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Volume 3, Issue No. 44

May 9, 2025

\$1.00

Middle School Students Visit Radersburg

Victor Sample

On April 30, Preserve Broadwater History, the Broadwater County Museum and Radersburg Historical Preservation, Inc. (RHPI) hosted the Townsend Schools 7th grade class's



5th annual outing at the historic Radersburg School.

MT 43

The 7th grade class is the class that studies Montana History and Radersburg has a very rich history!

Linda Huth (Broadwater County Museum Curator) started off the outing by giving an interesting and entertaining history of Radersburg. All of the students were enthralled with Linda's presentation.

After the presentation, the students were given a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and water. Bob's Supermarket generously donated the hamburgers and the condiments. Seventh grade students are very fond of lunch!

The students were given time to run off some energy outside, then went to the Radersburg historic Methodist Church. Victor Sample talked about the founding of the Church by Brother Van Orsdell. He also pointed out the site where the Jefferson County Courthouse was stood and talked about the history of the Courthouse.

The trip finished with a visit to the Radersburg cemetery. Jackie Smith of the Radersburg Cemetery Association hosted the students as they researched the cemetery AND had ice cream!



The Seventh Grade Class enjoying a photo op Photo Credit: Victor Sample

We really appreciate Dave Lawson, Tyler Patrick and Lisa Campbell for taking the time to bring the students to Radersburg.

We also would like to thank Bob's Supermarket for helping us make the trip possible with the donation of \$100.00 worth of food.



East Helena Quilt Shop Creates New Space

Nancy Marks MT43 News Reporter

Julie and Buddy Hanrahan opened their Creative Stitches quilt shop at their new location, 101 West Main Street in East Helena last week.



School Election and Mill Levy Voting Results Show Low Turnout

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Unofficial election results showed voters turned in 2,634 ballots with a turnout of 52% after the count Tuesday night, according to Elections Administrator Angie Paulsen. The Townsend School District election finished with 975 votes for candidate Adam Brakefield. Opposing candidate Kristi Sangray received 956 votes. The two candidates were vying for a three-year seat vacated by Daniel Truesdell who did not seek the position.





Brakefield,49, who works for Graymont Western, has children in both the elementary and high school. A 1994 Broadwater High School graduate, his interests lay in sports for children and new programing in the schools. Sangray, 43, currently works for White Sulphur Springs schools. She worked at Townsend Schools as a paraprofessional, elementary school office secretary and finally as school district clerk.



Also on the ballot was a mill levy for Broadwater County Sheriff Public Safety Mill Levy. The vote was 1008 votes in favor while 1608 voters marked their ballots against passing the levy renewal. Sheriff Nick Rauser had campaigned far and wide in the county to renew the levy, siting population growth in the county



Creative Stitches owners Julie and Buddy Hanrahan at their New Location in East Helena. Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

East Helena Quilt Shop, 4



Adam Brakefield Photo Credit: MT43 News Staff Reporter

Kristi Sangray Photo Provided by Kristi Sangray

City to Move Forward with Housing Inventory

Linda Kent MT43 News Correspondent

Townsend's City Council approved a proposal from WWC Engineering of Helena to conduct a housing inventory

study for the community. The proposal comes after the city was notified it had received a Montana Community Reinvestment (MCR) Grant to assess the availability of affordable housing in the community earlier this year.

WWC's initial response was made to the city's request for proposals (RFP) for an architectural survey of the community. When the council reviewed the proposal in mid-February, it was clear that WWC's plan was for a housing inventory study. After discussion at the Feb. 18 meeting, the council agreed to change the RFP to a housing inventory instead. After confirming that the MCR grant would accommodate the change, the city opened the amended RFP.

WWC was the only respondent, with an estimated total cost of \$27,000. Council member JB Howick confirmed that much of that cost would be covered by the grant or a match of in-kind services – volunteers who could deliver and collect the surveys needed for the study. He estimated the actual cost to the city would be around \$1,000.

The council unanimously approved the acceptance of the proposal. No date was indicated for when the survey would begin.

Sheriff Nick Rauser Photo Provided

and the need for more public safety services.

Townsend Designated a Tree City USA

Patrick Plantenberg Tree Board Chair



The City of Townsend has been designated a Tree City USA for its efforts to manage its community

forest in 2024. This is the 25th year that Townsend has been selected as a Tree City USA.

To be recognized as a Tree City USA, a community must meet four standards:

- Have a Tree Board.
- Have a community ordinance for tree care.
- Implement a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita.
- Have an Arbor Day Proclamation and Celebrate Arbor Day.

To celebrate Arbor Day the City of Townsend Tree Board celebrates Arbor Week by trying to plant as many trees as it can in a week's time. The first tree is always planted with the 5th grade elementary school students and teachers.

This year, a Sensation Boxelder tree was planted on the southwest corner of the new elementary school

MT 43 NEWS, INC. 408 BROADWAY STREET STE A TOWNSEND, MT 59644-2323

2 Friday, May 9, 2025

MT 43 News

East H	elena Schools' Calendar
	MAY
Friday 9	2:00 pm: DARE Graduation
Sunday 11	Happy Mother's Day
Monday 12 5:30 pm: Schoo	Di Board Meeting at East Valley Middle School
Saturday 17	

Armed Forces Day

East Helena JIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson Branch Manager



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



Helena Branch, 16 É Main Street in East Helena. Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

MAY

Wednesday 14 10:30 a.m. Story time4:00 P.M. Crafts for Kids

Thursday 15

10:30 a.m. Story time.

Saturday 17

11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation Event

Townsend School Calendar



Friday 16





ROADWATER (OUNTY OVERNMENT (ÅLENDAR

MAY

Tuesday 13

1:00 pm - Planning Board Meeting (CANCELED)

6:00 pm - Solid Waste Board Meeting

Wednesday 14



MAY

Friday 9

10:00 am: Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

12:00 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Saturday 10

7:00 - 11:00 am: Annual Mother's Day Fireman's Breakfast SEE AD ON PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS

6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

7:00 pm: Final The Chosen FREE Movie Night with Popcorn and Snacks at Holy Cross Church, 101 S Walnut SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS

Sunday 11

1:00 pm: Customer Appreciation Afternoon at Fish Tale Tavern SEE AD ON PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS



LASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 5 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Memorial Service: Ron Mosness

Tuesday, May 13th, at 11:00 AM At St John's Lutheran Church in Helena

Looking for Vendors for Spring and Summer Farmers Market:



Every Thursday from 3:00- 6:00 pm and Every 1st & 3rd Saturday each month.

If interested, call Sheree at 406-465-4977

The last Winter Farmers Market was April 19th from 11:00 - 3:00 pm at Cedar & Broadway.

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month. Next meeting: May 21st, 7:00PM At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St See Board Meeting Agenda at: http://www.facebook. com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment

YARD SALE

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.

10:00 am - Commission Meeting



NO SCHOOL

Sunday 18

5:00 pm: Senior Banquet at Elementary Commons

JIBRARY HOURS

Three Forks Community Library

FALL HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 10:00am to 5:00pm Tuesdays - 10:00am - 7:00pm

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

Broadwater School and Community Library

FALL HOURS:

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



MAY

Friday 9

11:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - LEGO Club Three Forks Public Library - Spring Reading Raffle Drawing

Tuesday 13

1:00 pm: Three Forks Public Library - Mah Jongg 6:15 pm: Three Forks Public Library - Library Board Meeting

Wednesday 14

5:30 pm: Bozeman Music Night with Dustin Tucker at Bridger **Brewing Three Forks**

Thursday 15

10:30 am: Three Forks Public Library - Storytime 7:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with John Foster at Bridger **Brewing Three Forks**

Friday 16

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

Monday 12

6:00 pm: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805

Tuesday 13

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 14

9:00 am: Billings Clinic Transit Bus to Helena- 2nd Wednesday Every Month at Billings Clinic 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St 1:00 pm: Assistance in applying for and receiving Military

Benefits at American Legion Post 42 every second Wednesday

Thursday 15

Townsend Crimson Red Hat Ladies Lunch the 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact Sandy for information: 406-949-0081 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 16

10:00 am: Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St 12:00 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Saturday 17

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 19

6:00 pm: FAITH NIGHT at Holy Cross Parish Center, 101 S Walnut SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS

Wednesday 21

Broadwater Democratic Central Committee Convention SEE AD ON PAGE 11 FOR RSVP INFO

7:00 pm: Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting at 130 S Cedar SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR INFO

HANK YOU



Kammy Law's Family Photo Provided by Family

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful community for the outpouring of support we have received. Since our mom's medical emergency and subsequent battle with cancer, we have felt so uplifted and wrapped in warmth. We have been met with endless kindness from so many.

On Sunday April 27th, many of our dear friends held a beautiful benefit dinner, silent auction, and cornhole tournament for our mom and we were absolutely blown away by the attendance. Thank you to the committee for organizing such a wonderful evening, Townsend School & staff for hosting, volunteers for setup/cleanup, those who prepared the amazing food, generous silent auction donations and buyers, cornhole participants, dinner attendees, neighbors and strangers who have sent heartfelt messages.

This effort, alongside the Go Fund Me page, an incredible tamale sale by Telma García, and many contributions from near and far have eased the financial pressure in our time of crisis and allowed us to focus on Kammy's journey. She has been making great strides in treatment and is in the care of phenomenal doctors.

