

# Broadwater High Players Shine at All-Star Game

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Four Broadwater High School Seniors earned the opportunity to play in the Class B All-Star Game in Red Lodge on June 14th. Deegan Mattson, Sawyer Horne, Cael Sell and Eric Humphreys hit the ground running at Rocky Mountain College, where they practiced three times a day, before heading off to Red Lodge for the big game, where the boys played great, according to coach Joe Horne.

Horne explained that all the teams and coaches who compete against each other throughout the season combine by regions to play on one of two teams together, the North and the South. The South team included Three Forks, Jefferson, Red Lodge, Columbus, Big Timber, Roundup, Manhattan, Colstrip, Huntley Project, Joliet, Shepherd and Broadwater. “It can be a tough transition for the players to become teammates after they had fought hard in competition. This group had great team confidence and really bought into the scheme and trusted each other. As a coach, it was great to see the camaraderie and how much fun they had playing the game,” he said.

Sell, Horne and Humphreys played on the South defense while Deegan played on the offensive side of the ball. “The defense had a lot of hustle,” said Horne, “they really came out firing and hitting hard.” The South team won 22 to 0, shutting out the North team for only the second time in the history of the game.

Broadwater **High Players, 3**



Seniors at the All-Star Game in Billings. From left: Deegan Mattson, Sawyer Horne, Cael Sell, Eric Humphreys and Coach Joe Horne. Photo Provided

**NOTICE:** Newspaper Rate Increase Scheduled for July – Read More on Page 3

## BLM Greenlights Montana Pipeline Project

Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management approved a natural gas pipeline in Montana that will strengthen America’s energy supply and create jobs in the local community. This project marks important progress in expanding energy infrastructure on public lands.

“Approving this project reflects our commitment to strengthening America’s energy independence,” said BLM Acting Director Bill Groffy. “By responsibly developing energy resources on public lands, we’re helping to secure a reliable, diverse energy future for the nation while supporting jobs and local economies.”

The BLM approved NorthWestern Energy’s proposal to construct the 74-mile Helena to Three Forks natural gas pipeline through an accelerated 14-day environmental review process, which is being used in response to the national energy emergency declared by President Donald J. Trump.

The pipeline route includes approximately nine miles of BLM-managed public lands and will follow an existing utility corridor to minimize new ground disturbance and ecological disruption. Construction of the 16-inch buried pipeline will occur in phases between spring 2026 and fall 2029. Preparatory activities, including increased survey traffic and engineering assessments, are expected to begin in 2025.

This approval aligns with BLM’s broader mission to support responsible energy development on public lands. Through strategic permitting, land stewardship, and environmental safeguards, BLM helps ensure a reliable domestic energy supply and reduces dependence on foreign resources. The BLM also plays a critical role in overseeing the extraction of essential minerals on federally managed lands, which are vital for sectors ranging from clean energy technologies to national defense.

## 2025 Broadwater County Fair and Rodeo

Jessica Erickson  
Broadwater County Fair Manager

We invite everyone to come out to the fairgrounds and show off their ‘Blue Jeans and Country Dreams’ with the 2025 Broadwater County Fair and Rodeo, August 7-10, 2025!

All Broadwater County residents are encouraged to share their hobbies and enter them into the open class departments at the fair. Don’t wait long, as entries close on July 9th!

Do you happen to grow gorgeous flowers? Do you like to write short stories? Have a beautiful house plant? Do you have a secret family recipe for bread, cookies or jelly? Do you dabble with oil paints? Take stunning photographs? Raise your own livestock? Did you end up taking up a hobby of embroidery, knitting or quilting?

Then guess what! You are well on your way to making an entry into the Broadwater County Fair! The Open Class Departments are: Home Arts, Photography & Literature, Fine Arts Painting & Artwork, Home Crafts, Culinary Arts, Horticulture, Agronomy and Livestock. And each of these departments has many different classes to enter your projects! The opportunities are endless!

Fair entry deadline is July 9th, so don’t wait! Entries can be done online or by dropping off or mailing in your entry form to the Fair Office. Entry forms are found in the fair book or can be requested from the Fair Office.

Copies of the Fair Book can be found at the Fair Office at 416 Broadway, Townsend or online at <https://tinyurl.com/3kx8s2ut>. Check out the Fair Week schedule in the fair book for some super exciting entertainment news!

We are gearing up for a great event and hope to see you all there.

For questions or concerns, please contact Jessica Erickson, Fair Manager at 406.266.9242 or email [fair@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:fair@broadwatercountymt.gov).

## Deegan Mattson Represents BHS at East-West Shrine Game

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Playing football on two state honor teams wasn’t all it cracked up to be for Deegan Mattson, Broadwater High School Senior who played offensive in the Class B North-South All-Star Game in Billings one week, then showed up for the East-West Shrine game practices the following Sunday at Montana Tech in Butte. The Shrine game took place in Great Falls.

As best wide receiver in the state, according to his coach Joe Horne, Mattson played a little too hard in the first game, coming up with a strained hamstring muscle, from which he recovered.

Asked how he felt about participating in the two games back-to-back, Mattson said, “Yeah, I was a little tired all right, but it was all fun. Actually, the Shrine game was a different playing experience because some of those Class A and AA team guys are really big!”

He said he felt proud to represent his own school and to help raise money for the Shriners Children’s Hospital in Spokane. “The kids who were treated at the hospital for cancer came to talk to us. One was our age, but mostly they were all really young. It was awesome to think we were helping them,” he said.

All the football coaches nominated individuals for the Shrine game, after which a committee chose Mattson and Cael Sell as alternates from Townsend.

Mattson has plans to attend University of Montana Western in Dillon this fall where he will play football on a scholarship.



Mattson on the field at the East-West Shrine Game in Great Falls, June 21. He wore his dad, Ryan’s, number 19 in honor of his dad, who played for Broadwater High School in the 90s. Photo Provided



# Townsend School Calendar

JUNE & JULY


Monday - Friday

11:00 am: Summer Lunch Program - 18 and under **EAT FREE** at Heritage Park **NO FREE LUNCH FRIDAY JULY 4**

JULY

Tuesday 8

6:00 pm: School Board Meeting - Community Room



# Broadwater County Government Calendar

JULY

Monday 7

10:00 am: Commission/CAO Teams Working Meeting

Wednesday 9

10:00 am: Commission Meeting



# Townsend Community Calendar

JULY

Monday - Saturday

Summer Swimming Hours: **SEE POOL SCHEDULE ON PAGE 3**  
**POOL CLOSED FRIDAY, JULY 4**

Friday 4

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: **FREE** Community Dinner with Live Music at American Legion Post 42, Townsend  
5:00 pm: READ and ROLL: Game Night for All Ages (12 & under with adult) at Reading Leaves Bookstore and Coffee Nook  
8:00 pm: **FREE** Live Music (William May and the Ridge Runners) at Canyon Ferry KOA- Bring a chair!

Saturday 5

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  
8:00 pm: **FREE** Live Music (Moonshiners Band) at Canyon Ferry KOA- Bring a chair!

Monday 7

11:00 am: Pow Wow Taco Fundraiser across from the Capitol in Helena **SEE AD ON PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS**  
6:00 pm: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805

Tuesday 8

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 9

1:00 pm: Assistance in applying for and receiving Military Benefits at American Legion Post 42 every second Wednesday  
1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St  
8:00 pm: **FREE** Live Music (William May and the Ridge Runners) at Canyon Ferry KOA- Bring a chair!

Thursday 10

3:00 pm: FARMERS MARKET at Wi-Fi Park  
4:30 pm: **FREE** Chili Dog Community Feed at American Legion Post 42 **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**  
7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 11

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: READ and ROLL: Game Night for All Ages (12 & under with adult) at Reading Leaves Bookstore and Coffee Nook  
7:00 pm: East Helena Rodeo at 3575 Buckle Street, E Helena **READ ABOUT IT ON THIS PAGE**

Saturday 12

11:00 am: Kitty Adoption and Bake Sale at Reading Leaves Bookstore **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**  
1:00 pm: East Helena Rodeo Parade at Main St, E Helena  
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: East Helena Rodeo at 3575 Buckle Street, E Helena **READ ABOUT IT ON THIS PAGE**

# Three Forks Community Calendar

JULY

Fri 4 - Sat 5

Three Forks Public Library CLOSED

Tuesday 8

1:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - Mah Jongg

Wednesday 9

5:30 pm: Bozeman Music Night with Brendan Nolan at Bridger Brewing, Three Forks

Thursday 10

10:30 am: Three Forks Public Library - Story Time  
7:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with John Foster - No Cover! at Bridger Brewing, Three Forks

Friday 11

11:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - LEGO Club  
Three Forks Public Library - Mosaic Suncatchers  
5:00 pm: Pints with Purpose - Cowboy Heaven Miniature Horse Safe Haven at Bridger Brewing, Three Forks

Saturday 12

11:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - Open until 2:00 pm

# CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 5

FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

FOR SALE!

