

# Fun for Everyone at Broadwater County Fair and Rodeo

MT43 News Staff Reporter

It's time again for the Broadwater County Fair and Rodeo beginning August 6. The County Fair and Rodeo highlights the best of the county's athletes, showmen and women, parade floats and those who win the prizes. Incentives for winning are a good thing, according to 17-year-veteran Rodeo Club member Wynn Meehan. He was pleased to showcase beautiful prizes that will go to those who enter the winners' circle. At a Rocky Mountain Supply display, Meehan showed off two saddles which will go to the all-around champions for men and women who compete. Made by Corriente Saddle Company of Anthony, New Mexico, winners have coveted and used these trophy saddles since they were prizes in the first rodeo in 1963.

Winners of the various events are awarded silver belt buckles. Those events include calf roping, goat tying, ribbon roping, pole bending, team roping and barrel racing. The bucking horse and bull riders make out fine too. These hand-designed buckles are fashioned by Montana Silver Smiths of Columbus, Montana. The company, started in 1973, takes its lead from all rodeo enthusiasts who wear boots and belts. Although custom trophy belts are the company's specialty, they also sell jewelry. Their silver belts travel far and wide throughout the rodeo world, including Professional Bull Riders, the National Rodeo Finals and the Calgary Stampede.

Meehan pointed out the rodeo club is featuring silver mugs for the reserve champion winners this year as well. All trophies are paid for by sponsors and by the rodeo club as well.

Season tickets to the rodeo are available online or at the gate: Adults - \$35; Seniors and Students- \$30;



Corriente Saddle Company trophy saddles and Montana Silver Smith buckles on display at Rocky Mountain Supply this week. The prestigious prizes will be awarded at this year's Broadwater County Rodeo. Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Children \$20. For those who prefer to buy tickets for the day of the event: Friday and Saturday's NRA rodeo: Adults- \$15; Seniors and Students \$12; Children (6-12) \$10. For Broadwater Western Days events Thursday and Sunday: \$5 for all ages.

Broadwater County Fair activities take up the slack during some rodeo event down times. Fair goers will enjoy tramping through the livestock barn to see champion chickens, goats, pigs, lambs and steers raised by the county's 4-H club members. Fair events begin at 2:00 pm Wednesday when judging begins in the 4-H building

for open class entries. The next activities begin bright and early every day at 8:00 a.m. for showmanship, round robin and judging. Fair events climax with the buyer's dinner and livestock sale on Saturday.

County residents especially enjoy the annual Rodeo Parade which begins at noon on Sunday featuring floats, horse riders, vintage cars and first responders. Organizer Kathy Toombs encourages last-minute entries. Lineup for the various entries takes place on Pine Street at Heritage Park. Please contact her at (406) 202-5039.

## MJ Bradbury Brings Historical Figure to Life at Canton Church

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Wellington D. Rankin was well known in Broadwater County two generations ago. He ran a large ranch up Avalanche Creek. Who was not well known in the county is his sister Jeannette, who was one of the most famous political figures in both Montana and US history. Mary Jane Bradbury, a speaker from Humanities Montana, told Jeannette's story for a full house at the Canton Church east of Townsend Friday. A storyteller, historian and educator, Bradbury has entertained in the Broadwater County venue often. Her gestures, facial expressions and costume breathed life into Rankin's persona.

Rankin was a Suffragette in the early 20th century when she worked tirelessly to bring the vote to women, according to Bradbury. The 19th Amendment passed in 1920. Rankin never married, but she went into sweatshops and farm fields to see children working for small or no wages. Disgusted with what she witnessed, she ran for US Congress in 1916 as a Republican from Montana and won by 7,000 votes with her brother Wellington's help. She lobbied for child labor laws and is credited with championing the 1st social services bill ever passed in Congress.



Mary Jane Bradbury brought Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin to life at the Canton Church last weekend. Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

In an unusual political twist, Rankin lost in her next election, so was not active in politics until war's ugly head reared itself again in 1937. Well known among politicians and women during the 20's and 30's, she ran again and won by a landslide in Montana. She cast the only vote against the nation entering World War II in 1941.

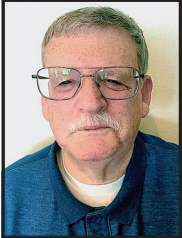
Rankin's personal life was as unusual as her political life. The oldest of seven children, she was raised in Missoula, had a college degree and had traveled the world extensively. She did spend summer days at Wellington's rustic ranch home at Avalanche Gulch. She lived most of her later life in a Georgia cabin which had dirt floors. Not far from her roots, however, the dirt floors were covered with Oriental rugs she purchased while abroad, Bradbury pointed out.

Rankin's legacy as an idealist and champion of the rights of the downtrodden, poor people and children speaks well for Montana. The Congresswoman and artist Charlie Russell are the only bronze statues in the US Capitol to represent Montana.

Bradbury ended her presentation encouraging the audience to do as Rankin did - use their voices to lobby for what they believe in. She asked everyone to lobby our present Congressmen to protect the arts by funding the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Ninth Annual Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale a Big Success

Victor Sample



On July 19, we had another successful Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale! While the day was an overcast day, it did not rain and the clouds kept the temperature at a comfortable level.

We had 51 yard sales registered and placed on our maps. The sales ranged from the Toston-Radersburg area to north of Winston; from River Road and the Springville area all the way over the sandhill into the Deep Creek area.

The yard-sale shoppers were not only Broadwater County residents; we had shoppers from the entire region stretching from Livingston to the Deer Lodge-Anaconda area. We even had shoppers coming from outside the region.

I did not speak to all of the people holding yard sales, but the ones I did speak to said they had a huge number of people at the yard sale and that they did very well!

Missouri Valley Marketing would like to thank all of those who held the 51 registered yard sales and, of course, all of the hundreds of people who shopped the yard sales.



Many Shoppers showed up Photo Credits: Pam Sample




BROADWATER ROD AND GUN CLUB

EXTENDS A SINCERE THANK YOU TO THE PARTICIPANTS.

VOLUNTEERS. AND SPONSORS OF THE

2025 WALLEYE DERBY.



CANYON ENTERPRISES (SILOS)

J. STEELE REALTY

OPPORTUNITY BANK

JIGGIN' MY BEST LIFE

ROCKY MT SUPPLY

GALLATIN MADISON WALLEYES UNLIMITED CHAPTER

GREYMONT

RIDGELINE CRANE

REX'S UPHOLSTERY OF BOZEMAN

HEDSTROM AUTO REPAIR

TOWNSEND MARINE

DESIGNER TACKLE

Townsend School Calendar


JULY

Monday - Friday

11:00 am: Summer Lunch Program - 18 and under **EAT FREE** at Heritage Park

Friday 25

High School Volleyball Camp



Townsend Community Calendar

JULY

Monday - Saturday

Summer Swimming Hours: **SEE POOL SCHEDULE ON THIS PAGE**

Friday 25

11:00 am: Red Cross Blood Drive at American Legion Club, 211 Broadway

5:00 pm: Canton Church Highlights One of Montana's Most Infamous Events at Canton Church **SEE AD ON PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS**

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

Saturday 26

2025 Backyards of Broadwater at Broadwater

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

9:00 am: **FREE** Vacation Bible School at Trailhead Church

Monday 28

11:00 am: Pow Wow Taco Fundraiser across from the Capitol in Helena **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

5:00 pm: Men's Bible Camp at Flynn; Dry Creek

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

Tuesday 29

5:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Food and Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway

5:30 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Wednesday 30

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

Thursday 31

3:00 pm: FARMERS MARKET at Wi-Fi Park on Front St

4:30 pm: **FREE TO ALL** Community Dinner, Thursdays at American Legion Post 42, 211 Broadway St, Townsend **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

AUGUST

Monday - Saturday

Summer Swimming Hours: **SEE POOL SCHEDULE ON THIS PAGE**

Friday 1

11:00 am: Billings Clinic Open House at 110 N Oak **SEE AD ON PAGE 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

Saturday 2

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

Sunday 3

1:00 **FREE TO ALL** Swim & Float h at Townsend City Pool

Thu 7 - Sun 10

62nd Annual Townsend Rodeo

**READ MORE AND SEE AD WITH DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE**

Thursday 7

4:30 pm: **FREE TO ALL** Community Dinner, Thursdays at American Legion Post 42, 211 Broadway St, Townsend **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

Saturday 9

Bookstore Romance Day at Reading Leaves, 401 Broadway **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

8:00 pm: **FREE** Live Music (Jerry Willet) at Canyon Ferry KOA

Sunday 10

10:30 am: Rodeo Parade Registration **AD WITH DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE**

12:00 pm: Rodeo Parade Starts **AD ON NEXT PAGE**

READING LEAVES


Fall head over heels—flirt with a new book and get crafty with us all day long!

SAVE the DATE

BOOKSTORE ROMANCE DAY

INDIES LOVE ROMANCE | AUGUST 9, 2025

With surprise drink and lunch specials @ The Nook Coffeehouse



BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR


JULY

Monday 28

10:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting

Wednesday 30

10:00 am: Commission Meeting



THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JULY

Friday 25

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

Three Forks Public Library - Sponge Colored Small Tote Bags

Tuesday 29

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

6:00 pm: Three Forks Public Library - Book Club

Wednesday 30

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

Thursday 31


10:30 am: Three Forks Public Library - Storytime

7:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with Savannah Wood - No Cover! at Bridger Brewing, Three Forks

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 30

10:30 am: Storytime

Thursday 31

1:00 – 2:30 pm: Crafternoons

AUGUST

Wednesday 6

6:30 8:00 pm: Music in Main Street Park

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

Broadwater County Library Summer Reading Program

Vicki Harvey  
Broadwater County Library

The Summer Reading Program ends on August 1st. The last activity date is Friday, July 25th, while all prize tickets need to be turned in by July 31st at 7 PM. Prizes will be awarded at 10:00 on August 1st.

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 5 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Pow Wow Taco Fundraiser

Monday, July 28 from 11am - 1:30pm

Last Chance Community Pow Wow Committee Hosts Native American Drumming, Dancing, Frybread & Indian Tacos on the Lawn Across from Helena's Capitol Building. ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE AND ENJOY THE SHARING OF CULTURE!

FREE THURSDAY DINNERS!

Every Thursday, 4:30 - 6:30PM  
American Legion Post 42, Townsend  
**HOMEMADE & ALWAYS YUMMY!**  
Join us for a hot, delicious meal - no cost to you.  
**DONATIONS WELCOME & APPRECIATED** to help us continue supporting our community.

QUESTIONS? STOP BY OR MENU? (406) 266-6111

LET US FEED YOU - AND TOGETHER WE CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY

Hosted with care by the Sons of the American Legion (SOL).

ANNUAL MEETING

Broadwater County Historical Society Annual Meeting Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2025, at 5:00 PM At Broadwater County Museum, 133 North Walnut St, Townsend. All Society Members are invited to attend.

