

Contractors Move Ahead On City Water System Project



COPs Construction crews have poured 450 cubic yards of concrete for the massive footing. The footprint of the site is one acre, part of the 76 acres the City owns at the corner of Highways 12 and 284.

Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer



Public Works Director Eric Crusch explained the City will have both the one-million-gallon water outside of town as well as the in-town 200,000-gallon water tank to be used as backup in case of emergency. When completed the new water tower will be fenced with lights and security cameras. Crusch and his crew will monitor water contents to ensure it safe for drinking. Access will be via the walk-through doors at the bottom of the tower.

Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Nancy Marks
MT43 News Reporter

We live in a time when water is precious and threat of fire lurks all around us, due to climate change. Those facts were the impetus for the Townsend City Council to undertake water system updates currently in progress this year.

In November 2021, Mayor Mike Evans read about a fire destroying the town of Denton, Montana. Denton



had enough water to fight the fire, but the utility company had to shut off the power, so Denton’s pumps stopped cold due to no backup power. Much of the town was destroyed – 25 homes, 18 secondary buildings and 6 commercial properties, including four grain elevators.

Since being for-warned is for-armed, Evans approached his council with the realities of living in Townsend: old grain elevators with grain in them and a fertilizer plant, all strategically located near the railroad tracks where a passing train might drop a spark to start a fire. In addition, the 1958 vintage water tower holds

only 200,000 gallons of water – not near enough to cover the growing city in case of a major fire. Residents on streets south of Broadway complained of such low water pressure they could not water their lawns and take a shower at the same time.

By next year, the council was actively floating the idea of taking on a major project. But like remodeling

City Water System, 9

Second Congressional District Candidate to Speak in Townsend

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Farrier and small business owner Sam Lux of Great Falls will speak at the monthly Broadwater Democrats meeting at the Betsy on Wednesday, September 24, at 6:00 pm. The meeting is open to the public.

Lux, 29, will be running in the election primary in 2026 as a Democrat. In his handout, he said he favors expanding affordable housing, supporting agriculture and rural services. If elected, he is in favor of pairing energy independence with stewardship of public lands.

As he begins campaigning, he will prioritize on-the-ground outreach by meeting with rural communities and tribal councils. He will aim to reject corporate PACs, lobbyist influence and big-money donors in favor of campaign events directly benefiting schools, veterans, and underserved communities.



Sam Lux, candidate for 2nd Congressional District race
Photo Provided

Townsend City Council Debates Water Billing Fairness, Sets Fall Fest Solicitor License Rules

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter

At its September 2 meeting, the Townsend City Council tackled a water billing dispute and considered adjustments to solicitor licensing for the upcoming Rotary Fall Fest.

The meeting opened with Council approving minutes from August 19 and quickly moved to a letter from business owner Chase Ragen. Ragen requested that the city ordinance be updated to require a 90-day notification period before any changes to city utility billing, arguing that both residents and businesses need time to adjust to new costs. He also sought forgiveness of \$414.89 from his laundromat’s water bill, citing delays in scheduling plumbing work after the city changed how it billed for water line size.

Mayor Vickie Rauser clarified that water revenues are allocated strictly to the city’s water fund, not a general fund, and emphasized that multiple public notices and hearings preceded the recent water rate increases. “The city is billing our meter customers according to the line size that feeds the premises. This has to be done because that is the city ordinance,” Rauser said.

Council member Doug Sitton voiced support for Ragen, urging compassion for local businesses. “We need to be more supportive of our business community,” Sitton said. However, other council members, including JB Howick and Angie Wintrow, stressed the importance of treating all customers equally and adhering to established ordinances. The council ultimately voted 3-1 to deny Ragen’s request for forgiveness.

Later, the council reviewed a draft resolution to temporarily suspend solicitor license requirements for vendors participating in the Townsend Rotary Fall Fest, scheduled for October 3–5. City attorney Ed Guza advised that the city avoid favoring one business over another but supported the temporary measure. The proposed resolution would allow only Rotary-approved vendors to operate within the event area and restrict other solicitors’ locations during the festival.

The meeting concluded with council members considering minor adjustments to accommodate the popular Fall Fest car show, aiming to balance community events and local business interests.



Gena and Jerimiah Berry Purchase 200 Broadway

Gena and Jerimiah Berry

Local entrepreneurs Gena and Jerimiah Berry, lifelong Montanans, have officially purchased the historic commercial property at 200 Broadway Street, further strengthening their investment in Townsend’s growing community.

The couple, who help operate The Birds Nest, an eclectic vintage and antique shop along Pine Street, plan to continue supporting small businesses by keeping the current tenants and layout in place. The Birds Nest features not only a curated selection of antiques and collectibles but also booth space available for local vendors, providing opportunities for others in the community to showcase and sell their goods. Shoppers will also continue to find a variety of offerings at Highway 12 Marketplace, located at the front of the Broadway building.

For Gena Berry, the purchase is more than just a decision — it’s also a homecoming. She spent time in Townsend during her youth, with family living in the area. She recalls attending school dances here and even participating in the town’s rodeo parade one year.

“We’re excited to carry on the character and charm of the building while keeping things familiar for both our tenants and the community,” said Gena Berry. “The Birds Nest and Hwy 12 Marketplace already bring a lot of foot traffic downtown, and we want to build on that energy.”

The Berrys’ purchase ensures local ownership of one of Broadway Street’s central storefronts, preserving its role as a hub for antiques, collectibles, and small-scale vendors. Building improvements are forthcoming, but the Berrys emphasize that their vision is to strengthen the property while keeping it a welcoming space as Townsend continues to grow.

“This is about stability for local businesses and continuing to create a place where people can gather, shop, and enjoy downtown Townsend,” said Gena Berry.

For Gena and Jerimiah, this purchase represents more than property ownership — it’s a chance to give back to a community that has been part of their story and to help shape its future.

Editor’s Note: Since the writing of this article, Hwy 12 Marketplace has announced their closure for a date yet to be determined. Reference- Hwy 12 Marketplace on Facebook

Volleyball Players' Success at Their First Matches



Varsity teammates take time to enjoy their victory during a match. From left: Harper Wolfgram, Aspen Slyker, Kaitlyn Noyes, Jazel Ragen, Mishayla Lambott, Holly Newman and Bryleigh Erickson.
Marek Easter, BHS Photographer

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter

The Bulldogs took on the Three Forks Wolves on September 4th at home. The day started off with the C squad game. The Bulldogs beat the Wolves in three sets, 25-15, 25-20, and 15-8 (C squad and JV play the third set to 15 points). The Bulldogs Junior Varsity team also won their game, 25-9, 25-12, and 15-7.

Next, the Varsity team played. The Bulldogs won the first set 25-20, the second set 25-19, and the third set 25-20. It was the Bulldogs’ first game and although they didn’t play their best, they still won the match. Kaitlyn Noyes led the Bulldogs in kills with 11, and Holly Newman came in second with 10. As for blocks, Harper Wolfgram led the team with 3, and Aspen Slyker and Kaitlyn Noyes followed with 2 each. Kaitlyn Noyes, Bryleigh Erickson, and Holly Newman each had 2 aces. Bryleigh Erickson led the team with 17 assists, and Holly Newman had 16. As for digs, Emmalin Fischer led the team with 9, and Holly Newman and Bryleigh Erickson followed, each with 8.

The Bulldogs Varsity Volleyball team traveled to Havre on September 5th and 6th. They played Class A schools and finished with a 4-1 record! This was the first time the Bulldogs played in this tournament, and it was a good early-season challenge for them. It benefited them to see new teams and play teams of different levels.

On the first day of the tournament, the Bulldogs played Glendive. They won the first set 25-21, and the second set 25-15. Next, they beat Sidney 25-9, and 25-18. For the Last game of the day, the Bulldogs took on Havre. The bulldogs won the first set 26-24, the second set they lost 23-25. In a close third set, the bulldogs fell short, losing 13-15.

On the second day, the Bulldogs took on Miles City. They lost the first set 18-25, but came back and won the second set 25-17, and the third set 15-12. For the last game of the tournament, the Bulldogs took on Fergus, and won both sets, 25-19 and 25-17.

The next game for the Bulldog Volleyball team will be on September 12th against the Jefferson Panthers at home. The C squad will play at 4 o’clock, the Junior Varsity at 5:30, and the Varsity at 7. The theme will be Hawaiian, so wear your Hawaiian gear and bright colors! After that, on September 13th, the Junior Varsity and C squad teams will travel to Lone Peak to play the Bighorns.



The Bulldogs Harper Wolfgram with a spike during Thursday's match against the Three Forks Wolves
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldogs Kaitlyn Noyes with a spike during Thursday's match against the Three Forks Wolves
Kelly Morris Photography



BHS player Aspen Slyker serves the ball at Townsend Volleyball Tournament September 4.
Marek Easter, BHS Photographer



The Bulldogs Aspen Slyker with a dig during Thursday's match against the Three Forks Wolves
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldogs Holly Newman sets one for Harper Wolfgram during Thursday's match against the Three Forks Wolves
Kelly Morris Photography

Bulldogs Win Against Loyola in Missoula

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter

On Friday, September 5th, the Townsend Bulldogs Football team took on the Missoula-Loyola Rams in Missoula. The 0-1 Rams lost to the Jefferson Panthers last week, and the 1-0 Bulldogs recently beat the Colstrip Colts.

In the first quarter, the Bulldogs scored first when Marek Easter ran in a touchdown, and Logan Johnson kicked an extra point to make the score 7-0. Towards the end of the first quarter, the Rams fumbled the ball, and the Bulldogs recovered heading into the second quarter.

The Bulldogs lost possession in the second quarter, and Loyola scored two touchdowns and one extra point, making the score 7-13. The Bulldogs scored on their last possession of the first half when Logan Johnson kicked a field goal to close out the second quarter with the Bulldogs at 10, and the Rams at 13 at the half.

In the third quarter, Marek Easter ran in a touchdown, making the score 16 to 13 after a missed extra point. Tavyn Anderson threw a long pass to Tannen Tuffelmire, setting the Bulldogs up to score. Bradan Martin ran the ball in for a touchdown, and the Bulldogs lead at the end of the third quarter, 22-13.