Two FREE Roosters!  
Leave a message for Susan: 406-980-0650.

FOR SALE!

1983 30' Pace Arrow Motorhome.  
39,000 miles, 454 Turbo 400: \$4000.00  
1974 21' Bayliner Cabin Cruiser  
4-cylinder Chevy motor: \$3000.00 OBO  
Call or text: 406-380-0734

Chili Dog Thursdays!

FREE OR DONATIONS ONLY!  
Come enjoy a meal, and if you can, please help us help our community.  
Thursdays, 4:30 - 6:30pm at American Legion Post 42, in Townsend.  
Hosted by Sons of the American Legion (SAL).

# KITTY ADOPTION AND BAKE SALE!



Come to Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway, Saturday, July 12th 11:00 am - 2:00 pm (NO early birds)  
Request Adoption Application from Facebook page: Townsend Cat Network and Assistance, prior to the event  
10 Kittens that have been vaccinated, dewormed and altered are available this week!  
Adoption fees will apply.



-Ad Sponsored by a Friend of the Cat Network

# Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.  
**Next meeting: July 16th, 7:00PM**  
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St  
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

# EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson  
Branch Manager

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



Lewis & Clark Library East Helena Branch, 16 E Main Street in East Helena.  
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

JULY

Wednesday 9

10:30 am: East Helena Storytime

Thursday 10

1:00pm East Helena Crafternoon at Community Room

# LIBRARY HOURS

Broadwater School and Community Library

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

# Three Forks Community Library

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)

# EAST HELENA NEWS

62nd Annual NRA Rodeo in East Helena, July 11 and 12

MT43 News Staff Reporter



Buy your tickets early for the annual East Helena Rodeo, according to Rodeo Association President Katie Bakkee. The event takes place at the rodeo grounds at 3575 Buckle Street near the Kleffner Ranch.  
She pointed out that seating is limited, so buying early allows for a guaranteed seat at the event.  
The really fun pre-rodeo events will include two age groups of kids sheep riding on Friday and Saturday. The pre-rodeo events begin at 6:00 p.m. with the main rodeo at 7:00 p.m.  
The event is organized by the East Helena Rodeo Association. For more information, please visit [ehvra.com](http://ehvra.com) online or call (406) 459-5872.

# East Helena Rodeo Parade Set for July 12

MT43 News Staff Reporter

The East Helena Rodeo Parade will take place Saturday, July 12, on Main Street in East Helena. Participants may sign up by 12noon. The parade begins at 12:30 p.m., according to organizer Roena Meehan.  
Entries may include horse riders, Wild West Inspired, Vehicles, Marching Drill Teams, Commercial and Noncommercial such as nonprofit organizations and Mounted Drill Teams.  
Meehan encourages early entry. Entry forms may be mailed to East Helena Valley Rodeo Parade, P.O. Box 1942, East Helena, MT 59635. Direct questions to Meehan at (406) 980-1870.

# Summer Report from Superintendent Dan Rispens

Dan Rispens  
East Helena Schools Superintendent

Greetings from East Helena!

School’s out for Summer. East Helena wrapped things up Friday, June 6. Our EHHS graduates were celebrated at a great outdoor ceremony on May 30. We are wishing a wonderful summer break to all of our students, staff and their families. It was a great, productive school year, and we are already deep into planning for fall 2025 and another great year in East Helena.  
Although school is out, there is still a lot going on in our schools. High school athletes are doing summer workouts at our facilities and in our weight room. Community groups utilize our facilities for summer camps and activities. We serve about 200 students in our grades K-11 summer programs, which run into July. The K-5 program is focused on literacy and math skill maintenance and building while the 6-11 program is intended to help students catch up on learning or credits or jump ahead in their work. Additionally, we have crews working daily to clean and maintain our schools and keep the grounds looking sharp.  
Summer is also when we do some heavy lifting in terms of essential maintenance. This summer, that will include replacing part of Radley School’s roof and repairing damaged and degraded asphalt at our bus barn. One exciting project this summer will be the installation of new playground equipment at the Radley Elementary Playground, compliments of our awesome East Helena PTO! In the business office we will be busy preparing the district budget for next year and making sure all employment contracts and documents are in order for our staff.  
A couple months ago, I discussed the district’s infrastructure committee and population growth in East Helena. I recently reviewed a news article that identified East Helena as second only to Kalispell in terms of total growth. Our growth rate is at about 5% annually. It’s no secret this valley is a great place to live, and there is an abundance of buildable residential lots in East Helena. People continue to relocate to our area. The school district has the challenge of managing our facilities to be able to serve resident children.  
One thing we have noticed is that many of our new residents do not have school-aged children or their kids are older and tend to be middle or high school aged versus elementary. We will continue to monitor the situation and market conditions and try to be prepared if and when the next capital construction project becomes necessary.  
With that, I’ll be signing off for summer. I’ll circle back in September with a fall update and recap of our summer projects. Have a great Montana Summer, everyone!  
Dan Rispens is the Superintendent of the East Helena Public Schools. He can be reached at 406-227-7700 or [drispens@ehps.k12.mt.us](mailto:drispens@ehps.k12.mt.us)



**Broadwater High Players, 1**

Sell was the defensive MVP for the South team with 4 sacks and 2 tackles. Humphreys had back-to-back sacks and was selected as the South Team Scholarship recipient. Horne was double digits in tackles from his linebacker position and punted great all game long. Mattson pulled a hamstring in the first practice of the week but found the grit to make a couple good catches as wide receiver as well as long snapping for punts.

In addition to representing BHS with great game play and teamwork, the boys made a monetary donation to the Class B All-Star game fund on behalf of Broadwater Football and the Townsend community through the generous support of fundraising efforts.

Mattson and Horne will attend University of Montana Western in Dillon on football scholarships. Sell will go to Carroll College to play football in Helena and Humphreys is beginning his electrical apprenticeship.

Coach Horne pointed out that the players were thankful for the support they received from the community when they carried out groceries for shoppers as a fundraiser. The funds raised paid all the boys’ expenses, plus extra that they donated back to future Class B All-Star Games.

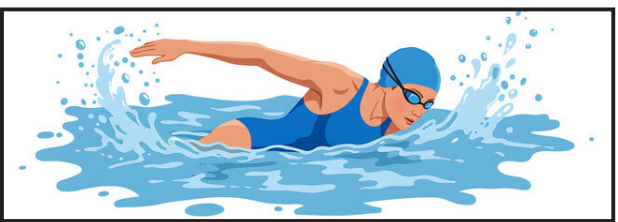
***Pow Wow Taco Fundraiser***

**Mondays, July 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 11am - 1:30pm**

Last Chance Community Pow Wow Committee hosts Native American drumming, dancing, frybread & pow wow tacos on the lawn across from Helena's Capitol building.

All are invited to participate and enjoy!

***Townsend City Pool Schedule***



***Opening Day:***

June 16th, 2025

***Open Swim:***

Monday – Friday, 1:00pm - 4:00pm and 6:30pm - 8:30pm and Saturday, 1:00pm - 4:00pm.

***Water Aerobics:***

Monday – Thursday, 5:30pm -6:30pm

***Swim Lessons:***

Available for ALL ages.

*Go to [TownsendMontana.net](https://www.townsendmontana.net) to sign up for lessons.*

*For questions call TJ at 406-266-1884.*

***Fees:***

- \$4 per swim session, \$40 for 10 swims punch card.
- Family Season Pass available for \$80. *Family pass does not include water aerobics or swim lessons.*

***Closed:***

Sundays and July 4th.

Pool closes for the season August 16th.



## Broadwater School and Community Library Board Trustee Needed

**Daylene Hansen**  
*Executive Administrative Assistant*

**Starting Date: September 8th, 2025**

Term-5 years

Responsibilities: Establish and maintain policies, bylaws, and long-term goals for the library; oversee the general operations of the library; assist with the budget process; promote and advocate for the community and if applicable, hire public librarians.

Attend library board meetings, approximately 6 per year

- Prepare for library board meetings by reading board minutes and other materials set out beforehand
- Lend expertise and leadership to the board for the good of the library
- Attend Broad Valley Federation Meetings whenever possible
- Become familiar with the Montana Public Library Trustee Manual

If interested, please contact Superintendent Brad Racht at 441-3453.  
<https://www.townsend.k12.mt.us/article/2261631>

## MSU Graduates Townsend and East Helena Students May 9

**Montana State University News Service**

Montana State University awarded 1,851 undergraduate students and 374 graduate students during its 142nd spring commencement ceremonies held May 9. It also presented 156 associate degrees and certificates to Gallatin College MSU students.

Students with two asterisks after their names (\*\*) graduated with highest honors, meaning they earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.7. Those graduating with honors have a single asterisk (\*) after their names. To qualify for graduation with honors, students must possess a cumulative GPA between 3.25 and 3.69.

