

# Stoke Receives Grant



STOKE Directors John Hahn and Teddy Lewis receive check from Broadwater Community Foundation Director John Rains.  
Photo Provided by STOKE

John Hahn  
STOKE

Teddy Lewis, a STOKE board director and pottery instructor, requested the STOKE organization purchase a pug mill to recycle all the pottery scrapings and discarded clay from the many pottery classes, mistakes, and over productions from the last year or so.

The pottery project has been gaining in popularity and STOKE has been partnering with the school to

provide some after-school classes for some of the kids signed up for the 21st Century program, grades 3-6, for the past couple of years, along with our regular STOKE kids and adults, so we go through a lot of clay. The kids really love it, and many have shown some real talent and have made some amazing and creative pieces. But with many clay projects, creativity and experimenting, comes wastage. One thing about clay, if it doesn't become contaminated or hasn't been fired, it can be reclaimed and reused.

Clay can be reclaimed by hand and Teddy has done



Amazing Pottery created by an eight-year-old  
Photo Provided by STOKE

some but it's very labor intensive and time consuming. Hence the need for a pug mill. Clay is expensive so reclaiming it makes sense. Teddy would also like to find some local clay to try and use for pottery. With the pug mill, he will be able to experiment with these local clays to see if they might be worth working with. This will also teach the kids the historical aspect of the process. If you know of some local clay deposits, let us know.

For those of you who are trying to imagine just

STOKE Grant, 5

## Local Organizations Offer Scholarships to Graduating Seniors

American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Townsend Rotary Club

The American Legion Post 42, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 42 and Townsend Rotary Club are offering scholarships to 2025 graduating seniors. The applications are due by April 9.

### Where to Find Applications:

The scholarship Applications can be downloaded from the MT43 News Website at <https://mt43news.com>

The applications are also available at the MT43 News office from 10:00 to 2:00 Monday through Friday.

### Available Scholarships:

- American Legion Post 42 \$1000 Scholarship
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 42 \$1000 Scholarship
- Hugh van Swearingen \$2000 Journalism Scholarship (Townsend Rotary Club)
- Townsend Rotary Scholarships:
  - Frank Holloway Scholarship \$2,500
  - Holling-White Scholarship \$2,000
  - Chris Wright (Trade School) Scholarship \$2,000
  - Mel Pottruff Scholarship \$1,500



MT43 News is reaching out to our East Helena supporters in hopes to expand our local news!

Please send your stories and free event information to [mt43news@mt43news.com](mailto:mt43news@mt43news.com) or call 10am - 2pm, Monday - Friday!

East Helena news is found on Pages 2 and 9 this week!

## Requests For Variances Following Townsend Water Rate Increases Raise Concern

Linda Kent  
MT43 News Correspondent



Requests for variances following Townsend water rate increases raise concern about need to review utility ordinances and city procedures.

Townsend's City Council heard a number of requests for variances from the city's utility policies since water rates increased to \$91.03 for residential service as of January 1.

Those requests raised larger questions about the ordinances governing how utilities are billed, how properties with multiple uses – businesses with potential rental units attached to the same water service line – are identified and noticed of billing changes, and how the city is notified when potential rental units are added to an existing service.

"As we go forward, with the water project, with Townsend getting bigger, we have to really start dialing in on what is fair and consistent," council member Doug Sitton said during the council's March 18 meeting.

At that meeting, Chase Ragen, owner of The Betsy building, asked the council to waive a second service billing for the rental unit above the business until November, when the lease would renew, on the basis that until January, the building had only been charged for the single curb stop that connects it to city water.

Ragen's primary concern was that he had no notice beyond a single phone call that a second set of utility fees would be added to his property, after the city confirmed that an apartment on the building's second floor had been leased. Because the apartment had not been previously included in the building's utility service fees, due to the single service line for the building, Ragen had not had the opportunity to include provision for those in the lease agreement.

The City Council agreed to waive the second utility charge for four months. Ragen also said he would work to get business owners together to see if group rates for water meters and installation could be a more cost

effective option. He also proposed changing the water ordinance to reflect the number of occupants in a unit or other water usages, such as water lawns.

When a residential unit is added to a property, if that residence does not receive its own service lines, the property owner is expected to notify the city of the change. If not, the city would only add a service fee if someone notifies them that a unit has been added.

While the city does allow customers to install meters, the ordinance establishes a basic fee based on the size of the service line. Meters would allow those who have multiple residences attached to a single service line to be charged for actual water usage, instead of a number of flat rates based on the number of residential or business units.

Ragen was not the first to bring such concerns to the council.

In early March, Dennis Schenk, owner of Townsend Flooring, came before the council to request that the showroom he had built above his main sales floor and plumbed into the business' existing service line not be billed as a second city utility service. At the time, Schenk was told that his best option was either to disconnect the showroom from his service or add a meter. The expense for adding a meter at that location was estimated at \$5,000.

Others have requested to have utilities for unoccupied rental units waived. Those requests have been denied at council.

At the March 18 meeting, Mayor Vicki Rauser clarified that the actual cost of the meters themselves was only a few hundred dollars.

Rauser cautioned the council that city's bond repayments for the water project were based on estimated income with the current ordinance intact.

"The water rates are subject to review on an annual basis in terms of the coverage, to make sure we cover the debt service [for the water project bonds]", Rauser said. "I think it's ok to start looking at this. . . . Any significant change in the rate structure that has an adverse impact on that revenue stream is going to create problems for the city."



East Helena Schools' Calendar

APRIL


Tuesday 1

6:00 pm - PTO Meeting EVMS

Sunday 6

8:00 am = 406 Day!

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS



Lewis & Clark Library East Helena Branch  
on Main Street in East Helena.  
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Andrea Erickson  
Librarian

HOURS:

Monday - Wednesday: 10 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.  
Saturdays: 10 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Sundays: Closed

MARCH

Sat 29 - Mon 31

Craft Swap

Saturday 29

10:15 a.m. Family Matinee Movie

APRIL

Wednesday 2

10:30 a.m. Story Time

Friday 4

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Free books and refreshments

Townsend School Calendar

MARCH

Friday 28

NO SCHOOL

9:00 am - Tennis at Great Falls  
6:00 pm - Team Dinner for Girl's High  
School Basketball - K-8 Commons & Kitchen

Saturday 29

1:00 pm - High School Baseball vs Butte  
9:30 am - High School Track - Frenchtown  
10:00 am - Tennis at Bozeman  
8:00 pm - Broadwater High School Prom

Sunday 30

4:30 pm: Boys Basketball Banquet - Elementary Commons  
and Kitchen

Monday 31

Middle School Track Practice Starts  
6:00 pm - Adult City League Volleyball

APRIL

Tue 1- Sat 5

State FFA Convention - Bozeman

Tuesday 1

8:55 am - Pre-K PE - 63 Gym  
10:00 am - Varsity Golf @ Hamilton  
5:30 pm - District Strategic Planning Meeting -  
Community Room  
6:00 pm - STOKE Pickleball  
7:00 pm - Booster Club Meeting - The Bridge

Wednesday 2

8:55 am - Pre-K PE - 63 Gym  
10:00 am - Broadwater County Sherriff's Office Training -  
Community Room  
7:00 pm - Old Baldy Open Gym - 63 Gym  
7:00 pm - Old Baldy Pickleball - Stage Gym

Thu 3 - Sun 6

State Skills USA at Great Falls

Friday 4

NO SCHOOL

1:00 pm - High School Baseball at Home  
1:00 pm - High School Tennis @ Boulder  
10:00 am - High School Track @ Laurel  
Junior Varsity Golf @ Big Timber

Saturday 5

1:00 pm - High School Baseball at Home  
11:00 am - High School Tennis at Great Falls  
8:00 pm - High School Prom Grand March (7:30pm Doors  
Open)



Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page



Knights of Columbus  
FISH FRY!

When: March 21 and April 4  
Time: 5 - 7pm  
Where: Holy Cross Parish, 101 S Walnut  
Menu: Fish, Clam Chowder, Mac & Cheese,  
Potatoes and Coleslaw.  
Prices: \$15 per Plate, \$6 Chowder Only,  
\$4 Mac & Cheese Only



BROADWATER COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

APRIL

Tuesday 1

2:00 pm - Broadwater County Museum  
Board at the Museum

Wednesday 2

10:00 am - Broadwater County Commissioner's Meeting at the  
Flynn Building

THREE FORKS  
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH

Friday 28

Three Forks Community Library - Last Day of Montana Nature  
Photography Exhibit  
11:00 am: Three Forks Community Library - LEGO Club

APRIL

Tuesday 1

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

Thursday 3

10:30 am: Three Forks Community Library - Storytime  
6:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with Savannah Wood at  
Bridger Brewing Three Forks

Friday 4

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

Saturday 5

11:00 am: Three Forks Community Library - Open

TOWNSEND  
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH

Friday 28

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 29

9:00 am: Easter Dinner Sign-up at Food Pantry, 317 Broadway  
in Townsend **SEE NOTICE ON THIS PAGE**  
6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at  
102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945  
6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves  
Bookstore, 401 Broadway

Monday 31

1:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Membership Meeting at  
American Legion Post 42 Club - 1st Monday  
6:00 pm: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church,  
107 E St, 406-980-1805

APRIL

Tuesday 1

12:00 pm: Townsend Tree Board Meeting in City Hall,  
110 Broadway St  
5:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Food and Bingo at American  
Legion Post 42 Club  
5:30 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley  
Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Wednesday 2

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

Thursday 3

4:00 pm: STOKE Jewelry Making Class at United  
Methodist Church  
7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran  
Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 4

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  
5:00 pm: Knights of Columbus Fish Fry at Holy Cross Parish,  
101 S Walnut **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

Saturday 5

6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at  
102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945  
6:30 pm: Intro to Resin! Making Coasters at Reading Leaves  
Bookstore, 401 Broadway  
6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves  
Bookstore, 401 Broadway

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Celebration of  
Life for Cherylene  
Sherrill

At The Lodge, Saturday,  
March 29th at 6PM.

Come share your favorite  
memories of Cherylene  
with her family and friends.



A Celebration of  
Life for Golda  
Anna Marie  
“Annie” Howard  
McLane

Will be held on Saturday  
April 5, at 11:00AM.

Please join us to share  
memories of her life at The  
Lodge, 131 So Spruce St  
Townsend, MT.



BROAD WATER FOOD PANTRY

EASTER DINNER SIGN-UP

Brenda Phillips  
Food Pantry Rep



Sign-up will  
be March 29

Sign up at the Food  
Pantry at 317 Broadway St, Townsend is Saturday  
March 29 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
Food pick-up for Easter dinner will be April 19th

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 5  
FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.  
Next meeting: April16th, 7:00PM  
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St  
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

2025 COUNTY-WIDE YARD SALE!

Are you thinking about having a yard/garage sale or a  
rummage sale fundraiser this year?  
Consider joining the County Wide Yard Sale on  
July 19,2025.  
You hold the sale and keep all the profits – we will  
do the advertising.  
**NO FEE** to join the County Wide Yard Sale.  
Contact Vic at 406-422-9425 to be put on the map  
or for more information.

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](http://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



ATTENTION Airline Travelers and  
People Who Access Federal Buildings

May 7 will be the last day to obtain your REAL ID  
on your driver's license.

Airline passengers and people who want to go to  
Social Security Office or Internal Revenue Service  
will need to show a valid passport, or certified  
birth to go through security points.



For more information: REAL ID may be obtained  
through Montana Motor Vehicle Division at  
[mtmvd.gov](http://mtmvd.gov) or by calling (406) 444-3933.



## BHS Students Travel to Washington DC and New York

**Karsyn Sangray**  
*Broadwater High School  
Student Intern*

Six BHS students visited Washington D.C. and New York during this year’s Close Up Tour. Led by teacher and advisor Brittany Bancroft, Memphys Meier, Abigail Wickens, Karsyn Sangray, Anna Beatty, Jazlyn Martin, and Jenna Mainwaring took on the cities. The group toured many places, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, the Holocaust Museum, and Times Square. They were able to meet with a staff member of their Congressman, Steve Daines, at his office in Washington, D.C. They arrived in the late afternoon on Sunday, March 16th, along with students from schools across the nation.

Anna Beatty had a blast taking pictures of everything. She thinks that she has over 2,000 pictures. Her favorite part of the trip was meeting other people who were there and getting to explore Washington, D.C. and New York with them. Her tour favorites were seeing the Brooklyn Bridge, the presidents’ memorials and the Holocaust Museum. Anna had the opportunity to meet new people as she and her roommate Jenna Mainwaring shared a room with two girls from Drummond. The friends she made along the way will last her a lifetime, she said. When talking about the week, she said, “One thing I learned is that P.T. Barnum, the circus owner, walked 21 elephants across the Brooklyn bridge to prove that it was a stable and safe bridge. Something that I took away was the influence you have when you are a part of a specific state.”

Memphys Meier also enjoyed the Close Up tour and her favorite part was watching the Broadway show “Boop!”. Boop! was about how the well-known cartoon character Betty Boop felt in her world. She took a trip to the ‘real world’ and experienced everything, even love. The Broadway show had a few rows filled with students whose eyes never left the stage



From left: Jenna Mainwaring, Anna Beatty, Abigail Wickens, Karsyn Sangray, Jazlyn Martin and Memphys Meier at Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, DC.  
Karsyn Sangray, MT43 News Photographer

Memphys also enjoyed her visit to the Statue of Liberty. One of Memphys’s favorite parts was not in New York but in Washington D.C. She learned about the Korean War and found that there is only one specific spot you can stand without the statues being able to see you. That impacted her perspective on war and what these soldiers really went through. She described her week, saying, “We toured around some of the memorials and museums the average person will never get to see. Our nation’s memorials and museums represent wars in a most beautiful and honorable way. When we went to New York, it felt as if we were in a movie. There was so much shopping and sights to see all around us. However, overall, the people that we traveled with made it whole.”

