

East Helena & Broadwater County News Inside



Congratulations MSU Bobcats, on your first FCS National Championship win in 41 years!

New Year's Eve Dance is a Family Affair

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Third grader William Jepson watched his mother's face intently as she walked him through the steps of learning to jitterbug. The older- for- his- age student picked up the steps quickly. He has a knack for music, his mother Kira said.

The Jepsons participated in the dance lesson offered at Broadwater Community Theater's (BCT) New Year's Eve dance at the Lodge. Later, dance enthusiasts from Helena and Townsend enjoyed what is becoming an annual affair featuring Queen City Swing, a big band sound from Helena, on Thursday night.

In an interview at the appetizer table, William said he has listened to music at home since he was little, when he helped his family clean house or just hung out. "I like Eminem, Snoop Dogg and I even listen to some classic rock," he explained, "Now I want to learn to play the drums."

His mother, Kira, added she had encouraged her two older boys to be involved with music at an early age. One plays the saxophone and cello. Her oldest son, Conner, plays the guitar. The very musical family moved here from Belgrade but has a background of music from Oklahoma and Wyoming. They all sing as well.

The annual New Year's dance is one of many events BCT underwrites, including sponsoring Missoula Children's Theater at Townsend Schools, children's plays and dinner



Kira and son William Jepson dance while Tina Homann, Clair and Carla Amundson look on.
Photo Credit: Angela Johnson



Dancers take a break as Queen City Swing's guitarist plays a fast dance.
Photo Credit: Angela Johnson

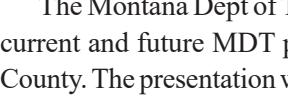
theater. The group will begin its sponsorship campaign for 2026. BCT is affiliated with the afterschool program STOKE and will be involved in that organization's fundraiser on Valentine's Day of this year.

Last year's sponsors for BCT, a nonprofit, included Jak's Heating and Air, Nancy Marks, Bill Kearns Estate,

Pat Plantenberg and Mary Mistek, Beth Ihle, Townsend Rotary, Retired Teachers Group, Jeanie Mainwaring, Brian and Laura Obert, Chuck McLane, Dwight and Julie Thompson, Ron and Mary Ann Salladay, Opportunity Bank, STOKE, Judy Schenk, Jan Hubber, Bob Saxby and John Hahn.

MDT Will Attend the January 14th Commissioner Meeting

Broadwater County Commissioners



Jan 14th 2026 at 10 am MDT, and Great West Engineering will attend the Broadwater County

Commission Meeting.

The Montana Dept of Transportation will present all current and future MDT plans throughout Broadwater County. The presentation will include maps, time frames and more details.

Great West has been contracted to develop the BUILD Grant for Broadwater County. Great West will provide details on that process. "The US Dept of Transportation administers the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development" (BUILD) Grant Program. BUILD is a competitive grant program for investments in surface transportation infrastructure with local impact. THE BUILD grant application is a partnership with MDT, Great West, and Broadwater County. The proposed project is Winston North.

The Jan 14th Commission Meeting will be focused on MDT and the BUILD Grant. This is a great time to talk directly with MDT and Great West about your ideas and to hear from them.

If you can't attend the meeting in person, you can watch it live on the county website, www.broadwatercountymt.gov. As with all Commission Meetings, this meeting will be recorded and available to watch at your convenience later on the county website.

Thank you.

East Helena Students Wins Hunting Story Contest

Office of the Governor
Helena, Montana

Wyatt McKenzie of East Helena was announced as one of ten winning hunters in Governor Greg Gianforte's 2025 Youth Hunting Story Contest late last week. McKenzie won with his story about his appreciation of private landowners and his chance to harvest an elk.

"Montana's youth hunters are the future of our state's proud hunting tradition," said Gov. Gianforte. "We received nearly 150 stories from young hunters across Montana this year, each showing passion, skill, and respect for the outdoors. I look forward to welcoming the top ten winners to the State Capitol in the new year to celebrate their achievements and our hunting heritage."

Governor Gianforte created the Youth Hunting Story contest in 2022 for Montana youth and apprentice

hunters between the ages of 10 and 17. To enter the contest, resident hunters submitted a story of no more than 500 words and a photo from their hunt. Eligible entries included the harvest of any legal game, furbearer animals, or birds in Montana.

The governor will recognize the ten winning hunters in the State Capitol in the new year. Winning hunters will receive prizes from Stone Glacier, Vista Outdoor, Sitka, J2 Taxidermy, Kenetrek, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association, Murdoch's, and Zink's Big Sky Archery Targets.

"Our partners have stepped up to provide incredible prizes that will support these young hunters for years to come," the governor added. "I thank Stone Glacier, Vista Outdoor, Sitka, J2 Taxidermy, Kenetrek, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association, Murdoch's, and Zink's Big Sky Archery Targets for their generosity and for helping us honor Montana's next generation of hunters."

MSU Bobcats Win the FCS National Championship



Game Night was hosted by Doug Sitton at The Betsy
Photo Credits: Bryanna Richards

Victor Sample

I have been a huge college football fan since I was in high school. My working career saw me living in many different areas of the country and exposed me to all of the major athletic conferences: Pac-12, Big 10, Big 12, SEC, ACC as well as the Big Sky Conference.

I have watched many thrilling games and many Conference/National title games. I have never watched a game more thrilling, more heart attack-inducing than the Bobcats' huge win over Illinois State for the FCS



National Championship.

After 2 losses in the FCS Championship game (2021 and 2024), the MSU Bobcats close out an outstanding season with the National Championship title. On a night when every Montana college football fan forgot their in-state rivalry and became Bobcats fans, MSU brought the title back to Montana.

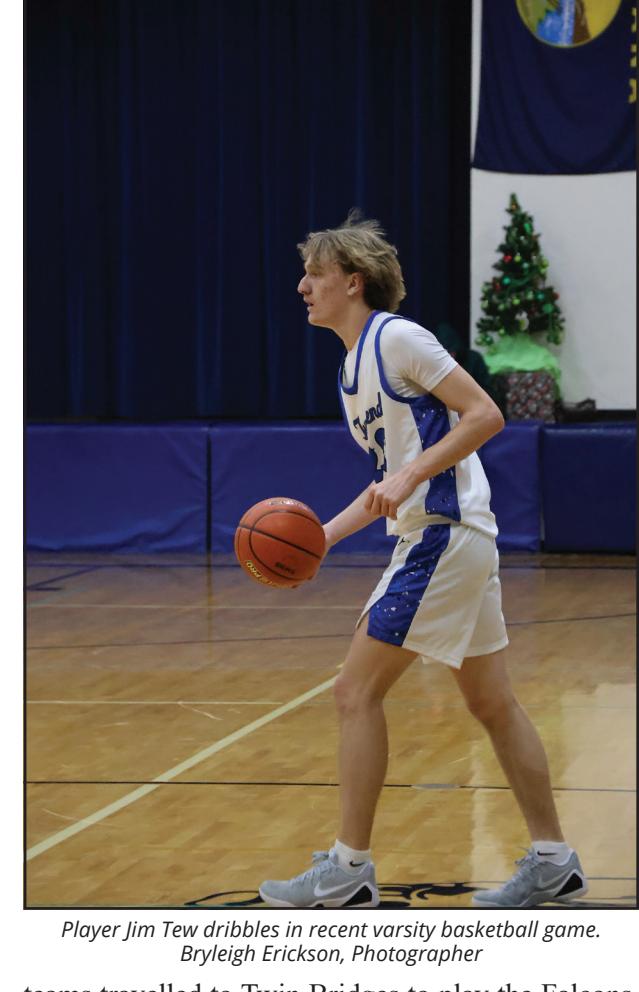
Illinois State, who has never won a National Championship, played an outstanding game against the favorite MSU Bobcats. The ISU Redbirds bested the Bobcats in every statistical category EXCEPT the final score! They had more yards gained, more first downs,

MSU Bobcats Win, 3

Success is Mixed for the Bulldog Basketball Teams



Tayvn Anderson makes a fast break during a recent Bulldog game.
Bryleigh Erickson, Photographer



Player Jim Tew dribbles in recent varsity basketball game.
Bryleigh Erickson, Photographer

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter



BULLDOGS vs. THREE FORKS WOLVES

On January 2nd the Bulldogs hosted the Three Forks Wolves basketball teams. The boys' C squad game set the tone for the rest of the games. It was a close matchup and came down to the very end. The Wolves pulled one point ahead at the end, winning 36 to 35.

The Junior Varsity boys had an easier time against the Wolves, winning their game 58 to 45. The Varsity boys' game was another close one. At the end of the game, the Wolves pulled ahead. The Bulldogs lost 44 to 47. Trenton Hoveland had 14 points. Tavyn Anderson

had 11 points, and Tannen Tuffelmire had 8 points.

The girls' C squad game was a close loss for the Bulldogs. This was the C squad's first game of the season. The game ended with a 28 to 34 score. Ella Toney led the team in points, scoring 15.

The girls' Junior Varsity game also lost to Three Forks 26 to 34. Tevyn Newman scored 10 points and Janeth Garcia scored 7.

The girls' Varsity game was another close matchup. The game was all tied up going into halftime and continued to stay close until the Wolves pulled away at the end. The Lady Bulldogs lost 39 to Three Forks 42. Emmalin Fischer led the team with 17 points. Kaitlyn Noyes made 12 points.