The fourth quarter started with a Rams possession, but Bradan Martin had an interception to give the Bulldogs the ball. Tavyn Anderson ran the ball in to make the score 29-13, after Logan Johnson's extra point. Tanner Bird blocked a punt later in the fourth quarter, and the Bulldogs gained possession. After another touchdown run by Tavyn Anderson, and an extra point by Logan Johnson, the Bulldogs finished the game with 36 points. Loyola scored a touchdown late in the fourth quarter, and the Bulldogs blocked their extra point. The Bulldogs ended up winning 36 points to the Rams' 19.

The Bulldogs’ next game will be September 19th against the Big Timber Herders at home. The Bulldogs hope to continue their winning streak for the first conference game of the season.

PLAYERS
of the
WEEK

Football: Marek Easter
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Cheer: Angel Sentinella
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Volleyball: Holly Newman
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Old Baldy Adult Education Program Kicks Off Another Year of Learning and Community Connection

Rachael Brug
Townsend Schools Adult Education & Facilities Coordinator



Townsend, MT—It’s that time again! The Old Baldy Adult Education Program is officially launching its annual lineup, welcoming community members of all backgrounds who are 18 years + to dive into a season of hands-on learning, new skills, and neighborly fun. A selection of classes begins NEXT WEEK, so be sure to sign up soon!

This year’s program features a vibrant mix of classes designed to spark curiosity, foster creativity, and bring people together. Whether you’re looking to pick up a new hobby, meet like-minded folks, or simply try something different, Old Baldy has something for you.

Here’s a sneak peek at some of the offerings:

- **Beginning Guitar Lessons** – Taught by Jesse, a seasoned instructor with Guitars for Veterans. Perfect for anyone who’s ever wanted to strum along to their favorite tunes.
- **Build Your Own Custom Fly Rod** – Craft a one-of-a-kind fly rod and learn the basics of fly tying. You’ll walk away with your own creation—just in time for the holidays.
- **Jumpstart Your Writing: Stories, Speeches & More!** – Anne leads this creative writing course focused on short stories, novels, speeches, and more. Bring your ideas and your favorite notebook!
- **Kitten Care 101: Fostering Feral & Domestic Kittens** – In partnership with the Townsend Cat Assistance Network, learn the basics of fostering and caring for kittens, from bottle feeding to socialization.
- **First-Time Homebuyers Class** – Unlock the mysteries of homeownership with an approachable, info-packed class for those looking to buy their first home.
- **Beginning Taxidermy** – Curious about the art of preservation? Learn the basics—and maybe even craft your own legendary jackalope!
- **Welding & Wood Workshop** – Bring your own project or learn the fundamentals in this flexible workshop. Costs are based on supplies used.
- **Beginning Mahjong** – Learn the classic game with experienced instructors in a fun, social setting.
- **Conversational Spanish with Daniela** – Practice real-life Spanish skills in a friendly, supportive environment.
- **Intro to Jewelry Making: Resin, Clay & More!** – Get creative with a variety of materials and techniques to craft unique, wearable art.

And that’s just the beginning—more classes will be announced as the season unfolds!

Calling All Instructors!

Do you have a skill, craft, or passion you’d love to share? Old Baldy is always looking to add new instructors and fresh ideas to the schedule. If you’re interested in teaching a course, please email Rachael at rbrug@townsend.k12.mt.us.

How to Register:

Class schedules, detailed descriptions, and registration information can be found on the Townsend Schools website under the Old Baldy Adult Education section. Registration links will also be posted on the Old Baldy Adult Education 2025 Facebook page.

Ready to sign up? Register online at <https://forms.gle/N5Mf5kdxcp12Lhtv5>.

Don’t miss your chance to learn something new, make new friends, and be part of what makes Townsend such a vibrant community. See you in class!



NorthWestern[®] Energy

Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page



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

Broadwater Community Theater Hosts Rock Band

MT43 News Staff Reporter

The Stand-Ins, a Helena rock and roll band, will perform Friday, September 19, in the second annual street dance hosted by Broadwater Community Theater. The 60’s, 70’s, and 80’s rock and roll on a fall evening should hit the spot for dance goers in the area. The group arranged to close South Spruce Street in front of The Lodge at 131 S. Spruce.

THE BROADWATER COMMUNITY THEATER

PRESENTS

FREE STREET DANCE

THE STAND-INS

LIVE MUSIC



featured Rock & Roll band

IN THE STREET

NEXT TO THE LODGE, @ 131 S. SPRUCE ST.

Sept. 19th 6:00-9:00

There will be a food truck and great music!!

Sponsored by: Jan Hubber, Jak's Heating and Air, STOKE, Judy Schenk, Ron and Mary Ann Salladay, Jeanne Mainwaring, Bob Saxby, Bill Kearns Estate, Rotary, Retired Teachers, Brian and Laura Obert, Nancy Marks, Lions Club, Opportunity Bank, Chuck McLane.

Post 42 American Legionnaires will provide the food and drink for the evening. Entry for the event is free. The Legion food truck will offer hamburgers, hot dogs, and both alcoholic and soft drinks for the dancing crowd. Food and drink will be at your expense.

Broadwater Community Theater and its former nonprofit, Fun For Life, have been in operation since 1996, offering workshops, children’s productions and scholarships for children in theater, music and art. The

group has recently hosted adult dance bands and lessons, which are open to the public. The group helps sponsor Shakespeare in the Parks annually and promotes all fine arts events. Recently, it awarded a grant to Broadwater High School to upgrade its sound system in the stage gym.

Sponsors who believe in the arts are Jak’s Heating and Air, East Helena, Judy Schenk, Jan Hubber, Bill Kearns, Pat Plantenberg and Mary Mistek, Ron and Mary Ann Salladay, John Hahn, Jeanne Mainwaring, Bob Saxy, Retired Teachers Club, Nancy Marks, Brian and Laura Obert, Chuck McLane, Townsend Rotary, Opportunity Bank and the Lions Club.

Red Ants Pants Foundation Announces Fall 2025 Programs

Kathy Weber
Communications/Public Relations

(White Sulphur Springs, MT) – The Red Ants Pants Foundation is encouraging Montana girls in their junior year of high school to apply for its FREE Girls Leadership Program (<https://www.redantspantsfoundation.org/girls-leadership>).

Now entering its eighth season, the program inspires confidence, strengthens voices, and builds connections for young women in rural Montana. Each cohort of eight girls, eight women mentors, and professional facilitators gather for multiple interactive retreats over a seven-month period. Each retreat features engaging activities, meaningful conversation, and personal reflection. The program is offered at no cost to participants (travel not included, scholarships available).

The application deadline is fast approaching, September 10, 2025. Participants must be Montana residents, inclusive of the sovereign tribal nations within Montana.

The Red Ants Pants Foundation also announced a full slate of fall programs from hands-on chainsaw safety courses to leadership development and community skill-building – all courses are designed to empower, connect, and inspire.

Upcoming Fall 2025 Programs include:

Chainsaw 101 | September 11-14
<https://www.redantspantsfoundation.org/chainsaw>

Chainsaw 101 is a beginner-friendly, deep-dive course designed to teach the safe use, operation, and maintenance of a chainsaw. Whether you are brand new or looking to build confidence, this course offers hours of hands-on learning to help you become a proficient and safe sawyer. You'll learn to buck, limb, and perform precision cuts, along with essential saw maintenance, all under the guidance of our experienced, all-woman instructor team.

The course fee includes catered meals, free onsite camping, and opportunities to connect with an awesome group of women from a variety of backgrounds.

Carpentry 101 | September 18-21
(Currently full, wait list open)

<https://www.redantspantsfoundation.org/carpentry>

Our Carpentry 101 course is designed for beginners to learn the safety, maintenance, and practical applications of essential hand and power tools used for general carpentry and basic woodworking. Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to demonstrate competency in safety and basic use of the tools required to build their own folding camp chair during the course.

Chainsaw Refresher | October 4-5
<https://www.redantspantsfoundation.org/chainsaw>

Designed for beginners to intermediate-level sawyers, this short, meaningful weekend combines learning and service. Our Chainsaw Refresher & Firewood Service Project is the perfect opportunity to put your chainsaw skills into action while giving back to the community. This hands-on course focuses on building confidence and competence in safe and efficient bucking, limbing, and precision cutting—all in service of gathering firewood for local community members. No prior chainsaw experience is required, and previous course participation is not necessary.

Women in Ag Communities Well-being Fall Retreat | November 12-14

https://www.redantspantsfoundation.org/well-being-retreats?mc_cid=a9c80336fe&mc_eid=d676b3b462

This retreat gathers women from rural and agricultural communities across Montana to reset, connect, and recharge. Step away from daily demands and into a community that understands the challenges of rural life while celebrating resilience and hard work. Join us November 12-14 to share stories, laughter, and support with others navigating similar paths. Thanks to the Amy Coseo Memorial Scholarship, established by the Red Ants Pants Foundation in honor of our dear friend, we are able to underwrite participant expenses should that be a barrier to participation.

Contact us to learn more: info@redantspantsfoundation.org.

For Many Montanans, Fall is a Time of Preparation

Rob Lawler
DPHHS Office of Faith and Community-Based Services

As the first hints of chill settle over the plains and mountains, Fall in Montana arrives not with fanfare, but with a quiet, sacred turning. The aspen leaves catch fire in gold, the skies deepen to a richer blue, and the fields lie still after harvest. In this season, we are reminded that change—though sometimes bittersweet—is both natural and necessary. Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us, “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.” Fall invites us to pause and reflect on what must be focused on and how we will handle harsh environment and darker days. Some struggle with higher

instances of mental health challenges, particularly with Seasonal Affective Disorder due to decreased sunlight.

For many Montanans, Fall is a time of preparation. Rural communities gather in firewood, winterize our boats and RV's, and tighten the bonds of neighborly care before the snow flies. In this, we see a reflection of faith at work—hope made tangible in the rhythm of daily life. Churches and community centers open their doors wider, knowing that as the days grow shorter, the need for connection and compassion grows deeper. In this season of transition, may we be attentive to the quiet needs around us, and may our faith lead us to offer warmth, welcome, and wisdom to those walking alongside us.