Founded in 1971, the nonprofit Close Up Foundation seeks to introduce high school students from all states to participate in learning about civic education, including active participation to give them a deeper understanding of history, government institutions and current issues

The group of six girls would like to thank their advisor, Ms. Bancroft, their chaperones Kamae Meier and Shawna Wickens and the people who supported their fundraising efforts.

## Home and Small Producer Food Laws

**Broadwater County Environmental Health Department**



Springtime in Montana is approaching rapidly with Summer on its heels. Soon, the summertime traditions of farmer’s markets and County fairs will return and provide enjoyment to those weary from the seemingly endless Montana winter.

Community events not only provide enjoyment but also provide an opportunity for local entrepreneurs to sell their products and expand their business opportunities which benefits the local economy.

The Montana Local Food Choice Act (MLFCA), Cottage Food rules, and Farmers’ Market rules allow foods to be made in a home kitchen; however, there are limitations on what types of foods can be produced and where they can be sold.

Interpreting the laws and determining what is allowable can be very complicated. The purpose of the laws is to allow for the sale and consumption of homemade food and food products and to encourage the expansion of agricultural sales by ranches, farms, and home-based producers while providing citizens unimpeded access to healthy food from known sources.

MLFCA allows homemade foods and raw milk from small dairies to be sold directly to an informed end consumer. A direct sale means a face-to-face purchase or exchange between the producer and the consumer. These foods are not licensed, permitted, certified, packaged, labeled or inspected.

They can be sold directly to the consumer or at a traditional community event, at on-farm stores, and through delivery. These products cannot be sold by a third party or any other entity that is not the producer and can only be sold in the state of Montana.

Meat or meat products may not be used in the preparation of the homemade food; however, a producer who slaughters fewer than 1,000 poultry birds a year is exempt.

Cottage Food rules apply to non-potentially hazardous foods produced in a home kitchen. These foods are typically baked goods, dried fruits and herbs, jams and jellies, candies and other foods that don’t require

refrigeration. Similar to MLFCA foods, cottage foods must be sold directly to the consumer and can only be sold within Montana. Providing these products by consignment, including at a retail food establishment or through a wholesale establishment, is prohibited.

Operators are required to register their products and are expected to maintain a clean kitchen and workspace and practice safe food handling techniques. Registration is not required if non-potentially hazardous foods are being sold at farmers’ markets only. The Broadwater County Environmental Health Department can provide guidance on Cottage Food registration.

Farmers' market is defined as a farm premises, a food stand owned and operated by a farmer, or an organized market authorized by the appropriate municipal or county authority (MCA §7-21-3301).

Food sold at farmers’ markets must be non-potentially hazardous, specifically exempted, or approved and licensed as a retail food establishment unless produced pursuant to the MLFCA. A farmer’s market authorized by a municipal or county authority is required to keep registration records of all persons and organizations that serve or sell food exempt from licensure at the market.

Broadwater County Environmental Health Department is happy to answer any questions and assist the public with understanding the regulations. We can be reached at (406) 266-9209 or envhealth@broadwater-countymt.gov.

## Americanisms



“Any fool can make a rule,  
and any fool will mind it.”  
— Henry David Thoreau

## Notes from ND

**Mikayla Kraft**  
*MT43 News Correspondent*



It was Saturday morning. I just finished my coffee for the day and read Matthew 14

in my Bible. In the end, Jesus was walking on the water and Peter took a step of faith out to Him, attempting to walk on the water. When Peter’s faith dwindled, he started to sink. Jesus called out the little faith he had and helped him back onto the boat. Goosebumps covered me. This week was incredibly rough. I failed a critical exam and could not get a grasp on what I did wrong, and because of that I almost missed my retesting opportunity. I was falling behind in chemistry because I could not grasp the topic of equilibrium constants, and my grades suffered. To top it all off, I had three huge assignments due the same day on Friday.

I was incredibly overwhelmed the entire week and cried to both of my professors and my boyfriend and just did not know what to do. Because of this, I withdrew from my friends and took away my top priority - my time with God - which ultimately made it worse. I didn’t know it then, but as I stressed and overwhelmed myself, I stopped putting my trust in God, who has control over everything, and I began to sink.

I went through my day today listening to music that truly encouraged me - Good Shepherd by UPPERROOM, Psalm 46 by Shane and Shane, and Your Glory, My Good by Erik Nieder - cranking out the ridiculous amount of homework that I had to complete the next day. The day was tedious but come evening, I was reminded even more of God’s provision. At 6 pm, I went to a worship night led by UPPERROOM with my friends Regan and Megan. It was so amazing. Not only did I get to finally spend time with my girls, but I got to do it while focusing on the God who is in control of every situation, further solidifying my desperate need for my biggest supporter.

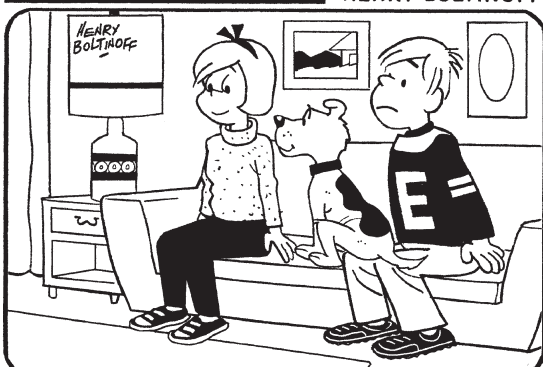


Post worship night selfies with my best friend, Megan  
Mikayla Kraft Photo

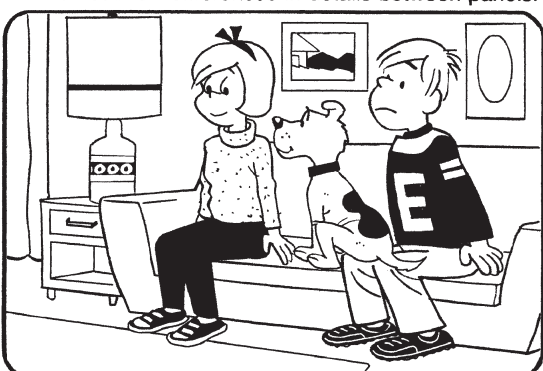
In college, it is easy to forget why you chose the path and the community that will be with you every step of the way. Instead, we overwhelm ourselves with expectations. I try my hardest to make it a habit to turn to God when things get too much, but you could also turn to your mom and dad if they are your biggest supporters, or your best friend, and even a mentor or professor. Believe it or not, we were not made to do college or anything else alone, so when you need it the most, don’t be afraid to turn to the ones who love you the most.

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Drawer handle is different. 2. Picture is reversed. 3. Stripes on sleeve are higher. 4. Spot on dog's back is smaller. 5. Curtain is shorter. 6. Design on lamp is different.



## Ya Reckon?

Denise Thompson

MT43 News AG  
Correspondent



If today was April 1st I would be telling you all about Vince Thompson’s new venture as a sheep farmer. All kidding aside, we never imagined working sheep in our new corral system, but it happened over the weekend and boy did we gain a newfound respect for Kelly Ingalls and his family of the Round Grove Ranch.

Kelly called us in a bit of a bind, needing to work a band of sheep, as he and his crew were moving the critters from their winter range in the Limestones to ranch headquarters on the east side of the lake. No, our new corral setup was not built for sheep. They were not fans of our cattle chute and alley system, so we had to improvise. The day turned out much longer than anyone had anticipated, but we got the job done.



4th generation rancher, Kelly Ingalls, hopes sheep will remain part of his family's Round Grove Ranch for generations to come.  
Photo Credits: Denise Thompson

Broadwater County is tremendously blessed to be filled with some amazing multi-generation ranches with rich and colorful histories. Round Grove Ranch, established in 1861 is certainly one of the premier establishments. Kelly shared that a fella by the name of Hamlin was the first to live on the plot of land where the ranch was later formed. This man was a refugee from the Civil War, and because he arrived before the government and the Homestead Act, he only received a Declaration of Occupancy.

Round Grove Ranch has been running sheep since the 1920’s. They raise the Rambouillet breed because of their strong flocking instinct, range benefits, and quality wool and meat. The ranch has been wintering the sheep in the Limestones since the 1930s. This area, due to lack of water, is not real conducive to cattle, but the sheep are more adept and can better utilize the snow and harvest the forage. Furthermore, sheep are known to be a natural remedy for noxious weeds and have been used successfully across federal, state and private lands to combat weeds without using dangerous herbicides. This, in turn, has allowed for native grasses to become more prevalent and range health to improve.

Lambing season is in April, so the Peruvian sheepherders, invaluable herd dogs (Border Collies, Akbash from Turkey, and the Bulgarian Kararachan), and Kelly and his family are moving bands and preparing to shear. Even though raising sheep is labor intensive, seeing all those precious lambs frolicking around is certainly the epitome of Spring and Hope, ya reckon!



Skilled Peruvian Sheepherders and their incredible herding dogs are key to the Round Grove Ranch sheep operation.  
Photo Credits: Denise Thompson

Kelly and his brother, John Ingalls are the 4th generation on the historical Round Grove Ranch. Kelly and Kay’s children, Ellie and Louis, are now back on the ranch, with aspirations of carrying on the rich legacy that makes this ranch unique. Ellie graduated from MSU with a degree in Ag Business, and her focus is helping John with the cattle, where she is perceptive and organized. Louis graduated from MSU with a degree in Farm and Ranch Management and takes his savvy intensity and work ethic to all aspects of the ranch, with a current focus being helping Kelly with the sheep.

Having both cattle and sheep certainly has its advantages in the fluctuating agriculture markets, providing the ranch with a steadier income stream. Kelly continues to improve on the quality of wool and produce more meat per animal. He and his entire family are hopeful Round Grove Ranch will remain steeped in tradition, raising quality sheep, cattle, and crops, while playing an invaluable roll in keeping the open spaces of Montana in agriculture.

For the Love of Ag, From the Heart of a Western Woman.

Denise Thompson

## Toston Rancher Runner-up at Speech Contest

MT43 News Staff Repoter

Even though she never took speech and debate in high school, Toston rancher Samantha Ferrat won second place in a prepared speaking contest at the MFU national convention. She and her husband John attended the convention in Oklahoma City recently.



Montana Farmers Union President Rob Larew presents Samantha Ferrat with her speech contest award in Oklahoma City.  
Photo Provided

Samantha said in an email that Montana swept the contest when another Montanan, Rachael Prevost, earned 1st place in the contest. This was the Ferrats’ first time at a national convention: “It was quite the experience, one for the books! Our time spent with fellow farmers... from across the US, was well worth the efforts of being away from the ranch as we connected with like-minded folks and learned from our farming peers.”

Samantha also writes for the MFU quarterly magazine under “Field Notes” in which she covers activities of Central Montana farmers and ranchers.

The national farmers’ and ranchers’ organization meets annually to set policy regarding the US farm bill and other federal programs that affect the farming industry.

John has been an MFU member since 2000. Samantha joined when the couple married in 2017. The couple run a cow-calf operation of registered and commercial Limousin cattle.



### The Birds Nest

(406)266-1335

### Unique Gifts, Antiques & Treasures

Connecting Local People to Locally  
Sourced and Produced Goods from Day 1!

125 S Pine St, Townsend MT

## Future Farmers of America

Ashley Sanderson

Broadwater FFA Correspondent

Hello everyone! I’ve had the opportunity to be a part of Mrs. Loughery’s Horticulture classes during the 2024-2025 school year. I originally signed up for these classes as I am required to participate in at least one ag class each semester in order to be an FFA chapter officer. This has turned out to be a great experience for me and I know it has been for my fellow classmates as well.

Throughout the school year, we have learned about different ways to propagate plants and different types of greenhouse structures, and we’ve even gone through an interview process for different positions in our school greenhouse. While the school year is coming to an end, this class is just getting started. I would like to highlight some of the great things we will be doing to showcase all we have learned this year!

Announcements Include:

- Online- Pre-order Sale through April 25th, 2025 at broadwaterffa.square.site
- Adult Education Class- April 17th, 2025 @6pm in the Greenhouse at the School
- Elementary Transplanting Classes May 5-8, 2025
- In-person Plant Sale Day 1- May 10th, 2025 from 10 AM-2 PM in the Greenhouse
- In-person Plant Sale Day 2- May 31st, 2025 from 12-6PM in the Greenhouse

If you have any questions or would like to sign up for the Adult Education Class, please reach out to my advisor Jemma Loughery at jloughery@townsend.k12.mt.us or 406-314-3403.

All of the greenhouse plants have been planned, ordered, transplanted, designed, and cared for by the Horticultural Classes at Broadwater High School. The valuable skills students have learned will be useful for the rest of their lives. Please consider supporting the Horticulture students and the Broadwater FFA Chapter at one of the upcoming events this spring.

