidays.

In addition, the Rotary Club, under the historic leadership of Phillip Knaub with the help of Vigilante Electric and Chamber of Commerce volunteers, set up the lighted display at what has become known as "Phil's Phorest" on the corner of Broadway and Front Street. Grade school students also decorate the trees with handmade ornaments.

Please enjoy the displays and have Happy Holidays!

Celebrate the New Year by Taking a Hike

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



Kick off the New Year with a First Day Hike at a state park near you. On Jan. 1, Montana State Parks will host First Day Hikes across the state. Being immersed in nature is a great way to improve your mental health and physical well-being. These fun and informative hikes are open to all ages and are family-friendly.

Hikers should wear weather-appropriate clothing, and bring a water bottle and ice cleats or snowshoes if the trail conditions are snowy or icy. First Day Hike participants are encouraged to share their adventures on social media with #FirstDayHikes. For more information on Montana State Parks, visit stateparks.mt.gov. Out-of-state vehicles are subject to an \$8 entrance fee.

First Day Hikes is an annual, nationwide special event co-sponsored by America's State Parks, which originated more than 26 years ago at the Blue Hills Reservation – a state park in Milton, Mass. All 50 states will be participating in the annual national event that encourages everyone to celebrate the New Year with guided outdoor exploration.



Townsend is So Generous at Christmas

Each year I am impressed with the generosity of this community. Last week, I read in the MT 43 News about the Lions Club helping two families at Christmas.

The Rotary Club of Townsend also helped five additional families this year with the help of an Adopt-a-Family grant from the Town Pump Foundation.

My wife and I were fortunate to be able to help at Christmas Connection on Saturday, December 21, where 53 additional families received food and gifts for Christmas.

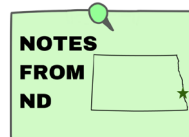
Trailhead Church supplies free Christmas Dinners on Christmas Day.

I am certain I have missed many other organizations that helped make Christmas a much better day for many people in our community. Keep up the good work Townsend!

Patrick Plantenberg
Townsend

Notes from ND

Mikayla Kraft
MT43 News Correspondent



Finals are over, my break has started, and I have a few more weeks to relax before I start the whole thing again.

Now that I have experienced Finals Week, I know the full experience, and I am feeling more confident coming into this Spring Semester, knowing that I can manage my time better, play hard, and study harder.

Reflecting on the start of the semester, I put all of my energy into studying. It made sense considering that I am paying for my college education and want to make the most of it, essentially getting "my money's worth"; however, I didn't realize that the nonstop studying only led to burnout and overwhelming worry. I found myself never socializing with my friends, being stressed out about the little time I had to study (even though that was all I was doing), and simply only being able to think about the digestive tract of a ruminant or cellular respiration in a plant cell. I simply could not live with that anymore.



"Silly Time" Favorite selfie with my best friends Regan (middle) and Chloe (right) Photo Credit: Mikayla Kraft

Now, after being through it, I know how to have certain times of my day set aside to socialize or get off campus, spend some time reading or on a screen, and of course, set time to sleep every single day. The schedule would rarely change and I was able to create a habit that led me to feel more secure mentally and even physically.

This ultimately helped me study more efficiently.

I made rules:

- (1) Never have my phone at my desk
- (2) no music unless it is quiet instrumentals and you are practicing information, not retaining it
- (3) reward myself once I finish studying.

I never had my phone at my desk because, as everyone knows, devices are very addicting and I could easily spend hours scrolling through Brainrot. Not accessing my phone during these times helped me to become more productive and eliminate the habit of looking at the phone for a study break. I love music too much, and if just about any song comes on, I find it difficult to hold my attention toward my topmost priority. The instrumentals, such as LoFi music, work as the perfect background noise and I find myself understanding my material better. Lastly, I would always reward myself once I finished studying. It could be playing at Big Top Bingo with a friend, filling my water bottle with my favorite electrolyte powder, or maybe a nap. The reward never had to be large, but it always made me feel better about the time I took out of my day to understand the material.

Overall, this semester was amazing and I am so glad that I chose to go to NDSU. I have grown to be far more responsible than I was the summer after my senior year of high school and have gained habits that will stay with me into the next semester. I still barely know anything in comparison to so many other people, but I am so glad to know that I am always learning.

The Birds Nest & Swazi's Rock Shop
Unique Gifts, Antiques & Treasures
125 S Pine St, Townsend MT
(406)266-1335

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@olympen.com

8 WEEK NUTRITION CHALLENGE
STARTS JAN 4, 2025

\$99 NO MEMBERSHIP NEEDED

3 BODY SCANS (\$60 VALUE)
PRIVATE FB PAGE WITH REGULAR POSTINGS + EMAILS WITH NUTRITION INFORMATION
MINI CHALLENGES
PRIZES THROUGHOUT

V142 FITNESS
MOST TRANSFORMATIONAL GETS CHAIR MASSAGE + COFFEE

LEGAL NOTICES

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



Montana First Judicial District Court, Broadwater County

In the matter of the Name Change of Scarlet Mureen Budreau:
Scarlet Mureen Budreau, Petitioner
Case No.: DDV-2024-668

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

This is notice that the Petitioner has asked the District Court for a change of name from (your name now) Scarlet Mureen Budreau To (name you want) Scarlet Mureen Gunter
The hearing will be on (date) 01/31/2025 at (time) 10:30 AM
The hearing will be at the Courthouse in (county) Broadwater County.

Filed Date 12/09/24

Valerie J Hornveld, Clerk of District Court
By Desiree' Taves, Deputy Clerk of Court

Published December 20, 27, 2024 and January 3 and 10, 2025

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

RYAN COUNTS and TESSA COUNTS,
Plaintiffs,

v.
RAMPART EQUIPMENT, INC., a Domestic Profit Corporation;
and ARYAAN SYED, an Individual,
Defendant.

Cause No. CDV-4-2004-0000047-BC
Honorable Kathy Steeley

SUMMONS

TO: RAMPART EQUIPMENT, INC:

A lawsuit has been filed against you. The nature of this action is a civil action involving the sale of 2013 CASE TV 380 Skid Steer. Within 21 days after service of this summons on you, 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 the Plaintiff's 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 must also file your answer or motion with the court.

DATED this 29 day of October, 2024.

Audrey Plymale, Clerk of District Court

Published December 20, 27 and January 3, 2024

MNAXLP



December 20

Dee Gannon
MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Kathy Seeley's courtroom on Friday, December 20 is as follows:

Daria Lopez had a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to misdemeanors: DUI (1st) with a passenger under 16 and disorderly conduct. She has done a chemical dependency evaluation. She receives no fine and no Office of Public Defender's charge because she is a single mother. She gets one year in jail, except for 48 hours, which must be served within two months. Her driver's license is suspended until she completes her jail time.

Robbin Cossins appeared for a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to DUI (5th+) and criminal endangerment. In his elocution, he stated that he was driving on a public road in Broadwater County, knowing that he was intoxicated. The officer reached into my car to take my keys; I sped off, putting that officer in fear of bodily harm or death. A Pre-Sentence Investigation is ordered. In light of extenuating circumstances, his Sentencing is March 21, 2025. He will have Status Hearings on January 17 & February 21 to ensure he is doing what he should.

Johnny Huffman appeared for a Petition to Revoke a Prior four-year deferred sentence. His sentence is re-deferred for 4 years; with almost all that time to go to days credit time served. That number is yet to be confirmed.

Tylor Castona had an Omnibus; the memorandum is to be filed by December 27.