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.  
Next meeting: August 20th, 7:00PM  
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St  
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

HELP WANTED

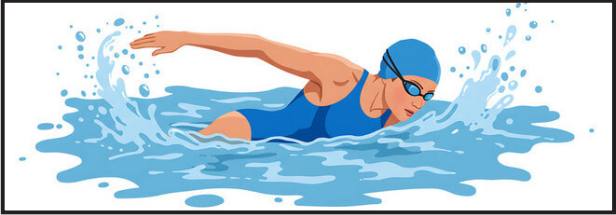
Farm Help Needed:  
Harvesting and Haying  
Contact Leonard 406-949-0208

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

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](http://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.



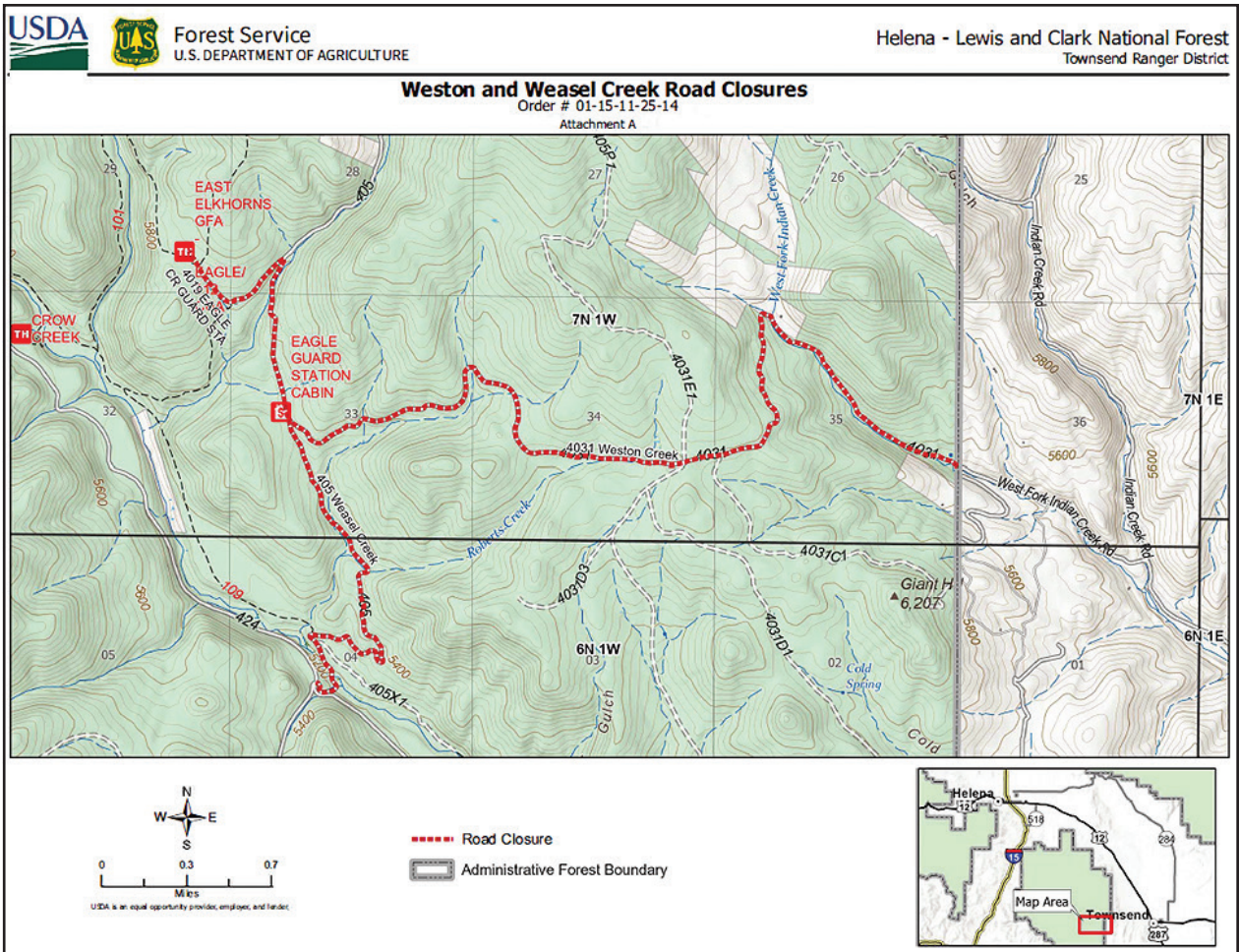
# Crow Creek Road Reopens; Improvement of Weston and Weasel Creek Roads to Necessitate Temporary Closures

**Chiara Cipriano**  
*USDA Public Affairs Officer*

Don't miss another exciting Fair and Rodeo at our beautiful Broadwater County Fairgrounds. Something for everyone.

Weasel Creek road closure starts at the Crow Creek Junction up to the Eagle Guard Station turnoff. The

Visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r01/helena-lewisclark/alerts> to view all closures across the Forest. Call the Townsend Ranger District at (406) 266-3425 for questions related to the Weston and Weasel Creek road closures.



**HOURS:**  
**Wed - Sat**  
**11 - 4**

**Your Home for Greek and Latin Classics!**  
*Of the making of books there is no end...and  
much study is a weariness of the flesh.*

Annika McCulloch  
Montana Learning Center Intern

Each evening begins with an inspiring presentation by a renowned guest astronomer, sharing expert insights and cosmic discoveries. Afterward, enjoy hands-on telescope viewing (weather permitting) with guidance from MLC staff and the Helena Astronomical Society.

Don't miss this unforgettable evening of celestial exploration—only at Beyond the Big Sky. Reserve your spot now and let the universe reveal its secrets!

*(Editor's Note: Montana Learning Center is at the northernmost part of Canyon Ferry Lake, at Canyon Ferry. The Learning Center's website is <https://montanalearning.org/beyond-big-sky>)*

For more information, visit <https://montanalearning.org/beyond-big-sky/>



**62nd Annual Townsend Rodeo**  
**August 7-10, 2025**  
**189 US Hwy 12 E**  
**Tickets available at**  
**[townsendfairgrounds.com](http://townsendfairgrounds.com)**

**Kids Broadwater Western Days**  
**August 7 at 6:00**  
Kick off the weekend with hometown youth rodeo action!

**NRA Rodeo**  
**August 8 & 9 at 7:00**  
**Mutton Bustin' at 6:30**  
Top cowboys and cowgirls compete under the lights!

**Adult Broadwater Western Days**  
**August 10 at 2:00**  
Locals saddle up for big laughs and rodeo pride!  
Grand Parade at 12 Noon. Contact Kathy Toombs (406)202-5039

**Friday Night is dedicated to the **Man-Up Crusade** the fight against domestic violence.**



Domestic Violence Awareness  
**MAN-UP CRUSADE**  
Domestic Violence Awareness  
WZLZ 90.9FM  
WZLZ 90.9FM



**TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK**

**Saturday Night is dedicated to the **Tough Enough to Wear Pink** campaign. All donations will benefit **Kammy Law**.**



**TOWNSEND RODEO**  
**BUCKING UP SINCE 1928**



**Wear Your Blue Jeans and  
Dream Your Country Dreams!**

**You'll never have so much fun as  
when you JOIN THE RODEO PARADE,  
SUNDAY, AUG 10!**

Parade travels down Broadway Street in Townsend  
Parade Starts at 12Noon Sharp- Lineup at Heritage Park  
Registration begins at 10:30 at Massa Park on  
Broadway. To win a prize you must register.

The divisions are organizations, animal drawn  
carriages, commercial floats,  
individuals on foot, bikes and vehicles, antique  
vehicles, cowboy costume riders and drill teams.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
**Kathy Toombs, (406) 202-5039**

***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](http://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.***



## Lineman’s Rodeo Memorial Lantern Ceremony



Linemen climbers honor those people who had passed over the last year by hanging lanterns that had the name of the linemen engraved on one side. Townsend residents Mike Colvin (left) and Andy Newman (Right) are at the top of the 20 lanterns.  
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

Matt Nelson



The 32nd Annual Montana Lineman’s Rodeo Association (MTLRA) gathering was held at the Broadwater County Fairgrounds on Friday and Saturday, July 18th and 19th. At 7:30 PM on Friday, a Memorial Lantern Ceremony took place honoring lineworkers who have passed.

According to the Montana Lineman’s Association website, “The Montana Lineman’s rodeo is an annual event held the third Saturday in July. The purpose of the Lineman’s Rodeo is to demonstrate the skills line workers use every day to ensure a safe, reliable electrical supply to the citizens of the inter-mountain west. Public safety and public education are the missions of the Montana Lineman’s Rodeo Association.”

Half of the men were veterans of the U.S. military, including one who served in World War II. The linemen who have passed away in the last year have their names engraved on one side of a lantern. Their birth and death dates are engraved on the opposite side. Selena Fowler, the MTLRA treasurer, arranged the lanterns and handed them out to the climbers. “One by one, brothers climb the pole and hang the lantern on a line

strung in between two poles. At the top, they light the candle within and take a moment of silence to honor the deceased line worker. This event is by far the most symbolic of all we do. Watching the lanterns rise and seeing all brothers and sisters together is a tribute that cannot be described in words. "The lanterns are then mailed to the families of those honored,” she explained.

IBEW Craftsman and Apprentice Trainer Tim Newman announced the names of those who died, and also the names of the climbers who took the lanterns up. Linemen who were honored are Robert Crystal, Robert Berg, Carol “Bud” Bortorg, John Zacha, Gary Baier, Douglas Dobson, Schott Czywczynski, William “Bud” Pedersen, Mike Wise, Rodney Peterson, Daniel Dahlen, James Heckman, William Haft, Stephen Sills, Charles Joe Pence, Allan Peterson, Arthur Shellenberg, Cody Salveson, Lucas Fowler and David Dixon. Climbers were David Scoggins, David Dunlop, Cody Owens, Justin Brassard, James Hanson, Shane Bykoyen, Thomas Kerner, Andy Newman, Clayton Loback and Matt Shuland.

Prior to the start of the ceremony, a couple of people brought in a huge wreath and placed it on a cross about 12-feet high and dedicated to Dave Dixon, who was the president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical



Memorial Cross, with the words Rest in Peace Dave Dixon at the bottom. Dave was the President of MTLRA  
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

Workers (IBEW) 44 based out of Butte. His wife Tabitha is the Recording Secretary. Unfortunately, he was killed in a 4-wheeler accident Thursday evening, on July 17th, near the Broadwater County Fairgrounds.

Tim Newman then gave a very emotional speech about Dave Dixon. “I had the opportunity to be an apprentice under Dave, right before I journeyed out. Dave was a guy you could talk to, and Dave loved his job. He loved his family. Dave was such a part of this rodeo that you have no idea what we are missing now after this year. We pulled it together somehow, with Tabitha, and Chuck, the whole family, our brothers and sisters that are helping. Dave is going to be missed. Dave would have received his 25-year pin in IBEW this year, I believe.”

Another cheer went up: “Ladies and Gentlemen, please stand and cheer with the loudest voice Townsend, Montana, has ever heard screamed, for the GREAT DAVE DIXON!” The crowd did exactly that. A lady screamed, “Dave, we love you so much!”

A crowd of 1,000 people sang the hymn Amazing Grace during the last part of the memorial service.