We have far too many thank yous to list and will work at paying this forward for the rest of each of our lives. We pray that each of you are endlessly blessed for your selflessness. Townsend: you truly have our hearts. We are so lucky to call this place home and could not begin to thank each of you enough. We will never forget the way we have been treated through the most challenging part of our lives: with such grace, empathy, and generosity. We hope you can feel our gratitude.

With love, Family of Kammy Law



<u>X2</u>iki



Fligge—this week's welldeserved Athlete of the Week! Townsend Booster Club Photo



Tennis: Bulldog athlete of the week is Violet Collins. Violet has had a solid sophomore campaign playing both doubles and singles this year over the weekend. She knocked a victory over previously undefeated Hadley twins hailing from Baker Montana. Violet is seeking her second consecutive state appearance with hopefully a spot in the top six Townsend Booster Club Photo





Aspen decided she was up for a challenge this year and took on hurdling. She is crushing it. She continues to improve and gain PR weekly. She earned herself a huge PR and superseded her personal goal in the 300m hurdles running a time of 49.99. She also earned a PR in the 100m hurdles with a time of 17.72 and a season record in javelin with a throw of 90'4". She also ran the 100m in a time of 13.77 and helped her 4x1 team run a time of 52.39. Townsend Booster Club Photo

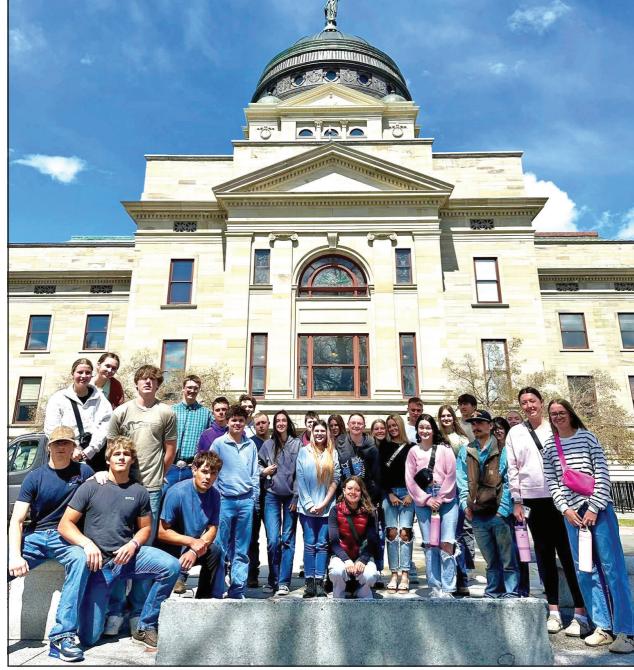


Track: Marek Easter Marek continues to impress with javelin, earning him some pretty big PR. Not only did he tie his last year's PR a couple weeks ago, but surpassed that by almost 10 feet this weekend with a throw of 147'8'. He is just going to continue to climb these next couple weeks. Marek also ran the 200m with a time of 25.08 and the 400m with a time of 56.78. He also ran anchor for the 4x4 team, earning them a time of 4:01.60. Townsend Booster Club Photo



Golf: Girls- Autumn Henke. Autumn finished the season strong on IV. She had a Pl





High School seniors visited the state capitol last week. Back: Ross MacDonald, Nolan Flynn, Maxwell Sellay, Hunter McCartney, John Summer, Addison Kraft, Abby Wickens, Grady Erickson, Cael Sell, Cassidy Flynn. Middle: Anna Beatty, Scarlett McDaniel, Deegan Mattson, Dominic Campbell, Grace Kroeger, Maya Montoya, Jazlyn Martin, Memphys Meier, Amanda Pesicka and Madelyn Schritz. Front: Hunter Borror, Eric Humphreys, Sawyer Horne, Rosemary Salgado, Kaycee White, Lane Santi, Kaelyn Sangray and Carsyn O'Dell. Photo Provided

Karsyn Sangray

Broadwater High School Student Intern

On Wednesday, April 30, the Class of 2025 took a field trip to Helena. They

toured the Capitol building, attended a Supreme Court hearing and listened to the end of the legislative session. This is the last field trip that this class will take together, and they made some memories on the way. On the short drive to Helena, the bus was a ruckus as everyone talked with one another. It was even louder on the way back as they reviewed the events of the day. In an interview, Sawyer Horne and Maddie Schritz talked about their experience:

Sawyer Horne had a lot of fun. His favorite part was the end of the legislative session. Some people were giving speeches as they vacated their offices.



actually true; some of the events never happened. As he remembered his day he said, "My favorite part was the legislative session. Another part was playing with an apple in the parking lot at lunch!"

The next day in government classes, students who attended the hearing before the Supreme Court discussed the case. Mrs. Moldenhaur, the advisor and government teacher, who accompanied them, provided more insight about the case. She spent part of the class period answering questions and helping the students write their paragraphs about their day. Sawyer provided a brief overview of the case. He said, "The case was about a lady who was defending the man on trial saying he didn't want to be placed into a state hospital and the other people disagreed with her."

Maddie Schritz also attended the field trip. Her experience was similar to Sawyer's. She is involved in art so she paid attention to all of the painting and murals around the Capitol Building. She especially enjoyed learning the history of the building. Her absolute favorite part was also sitting in the legislative session. She liked hearing the stories from those who were speaking. Touring the Capitol was an experience that she won't forget. She looks forward to learning more about the art and history that surrounds Helena and Montana.

Golf: Boys- Colter Schaible. Colter had a PR in Anaconda at the Old Works golf course of a 96. His scores continue to drop each week as we head to divisionals. Good work, Colter. Townsend Booster Club Photo

at Three Forks with a score of 61, then finished with a 71 at Deer Lodge. She did awesome this year and showed a ton of improvement. Great work, Autumn. Townsend Booster Club Photo

This was their last session. Sawyer appreciated how much those who were leaving cared about our state. He learned a lot about the structure and history of the Capitol building. One of the things that he learned was that some scenes in the paintings in the Capitol aren't



Drama Department Performs "Annie"

Karsyn Sangray Broadwater High School Student Intern

Months of preparation led to the two nights the Drama Club put on "Annie". The cast worked hard and was able to put on a hilarious show on April 28 and 29. Angel Sentinella, who played Annie, did a great job leading the show and singing all of her songs. She helped the cast members with their lines and helped to boost the energy on set. The last few days were stressful. She helped provide the cast with what they needed to finish the show.

This was the last play of the year and unfortunately two girls' last performances in high school. Haylie Reinke and Jazlyn Martin put their hearts and souls into their performances and left it all out on the stage. They owned the spotlight the entire show. They are not strangers to the stage and have been in just about every production. Jazlyn has been in five plays and Haylie has been in four. Haylie Reinke helped Director Denise Bakkum by planning much of the choreography in the show. She knew it by heart and would often spend hours after her normal rehearsals practicing. She put in two hours at normal practices just to run through lines and choreography afterwards by herself. This play was, in her words, "Way better than the rest. There was more singing and dancing and we were able to show off everyone's talents. A piece of advice is to live life to the fullest and not care what others think. Being yourself is the most important thing."



School Drama Department performs their 'NYC' number. Back row: Sarah Morgan, Ava Boaz, Ana Marie Reinke. Front Row: Jazlyn Martin, Haylie Reinke and Jenna Mainwaring. Karsyn Sangray, BHS Photographer

lot of time with Jazlyn and Haylie this year. Whether it was cheerleading in the fall or speech and drama in the winter, she was always with one of them. She learned a lot from them and was able to use those lessons to be the lead in the musical. Her role in Annie required a lot from her, not only memorizing lines, but the choreography on the stage. She was on stage quite a bit and had to know the entire show like the back of her hand. She did great and put her all into it. She even dyed her hair for the role, showing her true dedication to "Annie".

Angel has always had a passion for acting and sing-Angel Sentinella, who is a sophomore, has spent a ing so this was her ultimate dream. To help her prepare

she said, "I listened to the songs I sung on repeat every day to get the lyrics and notes memorized. The vibes and energy were always so fun and positive. Most of the time thanks to Haylie. It was a little stressful the week before, but that's normal."

Everyone did a great job, even in front of the full crowd both nights. The Drama Club at Broadwater High is blooming with talent, which shows in the twice-a-year productions. They showcased everyone in this year's musical and some are already looking forward to next year.

East Helena Quilt Shop, 1

Buddy said they were really crowded at their location on East Main in the old Hrella Grocery building and had been planning to move. Where to? Hanrahan said finding the new location was a "God" thing: "My phone rang at my job one day. I didn't recognize the number, but I answered anyway. Person on the other end, a regional property manager for Town Pump, said she had not called. Must have been a mistake. We started talking. The 5,000 square foot building just vacated by Town Pump was just what we were looking for."

Hanrahan, a military veteran with a Master's in Business Administration, is certified in servicing the equipment the store sells. The store is a one-stop shop for all the repair, installation and training for the equipment, including Viking sewing machines and Handi Quilter long arm quilters. Helena has five area quilt stores. He said they have a good relationship with the other stores. Each carry a different one of the various equipment brands and do their own service. "We have a spirit of what I call 'coopetition," he said.

The couple's involvement in the quilting business is a long and winding story. When the couple lived in White Sulphur Springs, Julie, who had never quilted, learned from her sister and YouTube. After they moved to Helena, Julie worked for Cheryl York at Creative Stitches on North Montana Ave. Eventually, the couple and their partner, Theresa Tomich, bought the business

and moved to East Helena in November 2018. During Covid, they bought out Tomich.