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson
Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Leia Behunin, Bozeman: restricted speed \$55.00
Jarrett Bratten, Great Falls: day speed \$70.00
Emery Briles, Great Falls: restricted speed \$135.00
Ashley Durbin, Charlotte, NC: day speed \$20.00
Joshua Hubbard, Belgrade: day speed \$70.00
Hans Holland, Texas City, TX: expired registration \$85.00, Day speed \$20.00
Bailey Meibos, Helena: day speed \$70.00
William Rex, Helena: night speed \$20.00
Daniel Rasmussen, Helena: day speed \$20.00
Terri Stotts, Helena: night speed \$70.00
Wendy Matute, Belgrade: day speed \$20.00
Monte Thomas, Deer Lodge: night speed \$70.00
Ace Taylor, Pinedale, WY: day speed \$20.00
Joseph Wallen, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
Anthony Halsted, Rudd, IA: day speed \$70.00
Hailey Mccalla, Townsend: day speed \$20.00
Elizabeth Valenzuela, Mccallister: day speed \$20.00

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS

1

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Henry Marcum- Bozeman – day speed, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months on conditions, \$120.00 fine, enroll and complete Alive @ 25.

Charles Conant- Townsend – driving while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked- 1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all-time suspended on conditions, \$285.00 fines and fees.

Jon Sneddon – Great Falls – day speed, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months on conditions, \$70.00 fine, enroll and complete traffic school.

Dasan Murillo Gonzalez – Helena – possessing intoxicating substance while under the age of 21 (over age 18)-1st offense, plead guilty, \$185.00 fines and fees, twenty hours of community service, and enroll and complete MIP class.

Samuel Roos – Oakland, Ca- day speed, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months on conditions, \$120.00 fine, enroll and complete Traffic school.

Isaiah Bauer – Kalispell – night speed, plead guilty, \$200.00 fine.

Charles Smith – Helena – night speed, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months on conditions, \$70.00 fine, enroll and complete Traffic school.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Joshua Bolinder – Tooele, UT – failure to obtain landowner permission for hunting-2nd or subsequent offense, plead guilty, \$735.00 fines and fees, privilege to hunt, fish or trap suspended for twenty-four months.

Adam Harlan Jr – Bozeman- HFTWL-hunt/trap/attempt to hunt/ trap or possess game animal without a license, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all time suspended on conditions, \$\$435.00 fines and fees, \$150.00 restitution to the State of MT; waste of game animal, game fish, or game bird- person responsible for death, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all-time suspended on conditions, \$\$335.00 fines and fees, \$150.00 restitution to the State of MT.

Carver Smith – Toston – HFTWL-hunt/trap/attempt to hunt/trap or possess game animal without a license, plead guilty, \$435.00 fines and fees, \$150.00 restitution to the State of MT, privilege to hunt is suspended for a period of twelve months.

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Ryan Linjanen – Belgrade – operating without liability insurance in effect-2nd offense, plead guilty, \$385.00 fines and fees, license plate and registration for vehicle driven at the time of the offense are suspended until proof of compliance provided to MVD.

Peter Heiland – Townsend – driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked-1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all-time suspended on conditions, \$35.00 surcharge; operating without liability insurance in effect-2nd offense, plead guilty, \$375.00 fine and fees.

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

BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Tyler Gallini, Laurel: night speed \$120.00
Owen Hinkley, Kalispell: night speed \$20.00
Clayton Ryerson, Helena: day speed \$70.00
Henry Stabolepszy, Hardin: night speed \$70.00
Dexter Tedesco, Clancy: fail to signal intention to turn within 300 ft \$85.00, Expired registration \$85.00
Blake Wellenstein, Townsend: night speed \$20.00
Haransh Singh, Helena: night speed \$70.00
Thomas Tenneson, East Helena: day speed \$120.00

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Larry Charles Jr- MT 13th Judicial District Court, \$20,000.00 bond

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 30, 2024

No Commission Meeting – See website for revisions

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

New Year's Day – All County offices closed

The county strives to make the meeting available virtually but cannot guarantee access due to platform failure, internet interruptions, or other potential technological malfunctions

Items for Discussion / Action / Review /
Signature – Consent Agenda

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – ongoing advisory board appointments
- Claims/Payroll/minutes
- County Audit / Budget
- Mail – ongoing grants
- Correspondence – support letters
- Task Orders

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

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

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

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

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

- 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
- County Parks & Recreation Meeting on January 20th at 6:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on January 21st at 6:00 PM

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

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.

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



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

Broadwater County Awards Solid Waste Contract to Lewis and Clark County

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Broadwater County Commissioners awarded Lewis and Clark County a 3.5-year contract for receiving the county's solid waste during their regular Dec. 18 meeting.

The county, which currently pays a flat \$29 tipping fee per ton of solid waste, received two bids for the contract. Tri-County Disposal, which held the county contract through the end of the year offered a flat \$30.74 per ton. Lewis and Clark County's bid was \$24 per ton for household waste and \$21 for construction debris.

County Public Works Director TJ Graveley said the county's solid waste board, after reviewing both bids, recommended accepting the bid from Lewis and Clark County.

"In the best case, we'll save \$95,000 over the life of the contract," Graveley said. That includes an additional estimated fuel cost of \$2,700 per year for delivering the county's solid waste to the Lewis and Clark solid waste site.

Jenny Clark, speaking on behalf of Lewis and Clark County Solid Waste, told the board that the fee could vary, based on annual budgeting, but that their 10-year average tipping fee was \$29 per ton.

Graveley and outgoing commission chair Darrel Folkvord noted that the new contract might provide some reduction in solid waste assessment for Broadwater County taxpayers.

Delay on Copper Springs Subdivision

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter



Delay On Copper Springs, Proposal for Housing Survey Highlight Need for Available, Affordable Housing

Townsend's City Council approved the delay of developing the Copper Spring Subdivision until 2028 at their regular meeting on Dec. 17.

According to owner Megan Nowlin, the first phase of development on the south end of the community consists only of 12 units.

"My concern is pushing a population increase from a ten-year period into four," Council member JB Howick said, noting the potential impacts on schools.

City Planning Contractor Jeremy Fadness and Nowlin said the reason for the request was tied to the potential for the costs of developing infrastructure for the subdivision to go down, given the rapid rise in those costs over the last several years.

"They're trying to make the houses affordable," Fadness said. However, the cost of installing infrastructure — water, sewer, and lift stations —, building, as well as mortgage rates, are creating challenges.

While the council approved the extension for the development of Copper Springs, a separate proposal from WWC Engineering to conduct a comprehensive affordable housing study reinforced the need for housing in Townsend.

Currently, according to council member Doug Sitton, Townsend has the lowest available housing pool of any community of its size in Montana — around 0.7 percent.

The WWC study, which responds to a separate project request from the city, would provide a detailed analysis of the current availability and cost of housing in the community and give the city a better understanding of housing availability and affordability.

Committee Solutions for State Tax Department's Billion-dollar Appraisal Backlog

Eric Dietrich
Montana Free Press



This article by Eric Dietrich is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press. It was originally published in the Montana Free Press on December 18, 2024. https://montanafreepress.org/2024/12/17/committee-discusses-staffing-aerial-imagery-as-solutions-for-state-tax-departments-billion-dollar-appraisal-backlog/?utm_medium=email

Staff at Montana's Department of Revenue told a legislative committee Tuesday that an audit report finding that the department has failed to add an estimated \$1.2 billion of new residential construction to the state's property tax rolls in recent years is accurate.

But, they said, fixing the problem may require the Legislature to authorize new funding, either for aerial imagery that could help state appraisers track development without time-intensive fieldwork, or to help the department get a handle on high turnover among appraisal staff.