BULLDOGS vs. TWIN BRIDGES

On Saturday, January 3rd, the Bulldogs basketball

teams travelled to Twin Bridges to play the Falcons. There were Varsity and Junior Varsity boys' games and a Varsity girls' game.

The Junior Varsity Boys game was an easy win for the Bulldogs. The Varsity Boys also won their game. Statistics for these two games were not available at press time.

The Varsity girls' game was an easy win for the Bulldogs. They beat the Falcons 57-19. Emmalin Fischer had a great game, scoring 25 points, and Kaitlyn Noyes scored 16.

The Bulldogs will play two home games on January 8th and 9th. On the 8th, the Lone Peak varsity teams will travel from near Big Sky, Montana, to play the Bulldogs, and Jefferson will send their C squad and Junior Varsity teams to play the Bulldogs. On January 9th, Manhattan will travel to play the Bulldogs at home.

Bulldogs vs Three Forks Statistics

Clint Watson

Townsend Vs. Three Forks

Townsend - 14 14 10 6 44

Three Forks - 14 14 11 8 47

Townsend Scorers- Trenton Hoveland-13, Tavyn Anderson-11, Tannen Tuffelmire-8, Colby Flynn-8, Bryce Lessely-2, Trace Giomi-2

Rebound Leaders- Tavyn Anderson-7, Blake Graham-6, Trace Giomi-4, Trenton Hoveland-3, Colby Flynn-3, Heston Vandenacre- 3, Bryce Lessely-3, Tannen Tuffelmire-2

Assist Leaders- Trenton Hoveland-3, Tannen Tuffelmire-2, Tavyn Anderson-2, Trace Giomi-1, Colby Flynn-1, Blake Graham-1

Steals- Trenton Hoveland-6, Tannen Tuffelmire-2, Tavyn Anderson-2, Heston Vandenacre-1, Blake Graham-1

Blocks- Trace Giomi-1

Deflections- Trenton Hoveland-3, Tannen Tuffelmire-3,

Tavyn Anderson-3, Blake Graham-1

Townsend Shooting- 2pts- 13/29 44.8% 3pts- 5/28

17.9%

Three Forks Shooting- 2pts- 13/25 52.0% 3pts- 4/15

26.7%

Townsend Free Throws- 3/10 30%

Three Forks Free Throws- 9/18 50%

Townsend Turnovers- 8

Three Forks- 15

Coach's Thoughts:

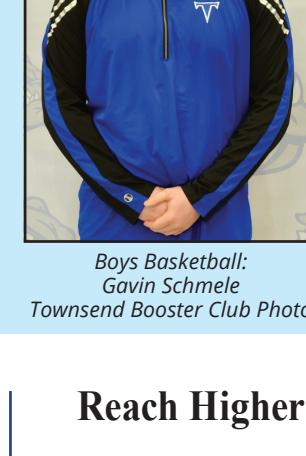
This was one of our best games this year. Three Forks shot a little better than we did, both from 2-point and 3-point land. We had plenty of chances in the last 4 minutes to score; we took some good shots, but they just didn't go in. We scored 1 free throw in the final four minutes, Ouch!! Anyway, we saw a great defensive game by Trace Giomi, and Trenton Hovland had a nice performance, with 13 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, and 6 steals. Overall, our team continues to improve!



Girls Basketball:
Emmalin Fischer
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Boys Basketball: Trace Giomi
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Boys Basketball:
Gavin Schmele
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Bulldogs!

BHS Speech and Drama

Teams Are Successful

at Speech Meets

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS School Reporter

On December 20th, the Bulldogs' Speech and Drama teams travelled to Choteau to perform their pieces. The team has been practicing and perfecting their pieces for a few months and have already competed in three tournaments prior. The last tournament they attended, which was in East Helena on December 13th, showed a promising start to their season. At that meet, the Drama team won first place, and the Speech team placed second.

In Choteau, the Drama team won first place, and the Speech team placed third. Shalyn Sentinella placed first with her Original Oratory piece, which she wrote and memorized herself. Chloe Johnson also contributed to the speech team's success with her 5th-place finish on her informative speech. As for the drama team, Tessie Hughes placed 4th with her mime piece. Hannah Hall performed a dramatic solo and placed 2nd, and Aiden Thompson finished 5th with his humorous solo piece. Angel Sentinella, Sarah Morgan, and Simon Sanchez performed a humorous theater piece and placed 5th. Noah Borror, Ava Boaz, and Lyrique Bryant also performed a humorous theater piece, and they placed 4th. Lastly, Anabell Kline, Zoe Osborne, and Lucas Feller performed a Classical Theater piece and placed 2nd.

This week, on January 10th, the Bulldogs Speech and Drama team will travel to Laurel to compete their pieces. The State meet will be hosted in Townsend this year on January 30th and 31st.

Reach Higher Montana Invites

Students to Reach New Heights with

"It's Scholarship Time" Application

Cullen Gilbreath
Reach Higher Montana

Reach Higher Montana, a leading non-profit organization dedicated to supporting education and empowering Montana students, is excited to announce the "It's Scholarship Time" application for high school and college students across the state.

The "It's Scholarship Time" initiative simplifies the application process by offering a single, comprehensive application form that allows students to apply for multiple scholarships simultaneously. This innovative approach aims to streamline the application experience, providing students with a more accessible and efficient way to access financial support for their education.

"When we simplify scholarship applications, we remove barriers—and barriers are often the only thing holding students back. For students facing the high cost of college, access to scholarships can mean the difference between dreaming and enrolling," said Kelly Cresswell, Executive Director at Reach Higher Montana.

This year, we have added many new scholarships to the "It's Scholarship Time" application, including more than 30 from the Montana FFA Foundation.

The application period for "It's Scholarship Time" opens on January 1st and closes on March 1st. Students are encouraged to visit the Reach Higher Montana website at ReachHigherMontana.org to learn more about the available scholarships, eligibility criteria, and to access the application form.

MSU Bobcats Win, 1

longer time of possession, less penalties..... In the second half, Illinois State outplayed the Bobcats and out-scored them 21-7.

But, when two high-caliber teams play each other, like MSU and Illinois State, any weakness can make the difference – and it did!

The Illinois State place-kicking special team struggled all year long. When ISU had a chance to ice the game for a 3-point win at the end of the 4th quarter, the field goal unit allowed MSU to block the kick. In overtime, where every single point is crucial, Illinois State scored a TD quickly; then again, the kicking unit allowed ANOTHER blocked kick.

Those 2 blocked kicks were the difference between the Bobcats winning the National Championship and suffering another heartbreaking loss in the championship game.

Special shout-out to the Cats QB Justin Lamson, outstanding receiver Taco Dowler and receiver Dane Steele for some of the most exciting moments I have seen in a championship game. The Dane Steele touchdown at the end of the second half was the most exciting play I have watched in college football.

Many Townsend area fans gathered together at “watching parties”. The Betsy was one of the local watch party places where people came together for the game. According to Doug Sitton, “Amazing gathering at the Betsy to witness one of the most incredible college football games in recent history as the Montana State Bobcats defeated the Illinois State Redbirds 35-34 in a thriller for the National Championship! Great and good fun was had by all! There was also a 50-50 drawing with proceeds going to the Broadwater County High School Athletic Department.”

CONGRATULATIONS MONTANA STATE BOBCATS!

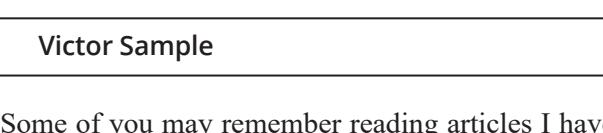
It's your future. Let's protect it.

Dustin Gillaspie
410 Broadway, Townsend, MT
406.442.0456
[fbfs.com/find-an-agent/
dustingillaspie](http://fbfs.com/find-an-agent/dustingillaspie)



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)

**Artificial Intelligence -****What's the Big Deal?**

Victor Sample

Some of you may remember reading articles I have written about AI (Artificial Intelligence). They were all humorous - at least I thought they were - recounts of my dealings with AI. I have had some fun working with AI. But AI is not a laughing matter. It is a very serious topic.

AI has been worked on for decades with very little attention or publicity. Then, about 3 years ago, OpenAI announced ChatGPT and made it available to the public, and suddenly, AI was the hottest topic in the world. Google announced its AI, Gemini; Microsoft announced CoPilot. Governments announced they were looking into legislation to control AI.

Many of you have money invested in the stock markets, especially people with 401K or IRA pensions. You probably noticed the market has been a bull market, setting all kinds of new highs. Most investment experts are calling the current market an "AI Bubble".

Large companies like Microsoft, Google, Meta, manufacturing companies, insurance companies, etc. are investing heavily in building AI infrastructure.

Many experts are stating that eventually, most office jobs will be replaced by AI. Computer programmers, engineers and tech support people will all be made obsolete.

AI is very data and computational heavy. Big AI operations require huge data centers filled with massive numbers of large servers. Montana has been looked at as a location for several of these large data centers.

So why would you care? Your pensions are increasing dramatically due to the AI stock market bubble. If Montana is selected for data centers, someone has to build them. Good construction jobs, high property tax income - that sounds good! And my numerous humorous experiences indicate AI is not really ready to take over the world.