Julie is the creative one, according to Buddy. She also loves working with positive and creative customers who come in for classes and materials. "The customers are about sharing their legacy stories of saving grandma's quilt that they cherish," she said.

The drawbacks of the current situation for a small business like Creative Stitches, Julie explained, are that in this current economy



Hanrahans with their long-arm Handi Quilter machine. Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

material may become hard to buy. She is not concerned about tariffs on imported material, even though most of them are made overseas. She has a good inventory, but pointed out the Batik cloth, made mostly in Indonesia, may become scarce.

In this current economy, quilting customers may cut back on their expendable income. On the other hand, she thinks customers will hang on: "They'll give up their vacations before they give up their hobbies," she

concluded.

She lamented the lack of interest by the younger generation in learning quilting: "People no longer teach their kids to do handiwork, and we've lost home economics in our schools."

Sign up for classes will be on Creative Stiches website. The store is open Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday. For more information go to www.creativestiches.com.



Tree City USA, 1

building. The BCHS Horticulture Class also planted a couple of trees on the school campus last week.

The Townsend Tree Board thanks Graymont for helping purchase the trees to be planted across the community in 2025. The Tree Board received a Graymont Carbon Reduction Fund grant for the second year.

Without the continuing support of companies like Graymont, the City of Townsend, Broadwater County, other businesses in Broadwater County, service organizations, and private citizens, Townsend would not have a thriving community forest.

Virginia City Tree Board





Sponsor of Townsend School Page

Arbor Day Tree Poster Contest Event

Patrick Plantenberg Tree Board Chair

It was May 1st, and it was a beautiful spring morning! Excitement ran high in Mr. Hoff's fifth-grade classroom as students looked forward to the annual awards ceremony and tree planting event for the 2025 Broadwater County Arbor Day Tree Poster Contest. Several members of the Townsend Tree Board, including Chairman Patrick Plantenberg, Mary Mistek, Dan Mainwaring, Charles Freshmen and Linda Southall, were present to help hand out the awards. Grade School Principal Steve Cook and fifth-grade teachers Mr. Hoff, Mr. Sampson and Ms. Erb were excited to participate in the awards ceremony with their students.

All the fifth-grade students participated in this year's content. They received a small gift certificate for a scoop of ice cream at the Mint Café. Their posters will be displayed at Broadwater Community Library over the classroom, went to the south corner of the new elementary school along Pine and Second Streets to plant a box elder tree. Some of the students had an opportunity to mix dirt and nutrients for the tree. All students and teachers had a chance to perform other tasks associated with planting a tree, such as shoveling dirt, fertilizer and mulch around the tree roots, watering the tree with the assistance of tree board member Teri Blahnik and securing the tree with three posts. The morning was warming up and the sky was blue, making the day perfect for honoring the Arbor Day tree poster contest contestants with the tree planting event.



Celebrates Arbor Day

Patrick Plantenberg Tree Board Chair



Virginia City has reformed their Tree

Board and celebrated Arbor Day on the snowy evening of May 5th. About 15 people attended the event hosted at the Virginia City Library.

The mayor and his wife, a city council member, the three Tree Board members, other interested citizens, a representative from Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), and two members of the Montana Urban and Community Forestry Association (MUCFA) were in attendance. The Tree Board provided Mexican food for the event on Cinco De Mayo.

Patrick Plantenberg of the Townsend Tree Board and Chair of MUCFA donated a Sensation Boxelder for the event. He demonstrated how to plant a young container tree correctly. He noted that over 70 percent of the trees he has seen planted over the last year across Montana are planted too deep and not pruned enough in the first five years to start to develop the structure the tree needs for the rest of its life.

He also demonstrated how to break up the circling root pattern observed in trees grown in pots before planting.

Hannah Payne, MT DNRC Urban and Community Service Forester, then showed how a city tree inventory is completed and what data is collected. She will be returning to Virginia City next week to complete a tree inventory with the help of local residents.

The tree inventory data can then be used to help develop a plan to guide future planting and identify which trees need to be removed or pruned. The inventory data can then be used to develop a tree care and maintenance plan.

MUCFA is offering some small grants to Montana communities to help develop what is called a continuum of tree care in communities. For information about the grants, please contact Kelly Franklin, MUCFA Executive Director at: mucfa.info@gmail.com. summer. Adults who helped with this competition also received ice cream gift certificates.

There were three top-placing students. Third-place winner was Bennett Kirksey. He received a \$20 check from the City of Townsend. Calvin McCauley placed second. He received a \$30.00 check from the City of Townsend. Emilyn Powers placed first and received a \$50.00 check from the City of Townsend. In addition to her cash prize, Emily received a framed "portrait" of her poster. She can keep the framed edition of her drawing as a forever reminder of her excellent work. Another framed edition of Emilyn's poster was made. It will be displayed at the Townsend Elementary School along with the other framed pictures of the first-place winners of the annual Arbor Day tree posters drawn over 21 years of the contest.

After the awards ceremony, students, teachers and tree board members who had assembled in Mr. Hoff's

5th grade students helping pound fenceposts around Sensation Boxelder Arbor Day tree at the school. Photo Credit: Patrick Plantenberg



5th grade teacher Mr. Sampson, 2025 Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner Emilyn Powers, and Linda Southall, Arbor Day Poster Contest Organizer for the Tree Board. Photo Credit: Patrick Plantenberg

MT 43 News

LEGAL NOTICES

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

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN RE THE ESTATE OF LAVAY JOHNSON, Deceased. CAUSE NO. ADP-4-2025-0000009-IT

Honorable Michael Menahan

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed Co-Personal

Representatives of the Will and Estate of LaVay Johnson, deceased.

All persons having claims against deceased are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed return receipt requested to: Jeff Bomar

45 L F Baum Road, East Helena, MT 59635,

Paul Johnson

35 Jimmy Green Road, East Helena, MT 59635,

or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. Dated this 7th day of April, 2025.

Published April 25, May 2 and 9, 2025

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on May 28, 2025 and at 10:00 am in the Flynn Building for the purpose of hearing comments on the Classifications of Business assessments.

Written comments are also being accepted up to 24 hours prior to the hearing and should be sent to: Commissioners, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644 or emailed to commissioners@ co.broadwater.mt.us.

Published May 2 and 9, 2025

MNAXLP

Permissive Mill Notice

The Board of Supervisors of the Broadwater Conservation District will hold a public hearing to hear public comments on a proposal to Levy funds for the purpose of providing group benefits to employee(s) of the district.

The hearing will be at 6:30 pm on May 20, 2025 at the USDA Service Center Conference Room.

Send Comment/questions to Broadwater Conservation District, 415 So Front St, Townsend, MT 59644, 406-521-3014, broadwatercd@gmail.com

Published May 2 and 9, 2025

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF HUDSON LEE JAMES, A Minor Child.

By HEIDI L. EIDE and JUSTIN A. COX, Co-Petitioners. Cause No: DA-25-01

NOTICE OF HEARING ON JOINT PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF **Public** Notice

A+ storage does hereby give notice to the following customers renting storage units containing household goods and miscellaneous items that this property will be sold to satisfy rent past due, fees and costs.

ane, 1000 ana 000	
Chet Campbell.	G15
Jessica Perales.	G10
Sarah Peck.	Durango
Gehrig Sweat.	C4
	1 111 1 1 1

The public sale will be held on May 24th, 2025, at 12-1 PM at A+ storage located at 21 Cemetery Ln. and also 76 Jack Farm Road, Townsend, MT 59644.

Published May 9 and 16, 2025

MNAXLP

NOTICE TO BROADWATER COUNTY

TAXPAYERS FOR MOBILE HOME PROPERTY TAXES

Due to delays caused by waiting on legislative matters concerning property taxes, MOBILE HOME taxes will be late in being processed this year. The first half of the 2025 bill will be due 30 days after they are processed. The second half will still be due November 30th, 2025. Sorry for any confusion this causes. There will be notifications at the end of May 2025 in the paper when the mebile home tay bills go out and when the first

paper when the mobile home tax bills go out and when the first half will be due.

Melissa Franks, Treasurer Broadwater County

Published MAY 9, 16 and 23, 2025

MNAXLP

Taking Advantage of the Last of the Cool

Eileen Clarke Rifles and Recipes

The weather is changing on us day by day. That's what early May is all about. One day you think you're late

getting those peas started in the garden, and the next you're driving through a snowstorm. You think I'm kidding?

Long ago, my husband and I had spent a few days hunting bears in the Seely Lake area. Didn't get one, but had lots of fun with friends and being out in the woods. Then we packed up to go home. A few hours later we were parked along the side of the road watching the several highway patrol guys helping a rancher with an overturned horse trailer gather up his wounded. There were several inches of snow on the ground, more coming in sideways at the rate of 2 inches per hour and visibility was down to zero.

Did I mention that was Memorial Day Weekend? Yup. Memorial Day Weekend.

So if you think you don't have any more opportunities to comfortably turn the oven on and let a bit of jerky cook 3 hours or so, think again. We've got time. And jerky, made with all that venison you ground up last fall, is a great way to celebrate the –eventual—arrival of Real Spring. Use any deer, elk, antelope or moose you were lucky enough to take last fall, whether you ground it large or small, with or without fat added. It all works. Just don't overcook it. Most jerky 'guns' create a pretty loose or aerated strip of meat, so it doesn't take as long to cook as a more dense sliced jerky.