"That is a real number. It is a real big number," Robin Rude, deputy director of the department's Property Assessment Division, said about the \$1.2 billion figure.

The audit study estimates the revenue department is missing about 14% of new residential construction each year, or about \$300 million annually.

Auditors said Tuesday that the \$1.2 billion total tax roll gap translates into about \$8 million in missed property tax revenue. They estimate that between \$3 million and \$6 million is shifted onto other taxpayers.

While those property tax figures are less than 1% of the annual amount collected statewide on residential properties, department staff said missed construction could potentially have an outsized effect on tax bills in particular jurisdictions, small ones especially.

Montana, along with Maryland, is one of two states that keeps the tax rolls used to track and value property for property tax purposes at the state level, instead of doing that work through county assessors' offices. To keep the tax rolls accurate, state revenue staff must track when properties are developed or renovated.

That work is done by department staff at field offices located around the state, but the department has acknowledged that it's struggling to keep up with that responsibility amid staff turnover and other duties, like processing property tax appeals.

"The resources we do have are busy — they're busy folks," Rude said, adding that experienced appraisers often have their efficiency hampered by the need to train new staff. She noted that low pay is driving staff turnover, particularly in high-cost-of-living communities like Bozeman — places that are also typically the parts of the state with the most construction to track.

Scott Mendenhall, the revenue department's deputy director, said the department is trying to increase

professional development opportunities and improve onboarding for new employees. However, he pointed to pay as a major obstacle, recalling that during a visit at the department's Bozeman office an appraiser there showed him a job posting for a groundskeeper position with the city of Bozeman that offered a wage \$3 an hour higher.

"Those are hard obstacles to overcome," Mendenhall said.

Angus Maciver, the lead legislative auditor, told the committee he typically recommends agencies try to address retention issues before asking lawmakers for money to hire additional staffers.

"For any government agency that is struggling with workload and struggling with these questions about how to allocate resources — and normally your most significant resource is going to be people — you have to address that retention thing first," Maciver said.

Compounding the staffing situation, auditors found, is that the department is trying to track development primarily via a combination of reviewing building permits filed with other public agencies and time-intensive inspection visits. The auditors note that state law doesn't require that building permits be reported to the revenue department in a consistent format. Rude said a few local government permitting offices also resist sharing information with the department because they don't want the fear of a higher tax bill to discourage residents from applying for permits.

Auditors and department staff said Tuesday that the Legislature could pass a law mandating that local planning offices report permits to the revenue department so that data is transmitted more consistently. They also suggested the revenue department could do a better job of coordinating with the state Department of Labor and Industry, which issues a limited array of building permits in parts of the state without local permitting programs.

Auditors and department staff also said Tuesday that purchasing high-quality aerial imagery would help let it more efficiently track development, especially given how sparsely populated much of the state is. That imagery would need to be more detailed than what is publicly available through services like Google Maps and potentially photographed at an angle, as opposed to from directly overhead, so it can be used to estimate building height.

Department staff said Tuesday that an effort to solicit proposals that would put an explicit price tag on that imagery is pending on a timeframe that could allow lawmakers to incorporate it into the budget they pass during next year's legislative session.

"We do know there is keen interest on the part of the governor's office for implementing this," Mendenhall said.

Mendenhall appeared at Tuesday's meeting on behalf of revenue department Director Brendan Beatty, who, Mendenhall said, was occupied conducting cattle pregnancy checks on his ranch.

Nominations Open for 2025 Montana Environmental Stewardship Award

Cheyenne Leach
Montana Stockgrowers Communications Coordinator



The Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) is now accepting nominations for the 2025 Montana Environmental Stewardship Award (ESAP). Each year, MSGA honors a Montana ranch that exemplifies environmental stewardship and demonstrates a commitment toward improved sustainability within the beef industry. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2025.

"The Montana Environmental Stewardship Award continues to show us just how much Montana's ranchers care about the land and livestock under their stewardship," said Raylee Honeycutt, MSGA Executive Vice President. "We at MSGA know that this is nothing new to ranchers, but this program helps tell the story to those not intimately involved in the livestock industry and I encourage anyone to nominate a Montana ranch who is ready to tell our story."

Ranchers, as individuals and as an industry, are actively working to protect and improve the environment because they know environmental stewardship is a crucial component to a successful ranching operation. Environmental Stewardship Award winners are prime examples of how environmental management benefits both the rancher's bottom line and the resources in their care.

The award nomination process is an opportunity for county conservation districts, water districts, local livestock associations, wildlife organizations or other local and state agencies focused on conservation and multiple land use to recognize partnerships with ranchers who help them accomplish mutual goals. Any Montana Stockgrowers Association member who is working to leave the land better for the next generation would be an ideal candidate.

Winners of the Environmental Stewardship Award host a tour on their ranch, known as the Raising the Steaks Ranch Tour coordinated by the Montana Stockgrowers Foundation (MSF), the year after they are announced.

"The Raising the Steaks Ranch Tour showcases ESAP award winners and connects ranchers and consumers to facilitate diverse and informative discussions that highlight current issues and solutions to challenges ranchers and conservationists face when managing private and public lands for future generations," said Heidi Kool, MSF Program Coordinator.

Nominations for ESAP can be submitted at www.mtbeef.org/esap from December 1, 2024 - May 1, 2025. MSGA will provide ESAP award winners with the assistance of a professional writer and photographer to capture their ranch's story to represent Montana in the regional Environmental Stewardship Award Program. The winner will be recognized at the Montana Stockgrowers Annual Convention in December 2025.

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

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: 1/1/25 11AM New Year Brunch! 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!
 Mon - Fri 10am- 2pm
 408 Broadway | 406.266.0086

A+ Storage

SEVERAL SIZES OF STORAGE UNITS
 BOATS, RV'S & TRAILER STORAGE
 IN TOWNSEND, MT
 WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN YOU NEED US!
 406-266-5377, 406-580-5425

BSE EXCAVATING

7200 HWY 287, TOWNSEND, MT
 BRANDON BAKKEN
 SHANE TEW
 P - (406)266-3772
 C - (406)980-1100

LEYLAND INSURANCE

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

Schauber Surveying, Inc. Land Surveyors

Surveying Montana and Broadwater County since 1995
 Dan Swenson, PLS
 Bernadette Swenson, PLS
 64 Jack Farm Road, Townsend, MT 59644
 406-266-4602 schaubersurvey@gmail.com

MAN STORE

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

Licensed Insured
Mar Painting
 Interior Al Nyhart
 Exterior (406) 223-3074

Order Your Holiday Prime Rib Now at TIZER MEATS!
 2605 York Rd, Helena MT
 tizermeats.com

Danny Stubbendiek
 306-438-0792
TRI-RIVERS CARPENTRY & CONSTRUCTION INC.
 New Construction • Remodels
 Excavation • Pool Decks • Patios
 "Quality Building For Over 22 Years"
 tri-riversconstruction.com

YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE

Weather Info from MSN.com, Precipitation Contributed by Jeff Ross

Thu 12/26	Fri 12/27	Sat 12/28	Sun 12/29	Mon 12/30
Light Wintry Mix	Light Snow	Light Wintry Mix	Light Wintry Mix	Light Snow
39° 33°	37° 35°	39° 34°	38° 34°	34° 25°
27%	0 in	0 in	1 in	0 in
20 29 mph	15 22 mph	15 22 mph	8 14 mph	9 16 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 JANUARY 1 FUN