### Capital Credit Refunds

Vigilante Electric Cooperative is trying to locate several former members for payment of Capital Credits.

Please visit our website to view our most recent list of names.  
[WWW.VEC.COOP](http://WWW.VEC.COOP) / Unclaimed Capital Credits

If you have any information regarding names on the list, please contact our office.  
(800) 221-8271 or (406) 683-2327

## Freak Accident Takes Life of Lineman Participant

MT43 News Staff Reporter

A freak accident with a four-wheeled Suzuki King Quad took the life of David Dixon of Helena Thursday, July 17, at 2:45 p.m. as activities for the annual Lineman’s Rodeo were gearing up at Broadwater Fairgrounds.

Dixon, 46, of Helena, was traveling on Airport Road toward US Highway 12 when he apparently overcorrected, causing the ATV to overturn, according to a Montana Highway Patrol report from communications specialist Becka Howey.

The accident is under investigation by the Highway Patrol. Broadwater County Sheriff’s office, County Ambulance and Rural Fire Department attended the accident.

## Adventure Awaits at the Montana Learning Center

Annika McCulloch  
Montana Learning Center Intern

This summer, inspire a lifelong love of science at the Montana Learning Center—Montana’s premier STEM camp, set on the scenic shores of Canyon Ferry Lake.

Our award-winning educators lead hands-on, inquiry-based programs in a unique outdoor classroom, blending cutting-edge STEM learning with classic camp fun. With a low camper-to-staff ratio, every child gets the support and attention they need to thrive.

From day camps for grades 1–3 to immersive overnight programs for grades 4–12, campers explore science through experiments, engineering challenges, outdoor adventures, and more.

High school students can choose from extraordinary experiences—excavate real fossils, explore Yellowstone’s biology and geology, study the night sky with professional telescopes, or paddle through the Missouri River Breaks.

Whether coding, kayaking, or discovering the stars, every camper builds confidence, curiosity, and unforgettable memories.

Space is limited—register today and let the adventure begin! Students may sign up at <https://mntanalearning.org/student-programs/>

We are Ready to Process Your 4H Market Animals!



TIZER MEATS

Call to Schedule 406-422-4822


2805 York Rd, Helena MT  
tizermeats.com

Barnes

Jewelry

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





Historic Canton Church

July 25 2025 at 5:00 PM

Victor Sample

“Butte Copper Kings & Broadwater County”

Highlighting one of the most infamous events in Montana History



LEGAL NOTICES

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



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on July 30, 2025, at 10:00 am in the Flynn Building for the purpose of hearing comments on the boundary line adjustment between Broadwater County and Aaron Lee Christensen.

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@broadwatercountymt.gov.

Published July 18 & 25, 2025

MNAXLP

TOWNSEND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 20-6-604, Montana Code Annotated, provides in pertinent part: (1) Whenever the trustees of a district determine that a site, building, or any other real or personal property of the District is or is about to become abandoned, obsolete, undesirable, or unsuitable for the school purposes of the District, the trustees may sell or otherwise dispose of the real or personal property. If a decision to sell or dispose of property is made, the trustees shall adopt a resolution to sell or otherwise dispose of the District real or personal property because it is or is about to become abandoned, obsolete, undesirable, or unsuitable for the school purposes of the district. (2) The resolution may not become effective for 14 days after the notice required in subsection (3) is made. (3) The trustees shall provide notice of the resolution in the manner required for school elections in 20-20-204.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 20-6-604, Montana Code Annotated, the Board of Trustees of Townsend School District, has found that 1998 Van Hool Transit Bus T21 (VIN #YE2TC62B5W2043631) and 1992 International TK (VIN #IHVBBPPP4NH453524) are obsolete, undesirable, or unsuitable for school purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Townsend School District, shall place the following real property on the open market, advertise the real property as being for sale and sell the same if a qualified buyer makes an acceptable offer to the District:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with District practice and as required by Sections 20-6-604 and 20-20-204, Montana Code Annotated, this Resolution shall be posted in three different places in the district and published in MT 43, the newspaper of general circulation in the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the resolution shall become effective fourteen (14) days after such publication and posting if, in accordance with Section 20-6-604, Montana Code Annotated, no taxpayer appeals this Resolution prior to , by filing a verified petition with the Clerk of the District Court setting out in detail the objections to the adoption of the Resolution or the disposal of the property and serving a copy of such petition upon the School District.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Townsend School District

DATED this 8th day of July, 2025

Published July 18 and 25, 2025

MNAXLP

AUDIT PUBLICATION STATEMENT

An audit of Broadwater County has been conducted by Denning, Downey & Associates, CPA's, P.C. The audit covered the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires the publication of the following summary of significant findings.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

The audit report for the Broadwater County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, were unmodified.

The audit report also contained several other auditors' reports. Following is a list of the reports and a summary of the findings included in each. This is only a summary and is not intended to be used as an audit report.

1. Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards. This report contained findings in the following matters:

- a. 2024-002 Cash Reconciliation
- b. 2024-001 Uninsured and Uncollateralized Deposits

2. Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance required by the Uniform Guidance. This report contained findings in the following matter:

This report contained no findings.

3. Report on Other Compliance, Financial and Internal Accounting Control Matters.

This report contained no findings.

4. Report on Prior Year Audit Report Recommendations. This report summarized the findings from the prior audit report, and noted the action taken on them.

- a) 2023-001 Cash Reconciliation (Repeated)
- b) 2023-002 Uninsured and Uncollateralized Deposits (Repeated)

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF AUDIT REPORT

The complete audit report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at the Administrators Office. Debbie Kelley - Finance Director Broadwater County

Published July 25, 2025

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
BROADWATER COUNTY

SAMUEL BOGAN AND DEBORAH BOGAN, Plaintiffs, vs. LAUREL HILL HOLDING, LLC, SEAN McKENNA, and JOHN DOES I-V, Defendants.

Cause No.: DV-4-2024-00060-FO

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE SOLD, at a Sheriff's Sale on the 6th day of August, 2025, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the lobby of the BROADWATER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 515 BROADWAY ST. TOWNSEND, MT 59644, pursuant to the Default Judgment, Decree of Foreclosure, and Order of Sale entered in this proceeding, that certain real property located in Broadwater County, Montana, which is described as follows (the "Real Property"):

LOT 37 OF MOUNTAIN VISTA ESTATE SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN IN BOOK 2 PLATS, PAGE 87, LOCATED IN SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, P.M.M., BROADWATER COUNTY, MONTANA.

The Real Property is sold with all appurtenances, hereditaments, tenements, including all water rights, gas, oil, other hydrocarbons, and geothermal rights thereunto belonging or used in connection therewith.

DATED this 24 day of June, 2025.

Nick Rauser, Broadwater County Sheriff

Published July 11, 18 and 25, 2025

MNAXLP



July 18

Dee Gannon

MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Kathy Seeley's courtroom on Friday, July 18, is as follows:

Nathanial Coulson had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment, pleading Not Guilty to charges of criminal possession of dangerous drugs. Omnibus is due by September 19; Pre-Trial is set for February 20, 2026, with the Jury Trial scheduled for March 16, 2026.

Samuel Cooper had a bail modification, to no avail. The Judge denied his ask.

Brad Heath had an Initial Appearance, pleading Not Guilty to a charge of theft of property, a common scheme. Omnibus is due by September 19; Pre-Trial is set for February 20, 2026, with the Jury Trial scheduled for March 16, 2026.

Willie Schmidt had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment on a charge of criminal possession with intent to deliver meth and fentanyl, and a charge of criminal possession of drug paraphernalia. Omnibus is due September 5; Pre-Trial is set for December 5; with the Jury Trial scheduled for January 5, 2026.

Dennis Hinchey had an Arraignment. Omnibus is due September 12; Pre-Trial is set for January 16, 2026, with the Jury Trial scheduled for February 9, 2026.

Michael Taylor had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of DUI, danger to a highway worker, and open container. Omnibus is due September 19; Pre-Trial is set for February 20, 2026, with the Jury Trial scheduled for March 26, 2026.

James Normand had a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to a charge of DUI (4+). In his elocution, he stated that while driving in Broadwater County, he had a blood alcohol content of over .08. A Pre-Sentence Investigation is ordered. Sentencing is September 19.

McKenna Nabor had a Suppression Hearing. Two deputies, Rauser and Grimsrud, stopped the vehicle because it was speeding, and it couldn't seem to stay in its lane. Deputy Grimsrud noticed the open container in the vehicle. Judge Seeley said that she would take the evidence under advisement and make a ruling later.

Americanisms



"Struggle is a never ending process. Freedom is never really won; you earn it and win it in every generation."  
— Coretta Scott King

© 2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Part 1: Four Day School  
Week Report

Alex Mitchell

Reporter for the Hechinger Report and Montana Free Press

This is Part 1 of a 2-part article regarding studies of the Four Day School Week being implemented in many school districts in Montana. The full article is available on the MT43News website at https://mt43news.com

After years of putting it off, the Florence-Carlton school district in Ravalli County had to decide: Would it join the many smaller districts in the state with a four-day school week, or stick with a five-day schedule?

Until recently, some local education leaders thought the four-day week was a poor fit for the town of Florence. Staffing problems, including having to cut nine employees, the end of pandemic-era education funding, and the loss of 50 students this school year, however, put the district of about 730 students in a tight spot.

Florence, a rural town in the southwestern part of the state 30 minutes from two districts that pay their teachers more, has dealt with staffing gaps that left positions nearly impossible to fill. Last school year, the high school principal ended up teaching some classes after a job posting for a math teacher received no applications for a semester and a science teacher left for a better-paying job nearby. A paraprofessional job has remained open the entire school year, Florence-Carlton Superintendent Todd Fiske said. A four-day school week might be a tool to recruit and retain staff, the school board reasoned, while offering families more time together.

A community survey showed that of parents and community members who responded, 51% favored a shift to a four-day school week. The five-person board approved the model 3-to-1 in January, with one abstention. Starting this fall, the school day will be lengthened by 45 minutes, and schools will be closed on Fridays.

While most such shifts across other Montana districts have been made with little opposition, in Florence, pushback was fierce.

There were standing-room-only public meetings with community members threatening not to support future budget levies. Parents filed two formal complaints. One family sued. Some are transferring their children to districts miles away next year or will take on homeschooling out of concern their kids would otherwise fall behind.

Some board members were taken aback.

As more schools in Montana — 222 and counting — make the jump to four-day school weeks, childcare advocates are concerned about the condensed schedule's impact on families in a state that already has its fair share of struggles in terms of childcare access and affordability.

"Ninety-nine percent of the people in this room have not been to a meeting that I've seen," board chair Matthew Roth, who voted against the change, told a crowded public meeting in March. "Only when this comes up, people are showing up."

The rift in the community exposes a larger divide and uncertainty around the four-day school week, even as districts in Montana and across the country continue to march toward it. Nearly 40% of Montana districts have students attend school four days a week, and about 80% of the state's counties have at least one school operating on that schedule. In 2022 and 2023, 32 districts in the state adopted the model. Nationwide, the number of four-day districts in the U.S. is approaching 900 in 26 states; the model picked up steam after the pandemic. Districts continue to consider it a solution for addressing staffing shortages and financial challenges.