Broadwater County Museum 2025 Season

Linda Huth

Broadwater County Museum Curator

The Broadwater County Museum and Historical Society is busy getting ready for the 2025 season. The museum will open on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

In August of 1877, George Cowan of Radersburg, and party, including his wife and several others went on an adventure to Yellowstone Park. They camped there for several days and on the morning of August 24 prepared to be on the road home. During this preparation, they were approached by a group of Nez Perce Indians. More and more Indians came until the party hitched up their teams, got into the wagons and started for home.

The number of Indians continued to increase along the way. Finally, they could no longer continue with the wagons and were commanded to continue on foot. Their situation was desperate. One of the Indians fired a gun at Mr. Cowan, and the bullet struck him in the right thigh. After a struggle, he was shot again and left for dead. The other members of the party were forced to go with the Indians.

The open house for the season will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum at 133 North Walnut Street in Townsend. During the open house program, Linda Huth, the Curator of the museum, will make a presentation that will continue the above story. Plan to attend this event and learn the unbelievable story of the members of the Cowan Yellowstone Adventure. Did they survive the adventure or not?

During the summer of 2024, Grady Knight of Libby, Montana, contacted the Broadwater County Museum and said that he is in possession of a rifle that is supposed to have belonged to a member of the Yellowstone Cowan Party. The rifle was taken by the Indians during their encounter with the Cowan Party. Poker Jo, who was a member of the Indians who captured the Cowan Party, later gave the stolen Holden rifle to Samuel Tilden, grandson of Chief Joseph. After having been in the hands of several other owners over the years, Grady was able to purchase the rifle and did extensive research of it and was able to confirm that it was stolen from a member of the Cowan Party.

When Grady Knight contacted the local museum, he offered the rifle for display, and it was decided to accept his offer. He delivered it to us in April of this year for the 2025 season. We are proud to offer it for the public to view this season.



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



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PARENTAL RIGHTS AND FOR ADOPTION

Pursuant to §42-2-605, MCA, notice is hereby given that the Co-Petitioners hereto, Heidi Eide and Justin Cox, have petitioned this Court to terminate the parental rights of Cody Lee James as to Hudson Lee James, the minor child at issue in this action. A hearing on the Co-Petitioners' Joint Petition for Termination of Parental Rights and for Adoption will be held on the 23rd day of May 2025, at 10:30 A.M. in the Courtroom of the Broadwater County Courthouse, Broadwater County, Townsend, Montana. A copy of the Order Setting Hearing is attached to this Notice. DATED this 24th day of April 2025.

KATHRYN KEISER FAMILY LAW, PLLC

Published May 2, 9 and 16, 2025

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY LOUISE DEBELAK, Deceased. Probate No. BDP-25-10 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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

Dated May 2, 2025.

/s/ Peter T. Simon

GALLATIN ELDER LAW & ESTATE PLANNING PLLC Attorney for Personal Representative

Published May 9, 16 and 23, 2025

MNAXLP

Our Two Cents

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



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

Hot Bucks

For 1 pound ground red meat

You would think the sugar in this would make the jerky pretty mild. But it doesn't. This is only for heat seekers, only for those who would drink the pickled pepper juice out of the jar. And for the full effect, please make sure your cayenne pepper is fresh. Use the stuff that's been on the shelf since you graduated college and it simply won't have the same effect.

Ingredients

pound ground red meat
 4 cup brown sugar
 2½ teaspoons salt
 4 teaspoons onion powder
 4 teaspoons smoked paprika
 ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper

Preparation

Mix the ingredients together well, and place in a tightly sealed plastic bag or storage container. Let it sit overnight in the refrigerator to let the flavor develop. To taste test: cook a 1-inch ball of mix for 15-20 seconds in the microwave. (A coffee cup is the perfect holder, as the sides are high enough to contain the splatters--and mess.)

Cooking

1. Shape the jerky with a jerky gun and arrange the jerky strips on grids over foil-lined drip pans. Preheat the oven to 160°F and cook about 3-4 hours.

2. Let the jerky cool and air dry in the turned-off oven or on the counter, for 6-8 hours, then store in resealable plastic bags. You can store your jerky in the fridge for 2-3 weeks, or in the freezer up to 3 months.

This is a recipe from Eileen's Stalking the Wild Jerky, a collection of 101 jerky recipes flavored from the mild and friendly to the vivid and saucy. Only \$22 at www. riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273.

Come in and Shop with our Local vendors!

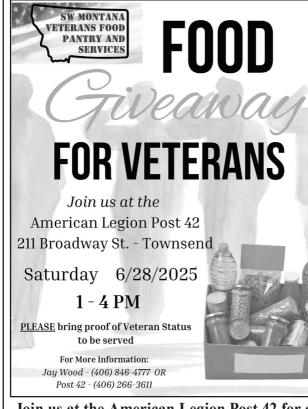
Big Sky Angels- Laura Stevenson

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

Touch of Twyla's Greeting Cards

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





Join us at the American Legion Post 42 for a Food Giveaway on June 28, 2025. Please bring proof of veteran status.



Montana Governor's **Conference on Tourism:** "The Road Ahead" Recap

Rachael Brug President- Visit Southwest Montana





Helena hosted the annual Governor's Conference

on Tourism, and it was nothing short of inspiring! With the theme "The Road Ahead," attendees gathered to explore the future of Montana's tourism industry through engaging presentations, hands-on workshops, and plenty of networking opportunities.

Earlier

The event kicked off with an exciting sneak peek of the nearly finished Montana Heritage Center. This impressive facility showcases Montana's natural beauty, rich history, and diverse cultures, leaving attendees in awe of what's to come. The Heritage Center Plans a soft opening later this fall, with a grand opening celebration next summer in 2026.

Later that evening, the vibe turned social at Ten Mile Creek Brewery on Helena's historic Last Chance Gulch. With local food and handcrafted brews, it was the perfect way to break the ice and connect with fellow tourism partners. The night wrapped up with a magical stargazing experience at the Montana Learning Center, where attendees marveled at Montana's famous "Big Sky" through world-class telescopes.

The following days were packed with valuable sessions and workshops. Highlights included:

"From Data to Action": A session showing how tourism research can help businesses make smarter decisions.

Breakout Sessions Galore: Topics ranged from using AI in event planning to strategies for promoting rural tourism and crafting compelling storytelling to engage visitors.

Montana's New Brand Reveal: After more than 20 years, Montana will unveil a fresh new marketing brand to better position the state in national and international markets. While the brand and details were NOT revealed at the conference, there will be a kick-off tour this summer across the state so the residents of Montana are the first to see the new branding.

One of the standout themes of the conference was destination stewardship, which focused on how tourism can contribute to community well-being while preserving Montana's natural landscapes and cultural heritage. A featured presentation emphasized the importance of building meaningful partnerships to ensure economic growth while safeguarding the state's unique character. Founding speakers from the Old Salt Festival and the Red Ants Pants Music Festival were highlighted as shining examples of stewardship in action.

The Old Salt Festival takes place on the Mannıx tamıly ranch near Helmville, MT, and showcases Montana's ranching heritage while celebrating land stewardship and sustainable practices. Attendees are treated to an outstanding food and music while celebrating Montana state's cultural and agricultural roots. The Old Salt Festival is scheduled for June 20th - 22nd this summer. Similarly, the Red Ants Pants Music Festival in White Sulphur Springs has become a beloved event that not only draws thousands of visitors to a rural community but also supports local businesses and promotes Montana's rural way of life. The festival's proceeds go toward grants for rural projects and women's leadership programs, demonstrating how tourism can directly benefit the community. This year's Festival is scheduled for July 24th through the 27th. Agritourism was another key focus, with sessions exploring how Montana's agricultural heritage can serve as a draw for visitors. Attendees learned how events like the Old Salt Festival and Red Ants Pants Festival create immersive, community-centered experiences that honor local traditions while driving economic growth. These examples showed how rural tourism and agritourism can work hand in hand to create meaningful connections between visitors and Montana's authentic charm. The conference wrapped up with the Tourism Awards and Closing Remarks, celebrating the incredible work being done across the state to support and grow Montana's tourism industry.

Montana's Legislature Delivers for Families and Schools

As the 69th Legislature of-

ficially comes to a close, I

want to thank Montana's

legislators for passing im-

pactful legislation in support

of education. Throughout the

process, numerous bills sup-

ported by the Office of Public

McKenna Gregg Communications Director

Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of the Office of Public Instruction

ing with local communities to drive meaningful improvements to Montana's education system.

One significant victory is HB 15, which ensures inflationary increases for K-12 base funding. With a 3.00% boost in FY 2026 and FY 2027, this bill provides much-needed stability for Montana's schools.

The Legislature also worked to address Montana's teacher shortage and support educator advancement. HB 252, the STARS Act, stands out as a critical initiative to increase teacher salaries and expand funding for work-based learning and dual credit. Additionally, HB 118 enhances the Military Interstate Children's Compact, ensuring smoother educational transitions for the children of service members who move around to different states and schools. Efforts also extended to strengthen math and reading outcomes and career opportunities. HB 338 revised targeted early literacy intervention laws to incorporate numeracy, providing better flexibility in evaluating student needs. Meanwhile, HB 357 increases Career and Technical Education (CTE) funding to middle schools, expanding hands-on learning opportunities for students.