What is to worry about?

A lot!

I am planning to write a series of articles about AI. I

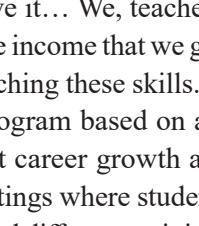
hope to explain how AI actually works - without getting too technical. I intend to show you where AI shines, where it is weak and why it is dangerous.

I hope you will join me on the journey.

FFA Club Provides Hands-On Activities and Produces Lifelong Connections

FFA Club members participated in the Christmas Stroll parade. From left: MaKenzie Truesdell, Madison Vogl, Abigail McCauley, Lexi Davies, Cheyanne Douglas, Sawyer Harrigfeld, Emma Delgado, Alex Kitto, Jakob Rainey, Tiegen Volkman, Spencer Braaten, Rigo Delgado, Aiden Kitto, Ashley Sanderson and Gavin Schmelle. Photo Provided by FFA Club

Tia Tallwhiteman
BHS Reporter



Mrs. Loughery is the National FFA Organization Advisor for Townsend Schools. When asked how she liked being an Advisor, she said, “I love it... We, teachers, believe that all this is not about the income that we get, but rather the outcome of our teaching these skills.”

FFA is a youth leadership program based on agriculture and developing student career growth and success. They have monthly meetings where students are actively involved in leading and different activities during the year. The FFA club was renamed the National FFA Organization in 1988. They have been in Townsend Schools for eleven years, with four national competing teams, and seven American Degree Recipients. Approximately, less than 1% of Townsend students receive the American Degree Recipient, which is the highest honor for these Students.

The last event they had was the Clothing Drive, which was trying to get people to donate to the less fortunate for this year. Every month, they host a Harvest of the Month for the Elementary. This program highlights the commodity of growth in Montana. There

are different stations for the little kids, like a Cooking Station, Science and Exploration Station, and an Art or Literature Station.

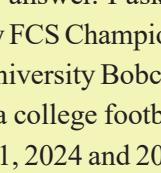
The FFA Club competes against different schools, except that it is unique in the way that it has no specific size division in which they compete. They compete in “practically everything under the sun,” according to Mrs. Loughery. They compete in livestock evaluation, veterinary science, agricultural sales, agronomy, Parliamentary Procedure, and much more.

FFA is so important for kids now because they practice in leadership trading. By joining this club, kids can make connections with others that will help them with their future careers. Agriculture Education is almost more important than FFA because both Middle School and high school students can participate in it. Agricultural Education helps create informed consumers. Without young kids learning about agriculture, we soon wouldn't learn how to farm and ranch. Which is so important because then we wouldn't have any food to survive.

The FFA Club is so important to Townsend Schools. They ensure that we will learn how to do hands-on activities in the future and produce lifelong connections between kids. Keep up the good work, FFA!

AI Struggles to Understand FCS Championship

Victor Sample



As part of my continuing attempts to amuse you with my misadventures with AI, I will regale you with my attempts to get AI to tell me how many FCS Championships the Montana State Bobcats have played since 2020.

It would seem like a straightforward question, especially since I already knew the answer. I asked Microsoft's AI app CoPilot how many FCS Championship games that the Montana State University Bobcats have played since 2020. All Montana college football fans know the Cats played in the 2021, 2024 and 2025 season FCS Championship games.

Copilot responded that “Montana State has played in two FCS National Championship games since 2020: the 2021 season title game and the 2025–26 title game.” CoPilot then went on to note “MSU lost a heartbreaker to North Dakota State in last year's final.”

???

I then asked if that heartbreaker to North Dakota State in last year's final didn't indicate that the Cats played in the 2024 season championship? CoPilot then

stated that it incorrectly implied that MSU played in the 2024 Championship: “I incorrectly implied there was a 2024–25 Montana State title-game loss, which is not true.”

I then asked who did play in the 2024 season FCS Championship Game. The answer: ”The 2024 FCS National Championship Game was played between

Montana State and North Dakota State. North Dakota

State won the game 35–32.”

???

Me: Doesn't that imply that the MSU Bobcats played in that game? Giving them 3 appearances, 2021, 2024 and 2025?

CoPilot: “Montana State did NOT play in the 2024 FCS Championship Game.” It then went on to clarify: “The teams in that game were South Dakota State vs. Montana” and “Montana State has played in exactly two FCS Championship Games since 2020.”

???

I then asked if CoPilot understood the difference between the University of Montana and Montana State University; that Montana State University did, in fact, play in the 2024 season Championship game.

CoPilot then proceeded to gently lecture me: “The Two Schools Are Completely Different: Montana State University (MSU) is located in Bozeman, and the University of Montana is located in Missoula. They are rivals, and their postseason histories are separate.”

However, at that point, CoPilot did acknowledge that MSU played in three Championship games since 2020.

When I asked why it continually gave me the wrong answer with conflicting statements, CoPilot responded, “Because I was trying to reconstruct the championship history WITHOUT GROUNDING IT IN VERIFIED DATA.”

I did eventually get the right answer, but only because I already knew the answer and persisted in questioning the AI responses. While this was an amusing AI session, it does show the MOST important reason why AI is so dangerous!

Where can you find the latest edition of MT43 News? Subscribe, come to our office in Townsend or visit our suppliers!

East Helena: Heritage Foods

Townsend: Bob's Supermarket, Hangin C Mercantile, The Mint Cafe, Rocky Mountain Supply, Town Pump & Townsend Drug

Other Suppliers: (List of suppliers)

Cartoon Cat: (Cartoon cat logo)

Townsend School & Sports

JANUARY

**Fri 9 - Sat 10**

High School Wrestling at Cut

Bank

Friday 9**NO SCHOOL**

3:00 pm: High School Basketball vs Manhattan

Saturday 10

Speech and Drama at Laurel

2:00 pm: Free-Throw-A-Thon - 63 Gym

Mon 12 - Thu 15

11:45 am: 1st and 2nd Grade SEL - Library Classroom

Monday 12

4:00 pm: Middle School Girls Basketball vs Manhattan

Tuesday 13

6:00 am: School Board Meeting - Community Room

Wednesday 14

7:00 pm: Old Baldy Open Gyms: Pickleball, Basketball, Laps

Thursday 15

End of Q2/Semester 1

6:00 pm: Speech and Drama Judge Training - Community Room

Fri 16 - Sat 17

High School Wrestling at Choteau

Friday 16**NO SCHOOL** - Teacher PLC Day**Sat 17 - Sun 18**

EMT Training - Elementary Commons

Saturday 17

Middle School Girls Basketball at Sheridan Turney

Speech and Drama at Three Forks

1:00 pm: High School Basketball at Jefferson

East Helena Schools & Sports

JANUARY

Friday 9

6th Grade Ski Day

Monday 12

7th Grade Ski Day

5:30 pm: School Board Meetings at Radley

Wednesday 14

8th Grade Ski Day

Friday 16

3:00 pm: All Boys and Girls Basketball @ Lockwood

Saturday 17

1:00 pm: All Boys and Girls Basketball @ Laurel

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

JANUARY

**Monday 12**

4:00 pm: Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 13

10:00 am: Commission/CAO

Working Meeting

Wednesday 1410:00 am: Commission Meeting- MDT, and Great West Engineering Attending **READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 1**

LIBRARY HOURS

Broadwater School and Community Library

HOURS:

Monday-Thursday:

4:00 - 7:00pm

Friday-Saturday:

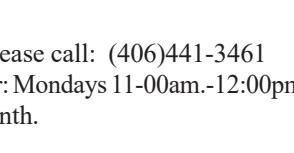
9:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00pm

Curbside also available please call: (406)441-3461

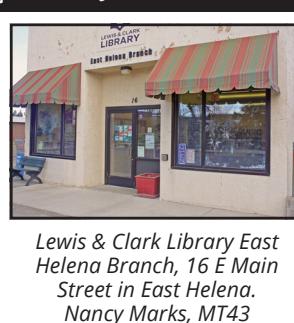
Books & Babies Story Hour: Mondays 11:00am.-12:00pm

the first 4 Mondays of the month.



201 N Spruce St, Townsend

Photo Provided



Lewis & Clark Library East

Helena Branch, 16 E Main

Street in East Helena.

Nancy Marks, MT43

News Photographer

JANUARY

Wednesday 14

10:30 am: Kids Storytime & Activity

Thursday 15

4:00 - 5:30 pm: Teen/Tween Manga and Anime

Character Bingo

Friday 16

3:00 pm: Matinee Movie for Adults: Based on the book written by Fannie Flagg, "Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe"

**Fireside Gala**

Saturday, January 24, 2026

Steak Dinner \$50/plate

Reservations : 406-266-4811

**JANUARY****Friday 9**

- 12:00 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- 5:00 pm: READ and ROLL: Game Night for All Ages (12 & under with adult) at Reading Leaves Bookstore and Coffee Nook

Saturday 10

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

Monday 12

- 7:00 pm: Program on Fraud and Scam Protection at Broadwater Library Community Room

READ MORE ON PAGE 6**Tuesday 13**

- 5:00 pm: American Legion Post 42 Food and Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club
- 5:30 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Wednesday 14

- 1:00 pm: Assistance in applying for and receiving Military Benefits at American Legion Post 42 every second Wednesday
- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Thursday 15

- 5:00 pm: **FREE** Homemade Dinner Served at American Legion, 211 Broadway, Townsend
- SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
- 6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
- 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
- 7:00 PM: Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting at the Townsend Fire Station, 130 So Cedar St
- SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

Friday 16

- 12:00 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- 5:00 pm: READ and ROLL: Game Night for All Ages (12 & under with adult) at Reading Leaves Bookstore and Coffee Nook

Saturday 17

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

Thursday 22

- 6:00 pm: New Year Potluck & Planning Meeting at American Legion Post 42, 211 Broadway
- SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

Saturday 24

- 6:00 pm: Fireside Gala Dinner at Holy Cross, 101 S Walnut

SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR RESERVATIONS

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6**FOR LEGAL NOTICES!****Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting**

3rd Wednesday each month.