Townsend School Calendar

SEPTEMBER

Friday 12

- NO SCHOOL
- 4:00 pm: High School Volleyball vs Jefferson

Saturday 13

- 5:00 pm: High School Volleyball @ Lone Peak
- 9:00 am: Middle School Volleyball @ Belgrade Tourney

Monday 15

- 4:00 pm: Middle School Football vs Livingston
- 4:00 pm: Middle School Volleyball vs Three Forks

Tuesday 16

- 4:00 pm: High School Volleyball at Whitehall
- 4:00 pm: Middle School Cross Country at Montana City
- 5:30 pm: Old Baldy - Mahjong Class at Reading Leaves Books, 401 Broadway

Wednesday 17

- 6:00 pm: Old Baldy - Photography: Unlocking Your Old Camera in the Library Classroom
- 7:00 pm: Old Baldy - Open Gyms (Pickleball, Basket ball and Lap Walking)

Thursday 18

- 4:00 pm: High School Volleyball @ Ennis
- 5:30 pm: Old Baldy - Mahjong at Reading Leaves Books, 401 Broadway

Friday 19

- NO SCHOOL
- 7:00 pm: High School Football vs Big Timber
- 6:00 pm: Old Baldy - Intro to Jewelry Making- in the FCCLA Classroom

Saturday 20

- High School Volleyball at Huntley Tournament
- Middle School/High School Cross Country Best of the West at Missoula
- 9:00 am: Middle School Volleyball at Manhattan Christian



East Helena Schools' Calendar

SEPTEMBER

Friday 12

- 7:00 pm: Varsity Football at Columbia Falls

Saturday 13

- 4:00 pm: Cross Country at Bozeman

Monday 15

- 10:00 am: Junior Varsity Golf at Park

Tuesday 16

- 9:00 am: Varsity Golf at Fox Ridge
- 4:00 pm: Girls Soccer at Lone Pine
- 6:00 pm: Boys Soccer at Lone Pine

Wednesday 17

- 4:00 pm: Flag Football at Kalispell

Thursday 18

- 11:00 am: Varsity Golf at Billings Central

Friday 19

- 10:00 am: Varsity Golf at Laurel
- 7:00 pm: Varsity Football at Lockwood

Saturday 20

- 9:30 am: Cross Country at Mountain West
- 1:00 pm: All Volleyball at Lockwood

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Friday 12

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

Saturday 13

- Three Forks Public Library - Closed

Tuesday 16

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

Wednesday 17

- 5:30 pm: Bozeman Music Night with Jody and the Woodflowers at Bridger Brewing, Three Forks

Thursday 18

- 7:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with Release the Squirrels - No Cover! at Bridger Brewing, Three Forks

Friday 19

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

Saturday 20

- Three Forks Public Library - Closed

WANT TO SPONSOR A CAUSE TO RAISE AWARENESS?

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

ONLY \$50!

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

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

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson
Branch Manager


HOURS:

Monday - Wednesday:
10 am- 6:00 pm.

Thursday and Friday:
10 am- 5:00 pm

Saturdays: 10 am-1:00 pm

Sundays: Closed



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

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 17

- 10:30 am: Storytime

Thursday 18

- 10:30 am: Storytime

Wednesday 24

- 10:30 am: FREE Children's Movie with Popcorn and Drinks at the Community Room

Friday 26

- 3:00 pm: Adult Reading Circle Book Discussion

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

Circle 100: Bringing Joy to Long-Term Care Residents

Sharon Potenza
Circle 100 Club

On a recent summer afternoon, residents of Billings Clinic Broadwater Long-Term Care facility laughed and clapped when they made their way to the beautiful new wooden gazebo that now sits just outside their back door.

The Circle 100 Club, part of the Broadwater Health Foundation, received an anonymous donation that specified the construction of an outdoor seating area. When you park behind the courthouse, you will smile when you see this inviting space.


There are two gazebos covering a wheelchair accessible patio, a large dining table with chairs, and a sofa with 2 chairs surrounded by colorful pots of flowering plants. Thanks to the generous donor, the patio space has turned out to be one of the Circle 100 Club’s best projects. Another project this year was to spruce up the residents’ indoor patio. Come and see all the improvements that we have made in our health facility!

The new gazebos allow long-term care residents to enjoy a change of scenery in a classy and comfortable outdoor space. Photo Provided by Circle 100 Club

In 2024, we bought the big, beautiful shuttle bus that you saw in the Rodeo Parade. It has a wheelchair lift and transports residents to out-of-town medical appointments as well as scenic drives around our beautiful valley and the Rotary Club’s Christmas Light tour. The Circle 100 Club has provided financial support to our hospital since 2012. Through those years, we have raised over \$100,000 to support needs that are determined by the clinic staff. This includes a ventilator, bladder scanner, bath lift and scales and automatic handicap doors. In 2012, we raised \$17,415 as part of the community effort to save our rural hospital.

The residents benefit from the kindness of our Broadwater County family and beyond. We are grateful for your help in keeping that spirit alive!

CIRCLE 100 invites the community to join us in making life brighter for our hospital residents by contributing to this year's fund.



An annual tax-deductible donation of \$100 ensures that this special tradition continues.

Donations may be sent to:
The Circle 100 Club, Box 1215, Townsend, MT 59644.

For more information: gillespiej4@msn.com

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.
Next meeting: September 17th, 7:00PM
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

FREE THURSDAY DINNERS!

Every Thursday, 4:30 - 6:30PM
American Legion Post 42,
211 Broadway, 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? MENU? VOLUNTEER?

STOP BY OR CALL AFTER 3PM (406) 266-3611

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

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

RENTAL RENTAL in Townsend

3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, house with garage and fenced yard.
Rent \$1575, including city services.
Contact Marcia 406-980-1524



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!

American Legion Hall 211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611 Dining Hours: Tuesday Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM SPECIAL Event with Food: Thursdays 4:30PM FREE Community Dinner Bar hours may vary	Bunkhouse Bar & Grill 8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 SPECIAL: N/A Dining Hours: 10:00AM – Close Grill off at 10:00PM	Commercial Bar 101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook	Fishtale Tavern 209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 11:00PM Daily Specials: Facebook Bar hours may vary	Mint Cafe 305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867 Dining Hours: Mon - Wed 8:00AM - 2:00 PM, Thur - Fri 8:00AM - 8:00PM Sat - Sun 7:00AM - 8:00PM SPECIAL: N/A	Peking China 10 N Main St, Three Forks (406) 285-3225 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 11:30AM - 8:30PM Menu: Google
The Betsy Sports Zone 217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close Closed Monday Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com	Canyon Ferry Brewing & Taproom 300 Broadway, Townsend (406) 694-5687 Hours: Wed - Fri. 4:00PM - Close Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close	Copy Cup 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	Full Belli Deli 209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 8:00AM - 7:00PM OPEN 4th of JULY	Mountie Moose Bakery 109 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-5800 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM - 4:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Online Ordering: Mountie-moose-bakery.square.site	Rocky Mountain Supply Deli 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
Bread and Butter Cafe 205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Fri 7:00AM- 2:00PM Sat 7:00AM- 12:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Menu available on Facebook	C Hangin” C Mercantile & Creamery 310 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-9087 Dining Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30AM - 7:00PM Sat 8:00AM - 7:00PM Sun 9:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: Facebook changinmerc.square.site	Deep Creek Pizza Co. 415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Closed Sunday Menu: deepcreekpizzaco.com Accepting Orders Online	Kick Start Nutrition 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	The Nook Coffeehouse 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	TB’s Diner 316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Mon- Sat 7:00AM - 8:00PM Sunday 7:00AM - 7:00PM Specials: Facebook

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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!

BSE EXCAVATING
7200 HWY 287, TOWNSEND, MT

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

Contact MT43 News to list your business NOW!
Monday - Friday 10:00AM - 2:00PM
408 Broadway / 406.266.0086

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 \$5 SOON?
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!

MARK LEYLAND
406-438-7315
LEYLANDMT.COM

MADISON RIVER
PROpane
A THOMPSONGAS COMPANY
7812 US-287 Townsend, MT
406-266-4278
Metered Propane
Budget Billing
Lease Tanks
Service Department

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

MONTANA HYDRAULICS LLC
Fabrication & Welding
• 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

"If Joey can't come out to play, what about his _____?"

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!

Servant
CAKELY

Area
PACES

Trudge
RUMBLE

Dirty
DROIDS

TODAY'S WORD

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: K equals B

NCYPY VAAQWYP NCLN FAZ
SZFP KLQYG LTY NAA CLTG
LIG VTZDKOF. PATTF, W'D
KYWIS KTWNNOF CAIYPN.

©2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

KNIGHT MOVES

S	I	R
O		G
N	T	K

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

Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 It's on either side of a weather front
8 Like some pain-causing toenails
15 Award for "Nomadland"
20 Decay of a plant's stalk
21 Suave, glib sort
22 1/24 of a day, in French
23 Astronauts' advisory group?
25 Blows gently
26 NHL great Bobby
27 Dot in la mer
28 Candied nut given to a kid to quell a tantrum?
30 Advice for Fonda when she has a grievance?
35 Finds a new purpose for Saudi export
37 Adele's vocal range
38 Without remuneration
41 Big cheese
44 RBI, e.g.
45 "Lily White" novelist Susan

DOWN
46 Colo.-to-Ga. direction
49 Present, as the whole group
51 Small car manufactured in Poland's capital?
54 Optimal nutrient amt.
55 In — of (replacing)
57 Suffix with hero or opal
58 Common brown rodent
59 Give praise to sellers of stolen goods?
63 Regarding
64 Like the horse favored to win
65 Units of gold purity
70 Zest or Dial
73 Fighting between Dracula and Lestat?
80 Puts into operation
85 Partner of neither
86 Land of Lima and llamas
87 "So that's it!"
88 Halt hubbub?
91 Is scornful of
93 Pork product

ACROSS
94 Ocean trip
95 Oolong and Darjeeling
97 List details
98 Isn't truthful with
99 Orch. section for timpani, triangles, etc.
100 Jet to JFK, once
101 Tater Tots maker
104 Give solace to actor Mike?
109 Win the contest?
113 — Grande
114 Meadow of stolen goods?
115 From Havana, e.g.
116 Noting the differences between cutting utensils?
121 Nuclear trial, in brief
122 Respectful tributes
123 Hint-giving columnist
124 Old Persians
125 Unity
126 Plaits of hair