ACROSS

- 1 Drag race vehicle
- 8 Schuss, e.g.
- 11 Stinging flier
- 15 Contributed
- 19 Halloween mask feature
- 20 Hoodwink
- 21 Falco of TV
- 22 Leave off
- 23 Tendency toward chaos
- 24 Fido's noise
- 25 * Star of the 1950s TV series "China Smith"
- 27 BLT seller
- 28 Naval forces
- 30 — Field (Mr. Met's home)
- 31 * Getting tired
- 34 Baby bird
- 38 Evergreen with red arils
- 39 Actress Polo
- 40 Stephen of "V for Vendetta"
- 42 Young moray, e.g.
- 43 Cowl wearer
- 45 * Hope when the situation is desperate
- 51 Mosque official
- 54 Scrooge portrayer

DOWN

- 55 Minerals in thin sheets
- 56 * "Vanity Fair" novelist
- 61 "One World" musician
- 65 Holders of frozen cubes
- 66 Girl in the fam
- 67 "Insecure" actress
- 69 — Hawkins dance
- 70 Astonishment
- 73 E'en if
- 75 Actor Bridges
- 76 Fathers
- 79 Auditing gp.
- 81 Was disgusting to
- 84 Deep desires
- 85 * Period superseded by auto-mobiles
- 89 Ragtime pianist Blake
- 90 Aficionado
- 91 Large cut
- 92 * Three-part novel by Gertrude Stein
- 98 Green-light
- 102 Removal of restrictions, for short
- 103 RV refuge org.
- 104 Six-legged marchers
- 107 Suffix with Carol
- 108 How Alaska is populated
- 111 * Town crier's cry
- 116 Cab cost
- 117 "It takes two" dances
- 118 Agents, in brief
- 119 * "The Price Is Right" host
- 123 Happy dance
- 124 Net, as earnings
- 127 Ames' state
- 128 Saturate
- 129 Bullfight yell
- 130 Dissimilar
- 131 Legal equal
- 132 Brontë's Jane
- 133 Despite this
- 134 What the last four letters of eight key answers in this puzzle might be considered, cryptically
- 1 Honorary
- 2 Writer Rand
- 3 Lay in place
- 4 Tossed
- 5 "Relax!"
- 6 Of Swiss mountains
- 7 Playa del —
- 8 Climb up
- 9 Divided
- 10 Get by logic
- 11 Joins closely
- 12 Org. for cavity fixers
- 13 Thereafter
- 14 Counterparts of manis
- 15 Cousin of a chimpanzee
- 16 Poehler of "Baby Mama"
- 17 Fight (for)
- 18 Zeta follower
- 26 Pronounces
- 28 "Just my opinion," in a text
- 29 Supermodel
- 31 Fitness locale
- 32 Early auto
- 33 Award for U2
- 34 All-time low
- 35 Creeping vine
- 36 Once called
- 37 Fido's threat
- 41 Intertwine
- 44 Tartan skirt wearers
- 46 Suffix with owl or wolf
- 47 Vardalos of Hollywood
- 48 Sierra, Yukon and Acadia
- 49 Trendy berry
- 50 Shells out
- 52 Boggy areas
- 53 Motorists' gp.
- 56 Very thin, as clouds
- 57 "It matters to me"
- 58 Escorted from outside
- 59 Org. with bag screeners
- 60 The whole — and caboodle
- 61 Fox-sighting cry
- 62 Jagged, as a leaf's edge
- 63 "When I Need You" singer Leo
- 64 Hopper of old gossip
- 68 Fake coins
- 71 Not fooled by
- 72 Previous to
- 74 Globe
- 77 Ergo
- 78 Japanese noodle type
- 80 In no danger
- 82 Playwright O'Neill
- 83 Links letters
- 86 Dangerous
- 87 Vetoing vote
- 88 Genetic stuff
- 89 Spider's hatching pouch
- 92 NFL goals
- 93 With it, in old slang
- 94 Lyricist Gershwin
- 95 Battle with spongy balls
- 96 "So funny!"
- 97 Light beams
- 99 Actress Alley
- 100 Even a single
- 101 "— -haw!"
- 105 Regal seat
- 106 Playground fixture
- 109 Wipe clean
- 110 "Bad, Bad — Brown"
- 112 Delight in
- 113 Nimble
- 114 Big name in thesauruses
- 115 In a fitting manner
- 117 Small kid
- 119 Chip topper
- 120 Fish spawn
- 121 She-sheep
- 122 Mug handle
- 124 Bit of word wit
- 125 Rap sheet abbr.
- 126 Boomer's kid

Kids' Maze

©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

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!

Share

ORIAN

Astute

MRATS

Pivot

TOATER

Grudge

PESTI

TODAY'S WORD

"I won't get a wink of sleep until we find those two _____."

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: R equals T

ZVOMRAN BUYUQUVM UM
 CGUZG SDVSHD JHCJNQ
 BAJSD RGDYQDHYDQ UM HVMF
 QVORG JQUJM FJAXDMRQ:
 J QJAU QRJRD.

©2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

KNIGHT MOVES

C	E	Z
I		S
S	O	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.

© 2024 King Features Syndicate



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:	Sweet Peaches
DEC 30 - JAN 3	<i>Wednesday, January 1</i>
516 2nd Street, Townsend MT 406-266-3995	Closed For New Year's Day
Monday, December 30	Thursday, January 2
Sweet-N-Sour Pork	Ham and Beans
Fried Brown Rice	Corn Bread
Oriental Vegetables	German Vegetables
Four Bean Salad	Tossed Salad
Baked Apples	Apricots
Tuesday, December 31	Friday, January 3
Roasted Turkey	Tater Tot Casserole
Mashed Potatoes	Garden Peas
Purple Beets	Tossed Salad
Carrot Raisin Salad	Whole Grain Bread
Whole Grain Bread	Pineapple

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



Tips for Having a Great Winter Season

Chiara Cipriano
 USFS Public Affairs Officer

Seasonal tips for having a great winter season on the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest



HELENA, Mont. – November 26, 2024— To protect overwintering deer and elk as we move into December, staff on the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest are preparing for seasonal adjustments to gates across the forest.

Seasonal gate/road status

Starting December 2, we will be:

- Closing designated gates on roads and motorized trails in mountain ranges including the Elkhorns, Little Belts, Snowies, and the Big Belts. We will be closing these gates throughout the morning of December 2, so please take action to ensure any personal camps and vehicles are removed by December 1 so you do not get caught behind a freshly closed gate!
- Opening several designated gates that are closed only for fall hunting season.
- Once there is enough snow to snowmobile and groom, designated gates on roads and motorized trails for snowmobiling will be opened. They will remain closed until then.
- Non-motorized uses are always welcome, even if a road or motorized trail is seasonally closed to motorized use. E-bikes are considered motorized vehicles and must adhere to the motorized use regulations and are only allowed on motorized routes when those routes are not closed.

Please note, there are some motorized trails in the Horse Gulch fire area that will remain closed until mid-May of 2025 even though they are designated to open December 2. This is for public safety and resource protection; a map and description of the closure is available here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/hlcnf/home/?cid=fseprd1043309>

Maps:

Motorized vehicle use maps (MVUMs) for all of the travel plan areas on the forest are available for free download here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/hlcnf/maps-pubs/?cid=fseprd516875>. Additionally,



Example of a Forest Road closed in the Big Belts between December 2- May 15 to protect overwintering elk and deer. United States Forest Service Photo

we also provide free over-snow vehicle use maps (OSMVUM) here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/hlcnf/maps-pubs/?cid=fseprd516878>

Firewood permits:

Firewood permits are available for free and good for a calendar year, so if you don't plan to go out and cut firewood before the new year, please wait until after January 1 to come by the office and get a permit. Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest - Forest Products Permits

Christmas Tree/ holiday tree permits:

Buy online at www.recreation.gov or in-person at one of our district offices; it is a great way to build holiday memories and tree permits are just \$5!