Next meeting: January 15th, 7:00PMAt the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>**FREE THURSDAY DINNERS!**

Every Thursday, 5:00 - 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? STOP BY OR**MENU? 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 (SAL).***Monthly Chamber Meeting**

6pm, January 22nd

American Legion Post 42

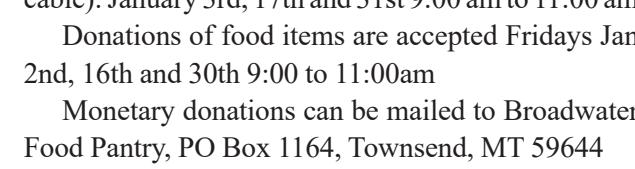
All invited to share a dish

at the New Year Potluck!

LOCAL WORK**HELP WANTED**Farm Help Needed: Harvesting and Haying
Contact Leonard 406-949-0208**Job Posting**

Toston Irrigation District is hiring a person to maintain and distribute water.

Contact Leonard at

406-949-0208 or by email tid@mt.net**Broadwater Food Pantry**

P.O. Box 1164 • Townsend, MT 59644

Broadwater Food Pantry, 315 Broadway, Townsend, MT

Distribution days (1st & 3rd Saturday + 5th if applicable): January 3rd, 17th and 31st 9:00 am to 11:00 am

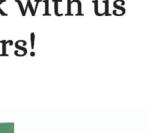
Donations of food items are accepted Fridays Jan 2nd, 16th and 30th 9:00 to 11:00am

Monetary donations can be mailed to Broadwater Food Pantry, PO Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644

Donation boxes are available at Bob's Market at check stands.

Food Pantry is staffed by volunteers from local churches. The month of January is Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

For questions, donations, appointments and emergency food supplies call 406-980-0800.

Looking for firestarter, or extra paper for a special craft project?

Stop into our office at 408 Broadway in Townsend between 10am - 2pm, Monday - Friday, and talk with us about our old papers!

**MT 43 News**
Local People. Local Stories.**CUSTOM OPTIONS SPECIFIC TO YOUR TRUCK****(406) 594-1854****DOUBLE DIAMOND FABRICATION****NOW BUILDING FLATBEDS**



RESTAURANTS 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
Thursdays 5:00PM= FREE Community Dinner
SPECIAL Event with Food: N/A
Bar hours may vary

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.betseysportszone.com

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

Bunkhouse Bar & Grill

8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302
SPECIAL: N/A
Dining Hours: 10:00AM – Close
Grill off at 10:00PM

Canyon Ferry Brewing & Taproom

300 Broadway, Townsend (406) 694-5687
Hours: Wed - Fri. 4:00PM - Close
Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close

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
changincmerc.square.site

Commercial Bar

101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956
Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM
Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas
Menu available on Facebook

Mint Cafe

305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867
Dining Hours: Wed 8:00AM - 2:00 PM, Thur - Fri 8:00AM - 8:00PM
Sat - Sun 7:00AM - 8:00PM
Closed Monday & Tuesday
SPECIAL: N/A

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

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

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

Mountain Grounds Coffee
(406) 475-0672
401 Broadway, Townsend
Dining Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 4:30PM
Sat - Sun 8:00AM - 5:00PM
Online Ordering: MTNGROUNDS.com

Fish tale Tavern

209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582
Dining Hours: Tuesday 10:00AM - Midnight
Wed - Sat 10:00 AM - Close
Sunday 10:00 AM - Midnight
Closed Monday
Daily Specials: Facebook

Peking China

10 N Main St, Three Forks (406) 285-3225
Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 11:30AM - 8:30PM
Menu: Google

Full Belli Deli

209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459
Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 8:00AM - 7:00PM
OPEN 4th of JULY

Rocky Mountain Supply Deli

7847 US Hwy 287, Townsend (406) 266-3456
Hot & Cold To-Go Hours: Mon-Fri 6:00AM - 6:00PM
Menu: Board Inside Store for Take-and Bake or Ready-to-Eat Pizza
Call Ahead or Order Inside

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
Facebook & Instagram

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

Vaquero's Mexican Restaurant

219 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-1860
Dining Hours: Tue - Sun 11:00AM - 9:00PM
Closed Mondays
Menu & Specials: Facebook
Call Ahead or Order Inside

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: L equals X

H Q G I J N E G A Q S I D J P K K G I V B

D N G J G L A S I Y A W N X I N

Z O O Z X G I A X G Z J N I, H Q Z A

E S D Q A B N P Y Z V V A Q Z A ?

O N N W N W G L S J A G I Y G .

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KNIGHT MOVES

S	A	F
K		T
R	A	C

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

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LOCAL BUSINESS

DIRECTORY



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WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN
YOU NEED US!

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

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511 N. Front St., Townsend, MT

BSE EXCAVATING

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

LEYLAND INSURANCE

TURNING 65 SOON?
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!

MARK LEYLAND
406-438-7315
LEYLANDMT.COM

MONTANA HYDRAULICS LLC
Fabrication & Machining
• DD Custom Flatbed Dealer
• Laser Cut Parts Fabrication
• Machining Hydraulics
406-449-3461 Townsend-Helena

CONTACT MT43 NEWS TO LIST
YOUR BUSINESS NOW!
MONDAY - FRIDAY
10:00AM - 2:00PM
408 BROADWAY, TOWNSEND
406.266.0086

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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Super Crossword

FAMILY EXPANSION

ACROSS	43	Spool	78	Revise	122	Choose	28	Big name in	71
1	It turns	litmus paper	44	Gets firm	123	Aden citizens	30	Nuclear trial	prohibition
	blue		46	Produced a	124	French edict	31	Catch cold	
7	Strip a dis-	guise from	48	napped	125	site of 1598	32	Tartan skirt	
13	"Baby"	(#1 U2	Chart show-	surface on	Nail coater		33	sporter	
	album of	1991)	ing the highs	Shanghai dir.			34	First	
20	Arrive like	the tide	and lows	88 One of the			35	Constitution	
21	Savage		of actress	Skylarkers	Wall St.	novel, with	36	section	
22	Less dull		Ellen's	dressed up	opportunist	"The"	37	Risen people	
23	Rural		career?	as St. Nick?	2 Singer	Grow	38	Inclined (to)	
24	lumber-		51 Alex of "The	93 With skill	Rawls	wealthy	39	Galileo's gp.	
25	jack resting		Godfather"	94 Fir's cousin	3 Dutch	88 Inclined (to)	40	Inclined (e.g.	
26	after		52 LP replacers	95 "Ender's	airline	99 History unit	41	91 History unit	
27	chopping?		53 KGB's milieu	Game" star	4 Home to	107 History	42	92 Light refrain	
28	Tough for		55 "all over!"	58 Alex of "The	5 edelweiss	11 "Get Happy"	43	95 Disinterrest	
29	towing bricks		56 " — all over!"	59 "Help!"	6 Probable	12 songwriter	44	96 "No —!"	
30	Extended		57 Asian dress	60 "Help!"	6 Architect	13 Highland	45	"Uh-uh!"	
31	cloth used		58 Alex of "The	61 "Writer Anais	7 Jones	14 terrier, briefly	46	97 Glistening	
32	for messy		Godfather"	62 Orios great	8 Writer Anais	15 Saloon	47	98 Hall-of-Fame	
33	cold-weather		59 "Help!"	63 Ripken	9 Not be joking	16 barrel	48	footballer Mel	
34	meals?		60 "Help!"	64 Sea in 75-	10 "Get Happy"	17 Figured out	49	100 Flower organ	
35	Hostile force		61 "Help!"	65 Across	11 "Get Happy"	18 "Rabbit, Run"	50	102 Dry, white	
36	Down food		62 "Help!"	66 "Help!"	12				

LEGAL NOTICES

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



NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on March 24, 2026, at 11:00 AM on the South Entrance Steps of the Broadwater County Courthouse located at 515 Broadway Street, Townsend, MT 59644, the following described real property situated in Broadwater County, State of Montana:

Lot 99 of Wheatland Meadow Subdivision as shown in Book 2 of Plats, Page 109, Broadwater County, Montana.

More commonly known as 59 Starview Dr, Three Forks, MT 59752-9100.

James J. Gundersen, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Alliance Title and Escrow Corp., as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., by Deed of Trust on August 7, 2018 (the "DOT"), and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Broadwater County, State of Montana, on August 13, 2018, as Instrument No. 180945, in Book 190, at Page 389, of Official Records.

THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSIGNED FOR VALUE AS FOLLOWS:

Assignee: Newrez, LLC., D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

Assignment Dated: July 8, 2025

Assignment Recorded: July 8, 2025

Assignment Recording Information: as Instrument No. 201742, in Book 272, at Page 141,

All in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder for Broadwater County, Montana.

Jason J. Henderson is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Broadwater County, State of Montana, on October 20, 2025 as Instrument No. 202432, in Book 275, at Page 149, of Official Records.

The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to the Grantor(s) failure to make monthly payments beginning March 1, 2025, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$169,205.22, a deferred principal balance of \$7,706.29, interest in the sum of \$7,493.86, escrow advances of \$2,323.15, and other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$836.61 for a total amount owing of \$187,565.13, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced.

The Beneficiary anticipates, and may disburse, such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantor. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured

by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any.

The Beneficiary has elected, and has directed, the Trustee, to sell the above described property to satisfy the obligation.

The sale is a public sale and any person, including the Beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid immediately upon the close of bidding in cash or cash equivalents (valid money orders, certified checks or cashier's checks). The conveyance will be made by Trustee's Deed, without any representation or warranty, including warranty of title, express or implied, as the sale is made strictly on an as-is, where-is basis, without limitation, the sale is being made subject to all existing conditions, if any, of lead paint, mold or other environmental or health hazards. The sale purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.

The Grantor, successor in interest to the Grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, has the right, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, to pay to the Beneficiary, or the successor in interest to the Beneficiary, the entire amount then due under the Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby (including costs and expenses actually incurred and attorney's fees) other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred and by curing any other default complained of herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Deed of Trust with Successor Trustee's and attorney's fees. In the event that all defaults are cured, the foreclosure will be dismissed and the foreclosure sale will be canceled.

The scheduled Trustee's Sale may be postponed by public proclamation for up to 15 days for any reason. In the event of a bankruptcy filing, the sale may be postponed by the Trustee for up to 120 days by public proclamation at least every 30 days.

If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Successor Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Dated this 29th day of October, 2025.

Jason J. Henderson, Substitute Trustee

38 2nd Avenue East, Dickinson, ND 58601

Telephone: 801-355-2886

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8AM-5PM (MST)

File No. MT23330

Published January 9, 16 and 23, 2026

MNAXLP

Montana First Judicial District Court, Broadwater County

In the matter of the Name Change of Amy Lee Smith:
Amy Lee Smith, Petitioner
Case No.: CDV-2025-59

Notice of Hearing on Name Change

This is notice that the Petitioner has asked the district Court for a change of name from (your name now) Amy Lee Smith

To (name you want) Amy Lee Sidle

The hearing will be on (date) 02/20/2026 at (time) 10:30 AM

The hearing will be at the Courthouse in (county) Broadwater County.

Filed Date 12/15/25

Audrey Plymale Clerk of District Court

By Beth Campbell, Deputy Clerk of Court

Published January 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026

MNAXLP



STAY ALERT AND EDUCATED ABOUT FRAUD AND SCAMS!

Program on Fraud and Scam Protection, January 12

Mary Ellen Schnur

The public will have a great opportunity next Monday evening, January 12, to learn more about protecting themselves from theft, fraud, and unfair business practices, more commonly known as scams. Broadwater County Farm Bureau is sponsoring the program at the library community building.

Representatives from two state agencies will present information and answer questions.

The Office of Consumer Protection, a division of the Department of Justice, is charged with enforcing laws designed to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices; investigating false, deceptive, or misleading business practices; and enforcing laws related to telephone solicitation or telemarketing. OCP also provides consumer alerts and consumer education.

The Commissioner of Insurance and Securities Office regulates insurance and securities (think investments). The office educates and licenses insurance and securities agencies. It verifies that insurance companies and securities firms are financially sound. It enforces actions against insurance fraud or financial fraud. New concerns are cropping up in the securities area with cryptocurrency becoming a medium of exchange. CSI is also charged with educating the public to avoid financial misfortune via insurance or security fraud.

In this day of instant communication, it is more important than ever for folks to know how to protect their own financial well being.

Broadwater County Farm Bureau is looking forward to hosting a good crowd at the program Monday evening, January 12, 7 p.m. at the library community room.

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

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

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

DID YOU KNOW?

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

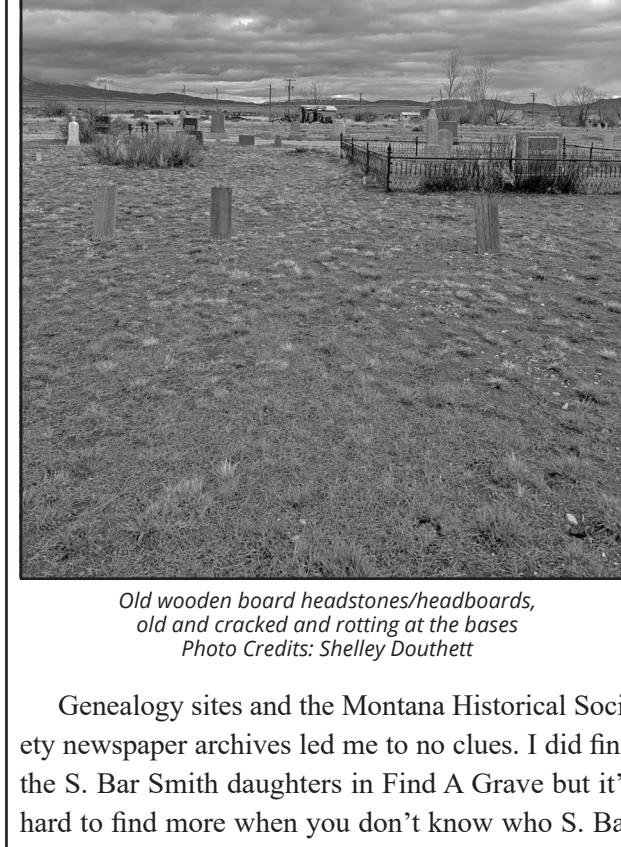
Differences: 1. Band around her is wider. 2. Please handle this differently. 3. Chair is taller. 4. Plant is taller. 5. Hand is more... 6. Hand is more... ©2009 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Whispers of the Past

Shelley Douthett



Finally, 'tis the season to be super busy is over. Time to get back to work on important things like the Centerville Cemetery inhabitants. Been doing a bit of digging into mysteries out there. For instance, there are 3 old wooden board headstones/headboards, old and cracked and rotting at the bases. In different light angles, you can almost read something on one of them. A random note in one of the museum notebooks says it's the date 1888, and there are three children buried there. Two little daughters of S. Bar Smith, who died in an epidemic, and a son of Job Thompson. This is where I ran off the tracks and into a brick wall.



Old wooden board headstones/headboards, old and cracked and rotting at the bases

Photo Credits: Shelley Douthett

Genealogy sites and the Montana Historical Society newspaper archives led me to no clues. I did find the S. Bar Smith daughters in Find A Grave but it's hard to find more when you don't know who S. Bar Smith is. Anyone know? Is it the name of a ranch or a person? Do you know how many Smiths there are in the county? A bunch. Absolutely no mention of a son of Job Thompson dying as a child around 1888. I am bereft. In the meantime, I plan to pull up the wooden headstones and reset them so they aren't knocked down easily. Why? Because they are cool and sort of sad. I'm thinking we'll never know who is buried there for sure. Dang mysteries.

One of the things I've started doing through the Find A Grave page are the photo requests people make through the site. I try to fulfill the ones in Broadwater County but it's been more difficult than I thought it would be. Most of the requests have turned out to be pauper graves which means there are no headstones. I need to stop finding extra things to do.

For those of you who have wandered out to or plan to wander out to the cemetery, the gate does have a chain on it but it is not locked. It has a clip to keep it closed. A warning about two things: there is a lot of cactus out there. I have been chopping it out around the graves I'm working on because it's painful to sit on. And, there are a lot of gopher holes so watch your step. I've been backfilling them with said cactus but both are the bane of my existence.

With this weather, I've been able to resume working out there periodically. I admit it's slow going because I tend to want to make each headstone perfect in my eyes and may spend too much time doing mindless things to my satisfaction. Time to step it up. One of the ideas I've thought about is to put on a 'how to clean a headstone' workshop someday. If you think you would be interested in one, send me an email at rangebabe56@gmail.com. There are several cemeteries in the county we could use for class, with permission, of course.

OBITUARIES

Pamela J. McGuire

Family of Pamela J. McGuire

November 29, 1953 – December 22, 2025

Pamela J. McGuire, age 72, of Helena, passed away Dec. 22, 2025.

On December 22nd, 2025, Pamela “Pam” Jean McGuire went home to be with her Lord and Savior after over five years battling Multiple Systems Atrophy. It was a disease that robbed her of much, but not her sweet spirit. She was 72, cared for to the end in her Helena, Montana home by those who loved her dearly.

Pam was born on November 29th, 1953, in Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan. She was the first of four children born to Harvey Hays and Marlene Stull. They lived in Cleveland, Ohio, for most of Pam’s elementary school years before relocating to Chicago, Illinois, where she attended middle school. Her family moved back to the Detroit area for high school, where at church she met her husband of 53 years, Keith McGuire. They married on August 12, 1972.