## Mason Moore Foundation Dinner

Matt Nelson

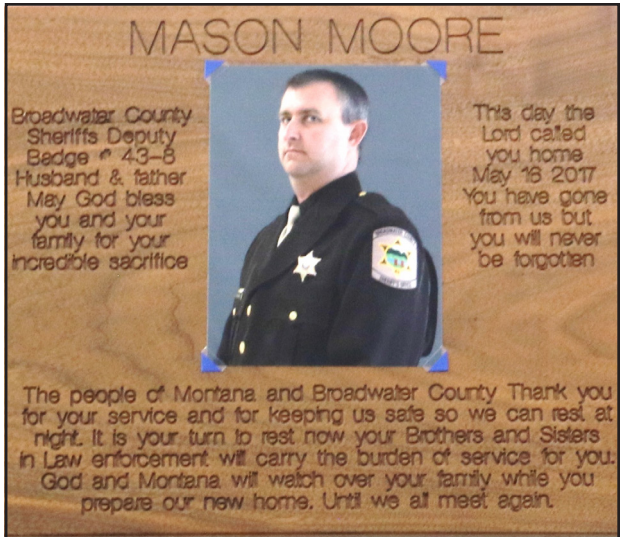


Broadwater County Deputy Sheriff Mason Moore was killed on May 16, 2017 while in the process of doing a traffic stop. After that horrible event, his family started the Mason Moore Foundation (MMF– www.MasonMooreFoundation.com). Additionally, the MMF sponsored a dinner called the Love Wins Bash in Bozeman on the evening of Saturday, March 22nd. Approximately 500 First Responders, including Montana Law Enforcement Agencies, and many of their family members showed up.

The Mason Moore Foundation was created to show our love and support of Law Enforcement Agencies in Montana. The Foundation will promote and develop communication and understanding between the community and Law enforcement and educate the public and state and local leaders about ways in which they can support Law Enforcement. The Foundation will also provide grants to local law enforcement agencies to provide for programs or special equipment that may not be available through the standard governmental funding process. This is how love wins.”

Prior to eating dinner, Eric Crusch gave an opening prayer. He is also the pastor of the Elkhorn Community Fellowship Church here in Townsend. During the dinner, the MMF founding board member, Jodi Moore, Mason’s wife, called up her twin sons Chase and Cole and her daughter Branna, and then she called up the MMF Board of Directors & Law Enforcement Advisors. The other Board members are Jessica Crusch, Kira Gifford, Brynn Turcotte, Claïressa Harris, Rebecca Jones, and Brittany Greydanus. The advisors are Don Peterson, Sean Gifford, Brandon Ihde, Ben Mahoney, John O’Brien, and Austin Micu. Broadwater County Under Sheriff Mark Wood was also present.

A year ago the MMF donated about \$25,000 in grant money to Montana First Responders and Law Enforcement Agencies; this year the amount was \$53,085.00 to 13 different counties. Out of the 13, representatives of 11 showed up. This year the grant money Tasers, radios, standard and body cameras, vests etc.



Mason Moore Memorial Plaque and Display  
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

On display at the Broadwater County Sheriff’s Office is a wooden plaque and a photo display of Mason. The wooden plaque reads:

“MASON MOORE. Broadwater County sheriff’s Deputy Badge #43-8 husband & father. May God bless you and your family for your incredible sacrifice. This day the Lord called you home May 16, 2017. You have gone from us but you will never be forgotten.”

## 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!

Big Sky Angels- Laura Stevenson

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

Touch of Twyla’s Greeting Cards

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

MENTION THIS  
AD AT HIGHWAY 12,  
GET 10% OFF!!



LEGAL NOTICES

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



**NOTICE OF CLOSE REGULAR REGISTRATION**

MAY 6, 2025, ELECTION  
TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD TRUSTEE  
AND SHERIFF PUBLIC SAFETY MILL LEVY

NOTICE is hereby given that regular registration for TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 AND SHERIFF PUBLIC SAFETY MILL LEVY ELECTION to be held on MAY 6, 2025, will close at 5:00 PM, on APRIL 7, 2025.

\*NOTE: If you miss the regular registration deadline, you may still register for the election by showing up at the county election office up to, and including, on election day.

All active and inactive electors are entitled to vote at said election.

Inactive electors may reactivate by appearing at the CLERK AND RECORDER OFFICE IN THE COURT HOUSE 515 BROADWAY, TOWNSEND, MT 59644 to vote, by requesting an absentee ballot, or by notifying the County Election Administrator in writing of the elector’s current residence in the county.

Persons who wish to register and who are not presently registered may do so by requesting a registration form by mail or by appearing before the County Election Administrator.

If you moved, it is necessary to transfer your registration to your present address.

DATED this 7TH day of March 2025.  
/s/ ANGIE PAULSEN  
BROADWATER COUNTY  
Clerk and Recorder | Elections Administrator | County Surveyor  
*Published March 14, 21 28 and April 4, 2025*  
MNAXLP

**MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,  
BROADWATER COUNTY**

ROBERT P. ANTONICK, THOMAS J. ANTONICK, JOHN D. ANTONICK, Plaintiffs,  
v. VINCENT J. ANTONICK, SAMUEL ANTONICK, RUTH A. FLECK, MARY T. LISS, and LOUIS V. ANTONICK, Defendants.

ROBERT P. ANTONICK, THOMAS J. ANTONICK, JOHN D. ANTONICK, Plaintiffs,  
v. LOWER DEEP CREEK DRAINAGE DISTRICT; THE OWNERS, MEMBERS, BENEFICIARIES, BENEFICIAL OWNERS, SUCCESSORS, ASSIGNS, HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF LOWER DEEP CREEK DRAINAGE DISTRICT, AND EACH AND ALL OF THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN OWNERS OF THE REAL PROPERTY, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT IN THIS ACTION, FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE ABOVE-ENTITLED COURT; ALL OF THE HEIRS, DEVISEES, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS OF EACH OF SAID KNOWN AND UNKNOWN OWNERS WHO MAY BE DECEASED, IF ANY; AND ALL OTHER PERSONS KNOWN, UNKNOWN, Case No. DV-4-2020-30-OC SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION CLAIMING OR WHO MIGHT CLAIM ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, OR INTEREST IN OR LIEN OR ENCUMBRANCE UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFF’S OWNERSHIP OR ANY CLOUD UPON PLAINTIFFS’ TITLE THERETO, WHETHER SUCH CLAIM OR POSSIBLE CLAIMS BE PRESENT OR CONTINGENT, Supplemental Defendants.  
TO: SUPPLEMENTAL DEFENDANTS

You are hereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action which is filed in the office of the clerk of this court, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to file your answer and serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiffs’ attorney within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. This action is brought for the purpose of quieting title to land situated in Broadwater County, Montana, and more particularly described as follows:

Township 7 North, Range 2 East, M.P.M., Broadwater County, Montana.

Section 29: Beginning at the northeast corner of the S1/2NE1/4 of Section 29, Township 7 North, Range 2 East, M.P.M., Broadwater County; thence N. 89°38'W., 2642.73 feet to the northwest corner of the S1/2NE1/4 of Section 29; thence N. 89°34'49"W., 448.36 feet to a point on the east right-of-way fence of a county road; thence S. 29°08'46"W., 1516.26 feet along the road right-of-way; thence S. 89°15'39"E., 447.0 feet; thence S. 02°35'56"W., 1316.25 feet to a point on the south line of the N1/2SW1/4 of Section 29; thence S. 89°21'14"E., 817.05 feet to the southeast corner of the N1/2SW1/4; thence S. 89°21'29"E., 2634.84 feet to the southeast corner of N1/2SE1/4; thence N. 0°12'12"W., 2663.49 feet to the point of beginning, as said tract is more particularly depicted on the survey plat filed of record with the Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder in Book 1 of Plats, page 98.

Witness my hand and seal of said court, this 4th day of March, 2025.

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT  
*Published March 14, 21, and 28, 2025*  
MNAXLP

**TOWNSEND K12 SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCREASE NON-VOTED LEVIES**

March 5, 2025  
The Townsend K12 School District #1 is committed to financial transparency. 20-9-116 MCA requires the District to provide notice of its intent to increase non-voted levies in the ensuing fiscal year for certain funds. However, understanding the District’s budgets requires considering all levy-supported funds. As a result, the proposed notice contains projections for all of the District’s levy-supported funds

TOTAL - ALL FUNDS USING PROJECTED TAXABLE VALUE:									
Fund	2024-2025 Actual Levies		2025-2026 Projections						
	\$	Mills	\$	Mills	Change \$	Change Mills	Est. Annual Tax Impact \$100K home	Est. Annual Tax Impact \$200K home	
General - BASE	\$ 777,577	36.37	\$ 777,577	36.35	\$ -	(0.02)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.06)	
General - OverBASE	\$ 932,332	43.59	\$ 932,332	43.59	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	
Transportation	\$ 313,164	14.64	\$ 325,706	15.23	\$ 12,542	0.59	\$ 0.80	\$ 1.60	
Bus Depreciation	\$ 63,139	2.95	\$ 63,139	2.95	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	
Tuition	\$ 164,392	7.69	\$ 175,695	8.21	\$ 11,302	0.52	\$ 0.70	\$ 1.40	
Adult Ed	\$ 21,390	1.00	\$ 29,234	1.37	\$ 7,843	0.37	\$ 0.50	\$ 1.00	
Technology	\$ 50,000	2.34	\$ 50,000	2.34	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	
Flexibility	\$ -	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	
Debt Service	\$ 1,238,804	57.91	\$ 1,288,826	60.25	\$ 50,021	2.34	\$ 3.16	\$ 6.32	
Building Reserve Permissive	\$ -	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	
Building Reserve Voted	\$ -	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	
Grand Total	\$ 3,560,798	166.49	\$ 3,642,507	170.29	\$ 81,709	3.80	\$ 5.13	\$ 10.26	

These estimates are the District’s best estimates at the current time. They are based on the current year’s taxable value, as required by 20-9-116 MCA. If the District’s taxable value increases as expected, the mill and taxpayer cost increases will be less than presented here. These estimates are preliminary and changes are expected before the final budgets are set in August.

*Published March 21 and 28, 2025*  
MNAXLP

**MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,  
BROADWATER COUNTY**

In the Matter of the Estate of CAROLE JENSEN CARROLL, Deceased.

Cause No.: DP-4-2025-0000004-IT

Judge: Christopher Abbott NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to PATRICIA A. HEBNER, personal representative, return receipt requested, care of her attorney, Ashley Burleson, of Crowley Fleck PLLP, 1915 South 19th Avenue, P.O. Box 10969, Bozeman, Montana 59718, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

Dated: March 12, 2025.

CROWLEY FLECK PLLP

By: Ashley Burleson

Attorneys for Personal Representative

*Published March 21, 28 and April 4, 2025*  
MNAXLP

**MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, BROAD-  
WATER COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: SHARON PATRICIA DOIG, Deceased.

Probate No DP-4-2025-0000005

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jennifer J. Dalrymple has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or their claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at Silverman Law Office, PLLC, P.O. Box 4423, Helena, Montana 59604, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct.

Jennifer J. Dalrymple SILVERMAN LAW OFFICE, PLLC  
by: Chris Walker

*Published March 28, April 4 and 11, 2025*  
MNAXLP

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

TO: THREE FORKS AREA AMBULANCE SERVICE AREA  
TFAA would like to bring attention to a double billing issue with American Medical Response in Bozeman MT.

It has been brought to our attention that some people who were transported by TFAA have also received a bill from AMR.

TFAA and AMR have a working agreement that TFAA pays AMR if there is a paramedic that accompanies TFAA. The individual being transported by TFAA should NOT receive a bill from AMR.

If this occurs (or has occurred) and you received a bill from AMR please reach out to TFAA at 406-404-7396

Or you can email us at 3fkamb@gmail.com

*Published March 28 and April 4, 2025*  
MNAXLP



**March 21**

**Dee Gannon**  
*MT43 News Correspondent*



The criminal docket in Judge Kathy Seeley’s courtroom on Friday, March 21 is as follows:

Micheal Kamps had a change of Plea; pleading Guilty to 1) negligent endangerment, 2) dismissed, 3) strangulation, and 4) partner/family member assault. The Court has ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation. In his elocution, he stated that in Broadwater County, he purposely hit a guardrail, scaring the victim. Later on that same day, he put his hands on her throat during an argument to cut off her breathing. He caused fear of injury by hitting the guardrail. His Sentencing is May 16.

Amberleah Greenstein had her Arraignment continued until April 18, so she may get an attorney through the Office of Public Defenders.

Jaden Adams had a Change of Plea; pleading 1) dismissed, was a charge of child endangerment, 2) DUI (1st) and 3) driving with a child under 16 in the car while intoxicated. A Plea Agreement is submitted to the Court. In his elocution, he stated that while in Broadwater County, he had consumed alcohol and driven with a child under 16 in the car. The Court sentenced him to one year in county jail, all but two days suspended. He must pay a \$1,200 fine, \$40 fees and surcharges, He gets three days credit time served. He must complete ACT class and remain law-abiding.

**STOKE Grant, 1**

what this pug mill looks like, imagine an oversized, heavy-duty meat grinder and you will be close. This is also very expensive at a delivered cost of \$6732. It has been ordered but not delivered yet, hopefully by April.

This is why STOKE applied for a grant from the Broadwater Community Foundation (BCF). The BCF board reviewed the application and determined that this was an item that could benefit STOKE and the community. We and the community are pleased and thankful that they are helping to fund this.

The Broadwater Community Foundation is part of the statewide Montana Community Foundation (MCF). The BCF makes a recommendation to the MCF, and the funds come from MCF if approved. The grant we received was \$3000, the maximum allowed. If anyone else would like to contribute towards the purchase of the pug mill, or any of our other many projects, we are a 501 (c)3 nonprofit, and donations may be used as a tax deduction.

All of STOKE’s programs are FREE for kids 18 and under. Adults and families are encouraged to participate in specific programs such as pottery. Please check out our website at stokemt.org.