Coltan Pipinich of Townsend graduated, as did these students from East Helena: Joshua Bebach\*, Timothy Cuddy\*\*, Grant Echerson, Sean Felter, Madison Leiva\*\*, Elizabeth Sturges\*\* and Heather Yancy.

This list is current as of June 16, 2025, and includes all registration corrections or grade changes processed to that date.



## Montana 250th Commission Launches “Montana Reads” Virtual Book Club

**Chris Averill**  
*Chair, Montana 250th Commission*

The Montana 250th Commission is launching a year-long series of virtual events designed to build excitement around the United States’ 250th birthday in 2026. “Montana Reads: The Treasure State's Book Club” is a monthly online book discussion that will cover exciting topics and figures from United States, Montana, and Tribal history.

Each month, a member of the Montana 250th Commission will lead a presentation and discussion on books that explore myriad aspects of our shared history - from the Founding Fathers to Montana statesmen and women, cultural traditions to amazing innovation. These monthly discussions will feature conversations around the books’ central themes, seeking applications to current challenges and initiatives facing our state and nation. Montanans are encouraged to participate in any and all of these events that they find interesting and, where possible, to read the book in advance.

All “Montana Reads” events will be held by Zoom on the second Thursday of each month, from 6:30 – 7:30 pm MT. The Montana 250th Commission is excited to share these stories with all Montanans and will be bringing in special guests where possible to further bring this history to life.

*The summer and fall lineup of events includes:*

- Thur., July 10 – Rush: Revolution, Madness & the Visionary Doctor Who Became a Founding Father, by Stephen Friedman (Part I: Turbulent Spirit, pages 1 – 250)  
\*NOTE: Author Stephen Friedman will join us live for the July event
- Thur., Aug. 14 – Rush: Revolution, Madness & the Visionary Doctor Who Became a Founding Father, by Stephen Friedman (Part II: American Hippocrates, pages 251 – 510)
- Thur., Sept. 11 – The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11, by Garrett Graff  
\*NOTE: Author Garrett Graff will join us live for this special event in honor of the victims of September 11, 2001
- Thur., Oct. 9 – Mansfield and Dirksen: Bipartisan Giants of the Senate, by Marc Johnson  
\*NOTE: Author Marc Johnson will join us live for this event  
Registration links for September and October are forthcoming. To register for events, please visit <https://mths.mt.gov/education/index1>. You will then be sent a Zoom link for that individual event. Please email [laura.marsh@mt.gov](mailto:laura.marsh@mt.gov) for any registration issues.  
For More Information about the Montana 250th Commission, visit the MT43News website at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/Montana250th>

## Rate Change for MT43 Newspaper

MT43 News Staff

Due to increase in printing and transportation costs, MT43 News rates increased on July 1, 2025.

*How does this effect newsstand prices at our vendor locations?*

The newspaper price at our vendor locations is now \$2.00. The newspaper edition dated Friday, July 4, 2025 will reflect this change.

*How does this effect subscribers?*

Subscribers will see their price increase by only 37¢ per week. For example, the 1-year, "in-region" print option increases from \$49 to \$69 total.

*See Subscription Form below for rates valid through Friday, July 11, 2025.*

***Subscribe To MT 43 News and save!***

	1Yr	2Yr	3Yr
Print (In-Region*):	\$49	\$88	\$125
Print (In-State):	\$69	\$124	\$176
Print (In USA):	\$99	\$178	\$252
Print (International):	\$125	\$225	\$319
Print Snowbird**:	\$74	\$138	\$200
Email-ONLY (PDF):	\$30	\$54	\$76

**CURRENT RATES THROUGH 7/11/25**

Mail payment or deliver to 408 Broadway, Townsend MT 59644. You can also call with a credit card 406-266-0086, or visit [www.MT43News.com](https://www.MT43News.com)

*\*In Region includes all Broadwater County, Helena, East Helena, Montana City, Clancy, Jefferson City and Three Forks*

*\*\*Snowbird rate includes two address changes per year. Gift subscriptions are also available!*

***All print editions include option to receive PDF email.***

New and renewed subscriptions received by Friday, July 11, 2025, will be accepted at the old rate.

*See Subscription Form below for the new rates.*

***Subscribe To MT 43 News and save!***

	1Yr	2Yr	3Yr
Print (In-Region*):	\$69	\$108	\$155
Print (In-State):	\$89	\$145	\$200
Print (In USA):	\$119	\$198	\$275
Print (International):	\$145	\$245	\$340
Print Snowbird**:	\$94	\$158	\$225
Email-ONLY (PDF):	\$50	\$74	\$100

**NEW RATES**

Mail payment or deliver to 408 Broadway, Townsend MT 59644. You can also call with a credit card 406-266-0086, or visit [www.MT43News.com](https://www.MT43News.com)

*\*In Region includes all Broadwater County, Helena, East Helena, Montana City, Clancy, Jefferson City and Three Forks*

*\*\*Snowbird rate includes two address changes per year. Gift subscriptions are also available!*

***All print editions include option to receive PDF email.***

Please feel free to call our office if you have questions.

We appreciate your support in helping us to provide local news coverage, community information, and event coverage. Thank you for your subscription.



## Honoring Our Veterans – Mike Fisette

Matt Nelson



Staff Sergeant Michael Fisette has been with the Montana Army National Guard (MTARNG) for over 13 years. He went on one deployment from 2013 to 2014 to Kuwait. Then he became a Federal Technician working on helicopters, both as a mechanic and as a crew chief. He still wore his uniform full time during the week, and then did his weekend drills for one weekend a month and two weeks a year, active duty. In 2021, he became a full-time National Guardsman, called an AGR (Active Guard Reserve), and worked as a Career Councilor until February of this year, when he became a recruiter.

After going to Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT), he spent one weekend drilling in a maintenance company at Helena Aviation Facility, and then went to a flight company, which was Alpha Company, 1-189th GSAB (General Support Aviation Battalion); basically they can do it all from attack, transport, and supply. Then he deployed to Kuwait.

“That is when I became a crew chief, which is basically an onboard mechanic. I started off with the Blackhawk helicopters, UH-60s, and when I came back from my deployment, I started working at the Broadwater County Sheriff’s office as a Detention Officer. I worked at the Sheriff’s office just over a year and then became a full time technician for the Montana Army National Guard.”

The Montana Army National Guard has four airframes: the C-12, and LUH-72, UH-60 and CH-47 Chinooks. The C-12 is a fixed-wing aircraft, used for transporting generals or higher command officers to flight simulators or where they need to go. It is almost like a presidential plane. We just have a small version of it. The Light Utility Helicopter LUH-72 (Lakota) is used for boarder missions, search and rescue, etc. The CH-47 Chinooks often fly over Townsend, heading to and from the Limestone Hills to support the military activities that go on there. It has the two big props and is about the size of a school bus.

Michael carries all the mechanical certifications needed for these airframes. He also got his Airframe and Power plant (A & P) civilian license through the military, and they paid for it. He was able to take his military experience and his Federal Technician experience and put in for the certificates for the FAA and to



SSGT Mike Fisette  
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

take his test.

"I needed the A & P license for the LUH-72, because the maintenance records were not only maintained on the army side, but also on the FAA side. It was important to make sure that we were in line with both. I have over 600 hours flying on helicopters as a crew chief, and that was my most interesting and fun time with the guard. You get to see parts of Montana that most people don’t get to see."

"If I had the ability to do it, I would encourage anyone to be deployed once. I am not saying to be deployed to shoot up a country, or do anything like that, or get shot at. I am basically saying to go and see what another country is like. Going on a deployment to other countries makes you appreciate Montana and the United States more. Montana has partnerships with other countries; we send soldiers to go help with their training activities. I also encourage young people to join the Montana Army National Guard. You can contact me at Michael Fisette, 406-465-2227, Michael.a.fisette.mil@army.mil."

“Now a reserve deputy for the county I love”. He said, “It’s a way to give back to the community, by just being there to help. The good Lord has been a huge blessing in my life. I am just going to say that right off the bat”.

Mike and his wife have four sons (including one on the way) and two daughters.

“I enjoy Townsend. I enjoy the community we have here. It is a good group of people. I hope it stays this way. Nice and quiet and peaceful”.

*Thank you, Mike, for your service to our country.*

## Montana Asthma Control

### Program Earns Prestigious Award

Jon Ebelt  
Communications Director

The Montana Asthma Control Program (MACP) has been honored with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) 2025 National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management.

This national recognition celebrates MACP's exceptional, whole-community approach to coordinating public health, housing, environment, clinical care, and community partners to deliver comprehensive asthma care and improve Montanans' health outcomes.

"We are incredibly honored to receive this recognition," said BJ Biskupiak, DPHHS MACP Manager. "This award truly reflects our deep commitment to improving the quality of life for Montanans with asthma through innovative programs, strong community partnerships, and a relentless focus on long-term health. We're proud to serve Montanans and remain dedicated to helping them live healthier lives."