A year later, Keith and Pam moved to Union City, Tennessee, where they started their life and family of three children. In the spring of 1990, they excitedly left the heat and formality of the South for the cool air, beautiful mountains and relaxed culture of Montana. Settling in the small city of Townsend, they continued to build their home and family, striving first to honor the Lord with their lives by serving Him and others, and secondly to allow their children to grow and thrive in the small town community and things they loved.

The McGuire family spent much of their time and energy at Faith Baptist Church in Townsend. Pam could be found sitting shoeless at the church organ accompanying Keith as he led music, teaching Sunday School, caring for children in nursery, and meeting many other needs that arose. Outside of church her days were spent serving her household in addition to running a “tight ship” as a caring substitute teacher at Broadwater Elementary School. Once her children left her nest, she went to work using her sharp accounting mind in various finance roles. She retired from Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA) in 2021, after 13 years as an Accounting Associate.

Her stress relief was hunting unbelievable thrift and clearance bargains. Her hobby was playing with her grandkids, providing them fruit snacks and the coolest toys (always purchased as a steal of a deal), and making them feel like they were on a vacation whenever they came to Nanny’s house. Pam was famous for jumping into any work that needed to be done. It did not matter whose house she was in or who cooked the meal, she would fight anyone over doing the dishes and cleaning



Pamela J. McGuire
Photo Provided by Family of Pamela J. McGuire

up the kitchen. She was a most dedicated Christian, wife, mother, grandmother and friend. God and her family came first, followed by others in need, and herself last. Her love and support of her husband and children were unwavering and fierce. Her delight was the many grandchildren she was blessed with

The greatest impression Pam leaves on all of us is a life marked by one who knew Jesus as her Savior. She fully and humbly embraced her own need for his saving grace and daily help living in a broken world. She began each day with rollers in her hair, coffee mixed with hot chocolate, prayer and reading His word in the early morning hours. He was her greatest source of strength, hope and joy. Those who were blessed to be a part of her life will miss her most for her servant’s heart and zeal, and faithfulness in taking the needs of those around her to God in confident prayer. In her last years, as so much of her mind and body faded and left her unable to do most of what she loved, her smile, sweet spirit, desire to help others and be close to the Lord remained bright.

Pam is preceded in death by her parents, Marlene and Harvey Hays. She is survived by her husband, Keith McGuire; children Aaron McGuire (Jacqui), Corey McGuire, and Leah Brown (Kyle); and siblings Matt (Patti), Harold (Sue) and Sandy Hays. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Whitney, Carter and Jordyn McGuire, Kiera Brown, Lauren Weaver, Tatem Repnak and Porter Brown.

Words cannot express the thanks Pam’s family would like to relay to Elaine Rummel, Rosie Risemberg, Katie Torstensen and Deborah Bavosa. Their care and support to Pam and her family over the past two years cannot be articulated or quantified. When she could no longer physically serve and care for herself or others, they gave her the absolute best of both.

Joan Carol (Gibbons) Saxby

Family of Joan Carol (Gibbons) Saxby

Joan Carol (Gibbons) Saxby was born March 12, 1945, in Southgate, California, the middle of 5 daughters for Hector and June Gibbons. Her younger years were marked by numerous moves as a husband tried to please a wife that never seemed satisfied with where she was located. By 1960, she was living in a house her father had built in the Sierra Nevada mountains about 20 miles southeast of Placerville, California. Her nearest neighbor was the Saxby family at an irrigation company’s dam, two miles away. Joan was in high school and her two younger sisters were in grade school. It wasn’t cost effective to drive a bus out to pick them up each day, so an arrangement was made to have the Saxby’s son, also in high school, drive all of them to the grammar school. This was also the high school pickup point for the 18-mile drive to high school. This led to Joan marrying Bob Saxby in 1965.

The newlywed couple moved to San Luis Obispo, so Bob could graduate in 1967, and began a 27-year career in the Army. The first 8 years without children were exciting, blending into the military regime of changing uniforms, odd hours of activity, fancy dress balls, sudden moves without warning and the excitement of visiting destinations around the world. In 1969 and 70, Joan was alone living in Sacramento as Bob was in Vietnam. A year of language training at the Presidio of Monterey, two years in Germany with trips all over Europe from the Mediterranean to the Arctic Circle, then back to Maryland for a year. Suddenly, the carefree time without kids ended with a son (Will) born 1973 in Bethesda, Maryland, a daughter (Tamara) 1975 in Fort Knox and back to Germany. The pace never slowed, the times running a household alone were constant, but Joan was always there, making a home for her soldier to come home to. Another move back to Ft Ord and a third child, a son (Jon) 1980, was born. In 1986, the Army assigned Bob to support the Montana National Guard stationed in Bozeman, Montana. For the first time in her life, Joan had a home of her own. There



Joan Carol (Gibbons) Saxby
Family of Joan Carol (Gibbons) Saxby

were animals around the property, a job she enjoyed and three kids in school.

Bob retired in 1993, and life became totally different. Joan was a housewife divorced from a controlling military. Normality at last, stability, future planning and reliable hours were to be enjoyed as she joined in purchasing the Mustang Motel in Townsend in 2003. This was to be the retirement they had discussed for many years. In 2005, her world was turned upside down with a diagnosis of cancer. For twenty years, she fought the cancer and many of the related accompanying side effects. But in the end, all the chemicals used to prolong life were too much. She passed from this mortal coil the day after Christmas, 2025.

Throughout her life, one thing was constant, no matter the circumstances, no matter the location and it was repeated in one of the last things she ever said. “I love you.”

No words can ever express how much she will be missed.

GUEST EDITORIALS

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

Call Home - A Very Real Help for Those Who Contemplate Suicide

Scott McMillian

Editor of Montana Quarterly Magazine

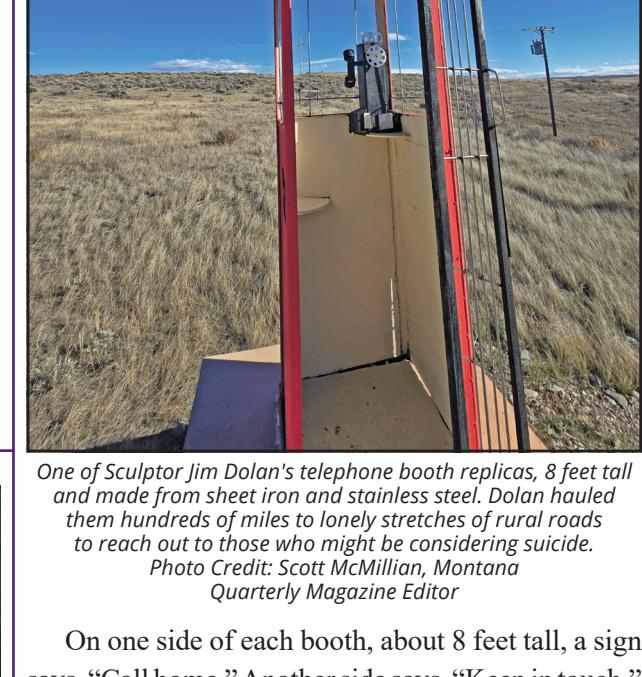
Editor's Note: The sculptor Jim Dolan stationed his blue horses on a windy hillside in South Broadwater County. They can be seen as you drive by on Highway 287.

Suicide claims more lives in Montana than drug overdoses and homicides combined. Somebody takes their own life almost every day in Big Sky Country, giving it the highest suicide rate in the country. This trend is not a new thing, particularly in the state’s more rural reaches, where reaching any kind of medical help can mean a long, lonesome drive.

Sculptor Jim Dolan has seen suicide in his own family. He knows the pain, and he wants to help. So, he built a couple dozen phone booths.

“What can I do to help the people of Montana with my art?” he asked himself last January. “How do you deal with isolation? You talk. You stay in touch.”

Dolan fired up his torch and started making phone booths of sheet iron and stainless steel, then hauling them hundreds of miles from his Gallatin Valley home to central and eastern Montana. They don’t function as telephones, of course, but that doesn’t mean they can’t carry a message.



One of Sculptor Jim Dolan's telephone booth replicas, 8 feet tall and made from sheet iron and stainless steel. Dolan hauled them hundreds of miles to lonely stretches of rural roads to reach out to those who might be considering suicide.

Photo Credit: Scott McMillian, Montana Quarterly Magazine Editor

On one side of each booth, about 8 feet tall, a sign says, “Call home.” Another side says, “Keep in touch.” A third says, “Dial 988,” the suicide and crisis lifeline. The bright red cubicles are designed to be visible, to catch the eye from maybe a half mile away on an open prairie, to urge a person to slow down as they approach and maybe think about the message.

“It won’t solve all the problems, but it might get somebody to call home, to get some help,” Dolan said.

Dolan grew up in California but has lived in Montana since his days at Montana State University, where he earned two degrees in agriculture. He began making a living as a sculptor 53 years ago. His best-known work is what he calls the Bleu Horses, a herd of 39 lifelike equines that twist and respond to the wind on a hillside north of Three Forks. While horses are a specialty, he’s also made an even bigger herd of bison, some oversized elk and an eagle the size of a shipping container. His work adorns homes and public spaces around the country and in countries as distant as Japan and Ukraine. It’s high art but also hard labor, with a lot of lifting, welding and grinding.