DOWN
1 Part of YMCA: Abbr.
2 Computer support whiz
3 Supply with new weapons
4 2,100, to Caesar
5 "— you in?"
6 Communal
7 Vodka brand, familiarly
8 Suffix with 6-Down
9 Abbr. for those with only one given name
10 "Gee, I would never do that!"
11 Perez of film
12 Elevator company
13 "— asking?"
14 Big Apple mail abbr.
15 "I do so suffer!"
16 Slimy shore deposit in some spa treatments
17 Sleeve ends
18 Bandleader Shaw
19 Takes it easy
24 — Work ("Down Under" band)
29 Industrial city in southern Poland
31 Pal of Tigger
32 Maligned in print
33 "The Hunger Games" star, in tabloids
34 Acquire
38 D.C.'s land
39 Rustic denials
40 Tempo
41 DEA agent
42 "Battle Cry" actor — Ray
43 "Kapow!"
44 Watermelon waste
45 "So that's it"
46 Work to get
47 Mark for life
48 Suffix with kitchen
50 Watermelon waste
52 Big GOP get-together
53 It splits light
56 Aliens' ship
60 Clean a spill on the floor
61 Ltr. enclosure
62 Slalom, say
66 Jean of Dada
67 Bog grasses
68 Lot division
69 Vacation travel, often
70 Window part
71 Twice tetra-
72 Quark locale
74 Price to play
75 "Li'l ol' me?"
76 For the time being
77 Portend
78 "Excuse me"
79 Fling
81 Mishaps
82 Ripped into
83 Tall birds
84 "The Power of the Dog" co-star Kodi — McPhee
89 Spanish for "bear"
90 Spongy ball
92 Teeny-tiny
96 Oak nut
98 Enzyme in fat breakdown
99 Thick soup
100 Dracula creator Bram
101 Philosopher with a "razor"
102 Way to travel
103 Plant firmly
104 Channel that televises hearings
105 Correct
106 "Blue Suede Shoes" singer
107 Della of song
108 RSVP card encls.
110 Say again
111 Great benefit
112 Single-named plus-size model
117 Apt., e.g.
118 Mag. edition
119 Mets' div.
120 Platform for iDevices

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

Kids' Maze

©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

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


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.

LEGAL NOTICES

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



MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

In re the Name Change of Arianya Rains Ross, JOHN RAINS and LORI RAINS, Petitioners, on behalf of ARIANYA RAIN ROSS. CAUSE NO. DV-4-2025-43 NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE OF MINOR CHILD NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioners John and Lori Rains have asked the District Court to change a child’s name from Arianya Rain Ross to Arianya Rain Rains. The hearing will be on October 3, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. The hearing will be in Broadwater County. DATED this 7th day of August 2025. JACKSON, MURDO & GRANT, P.C. /s/ Erin M. Lyndes, Attorneys for Petitioners Published August 22, 29, September 5 & 12, 2025 MNAXLP

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson

Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

Pratap Singh - Lawrence, NJ - day speed \$120.00 Dave Pope - Golden Valley, MN - day speed \$20.00 Justin Osborne - Three Forks - day speed \$20.00 Gilro Han - Great Falls - night speed \$120.00 Bradley Gervais - Three Forks - day speed \$20.00 Taylor Callisto - Belgrade - day speed \$20.00 JuanPaulo Blanco - Innisfail, AB - day speed \$20.00

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Alexander New – Lewistown – operating without liability insurance in effect-1st offense, plead guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees; night speed, plead guilty, \$120.00 fine; driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked-1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all time suspended on conditions, \$525.00 fines and fees. Edith Samuelson - Butte - fail to carry proof or exhibit insurance in vehicle – owner or operator-1st offense, plead guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees; seatbelt violation, plead guilty, \$20.00 fine. Abreham Abera – Aurora, CO – careless driving, plead no contest, \$55.00 fines and fees.

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Esperanza Stickler – Helena – Operating without liability insurance in effect-1st offense, plead guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees.

BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

Nagendra Verma - Brownsburg, IN - day speed \$70.00 Carol Templeman - Billings - day speed \$20.00 Tyler Smith - Winston - day speed \$20.00 Jonathan Cloonan - Butte - night speed \$20.00 Christopher Betchie - Helena - day speed \$20.00

Email Reveals Division Among Education Advocates Over Pitching a School Funding Sales Tax

Zeke Lloyd

Montana Free Press

This article was originally published by the Montana Free Press. It is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press. https://montanafreepress.org/2025/09/04/email-reveals-division-among-education-advocates-over-pitching-a-school-funding-sales-tax/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newspack%20Newsletter%20%28251924%29&utm_source=2

Proposal would replace some property taxes, but has collided with sales tax skepticism.

An education coalition that had planned to pitch a statewide sales tax to a committee studying the state’s school funding system reversed course before presenting the idea at a formal meeting after fielding resistance from other education advocates.

Doug Reisig, the executive director of the Montana Quality Education Coalition, emailed members of his organization Aug. 26 to tell them his group planned to endorse a statewide sales tax in order to eliminate many

Email Reveals Division, 11

Broadwater Rod and Gun Club Update

John Pavao

BRGC Communications and Public Relations Officer

Whether you’re a veteran shooter or new to the shooting sports, the Broadwater Rod and Gun Club (BRGC) offers a range and shooting program for you. BRGC offers members access to two shooting facilities in Townsend.

The Canton Range, located at 96 Canton Lane, offers four trap houses, a shotgun patterning area, and a clubhouse. The club offers trap shooting most Sunday afternoons during the warmer months.

In addition to trap shooting, the climate-controlled indoor Canton Range facility offers a classroom area with 10 comfortable shooting stations up to 50 feet. The range is open to .22 rifle and most pistols on a scheduled basis, and BRGC hosts a wide range of shooting classes throughout the year. The Canton Range is not available for .44 magnum pistols or larger, but shooters are welcome to shoot these larger calibers at the Indian Creek Range.

The Indian Creek outdoor range, located at 330 Indian Creek Road, offers shooting opportunities from 100 to 2000 yards with numerous long-range shooting events scheduled throughout the year. In addition to its rifle ranges, the Indian Creek Range offers sporting clays, pistol bays, and the Black Ram Archery Range.

The Black Ram Archery Range, located just below the Indian Creek Range, is one of Montana’s best outdoor archery ranges. The range consists of updated targets at various ranges along the trail, an outdoor practice area, and a 3D range for scheduled events throughout the year. As you enter the Indian Creek Range, the turn for the Black Ram archery ranges is just before the Quonset hut.

A BRGC membership runs from September 1st to August 31st of each year. An annual membership costs \$75. A lifetime membership costs \$500. Membership forms are available at Rocky Mountain Supply in Townsend and Capital Sports and Sportsman’s Warehouse in Helena.

A BRGC membership allows you, your spouse, and your children of your immediate household to access all BRGC facilities and events. The annual membership does not include adult children or non-immediate family members. You will receive a membership card and key to the padlock at the Indian Creek facility immediately upon completing a membership form. Once a member, you may access club facilities at any time that the facility is open.

Active members may bring a guest along to shoot with them, and the cost is \$5 per visit. Guests are required to fill out an envelope and place \$5 in the guest box in the covered station.

BRGC experienced a record membership during the 2024-2025 membership year, with 556 annual memberships and 75 life-time memberships, as compared to 474 and 52, respectively, in the 2023-2024 membership year. Shooters from Broadwater County, surrounding counties, and outside of Montana spend thousands of hours enjoying all BRGC has to offer.

It goes without saying, safety is our #1 priority at BRGC. All shooters must abide by the range rules and safety procedures outlined in the BRGC Standard Operating Procedures(SOP). You can find the SOP by scrolling down on the BRGC website at www.broadwaterrodandgun.com/. The Indian Creek Range may be closed for maintenance and other activities on occasion. Please check the website and club calendar at <https://www.broadwaterrodandgun.com/calendar> for up-to-date information on closures and events.


You can contact BRGC at <https://www.broadwaterrodandgun.com/contact> or by text or email at (406) 209-8651 for more information.

We hope to see you at the range! Until then, stay safe, and stay On Target.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Tree trunk is wider. 2. Sun is smaller. 3. Walking stick is shorter. 4. Cap design is different. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Cloud is not as large.

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

QUEST EDITORIAL

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

Building the Montana We Want to Live in

Finding an affordable home is becoming harder every day. We can all feel it, either firsthand or by watching our friends, children, or elderly neighbors get priced out of the communities they love.

At Helena Area Habitat for Humanity, our mission is to partner with families to build homes they can afford. Since 1992, we’ve built 90 homes—each one representing a family that achieved the dream of homeownership through hard work, sweat equity, and community support.

We are proud of those successes. In 2021, we set a goal to build 30 homes each year by 2030. But with so many Montanans unable to afford housing, we must do more.

This is where Rose Hills comes in. Helena Area Habitat intends to use 250 acres in East Helena and work with partners to construct 1,500 homes, with at least 350 permanently affordable.

We know this sounds ambitious, and it is. But Rose Hills is not an out-of-state developer building luxury homes out of reach for everyday Montanans. This is your local Habitat working with local builders.

Rose Hills is designed for individuals and families at every stage of life, with cottages, townhomes, small homes, apartments, and larger family homes. With 46 acres of parks, trails, green space, a town center, and community amenities, it will be a place where people can connect. By providing homes within reach for working families, young professionals, retirees, and first-time homebuyers, Rose Hills is about more than houses. It’s about creating a community where kids can play, neighbors look out for each other, and homeownership feels attainable again.

For too long, Montana’s land and labor have been taken for granted by people who don’t care about this place. Growth is happening fast, and it often feels like the Montana we know is slipping away.

Habitat can’t undo what’s already happened, but we can do our part to build a future where working people can find and keep a home. Rose Hills is our chance to do just that—but we can’t do it alone.

Over the past two years, Habitat has hosted trolley tours to give the community an overview of Rose Hills. Earlier this year, we began holding listening sessions in East Helena—more in-depth conversations where neighbors can ask questions, share concerns, and voice their opinions. This fall, those sessions continue at Missouri River Brewing Company on October 23, Hometown Helena on September 25, and Brothers Tapworks on October 6.

We recognize that Rose Hills is an ambitious project that will significantly shape East Helena and our broader community. The neighborhood will occupy a portion of more than 2,000 acres once blighted by the American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO), land that has already brought new schools, housing, and businesses to East Helena. The redevelopment south of Highway 12—including Rose Hills and Prickly Pear Estates—is underway. Looking ahead, nearly 6,000 additional homes, along with new parks, schools, and businesses, are planned.