Approximately 100,000 state residents live with asthma. This chronic inflammatory disease can significantly impact daily life due to wheezing, shortness of breath, coughing, and chest tightness. MACP has led the charge for effective asthma management and mitigating indoor environmental triggers for 18 years.

MACP's success is rooted in its comprehensive, coordinated approach, which maximizes resources to significantly improve asthma health outcomes. This approach includes:

Developing standards and policies to enhance access to asthma control services.

Increasing public awareness of asthma triggers, self-management techniques, and available resources.

Collaborating with health care providers to optimize the delivery and utilization of clinical services.

Educating health care providers on guidelines-based asthma management, the impact of indoor environmental factors, and strategies for linking clinical and community resources.

The Montana Asthma Home Visiting Program (MAP) is one of MACP’s cornerstone initiatives. Through this free service, individuals with uncontrolled asthma and their families can meet with trained health care professionals to gain the critical knowledge and practical tools needed to take charge of their health and self-manage their chronic condition.

The MAP has yielded remarkable results, demonstrating significant improvements in health outcomes and cost savings, particularly among high-utilizers of health care.

*Some examples include:*

An 80% reduction in urgent care and emergency department visits for 817 children (between 2011–2025) and 108 adults (between 2020–2025) who completed the program.

A 66% reduction in workdays missed and a 53% reduction in school days missed due to asthma among participants completing the program.

MACP offers a range of other programs designed to support health care providers, caregivers, public health partners, and the general public as they work to improve asthma care and education across the state.

To learn more about MACP's valuable resources and how the program can help, please visit [asthma.mt.gov](https://asthma.mt.gov).

## Highway 12 Market Place

Handmade & Collectables

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

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

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.

### We now offer Sponsorship Advertising!

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



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

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

Slice of Summer  
Heritage Park  
Thursday July 16  
Free Kids Activities 2-8 pm  
Live Music 'Phatt Lipp' 5-8 pm  
Rotary





## County Wide Yard Sale!

**Saturday July 19th**

Save the date for the 9th  
Annual County-wide  
Yard Sale!

**Contact Pam @ (406)422-7028  
for more details!**

*Participation is free, but donations to help with printing  
and advertising costs are appreciated.*

# NorthWestern<sup>®</sup> Energy

Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page



### Historic Canton Church

July 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Mary Bradford

“Jeanette Rankin”

Mary Bradford will bring Montana’s  
Own Jeanette Rankin to life at the  
Canton Church!



# 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.



## BUDGET HEARING

The City of Townsend has completed its preliminary annual budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

There will be a public hearing on the budget on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at 110 Broadway, Townsend, Montana.

The preliminary budget has been placed on file at the same location and is open to inspection. For additional information, please call City Clerk, Kari Williams at (406)266-3911.

Published June 27 and July 4, 2025

MNAXLP

## MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

Cause No.: DP-25-2025-104-IT

Judge: Kathy Seely

IN RE THE ESTATE OF:

CHERYLENE L. SHERRILL,

Deceased.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Brian Emmett Cavalier has been appointed as the Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said decedent 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 to BRIAN EMMETT CAVALLIER, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, 1436 SE STARK ST APT#204 PORTLAND OR, 97214, or filed with the Clerk of the above entitled court.

/s/ Brian Emmett Cavalier

Personal Representative for the Estate of Cherylene L. Sherrill

Published June 27, July 4 and 11, 2025

MNAXLP

## MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of: WILLIAM T. OELEGESCHLAGER, Deceased.

Probate No. DP 4-2025-13

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against Decedent, William T. Oelegeschlager, are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to William Peery, Personal Representative, return receipt requested, c/o TARAA. HARRIS, HARRIS LAW OFFICE PLLC, 825 Great Northern Blvd., Ste. 318, Helena, Montana 59601, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court.

DATED this 16th day of June, 2025.

WILLIAM PEERY Personal Representative By: TARA A. HARRIS Attorney for Personal Representative

Published July 7, 11 and 18, 2025

MNAXLP

### Notice of a Floodplain Permit Application

Per the requirements of the County's Floodplain Regulations, Broadwater County is providing notice that a floodplain permit application has been submitted for the installation of a new bridge at the location of the existing Old Town Road bridge over the Jefferson River. This project is located within a FEMA regulated flood hazard area.

The project is located along Old Town Road where it crosses the Jefferson River. The project is in Section 24, Township 2N, Range 1E, Broadwater County. The County will take comment for 15-days following the publication of this notice.

For more information on this proposed project and floodplain permit application, contact the County's contract Floodplain Administrator, Jerry Grebenc, with Great West Engineering at 406-495-6153 or via email at: jgrebenc@greatwesteng.com.

Published July 4, 2025

MNAXLP



## June 27

Dee Gannon

MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Christopher Abbott's courtroom on Friday, June 27, is as follows:

Evan Welch had a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to a charge of criminal endangerment. In his elocution, he stated that while driving in Broadwater County, he drove in a reckless, willful and wanton manner; endangering the lives of others and himself. A Pre-Sentence Investigation is ordered. Sentencing will be September 5.

Jack White had a Status Hearing; he is seeing doctors about being brought back to fitness for trial. He will be back in court July 25.

Andrew Roberts had an Initial Appearance on counts of assault with a weapon, two counts of theft of property valued at over \$1500, assault on a minor and two counts of partner/family member assault.

Andrew Boudour had a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to charges of criminal endangerment and DUI. His Sentencing is August 22.

Quinn Duvall had an Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of criminal possession of dangerous drugs (meth) and criminal possession of drug paraphernalia (syringes).

Samuel Cooper was not in court to answer a Petition to Revoke. An arrest warrant is issued.

## Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson

Justice Court Clerk

### MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Ethan Wock- Cardwell- restricted speed \$85.00

Garrett Stephens- Bozeman- No insurance- 1st offense \$285.00, Expired registration \$85.00

Anne Seidlitz Melton- Chester- restricted speed \$85.00 Robert Stewart- Helena- day speed \$120.00

Michael Strutzel- Great Falls- restricted speed \$65.00 Karess Paralitici- Bozeman- restricted speed \$85.00

Lee Nelson- St. Paul, MN- restricted speed \$85.00 Jordan Minow- Bozeman- operating vehicle w/ license plate obstructed \$85.00

Anna McClenahan- Twin Bridges- day speed \$70.00 Austin Kuhn- Loveland- day speed \$20.00

Matthew Klim- Bozeman- restricted speed \$85.00 Elizabeth Hansen- Clancy- day speed \$70.00

Seth Helgersen- Townsend- no insurance- 1st offense \$285.00

Stone Mocilac- Missoula- no insurance- 1st offense \$285.00

### MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS

2

### BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Jose Ibarguen – El Paso, TX – reckless driving- 1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to ninety days in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$535.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete ACT program.

### BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Julian Swanton- Townsend- day speed \$70.00

Kali Nelson- Helena- day speed \$20.00

Jaeden Cuebas- Helena- night speed \$20.00

### INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Alissa Nichols – probation and parole hold, \$10,000.00 bond



The "HB 231 & SB 542: Property Tax Changes Summary" article last week was shortened due to available space in the paper.

It is available to read IN FULL at the Broadwater Commissioners Office, MT43 News Office or online at <https://tinyurl.com/4b3r9u82>

## LETTERS to the EDITOR



### Life and Basketball

As the (former) County Attorney for a decade, I have stepped on a few toes around here. It just comes with the territory.

My legendary predecessor, John Flynn, used to say the only way he could be more unpopular was to sign up as the high school basketball coach. The saving grace of being a lawyer – or a judge – is that our jobs are sufficiently mysterious, we can bluff our way through situations when it's all up in the air. It's a lot harder to do that as a coach. It has to be one of the most high-pressure jobs in the world. You're performing literally in an arena with hundreds of eyes on you. And nine out of ten people in the stands think they know more about the game than you do.

I suppose that's why the shelf life of a Class B coach of any sport, but particularly the high visibility ones like football, basketball, and volleyball, is relatively short. Having a year-to-year contract doesn't much help that situation. The school board is therefore faced each year with the job of deciding whether to re-hire a coach or look for another poor sucker who has decided his or her self-esteem is too high and wants to be knocked down a couple of notches.

And don't even get me started on the glamor of being a member of the school board! If you're good, you are sentenced to a life term. If you do anything to rock the boat, you have just as many critics as the basketball coach (probably the same ones) lining up to tell you all about the 3 R's.

Which brings us to our latest, but probably not our last, community uproar over a coaching job. The school board chose not to re-hire the girl's head basketball coach. There are strong feelings on both sides of the issue. I'm somewhat conflicted. My kids don't play basketball, but my daughter is a manager. As a would-be expert in the stands, I've been frustrated with a few things. But I decided instead of complaining from the cheap seats, I could get down on the court and try to help. So I approached the coaches about volunteering to help the junior high program next year. With the impending coaching change, that may or may not happen now.