Campfires:

Enjoy a campfire, but as always, please ensure it is dead out and cold to the touch before leaving. We have had a few human-caused starts recently due to drier than usual conditions.

Please visit one of our ranger districts, our website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/hlcnf/> or visit us on Facebook @HLCNF for the latest updates.

BREAKING NEWS

DID YOU KNOW...

MT43News keeps you updated between printed editions?!

Visit MT43News.com

Look for local updates and even a few news worthy items that didn't make print!

Like and follow us on Facebook!

What Do You Mean it's Over?

This being the 27th of December, means another wonderful Christmas has come and gone. Wow that was quick...kind of, I have always loved the build-up to the Christmas season it's so special and has such meaning. Like anything else, it's over too soon. Now to pay the bills!

I know I'm one of only a few who LOVE having snow for Christmas; this year it looks like none is on the way. (A slight chance on Monday) I know that it isn't needed, but to me growing up waaay up north in NY state, snow was ALWAYS there. Hey, I came up here to Montana for cold and snow & ice. Be that as it may, the season is winding down, and all the decorations I just put up have to come down again. They can stay up till New Year's week. Then it just gets weird.

After the holiday season, you KNOW what's coming. Serious winter! Also: how many this coming New Year will be actually trying to keep a New Year's "Resolution"? I don't usually however this New Year I NEED to. The Doctors are hounding me to "lower your sugar intake" FINE, I will get back on the Blanding out my diet, routine...OH JOY! It's not as bad as it could be, thank God there are many sugar-free alternatives to most everything. Isn't Science wonderful? For good old Chocolate candy, the Pharmacy has Russel Stover chocolates, good and bad ones. The sugar-free ones taste great! AND the sweetener is "Stevia" a natural sweetener. (this one doesn't even make you...have "fluctuation" like the aspartame does.) Eat those things and you can scare the birds off a manure wagon!

Here's hoping everyone had a great Christmas, and will have a relatively quiet New Year. Remember New Year's Eve is Amateur night, WE who practice imbibing regularly don't need a special night for it. We can stay home and "celebrate" (go to sleep early). REMEMBER: Have a designated driver! If you do go out, watch out for your friends who might be drinking heavily, Get them home safe.

AFTER New Year's Day, look around your property; get things that you may have let go, done! Make sure you have your wood in! January and February look like they could be COLD! The Squirrels are very Hungry, and they are attacking the feed ravenously. What birds are left are looking around going "What in the Wide, Wide World of sports is going on?" The Bears and deer are coming out of the high country for snacks too... Don't Be one!

Wishing all a Happy New Year. Now get back to work!

OBITUARIES

Mardella Bieber Brock

Family of Mardella Bieber Brock

Mardella Bieber Brock died December 8, 2024, in her 92nd year, peacefully with family by her side.



Mardella Bieber Brock
Photo Provided by Family of Mardella Bieber Brock

Born in McKenzie County, ND to William and Elsa Beyl Bieber, her early childhood homes were the several farms in eastern MT where her parents lived and worked during the depression years.

At age 8 she moved with her family to the Townsend, MT area where they remained sharecropping, then eventually owning their farm. Here school buses replaced the early long walks to school, but no indoor plumbing or telephone until long after WWII. Eldest of fourteen siblings, she learned the care of children plus farm, field, garden and housework early in life.

Education was important to her parents, even more to Mardella. Enjoying books, learning, and her teachers, she decided to become a teacher by second grade, later became a teacher's aide and helped schoolmates during study hall; she never wavered from this goal. In fact her many-faceted church and community volunteer activities were focused on issues facing children, women, and parents. After graduating from Broadwater County High School, she worked a year, then attended Western Mt College of Education for the 2-year Elementary Ed certificate.

After seventeen years of teaching, homemaking, and supporting her husband's business, she completed her BS in Elementary Ed at MSU; years later returned for classes in Art Education. In 1975 community classes turned her career to Ceramics, which she did part-time for nearly 40 years, often teaching, whether Artist in Residence in schools, intergenerational on her driveway in summer or groups of adults.

Mardella met Bruce Brock while teaching at the Montana Children's Center, home to neglected and abused children; they were married May 27, 1957, at her parents' farm home near Townsend, MT. Since they had purchased the Livingston, MT Dairy Queen a month earlier, they were immediately at work. Part-time teaching ensued and two sons and a daughter were born during this time.

A few years later they invested in A to Z Rental business which led to joining the Bozeman one in 1969. The family moved to Bozeman where they remained and Mardella continued her church and community involvement. She was active in and/or led many organizations, among them the ecumenical Church Women United which served many areas of need, plus her own church women's groups. She and Bruce helped start Habitat for Humanity, were involved in International Visitors. She served on a Youth Justice Court and with Family Promise, led AFS International and supported many others.

Family events were treasured. Growing years included music, lifetime sports, skiing, hiking, camping, exploring the mountains, picnics, a neighborhood 4H club, a myriad of school activities, helping in Dad's business and time with the many relatives, especially cousins. There was always room for another at the table with potlucks her specialty.

She is survived by her husband, Bruce Brock, and by sons, Neil (Annett) Brock, Paul (Sherreen) Brock, daughter Carol (Larry) Berg--also grandchildren Brandee (Sean) Hay, Randon Brock, and Jacob Berg. Siblings Bill (Betty) Bieber, Tim (Kim) Bieber, Irene (Allan) Brug, Carynn (Phillip) LeMieux, Arlene (Rick) Rader and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother: Elmer, LeRoy, Nathan, Dennis and Jonathan Bieber plus sisters: Elaine Lucas, Julia Dowling, Gloria Hasker.

Thank you to the many folks who have touched her life, caretakers, medical personnel, family and friends; there were no strangers. Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

Roxie Lee Anderson

Family of Roxie Lee Anderson

Roxie Lee Anderson passed away peacefully on December 17, 2024, at her home from complications of heart disease at the age of 80. She was attended to by her son, Dee.



Roxie Lee Anderson
Photo Provided by Family of Roxie Lee Anderson

Roxie was born on September 2, 1944, in Livingston, MT to parents Ruby and Carl Kolberg. She grew up and spent most of her life in Toston, MT. She was educated as a beautician and held various jobs throughout her life.

Her primary and most important occupation after her marriage on December 31, 1965, to Duane Anderson, was as a homemaker. She became a mother to six children, and eventually grandmother to five grandchildren.

Her favorite hobbies included needlework and reading. She spent her free time participating as a 4-H leader, Election Judge, and working at the Rebekah Lodge.

She is survived by her children Dee Anderson (Toston), Dustin Anderson (Idaho), Darla Brown (Virginia), and Amanda Fischer (Greg) (North Dakota). Her surviving siblings include Arnold Kolberg, Carlon Emch, and Sharon Antonson (Ken). She is also survived by her grandchildren Campbell Lewis (Jeremy), Caleb Brown, Landon Anderson, Braydon Fischer, and Keldon Fischer. She is preceded in death by her husband Duane, children Shawn and Shannon, parents Ruby and Carl, Mother-in-Law Edna, and several other family members and dear friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations be made in Roxie's name to the Montana 4-H Foundation and the American Cancer Society. A celebration of life will be held in May of 2025.

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

AREA DEATH

Ruth Layton

Family of Ruth Layton

Ruth Ann Layton, 81, of Radersburg, Montana passed away December 14, 2024.

Simple Cremation Montana has assisted the family.

Stevenson Wilke
Funeral Home & Crematory

Family Owned and Operated
Honorably Serving Montana Families for Three Generations
www.stevensonwilke.com (406) 266-4213

Barnes
Jewelry

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

Billings Clinic Broadwater and Logan Health's Decade Spanning Mobile Mammography Collaboration

Joseph Salyer
Billings Clinic

Stronger Together: Billings Clinic Broadwater and Logan Health's Decade Spanning Mobile Mammography Collaboration

In 2023, Logan Health and Billings Clinic united to create a not-for-profit, Montana-based, independent healthcare system dedicated to keeping care close to home and connecting care in communities across the region. While this unification is recent, Billings Clinic and Logan Health have collaborated in one crucial area for nearly a decade.

Since 2014, Logan Health's Winkley Women's Center Mobile Mammography Unit has regularly stopped at Billings Clinic Broadwater in Townsend, MT, offering mammograms and other vital screenings to local residents.

"We are incredibly grateful for this longstanding partnership with Logan Health," said Billings Clinic Broadwater CEO Justin Tiffany. "Being able to provide mammography services right here in Townsend helps reach women who might otherwise face barriers to regular screenings."

The process is seamless. Providers at Billings Clinic Broadwater can order mammograms and refer patients directly to the mobile unit. Outside providers can also place orders, and patients themselves have the option to call and schedule appointments. Billings Clinic Broadwater staff coordinate scheduling and registration, while Logan Health's team takes over from there.

Townsend is just one of 11 stops the mobile unit makes across a 20-county service area covering nearly 50,000 square miles. This broad-scale effort by Logan Health ensures that Montana women have access to life-saving screenings. From 2022 through October of this year, the Winkley Women's Center Mobile Mammography Unit screened 333 patients at Billings Clinic Broadwater alone.

The mobile unit's inception was made possible by the late Kalispell philanthropist Jane Winkley, a breast cancer survivor who was inspired to improve access to quality imaging after experiencing the limitations of analog mammography herself. Her generous \$1 million gift to the Kalispell Regional Healthcare Foundation turned her vision into reality.

"The ability to bring breast imaging to 11 different sites across northern and western Montana, instead of requiring women to drive to us, makes all the difference in ensuring timely screenings," said Melissa Kaptanian, MD, Logan Health Breast Surgical Oncologist. "Each year, 2,200 women receive their screening mammogram on the Winkley Women's Center Mobile Mammography Unit. Screening mammography should be available to every woman who wants one. That was Jane Winkley's vision—that no woman should have to wait. We are proud to continue living out her dream at Logan Health." "Early detection is absolutely crucial," added Justin Tiffany. "After all, it's our mothers, wives, daughters, and sisters we care for day in and day out."

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Ear is larger. 2. Button is added. 3. Apron is longer. 4. Broom is narrower. 5. Cash register is missing. 6. Awning is not as wide.

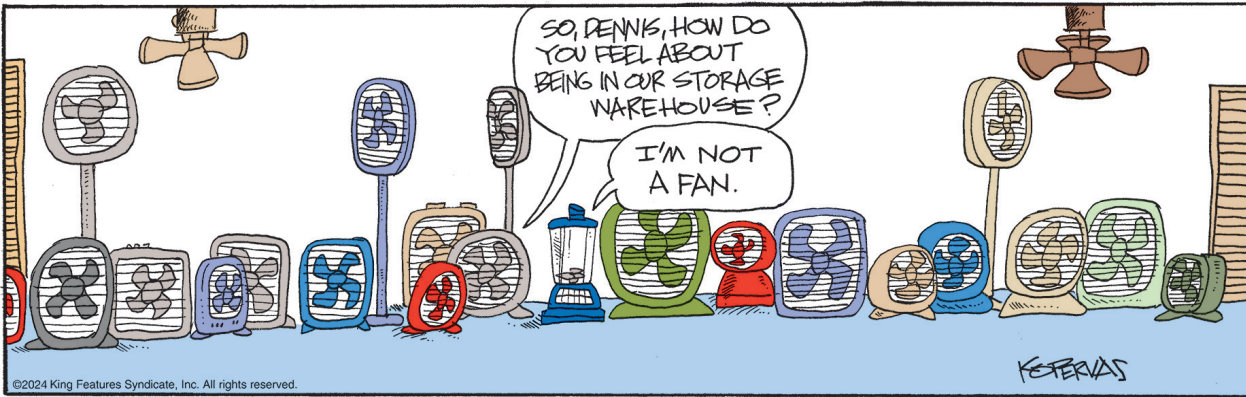
©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



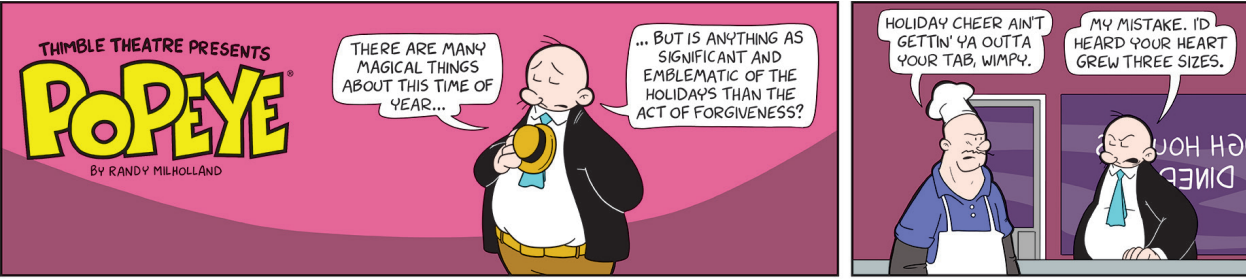
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



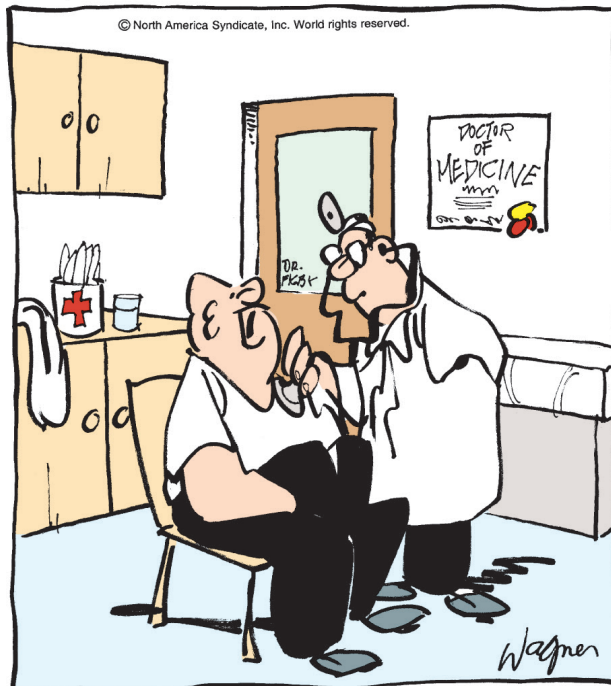
Americanisms



"It's never too late — never too late to start over, never too late to be happy."
— Jane Fonda

© 2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner



"My diet was going well until I had those visions of sugar plums."

GHOST TOWN HANDYMAN

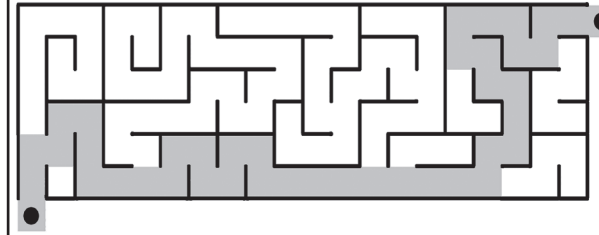
Joshua Cavan
406-589-5605



Licensed

Insured

Kids' Maze Solution



TOPGUN
Autobody
Townsend, MT

Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!

406-266-3110

7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT
topgun3110@gmail.com
topgunautobodytownsend.com

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

CryptoQuip
answer

Country division in which people always drape themselves in long South Asian garments: a sari state.

SCRAMBLERS
solution

1. Ration
2. Smart;
3. Rotate;
4. Spite

Today's Word

TERMITES

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

C	E	Z
I		S
S	O	N

COZINESS

Super Crossword

Answers

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

We now offer Sponsorship Advertising!

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

ONLY \$50!

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

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

MT 43 News, Inc.

Published & edited by the Board of Directors

or electronically, without the written permission of MT 43 News, Inc.

Editors in Chief:
Victor Sample and
Nancy Marks

ISSN 2833-2571
USPS Bulk Mailing Permit #43
First Publication Date:
July 15, 2022

408 Broadway Street Suite A
Townsend MT 59644-2323
(406) 266-0086

MT43News@MT43News.com

MT 43 News is published Thurs-
day of each week in Townsend,
MT. Its service area is Broadwater
County, MT.

Deadlines

Stories, News & Letters to the Editor:
Tuesday 12 p.m.
Advertising:
Tuesday 10 a.m.

Affiliation

Letters to the editor, guest col-
umns, Op-Ed, editorials and
advertising do not necessarily
reflect the opinion of MT 43
News, Inc. or any of its execu-
tives, employees, or advertisers.

©2023 MT 43 News, Inc. All rights reserved. The contents of this newspaper may not be repro-
duced, redistributed or archived,
in whole or in part, physically

Forms and Policies

https://mt43news-business-
services.com/node/124



Forest Service Employee Helps Clean Up After Hurricane Helene

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Everything all at once. That's what the ten people in the Pisgah National Forest District office in Asheville, North Carolina needed from cleanup crews after the 1,000-year Hurricane Helene hit the area the end of September.

Townsend Ranger District employee Philip Knaub assessed the situation after he volunteered to join an incident command team from North and South Carolina, Colorado and Montana, November 12. During the two-week assignment, he and others had flown to Asheville, population 95,000, to organize more cleanup for the beleaguered District.



Philip Knaub on a fire in the Pryor Mountains in 2022. Photo Provided by Philip Knaub

"After we arrived, we began the needed engineering plans to help rebuild flooded roads, remove debris and generally help clear the heavily forested areas that were completely wrecked. "Our job was to assess and prioritize damaged areas, then help get crews on the ground to clear downed trees, rock, and mudslides and to rebuild bridges and roadways." He explained. "We arrived a month and a half after the hurricane. It was halfway through our assignment that we assisted in getting potable water to all parts of Asheville, which is a big city. We saw the craziest stuff. Near the Swannanoa River which runs through Asheville, we saw what looked like white confetti in the trees. It was plastic sacks from a nearby recycling plant, he pointed out.

It was about water, he said. Equipment crews constantly fought the battle of trying to clear forest areas in deep ravines where so much water had destroyed houses and roads. This hurricane brought 14 inches of rain in 72 hours. Crews flew drones deep into forest areas to assess the damage because, with no open roads or trails, crews on the ground could not access the areas.

The Pisgah National Forest is made up of 500,000 acres of mile-high peaks, waterfalls and heavily forested slopes along with hundreds of miles of trails, according to Wikipedia.

The 28-year forest fire veteran has worked many complex operations as section chief with the Forest Service's National Complex Incident Team. The team



Road washout on NC State Highway 80 north of Marion, NC. Photo Provided by Philip Knaub



Washed out train tracks and rail cars covered with PVC pipe that was washed downstream in the Swannanoa River. Photo Provided by Philip Knaub

works as a liaison between command teams and people on the ground doing the cleanup work. Knaub had been to the Black Mountain, North Carolina fire eight years ago, so he was familiar with the area. He also reported for work at Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and Hurricane Sandy in New York area.

The 10-man/woman team stayed in Asheville hotels along with Red Cross, utility crews and other relief workers where they had good water and electricity. "The utility crews were pretty effective at getting power reinstalled. Along the roads where electrical poles were down, you would see a cracked or broken-off pole with a new one right beside it holding up new wire," he explained.

Knaub, raised in Toston, graduated from Broadwater High School on a Sunday in 1997 and reported for work at the Townsend District Ranger Station on Monday. He has been there since then.

In addition to his on-the-ground work, Knaub built a website, Sharepoint, on which districts in the country can ask for specific help and garner information about where help might be available. "This has been great and so helpful in pulling together all the moving parts for addressing national emergencies such as hurricanes and fires," he said.



Ruined house along Buck Creek north of Marion, NC. Photo Provided by Philip Knaub

As he looked back on his assignment, he said he could see how difficult it was for the Forest Service people to meet the challenges of such a huge emergency. "Their seasonal workforce had just left at the end of summer," he said, "many of the district employees themselves were impacted by the hurricane."



Billings Clinic
Broadwater

Accepting New Patients

Convenient Appointments Available

We offer complete care for you and your entire family in one convenient location. Our team of physicians, physician assistants (PA), nurse practitioners (NP), and professional staff provide quality care.

We provide:

- Health care for existing medical needs
- Preventive care services
- Managing chronic conditions
- Coordination of care with medical and surgical specialists



Paul Engstrom, MD



Philip Hess, MD



Derek Weiss, NP

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 406-266-3186, visit billingsclinic.com/broadwater or scan here




110 N. Oak St., Townsend

Clinic Hours:
Mon - Fri
8 am to 5 pm

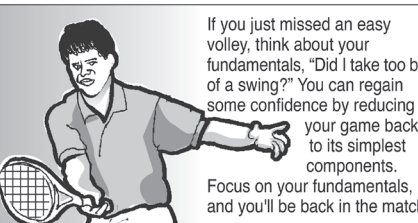
STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

ADJUSTMENTS DURING A MATCH

When you are in a pressure-filled match, it's easy to lose your confidence after missing a few shots. If you feel the match slipping away, try thinking "basics," such as "Take your racket back early on the groundstroke."

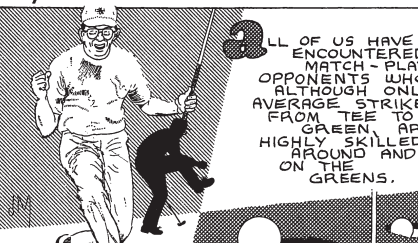


If you just missed an easy volley, think about your fundamentals. "Did I take too big of a swing?" You can regain some confidence by reducing your game back to its simplest components. Focus on your fundamentals, and you'll be back in the match!



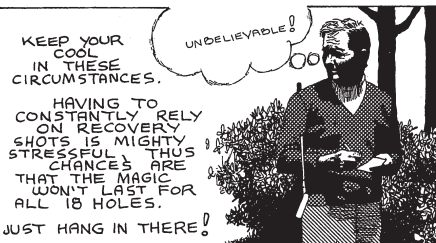
Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

ALL OF US HAVE ENCOUNTERED MATCH-PLAY OPPONENTS WHO, ALTHOUGH ONLY AVERAGE STRIKERS FROM TEE TO GREEN, ARE HIGHLY SKILLED AROUND AND ON THE GREENS.



KEEP YOUR COOL IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. UNBELIEVABLE!

HAVING TO CONSTANTLY RELY ON RECOVERY SHOTS IS MIGHTY STRESSFUL. THUS CHANCES ARE THAT THE MAGIC WON'T LAST FOR ALL 18 HOLES. JUST HANG IN THERE!



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

December 24

1912

Doings of a Week

Misses May Cotter and Edna Ragen returned Sunday from Dillon, where they are attending the state normal school, to spend the holidays with home folks.

Otha Allen, who is engaged in mining work at Southern Cross near Anaconda, spent Christmas with Townsend friends. He was accompanied by his brother, Truman.

Hay-Rack Party

Several loads of young people from the city and country enjoyed another of those popular hay-rack parties Sunday night when they journeyed out to the country home of George Myers and tendered himself and family a little surprise. It was a surprise to George at least, because he was in bed and it was necessary to haul him fourth to greet his guests. That the young folks had heaps of fun and enjoyment goes without saying, the serving of lunch crowning an evening most pleasantly spent.

1940

Personal News

Home from the University at Missoula for Christmas are Bill Weed, Ross Bigler and Bill Lasby.

From Carroll College for the vacation come Dan McCarthy, Chas. Ragen and Joe Gabisch.

Mrs. Clinton Holland of Helena has been spending the week here with her parents Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Hardy and were joined for Christmas by Mr. Holland.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Kirscher returned to Townsend Saturday from a two-week honeymoon trip in Seattle and other western points.

Among Montana State College students home for the vacation period are Miss Dale Cook, Eddie Daniels,

Joe Kirscher, Kate Berberet, Tom Ellis, Leslie Clark and Ed Conrad.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank P. Nash left today for Salt Lake City and from there will go to Pasadena, California to take in the Rosebowl game on New Year's Day.

Mrs. James W. Kearns had her parents Mr. and Mrs. Ossian F. Taylor of Florence at their home here for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Dan Sullivan had as Christmas day guests, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Hehir of Missoula, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Jenkins and daughter, Renell, Joe Teller and Miss Nell Sullivan of Helena and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ragen and family of the valley.

1968

Local Woman is On Hand Monday Night to Double the Value of Grand Prize

Mrs. Bill Longacre was on hand Monday night when her name was called out as the winner of the \$50 grand prize offered by the local Chamber of Commerce and thereby doubling her prize money.

Three drawings were held over the weekend and winners and donors of their gift certificates will be announced in a Chamber of Commerce ad in next week's Star.

Local News

John Poole MMFN, arrived Sunday night by plane from San Francisco, Calif., to spend the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Jack Poole and family.

Bob Thompson, who is stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., arrived here Saturday to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thompson.

Mr. and Mrs. George Lots of Dillon came Tuesday to spend Christmas with her mother, Mrs. Marguerite Petersen, and their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lots. Marcia arrived last Friday and has been visiting here all week.

Pvt. Jerry Bucy arrived home Sunday via air to spend the holidays with his wife and baby daughter, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bucy and other relatives.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ead Sherwood and family for the Christmas holidays are their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hieb and son, Eric, of Portland, Ore.

Marnie Sherwood Celebrates Birthday

Marnie Sherwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Sherwood, was three years old Thursday, Dec. 19, and to celebrate the occasion her mother had a party for her on Saturday afternoon.

The little guests were each presented with a favor and enjoyed games and refreshments.

Invited guests were Merla Sears, Kimmy Poole, Jackie Sautter, Roberta Sturdevant, Lisa Graveley, Robbie Gillespie and Johnny Sautter.

1996

'96 BHS Yearbook Takes Top National Award

The Broadwater High School yearbook, Old Baldy, received first place in the 1996 American Scholastic Press Association Awards. Themed "Livin' on the Edge", the yearbook racked up the maximum number of points in the creativity, content presentation and general page design categories. The book was also judged on publication structure and general photography.

Crystal Dowling and Angie Vose were student editors for the 1996 edition. Mary Duede is the yearbook advisor. The staff will receive a first-place award certificate and an honors listing in American Scholastic Journalist.

"I'm proud of the 1996 staff and their achievement," said Duede. "Each year, with continued development in desktop publishing, the students create wonderful books. Probably the most valuable result of entering this competition is the detailed critique the judges send us. We will use their comments to try and improve our 1997 yearbook."

Improve your body and your home. Work out with Valspar Pro-Hide Gold Ultra paint.

Christmas decor 50% off

Historic Townsend Hardware
204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

Honoring Our Veterans – Michael Gustafson

Matt Nelson



U.S. Navy Submarine Warfare veteran Michael Gustafson served a total of 21 years on active duty in the Navy and the Navy Reserve. He served his first 11 years on 3 different submarine platforms, while most of his remaining years were as a Navy Reserve prior-service recruiter.

He joined the Navy in 1991, three days after he graduated from high school in Vinton, Iowa. Originally, he signed up to be part of the Navy's nuclear power program. However, due to military downsizing at the time he couldn't complete the training. Fortunately, he did receive about eight weeks of training in that field, while in Orlando. He then received training orders for a submarine school in Groton, Connecticut.

Michael said, "The nature of a submariner is the pursuit of excellence and professionalism all while under varying extremes and stressors. Upon sub-school graduation, I was selected to the submarine special projects program. My first two platforms were fast attack submarines, which hunt and track other submarines or ships. My third platform was an Ohio Class ballistic

missile submarine that carried Trident missiles, as part of the nuclear triad. I ultimately, completed four patrols (strategic deterrent patrols in nuclear ballistic or cruise missile submarines) with her.

Submariners must cross-train regularly as part of the program. While attached to all three (West Coast-based) submarines, I was part of the firefighting and damage control teams, drove the submarines, was a sonar operator, was a duty radioman, did below decks engineering roving watches, and was part of many security rotations to include Topside Sentry and Petty Officer of the Deck as some of my most common duties."

After his first 11 years on active duty with the Navy, he joined the Navy Reserve. He drilled with the reserve FISC (supply) Yokosuka Detachment unit for six months, before being accepted into the Navy Reserve Canvassing Recruiter Program. There he spent his remaining eight years on active duty with the Navy and Navy Reserve and became the Recruiter-in-Charge, of Navy Reserve Programs Iowa, where he retired in April 2012.

He took his talent of the pursuit of excellence with him to his recruiting role. His recruiting focus was prior service veterans where he developed a solid reputation, as he didn't bend the rules and he didn't lie to people. That rapport naturally, brought him referrals and enabled him, to recruit many people into programs like the Seabees. Michael was very good at his job, as he was the district's "Navy Reserve Recruiter of the Year" in both 2005 and in 2008 and at one point was ranked nationally in the top 2% of recruiters.

After retiring from the Navy in 2012, Michael went to work with Waterloo Water Works in Waterloo, Iowa. During that time, he enrolled at the University of Northern Iowa where he earned his degrees in Environmental Science and a minor in Earth Science, with an emphasis in Hydrology and Hydrogeology. He and his wife Angela, eventually moved to Belgrade, MT in March 2022 to work as the city's water department manager. However, by August 2022 he went to work with the Department of Environmental Quality

(DEQ) in Helena. His current role is as the DEQ Small Business Ombudsman, where he manages the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program. This advocacy program assists Montana's small businesses in understanding and complying with environmental regulations that cover air, water, and land. That role goes beyond the regulations to prevent pollution and improve environmental quality.

The other role that he manages is the Montana Radon Control Program. Radon is known to be the leading cause of cancer in non-smokers. This program serves to provide technical assistance with all things Radon-related. This service enables Montana residents to have access to the proper resources to identify, address and fix (mitigate) potential radon problems in their homes for a healthier indoor air environment. January is National Radon Action Month... during that month, this program will offer, through the DEQ Radon Control Program website, free short-term Radon test kits.



Michael Gustafson
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson



Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Gustafson and his wife Angela on their wedding day
Photo Credit: Michael Gustafson