The scale of this growth makes community input essential. That’s why we invite you to join a listening session, attend a presentation, or reach out to us directly. Our goal is to ensure this transformation is guided by community voices and creates a neighborhood that truly feels like Montana.


We care about the families who make this community vibrant but can no longer afford to live here. We have a choice: sit on our hands and hope Montana goes back to the way it was, or put them to work building a Montana where everyone has a place to call home.

We choose to get to work.

Jacob Kuntz

Executive Director- Helena Area Habitat for Humanity

Editor's Note: Near East Helena on Highway 282, the Rose Hills Development is approximately four miles from Montana City.



Ailanthus altissima, known as Chinese sumac or tree-of-heaven, is native to China. In the late 1700s, it was brought to the U.S. as an attractive, fast-growing ornamental tree. Since then it has spread throughout much of North America, filling fields and forests with its dense thickets, destroying habitats and crowding agricultural fields and roadsides. It can regrow even when most of the plant is thought to be removed, and it is tolerant of poor soil and drought. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: www.invasive.org, www.nature.org

© 2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

What’s Up, Parks and Rec Board?

Jen Dalrymple
Parks and Rec Board

Well, to begin with, we have been strategizing on processes necessary to help interested groups to implement additional portions of the Broadwater County, County Parks and Recreation Plan 2023. This extensive long-term plan was developed to provide the Parks and Recreation Board, the County Commissioners and residents with a clear vision about how we, as a County with diverse communities and interests, can improve, maintain and manage recreation facilities for the next 20 years.

Though the plan initially set out a prioritized list of facility projects, as identified by input from public surveys and hearings, it is a living document in that implementation of those projects has been accomplished as grant and donor funding for specific areas becomes available and new opportunities present themselves for development.

Take, for example, priorities number three (Fairgrounds Project) and 9 (Silos Project) that are on our Parks and Rec Plan list. They are both extensive areas with multiple proposed improvement projects within those areas. Both required separate Master Plans specific to those improvements to ensure overall development is properly planned, coordinated and implemented in a consistent manner. Once the Master Plans are approved by the Commissioners, the interested entities can begin to solicit for volunteers, donors and other grants to implement their independent projects within their Master Plans. There have been many successful projects completed under the Master Plans at both of these areas. The goal of the Master Plan, a pseudo sub-document to the County Parks and Rec Plan, is to outline the specific project concept and site plan; structure placements, funding sustainability, operations and maintenance, security, topographic concerns, utility requirements, etc.

We, as a County Board, just completed coordination on our contract for the Commissioner-approved Parks and Open Space Master Plan for two specific County properties at Centerville/Mill Roads (10 acres) and Canton Lane/Delger Road (94 acres). This Master Plan, like the Fairgrounds and Silos Master Plans, lays out desired concepts and site designs for the two properties. Now, entities interested in developing specific projects within these two properties have the concepts and plans, with extensive public input and approval by the Commissioners, to begin the road to development.

Depending on the scope of the project identified on the Parks and Rec Plan list, it may or may not require a separate Master Plan, like the Fairgrounds and Silos, but merely a checklist for project development and the approved County land necessary to accommodate the project. Let’s take a look at the dog park project for example.

The dog park project is listed on the County Parks and Rec Plan but without a specific location identified. Now that it’s within the Parks and Open Space Master Plan for the Centerville acreage, it will still need some of the same elements of a Master Plan before actual construction can begin; individual/group project coordinator, type of construction, placement within Centerville acreage, funding sustainability and other considerations. We are in the process of developing that checklist to ensure that whoever coordinates and builds the project has incorporated all the elements required by the County Commissioners to protect the County’s public land and the investment.

If you are interested in reviewing any of the documents mentioned in this article, please visit the County’s website https://broadwatercountymt.gov/boards_committees/advisory_boards/parks_recreation_board/index.php.

If you wish to embark on specific project development within the newly approved Parks and Open Space Master Plan, please contact the Parks and Rec Board for further information through the County Planner Nichole Brown.

Americanisms



“Sometimes you have to explore the darkness to get to the light and get back to who you are.”
— Jennifer Lopez



Sheriff's Office Update

Nick Rauser
Broadwater County Sheriff



To Our Community,
I want to take a moment to keep you informed about what the Sheriff’s Office has been working on.



The failure of the mill levy was a tough setback — there’s no denying that. Like many of you, I felt frustration and disappointment. Still, we're focused on adapting to this new reality and doing everything we can to responsibly manage the resources we have to best serve the people of our county.

One of our current efforts is working to increase the jail population as a way to help recover some of the revenue lost. We're in the process of remodeling the jail to add more bed space, and that project should be completed soon.

Unfortunately, we haven’t yet reached the numbers we need to meet our financial goals, but please know we are doing everything within our power to make this work through the end of the year. Our team remains committed to finding thoughtful, effective solutions that support both the jail and the wider needs of the county.

In the meantime, we continue to provide essential law enforcement services. Deputies are actively responding to calls, working cases, and staying engaged in the community. Despite the challenges, we remain committed to serving every resident to the best of our ability.

I encourage anyone with questions, concerns, or ideas to get involved in the county’s budget process — your voice truly matters. And if you’d ever like to have a conversation, I’m always open to hearing from you.

As the school year begins, our deputies will once again be patrolling school zones, and I’ll be present during morning drop-offs and as often as possible throughout the week. We’re also actively working on solutions for the School Resource Officer (SRO) position and hope to have an update soon.

If you ever need assistance — whether you're calling for help or reporting a crime — know that we will be there. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Nick Rauser

Sept 3, Broadwater County Commissioner's Meeting

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter



Broadwater County Approves Budget, Tackles Solid Waste Recovery

At the September 3 Broadwater County Commission meeting, commissioners approved two key budget resolutions for the upcoming fiscal year and discussed ongoing efforts to recover unpaid solid waste assessments. The meeting, held in Townsend and streamed live, drew attention to changes in property tax calculations, county finances, and community participation in local governance.

Budget Resolutions Address State Law Changes

Finance Officer Debbie Kelly presented two resolutions to revise the county’s fiscal year 2025–2026 budget. The first resolution adjusts the calculation of voted mill levies in accordance with new state legislation (Senate Bill 542 and House Bill 231). Instead of fixed mill rates, levies for the rural fire district and noxious weed district will now be based on dollar amounts and subject to inflation. “It keeps it more with what you need with the revenue than just a set mills,” Kelly explained.

The second resolution formally adopts the final operating budget and sets appropriation authority for the coming year, including property tax rates for various county funds and districts.

Commissioners emphasized that only about 25% of the county budget comes from property taxes, with the remainder funded through grants and fees.

Solid Waste Recovery Efforts Continue

Public Works Director TJ Gravely reported that 59% of the outstanding balance from the 2022–2023 solid waste assessments has been recovered, but \$103,000 remains unpaid. The commission agreed to send one final letter to remaining account holders, encouraging payment and offering payment plans. “The majority of people have done the right thing and paid,” said one commissioner, noting the importance of fairness to all residents.

Community Engagement and Transparency

Commissioners highlighted the value of public input and regular meetings with department heads for improving budget processes. Citizens were encouraged to engage with local government, review their tax bills, and attend future meetings, including the upcoming Solid Waste Board session on September 9.

The meeting concluded with approval of claims and a reminder about the importance of community participation in county affairs.

Broadwater Commissioners Agenda

Broadwater Commissioners



515 Broadway, Townsend
Meetings are held at the Flynn Building on 416 Broadway St.

Current and previously recorded meetings, official agenda, and minutes may be viewed on the website at <https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov>.

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, the agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting. Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Mail and items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded.

OFFICIAL agendas are posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in the Courthouse (1st-floor bulletin board), on our website at www.broadwater-countymt.gov, in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

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

1:00 PM Working meeting and discussion with the Commissioners and Sheriff's office, Flynn Building, regarding mill levy and budget

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

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

10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, TJ Gravely, Public Works Director, continuing collection for the 2022/2023 Equity Recovery Program (ERP)

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Fairview Minor Subdivision, request final plat approval; S12, T8N, R2E

10:10 AM Discussion, Establish process for DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) letters of approval for ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units) within subdivisions

1:00 PM Commission working meeting, Flynn Building, discussion with Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

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

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

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – on-going advisory board appointments, by-laws approval, interlocal agreements and non-financial contract renewals
- Claims/Payroll/minutes
- County Audit / Budget
- Mail – ongoing grants
- Correspondence – support letters
- Task Orders

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

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

Lindsey Richtmyer, Chair
(406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834
lrictmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov

E-mail: commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov
Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)

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

- Board of Health Meeting on September 15th at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on September 15th at 6:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on September 17th at 6:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on October 9th at 5:15 PM

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





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
(406) 241-0042
Saturday: 9:30 Service | 10:30am Sabbath School
Tuesday: 6:30pm 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
*
Interdenominational Women’s Bible Study
101 E St (across from Post Office)- The Bridge building
Call or Text (541) 480-4994
Thursday: 10:00am Bible Study
Learn more @ bsfinternational.org



SR. CENTER MEALS:
SEPTEMBER 15 - 19

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

Monday, September 15
Carol’s Meat Loaf
Mashed Potatoes
with Gravy
California Vegetables
Whole Grain Bread
Plump Peaches

Tuesday, September 16

Birthday Dinner
BBQ Chicken Breast
Wild Rice
Steamed Carrots
Blushing Pears

Birthday Cake

Wednesday, September 17
Beef Tacos
Cheese and Sour Cream
Lettuce and Tomato
Mexican Corn and Beans
Zesty Pineapple

Thursday, September 18
Pork Chops
Steamed Potatoes
Green Beans
Whole Grain Bread
Baked Apples

Friday, September 19
Deli Sandwich
Potato Salad
Pickled Beets
Fruit Cocktail



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



What is that Feeling in the Air?

Ah, it’s that glorious cooler air that only comes from the beginning of autumn - or if you stick your head into the freezer, which is not recommended. This is the time of year called the “in between,” not summer and not winter. Yes, we call it fall or autumn but we all know it’s the cool down.