# Legislature Advances a Slate of Proposed Improvements to Education Funding

Alex Sakariassen

Montana Free Press

This article by Alex Sakariassen was originally published in the Montana Free Press on March 13, 2025. It is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.

[https://montanafreepress.org/2025/03/12/legislature-advances-a-slate-of-proposed-improvements-to-education-funding/?utm\\_medium=email](https://montanafreepress.org/2025/03/12/legislature-advances-a-slate-of-proposed-improvements-to-education-funding/?utm_medium=email)

Over the past few months, lawmakers in Helena have introduced and debated an array of proposals impacting the flow of state funding to Montana’s K-12 public schools. The slate of bills has nearly outpaced the unprecedented flurry of education policy seen in 2023, and speaks to a seemingly endless list of needs — some long-standing, some new — vying for space in, or influence over, the state’s two-year budget.

By far the biggest-ticket item to appear before this week’s transmittal break is the high-profile STARS Act, which cleared the House in late February with strong bipartisan support and will make its Senate debut after the break. The measure, House Bill 252, would direct \$100 million in new education funding requested by Gov. Greg Gianforte toward salary increases for early career teachers statewide. The bill, spearheaded by Rep. Llew Jones, R-Conrad, would also increase state funding to school districts based on the number of postsecondary or career-technical education credits earned by their high school graduates.

As much attention as the STARS Act has attracted, other lawmakers are pursuing education funding requests or adjustments of their own. One such bill from Rep. Melissa Romano, D-Helena, seeks to spend \$500,000 from the state’s General Fund to support mental health initiatives at local schools. House Bill 385, which would route that funding through a pilot program to be overseen by Montana’s Office of Public Instruction, passed an initial vote in the House in late February and is awaiting action by the House Appropriations Committee.

“Our students continue to face an undeniable mental health crisis,” Romano told the House Education Committee in mid-February. “Anxiety, depression, bullying and stress are affecting their ability to learn, thrive and succeed in school. HB 385 is not just another education initiative. I believe it’s a lifeline for our children.”

Romano also proposed a measure to align per-pupil state payments for 6th graders in certain districts with rates for other middle-school grades, a change she argued would more accurately reflect the costs associated with middle-school instruction. House Bill 339 comes with an estimated annual price tag of \$13 million and, like HB 385, is now awaiting a vote by House Appropriations. Another Romano proposal, to broaden Montana’s early childhood literacy program to cover early math interventions, does not call for additional state funding, but a related bill from Rep. Melissa Nikolakakos, R-Great Falls, that also includes early scholastic literacy programming would increase state spending by an estimated \$4 million a year.

Other lawmakers are similarly looking to leverage existing law with no-cost tweaks to address unmet needs. Rep. Debo Powers, D-Whitefish, is proposing to direct unspent funds from a loan assistance program for starting teachers to licensed educators in other districts. House Bill 509 would continue to prioritize teachers working in special education cooperatives, rural districts and tribal communities but would charge the Office of Public Instruction with distributing any leftover funds to educators in districts that don’t meet current criteria. The bill cleared the House March 5 with bipartisan support.

On the instructional front, Rep. David Bedey, R-Hamilton, aims to create a second phase of state grants tailored to proficiency-based learning. Bedey told Montana Free Press this month that the existing “transformational learning” grants, established in 2019, were designed to inspire districts to create localized learning models that could be exported statewide. Bedey’s House Bill 573, which passed the House on a 92-7 vote March 7, would identify up to five districts with promising approaches and boost the programs’ funding for their efforts.

“We’ve planted seeds, and some things really took root well. The [state] superintendent will be responsible for identifying those and then providing amped-up funding to them so that they can go from a concept phase to a development phase,” Bedey said, adding that part of HB 573 calls for OPI to facilitate collaboration among the selected districts.

Asked about other significant public school investments currently on his policy plate, Bedey — who chairs the Legislature’s education budget subcommittee — pointed to his request for funding to help OPI secure high-quality instructional materials that align with state content standards. House Bill 462, which comes with a \$5 million one-time appropriation for the agency to secure such materials and make them available to local districts, passed the House Appropriations Committee in late February.

Meanwhile, Jones’ STAR Act isn’t the only measure aimed at improving the flow of state and local funding to public schools. Bedey is also carrying House Bill 156, which would replace the existing system of district-specific levies with countywide levies, a move he believes will more evenly distribute the local tax burden. Also, Rep. Brad Barker, R-Red Lodge, has introduced House Bill 567 with the goal of allowing school districts in the same county to share the costs of certain programs, equipment and other educational resources. HB 156 made it to the Senate in early February, while HB 567 cleared the House just days ahead of the March 7 transmittal deadline.

Beyond the STARS Act, one of the most impactful proposed changes under consideration this session is House Bill 483, sponsored by Rep. Courtenay Sprunger, R-Kalispell, which proponents have dubbed the “Right Back Act.” Sprunger’s bill seeks to build on 2023 legislation that altered Montana’s approach to equalizing funding between districts based on their taxable wealth. The previous session’s work directed excess collections from those “95 mills” to offset local contributions to teacher retirement, but quickly drew opposition from county governments that sued the state in an effort to cap the collections at a time when property values were skyrocketing. The Montana Supreme Court ruled in the state’s favor in November 2023.

According to Montana School Boards Association Executive Director Lance Melton, HB 483 would give lawmakers greater control in adjusting equalization rates when property values are reappraised, increasing their ability to mitigate impacts on property tax payers. To illustrate the tax-base disparities that drive the need for equalization, Melton calculated the amounts generated by the 95 mills in two Montana districts. In Lame Deer, he said, the 95 mills generate roughly \$16,000, while in Ennis — a slightly smaller-population district — they generate roughly \$3 million. Melton argued that Sprunger’s proposal will improve the state’s process of equalizing the local costs of education and ensure that any excess generated by the 95 mills will help alleviate other local taxes, such as voter-approved over-BASE levies, which enable districts to adopt budgets above the minimum requirements set in state law.

Education Funding, 11

# Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson

Justice Court Clerk

## MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

John Tierney, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00  
Amy Holland, Townsend: day speed \$20.00  
Harry Englehart, Missoula: day speed \$20.00  
Pearce Brittain, Bozeman: day speed \$120.00

## MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Andrei Nikolaev – Portland, OR. - fail to purchase trip permit immediately upon arrival in state, plead guilty, sixty days in jail with all time suspended on conditions, \$60.00 fines and fees; operating without temporary special fuel permit, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail all time suspended on conditions, \$325.00 fines and fees.

## BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Debra Montoya – East Helena – driving without a valid driver’s license, plead guilty, \$125.00 fines and fees.

## BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Cameron Wiens, Great Falls: night speed \$20.00  
James Stewart, East Helena: night speed \$20.00  
Wyatt Rauch, Clancy: night speed \$20.00  
Cole Mannix, Helena: night speed \$20.00  
Devon Kellner, Butte: night speed \$120.00  
Hayley Hedrick, Bozeman: night speed \$20.00  
Rob Evans, Bozeman: night speed \$20.00

## MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES

Benjamin Caucutt, Belgrade: Fail to register o/s MV when used for hire \$85.00

## INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Ashley Whitaker – First Judicial District Court, Lewis and Clark Co., \$50,000.00 bond  
Ashley Whitaker- Probation and Parole, \$50,000.00 bond

# Three Forks Community Ambulance

Barbara Mutter

Three Forks Area Community Ambulance

Three Forks Ambulance had 30 calls for service in February 2025.

## These calls included:

- 8 transports to the hospital with 4 Paramedic-intercepts for pain management
- 1 transport for LifeFlight from Bozeman Deaconess Hospital to the Airport
- 5 calls where AMR provided mutual aid
- 5 refusals for transport after our crews treated on-scene
- 5 cancellations before the responding crew arrived on-scene
- 1 motor vehicle accident where our crew was first on-scene to begin treating and the patient was transported by AMR
- 3 nights of basketball coverage at the High School (Go Wolves!)
- 1 deceased on arrival
- 1 response by a solo EMT who stabilized the patient and had AMR transport them

Our EMT class is in full swing with 11 students expected to graduate in May and move on to their national exams.

## Upcoming Events:

- Pint Night at Bridger Brewing! Join us on March 28th from 3 pm-8 pm for a silent auction at Bridger Brewing. Thousands of dollars in auction items including a brand new Traeger Smoker! Additionally, each pint sold donates \$1 to the Ambulance Service in support of our mission.
- Free Car Seat Safety Check. On March 29th our authorized restraint fitters will be at the station on 2 East Hickory from 10 am-12 pm to check car seats for proper installation and answer questions.
- Mammogram Bus from St. James Healthcare. On Tuesday, April 29th from 10 am-2 pm the Get On Board bus will be at our station performing state-of-the-art mammograms. Appointments are approximately 20 minutes and are covered by most insurance.

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

Our service is supported solely through insurance billing, donations, and grants.

In 2024 we received 340 calls for service resulting in 144 hospital transports. Our dedicated volunteer EMTs and drivers continue to work tirelessly to meet our community’s emergency medical needs. We appreciate your ongoing support. Please see our website, 3faa.org, if you are interested in supporting our mission financially or as a volunteer.

Thank you!

# Broadwater County Commissioner's Agenda

Daylene Hansen

Executive 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.gov>.

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.gov](http://www.broadwater-countymt.gov), in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline.

Monday, March 31, 2025

**2:00 PM** Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in CAO office, regarding projects and deadlines

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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

**10:00 AM** Discussion/Decision, Debbie Kelley, Finance Officer/Payroll Manager, Insurance Review Committee rate increase proposal

**10:05 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Lawson Boundary Relocation Exemption Request; S35, T7N, R2E

**10:15 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Counts Hay and Cattle Minor Subdivision Preliminary Plat Request; S9, T7N, R3E

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

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

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

Debi Randolph, Vice Chair  
(406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050 [drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov)

Jesse Swenson  
(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213 [jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov)

Lindsey Richtmyer, Chair  
(406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834 [lrichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:lrichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov)

E-mail: [commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov)

Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)

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

- Solid Waste Board Meeting on April 8th at 6:00 PM
- Mental Health Local Advisory Council Meeting on April 9th at 2:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on April 10th at 5:30 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on April 15th at 11:30 AM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on April 15th at 7:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on April 16th at 6:00 PM
- Board of Health Meeting on April 21st at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on April 23rd at 6:00 PM

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





# LOCAL EATS IN AND AROUND BROADWATER COUNTY



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

<b>American Legion Hall</b>  211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611 Dining Hours: Tuesday Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM SPECIAL Event with Food: 3/22: 5PM Chili Cook-off!! Bar hours may vary	<b>Bunkhouse Bar &amp; Grill</b>  8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 SPECIAL: N/A Dining Hours: 10:00AM – Close Grill off at 10:00PM	<b>Commercial Bar</b>  101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook	<b>Fishtale Tavern</b>  209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 11:00PM Daily Specials: Facebook Bar hours may vary	<b>Mountie Moose Bakery</b>  109 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-5800 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM - 4:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Online Ordering: Mountie-moose-bakery.square.site	<b>Peking China</b>  10 N Main St, Three Forks (406) 285-3225 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 11:30AM - 8:30PM Menu: Google
<b>The Betsy Sports Zone</b>  217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close Closed Monday Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com	<b>Canyon Ferry Brewing &amp; Taproom</b>  300 Broadway, Townsend (406) 694-5687 Hours: Wed - Fri. 4:00PM - Close Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close	<b>Copy Cup</b>  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	<b>Kick Start Nutrition</b>  500 N Front St, Townsend (406) 266-0033 Dining Hours: Tue - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 9:00AM - 3:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Daily Specials: Facebook & Instagram	<b>The Nook Coffeehouse</b>  401 Broadway, Townsend (406) 490-8238 Dining Hours: Mon 7:00AM - 5:00PM Tue - Thu 8:00AM - 5:00PM Fri - Sun 9:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: FB @thenookcoffeehouse & readingleaves.net/thenookcoffeehouse	<b>Rocky Mountain Supply Deli</b>  7847 US Hwy 287, Townsend (406) 266-3456 Hot & Cold To-Go Hours: Mon-Fri6:00AM - 6:00PM Menu: Board Inside Store for Take-and Bake or Ready-to-Eat Pizza Call Ahead or Order Inside
<b>Bread and Butter Cafe</b>  205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM- 2:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Menu available on Facebook	<b>C Hangin” C Mercantile &amp; Creamery</b>  310 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-9087 Dining Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30AM - 7:00PM Sat 8:00AM - 7:00PM Sun 8:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: Facebook changinmerc.square.site	<b>Deep Creek Pizza Co.</b>  415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Closed Sunday Menu: deepcreekpizzaco.com Accepting Orders Online	<b>Mint Cafe</b>  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 - 8:00PM SPECIAL: N/A	<div>YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE</div>	<b>TB’s Diner</b>  316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Mon- Sat 7:00AM - 8:00PM Sunday 7:00AM - 7:00PM 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

TURNING 65 SOON?  
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS

MARK LEYLAND  
406-438-7315  
LEYLANDMT.COM

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

Licensed Insured

### Mar Painting

Interior Al Nyhart  
Exterior (406) 223-3074

• DD Custom Flatbed Dealer  
• Laser Cut Parts Fabrication  
• Machining Hydraulics  
406-449-3464 | Townsend - Helena

### 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

406-422-4822  
**EASTER HAM!**  
Boneless: \$4.69/lb  
Bone in: \$4.59/lb  
tizermeats.com

YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE

## Super Crossword

PREPARING FOR NOTHING

**ACROSS**

1 Pleased

5 Rocker

9 Helper for Frankenstein

13 Jumped ship

19 Member of a canine unit

21 Nada

22 Remove adhesive strips from

23 Start of a riddle

25 Nonstudent resident of a college city

26 Microsoft Word creations, informally

27 Regret a lot

28 First-time fathers

30 Riddle, part 2

36 Prego

37 competitor

37 — -mo

39 Tiny, informally

39 Manner

40 Tavern spigot

43 In addition

47 Largest known asteroid

48 Riddle, part 3

53 Sch. near Harvard

54 Disposed (of)

55 Actor Sharif

56 Nero's 2,001

57 Fearful

58 Bro relative

59 — orange (inedible fruit)

61 Smidgen

63 "POV" network

65 Huck Finn's floater

67 Bandleader

68 Riddle, part 4

71 Broiling bar

75 Lane of the Daily Planet

77 Nintendo console

78 Tyrant Amin

79 Tree of the pine family

80 "— a deal!"