In Florence, parent Jason Breckenridge sued to stop the change, saying he was worried his kids would be "guinea pigs". He felt the school district disregarded negative aspects of the shortened week. Virginia Mahn, a Florence-Carlton parent and graduate, brought a complaint against the school board, alleging district leaders failed to meet their required responsibility of ensuring a quality education.

"The only things they showed as positives were anecdotal," Mahn said. "It'd be an article from a superintendent that was like, 'This is great for us.' OK, so where's your data?"

Montana first allowed the four-day school week in 2005, replacing a requirement for a 180-day school year with a 1,080-hour minimum to allow for "greater flexibility in the school calendar." A three-part study from the University of Montana painted a grim picture of the four-day school week's outcomes for both students and their schools.

Based on student testing data from 2008 to 2023, the study found that student learning suffered in the four-day school week. At the elementary level, reading

School Week,



Guest Editorial

Guest Editorials reflect the views of the author and not MT43 NEWS

Grizzly Disposal Opposes Republic Services’ Attempt to Expand into East Helena

Lyndsey Medsker

Grizzly Disposal

Grizzly Disposal & Recycling is urging the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) to closely scrutinize Republic Services’ bid to acquire Tri-County Disposal’s operations in East Helena.

In a formal public comment, Grizzly outlined Republic’s history of consolidating Montana’s waste industry, eliminating competition, and raising prices for customers while reducing service quality. The company already controls multiple landfills and hauling operations across the state, and this latest acquisition would give them control of yet another critical disposal facility in a region with no competing private haulers.

Grizzly shared evidence of Republic’s anti-competitive practices in Missoula County, including:

- Refusing Grizzly access to the Missoula landfill, forcing 100 tons of waste per day on a 250-mile round-trip haul to East Helena at a cost of \$65,000 per month in fuel and maintenance.
- Predatory pricing tactics. Slashing rates for customers only when they attempt to switch to Grizzly, then raising prices once competition is eliminated.
- A federal antitrust complaint filed in 2023 alleging monopolistic behavior and retaliation.

“Every time Republic acquires a local hauler, Montanans lose choice, face higher rates, and get stuck with poor service,” Grizzly said in its filing. “The PSC has a duty to protect the public and ensure fair competition before allowing Republic to tighten its grip on Montana’s waste industry.”

Grizzly is calling on the PSC to investigate Republic’s practices thoroughly before deciding on the transfer of Tri-County’s certificate.

School Week, 5

proficiency was lower in the four-day districts by as much as 7 percentage points. For math proficiency, it was a difference of up to 14 percentage points. Including one-room schoolhouses, only 11 of the 141 four-day districts examined performed above the state averages or were improving academically.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction commissioned the study after the state saw a surge in four-day school weeks post-COVID and gave researchers access to data going back to when Montana schools first started making the switch. It’s not just Montana: Four-day school weeks are growing across the nation, as is other research that also shows negatives in academic outcomes.

Staffing problems, a post-pandemic funding cliff and the loss of 50 students this school year put the Florence-Carlton school district of about 730 students in a tight spot, and it voted to adopt a shortened week. Credit: Sarah Mosquera / The Hechinger Report

“When I look at the news reporting and schools [that] are considering the four-day workweek, there are all these reasons, pros and cons,” said Bill McCaw, one of the authors of the study. “Student achievement is never part of the conversation. Daycare, convenience, longer vacation — all that’s being discussed. But not student achievement.”

The Montana researchers also compared costs of the four-day school week and found them to be higher, as teacher salaries and payments for other services, like transportation, often remain the same or rise. Teacher retention was also higher under the five-day model—the researchers did not speculate why, but the districts that offer four-day weeks tend to be smaller; larger districts may offer more opportunities and professional growth, even without a three-day weekend.

“Student achievement is never part of the conversation. Daycare, convenience, longer vacation — all that’s being discussed. But not student achievement.”

Bill McCaw, study co-author:

The one clear positive for the four-day school week? Recruitment. When surveyed, more than 80% of new teachers preferred a shortened school week over a five-day week. Montana has the highest percentage of rural schools of any state in the nation, at 75%, and the largest number of one-room schoolhouses. That translates to many small schools struggling to attract teachers.

The study wasn’t the first to show declining academic results in Montana.

*This article is republished courtesy of the Montana Free Press and the Hechinger Report.*

Letters to the Editor

In Response to Cory Swanson

In response to the opinion piece “Life and Basketball” by former County Attorney Cory Swanson, I feel compelled to clarify several misleading statements.

My name is Jami Lawson. I am a third-grade teacher at Townsend Elementary and the wife of David Lawson, the former girls’ basketball coach. The petition for the recall election of school board trustee Chase Ragen, initiated by concerned members of our community, is based on a violation of the oath of office—specifically, the requirement that a trustee discharge their duties with fidelity—as well as official misconduct.

As an invested member of this community and, especially, as a school teacher, I am disappointed that Mr. Swanson did not do his homework before writing his recent letter to the editor regarding the recall petition against Trustee Chase Ragen. On a topic as serious as elected officials violating their oath of office and the ethical standards required of public servants, I had hoped for more due diligence and less surface-level commentary.

Mr. Swanson’s assertion that “you can’t recall an elected official just because you don’t like the decision he or she made” grossly oversimplifies the situation. The recall petition does not hinge on disagreement over a coaching decision—it stems from documented misconduct, violations of board policies, breaches of open meeting laws, and behavior that has raised concerns among parents, staff, and community members alike. These are not “differences of opinion,” as Mr. Swanson suggests—they are legal and ethical failures that demand accountability.

He also states, “Love or hate the school board’s decision, a re-hiring of a basketball coach probably does not fall within the recall election criteria.” Again, this comment reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the issue. The petition outlines clear and repeated violations that go far beyond a single personnel decision. To reduce it to that is dismissive of both the facts and the rights of the voters who signed it.

Mr. Swanson further writes, “Conflict begets conflict,” implying that raising concerns is the source of division. I respectfully disagree. Unchecked silence, not conflict, is what allows power to be misused. Remaining quiet when officials act inappropriately is not unity—it is complicity. Citizens have every right, and indeed a responsibility, to speak out when elected officials misuse their positions.

Finally, Mr. Swanson’s statement that “some people have made it their mission to sow discord” is not only disheartening—it’s insulting. Asking for ethical leadership and lawful conduct is not “sowing discord.” It is civic responsibility. To suggest that registered voters taking lawful steps to address misconduct are the problem is a dangerous message to send, especially in a community that values transparency and accountability.

As a teacher and a parent, I work hard to instill in both my students and my own children the importance of standing up for what is right—even when it’s difficult, and even when doing so might not bring the results you hope for right away. This recall petition may or may not reach the required number of signatures, but it will not be in vain. It has already begun to spread awareness, encourage civic engagement, and bring long-overdue misconduct to light. And really—who among us doesn’t want our community to be better informed? Who doesn’t want our elected officials, whether on the school board or in county leadership, to be held to standards of transparency, fairness, and service free from personal agendas?

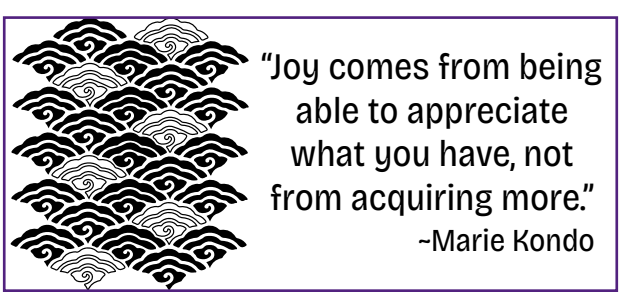
This petition is neither political nor personal—it is a call for integrity. As someone who has observed the board meetings firsthand, I am deeply disappointed by Mr. Swanson’s decision to remain neutral rather than speak out against clear wrongdoing. Simply stating that “mistakes were made” is not enough. When elected officials violate policy, misuse their authority, or unfairly target individuals, accountability is not optional — it is essential.

I encourage anyone who has not yet watched the public meetings to do so. Let the facts speak for themselves. The truth is not a matter of opinion—it’s a matter of record.

Sincerely,

Jami Lawson

Townsend School District Employee, Townsend Resident



Broadwater County Commissioner's Agenda

</



# LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**A+ STORAGE**

SEVERAL SIZES OF STORAGE UNITS  
BOATS, RV's & TRAILER STORAGE  
IN TOWNSEND, MT

WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN  
YOU NEED US!

406-266-5377, 406-580-5425

**ALLIED MACHINE**

Quality & Service Since 1988

• RV Repair • Trailer Repair  
• Pump Repair • Machine Work  
• Aluminum Welding

406.266.3108

511 N. Front St., Townsend, MT

**BARRETT'S  
MASONRY LLC**

(406) 214-9981

Brick, Block, Stone, Tile

No job too small!


Contact MT43 News to list your business NOW!

Monday - Friday 10:00AM - 2:00PM

408 Broadway / 406.266.0086

**BSE EXCAVATING**

7200 HWY 287, TOWNSEND, MT



**BRANDON BAKKEN**  
**SHANE TEW**  
P - (406)266-3772  
C - (406)980-1100

**CARQUEST AUTO PARTS**

406-266-0080

308 N Front St, Townsend, MT

Mon - Fri 7:30 - 6:00pm  
Saturday 9:00 - 4:00  
Sunday 9:00 - 3:00

**LEYLAND INSURANCE**

TURNING 65 SOON?  
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!



**MARK LEYLAND**  
406-438-7315  
LEYLANDMT.COM

**MADISON RIVER**

7812 US-287  
Townsend, MT  
406-266-4278

**PROPANE**  
A THOMPSON GAS COMPANY


Metered Propane  
Budget Billing  
Lease Tanks  
Service Department



• DD Custom Flatbed Dealer  
• Laser Cut Parts Fabrication  
• Machining Hydraulics

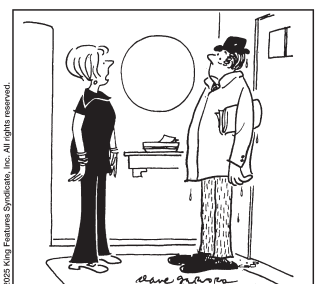
406-449-3464 | Townsend - Helena

**Schauber Surveying, Inc.  
Land Surveyors**



Surveying Montana  
and Broadwater  
County since 1995  
Dan Swenson, PLS  
Bernadette Swenson, PLS

64 Jack Farm Road, Townsend, MT 59644  
406-266-4602 schaubersurvey@gmail.com



**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!

Poke  
**DEGUN** \_ \_ \_ \_

Piece  
**CLEAN** \_ \_ \_ \_

Border  
**ARMING** \_ \_ \_ \_

Repay  
**VEEGAN** \_ \_ \_ \_

**TODAY'S WORD**

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

"We're going over to the Holloways' tonight.  
You've got an hour to eat and dress and  
\_\_\_\_\_ about it."

**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: Z equals P

EG MUJ ZAJZOA KWA ZOKIIEIP  
K VJIXZEWKVT UDEOA PJOGIEIP,  
KWA MDAT JI K VJOOSXEJI  
VJSWXA?

©2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

## KNIGHT MOVES

E	U	E
C		S
O	R	R

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.

© 2025 King Features Syndicate



**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!



<i>American Legion Hall</i>	<i>Bunkhouse Bar &amp; Grill</i>	<i>Commercial Bar</i>	<i>Fishtale Tavern</i>	<i>Mint Cafe</i>	<i>Peking China</i>
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> Community Dinner Bar hours may vary	8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 SPECIAL: N/A Dining Hours: 10:00AM – Close Grill off at 10:00PM	101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook	209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 11:00PM Daily Specials: Facebook Bar hours may vary	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	10 N Main St, Three Forks (406) 285-3225 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 11:30AM - 8:30PM Menu: Google
<i>The Betsy Sports Zone</i>	<i>Canyon Ferry Brewing &amp; Taproom</i>	<i>Copy Cup</i>	<i>Full Belli Deli</i>	<i>Mountie Moose Bakery</i>	<i>Rocky Mountain Supply Deli</i>
217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close Closed Monday Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com	300 Broadway, Townsend (406) 694-5687 Hours: Wed - Fri. 4:00PM - Close Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close	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	209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 8:00AM - 7:00PM OPEN 4th of JULY	109 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-5800 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM - 4:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Online Ordering: Mountie-moose-bakery.square.site	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
<i>Bread and Butter Cafe</i>	<i>C Hangin" C Mercantile &amp; Creamery</i>	<i>Deep Creek Pizza Co.</i>	<i>Kick Start Nutrition</i>	<i>The Nook Coffeehouse</i>	<i>TB's Diner</i>
205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM- 2:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Menu available on Facebook	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 changincmerc.square.site	415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Closed Sunday Menu: deepcreekpizzaco.com Accepting Orders Online	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	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	316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Mon- Sat 7:00AM - 8:00PM Sunday 7:00AM - 7:00PM Specials: Facebook

**Super Crossword**

"WHERE'S THE BEEF?"

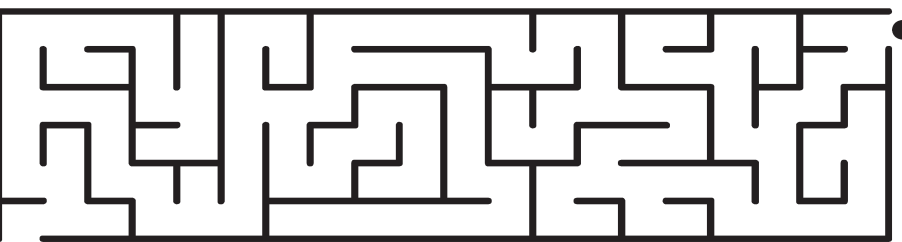
**ACROSS**

1 Predicaments  
9 Metallic car trims  
16 Sporty German cars  
20 Cosmos  
21 What a flushed person has  
22 Uncommon  
23 Start of a riddle  
26 Advance, as money  
27 Japanese pond fish  
28 Bad with musical pitches  
29 Letter-shaped girder  
33 Feared fly  
37 Wine barrels  
38 Riddle, part 2  
44 Before now  
45 Indent keys  
46 Poodle, e.g.  
47 Org. fighting trafficking  
48 Particular mag. edition  
51 Letter following 36-Down  
52 Supports for broken arms  
55 Supersonic speed unit  
57 Scissor cut  
58 Fetuses-to-be  
60 Riddle, part 3  
64 BLT offerer  
65 Listen (to)  
67 Post-workout discomfort  
68 Swelled head  
70 Queued up  
72 Comedic sort  
73 Like the pope  
77 Trattoria  
80 Wee bits  
83 Riddle, part 4  
85 Ottawa's province  
87 Seoul  
89 Noisy napper  
91 Marina — Rey  
92 Corrosive cleanser  
93 Place to input a PIN  
94 Frat party dispenser  
97 Language of Pakistan  
98 — Fridays (restaurant)  
99 End of the riddle  
104 Father of Hector and Paris  
107 Ready to go, as a car  
108 Actor Dick Van —  
109 Reaps  
112 Spunk  
114 Use a keypad  
118 Riddle's answer  
125 Beef cut  
126 Attacked with a jump  
127 Refrigeration slows it down  
128 Cousin of emo  
129 Paquin of "The Piano"  
129 Intertwists  
130 Tinkered (with)  
131 Two-in-one  
2 Facts or stats  
3 — fire under (roused)  
4 No matter whether  
5 Sea, to Jules  
6 "Rocky III" actor  
7 Bat wood  
8 Try to find  
9 Sailing outing  
10 "You! Look over here!"  
11 Nutrition fig.  
12 Frequently, poetically  
13 Lusterless photo surfaces  
14 Cave sound  
15 Not hidden  
16 Like many white gowns  
17 Features of zebras' necks  
18 Inflict, as havoc  
19 Medieval menials  
24 Cousin of emo  
25 Joe causing no jolt  
30 Itsy- —  
31 Like a clock with hands  
32 Giovanni of "Avatar"  
34 Roush of baseball  
35 Albeit, for short  
36 18th Greek letter  
38 Abhorred  
39 Best competitive effort, slangily  
40 Surprised  
41 IRS datum  
42 Like Popeye and Rambo  
43 Former anesthetic  
48 Apropos of  
49 Knights, e.g.  
50 1974 CIA spoof flick  
53 Pop's Stefani  
54 Big scissors  
56 "Plus" point  
57 Hyundai model  
59 The "R" of ERA  
61 College "Eli"  
62 Bracelet sites  
63 Hem, e.g.  
66 French spa city  
69 "Nice one!"  
71 Twelve p.m.  
73 Key near Alt  
74 Cry on a ship  
75 Samsung or LG product  
76 "Where — from ..."  
78 Really hot  
79 In the future  
81 San — Padres  
82 Not at all iffy  
84 Made of a certain sturdy wood  
86 Place for a car jack  
90 "— Lips Are Sealed"  
93 "Bibleman" star Willie  
95 Nest nugget  
96 "Aw, shucks"  
99 Cuban capital  
100 Sight-related  
101 Simple putts  
102 Greek Mars  
103 In fine — (doing well)  
104 Big city in Penna.  
105 Betray by blabbing  
106 Novelist Shaw  
110 Store lure  
111 Subsequently  
113 "You! Look over here!"  
115 Calendar unit  
116 Calendar unit  
117 — out a living (barely scraped by)  
119 H.S. transcript stat  
120 & so forth  
121 "The Simpsons" tavern keeper  
122 Fed. cleanup group  
123 DeLuise of "Silent Movie"  
124 Drink a little



©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

**Kids' Maze**



©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

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!

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.



SENIOR CENTER



SR. CENTER MEALS:

JULY 28 - AUGUST 1

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

Monday, July 28

Montana Pasties  
Broccoli & Cauliflower  
Tossed Salad with Beans  
Apricots  
Dessert

Wednesday, July 30

Hamburger on a Bun  
Carrot Coins  
Pea Salad  
Mandarin Oranges

Tuesday, July 29

BBQ Pork Ribs  
Macaroni Salad  
Sweet Corn  
Pickled Beets  
Whole Grain Bread

Thursday, July 31

Turkey ALA King  
Steamed Potatoes  
Key Largo Vegetables  
Whole Grain Bread  
Golden Pears

Friday, August 1

Chicken Fried Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Whole Grain Bread  
Sweet Peaches

NOTARY PUBLIC



Notary Service Available

At MT43 News Office


408 Broadway St, Townsend, MT

Mon - Fri 10:00 – 2:00pm

Or by Appointment

Contact: Brenda Phillips

406-231-9752



Common Sense

BY BILL GARWOOD

### Why Must Our Town Get Bigger?

Have you tried to walk across Broadway lately? We have “TRAFFIC”, and it’s not good! If I wanted to live in a city, I would have moved to one. Everyone always says, “Progress is good”. Fine, in some things. I like the thought of electric lights and being able to have a cold beverage now and then. These are modern ideas I’m fine with; even the new-fangled motor cars aren’t too bad. Except when they are everywhere!

I love that Townsend has several unique stores and many types of businesses. This is a great thing. What I wonder about is when we have a great “helpful” store that benefits most everybody, why in God’s name does it get sold out from under the local folks who own and run it? Strangely enough, the land it is on is going to be bought, and the building probably destroyed. All in the name of “Progress?” The word "speculators" sounds familiar! Tearing down a building or clearing a town lot for someone who might want to build something on it someday...maybe! But of course, that old building couldn’t be of any use to the people in Townsend, could it?

How about the other small shops that are always being treated like “musical chairs” and being shoved out of the way for people who speculate on maybe somebody, someday wanting to build something bigger! Or more modern, more “stylish?” Oh yes, we need more bars and gambling houses, or large community centers/coffee shops.

About 6 years ago, there were several small shops that made Townsend, MT a tourist destination. On weekends, folks from all over would come to our small town to shop. They would be walking around in “gaggles”. Good fun was had by all.

Now we have restaurants that aren’t open during mid-week business hours. Too much “drama” with workers and employers! Lack of workers who actually want to work! What a concept.

Even when I wasn’t running my bookstore, I loved walking around town. Talking with locals, buying the naughty chocolate goodies that I’m not supposed to eat anymore. I understand stores being closed on Monday. I used to do that. Got to have at least one day to go to town.

Even the “clothing” stores are changing shops like they have to move anytime the music stops. Let’s get back to being a weekend destination for folks who like the idea of a small Montana town with personality.

How many storefronts are closed up on Broadway for one reason or another? Or for sale on speculation.

Please think before you buy up or close down businesses here! We, who have been here for years, like this small, wonderful town.

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

MSU Offers Culinary Certificate

Meredith Allen

MSU Hospitality Program Manager

Nearly 14 million people visited Montana in 2024. They spent \$5 billion exploring national parks, riding through dude ranches and sampling menus at mountaintop resorts.

Starting in August, Gallatin College - Montana State University will train students to house, guide and feed the state’s tourists and other travelers with a one-year hospitality certificate. The certificate provides baseline knowledge of business communication, culinary arts, hotel management and more, said program manager Meredith Allen.

The program received \$1 million in funding from the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, which also supported plans to construct a new Gallatin College MSU building on the MSU campus.

Program manager Meridith Allen explained the program will train students to house, guide and feed the state’s tourists and other travelers with a one-year hospitality certificate. The certificate provides baseline knowledge of business communication, culinary arts, hotel management and more, Allen explained.

The hospitality program is a collaborative effort between Gallatin College MSU, the Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship and the College of Education, Health and Human Development. Gallatin College-MSU students in hospitality or culinary arts programs will take classes alongside MSU students and can count their credits toward a four-year hospitality management degree, with options in

Students can work for Montana organizations through the program’s internship requirement, which is completed as a semester-long course. Allen said it will be much easier for students to integrate with a team after graduation “if they’re speaking the same language from day one.”