But this is not the crime of the century. The school board did its job, made its decision, and now has to deal with the consequences and find a new coach. Some complain they did not follow the recommendation of their administrators. That's true. But those are recommendations only; the school board trustees have the actual decision-making authority. We have long advocated local control of schools, placed in the hands of the school board, not as a rubber stamp for the administrators, but in partnership with them and as oversight for them. The school board is elected by the community, and they are the ones ultimately accountable to the voters for their leadership. I have seen unhealthy schools where the school board did whatever the superintendent told them. And I've seen unhealthy schools where the school board governed erratically and did whatever it pleased.

I think ours is trying its best to chart a responsible course by listening to the professionals but rendering its own judgment.

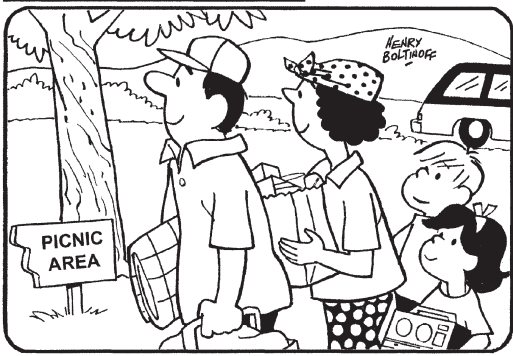
Some in the community are handing around a petition for a recall election on the school board. That's probably a failed effort. Years ago, I worked as an attorney at the Department of Justice, and somehow I ended up fielding all the recall election inquiries from disgruntled activists around the state. The first thing I told them to do was read the statute where it lists the necessary grounds for a recall election of an elected official: conviction of a felony, official misconduct, incompetence (that's a can of worms), disability, or violation of oath of office.

You can't recall an elected official just because you don't like the decision he or she made. And it likely requires a special election, financed by the county or the school board. Oh, and by the way, there will be a bunch of lawyers and court fights along the way, also likely financed by the school board. Love or hate the school board's decision, a re-hiring decision of a basketball coach probably does not fall within the recall election criteria. (And you can't recall any official in office less than 2 months, just in case that is relevant to this discussion.)

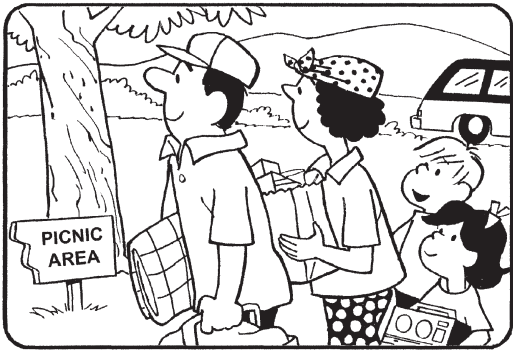
Speaking of those days when I was fielding calls about recall elections, there were 3 main counties who were my regular customers. They were Glacier County (Cut Bank / Browning), Lincoln County (Libby / Troy / Eureka), and Ravalli County (Hamilton, Stevensville, Florence, Corvallis). If you have followed the news about those three counties for the past two decades, you know they have enough local government drama to host a Real Housewives of Western Montana television series. In other words, conflict begets conflict, until none of the rational and even-tempered people want

Letters to the Editor, 6

### HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cap is larger. 2. Mouth is open. 3. Thumb is wider. 4. Mouth is open. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Tree trunk is moved. 7. Hair ribbon is moved. 8. Thumb is wider.



Letters to the Editor, 5

to run for public office. I would not wish that future upon Townsend and Broadwater County.

What to do about this current predicament? First, take a deep breath and allow the situation to percolate. These are difficult decisions made by people who are doing what they believe is right. Second, let the coaches know you still care and let the school board know you appreciate their volunteer service. Third, get more involved, like I was trying to do. If you truly care about our community and the future of these programs, go help. There isn't a line of people out the door and around the block who are volunteering to help with school activities. Finally, if you want to run for school board or any other position, do it for the right reasons, not as a vengeance tour.

So let me close by saying thank you to David Lawson for your years of coaching in Townsend. But I also want to say thank you to the members of the School Board for your dedication to this community and your willingness to make difficult and at times unpopular decisions. I haven't agreed with any of you 100% of the time. But you have served in the arena, and that matters.

Cory Swanson

(Not a basketball expert)

Petition for the Recall of School Board Trustee

As residents of Townsend who care deeply about the health and integrity of our schools and our community, we feel called to speak — not out of anger or blame, but from a desire to promote transparency, accountability, and respectful civic engagement.

Small towns like ours have so much to offer: a sense of belonging, strong values, and close-knit support. These were among the reasons our families chose to make Townsend our home. But small towns also face unique challenges, especially when emotions run high or opinions differ. In these moments, we have an opportunity to demonstrate the very values we want to pass on to our children: responsibility, courage, and constructive action.

Recently, there has been significant community concern regarding decisions made about the Head Girls' Basketball Coach position. We've shared our view that the coach should have been retained. But even more important than any one decision is how those decisions are made, the impact those decisions have on our student athletes and whether elected officials are acting with fidelity to their duties.

After careful research and reflection, we filed a petition for the recall of School Board Trustee Chase Ragen, a legal action allowed under Montana state law. A recall petition is not an act of personal hostility — it's a democratic mechanism that allows registered voters to decide whether a public official should remain in office based on specific alleged violations of public trust.

This is not a personal attack—it is a request for accountability. The process ensures that the community can voice whether they believe an elected official is upholding the responsibilities of their position. That is what a recall election allows: a community vote, not a presumption of guilt.

We encourage community members to review school board meeting recordings from the last several months. These can be accessed in two locations. The first is the school's website, proceed to <https://www.townsend.k12.mt.us/page/school-board> and select School Board Recorded Meetings (4/09/24 - Present). The second is the school's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCp3fC8WYmd8lWMu7XGLnPZg>.

We've been disappointed not by disagreement — but by fear. Many community members have shared they're afraid to sign because of potential retaliation or because they want to "stay neutral." But silence in the face of concern is not neutrality — it's passivity. And our children are watching. When we model fear instead of thoughtful action, they learn to disengage from the responsibilities of community life.

We are teaching lessons every day, whether we mean to or not. Let's show our children how to participate thoughtfully and respectfully in democracy, even when it's hard.

By filing this petition, we've simply offered a choice to registered voters in Townsend School District #1. Whether you choose to sign or not, we simply ask that we all consider what kind of example we're setting, what kind of community we want to be, and how our actions impact our children.

For those interested in signing, the petition will be available at the following locations:

The intersection of highways 285 and 287 in Toston; the intersection of highway 287 and Beaver Creek Road in Winston; and Heritage Park – Saturday, July 5 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM

Heritage Park during the Slice of Summer, Wednesday, July 16 in the afternoon

Infinite Hope Counseling waiting room, 108 N Front St, Suite C – Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sincerely,

Courtney Johnson, Jennifer Beatty, Rehanna Olson

Townsend

Oppose No Contempt Clause of the Federal Budget Proposal

As a voter and Montana constituent, I ask you to oppose the No Contempt Clause (Section 70302) in the House GOP budget and the new Grassley provision that would undercut our ability to hold current and future administrations accountable.

Right now, if a government official ignores a court order, a judge can hold them in contempt, imposing fines, sanctions or even jail time until they comply. The Constitution gives federal courts this power as an essential part of checks and balances.

Under the House GOP's plan, presidents could potentially ignore court orders without penalty. This provision could even stop the power of federal courts to uphold past injunctions, possibly issued under other presidents, and give Trump or future presidents of any party what no other president has had: the power to ignore laws and Congress.

Senator Grassley's proposal would stop the courts from issuing preliminary injunctions or temporary restraining orders against the U.S. government without an expensive bond, a measure that would also apply for future administrations. The ability to challenge current or future federal government laws and policies, whether you're a non-profit, business owner, or citizen, shouldn't be reserved for the wealthy.

No one—not even President of the United States—is above the law. Weakening our courts to excuse Trump and future presidents threatens rule of law and democracy itself.

Congress depends on courts to enforce their hearings, laws, investigations, and subpoenas. To preserve its power for presidential oversight, or future officials, we must remove the No Contempt Clause (Section 70302) and stop the Grassley provision of the budget bill.

When we begin selective enforcement of the law to elected leaders, we end the representation or respect of executive limits by those leaders in our democratic process.

TELL SENATORS DAINES AND SHEEHY THAT THEY MUST UPHOLD OUR CONSTITUTION

Kate Humphrey

MPT

Illegal Trash Dumping Along Indian Creek

It has been brought to my attention by one of my neighbors that people are dumping a lot of trash up and down on the South side of Indian Creek Road, between Desert Drive and up towards the Limestone Plant and the county transfer station.

The trash is right next to Indian Creek and often interrupts the flow of the creek. My neighbor was riding his ATV the other day and met one of the Broadwater County Sheriff Deputies inspecting one pile of trash, including a lot of empty beer cans, and he led the deputy to another pile.

Through forensic evidence found at both piles, the deputy was able to identify and ticket the perpetrators. Naturally, they denied the dumping. The deputy is an outdoorsman, appreciates our wonderful landscape, and hates to see people trashing it.

My neighbor told me that when he goes for a ride, he always takes a couple of garbage bags with him and sometimes picks up enough trash to fill the bags, which he then takes to a proper dumping facility.

Perhaps the dumpers don't live in our county or are renters who don't or won't pay the \$10.00 a year tax for trash dumping or are people who just plain don't care.

There is absolutely no excuse for this rampant trash dumping. This is Beautiful Montana. Don't trash it.

Matthew Nelson

Broadwater County Resident

Barnes Jewelry

357 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena MT

406-442-3000

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CURRENT WEEK AD DEADLINE IS TUESDAY @ 10 AM

Broadwater County Commissioners Agenda

Broadwater County Commissioners

BROADWATER COUNTY

MONTANA • 1891

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

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

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

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

No Commission Meeting

The July 16th Commission Meeting will be held at the Headwaters Livestock Auction at 10:00 am

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, interlocal agreements and non-financial contract renewals

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](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

Trust Board Meeting on July 8th at 11:30 AM

Planning Board Meeting on July 8th at 1:00 PM

Solid Waste Board Meeting on July 8th at 6:00 PM

Three Forks Mosquito Board Meeting on July 15th at 3:30 PM

Townsend Mosquito Board Meeting on July 15th at 4:00 PM

Noxious Weed Board Meeting on July 15th at 7:00 PM

Board of Health Meeting on July 16th at 3:00 PM

Airport Board Meeting on July 16th at 6:00 PM

Fair Board Meeting on July 17th at 5:15 PM

County Parks and Recreation Meeting on July 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](http://broadwatercountymt.gov) and click on the TextMyGov icon on the home page





# 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: Thursdays 4:30PM <b>FREE</b> Chili Dogs July 4: 5PM- <b>FREE</b> Dinner & Live Music 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>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	<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 in business hours. Drinks and Pastry Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM Closed Sunday	<b>Full Belli Deli</b>  209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 8:00AM - 7:00PM OPEN 4th of JULY	<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>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>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>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

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• Pump Repair • Machine Work  
• Aluminum Welding  
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408 Broadway / 406.266.0086

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

**CARQUEST AUTO PARTS**  
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“Your order should be along soon, sir.  
The boss is \_\_\_\_\_ the chef now.”

**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!

Think  
**PONIE** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Lament  
**GIVERE** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Scold  
**DICHE** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Agile  
**HILET** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**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: C equals N

FHCBXCHN TYCJHF MCN MSMCA-  
JMFNH MFAYTA XRB’T MC  
MGARBFYAL BC M WHNYAMAYSH  
WHARBN: LBJM BCB.

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**KNIGHT MOVES**

R	V	D
N		L
A	A	E

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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**Super Crossword**

**NEW ORDER OF BIRDS**

**ACROSS**  
1 They're filled at filling stations  
9 Causes of some winter roof leaks  
16 Two or three  
20 Its capital is Springfield  
21 Good time to shop and save  
22 1977 hit for Electric Light Orchestra  
23 Bird hanging around power-generating structures?  
25 Bottom-of-the-barrel bit  
26 "Grace and Frankie" co-star Lily  
27 Me, in Marne  
28 Take a chair  
29 Spike for a rock climber  
30 Lcky food  
33 Bird with a pronounced lower back?  
36 Elite police unit  
41 35mm camera type  
42 Holy Week follower

**DOWN**  
1 Central idea  
2 Certain sax  
3 Skinny  
4 Cash drawer

**ACROSS**  
43 Bird with an affliction?  
48 Lead-in to lateral  
49 It flows through Köln  
50 Rocker  
51 "Ammonium" has three  
52 Single's first half  
54 Response to "You weren't!"  
55 Jazz great  
58 Give a bird a monetary reward?  
60 "God Love Us" rapper  
61 Pecans and cashews  
64 Eggs  
65 Slow-moving reptile with a bird on its back?  
73 Aussie critter  
74 Outer surface  
75 911 VIP  
76 Waterway full of birds?  
82 Billfold bills  
83 Employee welfare agcy.  
84 Daisy type  
85 Daisy of "Li'l Abner"  
86 Pull along

**DOWN**  
5 Opposer  
6 One who's hardly saintly  
7 Tool set, e.g.  
8 Guyana-to-Bolivia dir.  
9 "Money — object"  
10 Escalade carmaker  
11 Wood for dartboards  
12 Certain belief in God  
13 Impromptu  
14 Country south of Sicily  
15 — admin  
16 Extra installations  
17 Courage in adversity  
18 Big surprise  
19 Like the operas "Parsifal" and "Lohengrin"  
24 Wee devil  
29 Free TV ad  
31 Thai tongue  
32 Texter's "Yowza!"  
34 Website ID  
35 Family mem.  
36 Run very fast  
37 Guitarist's pedal effect  
38 Resting  
39 That's partner  
40 Boatload  
41 — -fi movie

**ACROSS**  
44 Tabriz native  
45 Stephen of "Utopia"  
46 Actress  
47 Inving  
47 Suffix with cartoon  
52 Break off  
53 — -Tass  
55 Slip-up  
56 Allow to  
57 Zodiac feline  
58 H.S. junior's hurdle  
59 Hostess snack cakes  
61 — degree or another  
62 Consumer  
63 Neighbor of Okla.  
66 Helen of —  
67 Abbr. on a food carton  
68 "Dr." of rap  
69 It's in bronze  
70 Greek goddess of the hearth  
71 Doug who is married to Kamala Harris  
72 Just one bite  
76 Websites' "front covers"  
77 Ones taking a close look  
78 Awardee, say  
79 Texter's "I think ..."

**DOWN**  
80 Alternate wd. spelling  
81 "A mouse!"  
83 Circus cries  
86 Feeling gratitude  
87 Not 'neath  
88 Post-Q string  
90 Baby's cry  
91 "Little piggy"  
92 "— for Evidence" (Sue Grafton novel)  
93 "Hugo" star  
94 Relative of a wood engraving  
96 Petrol units  
97 "Give — rest"  
101 Gut bacterium  
102 Radio knobs  
103 Celebrity photographer  
104 Even a hint of  
108 Spy Aldrich  
110 Spanish greeting  
111 Shutter piece  
112 Short letter  
113 God of war  
114 "You ... over there ..."  
116 Engine wheel  
117 Singer Rita  
118 Slap cuffs on  
119 Fruity quaff

**Kids' Maze**

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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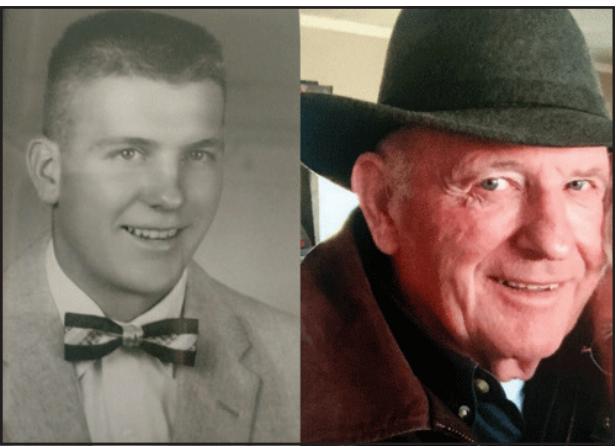


OBITUARY

Charles “Bob” Masolo

Family of Charles “Bob” Masolo

Charles “Bob” Masolo, age 84, of Townsend  
October 11, 1940 – June 27, 2025



Charles “Bob” Masolo  
Photo Provided by Family of Charles “Bob” Masolo

Charles Robert “Bob” Masolo, 84, passed away peacefully while at home on June 27, 2025. He was born in Whitehall MT on Oct. 11, 1940 and was the second of three children born to Charles and Wilma Masolo, who ranched near Silver Star.

The family permanently moved to Winston, MT, where they continued ranching, and that is where Bob grew up, graduating from Broadwater County High School in Townsend. Bob remained on the ranch after high school and several years later began a nearly 62-year love story with Gay Ann Sullivan when they married in 1963. They had one son, David Masolo.

Bob was a role model for the way he lived his life. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Bob was fair and honest. He had such a tremendous sense of humor with a quick wit, especially among friends and family. He was a favorite uncle, brother, and brother-in-law. Bob was a friend to so many in the Broadwater County community as well as across the state of Montana. He was respected in agriculture circles, rodeo circles, and as a county road supervisor. He had a tremendous reputation for operating and maintaining equipment and county roads.

Bob was a cattleman, horseman, County Brand Inspector (for 45 years), and a rodeo star. He was an integral member of the Broadwater Rodeo/Fair Board for many years, helping to build the current rodeo grounds into what they are today. He won a countless number of buckles and was respected for his abilities, humility, and willingness to help others.

If you needed anything, Bob would help you out, whether it was some roping advice, the loan of equipment, or the loan of a horse. He was gracious. He deflected any attention that might be thrown his way. He was inducted into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2014 and at his induction he joked with his nephew that “now nobody has to worry about writing my obituary!”

Bob was a steward of the land. He cared deeply about grazing conditions, weed control, and habitat for wildlife. He and Gay Ann had participated in Block Management for years, earning the appreciation of outdoorsmen in the Helena/Townsend area for allowing them the privilege to hunt on private property.

Even though he enjoyed representing Broadwater County in the Centennial Cattle Drive of 1989, he also enjoyed traveling to see Australia, New Zealand, and taking cruises to Alaska and Disney World. Being on the East Coast in Maine and seeing other states was another one of Bob’s favorites.


Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Wilma Masolo, as well as his son and daughter-in-law, David and Pam Masolo. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Gay Ann Masolo, along with his grandson, Leandro Masolo, sister Phyllis Price, brother John (Carol) Masolo, not to mention sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, and nephews. Anyone wishing to honor Bob’s memory is asked to make donation to the Michael J Fox Foundation, Parkinson Research, PO Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014 or a memorial of your choice.

Funeral Mass was held at 10 AM on Wednesday, July 2, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Townsend, MT, with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery, with a reception afterwards at Watson Center.

Though he will be dearly missed, family and friends need only remember how he lived his life and how he would want those left behind to forge ahead, as he will always be in our hearts.

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E HELENA AREA DEATHS

Kathleen Burt

Family of Kathleen Burt

Kathleen Burt, 73, of East Helena, Montana, passed away on June 25, 2025.

Simple Cremation Montana has assisted the family.

Isabelle E. “Issie” Pistelak

Family of Isabelle E. “Issie” Pistelak

Isabelle E. “Issie” Pistelak age 90, of East Helena  
August 28, 1934 – June 28, 2025

Isabelle “Issie” Pistelak, age 90, of East Helena, passed away Saturday, June 28, 2025.

A funeral Mass will be scheduled from SS Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in East Helena. Date and time will be announced when those arrangements have been completed.

“Clean Rooms” Protect Public Health During Wildfire Season

Jay Plant  
Environmental Health Specialist

The Hilger Valley Fire north of Helena marks the beginning of the 2025 summer wildfire season, and public health officials are urging residents to be prepared.

“Though wildfire smoke lies outside a typical resident’s circle of control, there are little things people can do on a regular basis to reduce their exposure to harmful and chronic air pollution,” says Jay Plant, Lewis and Clark Public Health (LCPH) Environmental Health Specialist.

Exposure to wildfire smoke can harm human health, especially among individuals with existing lung and cardiovascular diseases. Studies have linked fine-particulate pollution to an increase in hospital admissions and emergency room visits.

To protect the health and well-being of all residents in Lewis and Clark County, the LCPH Prevention Team, in partnership with the LCPH Environmental Health Team, champions the importance of indoor air quality and the creation of clean rooms within each residence, especially during episodes of poor outdoor air quality.

“Indoor air quality is a frequently overlooked but important component of public health,” says Adam Maes, LCPH Environmental Health Specialist. “Harmful particulates from wildfires, secondhand smoke, lead paint, and woodburning stoves can cause lasting damage to respiratory health and result in chronic disease.”

One substantial way to maintain a healthy home is to keep it smoke-free. This includes smoke from tobacco, candles, incense, burnt food, and non-EPA-certified wood stoves. Residents are encouraged to keep windows and doors sealed shut during periods of poor outdoor air quality. “In addition, I think everyone who lives in this community should have multiple air filters in their house. And not just any filters, but high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters,” states Maes.

“The good news is that with a little bit of elbow grease and \$20, residents can construct their own HEPA filter. All they need is a box fan and a square HEPA filter – both items that you can find at a local supply store,” adds Plant.

High-quality HEPA air filters can be purchased online or at local retail stores. When purchasing a filter, residents are encouraged to consider the size of the room. Large filters for large rooms, small filters for small rooms.

Residents with air conditioning are encouraged to use it during wildfire season, as high-quality HEPA filters can be built into new construction HVAC systems. Furnaces can also be equipped with HEPA filters.

Residents without air conditioning are encouraged to keep their air filters running and create at least one “clean room” in their home where they can hunker down and enjoy indoor activities until the air quality improves outside.

“Just do the best you can and stay informed,” Plant encourages.


LCPH monitors outdoor air quality hourly, and those reports are automatically updated to the Lewis and Clark Public Health Data Portal: [bit.ly/LCPH-Data-Portal](https://bit.ly/LCPH-Data-Portal).

“While we highly recommend use of the data portal, there is also a hotline residents can call for air quality updates. That number is 406-447-1644. Our hotline is updated every day as conditions change,” says Maes.


For further questions about air quality-related issues, residents can contact Jay Plant at 406-447-8358 or email him at [jplant@lccountymt.gov](mailto:jplant@lccountymt.gov).

Bacon and Birds - With a Side of Pop

Eileen Clarke  
Rifles and Recipes



The best tasting sharptails I ever ate came from a draw in Eastern Montana that was loaded with buffalo berry bushes full of plump, ripe berries. The birds were gorging themselves, their beaks and faces stained purple. Judging from the signs, they’d been at it more than 24 hours. And the berries had had their effect. The meat was sweet and tender. More to the point though their stomachs were drum-tight and the birds slow to leave the abundance of food. Terrible wing shot that I am, even I got a limit. (That's my DH in the photo. My hubby John is a really good wing shot.)



John Barsness holding a sharp tail.  
Photo Credit: Eileen Clarke

If your birds have been similarly gorging themselves, don’t bother marinating more than overnight. If not, and you find Sharptails a bit gamy, you’ll need to start this marinade a few days ahead of time. I’ve soaked breasts for as long as 4 days in the ginger ale, but 3 is enough to really tenderize and mellow out these wild plains birds.

FYI: Pop is a great marinater. I have found Coke to be ineffectual, but love Dr Pepper for marinating red meat. My friends often use orange soda for birds and wild pig, but I prefer Ginger Ale because the flavor it adds doesn’t conflict with any of the other ingredients, i.e. Orange Soda really doesn’t help an Italian or Teutonic-leaning marinade. Just be sure to use the regular sugar version, not the sugar-free. (It’s not really about the sugar, but the other ingredients the sugar versions have.)

Pop-Kabobs

serves 8

Ingredients

boned breasts of 4 sharptail grouse or prairie chickens  
12 ounce can ginger ale  
8 strips bacon  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon black pepper  
1 teaspoon dried leaf basil  
1 sweet green Bell pepper  
1 medium yellow onion

Preparation

1. Rinse and dry the boned breasts with paper towels. and cut them into bite-sized chunks. Pour the ginger ale into a quart-sized resealable plastic bag with the salt, pepper and basil.. Dump the breast meat in and massage the bag a bit to get everything well mixed up.  
2. Place the bag in the refrigerator for 3-4 days, turning it morning and evening to keep all the pieces of meat well mixed in ginger ale.

Cooking

1. Preheat your barbecue to medium high, about 600°F at cooking level. Drain the ginger ale off the meat and dry the chunks with paper towels. Cut the pepper and onion into about equal-sized chunks.  
2. Arrange the bacon on 8 spits with the chunks of sharptail, peppers and onions. Start by spearing one end of the strip of bacon, then alternate the breast meat with the vegetables. End by wrapping the bacon around the kabob and spear it at the other end to secure it.  
3. Place each kabob on the grill, cooking about 8-10 minutes total, turning 3-4 times as they cook. Spritz fat fires with a water pistol, as necessary, so the fat flare-ups don’t burn your dinner.  
4. The sharptail is done when it reaches 165°F, or the juices run clear when you pierce the meat. Gently push the grilled meat and vegetables off each skewer onto a plate and serve with corn on the cob.

Pop-Kabobs is from Eileen’s all-bird cookbook, Upland Game Bird Cookery, published by Ducks Unlimited, now available at [www.riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273](http://www.riflesandrecipes.com/406-521-0273). Enter the coupon code "43News" and get \$5 off any of Eileen’s game cookbooks.







Edgar of Montana

Ruth Hunsaker

A tale mentioning towns in Montana.

Sixteen-year-old Edgar Darby lived in MONIDA, Montana. This town is a FORSYTH (far south) as you can go and still reside in Montana.

One morning as the SUNBURST over the RIDGE of mountains nearby, EDGAR decided to ACTON his OUTLOOK of finding an OPPORTUNITY to settle in some PLEASANT VALLEY and with his WISDOM make his own life.