83 — -chic fashion

85 Old horror star Chaney

87 Prefix with Chinese

89 Island guitar, for short

90 Pro-firearm org.

91 Riddle, part 5

95 Joust weapon

97 Pencil add-on

98 Martial arts teacher

99 Italian wine city

100 Delhi dress

102 Org. for the Ravens, but not the Falcons

105 Lock lips with

106 End of the riddle

113 Conditionally free prisoner

114 Letters before gees

115 Maui feast

116 Not endless

117 Riddle's answer

124 12-step support group

125 Chocolate-and-caramel candy

126 Talus

127 Arid expanse

128 Plumlike fruit

129 Hit with a stun gun

130 Brainstorm

7 Lump in the throat

8 Yolked thing

9 Rack up

10 Thick and sticky

11 Yoko from Tokyo

12 Mended, as a sweater

13 "How come, though?"

14 Battery end

15 "I'm the culprit"

16 Valleys, plateaus and canyons

17 "Attack of the Clones," vis-à-vis "Star Wars"

18 Actress Ruby

20 Part of UPC

24 Pooch's bark

29 D.C. hrs.

30 General discomfort

31 Schedules

32 Responsibility

33 "Our Gang" novelist Philip

34 God, in Madrid

35 Relaxes

36 Musket-loading tool

41 Healing plant

42 Pug or peke alternative

44 — -pah-pah

45 Offensively self-assertive

46 African antelope

47 Kitchen VIP

49 "Rocky and Bullwinkle" villainess

50 Slate-colored

51 Delta, for one

52 Big name in big computers

60 Street poet

60 Scott-Heron

62 Dawn drops

64 Lanka

lead-in

66 Gp. often flagging bags

68 Celine

of pop

69 — Wafers

70 Actress

Falco

72 Old German kingdom

73 Most disgusting

74 Student's Ph.D. paper

76 Certain wind instrument

79 Ear part

80 Wife's sibling, e.g.

81 Rubbish heap

82 Hot California winds

84 Listens to by chance

86 LA-to-IN dir.

88 Hosp. figures

92 "Pics — didn't happen!"

93 — II (Gillette razor)

94 Egyptian cross

96 Topaz quartz

100 Unspoken

101 Get riper

103 Entertainer

Lola

104 Makes heavy, dull sounds

107 Auto engine

108 Mello — (soft drink)

109 Tale — (sob story)

110 Troop support gp.

112 Ditty

116 Craze

118 Cyber-guffaw

119 Kit — (candy bar)

120 Kyoto sash

121 Pea holder

122 Suffix with meth- or prop-

123 In-favor vote

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## Kids' Maze

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## Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contain all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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"I enjoyed every \_\_\_\_\_ of our evening."

### 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!

Exalt  
EDYFI

Lean  
NUGAT

Anger  
EQUIP

Grace  
DROAN

TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

## 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: I equals Y

ITE FGOQQI HOS'M JZUU MWOM

WGOCI, JEUHEQOF VEI

UZMMZSV TCGF MWGFG.

WG'U DEFQI FGHTVSZAODQG.

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## KNIGHT MOVES

S	C	U
O		P
A	S	I

Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

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SR. CENTER MEALS:  
MARCH 31 – APRIL 4

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

Monday, March 31

Sloppy Joes on a Bun  
Baked Beans  
Carrot Raisin Salad  
Applesauce

Tuesday, April 1

Baked Ham  
Scalloped Potatoes  
Garden Peas  
Whole Grain Bread  
Cinnamon Applesauce  
Dessert

Wednesday, April 2

BBQ Chicken Breast  
Wild Rice  
Green Beans  
Purple Beets  
Whole Grain Bread  
Plump Peaches

Thursday, April 3

Sweet-N-Sour Pork  
Fried Brown Rice  
Broccoli Spears  
Four Bean Salad  
Whole Grain Bread  
Baked Apples

Friday, April 4

Salisbury Steak  
Steamed Potatoes  
California Blend  
Carrot Raisin Salad  
Mandarin Oranges

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

Common  
Sense  
BY BILL GARWOOD

Timeless Greetings!

As I walk through this life, and especially locally I notice how many different ways people greet each other. It’s really interesting and unique to our area, for example: after September the local greetings (mostly between men) is: “Got your buck yet?”

I’m sure this isn’t just here in Montana, but it IS to areas that are heavily forested. The deer don’t usually hide in shopping malls, or do they? IF they were hiding there, you might not see them. Hey Bigfoot hides whenever they can, until some “tourist” goes I-phone hunting! (GEEZ, at least use a real camera. The Bigfoot have some pride, they don’t want to be “discovered” by some weekend “selfie taker”.)

Greetings are as unique to people as...well.... people. The usual "hello" has been pretty much replaced with “hey” loud or softly spoken, not even the cowboys use “howdy” much. The regular meet and greet is most often “hi”. I tend to try to be a bit fancy, as I mostly greet people with, “how are you doing this fine morning?” I stopped saying, “A grand day to you Sir / Ma’am”; I was getting too many strange looks and silence. One thing that seems totally Montana-ish is AFTER a greeting, and the wishing folks a nice day or week, people usually say: “You as well”. This is very nice, and polite.

Inflections in your voice can be interesting too, the old “How ya doin”, or toward females “How YOU doin?” Imagine that with a New York / Brooklyn / Boston accent. (Maybe Jersey.)

People moving here from “elsewhere” seem almost scared when friendly folks greet them in the street, around here lately folks will be quiet with a timid smile. However, once you give them a happy “good morning” they usually open up and say hello. This is NICE! And should be said by all, I mean on a summer day is one thing. But on a COLD blustery winter’s day this will warm the cockles of their heart! (Don’t ask me, I’m not a medical student I have no idea what part of the heart the “cockle” is.)

I know folks from Hawaii say “Aloha” mostly as a greeting or goodbye. German folks say “Gutten tag” (good day) or “Gross got” (God is good) depending on what area you are in. A Klingon greeting is: “nuqneH” Pronounced: “nook NEKH” (meaning “What do you want?”) They are Nasty people!

So, as you go about your day (even if you feel crappy) give out with a hearty “Helloooo.” YOU will feel better too!

Spring time is just peeking around the corner, get ready. Prep the mowers / clippers / trimmers, etc. The Time of GREEN, will soon be upon us. Enjoy my fellow Townsendites.

Our Walk  
In Faith

Elkhorn Community Fellowship

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

Faith Baptist Church

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

Holy Cross Catholic Church

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

Mountain Valley Church (of the CMA)

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

Radersburg Baptist Church

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

Set Free Christian Fellowship

318 Broadway St. Townsend; PO Box 1163

Pastor Carol Bergstad (406) 461-2181

**Sunday:** 9:30am Service | 7:00pm Set Free Recovery  
**Thursday:** 7:00pm Bible Study

Seventh Day Adventist Church

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

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod

301 N Cherry St. Townsend  
Steve Ward, Synod authorized minister (406) 220-8911  
Office hours Mon & Wed 9 am to noon  
Council President Margie Urich (406) 599-9848  
**Sunday:** 9:30am Services  
**Second Tuesday of the month:** 4:00pm Women of the ELCA meet.  
Bible Studies meet weekly. Call for more information.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

916 Broadway St. Townsend  
Bishop Matt Graham (406) 266-4255  
**Sunday:** 8:30am Choir Practice | 9:30am Sacrament Meeting | 10:40am Sunday School  
**Wednesday:** 6:00 - 9:00pm Family History Center Open  
For Family History Center appointment call Director, Rebecca Mitchell, (406) 980-0270  
**Wednesday:** 6:30pm Youth Activities

Townsend United Methodist Church

200 N Cedar St. Townsend  
Pastor Mele Moa (406) 266-3390  
TownsendUMC.org  
**Sunday:** 9:00am Services

Trailhead Christian Fellowship

20 Trailhead View Dr. (5 mi. north of Townsend)  
Pastor Clay Muinzer (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

Whispers Of The Past - Centerville Cemetery

Shelley Douthett

Rabbit hole research is my new specialty when it comes to the Centerville Cemetery occupants.

This is when I chase unknowns out there to determine who is out there. I also spend an inordinate amount of time chasing down the history of each person through a bunch of websites like Find A Grave, Ancestry, Archives, Newspapers, and anything else that will let me use it for free. I do have an account with Ancestry because my family has built our own tree.

The latest rabbit hole is from a headstone I couldn’t read to save my life. It’s bumpy and made out of a rough stone weathered to a point I could only tell something was on it by running my hands down the face and turning my head at weird angles if the sun was just right. Something is on there but what? I tried tracing paper with both chalk and pencils. I was only able to pick out the word ‘George’ and that was it. Frustrated, I went back to work on other priorities but it still bugged me.

Every so often, I return to YouTube for more cleaning headstone videos and I stumbled on some guys walking through a forest in Tennessee who found an old cemetery. Most of the headstones were lying down and broken, unreadable. The narrator with his Tennessee accent, explained how he managed to get to the information on the stones. Flour. He pulled a bag of flour out of his backpack and opened it. With one handful, he wiped it down the face of the stone that was standing until letters and numbers popped. Pretty soon, we knew who was buried there, when they were born and died and some other information.

I jumped up from my chair and computer and went to the kitchen cabinet and grabbed a bag of flour. I loaded up the dogs and my new flour friend and headed to the mystery headstone. I was hopeful, excited and in my head, I was speaking with a Tennessee accent. With one magical handful of flour, I was able to discover a guy named George Siggs, born in 1824 and died July 26 1879. See picture. Mystery stone solved.

That night, I jumped on the computer again to find out who George Siggs was and ran into a bit of a brick wall again. This is not uncommon in research but it is frustrating. All I could find on him was an 1870 census showing him in the Diamond City district of Meagher County but I don’t think he lived there, or at least he didn’t live there long.

He filed for 100 acres using the Homestead Act down by Canton and became a farmer. He came from England, settled here in November 1865 at the age of 41, was a lifelong bachelor, a good farmer and neighbor

George Siggs Headstone  
Photo Credit: Shelley Douthett

but drank away his money and sold his farm to the Leary brothers. I didn’t find a death certificate but he only lived to the age of 55.

There is a story about him in Broadwater Bygones driving a team of oxen up to Diamond City, visiting the tavern and falling asleep in his wagon on the way home and then somehow losing his oxen. How did they get loose? These and more questions are what keep me hooked on this hobby I didn’t know I wanted.

Did you know people in those days called the owners of land acquired by the Homestead Act squatters? Feels like today the term ‘squatters’ has a whole different meaning.

I shouldn’t call my research rabbit holes. I should call it gopher holes since there are a lot of gophers and holes out there. And cactus.

Comments or information you want to share can be sent to me at douthetts@aol.com

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For no one is cast off by the Lord forever. Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone.

LAMENTATIONS 3: 31-33

Detail of "The Widow I" by Käthe Kollwitz (1922-23)



OBITUARY

Marion S. Kitto

Family of Marion S. Kitto

Marion S. Kitto, 93, passed away Wednesday, March 19th, 2025 at the Billings Broadwater Care Home in Townsend, Montana.

Marion was born April 8, 1931, near Corvallis, Montana, to Andrew Stewart and Clara (Stark) Stewart. The arrival of two sisters, Harriet and Jane, would complete the family.

When Marion was in the 4th grade, the family moved to Twin Bridges, Montana. She continued her education in Twin Bridges and graduated from High School in 1949. At age eleven, she made a choice to serve God and was faithful to that commitment all her life.

Marion married Forrest Kitto on June 10, 194,9 in Twin Bridges. They made their home and farmed in the Toston Valley.

Forrest and Marion raised 3 children together: Rod, Pam and Barb.

Marion loved being outdoors. She raised chickens and a big garden: harvesting, canning and freezing food the family enjoyed during the winter months. One of her favorite jobs on the farm was driving the buck rake. During haying season, it was a common sight to see her racing across the field, her ponytail flying behind her.

Forrest and Marion loved to camp. Marion wrote the Crow Creek News for several years. Using the money she earned, the family enjoyed a yearly camping trip at Wade Lake. After Forrest passed away in

1999, Marion continued to enjoy her quilting hobby. In Marion's home, her love for cats and owls was very evident, gracing walls, shelves, and tables.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Forrest, and her two sisters, Harriet Elden of Washington and Jane Dalke of Wyoming. Survivors include her son, Rod (Linda) Kitto of Toston, daughters, Pam (Leonard) Lambott of Toston, Barb (Duane) Durkee of Helena, eight grandchildren, Todd (Kay) Kitto of Toston, Brittney (Mike) Ray of Moscow Idaho, Wanda Lambott of Townsend, Karen (Jason) Noyes of Toston, Carmen (Hugh) Braaten of Townsend, Wendy (Blaine) McRae of Townsend, Shannon Durkee of Boise, Idaho, and Shaun (Emily) Durkee of Bozeman. Marion had a special love for her fifteen great-grandchildren: Aiden, Alex and Aura Kitto, Melania and Mishayla Lambott, Tyler, Taylor, Colton, and Kaitlyn Noyes, Trenton, Kady, and Spencer Braaten, Dannika McRae, and Lila and Forrest Durkee. She is also survived by many close friends and relatives.