Communication between staff members and upper management is a central component of the program’s courses, such as the hospitality supervision and customer service class taught by Celeste Carducci, an adjunct professor in the College of Education, Health and Human Development. A 35-year veteran in the hospitality field, she worked for Marriott Hotels in Washington, D.C. She has instructed the class for two years at MSU and said she is excited to share her love of the industry with incoming Gallatin College and MSU students. If students are interested in joining this program, contact Meredith Allen at (406) 994-5536.

Event Planning Internship Open to College Students

Keni Reese

Montana Stock Growers Communications Director

The Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) is encouraging students to apply for its 2025 Annual Convention and Trade Show internship program.

**Applications are due September 15**, and the internship will take place December 8, 2025 – December 13, 2025, in Billings, Montana.

The MSGA Annual Convention Internship program allows students to gain practical experience in association event planning, policy development, and social media production. Multiple internship roles are available, offering exposure to each of these key areas.

The Annual Convention and Trade Show is one of two annual gatherings, bringing together members to shape organizational policy and educational programs. Highlights include an industry trade show, policy meetings, keynote speakers, and networking opportunities.

Successful applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Applicants must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- Applicants should be a college sophomore, junior or senior
- Should be working toward a degree in public policy, agriculture or event management
- Should have excellent communication skills
- Must be a US resident and must be available to work the entire length of the Montana Stockgrowers Association Annual Convention, December 8th – 13th in Billings.

Interns will receive lodging during the duration of the internship and a stipend to assist with travel. Selected applicants will be notified by October 1, 2025. To apply, visit [www.mtbeef.org](http://www.mtbeef.org) or contact the MSGA office at (406) 442-3420.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness, to deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.

PSALM 33:18-20



OBITUARY

Alvin “Neil” Shaffer

Family of Alvin “Neil” Shaffer

Alvin “Neil” Shaffer, age 86 of Townsend  
October 24, 1938 – July 9, 2025



Alvin “Neil” Shaffer

Photo Provided by Family of Alvin “Neil” Shaffer

Neil Shaffer, 86, left this world on July 9, 2025, to be reunited with the love of his life, Barbara. A memorial service will be on July 28th at 11 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Townsend, MT.

Alvin Neil (A. Neil) Shaffer was born in Maddock, ND, on Oct. 24th, 1938, to J.A.M. (Alvin) Shaffer and Jean (Milne) Shaffer in a hospital run by his paternal grandmother. He was the second child and only son of their six children.

Neil gained local newspaper fame when he fell into a well on the family farm, and so began his life of various accidents that bruised him but never slowed him down.

Winters in ND were severe and there were no buses when he attended school. To ensure they could get to school, Neil and his two sisters stayed in town with their grandparents during the school week. He always spoke fondly of them.

Neil was baptized and confirmed in the North Viking Lutheran Church. He graduated high school from B.C.A.T.S. in Maddock in 1957. Then he attended college at North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton, ND, graduating with a major in Electronics.

Collins Radio hired Neil at the end of his education, so off to Cedar Rapids, IA, he moved. During the time there, he built the radios for NASA space rockets of the 1960s and 70s. He was proud to say he built the radios for Neil Armstrong’s moon landing on Apollo 11.

For Neil, the greatest achievement of his life was meeting and winning the heart of Barbara Fiet. Neil and Barb were married on January 6, 1962, in Waukon, IA. With this ideal union, Neil’s family expanded with Barb’s parents, brother and three sisters. Barb passed away in 2005 and Neil missed her every day since.

Neil enlisted in the Air Force in the spring of 1962. He was stationed in Biloxi, MS, and later Minot, ND, where he worked on radios for the planes. Upon discharge,

he returned to Collins Radio, where they had reserved his position and welcomed him back.

Neil loved camping, swimming, water skiing, scuba diving, hunting, tennis and other sports. On weekdays, you could often find him water skiing after work until dark. On the weekends, he was on the lake.

In June 1976, Neil and Barb bought the Coast-to-Coast hardware store in Townsend. Neil tried his best to meet his customers' needs and was known for saying, “If we don’t have it, I can order it”. After several years, they sold the store and opened Big Sky Electronics & Floral in the building next door. He installed numerous DISH TV systems in the tri-county area.

Neil was deeply involved in the community. He was a charter member and past president of the Lions Club, past president of the Rod and Gun Club, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and a supporter of the local fair and rodeo. He participated in the businessmen’s rodeo, donated saddles, and frequently purchased 4-H animals.

Generosity defined Neil. He gave freely of his time and resources, often selling items at cost or donating them outright. You could regularly find him at the Mint, the Horseshoe, or the “donut shop” having coffee with friends, and he insisted on buying. He was especially generous with his nieces and nephews. You could often see a nephew pulling cable on a satellite install, or a niece riding a horse with him. While he rewarded them with money for work done, the greatest gifts he gave were his time, love, and unwavering acceptance. He will be greatly missed by all.

He is survived by his sisters: Bonnie Schulz of Lakeland MN, Judy (Larry) Wright of Townsend MT, Shelley (Marty) Gustafson of Kasson MN, and Brenda (Marc) Rogelstad of Boardman OR; nieces and nephews: Alan (Stephanie) Everson, Kurt (Laura) Schulz, Kim (Patrick) Weston, James (Mellisa) Wright, Michael (Annette) Wright, Matthew (Tia) Wright, Stephen (Alyssa) Wright, Jessica Gustafson, Ken (Katelyn) Gustafson, Jeremy Gustafson, Adam (Erica) Rogelstad, Heather (Josh) Kegler, and Cassandra (David) Clayton; In-laws: Lorraine Ruddish, David Fiet, Janice (Marvin) Smith, and Marie (Larry) Johnston; along with numerous great-nieces and nephews.

Neil was preceded in death by his wife Barb; parents Alvin and Jean Shaffer; sister Darlene Everson; parents-in-law Delbert and Dorothy Fiet; brothers-in-law Bob Everson, Jim Schulz, Frank Ruddish; sister-in-law Greta Fiet; and niece Kristen Schulz.

Interment will be next summer at Greenwood Cemetery in Maddock, ND, where he will once again be beside his beloved Barb.

The family requests memorials be made to Fort Harrison VA Medical Center, 3687 Veterans Drive, Administration Building 141, Fort Harrison, MT 59636 or the American Legion Broadwater Post #42, PO Box 913, Townsend, MT 59644.


Service scheduled with a Celebration of His Life at 11:00 am, Monday, July 28, 2025, at United Methodist Church, 200 N Cedar Street, Townsend, Montana 59644. Reception at the Methodist Church will follow the Memorial Service.

Weed of the Month:

Common Tansy


Allison Kosto

MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



This weed of the month has a long history of medicinal use, until it became a major problem along roads, pastures and disturbed areas. This weed is Common Tansy.

Description & Habitat



Common Tansy

Photo Credit: Matt Lavin

A native of Europe, common tansy, was introduced to North America for use as a folk remedy and ornamental plant. History of this plant dates back to the colonial herb gardens in the 1600s. It was first documented in Montana in 1931 in Madison County. It can now be found throughout Montana, including Broadwater.

It’s fairly easy to identify with its yellow button-like flower heads. They form dense, flat-topped clusters at the ends of the stems. It is a perennial that can grow up to five feet tall. In a mature plant, leaves have a fern-like appearance that produces a strong odor. The stems and flowers grow in clusters, giving it a bush-like appearance. It’s a later-flowering plant occurring from July to October. It spreads both by seeds and rhizomes (creeping roots). The plant has a shallow root system that is very competitive with other plants for water and nutrients.

Common tansy contains alkaloids that are toxic to both humans and livestock in large quantities. However, livestock poisoning is rare because it is unpalatable and unappealing to them. Toxicity to humans typically happens through long-term use. There have been reports of illness associated with handpulling the plant by absorbing toxins through the skin. Additionally, common tansy can reduce forage for livestock and wildlife and reduce plant diversity.

Management

Common tansy is a Montana Noxious Weed, which means you are required to control it if it’s on your property. You can play a role in reducing the spread of seeds. Do not drive or walk in heavily infested areas if possible. Wash vehicles, ATVs and equipment before going home. Purchase only certified noxious weed seed-free hay.

Because of its rhizomatous root system, mowing or hand-pulling is marginally effective. Mow during bud stage for best results. Wear gloves and protective clothing when pulling to prevent absorbing toxins through the skin. The plant is unpalatable to cattle. Some research suggests that sheep can be effective if used season-long, but long-term effects of the sheep’s health need to be studied further. There are currently no biological control agents for Common Tansy.


Use of chemicals can be effective, especially in an integrated pest management system. Commonly used chemicals include Chaparral, Cimarron, Escort, Telar and Tordon (restricted use). Always read and follow the entire label when applying herbicides. Common chemical names are used for clarity but does not imply endorsement of a product or brand.

For assistance with weed identification and control, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.

Broadwater County has a cost-share program for controlling noxious weeds, including dalmatian toadflax. For more information, contact the Broadwater County Weed District at 406-266-9243.

Stevenson Wilke

Funeral Home & Crematory



Family Owned and Operated

Honorably Serving Montana Families for Three Generations

www.stevensonwilke.com (406) 266-4213

## Montana Still Has More Cows Than People, but the Cows’ Lead is Narrowing

Jacob Olness  
Montana Free Press

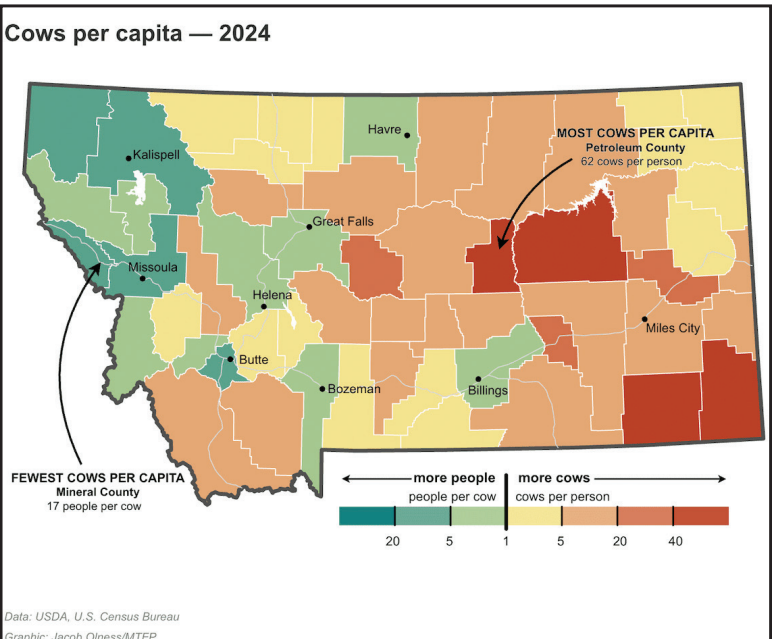
Montana still has more cows than people, but the cows’ lead is narrowing.

In Petroleum County, there are 62 cows per person.