EDGAR called his faithful dog, Reed, bid his parents, JORDAN and LAVINA, farewell and took off down the road. As he passed his friend Clyde’s place, he called out, “CLYDE, PARK your horse and come let me put my BIG ARM around you one more time before I IMIGRANT across the great DIVIDE.” Soon he waved goodbye and HOPP(ed) on down the BIG SANDY road.

By the end of the first day, EDGAR was so tired he thought he might FALLON his face. After eating some dried BUFFALO, some cheese and SALTESE crackers, EDGAR loosened his BELT, spread out his sleeping bag under a LONEPINE tree, crawled into it and immediately fell asleep. Reed slept close by.

EDGAR rose late, made breakfast of WHITEFISH he caught in some STILLWATER, a BITTEROOT he dug out of a MARSH and drank some WHITEWATER. Then he and Reed went on to complete his PRYOR plans.

Suddenly, he came to THREE FORKS in the road. EDGAR said, “REEDPOINT the way that we will travel.”

One day EDGAR saw a HUNGRY HORSE. He fed him some SWEET GRASS, took him to drink in a MEDICINE LAKE which was full of nutrients and now EDGAR had a PONY to ride.

Each day, there were FAIRVIEWS to be seen. There was ANTELOPE, BEAVERHEADs, BLACK EAGLES, BROOKES, canyons and CANYON CREEKS, FAIR-FIELDS, FLOWEREE PLAINS, GEYSERS, GRASS RANGES, and GRAY CLIFFs. RICHLAND lay everywhere and there were lots of HOT SPRINGS.

On one occasion EDGAR met CHIEF PLENTY COUPS, who was the leader of the KIOWA tribe. He visited with the Chief in his RED LODGE, which was made of LODGE GRASS and MUSSELSHELLs. They smoked the peace pipe, which the Chief’s daughter, Princess LAME DEER, brought to them. CHIEF PLENTY COUPS offered Princess LAME DEER to EDGAR. He said, “She no good. She no make MOCCASINs for my BLACKFOOTs. She no cook a FISHTAIL or FINCH. She OTTER do this. She no good, you can HAVRE!”

Not wanting to offend the Chief, EDGAR allowed Princess LAME DEER to CAMAS far as he needed before he could ALDER the situation. At a HOMESTEAD, EDGAR was able to trade her to TRACY TYLER, the HOMESTEADer, for some LIMA beans, MARION berries and a CHECKERBOARD.

There was always PLENTYWOOD to make a fire with. WARM SPRINGS to bathe in. At a SHEPARD's ROUNDUP in the shadow of an IRON MOUNTAIN, EDGAR entered an ARCHER contest. He really wanted to WINNETT, but a young SAVAGE was the VICTOR.

It was here he met the fair MAIDEN, WINIFRED HOBSON, who became the love of his life. On VALEN-TINE's day, under a CASCADE of LAUREL leaves and OLIVE branches, they exchanged vows. EDGAR gave WINIFRED a ring he made from a BIG HORN shaped like a CIRCLE, with a SILVER STAR etched in the center and TWO DOTS on each side.

Then the two traveled on till they came to a BIG FORK with a CANYON CREEK on one side and a HIGHWOOD bridge on the other side. Here they debated whether to cross the BRIDGER or travel on down the stream. Traveling downstream, they came to a place they knew would be their PARADISE. It had a lot of WHEATLAND, with a CANYON CREEK to provide water for drinking and irrigating the land. There were BIG TIMBERs to build their home and PLENTYWOOD to sell. There was a BROADVIEW of their surroundings, and the BIG SKY at night was SUPERIOR to anything they had seen before.

Throughout their years together they had a family of five children, three boys, BOYD, CARLYLE, and CHESTER, two girls, FLORENCE and GERALDINE. BOYD became a GARDINER, CARLYLE a BARBER, and CHESTER a MINER. FLORENCE became an accountant and kept many a LEDGER, GERALDINE married a MONARCH.

Time passed fast, the LUSTER of youth faded. EDGAR and WINIFRED retired. They sat on the porch in their ROCKERs and admired the ROSEBUDs peeping through the POPLAR trees and under their SILVER GATE. They felt the POWER of the big BOULDER that sat in their GLEN. They would PRAY and give thanks for all that had been GRANTed them.

Upon their death they were buried in a small lot of their farm which had been RESERVE for their resting place. At the top of their graves, on a REDSTONE, was etched: "Here lie the bodies of Wini and Ed They are both Dead. One went above to dwell, The other went... oh well."

Join the Townsend PTA

Support the Townsend Schools by joining the PTA.  
You don't have to have children in school - Anyone can join: parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles...

JOIN THE PTA!

Please consider supporting the Townsend PTA  
(Parent Teacher Association)!

Purchase a \$10 membership by scanning the QR code  
or visiting [bit.ly/Townsendpta](https://bit.ly/Townsendpta)

WHAT IS PTA AND WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

The Townsend PTA is a non-profit, **volunteer-run organization** that exists to connect our community, support our children, and amplify parent voices. We **raise funds** throughout the year to be able to **host fun events** for our school community and **to give back** to our school. Our 2024-25 goals are to support our teachers, support our schools, show teacher appreciation, and increase student health and safety.

WHO CAN JOIN?

Anyone!  
Grandparents, parents, teachers, and other community members are all welcome to join.

DO I HAVE TO VOLUNTEER?

NO.  
While we'd love your support, joining the PTA does NOT mean you are committing to volunteer.

HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED?

- Attend a monthly meeting (the next one is Sept. 12th at 7 pm at the Preschool on Broadway)
- Donate funds (membership dues help too!)
- Volunteer on a committee
- Volunteer at an event

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[townsendptainfo@gmail.com](mailto:townsendptainfo@gmail.com)

More Compost is Not Always the Best for Gardens

Clain Jones  
MSU Extension soil fertility specialist, Bozeman

With spring arriving, gardeners are preparing soils for this year’s planting, and many love to apply compost, which can supply nutrients, feed microbial activity, help retain soil moisture and improve soil structure.

However, there can be too much of a good thing, according to Clain Jones, Montana State University Extension soil fertility specialist and professor in the MSU Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences.

“I have been receiving many soil tests from vegetable gardens with excessively high levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium,” Jones said. “The owners are asking what can be done to remedy the soil.”

Jones said there are several concerns with very high levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in soil. High nitrogen can result in too much leaf growth and less flower production in some vegetables, like tomatoes.

Water can also carry nitrogen through the soil below crop roots, where it can no longer be taken up by the plants. Ultimately, nitrogen will move into groundwater and contaminate drinking water. Jones noted that high nitrates can be harmful, especially to infants and pregnant women. Surface water can also be contaminated with high levels of nitrogen.

Excess phosphorus can contaminate surface water through runoff and cause poor crop production and quality, Jones said. For example, high phosphorus interferes with zinc uptake, while high potassium can interfere with calcium uptake. Tomato blossom end rot might be due to too much potassium rather than not enough calcium.

Jones added that an overload of phosphorus, potassium and sometimes nitrogen generally comes from the application of too much manure, or manure- or food waste-based compost. One inch of manure compost supplies enough nitrogen for one growing season, but also adds four years’ worth of potassium and 14 years’ worth of phosphorus. Annual application of manure or food-waste compost can quickly lead to excess levels of potassium and phosphorus.

Jones noted that there aren’t many options for correcting soils with high levels of phosphorus and potassium; the key is prevention, or at least, to not add more. Leaf compost or a 50-50 blend of food/yard compost have a balance of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium that is closer to that required by vegetables than manure or straight food compost, he said. Leaving healthy plant residue on the soil at the end of the season is another option to provide nutrients and to protect soil over winter.

“Material high in carbon, such as yard compost or waste hay, can be used to improve soil health, along with an amendment high in nitrogen if needed. Sustainable sources of nitrogen are feather meal and blood meal. These sources contain nitrogen in a form readily available to plants,” said Jones. Many other materials, such as alfalfa or bone meal, contain medium levels of nitrogen, but only a third or less of that nitrogen is available for plant uptake in the first year.

Another option is to plant a portion of the garden each year with a legume cover crop, such as field pea, to supply nitrogen and foster healthy soil. This is especially attractive for growers who have more garden space than they can manage.

“Knowing the soil’s nutrient levels can help to select the correct amendments to promote healthy plants and soils, minimize risks of water contamination and likely save money,” Jones said. He or a local MSU Extension agent can answer questions on soil testing, and agents can often loan soil probes for at-home testing.

Many seed catalogs and garden stores offer home or do-it-yourself soil test kits, and spring is a good time to sample garden soil. Unfortunately, few home test kits provide accurate enough information to make fertilizer decisions.

“It is worth getting soil tested through an accredited lab every few years to ensure that soil nutrients are at healthy levels,” Jones said.

More information on soil nutrients, home garden amendments and soil testing is available at the MSU Extension soil fertility website at <http://landresources.montana.edu/soilfertility/home-gardening.html> or by calling Extension Agent Allison Kosto at (406) 266-9242.



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