The seasons are a wonderful thing - when we get them separately, not all at once! For some reason, many folks tend to want to hurry into the holidays. I love the holiday season but I wouldn’t mind if it didn’t push us to be “festive” then get it over with. C’mon, we need to enjoy our seasons. Summer is all about getting out camping, fishing, killing large animals, etc. During fall, around here, we all look forward to Fall Fest, the celebration of the harvest and the beginning of the holiday season. I think of it as “flannel shirt season”.

This summer, we have been very lucky; we had plenty of rain, so only a few folks will be griping about drought. In the middle of any large rainstorm, you can hear someone say: “Well, we need the moisture”. True, we always need water; some of us, more than others, could use a shower. The lush green has been spectacular this year; the town looks so inviting. Our fruit trees are full and overflowing, needing some serious pruning next year.

We should give thanks to the Creator for our summer, even though there were still a few 90s days I could have done without. So here we are in September. If you look, some of the trees are already starting to turn and my squirrels are getting fat. The birds are eating like there is no tomorrow, feathery little heathens! Some people are even looking for Pumpkin Spice. Signs are there that are point to a heavy winter - well, we can use the moisture. Did I say that? As an old radio show once said, “Heavy weather ahead, tether your elephants”.

Enjoy our last few days of summer. Get the last of the mowing done. The neighborhood roosters are sounding off, like a Hollywood starlet, crowing every time a flash bulb goes off. We haven’t seen as many deer wandering around our residential areas, yet. That is a beautiful sight, nature’s wild animals wandering around our town, eating our flowers. Nature at its best.

Start preparing for cooler weather. Don Walters will be out and about draining our sprinklers. Didn’t know that was one of the signs of autumn, did you? Then, like the bears, Don will go into hibernation for the winter. Don’t feed him; he gets grumpy.

Remember, the price of candy is going up a bit, so buy it now! Halloween will be here before you know it - we have to feed the little urchins. Be safe, the young ones are back in school, go slow on the streets. Best wishes and a happy cool down. Excelsior!



More Than Words: How “My” and “I” Shape Connection

Ellie West
Master Certified Practitioner of NLP, TLT, & Hypnotherapy and Certified Personal Empowerment and Enneagram Coach



Words are small, but the way we use them can reveal a lot about our hearts. A simple “my” or missing “I” might not seem important, yet it can influence how love and belonging are felt.

Have you ever wondered why some people say, “love you” instead of “I love you”? Or why some refer to their children as “my” instead of “ours”?

Recently, during a dinner conversation, Bill and I talked about both of them. I've always wondered why. It sparked some interesting thoughts because it can mean different things depending on tone, context, and family dynamics.

When using “my mom,” “my dad,” or “my Sarah,” one might think it suggests a personal connection, reflecting their experience within that relationship.

Alternatively, if someone is speaking outside the family, using “my…” may feel more natural.

I also wondered if specific words are used or not used when relationships are strained, especially when taking ownership of the parent or child.

In our world of blended or complex families, where both parents are not in the same household, people might also say “my dad,” “my mom,” or “my child.”

On the positive side, it might indicate closeness, highlight a special bond, or even foster healing in the relationship.

Our language and the words we choose carry subtle emotional weight. Some parents might use “my” to show closeness, almost as a term of endearment (“my sweet boy”).

The nuance is that “my” can mean warmth, pride, or closeness, but in some situations, it can unintentionally suggest ownership or exclusion.

I remember reading somewhere that removing the “I” from “I love you” makes it sound more friendly, perhaps more endearing, and even safer in some ways.

When you add the “I,” they’re offering more than just words; they’re offering themselves. That small word “I” carries vulnerability. It says, “This love is mine, and I am handing it over to you.”

Some people might leave out the “I” because it feels protected and less vulnerable. But when we’re brave enough to include it, we build deeper connections.

Transparency may seem risky, but it’s often where you find the most genuine love.

So, I wonder if it's a cultural difference, or simply a matter of how some people communicate, or a way of protecting themselves from saying “love you.” Since reading the article years ago, I changed the phrase from “love you” to “I love you,” because it truly has a deeper meaning.

Could it also be just a casual habit where some people naturally drop the “I” without realizing it?

Perhaps “love you” feels just as strong as “I love you.” However, if it's said warmly, with eye contact or affection, the missing “I” usually doesn’t change the meaning.

There might be emotional distance or tension if the relationship is strained and dropping the “I” may feel less vulnerable and personal, almost like pulling back from feelings.

Some families grow up saying “love you,” and it's the norm, familiar, and not necessarily dismissive.

Saying “I love you” can feel very exposed. “Love you” often serves as a safer, lighter version that involves less emotional risk.

It all comes down to consistency and context. If someone used to say, “I love you” but now only says “love you,” that change could indicate tension or withdrawal.

However, if that has always been their way, it might just be their natural way of communicating.

The difference: “Here I am, fully showing you my heart.” (I love you) versus “Here’s love, but I’m keeping a little shield up.” (love you)

Without the “I,” it’s less of a direct reveal of someone's heart. It’s affectionate, but it doesn’t carry the same weight of personal ownership.

For someone who fears rejection, hurt, or emotional intensity, dropping the “I” can serve as a buffer.

This can be tied to past wounds, fears of intimacy, or simply discomfort with deep vulnerability.

Don’t be afraid to keep the “I.” Your willingness to be vulnerable might be the very thing that strengthens your closest relationships. Maybe today, try saying it—and notice the difference.

In the end, it’s not just what we say, but how we say it—the smallest words often hold the greatest weight of love.

Ellie West is a Certified Master Coach in NLP, Time Line Therapy™, and Hypnotherapy, as well as a Certified Enneagram Internal Profile Coach. She hosts women’s intensives and writes to inspire others to live with intention, freedom, and faith. Connect with her on Facebook: @coachinghearttoheart or Instagram: Coach Ellie West.

AREA DEATH

John E. Masolo

Family of John E. Masolo

Age 83, of Townsend

December 22, 1941 – September 1, 2025

John E. Masolo, age 83, of Townsend, passed away September 1, 2025. Services are pending.

Stevenson Wilke


Funeral Home & Crematory



Family Owned and Operated

Honorably Serving Montana Families for Three Generations


www.stevensonwilke.com (406) 266-4213

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

So he set out and came to his father.

But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

LUKE 15:20



Detail of "The Return of the Prodigal Son" by Rembrandt (1636)

© 2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

QUEST EDITORIALS

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

Touching Eternity

Mary Sheehy Moe

Editorial Columnist in Missoula

Some time ago, I watched a PBS feature about a retired teacher. Flossie Lewis, 90 years old, had returned to her classroom to interact with the now-adults she had taught decades earlier.

One, an architect, told her he tries to create in buildings the poetry her teaching taught him to love.

Another, a lesbian for whom high school had been a lonely, fearful experience, told Flossie, “You saved my life.”

Student after student had a different story but the theme was always the same. As one of them put it, “Everyone else, everything else, back then said ‘No’ to me ... but Flossie said ‘Yes.’”

All across this sprawling town with long streets

Touching **Eternity**, 11

City Water System, 1

an old house - you never know what you’ll find. The preliminary report from the Engineering firm Robert Peccia Associates (RPA) showed all kinds of need for updates in every level of Townsend’s water system. Not only did the city need more water in storage and higher pressures, the city needed to upgrade three wells, add valves and replace 1960s fire hydrants. Pumps in the wells were on their last legs and only one well has a backup power generator that is not reliable.

The road to organizing such a large municipal project is a long one, according to Mayor Vickie Rauser. Beginning in 2022 and after two public hearings with RPA and Townsend residents, the council began looking for grants and loans. Some American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money was available from the city’s coffers as well as unused county funds. Other funds came from a Montana Coal Endowment Program grant and a Renewable Resource Grant. The final step involved a \$12,195,000 state revolving fund loan administered by the Department of Environmental Quality. Five million dollars of that loan would be forgiven when the city completes the program requirements. The city would still have to pay back a \$7,195,000 bond, spread over 30 years at 2.5 per cent interest. The total estimated project of \$14,419,940 would be covered.

To qualify for a state revolving fund loan, the city had to demonstrate it would have the funds to pay the principal and interest and maintain reserves, including for future repairs and replacement.

While public involvement was less than robust, it was not until August 2024 that residents realized that their monthly water bills would go from just under \$21 monthly to \$91. After hue and cry from members of the public, the Council did their best to soften the financial burden by spreading the increase in three increments over five months.

The Council finalized the Request for Proposals. Low bidders were CK May Excavating, Belgrade and COP Construction, Billings. Work began in January of this year.

Project work began on several fronts: COP crews started work on replacing the well house on Well #2, west of the railroad tracks just out of town as well as installing new generators. In August, the Council restricted water use through September. “We needed to mandate water restrictions in town because we are operating with only two wells, not three,” Rauser said.

At the same time, CK May crews began laying one 16-inch water line from city property near the fairgrounds to the town’s three wells.


City Public Works director Eric Crusch explained the out-of-town project’s inner workings this way: The 16-inch line into town works like a giant pressure tank, like the one you have in your house. It feeds water from the three wells to the new tower, then back to town by gravity flow. As the tank level gets too low, the wells kick on and fill the tower. For those curious about the new hydrants along the highway to the new tower site, they are for air pressure releases as well as for taking water samples and flushing the transmission main. Their location is based on ground elevation. “That’s what those hydrants outside of town are for. They are manually operated and regularly monitored. It is a huge safety precaution,” he explained.

Hopefully, the entire project will come online in June of 2026, according to Mayor Rauser.

Safely Preserving Eggs

Allison Kosto

MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



Earlier this year, my family dived into raising chickens. We did it to jumpstart my daughter’s 4-H projects and also to provide eggs and meat for our family. We didn’t do it in response to high egg prices, but this was happening at the same time. It proved to be a challenging time to get into chickens. It’s been a fun and enjoyable journey to learn more about them. We are not alone on this chicken journey, and as an Extension Agent, I’ve noticed an increase in questions about chickens, along with how to safely preserve eggs. Egg production is highest during the summer months and it’s easy to see the desire to preserve eggs for the winter when egg production slows.

If you do a quick Google search about preserving eggs, one of the first options on the list is a process called water glassing, which is a long-term strategy for preserving farm-fresh eggs that was popular in the early 1900s. It is a process that stores eggs in lime water. It started to fall out of popularity with the increase of refrigeration and commercially available eggs but is resurging again and is highly promoted by the “homesteading” movement. However, it is not a recommended or safe method of preserving eggs. This is because eggshells are not sterile and there is a threat of lime water and bacteria seeping through the eggshells over time.