Montana’s famous cow-to-person ratio has narrowed a bit. U.S. Department of Agriculture data from early 2024 shows 2.12 million cattle roaming the state alongside 1.14 million people. That’s still nearly two cows for every Montanan, but it’s down from the more dramatic ratios of years past. As recently as 2022, the ratio was more than two cows per person.

Of course, the statewide number only tells part of the story. Drive through rural Petroleum County in the central part of Montana and you’ll encounter one of the most lopsided landscapes in America: 525 people sharing space with more than 32,000 cattle, working out to 62 cows per person. Neighboring Garfield County runs a close second at 59:1, while Powder River County in the southeastern corner of the state clocks in at 50:1.

Compare that to urban strongholds like Missoula County, where humans outnumber cattle 15:1. In Yellowstone County around Billings, people hold a 2.5-to-1 advantage — making it the lone eastern county where humans have the numerical advantage. Then there’s Mineral County in heavily forested northwestern Montana, an outlier that doesn’t fit the rural mold. Despite its smaller population,



cattle numbers have dropped from 400 to 300 head, giving it the state’s most human-heavy ratio at 17:1.

The raw numbers tell their own story, too. Beaverhead County, around Dillon, leads the herd with 110,000 cattle, while Fergus (Lewistown) and Big Horn (Hardin) each top 90,000. Custer County, home to the livestock hub of Miles City, maintains 86,000 cows among its 12,000 residents — a solid 7:1 ratio that somehow feels modest compared to those eastern plains where cattle still rule by margins of 50 or 60 to 1.

This article by Jacob Olness was originally published in the Montana Free Press on July 18, 2025. It is republished here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.

A version of this story was originally published in the MT Lowdown.



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

IN POKER I SAID IT'S OK TO BLUFF, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE USING "WOMEN'S INTUITION" IS UNFAIR.



GRIN and BEAR IT

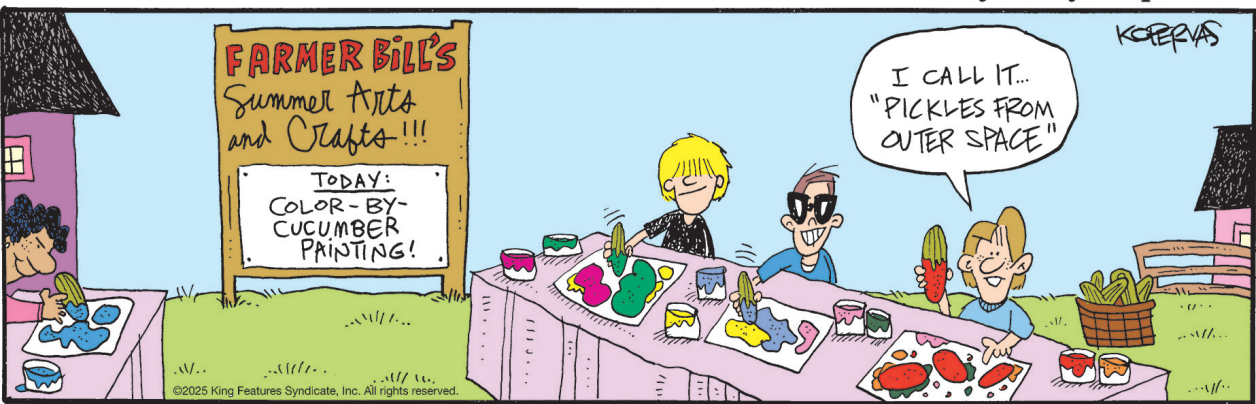


© North America Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

"It's not so bad. ... I've invaded worse homes than this!"

Out on a Limb


by Gary Kopervas




©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Amber Waves


by Dave T. Phipps




UGH, WHY THE HECK DOES MY TEACHER EXPECT US TO ALWAYS READ SO MUCH?



I'LL BET MY DAD DOESN'T EVEN REMEMBER THIS STUFF.




HEY, DAD, WHO WAS THE 5TH PRESIDENT?



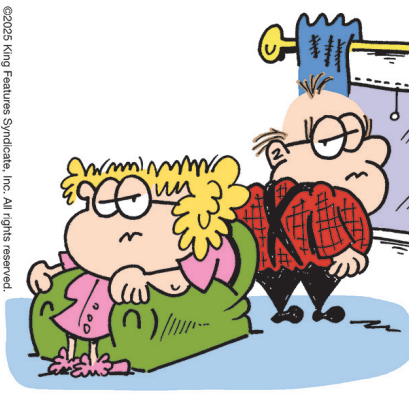
IF I TOLD YOU THEN YOU WOULDN'T LEARN.  
HE'S GOOD.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering




I WONDER HOW THE MOON CUTS HIS HAIR?



ECLIPSE IT!!

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS  
**POPEYE**  
BY RANDY MILHOLLAND



YA MISSED BRUTUS' BIG WRASSLIN' MATCH LAST WEEK, OLIVE.

POPEYE, MY LOVE, I SAY THIS FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART...

I WILL NEVER MISS ANYTHING ABOUT BRUTUS.

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS  
**"BUMMER SLAM"**  
PART 14

LIFE HAS MOSTLY RETURNED TO NORMAL AFTER BRUTUS' WRESTLING MATCH AGAINST MACCHI MACHISMO, WHERE HE DID, INDEED, MAKE SURE HIS NEPHEW HARDTACK HAS SOMEONE TO LOOK UP TO.

BYE, UNCLE BRUTUS!  
AND BRUTO, I GUESS.

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING HIM WHILE I WAS AT WORK.

ANYTIME, HARLOW!

UGH!

WIPE THE SMILE OFF YER FACE!

YA GOT THE STUFFIN' KICKED OUT OF YOU FOR A KID! YOU REALIZE THAT, RIGHT?

YOU FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO BE A BABYSITTER! KNOW WHAT THAT MAKES YOU?

NOT BITTER AND MISERABLE.

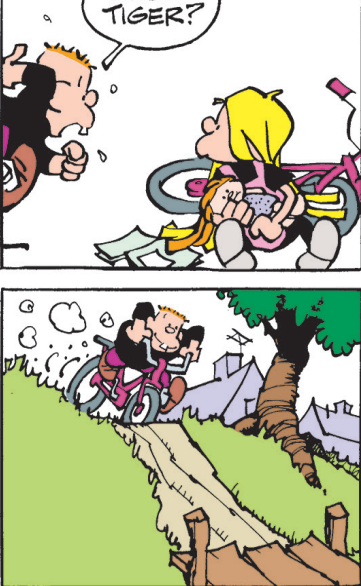
I'M NOT BITTER!

I'M AN AGGRESSIVE DELIGHT!

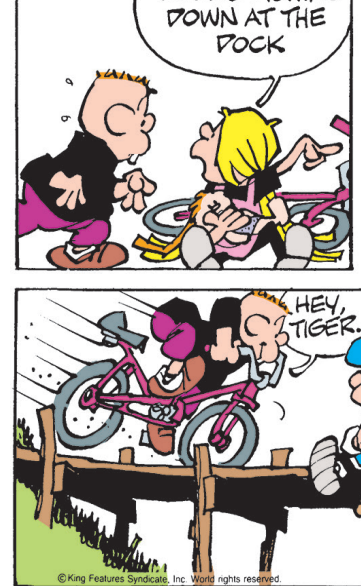
THE END

TIGER

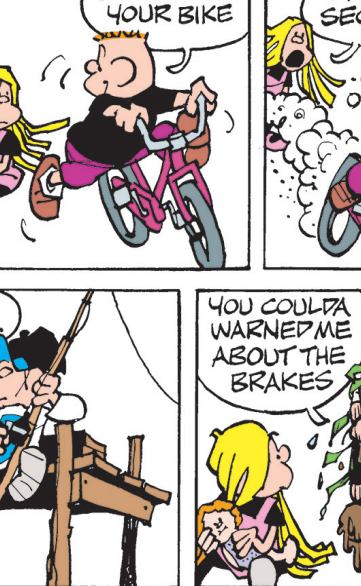
by BUD BLAKE




SEEN TIGER?



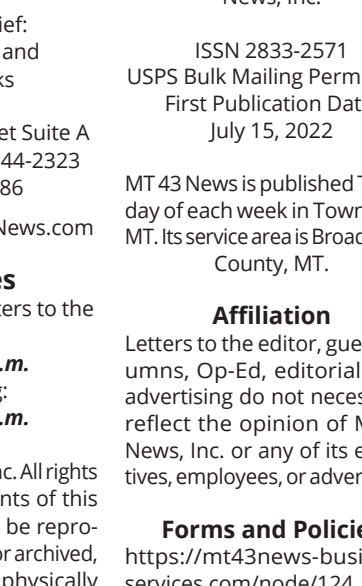
TIGER'S FISHING DOWN AT THE ROCK



I'LL BORROW YOUR BIKE



WAIT A SEC, HUGO!



HEY, TIGER...

YOU COULDA WARNED ME ABOUT THE BRAKES

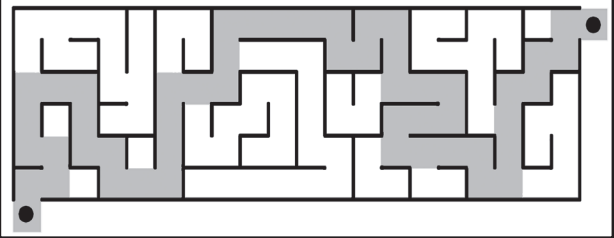
**TOPGUN**  
*Autobody*  
Townsend, MT

Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!

406-266-3110

7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT  
topgunt3110@gmail.com  
topgunautobodytownsend.com

Kids' Maze Solution



It's your future. Let's protect it.



Dustin Gillaspie  
410 Broadway, Townsend, MT  
406.442.0456  
fbfs.com/find-an-agent/  
dustingillaspie



FARM BUREAU  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company\*West Des Moines, IA. Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/Laramie, WY. \*Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. PR-SM-B (10-21)

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

BREAKING NEWS

DID YOU KNOW...

MT43News keeps you updated between printed editions?!

Visit MT43News.com

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

Like and follow us on Facebook!

Super Crossword

Answers

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

CryptoQuip

answer

If two people are planning a conspiracy while golfing, are they on a collusion course?

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Nudge 2. Lance;  
3. Margin; 4. Avenge

Today's Word

**ARGUE**

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

E	U	E
C		S
O	R	R

RESOURCE

MT 43 News, Inc.

Published & edited by the Board of Directors

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

Editors in Chief:  
Victor Sample and  
Nancy Marks

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

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

MT43News@MT43News.com

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

Deadlines

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

Affiliation

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

Forms and Policies

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



NorthWestern<sup>®</sup>

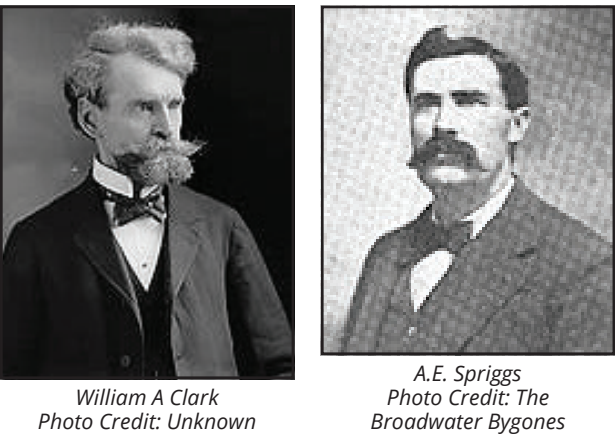
Energy

Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

# Canton Church: Butte Copper Kings and Broadwater County

Join us at the Canton Church on July 25 for an entertaining look at Broadwater County and the county's ties to the famed Butte Copper Kings. Mostly fact and some fun speculation will make the presentation interesting.