Student safety remained a top priority in this session. SB 369 focuses on suicide prevention in schools, mandates clear policies and training for educators to recognize and respond to warning signs, and reinforces vital mental health resources. HB 745 enhances background check requirements for school employees and volunteers, ensuring those in close contact with students undergo rigorous screening. Additionally, SB 245 seeks to provide human trafficking awareness training for school bus drivers, equipping them with crucial tools to help protect vulnerable students.

Finally, Montana values were upheld this session. HB 300 strengthens protections for women and girls in education, granting legal pathways to file discrimination complaints for men and boys who compete in girls' and women's sports, while safeguarding women's locker-room spaces and private spaces. Similarly, HB 471 makes it clear that gender identity instruction is not part of traditional sex ed, and if schools are going to introduce topics on gender identity instruction, they must notify parents and have parents opt in. These bills collectively mark a major step forward for Montana's students, teachers, and families. As the session closes, we extend our appreciation to the Legislature for its dedication to education and safety. Their efforts will help create a stronger, more supportive learning environment across the state.

BROADWATER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA

Debi Randolph County Commissioner



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

Monday, May 12, 2025

10:00 AM Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, regarding projects and deadlines

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

8:30 -11:00 AM Road Department Union Meeting, Flynn Building

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

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

10:00 AM Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder/ Elections Administrator Angie Paulsen recommendation of Appointment of Broadwater County Officer to replace Commissioner Jesse Swenson for Canvass of votes for Broadwater County Sheriff Public Safety Mill Levy Election.

10:00 AM Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder/ Elections Administrator Angie Paulsen and Board of Canvassers to Canvass the Vote for Broadwater County Sheriff Public Safety Mill Levy Election.

10:05 AM Public Health Workforce Grant, Task Order number 26-07-1-01-105-0, between Montana DPHHS and Broadwater County

10:10 AM Discussion, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director, Solid Waste Business Assessments

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision Albe Minor Subdivision, S3, T7N, R1E; request final plat approval

10:35 AM Discussion/Decision, COLA for County Employees

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Instruction (OPI) to improve educational outcomes and support students, families, teachers, and schools gained strong support. With these

OPI Photo

bills, the OPI can begin work-

This year's Governor's Conference left attendees inspired and equipped with new tools to tackle "The Road Ahead."



Be Bear Aware

Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Montana is bear country. Grizzly bear populations continue to become denser and more widespread in Montana, increasing the likelihood that residents and recreationists will encounter them in more places each year.

Avoiding conflicts with bears is easier than dealing with conflicts. Here are some precautions to help residents, recreationists and people who work outdoors avoid negative bear encounters:

Carry bear spray and be prepared to use it immediately. Travel in groups whenever possible and make noise, which can help alert bears to your presence.

Stay away from animal carcasses, which often attract bears. Follow food storage orders from the applicable land management agency.

If you encounter a bear, never approach it. Leave the area when it is safe to do so.

Keep garbage, bird feeders, pet food and other attractants put away in a secure building. Keep garbage in a secure building until the day it is collected. Certified bear-resistant garbage containers are available in many areas.

Never feed wildlife. Bears that become food conditioned lose their natural foraging behavior and pose threats to human safety. It is illegal to feed bears in Montana.

Though they have reached recovery levels in the Northern Continental Divide and Greater Yellowstone ecosystems, grizzly bears in the lower 48 states are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Management authority for grizzlies rests with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, working closely in Montana with FWP, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Geological Survey, Wildlife Services, and Native American tribes. This collaboration happens through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.

10:00 AM Meeting with MACo insurance

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, by-laws approval
- 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

Jesse Swenson

(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213

jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov

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

lrichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov

E-mail: 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

- Trust Board Meeting on May 13th at 11:30 AM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on May 13th at 6:00 PM
- Board of Health Meeting on May 19th at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on May 19th at 6:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on May 20th at 7:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on May 21st at 6:00 PM

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

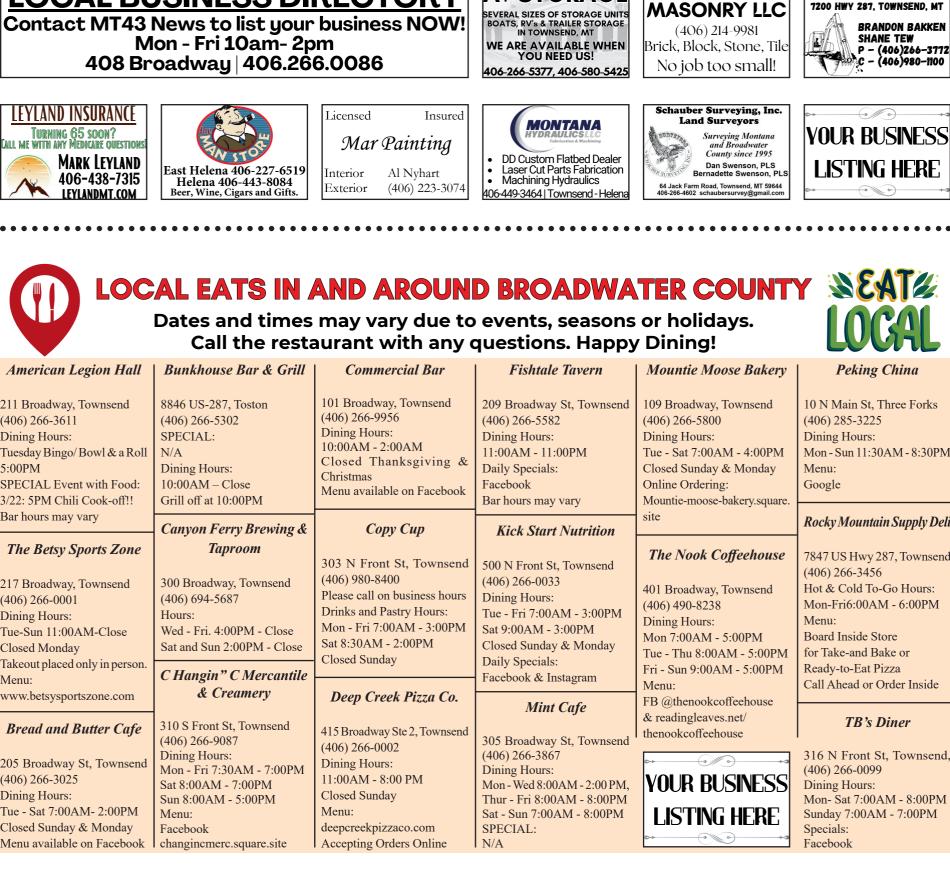
Sign up to receive county text message notifications! Text BCNOTIFY to 91896 or visit broadwatercountymt. gov and click on the TextMyGov icon on the home page LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

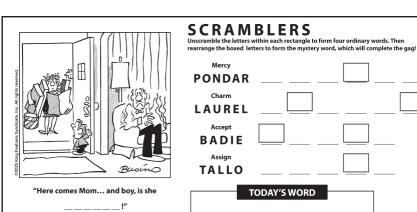
MT 43 News

BSE EXCAVATING

BARRETT'S

A+ STORAGE





KNIGHT MOVES **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: F equals N FEJY XZ EF XGPAXVXFPKU IGXUYVNGY IYGZXGJYV BAYF JXMEGQ EGY PXX UMXQY Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then PXSYPAYG: PYYPA BKVYFKFS. move around the square in a one by



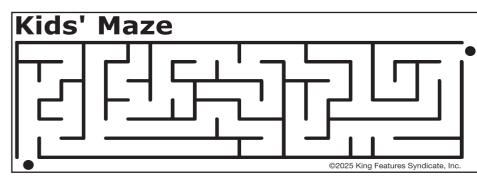
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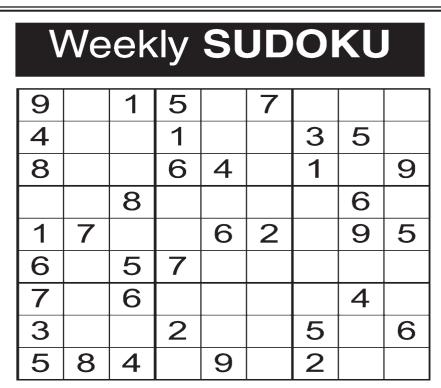
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: •

Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging HOO BOY!

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SR. CENTER MEALS: MAY 12 - MAY 16

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

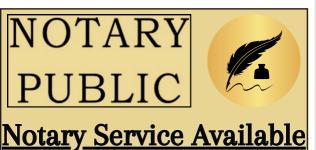
Monday, May 12 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Carrot Raisin Salad Golden Corn Garlic Bread Fruit Cocktail

Tuesday, May 13 Roast Pork Mashed Potatoes Key Largo Vegetables Whole Grain Bread Applesauce

Wednesday, May 14 Swedish Meatballs Steamed Potatoes Green Beans Whole Grain Bread Apricot Halves Dessert Thursday, May 15

Baked Cod **Rice Pilaf** Carrot Coins Bean Medley Whole Grain Bread Sweet Peaches

Friday, May 16 Polish Sausage Sauerkraut **Steamed Potatoes** California Vegetables Whole Grain Roll Pineapple



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

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



Hallelujah

I think last week there was too much news, so they didn't have space for my article. Not a problem time to drive on! Thank you, heavenly Father, for this life-giving rain, I love cooler weather and especially rain/mist/FOG! - Not wind, though, but we just have to deal with that.