The 24 phone booths he’s created weigh about 500 pounds apiece, sturdy enough to survive constant prairie wind and occasional stints as a bovine scratching post. It takes a tractor or a bobcat to load them on a trailer and install them on isolated patches of pasture from Ringling to Saco, from Ekalaka to Birney to Circle. No landowners have turned him down when he’s asked to park a booth on their property.

He’s financing most of the materials, labor and transport on his own, though a couple friends have chipped in.

“You can spend all your time raising funds, or you can spend all your time making phone booths,” he says with a shrug.

So, he’s trying to make calls happen. “Maybe you’ll call your kids,” he said. “Or your mom and dad.”

It’s how healing starts.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

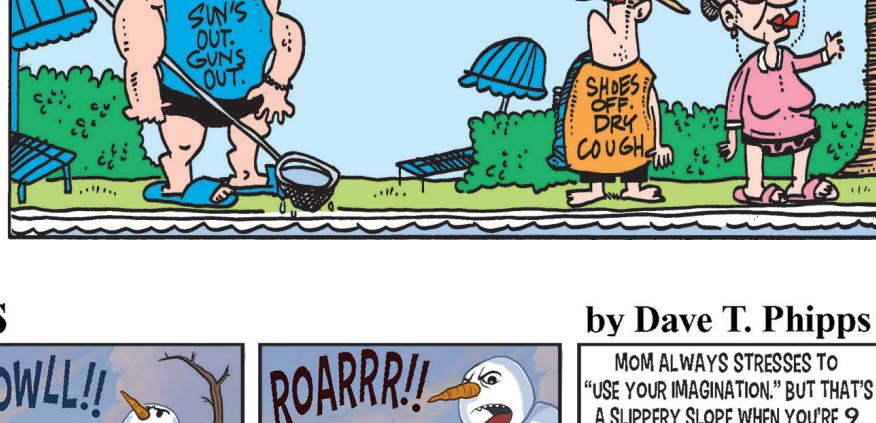
by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

**SNOWBIRDS
LAND IN
SARASOTA...**

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Amber Waves



The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



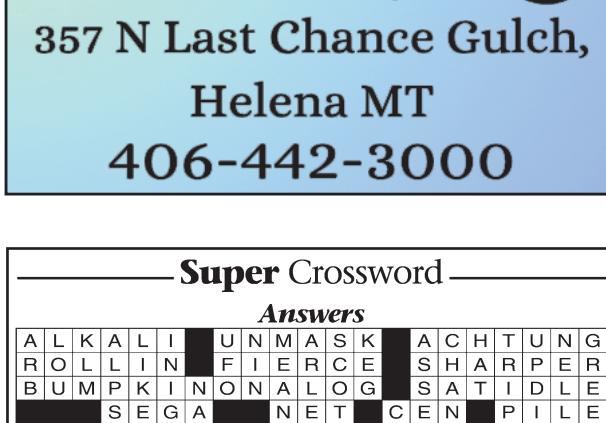
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



Super Crossword

Answers

ALKALI	UNMASK	ACHTUNG
ROLLIN	FIERCE	SHARPER
BUMPKIN	ONALOG	SATIDLE
SEGA	NETCEN	PILE
HODLONG	GWINTERSNAPKIN	
ENEMY	EATIRISSESSEE	
REEL	SETSTEASELED	
BARKINGRAPH	CDSUSSR	
ITSARI	ROCCO	JOULE
CALOPEC	ARALAHANIM	
ITAOPUS	PUSHKINBUTTON	NCO
DIYOPS	ASIAEROSYET	
EMENDKNEEL	SIRESSSE	
SERAASI	SANTAANAKIN	
BARTLETT	ABLYPINE	
ASA	STATORTBSA	STETS
PIGSKIN	INABLANKE	SOS
ARLO	CDELAO	ITAS
TREADLE	VACUUMPUMPKIN	
HEAVIER	ALONSODECIDE	
YEMENIS	NANTESENAMEL	

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CryptoQuip

answer

When something suddenly
goes extinct for no
apparent reason, what
might you call that?
Poof of existence.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Ambush; 2. Breach;
3. Gambit; 4. Inched

Today's Word

WATCHING

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

S	A	F
3	6	1
K	T	
8		4
R	A	C
5	2	7

FASTRACK

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Honoring Our Military: Navy Sailor, Will Lynde



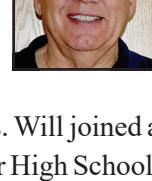
Seaman Will Lynde with the U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard.
Photo Courtesy: TJ Lynde

Matt Nelson

Townsend native Will Lynde has been serving in the United States Navy since 2023. His sister Scout, his dad TJ, and his grandfather Stan are also Navy Veterans. Will joined a month after graduating from Broadwater High School. He had joined to become an Aviation Machinist Mate, which is a mechanic on any type of aircraft that the Navy is using. However, while he was in Boot Camp at Great Lakes, IL, he was interviewed about becoming a member of the U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard (USNCG) in Washington, D.C. The same night he graduated from Boot Camp, he was on a plane to D.C., where he was stationed at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

Immediately, he started training with strict ceremonial uniform inspections, polished brass belts, drill movements, physical tests, and disassembly of the M-1 rifle and lacquering it, then reassembling it, before being allowed to participate in the actual duties of the USNCG. The training for new members is very intense; they call it Boot Camp 2. Lots of exercise, lots of push-ups, lots of being yelled at, etc.

Once this initial training is complete, the sailors are assigned to the Marching Platoon and go through another month of more specialized training to be assigned to one of four different positions. Will picked the Color Guard. The other positions are the Firing Party for gun salutes, to perform at different funerals or retirements, mostly working at Arlington National Cemetery, and also, they do the cannon shoots in the Navy Yard. The Casket Bearers work mostly at Arlington. The last group



is the Drill Team, which specializes in performing rifle stunts and movements.

Will liked being in the Color Guard because it had the most variety for ceremonies. Although their job was basically Monday through Friday, often they had to go to Arlington for a couple of hours on either a Saturday or Sunday, but not both, honoring our nation's fallen heroes. A couple of times, Will was there for the funeral service of some astronauts, but he doesn't remember who they were. He has been to the memorial grave site of the Challenger astronauts who perished during the explosion on January 28, 1986.

While working in the USNCG He did meet President Biden in a formal greeting, but wasn't able to have a conversation. Most of Will's time there occurred during President Biden's term. At the time of President Trump's inauguration, Will was a Squad Leader and involved with training new Ceremonial Guard troops, so he didn't have much to do during the inauguration. He wasn't going to the ceremonies anymore.

He was in D.C. for two years, which is the actual time that the members of the Ceremonial Guard all stay. Last August, he received orders to go to Pensacola, Florida for his actual Aviation Machinist job. He started training in September, working on the engines of F-35 jets, and in October was reassigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 125 in Lemoore, California. After his honorable discharge in June 2027, he expects to enroll at Montana State University in Bozeman.

Thank you, Will, for your service to our country.

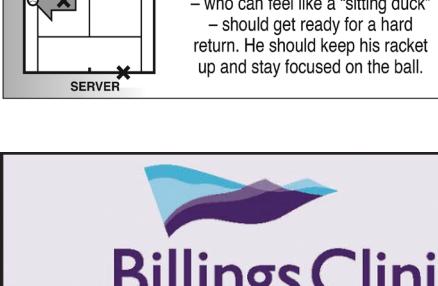


The Lynde Family - L-R TJ, Scout, Samara, Will.
Photo Courtesy: TJ Lynde



Seaman Will Lynde is wearing his F-35 flight line coveralls.
Photo Credit: Will Lynde

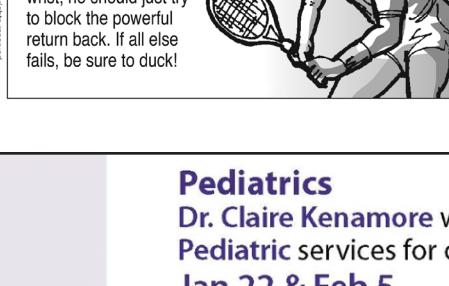
STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS



Illustrations by Stan Smith © 2023

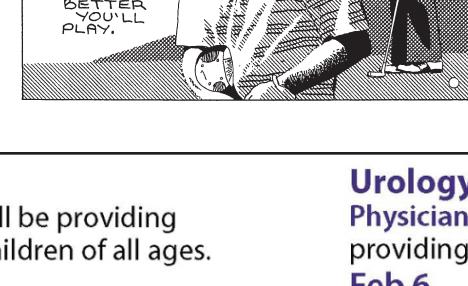
DOUBLES: NET POSITION

When the server hits a weak second serve, his partner at the net - who can feel like a "sitting duck" - should get ready for a hard return. He should keep his racket up and stay focused on the ball.

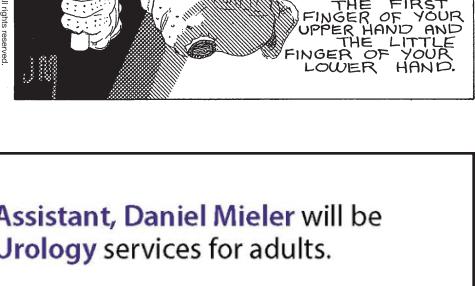


The best defense for the net player is to keep his racket head in front of him and above his waist. With a firm wrist, he should just try to block the powerful return back. If all else fails, be sure to duck!