Broadwater County was created in 1897 from parts of Meagher County, Jefferson County, Lewis and Clark County and Gallatin County. Although a new county, Broadwater played an important part in one of the most infamous events in Montana History.

Come to the Canton Church to learn about Townsend resident A.E. Spriggs – political mastermind – and how he brought about the creation of Broadwater County, AND his connection to William A Clark.

William A Clark is one of the “Butte Copper Kings” who made an incredible fortune from the Butte copper mines. The Wall Street Journal stated that William A Clark was arguably the wealthiest man in the United States.

Learn about William A Clark and the scandalous 1900 Montana US Senate race and how prominent Broadwater County residents were involved.

Donna Stanfil  
Dee-O-Gee's Event Coordinator

When: August 30th 2025, 12:00- 6:00  
Where: Missouri River Brewing, 451 Spencer Ct, East Helena, MT 59635  
What: On August 30th, Dee-O-Gee of Helena is hosting the first annual Missouri Rover Take Over at Missouri River Brewing. What does that mean? It means Missouri River Brewing is going to the dogs ... and their owners, of course.  
Dee-O-Gee has invited our brand reps, the local shelters and rescues, along with our animal-loving community to join us for some fun in the sun.  
We have shelters, rescues, treat dealers, trainers, groomers, shed hunters and many local businesses coming to set up as one of our 40-plus vendors attending this event.  
With live music and a delicious cold beverage,

Missouri Rover Take Over

what better way could we spend a Montana summer day? This is 100% not for profit. Dee-O-Gee is donating 100% of the profit after cost to two deserving organizations. One that gives back to the animals ie: a shelter or rescue, and one that uses animals to give back to our community ie: 4H, ITA, Dog Tag Buddies, something along those lines.  
We will decide who the recipients are on the day of the event. Those who would like to be considered wrote to us requesting to be considered and will be in attendance as vendors at our August event. Dee-O-Gee is working to build a community of networking and knowledge for pet owners and business owners alike.  
If you would like more information or even to attend, please reach out to Donna Stanfil, Dee-O-Gee's event coordinator, at Donna.Helenadeegee@gmail.com or call 406-438-7262.

LIVE MUSIC  
Alex Zimmerman  
Alex Zimmerman

Dee-O-Gee

August 30th  
12:00p-6:00p  
Missouri River Brewing

MISSOURI RIVER BREWING

MISSOURI RIVER BREWING

MISSOURI RIVER BREWING

THE MONTANA RADIO COMPANY

woof

nulo  
fuel incredible™

Valley Bank  
OF HELENA  
Division of Glacier Bank

TREASURED STATE

TDS

Billings Clinic  
Broadwater

MAYO CLINIC  
CARE NETWORK  
Member

For more information or to make an appointment call 406-266-3186.

Clinic Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8 am to 5 pm

110 N. Oak, Townsend  
billingsclinic.com/broadwater

BEAT THE RUSH

Get a sports physical and support your school!

During the months of July and August, we are offering a special to promote sports physicals.

Physicals are \$25, and 100% of the fee will be donated back to the athletic program where the student participates.  
Cash or check only.

Get your athlete ready for the sports season ahead and schedule a sports physical by calling 406-266-3186.

Billings Clinic  
Broadwater

120 Years  
Caring For Our Community

Open House  
Friday, August 1 • 11 am - 3 pm  
110 N. Oak Street • Townsend, MT 59644

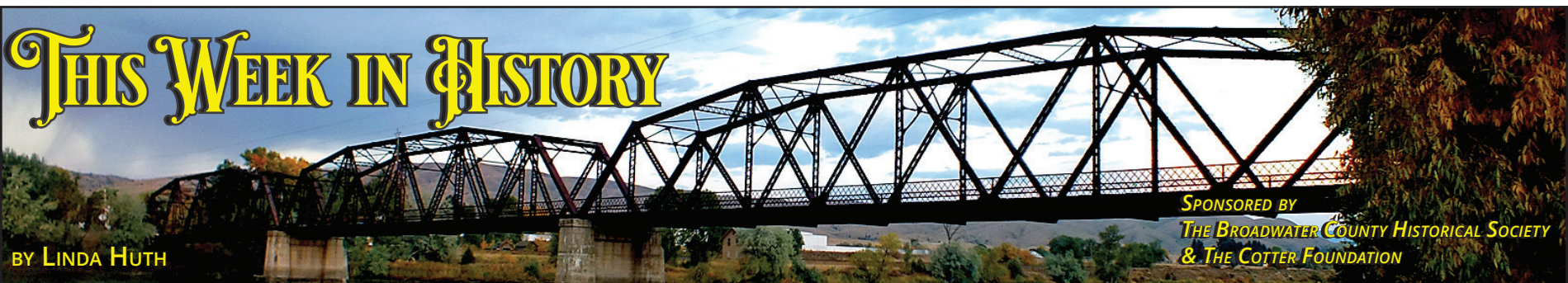
Please join us in celebrating 120 years providing health care to our community.  
Refreshments and giveaways will be provided.

Townsend's First Doctors

New Faces among the Nurses

Clinic Hours: Monday - Friday • 8 am to 5 pm  
Emergency Department: Always open. Always ready.  
For more information, call 406-266-3186 or visit –billingsclinic.com/broadwater





July 24

1902

*Local News*

W.K. Mayne, departed for Hunters Hot Springs Tuesday evening, where he will remain for a week at least. He goes to try the healing properties of the waters of that place for rheumatism.

I. Erickson, of White Sulphur Springs who was arrested by Mrs. Ramspeck for the unlawful possession of a horse, was liberated and went on his way, rejoicing, toward home last Sunday morning. From what we can learn about the case, it was not properly brought, and therefore the advantage lay with defendant.

Martin Peterson, of Deep Creek, who was in town Tuesday, claims to have caught the largest fish ever hooked in that stream. In telling of his catch, he stated that the fish was a fine species of whitefish measuring 15 ½ inches in length and 7 ½ inches in circumference and weighing two pounds. He also caught a large number of speckled beauties, including one trout which measured 15 inches.

1941

*Local News*

Mrs. D.L. Hollaway and little daughter, Trenna Lee, stopped briefly in Townsend from Boulder yesterday afternoon. They were on a short vacation tour of Yellowstone Park and the Cook City Highway.

L.M. Cooley returned Tuesday morning from Como, Colorado.

The three Townsend girls, Margaret Williams, Peggy Pennell and Peggy Peterson, who attended the Camp Fire Girls camp at Lake Ellen, have returned home. Mrs. W.A. Pennell and Mrs. Eunice Williams went for them Monday.

**1958**

*Local News*

Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Van Voast and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mongrain spent the weekend at Seeley Lake picking huckleberries. The Mongrains accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Dick Gill back over there Monday, so it must have been a very successful trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Holling and family visited in Bozeman Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Holling’s grandmother, Mrs. Edna Fields.

Earl Fryhling and daughter, Janet, were in Great Falls on business Tuesday.

Marnie Lanning, who had an appendectomy in the Broadwater Hospital Tuesday, is progressing real well.

Mrs. George Lots and Mrs. Walter Ragen drove

to Great Falls Tuesday to meet Marcia Lots, who has been visiting friends at Wolf Point.

Pvt. Wally Rauser is spending a two-week furlough with his wife and parents. He is stationed at Ft. Ord, California.

**1975**

*“Toston-South of Townsend-Crow Creek” News*

Mrs. Boyd Cazier, Craig and Steven visited with Karen Cazier in Salt Lake City last weekend and with relatives in Ogden, Utah.

Barbara and Jean Berberet were home for the week-end to visit their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Berberet.

Sylvia, the hog owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Olsen, has made the papers again. This time in the magazine section of the Seattle P.I.

Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Miller of Clyde Park visited relatives for a few days this week.

Mrs. W.D. Williams and Mrs. Dietz Davis went to Seeley Lake Thursday to visit their mother, Mrs. Oscar Nilson, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Seaman.

Mrs. Lawrence Hillyer and two children of San Diego, California and Mrs. Lawrence Broadwater of Helena Valley visited Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, Tom and W.D. Williams last Thursday.

Minnie Heisey of Helena visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ben Webb on Friday.

**Historic Townsend Hardware**  
204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

**Tickets Available!**  
**Tour starts July 26th!**

**Backyards of Broadwater**  
YARD & GARDEN TOUR **2025**

ROAD TRIP AROUND MONTANA

Close to Home

Brenda Phillips



There are so many things to do within a short drive from Townsend. We started our trip with a late afternoon dinner at the Peking China Restaurant in Three Forks. Did you know there was a Chinese place in Three Forks? The restaurant is in the old train station building across the street from the Sacagawea Hotel. It's a nice, quiet, clean, smaller restaurant. The food is very good and has generous portions. The Chinese family that runs the restaurant is very cordial and attentive to their customers. We’ve been to restaurants where they take your order and bring the food to you with no other interaction. This family takes care of you, and the food arrives quickly and hot. We saw several customers getting take-out orders, so that is also available. We will go eat with them again, and you should try it, too.

After dinner, we attended the Missouri Headwater State Park Speaker Series, which I wrote about last week. We drove through the campground. It has nice camping spots along the river, but you can’t see the river through the overgrowth of vegetation. We drove through the park toward the confluence of the Madison and Jefferson rivers that form the Missouri. There are a lot of trailheads in the park. This is great if you are a hiker. There are several nice day-use areas for picnics with signage to tell the history of



A yummy dinner at Peking China Restaurant in Three Forks  
Photo Credit: Brenda Phillips

this area. We like Montana history and there is something about this area that touches a person’s soul. The fact that three rivers from different areas in Montana converge to form one stronger river, the Missouri, then travel 2,300 miles to meet the Mississippi River, is a metaphor for how we touch, strengthen and influence those around us, and we can work together for a greater cause!

I am from Great Falls, so the dams are a big part of the local scenery. We decided to drive up to Toston Dam. It was a nice ride up the Missouri River Valley. When you drive the highway to Three Forks, you notice all the

farm fields and forget that the Mighty Mo is over on the left somewhere. The Toston dam is a diversion dam to get irrigation water to the fields. I was surprised to see that some of the irrigation canal was cement – probably because the canal runs higher in elevation than the river. There isn’t a large lake behind the dam like at Canyon Ferry. There are several boat launch areas up that canyon, but they are for canoes, rafts and drift boats because the river is a lot shallower than what I was used to in Great Falls. I can only imagine what the Missouri is like 2300 miles downstream where it joins the Mississippi River.



Toston Dam  
Photo Credit: Brenda Phillips