Not sure why I love FOG, it was from an experience way back in 1971. If you see me on the street, stop and ask me about it, I love talking with locals on the street. It's SOooo small town folks. FUN!

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 Special Service Pastors 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 Rick Arnold (406) 633-2677 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

What is Pope Francis?

Fr. Cody Williams Holy Cross Church

Regardless of how the world pictured Pope Francis, he is a pastor and desired to be a pastor. Two points mark the pontificate

of Pope Francis. In 2016, he began a Jubilee Year of Mercy, calling on the world to emphasize the gift of God's mercy. He writes, "Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness." Second, this year he inaugurated the Year of Hope. He writes, "Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross." These two events show his pastoral heart: to bring people to the heart of Jesus, to make the Church a field hospital for the sick, suffering, and lost, to bring the mercy of God to all, and to reach out to the world and embrace it with the love of a father. Pope Francis was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina as the son of Italian immigrants and named Jorge Mario Bergoglio. After finishing his training as a chemist, he started his path to the priesthood. At first he joined the diocesan seminary but then changed course and joined the Jesuit Order. The Jesuits are known for their emphasis on teaching and ministering to the poor. His upbringing gave him a special love for the poor and immigrants. After finishing his doctorate, he was sent to teach at the local college in Buenos Aires. He was named archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998, taking the motto: miserando atque eligendo. Roughly translated, it means "by having mercy and by being called." This line is derived from the call of Matthew: "by



seeing him and having mercy, he called him."

On March 13, 2013, he was elected as Bishop of Rome, the 266th Pope of the Catholic Church. He took the name Francis after a saint he greatly admired for his simplicity, love of poverty, and care for the poor: St. Francis of Assisi. As Pope, he showed his love for the poor, the abandoned, and the lost through many of his actions. On Holy Thursday when we celebrate the washing of feet in reenactment of Jesus' action, Pope Francis went to prisons and washed the feet of the inmates. He continued to show his love for all people by working for peace in the world, visiting the sick, orphanages and prisons, and meeting with people from all walks of life. Pope Francis wrote several letters to the world on issues central to the needs of our times and to faith. His letters paint the picture of a man of faith whose desire is the salvation of all. In his encyclical Fratelli Tutti (On Brotherly Love) he stresses the need to understand the common humanity of all people if we are going to have true peace in the world. His final letter, Delixit Nos (He desired us), he speaks about God's desire for all people. Seeing our day-to-day struggles, consumerism, and a quest for pleasure, he laments the loss of love for the heart of Jesus: "The deepest part of us, created for love, will fulfil God's plan only if we learn to love. And the heart is the symbol of that love." Even in his final moments, Pope Francis reminded the world of the truths he preached. He continued to write to people, lead the church, and show the hope that God has given us while recovering in his hospital bed. He celebrated Easter even though his illness had taken a serious toll. Now, in our year of hope, he shows us the end goal of hope: eternal life.

As I mentioned last week, I have started the dance of spring. Watering (Which will be on hold while God waters the earth, rain brings the GREEN!) Our town is greening up, but still a beautiful snowpack on Mount Baldy. In case you haven't noticed the wonderful Bee people are buzzing around every blossom, and they should be left alone to do their thing.

I ran into a couple of Military guys in a local restaurant the other day and when I went to pay our bill, I was told they paid it! This is incredibly outstanding. The patriotism in our area is fantastic. It really brings home the feeling of America, and ALL of us Veterans thank you! I have heard (NOT around here) a couple of people complain about Veterans wanting a benefit from stores and restaurants. NO, the only real benefit is being able to come home from war!

Back to the rain, there is just something special about being out in the rain and walking around town saying hello to local folks, it's even better in the snow but that won't be for a while...Right?

There is a new bookstore in Townsend, called "Wise Dan's Books." (No, the owner is not named Dan, you will have to ask him.) It's right beside The Mint. Go check it out. Also, you have probably noticed the Full Beli Deli is back open too. Great food! (I am a BIG fan of their beef sticks.) Leave some for me.

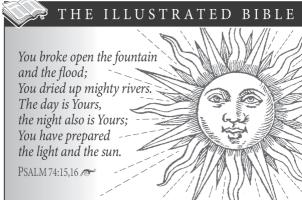
Keep watch around town, at all the beautiful flowers starting to bloom. I'm sorry if they make you sneeze. Driving around looking at the gardens is like looking at Christmas lights every year, only warmer.

Stay well, folks. Spring seems to bring out the sniffles, spring colds are the worst. Just when you can go outside to enjoy the weather, you get a cold! EAT oranges, take Vitamin C, be healthy.

I think the wind is scaring the squirrels. They are staying inside the feeder to eat. Watch also for dogs running loose, most are not vicious but they just like to leave behind "surprises" on our lawns. Kitty-cats are ok, they just walk around not caring about much of anything. The term "Cool Cat" is true!

Please be safe doing your yard work. Stay well my Readers, let me know if you like my articles, I love writing them!





& Helena Obituaries

Jo Anne Cordell

Family of Jo Anne Cordell

July 18th, 1950 – April 27th, 2025

Jodi was born to her mother, Wanda Hurt, on July 18th, 1950, in Modesto, CA and passed away surrounded by family on April 27th, 2025. Her daughter and all of her grandchildren surrounded her as she passed on.

Jodi was loved by so many people within her family and friends and even throughout the community. She had so much love in her heart for every person that crossed her path. She loved crocheting baby blankets for every person who was having a baby or grandbaby. It kept her busy, and she just loved being able to do things for everyone. Her children, grandchildren, greatgrandchildren and her great-great-great-grandchildren were her whole world. She loved and cared for every generation of her family with the same passion and adoration as the one before. Her life always had purpose.

Everyone had a grandma with her. She loved all the friends of her daughters and granddaughters as if they were her own. There's never been a woman with more love and strength than her. Her grandbabies may as well have been hers. She would steal all the babies while us moms slept.

She lived to be a mother and grandmother and loved every moment with her family. Every day with Jodi was a special one. Game nights, camping, fishing and tubing on the boat were some of her most favorite times with her family.

Jodi found her relationship with god and started attending the Canyon Ferry Baptist church, where she was baptized and adopted her church family. She was very passionate about attending all of her events with the church.

Jodi is survived by her daughters Tracy/ (Matt Salminen) Christina Cordell, Kori Dixon and Marlene Elledge. her grandchildren, Briana Richards, Mandy Odell and Mark Odell. Great grandchildren Jenna, Mya and Jayden Odell. Great-great-grandchildren, Brystol and Martha Billman. Sisters Gail Paige, Brenda Kremer and Lynn Fisher as well as numerous nieces and nephews and too many friends to name.

Jodi is preceded in death by her mother, Wanda Hert, her father, Robert Hert, brother Bobbi Hert, and Sister Anne Ledbetter.

Services were held at the Canyon Ferry Baptist Church on Thursday, May 1st, at 11 am.

A potluck Celebration of Life was held on Friday May 2nd in the basement of the VFW in East Helena at 3pm.

Family of John Lyle Nutter

1948 - 2025

John Lyle Nutter, age 76, of East Helena, Montana left us peacefully on February 23, 2025 due to heart failure, surrounded by the love and comfort of his family.

John Lyle Nutter

As a beloved son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, John left an indelible mark on the hearts of all who knew him. His dry sense of humor and love of the outdoors will forever echo in the stories and memories shared by those who cherished him.

Born on October 3, 1948, in Kalispell, MT, John was a pillar of strength and wisdom. After moving several times, John finally settled in East Helena, MT in 1975 to raise his family. In August of 1986, while "out on the town," he met the love of his life, Catherine, with whom they formed a wonderful, blended family.

John worked for the City of Helena as a heavy equipment operator until his retirement in 1990. He had a passion for fishing, hunting, playing pool, horseshoes, and cards. He had a knack for collecting quarters, a playful reminder of his competitive spirit that has been passed on to his children. Summers were spent camping with his family at the lake, only returning to town when absolutely necessary. John also enjoyed engaging in good conversations with a vodka diet tonic (with olives) in hand, which his grandchildren could expertly prepare.

In 2010, John and Catherine embraced the snowbird life, traveling to Sun City, Arizona to bask in the warmth of the sun. There, they formed lasting friendships and enjoyed mini-golf, shuffleboard, and card games. Their house, no matter where they were calling home at the time, was a haven of hospitality always open to friends, family, and even strangers who passed by. John and Catherine's generosity knew no bounds and their welcoming spirit touched the lives of many.

He is preceded in death by his father, Harold Nutter; mother, Maxine (Lee) Pope; sister, Kay Sundberg; brother, Lyn Jay Nutter; grandsons, Samuel Tielking, Dominic Sanderson; and great-grandson, Wyatt Tielking.

John is survived by his loving wife, Catherine; sister, Francie (Jim) Wood; devoted children, Brandon (Marcy Garza) Nutter, Michaella (Dave) Sammons, Regina Wood, Bridgett (Kelly Williams) Tielking (Ruth) Nutter, Jennifer (Ryan) Medlin, and Amber (Tony) Peake. He leaves behind a legacy of 21 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren, along with countless nieces and nephews who will carry his memory forward.

John was a man of great wisdom and responsibility. He never hesitated to offer advice, whether it was needed or not and was always eager to share his opinion.

Why Does Soil pH Matter?