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Pediatrics

Dr. Claire Kenamore will be providing Pediatric services for children of all ages.

Jan 22 & Feb 5



Claire Kenamore, MD

- Well-child visits for young children and adolescents
- Mental health
- Immunizations
- Kindergarten check-ups
- Sports physicals

Pediatrics Endocrinology

Dr. Margaret Siska will be providing Pediatric Endocrinology services for children of all ages.

Jan 22



Margaret Siska, MD

- Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes
- Disorders of growth and puberty
- Adrenal, pituitary, and thyroid gland disorders
- General endocrinology

Urology

Physician Assistant, Daniel Mieler will be providing Urology services for adults.

Feb 6



Daniel Mieler, PA

- Non-invasive treatment
- Minimally invasive surgery
- General urologic surgery

OB/GYN

Physician Assistant, Carley Hennessy will be providing OB/GYN services for adult women.

Jan 20 & Feb 17



Carley Hennessy, PA

- Contraception
- Menopause
- Family Planning
- STI testing

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

January 8

1903

Local News

J. L. Moore, who went back to his old home at Memphis, Missouri, with a carload of horses just after election, returned to his Townsend stomping ground the fore part of the week.

Don't fail to attend the masquerade Jan. 16th, to see Tom Dixon, Marks Sr., Wm. Wylander, Jake Schaaf, Judge Weston, Abbot Sr., L. Rotwitt and others make their "debut" as contestants for 1st prize. It will be worth your weight in gold.

W.T. Deadmond, who has been mining near Diamond, has been to town on business for several days during the week.

Fix your face up and get a suit for the time of your life at the masquerade Jan 16. Suits from \$1.00 to \$10.00. Single and double faces at all prices.

Grandpa Sullivan has gone to spend the winter with his son and other relatives at Shelby Junction.

Dr. Belcher as a health officer has been rather busy during the past few weeks quarantining and fumigating, having made several trips to Winston, which were occasioned by diphtheria, and as many to Deep Creek for scarlet fever.

1925

Neighbors of Woodcraft Annual Ball

As has been the custom for the past twenty years, the Sandlewood Circle, Neighbors of Woodcraft, have given a ball on New Year's Eve or on the day of the New Year. For years, their annual event was in the form of a masquerade, but later years the lodge have changed their program and many times give a Carnation ball. This year, however, the entertainment varied a little.

The ball was given on New Year's evening in the Townsend Auditorium and from the moment that the dancers started their terpsichorean movements until the strains of that old familiar strain that appeals to the home goers sounded, there wasn't a halt in the evening's program or an unpleasant hitch. The Townsend Crescent orchestra played the music for the main dance and, as usual, pleased the dancers with their classy orchestra composed of stringed instruments, Harry Sterrett on the violin, Roy Allen, banjo, R.L. Reynolds, drums and Clyde Troutman, pianist. The newly organized

orchestra, known as the Broadwater Syncopators, made their initial appearance before a dance audience in Townsend when they took the orchestra place during the supper hour. The new orchestra is composed of two saxophones played by Ed and Will Daniels with Willis Seibold playing piano and R. L. Reynolds playing drums. Both orchestras made A-1 music and Townsend can well boast of its share of musicians.

The prizes awarded were as follows:

First prize for the most beautiful gown went to Miss Lucille Sullivan, who wore a red chenille brocaded georgette trimmed in narrow bands of fur, receiving a dish donated by Lasby Drug Co. The second prize was awarded to Miss Gladys Lippert, who was gowned in a beige colored chenille brocaded georgette trimmed with gray ostrich and received a pair of silk hose donated by the Townsend Mercantile.

The prize for the best waltzers was given to Mrs. Warren K. Parker of Radersburg and Ralph Doggett of Townsend, receiving a china tea pot and a nut set donated by the Townsend Hdw. And Imp. Co. and R. R. Horner, respectively.

The numbers 12 and 125 were drawn for the lucky numbers. The spectators and whoever has such numbers may obtain prizes by calling on Mrs. George Faltermeyer. The gallery prizes were a tie donated by the Toggery and Boudoir Cap donated by the Golden Rule.

1953

Local News

Miss Laurie McCarthy has returned to Berkley, Calif., after spending the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene McCarthy and other relatives. Miss McCarthy is registrar at Berkley.

Among students returning to school after spending the holidays here were Miss Mary Kieckbusch to the College of Education in Great Falls; Miss Betty Sawyer and Jack Kimpton to Montana State College in Bozeman; Ted Burch to the School of Mines in Butte; Don McCarthy to Carroll College in Helena.

Students returning to Montana State University in Missoula after spending the holidays in Townsend were Miss Roxy Ward, Dick Doggett, Don Rees and Harry Fuhs.

Miss Sheila McCarthy left for Spokane Wednesday where she has a secretarial position. She finished her course at Kinman College just before Christmas.

Miss Mardella Bieber left for Dillon Saturday to resume her studies at the Western College of Education,

after spending her vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bieber.

Miss Kay Gilstrap, who has been at Shodair hospital for a couple of months being treated for after effects of polio, is back in school. According to her mother, she is recovering satisfactorily. Miss Gilstrap is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gilstrap of the valley.

Mrs. Charles West and children of Helena visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mahony, overnight Friday. She was accompanied back to Helena by her sister, Charlene Mahony, who visited there for a few days.

Miss Patricia Perry returned to Portland Sunday after spending Christmas and the weekend here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Perry and family.

Mrs. John Sorenson entertained several of her friends at a social afternoon and tea during the holidays. Attractive holiday decorations were used, and refreshments were served to Mrs. Edith Carpenter, Mrs. Frank Holloway, Mrs. Irene Sperling, Mrs. C. Hadcock, Mrs. Elmer Kenney, Mrs. J.N. Sterrett and Mrs. Hattie Johnson.

1970

Charles Holling Selected As 'Citizen of the Year'

Charles S. Holling, electric patrolman for the Montana Power Company in Townsend, has been selected as "Citizen of the Year" 1969 for the Helena division, according to Dix C. Shevalier, Helena division manager.

Holling was chosen because of his community betterment activities, devoting his own time to events designed to improve his area, Shevalier said. Fellow employees selected Holling.

He is a Cub Scout committee man, coached Little League and Pony League baseball teams, taught gun safety, participated in the Charity Ball to raise funds for parks and playgrounds, helped in the annual city cleanup drive, was a Rotary membership drive member, sold tickets for the Volunteer Fireman's dance, was chairman of the drive for the Halloween party, raised funds for the Little League and Pony League, is a member of Rotary International, the Volunteer Fire department, the Broadwater Search and Rescue group, Civil Defense, Grass Mountain Ski Patrol and the American Legion. He is a volunteer ambulance driver and a Red Cross instructor.

Holling has been with Montana Power 19 years. He and other "Citizens" selected through the company's service area will be honored soon at a luncheon in Butte.

Time spent in a **HARDWARE STORE** is not lost!

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Smith River Float Permit Applications Available From January 1 to February 15

Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Applications for a permit to float the Smith River will be available beginning on Thursday, Jan. 1, through Sunday, Feb. 15. The drawing for float permits will tentatively be held on Wednesday, Feb. 18.

The permits are issued each year through a lottery drawing and are required to float the 59-mile section of river between Camp Baker and Eden Bridge. Parties of up to 15 people can float with one permit. A person applying for a Smith River permit must be a minimum of 12 years of age at the time they submit their permit application. There is no age restriction to participate in a Smith River float trip.

Applicants can apply for a Smith River float permit online through the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Online Licenses Service and pay a \$15 nonrefundable permit

application fee. Successful Smith River applicants will be notified via email shortly after the permit drawing is conducted on Feb. 18.

Links within the notification email to successful applicants will allow them to download and print their float permit, as well as access important and detailed information regarding their Smith River float.

Those who receive a float permit will be contacted by phone two days prior to their scheduled launch date to complete the registration process, which includes declaring boat camps and paying the appropriate float fees.

In addition to the permit drawing, the public may purchase as many \$5 Super Permit chances as they wish. Montana State Parks issues one Super Permit each year through a separate lottery. The recipient of the Super Permit will be allowed to launch on any date of their choosing for that float season.

The opportunity to purchase chances for the Smith River Super Permit will be available until March 15. The Super Permit drawing will take place on March 16. Super permit chances may be purchased online through FWP's Online Licenses Service.

As a reminder, all float parties, private and commercial, will be required to pack out their human waste from the Smith River corridor, and floaters will need to pack portable toilet systems. FWP has a list of approved, portable, hard-sided toilets that will be allowed. Alternative waste disposal systems, including bag systems, such as Clean Waste and RESTOP2, will not be allowed. Floaters can clean and sanitize their portable toilet system with a SCAT (Sanitizing Containers with Alternative Technology) machine, which has been installed at the Eden Bridge take-out.

For more information about Smith River State Park, visit: stateparks.mt.gov/smith-river/

There was a time MT43 News provided a weather forecast. Should we bring back the weather? Let us know!

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9 Fri 10 Sat 11 Sun 12 Mon

37° 32° 45° 30° 44° 27° 42° 25°

42° 31° 46° 31° 42° 24° 37° 19°

42° 31° 46° 31° 42° 24° 37° 19°

42° 31° 46° 31° 42° 24° 37° 19°