The good news is that there are several safer alternatives. One of the first major considerations before preserving is washing the eggs. Egg shells are covered in a protective barrier called the cuticle that seals in the natural pores of the eggshell. This helps naturally preserve the eggs and reduce the transfer of bacteria to the interior. As the egg ages, the cuticle will naturally lose effectiveness. It can also be damaged or removed by washing, brushing or rough handling.

In the United States, commercial egg producers are required to wash eggs. In doing this, they remove the cuticle. However, washing decreases the risk of food-borne illness from debris and manure particles that may be stuck to the shell. You are not required to wash farm-fresh eggs for your own consumption. Leaving them unwashed can increase the shelf life because the cuticle stays intact.

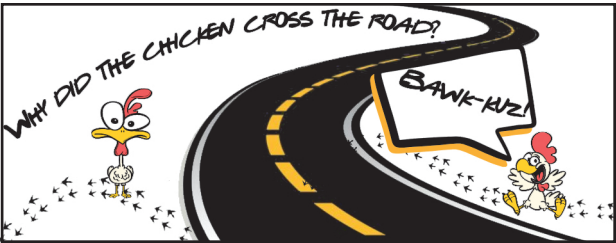
Multiple studies have shown that the best method of preserving eggs is refrigeration at 40 degrees F or below (but not freezing). Eggs are safe to consume up to five weeks beyond the date collected or packed.

If you have excess eggs, the next best option is freezing them. The shells will crack if you freeze whole eggs, so it is recommended that you break the eggs first. You can freeze them as a scrambled whole egg mixture or separate yolks and whites. Add sugar or salt to prevent them from being grainy when thawed. Using ice cube trays is a convenient way to freeze them. After they are frozen, put them in freezer bags for easy-to-grab servings. It is recommended to thaw the eggs in the refrigerator. They are great for baking, scrambled eggs or casseroles.

Freeze-drying is another viable option for preserving eggs. You can freeze-dry them pre-cooked and can even add seasoning, cheese, onions or peppers. They can also be freeze-dried raw. However, they should still be treated as raw when rehydrated and cooked or refrigerated immediately.

One final option for preservation is pickling. It is important to note there are no approved canning recipes for pickled eggs, so they still need to be kept in the refrigerator after canning. Storing pickled eggs at room temperature can cause botulism. However, it does further extend the shelf life to up to four months in the fridge.

As you can see, there are several viable options for preserving eggs. At our house, our chickens are only producing a couple of eggs a day and we are lucky if we can even find them when they are free ranging. However, we look forward to better production next year when they are mature hens and will tackle preserving them then! For resources on food preservation, stop by MSU Extension in Broadwater County in the Flynn Building at 416 Broadway or call 406-266-9242. We also offer free pressure canner gauge testing, which should be done yearly, so stop by today!





CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The Town Pump Charitable Foundation is

PROVIDING \$750,000

for qualified Montana charitable organizations & schools to support backpack food programs.

Backpack programs provide nutritious, non-perishable, easy-to-prepare food for children to ensure they receive enough food on weekends and holidays to avoid hunger when they can’t depend on school meals.

2025 Grant Applications are being accepted until

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Meals for Backpacks grants will be awarded in mid-October



MEALS FOR BACKPACKS

LEARN MORE OR APPLY TODAY!

TownPumpFoundation.com/backpacks



Just Like Cats & Dogs

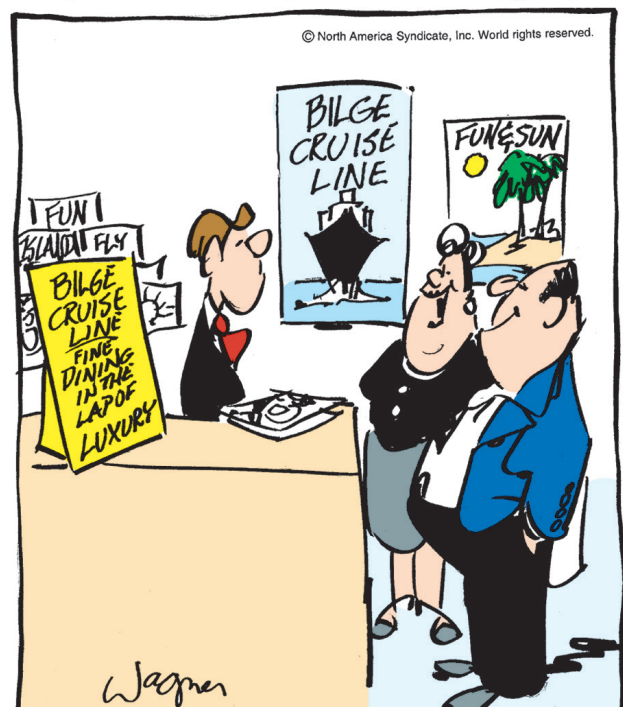
by Dave T. Phipps

I GET THE FEELING THE ONE CHORE THAT'S GOING TO TAKE YOU THE MOST TIME WILL BE GETTING UP.



GRIN and BEAR IT

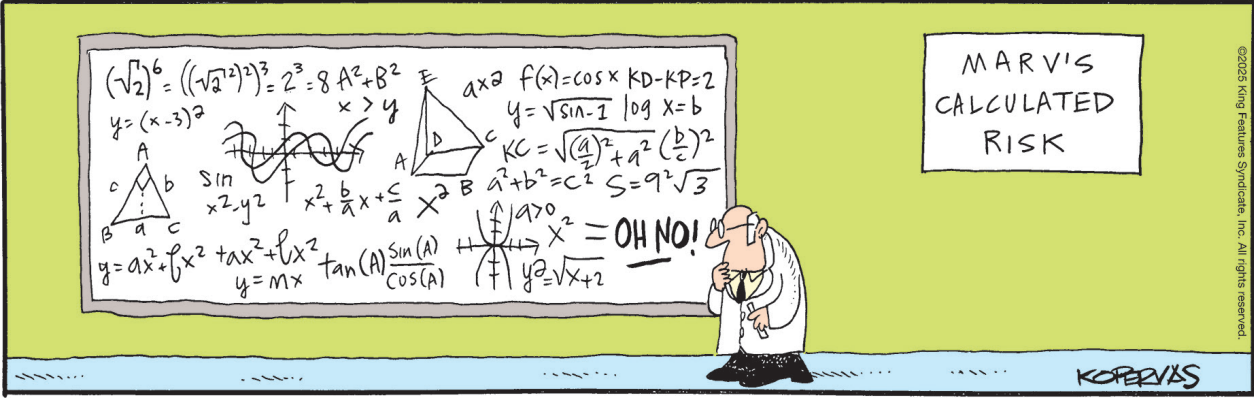
© North America Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.



"We'd like to see some pictures of the food."

Out on a Limb



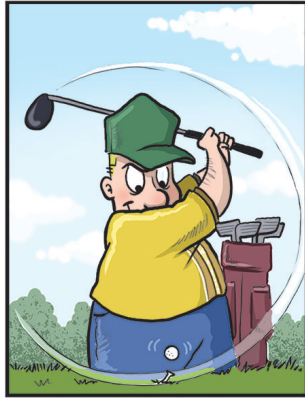
by Gary Kopervas



MARV'S CALCULATED RISK

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

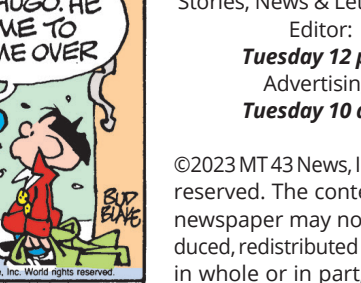

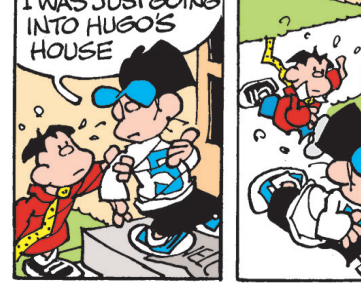


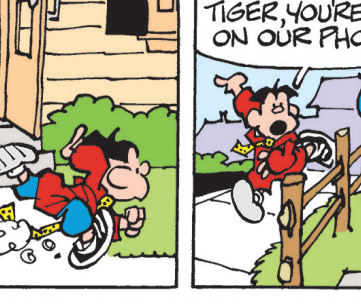
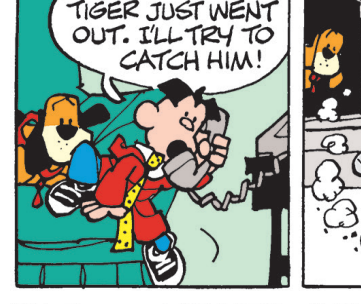
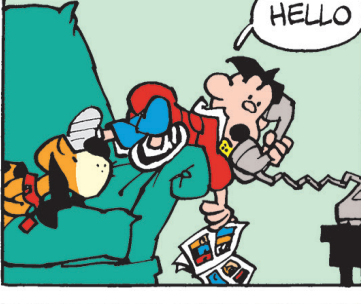
POPEYE

BY RANDY MILHOLLAND



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



It's that time of year again!

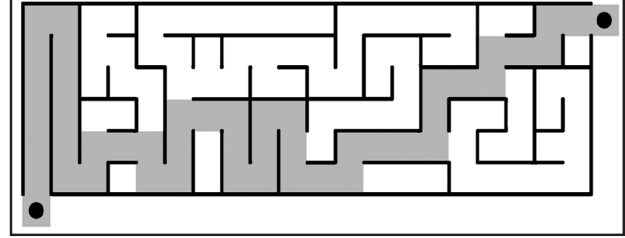
CHOOSE

TIZER MEATS

for Your GAME PROCESSING

tizermeats.com | 406-422-4822

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

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

Barnes Jewelry

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

CryptoQuip

answer

These cookies that you guys baked are too hard and crumbly. Sorry, I'm being brittly honest.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Lackey 2. Space;
3. Lumber; 4. Sordid

Today's Word

BICYCLE

—KNIGHT MOVES—

Answer

S	I	R
O		G
N	T	K

STROKING

MT 43 News, Inc.