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the staff at Billings Broadwater Care Home for your loving care of our Mom. We appreciate your every kindness extended to Mom and to us.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 27, 2025, at Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home, 212 Broadway Street in Townsend. There will be a visitation time one hour prior to the service on Friday, March 28th at the Broadwater High School Gymnasium. Funeral services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. at the school gymnasium. A lite reception will



Marion S. Kitto  
Photo Provided by Family of Marion S. Kitto

follow at the school. A graveside burial rite will be at approximately 4:00 p.m. Friday at Radersburg Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be given to: Activities Fund, Billings Clinic, 110 N. Oak Street, Townsend, MT 59644; Broadwater Community Foundation, P.O. Box 371, Townsend, MT 59644; or donor's choice.

Please visit [www.stevensonwilke.com](http://www.stevensonwilke.com) to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Marion.

David Donald Shearer

Family of David Donald Shearer

David Donald Shearer was born August 17, 1946, to Donald and Irene (Ferrat) Shearer in Townsend, Montana. He died on March 24, 2025, at the age of 78 after a long and hard-fought battle with cancer for the last three years. He went in peace while surrounded by his loving family at home.

Dave graduated from Broadwater County High School in Townsend in 1964. After graduation, he attended Montana State University and joined the Army National Guard, where he served as a medic.

In his younger years, he loved to ride his motorcycle, drive his Mustang, or play the alto saxophone in a band.

Dave married Kathy Ragen on November 22, 1969, and they had three children: Kipalee, Angela, and Jack. He later found his forever partner to spend the last 34 years of his life with when he married Mary Dale Meckling on January 5, 1991.

Dave embraced Mary’s children, Craig, Joe, and Trudie Jones, and together with his children, they all embarked on many “Brady bunch” adventures.

Dave was a hard-working farmer for most of his adult life, only retiring the year before his cancer diagnosis. He enjoyed working the fields and raising cattle. He had a passion for the land and its beauty. He had a love for nature and instilled this in his children. He loved watching the sunset and the moon rise. He could be found staring out his windows at beautiful Mt. Baldy and Mt. Edith and watching for deer and pheasants to walk by his windows. His favorite evening pastime was driving around the countryside to spot and photograph elk.

Just this last year, he and Mary Dale were able to go on his dream trip to Alaska. He was an avid sportsman,

enjoying both hunting and fishing. He was a collector of guns and enjoyed reloading for friends and family in his free time. He was a graceful downhill skier and he spent many good weekends with family at Big Sky and Showdown. Whether in the mountains or by the water with a fishing rod in hand, Dave found peace and fulfillment in nature.

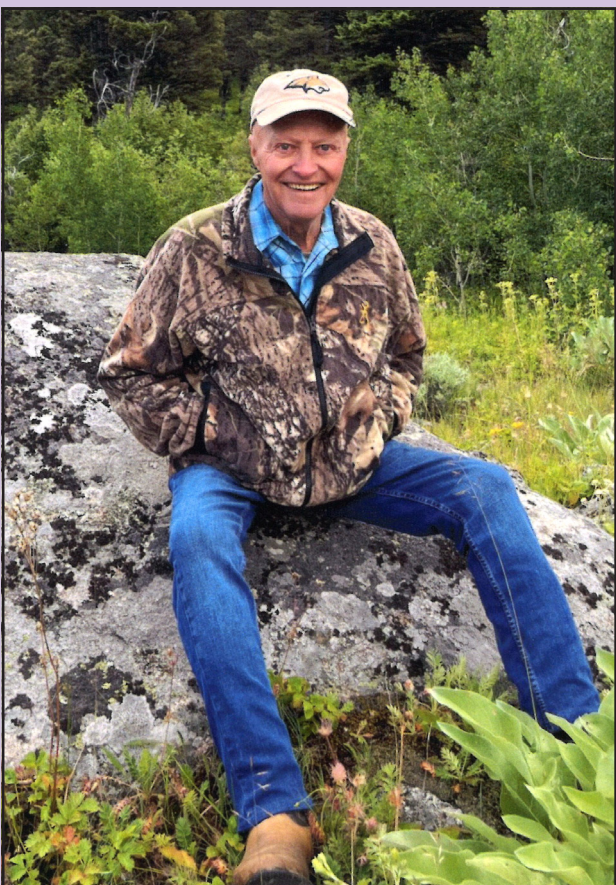
Dave had a very comforting way about him and expressed his love and pride in his family. He passed on his love for nature and taught his nine grandchildren how to fish. He found joy in teaching them how to bait a hook, find the perfect fishing hole, reel in a fish, and clean their catch. He was a patient teacher who spent much of the time on a fishing trip untangling lines and replacing bait.

Dave was a faithful servant of God and believer in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He always put others before himself and wanted to ensure everyone was okay. Even on his deathbed, he would ask, “How can I help?” and “Are you okay?”

He is now surrounded by the glory of our Creator in Heaven and no longer has to imagine what it would be like to stand in His presence.

Dave and the family are so thankful for the care and compassionate treatment he received from the medical staff at St. Peter’s Cancer Center and Compassus Hospice during his illness.

Dave was preceded in death by his loving mother and father, his younger brother Daniel, and Dan’s wife Joni Shearer. He is survived by his wife, Mary Dale, his children Kipalee (Erik) Bakken, Angie (Dan) Clark, Jack Daniel Shearer, Craig Jones, Joe (Shannon) Jones, and Trudie Revious, his nine grandchildren: Zachary Clark (Rudrani Sarna), Ashley Clark (Forrest Havens), Karsten Bakken, Hayden (Meghan) Bakken, Wesley Shearer, Gabe Jones, Colby Jones, Grace Revious and Colton Revious and his nephews and niece: Jordan



David Donald Shearer  
Photo Provided by Family of David Donald Shearer

(Anna) Shearer, Sam (Charsi) Shearer, Jenna (Austin) Grazier and two great nephews: Weston and Wade Shearer and a nephew who was like another son, Chase (Daniela) Ragen.

There will be a graveside memorial service for family and friends on Monday, June 23, 2025. Please visit [www.stevensonwilke.com](http://www.stevensonwilke.com) for updated service information as June arrives.

Dave’s wish was to have his ashes scattered on his favorite hunting spot, “The Point” on Six Mile.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the cancer center at St. Peter’s Hospital or Compassus Hospice in Helena.

HELENA OBITUARY

Cody Lin Buffham

Family of Cody Lin Buffham

Cody Buffham, Age 53, passed away suddenly on March 15, 2025, at home. He was born on August 18, 1971, in Montrose, CO, to Les Buffham and Phyllis Buffham. Cody graduated from Saugus High School in California. He was preceded in death by his parents, Les and Phyllis Buffham.

He is survived by his loving wife, Ilene; his son, Skyler; step-sons, Sean and Michael; and son-in-law, Daryl. He is also survived by his favorite brother, Brandt, and favorite sister, Raquel, as well as many nephews, nieces, cousins, close friends, extended family, and his best friend, Danny Ellis.

Cody was a devoted father to his son, Skyler, and step-sons, Sean and Michael, being the only father figure they ever had in their lives. He was incredibly proud of his son, Skyler, for achieving the rank of Life Scout. Cody loved helping Skyler sell popcorn for Scouts and was an active leader for Troop 212, always participating in scout activities and events.



Cody Lin Buffham  
Photo Provided by Family of Cody Lin Buffham

An avid reader, Cody was a huge fan of Stephen King and had an extensive collection of his books, adding a new one nearly every year. He also had a passion for

horseback riding and cherished his horse, El-Tosco. As a child, he participated in endurance rides with him.

Cody enjoyed spending time outdoors, whether working in the yard with his puppy, Walker, planting flowers, or camping with his family and on scouting trips. His love for nature and adventure was evident in everything he did.

Cody will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

A memorial service to honor Cody’s life will be held on June 8, 2025, at 4:00 PM at Cook Mansion in Townsend, MT.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to plant a tree in his memory.

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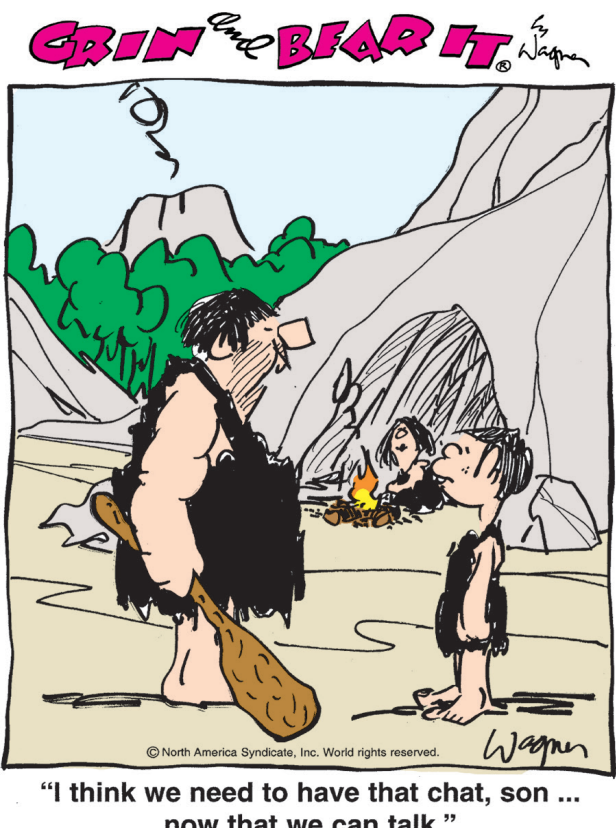
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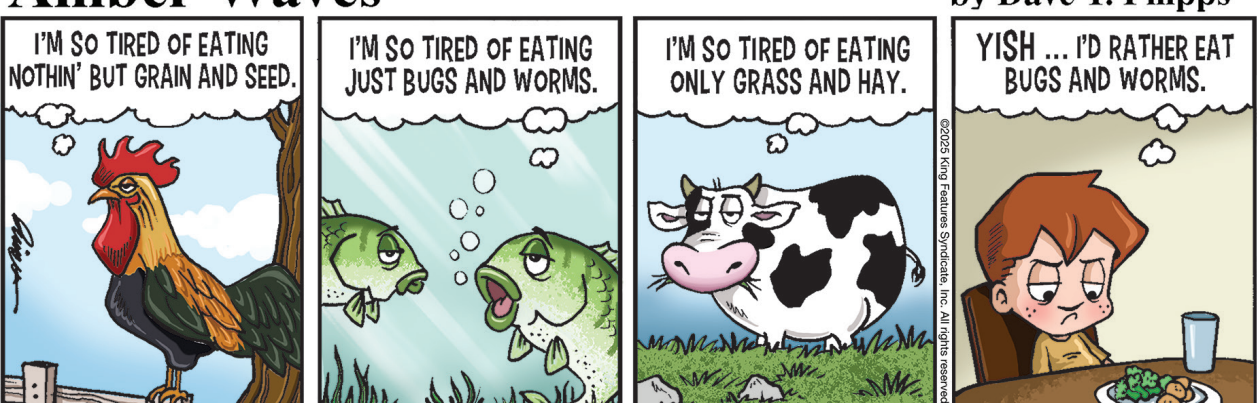
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



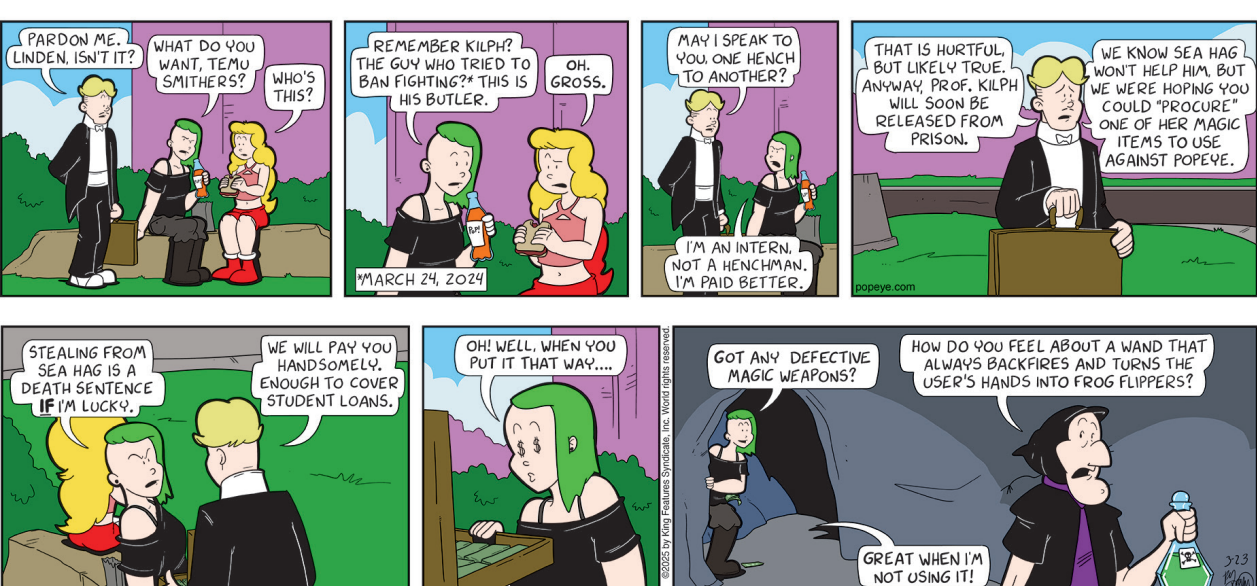
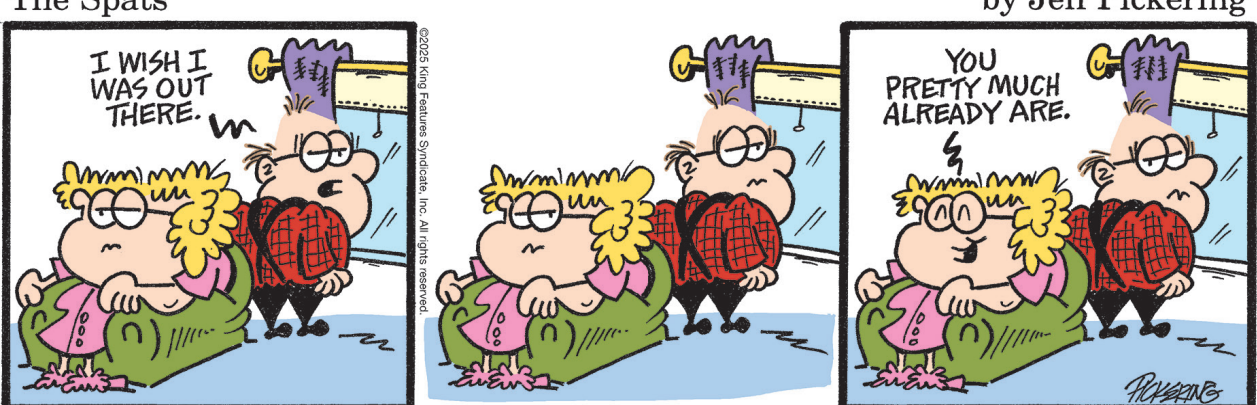
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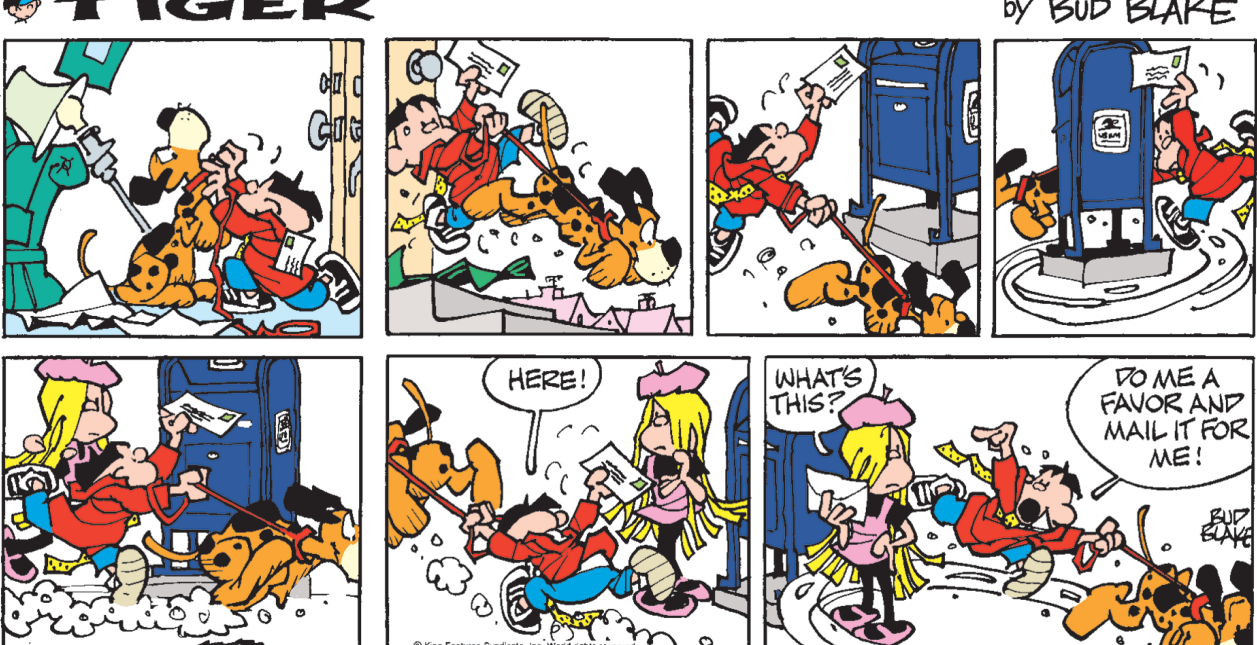
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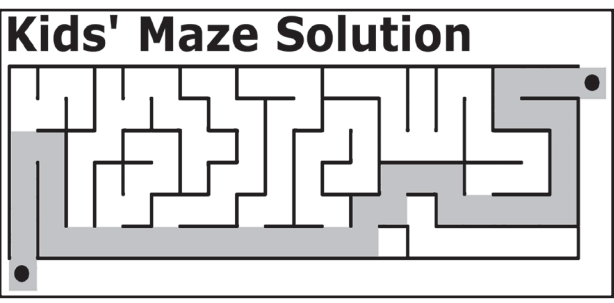
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5	2	6	8	4	9	7	1	3
8	4	1	5	7	3	6	2	9
3	7	9	6	1	2	4	5	8
7	1	3	9	2	4	8	6	5
4	8	5	3	6	1	9	7	2
9	6	2	7	8	5	3	4	1
2	9	8	4	5	6	1	3	7
1	3	4	2	9	7	5	8	6
6	5	7	1	3	8	2	9	4

**CryptoQuip**  
answer

You really can't miss that heavy, muscular guy sitting over there. He's burly recognizable.

**SCRAMBLERS**  
solution

1. Deify 2. Gaunt;  
3. Pique; 4. Adorn

Today's Word  
**PENNY**

**KNIGHT MOVES**  
Answer

S	C	U
O		P
A	S	I

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Super Crossword

Answers

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P	O	L	I	C	E	D	O	G	N	O	N	E	U	N	T	A	P	E				
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Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 3/28

Light Rain Showers

57° | 39°

78%

6 | 17 mph

Sat 3/29

Light Wintry Mix

44° | 35°

0 in

6 | 18 mph

Sun 3/30

Light Wintry Mix

47° | 34°

0 in

5 | 11 mph

Mon 3/31

Very Light Wintry Mix

50° | 37°

38%

6 | 15 mph

Tue 4/01

Light Wintry Mix

46° | 34°

0 in

6 | 22 mph

Precipitation:

October: 0.174"

November: 0.079"

December: 0.000"

2024: 10.903"

January: 0.04"

February: 0.05"

March: 0.20"

2025: 0.35"

Weed of the Month:

Oxeye Daisy

Allison Kosto

MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent

While it has been documented in Broadwater County for several years, I haven’t had the pleasure of finding oxeye daisies often in our county until last summer. During the summer of 2024, I had my first encounter with an oxeye daisy in Broadwater County in the Big Belt range. This is a noxious weed that definitely needs to be on everyone’s radar as it has the potential to start spreading throughout more of our county.



Oxeye Daisy  
Photo Credit: Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte, Bugwood.org

**Description & Habitat**

Like many of our noxious weeds, oxeye daisy is native to Europe. It was introduced to North America both as a garden ornamental and accidentally through hay and grain shipments. It can be found in every US state but is less common in the south. It was first found in Lewis & Clark County in 1890 and is now in more than half of Montana's counties. It’s a fairly new invader to Broadwater County. It is typically found in upland pastures and meadows, but it can also be in other disturbed areas. The greatest impact of the daisy is reducing desirable forage, decreasing plant diversity and lowering the livestock or wildlife carrying capacity.

Oxeye daisy looks like your typical daisy and is often mistaken for ornamental daisies. Flowers have yellow centers with long white petals. The ornamental Shasta daisy grows taller, has a larger flower head (over 2 inches) and more of a “bush-like” appearance. Oxeye daisy is a perennial that spreads by seed and through underground stems called rhizomes. A single plant can produce over 500 seeds. Seeds may be viable as soon as 10 days after the flower blossoms. One study found that 82% of seeds were viable for six years and one percent stayed viable after 39 years.

**Management**

You can play a role in reducing the spread of seeds. Check the label of wildflower seed mixes to make sure it does not contain any noxious weeds including the Oxeye daisy before you plant. Do not drive or walk in heavily infested areas if possible. Wash vehicles, ATVs and equipment before going home.

Mowing may reduce seed production if mowed before the flower buds appear. It may have to be repeated throughout the growing season and subsequent years. Hand-pulling and digging up roots can be used for small infestations. This also may need to be done for multiple years due to a prolonged seed bank. Burning is not recommended because it increases the site’s vulnerability for invasion. Tilling can destroy the root system but is generally not practical in areas where the daisy is a problem. Sheep and goats will graze the plant and can be effective if managed correctly. There are currently no biological control agents for the Oxeye Daisy.

Use of chemicals can be effective, especially in an integrated pest management system. Commonly used chemicals include Curtail, Escort, Milestone, Transline and Tordon (restricted use). Oxeye daisy is moderately resistant to some 2-4 D herbicides. Always read and follow the entire label when applying herbicide. Common chemical names are used for clarity but does not imply endorsement of a product or brand.

For assistance on weed identification and control, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or the Broadwater County Weed District at 406-266-9243.

## It isn’t Barbecue Weather Yet....

Eileen Clarke  
*Rifles and Recipes*



I’ve been thinking of secret ingredients lately, and this recipe has one of my favorites. It’s the chicken broth. It may look like a typo, but it’s not. Venison, be it deer, elk, moose or antelope, has always seemed to me to need a bit of sweetening, and chicken broth is just sweet enough to fill that niche. Sometimes I use all chicken, sometimes half and half, as here. It’s all a matter of individual taste. Make the soup this way, and maybe next time with all chicken or even all beef broth.

This next bit isn’t so much a secret ingredient as much as a secret shortcut.

I used to toast bread and then put it into the food processor to make dry bread crumbs for meatballs, but I find moister ones mix more easily with other ingredients and don’t need extra moisture to keep the meatball mix from getting too dry. Now, I just take the fresh bread or rolls, break them up into the food processor, and pulse them a few times until they’re crumbs. Much simpler even than buying ready-to-use bread crumbs in a box. One less thing to buy, one less thing to plan for.

### Italian Meatball Soup

Makes 10 cups/2½ quarts

- Meatball Ingredients**
- 1½ pounds ground venison (deer, elk, antelope, moose, whatever)
  - ¾ cup grated Parmesan cheese
  - 1 cup fresh bread crumbs
  - 1 tablespoon dried basil leaf
  - 1 teaspoon onion powder
  - ½ teaspoon garlic powder
  - ½ teaspoon ground rosemary
  - 1 teaspoon salt
  - ¼ teaspoon coarse ground black pepper

- Soup Ingredients**
- 4 cups beef broth
  - 4 cups chicken broth
  - 2 15 ounce cans diced tomatoes
  - ¼ cup dried onion flakes
  - 2 tablespoons dried basil leaf
  - 1 teaspoon ground rosemary
  - 2 tablespoons powdered shiitake mushrooms\*
  - Grated Parmesan cheese

- Cooking**
- If it’s more convenient, mix the meatball ingredients together the night before, then cover tightly and chill until you’re ready to cook. That will allow the flavors to mix and develop.
  - If the meatballs are in the fridge, set them out on the counter while you start the soup pot so they’ll be a bit warmer when you cook them. In a 5-quart Dutch oven or soup pot, combine the beef and chicken broths, tomatoes, onion flakes, dried basil, ground rosemary and powdered shiitake mushrooms. Turn the pot on high until it comes to a simmer.
  - Keeping the soup at a low boil, drop the meatballs into the soup one at a time (about 1” diameter each). If the soup stops bubbling, slow down the meatball additions and raise the heat a bit until it does come back to a low boil.
  - When all the meatballs are in, gently stir them into the soup, gently submerging them, cover the pot and let it simmer 30-40 minutes.
  - Serve with grated Parmesan cheese and a slice or two of garlic bread.

\*If you don’t have access to ground shiitakes, puree dehydrated mushrooms in a food processor. (Costco sells whole, dehydrated shiitakes and ‘gourmet mix’ mushrooms in great big jars.) About ¼ cup loosely packed shiitakes will give you 2 tablespoons powdered.

A whole book of wild game soups, stews and chilies? And over a quarter of them are chilies? Yup. It’s on sale too, through April 1. Eileen’s The Wild Bowl cookbook has 100 recipes and is a great addition to your go-to recipe list! Available at [www.riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273](http://www.riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273)

Education Funding 6

“Let’s say that this ride’s not over and that the 95 mills continues to produce higher amounts of revenue,” Melton said. “This mechanism ensures that we’re going to take care of the countywide [teacher] retirement levies first until the state’s funding about 70% of that, and then it’s going to turn to the over-BASE levies, which is big enough, unfortunately, that for the foreseeable future the 95 mills will be devoted to reducing local property taxes for voted levies.”

The 2025 session may be half over, but the debate over HB 483 has only just begun. The bill made it out of the House Taxation Committee with strong support in late February, but, as an appropriations bill, it’s subject to a later deadline for transmittal to the Senate and has not yet had a hearing in House Appropriations.

Melton noted that while HB 483 stands on its own, it also works in tandem with several other pieces of proposed legislation aimed at improving education funding without unduly burdening local tax systems. One such proposal is House Bill 231, a Gianforte-backed bill that would lower taxes on primary residences while increasing rates on second homes and short-term Airbnb-style rentals. Another measure on the horizon is House Bill 515 from Rep. Linda Reksten, R-Polson, to increase the state’s share of funding for major maintenance projects in local schools.

And then there’s House Bill 15, which has already cleared its first committee vote in the Senate. That bill — a legislative staple from session to session — would adjust the amount the state allocates to schools to account for inflation. This time around, lawmakers have opted to approve a 3% increase in each of the coming two years, adhering to a cap that many argue state law requires. But there’s already been bipartisan support for a proposal allowing the Legislature to exceed that cap in the future if lawmakers determine inflation rates will be higher. House Bill 266, sponsored by Rep. Luke Muszkiewicz, D-Helena, passed the House March 1 on an 88-9 vote.

## Cellphones in School

### MT43 News Staff Reporter

During an interview with MT Free Press reporter Alex Sakariassen, writer of the MT Free Press article in this issue, Sakariassen noted Governor Gianforte’s budget line item is still listed for cell phone security in Montana’s schools. The line item notes \$500,000 each year for two years, allowing Montana schools to apply for grants to secure students’ cell phones safe keeping during school hours.

In an interview with Townsend School Superintendent Brad Racht last week, he explained the school’s position on whether students should have their cell phones during school hours.

“It’s something we have looked at a lot over the years. We have debated the role of cell phone use during school hours. We understand parents need to contact students for appointments or for pickup after sports practices. We also understand that cellphone usage can be very distracting, both for the student and the teacher. To that end at first, we urged students to check their phones out of reach, but that has not always worked,” he said.

The cellphone use policy is now up to each individual teacher. Some teachers insist the kids leave the phone in their lockers or put them in a secure place during school hours. Other teachers are much more lenient. If students have finished their assignments, they may take their phones out to use, even listen to music if they have earbuds. This, according to senior Grady Erickson: “The policy changes from teacher to teacher. Strict teachers make us put our phones at the front of the room until we leave the classroom. This mostly happens in history and language classes. Math and science classes are the lenient ones where we can use our phones when we have free time,” Erickson explained.

Townsend Schools’ cellphone usage policy has, for the most part, been very successful. Racht said, “Across the board, students are a lot less distracted and more focused in class when cellphone use is limited.” he said.

He explained that even in a strict environment, the policy is if a student needs to call home, he or she can ask permission, and it will be granted. Parents have been good with that policy.

A larger issue with student cellphone use is the anxiety caused by its use with what students share with each other. Students, teachers and parents agree on that issue.

As a partial antidote to student anxiety caused by cellphone messaging, Racht said the school provides each student a Chromebook which gives students access to the internet so they can do research or their homework. “Through technical control, we can monitor and control what students are looking at on their Chromebooks. We also clarify cellphone use in our handbook and in our policy statement. Through these methods, we can keep students safe,” he explained.

Racht doubted that Townsend Schools would apply for a \$100,000 grant from the state to install elaborate storage spaces for students’ cell phones. “Our policy is working pretty well,” he ended.

Townsend Schools has a population of around 700 students, 200 of whom are high school students and the remainder elementary and middle school students. Students as young as those in the lower elementary bring their cellphones to school, Racht commented.

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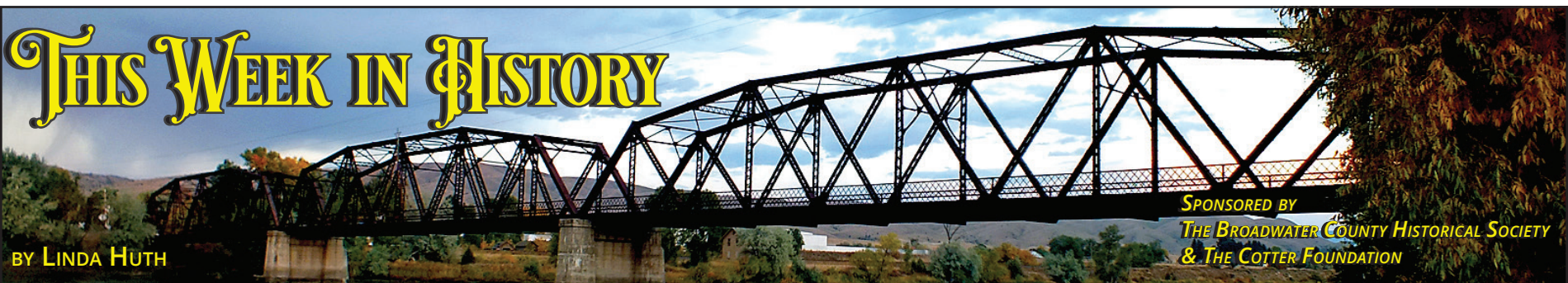
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## March 27

### 1941

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Massa and little daughter, Madeline, and Mrs. Madaline Antonetti spent Sunday in Willow Creek visiting Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Flaherty and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Graveley have broken ground for a new camp on Deep Creek. They chose a plot of ground at the foot of Cedar Bar opposite the Magruder camp and intend to have a small rustic building erected.

Mr. and Mrs. Hadley Rice plan to move into their new home on Walnut Street Monday. The home is being finished by Geo. Bickford who is applying the last coats of paint to the walls and woodwork at present. The Rice home is one of Townsend's new modern small houses and numbers among its best. It is equipped with the latest type oil furnace and most modern electric equipment in kitchen and basement. Carl How superintended its construction.

Visitors in Bozeman Tuesday were Mrs. L.J. Anders, Mrs. Albin Quist, Mrs. Frank Murray and John Quist.

Mr. and Mrs. John Morgan and family of Helena spent Saturday here visiting relatives. Mrs. Morgan left on Wednesday for Alaska to visit her father, Bob Doggett, who recently suffered a stroke. Mr. Doggett is a brother of the late Jeff and Charles Doggett and a former resident of Townsend and Helena.

Mr. and Mrs. Loris Zimmerman and family who have been visiting relatives here the past week left today for their home in Bremerton, Washington.

Nick Helner has been appointed tender for the Montana Ditch company for the season. Mr. Helner, himself a user, will have charge of the cleaning and water distribution during the season.

### 1958

#### Radersburg News

Mrs. John Williams and Mrs. Oppie Smith were business visitors in Butte Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W.G. Williams and children of the longhorn ranch north of Townsend were here Thursday visiting relatives. Mrs. Williams, Kathy and Dennis attended the Silver Tea at the schoolhouse.

The children of the lower grades at the Radersburg school were hosts and hostesses at a Silver Tea at the schoolhouse Thursday afternoon, at which time nearly everyone in the community went and were served dainty sandwiches and their choice of coffee, tea or Kool-Aid in return for silver given. Master Devin Miller was in charge of coffee service, Miss Marsha Miller pouring tea, and Master Paul Harris taking care of those preferring Kool-Aid. The children took in over \$10 for their project.

The children of the upper grades conducted a bake sale at the store during the afternoon and took in over \$27.

Mrs. Jack Ralls and daughter, Terri, were in Helena on

business Saturday

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Williams and daughter, Joanne, of Helena, were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. K.P. Thurston attended the 25th anniversary reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Paul Green in Townsend Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Ragen and children of Townsend were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams and Tom.

Mrs. Mary Grandchamp accompanied Mrs. Alf Doughty to Townsend Monday for the day. Mrs. Doughty is serving on the jury.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Roberts and children of Townsend were Wednesday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O.J. Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ralls and son, Steve, were Bozeman visitors Monday.

### 1975

#### Board Plans Library Week

Broadwater County Library Board is busy making plans for National Library Week to be held April 13 through 19. This year, the board plans to involve the community through a coffee hour and crafts from school children. The Library is open weekdays 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday evening 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., Saturday morning 9 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Everyone is invited to make use of the County Library and see all of the new books. There is a selection of paper-back books, also. If anyone is interested in making donations of paper-back books, the board would greatly appreciate it. The library board members are Terry Love, librarian; Susie Mattson, board member; Marion Kitto, secretary; Thelma Heberle, assistant librarian; Peggy Pritchard, vice chairman; Agnes George, chairman; Esther Hollaway, assistant librarian.

#### Toston News

Debra Lohr is one of the behind the scenes workers on the junior Class play.

Gary Flynn graduated from the professional Ferrier course at Montana State University and received the Top Hand Plaque.

Mr. and Mrs. Wally Rauser and family attended the 4-H Speech Contest at the Courthouse on Saturday. Connie was one of the contestants.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Grimm visited with Mr. and Mrs. Al Olsen and family in Harrison last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Anzik were in Butte on Thursday. Frank Beyers, Berly Boster and Annessa visited with the Robert Beyers family in Dillon last Saturday and Sunday.

Allen Hunsaker of Ogden, Utah visited with Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Hunsaker and family Friday through Sunday.

### 1997

#### The Legacy of Sylvia, a Beer Drinking Pig

As local legends go, perhaps none is more celebrated than that of Sylvia, the beer drinking sow who roamed the streets

and the White Beaver Bar of Toston throughout the 1970s. Her portrait now hangs at the Bunkhouse Bar, where she is revered as one of the tiny community's most well-known figures.

And, weighing somewhere between 1,000 and 1,500 pounds, what a figure that was.

"There's people who still come up and ask about her," says Gary Olsen, one of the three Olsen boys - Greg, Gary and Tom - who took Sylvia, Alice and Martha as pay for labor for local pork producer, George Rauser. It was the summer of 1971 when the three piglets became members of the Jim and Marge Olsen household.

Sylvia was the tamest of them all," Gary says. "The veterinarian from Three Forks told Dad that if we gave them beer, just throw it into a bucket with some oats, they would put on weight fast. They started getting bigger and bigger, and we didn't know how to build a fence to keep them in. They kept getting loose."

On one such occasion, Sylvia ditched her less social sisters and headed straight to the White Beaver, which the Olsen family owned. Behind the bar was a 5-gallon pickle bucket which contained the dregs of unfinished beers and cocktails. A little Pyrex bowl was set out and filled for Sylvia, who soon became a regular.

Her siblings wound up in Radersburg, with the Diehl family, but the Olsens would not part company with Sylvia, whose barroom behavior became a tourist attraction and ultimately a story in the Seattle Post Intelligencer and an invitation to appear on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. "People came from all over to see Sylvia," says Gary. "She remained with us as a pet and ran all over Toston. She'd hang out at the post office quite a bit too. She just liked attention. She was just like a dog."

A really, really big dog.

Gary remembers weighing her in October 1978. Nine-hundred pounds. "And she lived two or three years after that."

They figure she was close to 1,500 pounds when she died," said Marge Sherwood of Townsend, Gary's mother. "She was so big we had to take her to the beet dump to weigh her. Even vets we talked to said a pig never gets that big."

Some people were afraid of her because she was so big," Gary says. "But she never bit anyone or knocked anyone down." He explained that the only time Sylvia got testy was when someone at the bar wanted to see her after her bedtime. And even then - though she was not quite her normal self - she made appearances and had a few drinks just to be sociable.

Like her girth, Sylvia's reputation grew.

Jack Pennant, a friend of the Olsens and a writer for the Seattle Post Intelligencer, did a piece entitled "Sylvia's a Beer-guzzling Hog", published July 13, 1975, and carried on the United Press International wire.

In 1979 Sylvia slipped on the ice and broke something. She had to be euthanized with a shot. She was discussed on the Tonight Show by Johnny Carson, but her brush with fame was undermined by a slip on the ice of Toston, where she is remembered, perhaps forever.



The master of suspense says "April 18-19"  
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Drama is life with the dull  
bits cut out.

Alfred Hitchcock



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## Chamber of Commerce Promotes Advertising on New Sign

MT43 News Reporter

Townsend has joined the 21st Century with its own digital sign at C Street and Highway 287 near the pool, compliments of the Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber President Jenni Fellenz said the local business association was most proud of installing the sign last July. After several years of planning and saving money, chamber members voted to accept a bid from YESCO Signs of Helena. Townsend resident Ben Toney works for YESCO. He organized the installation. Canyon Ferry Walleye organizers and Townsend Rotary donated large amounts toward the \$80,000 cost. ADaZ Concrete, Badger Materials, Vigilante Electric and Northwestern Energy donated much of the labor involved in the installation. She thanked everyone for their participation.

Fellenz pointed out the sign offers Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce businesses a chance to advertise their wares to the approximate 8,000 cars that pass by the sign daily. Shoppers will be encouraged to shop locally by displaying chamber members' advertisements on a weekly basis. "We will also encourage nonprofit organizations to join and advertise their events on the

sign. We have a special rate for nonprofit organizations," she explained.

New chamber membership includes two free weeks of sign advertising. The additional advertising is \$50 per week for member businesses. "The charge pays for upkeep, insurance, and costs of electricity involved in maintaining the sign," she said.

Fellenz, a fifteen-year volunteer in Broadwater County, leads the Chamber, first as co-president with Keith Hartmann and now as President. She works with Vice President Doug Breker, Secretary Rachael Brug and Treasurer Jenny Clowes. Members at large are Doug Sitton, Anna Glueckert, Shirley Wilson and Bob Saxby. The group publishes a members' newsletter and has a Facebook presence as well as their own website on which they will announce their Chamber events for this year:

ATV Poker Run - June 7; Canyon Ferry Walleye Festival- June 27-28; Shakespeare in the Park - August 31; Halloween Ghost Stroll - October 31 and Christmas Stroll - December 6.

For information about membership, please message the Chamber's Facebook page (Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce), email [townsend43chamber@gmail.com](mailto:townsend43chamber@gmail.com), or call (406) 781-7875.



Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce sign is now operating near the pool and on Highway 287.  
Nancy Marks, Photographer