Allison Kosto

MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



Soil should not be confused

with dirt. Dirt is unclean; it gets underneath your fingernails. Soil, on the other hand, is a dynamic material that has living parts.

Soil is comprised of minerals, water, gases, organic matter and microorganisms. All of these components give soil its unique characteristics. Soil is not the same in Montana as it is in Florida. In fact, it may not be the same on one side of your yard as it is on the other.

The environment, along with soil composition and parent material, attributes to the soil pH. I'm sure you are somewhat familiar with pH. The pH scale ranges from 0 to 14 with 7 as neutral. Numbers less than 7 are acidic and numbers greater than 7 are alkaline or basic. Lemon juice is acidic, and bleach is alkaline.

In Montana, we tend to have soils with a high pH (alkaline), usually ranging from 6.5 to 8.5. There is a lot of science behind why and how soil develops a certain pH. However, without getting too complicated, the primary reason that soil in Montana tends to be more alkaline is that it contains a large quantity of calcium carbonate (lime). This is especially true in Broadwater County (remember the lime plant?!). Due to our low average precipitation, these carbonates also leach into the groundwater, which also gives our water a high pH too.

The best way to find your soil pH is to use a reputable lab. Based on samples received in my office, our native soils in Broadwater average a pH of about 8.0. Home testing kits are available for pH and other nutrients. However, their accuracy is questionable. A list of labs is available from the Extension Office, and we can even send the sample for you. A basic garden soil analysis is about \$17 plus shipping.

Soil pH has an ability to affect plant growth by influencing nutrient availability. It affects how the soil attracts and releases nutrients. In high pH soils, iron, manganese and boron are not as accessible to plants. Iron is the most common nutrient deficiency due to alkaline soils. Some plants, including many trees, are more susceptible to iron deficiencies. An iron deficiency shows up at interveinal chlorosis. This means that leaf of the plant is yellow while the veins stay bright green. In acid soils, magnesium, calcium and phosphorus tend to be limiting.

Generally, most plants grow well when the soil pH is 6 to 7 (slightly acid to neutral). However, some plants may prefer a certain pH range. For example, blueberries prefer acidic soils. If you've ever tried to grow blueberries in Broadwater County, you may have discovered that they simply don't grow or produce well here. This is because of our alkaline soil.

If you have a high pH soil, one of the first questions you'll likely ask is, "How do I change it?" Unfortu-

William (Bill) Louis Longacre

Family of William Louis Longacre

1977 - 2025

William (Bill) Louis Longacre passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at his home in Helena, MT.

Bill was born to Clara Capps on September 27, 1977, in Eugene, OR. Bill moved to Helena, MT when he was 10 years old.

Bill met his wife, Heather Noel, in 1997. Together, they had 27 years and 4 amazing children.

He was a man of many talents, but his life's work was anything vehicle-related. In his younger years, he jumped back and forth between auto body and engine repair. Finally, deciding auto body was the favorite, he opened his own body shop at his home in 2009. He did continue to do the occasional engine rebuild or repair, mostly for his wife.

Bill was a man of undeniable charisma and had a magnetic presence, he made friends easily and was known for the ability to charm and captivate those who met him. He left a lasting impression on all who crossed his path. He will be truly missed by many people.

Bill is survived by his wife, Heather Noel and their children Derick, Brogan, and Violet Longacre; mother Clara Capps; Roger Knapstad; sister Bridgette Shepherd; mother-in-law Mary Noel; brother and sister in-law Dustin and DeAnna Noel, nieces and nephews Ashleigh, Jordan (Sydney), and Aleks Catlow; Davin and Delia Noel; and many more family that love him dearly. Bill also left behind some of the most amazing friends one could ever ask for.

Bill was preceded in death by his son, Kestin Noel. Per Bill's wishes, there will not be a service; he will be celebrated by those who love him every day.



His dedication to his family was unwavering and his hard work and frugality ensured that his children were well provided for. John's legacy of love, laughter, and devotion will live on in the hearts of those who knew him. He will be deeply missed, but his spirit will forever guide and inspire us.



Franklin O Peters, Jr.

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Franklin O. Peters, Jr. of Inverness, Montana passed away of natural causes Sunday, May 4 in the Chester, Montana hospital.

Services in Townsend will be announced for the Townsend native.



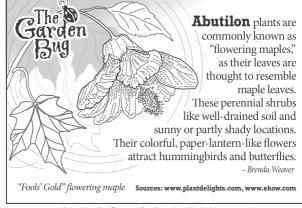


nately, it's not easy. Because of our calcareous soils, it is difficult, expensive and often impractical to lower pH significantly. The two most common amendments to lower pH are elemental sulfur and aluminum sulfate. Aluminum sulfate works more quickly, whereas elemental sulfur can take several months. Routinely adding organic matter can also improve pH. Always be cautious when adding fertilizer and soil amendments. Too much of a good thing isn't always a good thing. Use your soil test to determine how much fertilizer or organic matter should be used.

Acidic soil and the need to raise pH is uncommon in Montana. Cropland in some areas of Montana is starting to have an issue with soil acidification due to high fertilizer inputs for many years. Additionally, areas in northwest Montana have a lower pH due to parent material that is high in silica, as opposed to carbonates east of the divide. Limestone is the common amendment used to raise pH in areas of low pH.

Even with amendments, it is extremely difficult to cause a major change in your pH. However, by knowing and understanding your pH, you can make better management decisions. For example, if you have a pH of 8.0 then you may have to come to terms with the fact that blueberries simply won't produce well. You also may need to fertilize your trees with iron annually.

If you have any questions about soil testing, fertilizers or soil amendments, stop by your local MSU Extension Office at 416 Broadway or contact us at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.



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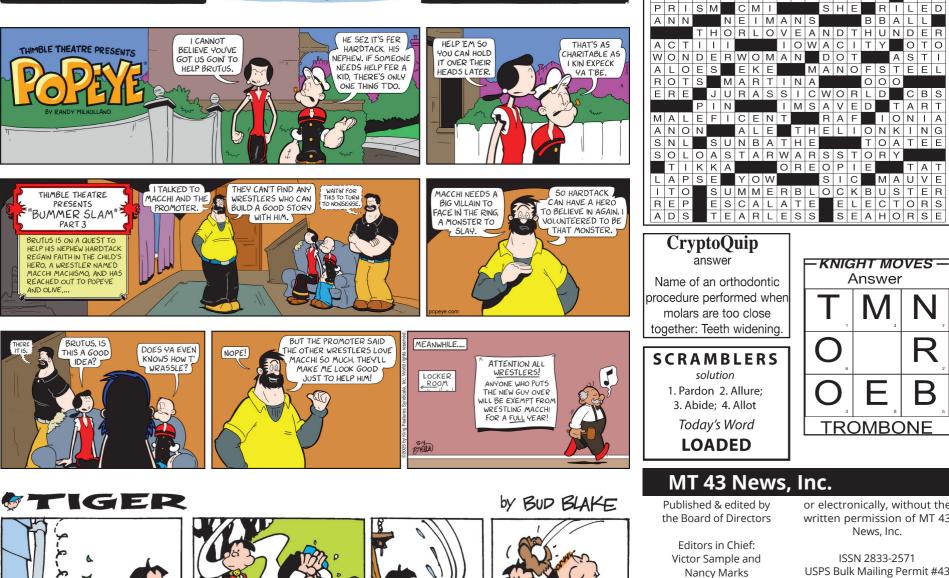
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Super Crossword Answers P A S T R A M I P R O R O D E O E Y E S O R E S C A P I T A L V
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408 Broadway Street Suite A Townsend MT 59644-2323 (406) 266-0086

MT43News@MT43News.com

Deadlines

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

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Forms and Policies

https://mt43news-businessservices com/node/124

11 | Friday, May 9, 2025



Kendall Cotton Keynote Speaker at Republican Dinner

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Broadwater County Republicans gathered Saturday for their annual Lincoln-Reagan Day dinner at the Watson Center. A Group of around 75 persons listened to keynote speaker Kendall Cotton who is the President and CEO of the Frontier Institute, a conservative think-tank that focuses on state and local policy.

In an interview Cotton, 32, talked about the nonprofit's focus on sound public policy including the idea of the first right to compute, a new concept which would open the doors for believers in the second amendment to legally make their own 3-D guns, he explained.

Founded five years ago, Cotton said the Institute is patterned after the former Montana Policy Institute. While he and his staff do not lobby at the legislature per se, they do help research bills. Based in Helena, the Frontier Institute has offices in Bozeman and Missoula. Cotton is a regular on newspaper opinion pages.

Another issue Cotton's organization focuses on is abolishing property taxes. He did not rule out a sales tax, but said eliminating property taxes would broaden the tax authority by turning the authority over to counties. According to Cotton, Montana Cities and Counties Organization is in favor of the idea.

A third focus of the group is setting up goals for establishing "micro schools" in Montana. Cotton explained these serve parents' needs who do not want their children in public schools for various reasons. The parents are now finding it difficult to homeschool or to set up a charter school. The institute has a staff person who can help parents walk through the steps. "I have a new sitemap in my office, which shows these micro schools popping up all over the state. This model gives parents a different choice besides public schools. They are modeled after the old one-room schoolhouse concept with older kids helping younger kids and each child learning at his or her own pace," he said.



ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY FIREMAN'S BREAKFAST

at the Fire Station, 130 S Cedar St Saturday, May 10 @ 7am - 11am





American Legion Memorial Day Cemetery Flag Placements

Jen Dalrymple

Cemetery Flag Coordinator, American Legion Post 42

Memorial Day flag placements will be at Deep Creek and Radersburg Cemeteries at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 24th. This year, we'll pick them up at 9:00 am on Thursday, May 29. Placements take about an hour and pick-up only a half-hour. Other County cemetery placements and pickups are covered by specific individuals or groups with flags supplied by our Post 42.

All those interested in helping the American Legion Family and 4-H members at these two cemeteries, please meet at the cemetery of your



choice at 9:00 am of the day you can help. For any questions, contact me at 406.949.3660. Thank you and we welcome you to join us.

City Of Townsend Streets

Linda Kent MT43News Correspondent

Mockel Precast and Excavating of East Helena and Helena Sand and Gravel were the successful bidders for Townsend's Spring Street work, which began May 5. Townsend's City Council approved the bids at the April 15 regular meeting.



City Street Work Photo Credit: Linda Kent

Mockel was the low bidder at \$198,315 for excavation and paving work around the community, including the removal of blowouts on North Oak Street and South Oak Street. Helena Sand and Gravel submitted the sole bid of \$88,000.25 for chip sealing city streets.

Kendall Cotton, Frontier Institute Founder Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Cotton hails from Florence, Montana with a background in the timber industry. He graduated from Montana State University in 2015 and founded the Institute in 2020. The Institute's backing comes from private donations from individuals, small businesses such as welding businesses, and grocery store owners, all of whom favor limited government. He said they do receive some grant money.

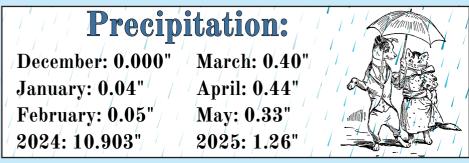
Several elected officials or candidates running for office also spoke, including Judge Dan Wilson, 2026 candidate for the Montana Supreme Court, Second District Congressman Troy Downing, District 77 legislator Jane Gillette and District 39 legislator Kerrie Seekins-Crowe of Billings. County Republican Party President Ed Regan emceed the evening.

Broadwater Democratic Central Committee Convention At The American Legion 211 Broadway St., Townsend DINNER AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS Wednesday, May 21 5:00pm RSVP to (406) 581-8538 BY MAY 16 or elleng5118@gmail.com

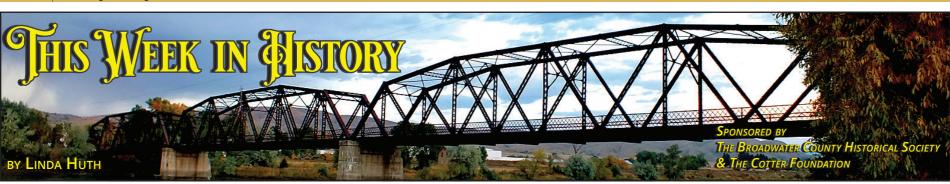


Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross





MT 43 News



May 8

1941

Radersburg News

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith and son, Charles Lee, and Miss Plymale of Crow Creek Valley were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Freeman in Radersburg Wednesday.

Miss Juanita Aker of Townsend spent a few days at the home of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ralls and son, Steve.

Myra Holling celebrated her thirteenth birthday anniversary Sunday at her home. Those present were invited to share her treats and birthday cakes were May Patterson, Helen Bomar, Betty Doughty and Pauline Patterson. Myra received several nice birthday gifts.

1958

Local News

Mr. and Mrs. Al Brothers spent the weekend in Idaho Falls, Idaho with Mrs. Brothers' mother, Mrs. Gertrude Burt. Mrs. Burt accompanied them home and will visit here for two or three weeks.

Earl Fryhling is in Minneapolis this week buying for the Anthony store.

Mr. and Mrs. Gale Brammer and 2 daughters of Missoula spent the week end in Townend with Gale's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Brammer.

Winston News

Winston folks were well represented at the annual Vigilante Parade in Helena last Friday. School closed so the children could attend.

The seniors from our town who participated in the Sneak Day trip to Seattle were Doris Hagbom, Bob Masolo, Doreen Davies, Alfred Myles and Ernie Herrington. The senior class chartered a Greyhound bus for their trip and from all reports it was a thoroughly enjoyable one.

1975

Teacher Profiles

Our Miss Brooke" is much different than the causticvoiced lady remembered by some of us from the Eve Arden radio show of some years ago.

Margo Brooke is completing her third year in Cecilia Hazelton Elementary School, which is her third year of teaching. She has taught the 5th grade since coming here but has arranged to teach the 3rd grade next year.

Changing grades is a challenge she looks forward to as the emphasis will be different, as will her students, but she regrets too, the special things which make the 5th grade interesting.

Margo began college, with the intention of becoming a nurse, last summer helping with a remedial reading class moved her to start education classes and now she says, "I'm glad I did".

She feels teaching must be approached with a 'never give up' attitude for despite disappointments at times has found that the results of her efforts do show in her

students attitudes and accomplishments. She has a lively interest in what is going to happen to her classes, what they are going to do and how they will turn out. Someday, someplace, a result you can connect to your teaching shows up.

This Pony native, who received her degree from Carroll College in Helena is interested in skiing and hiking. Presently, she is looking forward to a 3 week trip to Europe when school is out. With a girl friend, she will visit Belgium and the Netherlands, two countries she missed when she spent a semester in Europe during college.

1997

Around Town News

Kenneth and Lela Biggs and Ethel O'Hern spent last weekend in Missoula, where they attended the annual meeting of the Telegraph Club. The Morse Code group enjoyed a banquet as well as a club meeting. They returned to Townsend Sunday.

Irma Meyer, Stevensville, and her daughter, Trudy McLean, Willow Creek, visited here Wednesday with Irma's sister, Lillian Fisher.

Dorothy Colby and Ken and Lois Magdall visited Blaine and Debbie Welch, Cassie and Duane, in Helena, Sunday.

Myrtle Geisser and Susan Geisser spent last weekend in Columbia Falls visiting Sue's children, Jenny, Jessie and Luke Floerschinger.

Helen Obert and Helen Barrows left Saturday for a 14-day cruise to England, Ireland and Wales.



Ya Reckon?



Shayla's folks are stoked she is working in Montana. They are back to living a somewhat nomadic lifestyle and are looking forward to dropping into the Big Sky state for multiple visits.

and catching a huge frog made the trip epic. No doubt the farmers and ranchers are in protecting the water systems because they need that water! Water is so valuable out west because there is far less of it than there is back east. Shayla also noted that there are far different dynamics out here: There is a much more collaborative effort between fisheries, recreation and agriculture, and the need to work together to protect and preserve the waters of Montana.

MT43 News AG Correspondent

Since January, Broadwater Conservation District (BCD)

has been hosting our 4th Big Sky Watershed Corps (BSWC) member, Ms. Shayla Utzinger. The BSWC program, which originated in Montana, is an offshoot of the well-known AmeriCorps program.

"Shayla joins us from Virginia, where she grew up in Appalachia and earned a degree in Environmental and Water Resource Engineering from the University of Virginia. After graduating, Shayla sought more hands-on conservation experience and moved to Bryce Canyon National Park to serve as an AmeriCorps member on a chainsaw crew doing wildland fire fuels reduction. She loved her time there and, eager to explore more of the West, applied for the Big Sky Watershed Corps program. This led to her placement with the Broadwater Conservation District. Shayla is excited to learn more about the intersection of agriculture and watershed restoration, along with all things related to bugs and fish. Outside of work, you'll likely find her on an adventure-skiing, exploring streams and rivers, soaking up the spring sunshine, or, more recently, riding the newly snow-free trails on her mountain bike." (excerpt from the BCD website)

Top on Shayla's 'bucket list' while in Montana for her 11-month BSWC term is to bike-pack a large section of the Continental Divide and catch a fish in Edith Lake. Her passion for the outdoors most likely came from her father, who is an avid kayaker and rafter. Outdoor adventures have always been front and center in her life, as her parents raised her traveling the U.S., hiking the Appalachian Trail, backpacking, and soaking up the outdoors. When Shayla was a little girl, she and her parents and their four dogs took a family vacation to Washington state where they all lived in their Subaru Matrix for most of a summer. Perhaps her fondest family adventure was a horrible canoe trip in Maine. The mosquitoes were brutal, but the family time

Shayla's main focus, while at Broadwater Conservation District, will be the 10-Year Deep Creek milestones and monitoring for its success. She is a pleasant, hospitable, hardworking individual with a strong natural resource skillset. She has hit the ground

running, and the district can see why she excelled as a sawyer in Utah, cutting down Ponderosa Pines for 4-months straight. She is gritty and fun and super driven to accomplish things. It is so interesting how her love for building homes and her passion for water and fish led her to seek an engineering degree with a focus on Water Resource and Restoration Engineering. She wrote her college essay on a Watershed Restoration Plan for the North Fork of the Roanoke River. She grew up near this river but was not allowed to play in it because it was in such bad shape, with erosion and pollution issues. Perhaps watershed restoration has been flowing through Shayla's veins far longer than she had even imagined, ya reckon!?

One thing Shalya has learned thus far, while working at BCD, is the complexity of irrigation in the west and how vested

For the Love of Ag, From the Heart of a Western Woman, Denise Thompson



Shayla with her folks and dog, out on another adventure! Photo Provided by Denise Thompson