Published & edited by the Board of Directors

Editors in Chief:
Victor Sample and
Nancy Marks

408 Broadway Street Suite A
Townsend MT 59644-2323
(406) 266-0086
MT43News@MT43News.com

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

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

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

Touching Eternity, 9

we call Montana, retired teachers like me — or their loved ones — have those interactions now.

“My dad was a teacher. There was standing room only at his funeral. The church was filled with so many of his students. [Afterwards] they recounted the many memories they had of him and the impact he had on their lives.”

“Public speaking scared me to death until I had him,” a current legislator remembered. “He told me, ‘You’re not scared; you’re excited.’ I remember it every time I get up to speak!”

“My mother had a signature technique before students took a tough test or a particularly challenging assignment. She offered ‘smart pills’ that were really merely lemon drop candies. Candy and gum at school were strictly taboo at that time, so this was a memorable event. Mom died several years ago. On one of my Memorial Day visits to the cemetery, I found a little bag of lemon drops on her headstone. Far-reaching impact indeed.”

“I felt completely out of my league until I had her. She made me believe I had talent.”

I think of these things now because if you’re a teacher, no matter how long you’ve been retired, your thoughts go back to the classroom this time of year. Last week, I had a message for students as another school year begins. Teachers, this one’s for you.

I know it’s hard to imagine as you’re sitting there exhausted after just 10 days back, but believe me, on some not-too-distant day, former students will tell you things like those quoted here.

If you don’t believe me, visit the memorial posts for Lockwood choir teacher Quentin Staton, who lost his long, long battle with cancer last month. Appreciation and gratitude all but drip from the screen. Or the Facebook posts on Doug Follett. He hadn’t taught history for nearly 40 years when he died last March, but Columbia Falls students through the decades remembered him as though it were yesterday. His humor. The way he made history fun. Or just the simple, “He saw me.”

Someday, students you taught — maybe this year! — will reach out to tell you that having you as their teacher shaped their life, changed their life, maybe even saved their life. There is no better award than that. So remember:

Every day for the next 170 or so school days, you have the opportunity to switch on a light for someone stumbling through darkness.

Every day, a chance to change someone’s No into Yes, to be the somebody at school who makes a child feel like SOMEBODY at school.

Every day, the experience of shaping the community of tomorrow.

Every day, the opportunity to hear America singing, to make the song beautiful, and to help every single young American in your classroom find his or her own voice in that song.

Teachers, go out and do just that. Just teach. There is no more important job in the world.

Email Reveals Division, 6

property taxes that currently fund education. MQEC would make that suggestion, Reisig wrote, to the interim legislative committee tasked with studying how schools in Montana are funded, according to an email he sent to MQEC’s board of directors and that was obtained by Montana Free Press.

But last week, two days after MTFP asked Reisig about the proposal, he said that he had “been instructed to hold off on that statement of support” until his board of directors convenes to discuss the issue.

In decades past, Montanans have voted against sales tax proposals consistently enough that the concept is widely considered a third rail in the state’s political circles.

Montana’s School Funding Interim Commission, a group of legislators, politically appointed advocates and representatives from the Office of Public Instruction, recently began its decennial meetings to discuss how public K-12 schools are funded and draft recommendations for the 2027 Legislature to consider. Reisig’s email indicated he intended to lobby for a sales tax at the commission, a group he believes is “certainly not filled with people who support K-12 education,” according to the email.

“I fear that some of those people are going to come up with even more outlandish/draconian funding solutions, or defunding solutions, when it comes to K-12 education,” Reisig wrote. “So, the [Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools] group, which MQEC is a part of, wants to get ahead of the ‘extremists’ on the Commission and offer a plan, which I support, for the education funding discussion.”

Rep. Brad Barker, R-Red Lodge, brought a similar proposal to the 2025 Legislature. His bills, which ultimately died in committee, would have called for a referendum on whether to implement a sales tax on the condition that the revenue be directed toward education. Barker also sits on the School Funding Interim Commission.

Lance Melton, an MQEC board member who also serves as the executive director of the Montana School Board Association, helped draft the 2025 legislation.

“It’s all about a combination of providing relief to property taxes and then making sure that schools have adequate resources to provide quality education,” Melton said in an interview with Montana Free Press. Property

taxes in Montana have risen around the state recently, leading lawmakers to pass a second-home tax in the 2025 legislative session aimed at providing relief for primary homeowners.

Melton, Barker and Reisig all rely on similar estimates in their pitches: a 3% statewide sales tax would generate about \$1 billion annually. That would, in theory, be enough to eliminate many local school taxes, including the 95 mills collected statewide to help equalize funding between districts, and still have enough left over to increase school funding by about \$200 million.

Reisig wrote to his board that he anticipated internal pushback.

“I am aware that some of you have a reluctance to support, let alone suggest, that Montana look at moving toward a sales tax option to support funding Montana public schools,” Reisig wrote.

Amanda Curtis, an MQEC board member who also serves as the president of Montana’s public employees union, wrote in a text to MTFP on Aug. 28 that “this is not the best or the only solution to school funding.” Curtis heads the Montana Federation of Public Employees, which lobbied against Barker’s 2025 legislation.

“By eliminating the 95 mills and replacing [them] with a regressive sales tax, the biggest winner will be corporations, while low and moderate income Montanans we serve in public schools will pay instead,” Curtis said. “I cannot join in on a plan that will further push the tax responsibility to school employees and the families we serve.”

Sales tax critics often argue that such broad-based sales taxes are regressive because they could mean low-income individuals pay more relative to their income than they do under the existing tax system.

Assorted education advocates are not the only groups entertaining conversations about a sales tax. Montana Chamber of Commerce President Todd O’Hair, for example, has said he believes it is time for Montana to have an “adult conversation” about sales tax.

“Everything needs to be on the table,” O’Hair told MTFP in an interview last month. “I don’t think we have the luxury anymore of starting a tax reform discussion by saying ‘We’re going to take this off the table, we’re going to take that off the table.’”

MTGOP Brings on Andrew Pierce as New Executive Director

Ethan Holmes
MTGOP Communications Director

The Montana Republican Party (MTGOP) will bring on Andrew Pierce to serve as its new executive director starting next month.

Pierce, a Hillsdale College graduate with extensive political experience, will manage MTGOP’s operations as it enters the 2026 election cycle and prepares for the 2027 state legislative session.

“We’re thrilled to have Andrew directing our party at this critical time. Republicans have the support of more Montanans than ever, and we will harness that momentum to keep the victories coming,” MTGOP Chairman Art Wittich said.

Pierce will begin serving in the role on September 8, 2025.

“I’m deeply honored to have been chosen by Chairman Wittich and the Executive Board to serve the Republican Party of the best state in the Union. I look forward to

working with Republican officials and members to build on MTGOP’s success,” Pierce said.

Under the leadership of Chairman Wittich and Executive Director Pierce, MTGOP aims to deliver the conservative agenda mandated by voters and make Montana an even brighter red state.

“At their best, political parties serve both as local civic associations that amplify their communities’ concerns and as a statewide, unifying force that ensures voters get the policies they voted for. Parties act as the civic glue connecting citizens to their elected officials, empowering ordinary people to participate in self-government without needing to hold office,” Pierce said.

“Parties also reinforce a vital safeguard: accountability. If elected officials disregard the principles or platform mandated by voters, both the party and voters have means to hold them accountable,” Pierce added.

MTGOP encourages all Montanans who seek responsible, conservative leadership in our state and local governments to reach out and get involved.



Billings Clinic
Broadwater

 MAYO CLINIC
CARE NETWORK
Member

- **RNs (Day and Night Shifts)**
- **CNAs**
- **Emergency Care Provider - EMT/AEMT**
- **Medical Laboratory Technologist**
- **Physical Therapist**

For more information or to apply, call **406-266-3186** visit **billingsclinic.com/broadwater** or **scan here**

110 North Oak Street, Townsend, MT, 59644





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

*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.

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

1902

1941

Mrs. Dave Williams of Beverly Hills, Calif., who has been in Montana for the past three weeks, is spending a good deal of her time at the Williams ranch in Crow Creek valley. With her came P. M. Kay, a carpenter, who, with Henry Lavold of Toston and others, is busy constructing a guest house for her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Hornblow, famed star of the movies, known as Myrna Loy.

1958

The seven beginners are Donna Hunsaker, Steven Hunsaker, Billy Kitto, Lois Feistner, Geo. Conrad,

1975

Mr. and Mrs. Jim D. Nelson of Missoula visited Mr. and Mrs. Earl Webb and Ray over the weekend.



Behold!

And just to tempt you...

Trees & Shrubs
40% Off!

Good thing we carry
fishing supplies!

Anglers on Canyon Ferry Lake are reporting **massive strikes** that drag line and snap it! A monster they claim!

The **Canyon Ferry Leviathan!**

Artist Rendering
Considered Very Accurate
by JB



Historic
Townsend Hardware

204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

Based on a
True Story!

County's First Responders Honored

Matt Nelson



The American Legion Broadwater Post 42 hosted a dinner and an Awards Ceremony honoring four First Responders of Broadwater County on Saturday evening, September 6th.

First responders, families and friends enjoyed the dinner, fellowship, and ceremony as American Legion Certificates of Commendation were presented to several Broadwater County first responders by Post 42 Commander, Linda Cousineau. Commendations are awarded for outstanding public service benefiting our community, state, and nation.

Linda Cousineau led the ceremony and started off by saying, “I am an ex-paramedic myself, and have worked in the hospitals, so I understand a lot of what first responders go through. These applicants were chosen by their peers and their supervisors, so they are well deserving in this category. Each applicant’s write-up, while unique, had some

similar basic qualities: hard working, selfless, passionate, and most of all, dedication to the positions they are in."

*The following
outstanding individuals
received the award:*

- Law Enforcement Officer/Deputy Richard McBride of Broadwater County Sheriff's Office
- Member/President Eric Crusch of Broadwater County Search and Rescue
- Firefighter Zachary Webb of Broadwater Rural Fire District
- Firefighter Doug Longfellow of City of Townsend Volunteer Fire Department



L-R Townsend Firefighter Doug Longfellow, SAR President, Eric Crusch, American Legion Post 42 Commander Linda Cousineau, Rural Firefighter Zachary Webb, and Sheriff Deputy Richard McBride
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson