



Are you Ready to Raffle?—p.3



Delightfully Dramatic!—p.4



They Have the Need to Feed!—p.11

## THE SPIRIT OF GIVING WAS ALIVE AND WELL AT CHRISTMAS STROLL

### MT 43 News Staff

Realtor Jeannie Steele and her family have been treating the community to a free buffet since 2017. Saturday night was no exception. Even though the weather was windy and cold, families were out with strollers, toddlers and teenagers. Many of them lined up to enjoy a free meal of cold cuts, fresh fruits, cheese and desserts at her building. Her story about the community buffet is a thoughtful one. “I really love our community. It has a community feeling about it that is so engaging,” she said.

Jeannie explained her motivation about putting on the buffet. She said most people are grateful. The families with children who probably don’t have much, stand in the back, not sure whether to partake or not. The children come first. “They always ask if the food costs anything,” she continued, ‘When I say no, they help themselves. One boy grabbed a cookie from my hand. I said, ‘Wait a minute, what do you say?’ Sheepishly he said thank you but soon came back to



Jeannie Steele's real estate office was piled with delicious food offerings at the Stroll. Photo credit: Jeannie Steele



Enjoying the ride on this well-decorated float were club members Autumn Henke, Charos Neal, Cheyenne Douglas, Gage Douglas, Ruel Richtmyer and Savannah Paulsen McLaughlin. Photo Credit: Angie Paulsen

apologize and asked if it was okay if he took some food home. The children are the ones who touch my heart. “

Jeannie said she came from a place of generosity. She was one of seven children. Her father, a Butte miner, was hurt in the mines, so had to go to school to learn another trade. During those hard times when

he was recuperating, people left grocery bags on the doorstep, one with a \$100 bill in it. Bill Richards became a teacher for 32 years. He told Jeannie “We are not here for ourselves, but for others. We should give to others when we can.”

Spirit of Giving, 2

## TOWNSEND'S EMILY BIRD IS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Chris Peterson and Curt Syness

The Townsend Bulldogs weren’t able to upend Huntley Project, the Class B volleyball dynasty, but they were able to reach the state championship match and brought home state tournament hardware for the second straight season.

A huge reason for that success was setter Emily Bird. A 5-foot-5 senior, Bird set a school record at Broadwater High School with 4,755 assists. She also set a new state record with 66 assists, the most in a single match via the MHSAA record book.

She also added 69 service aces this season, as well as 458 digs, which was second on the team. For her career, Bird finished with 1,543 digs and 191 aces. She also earned her second all-state selection.

All of those achievements, as well as the success of her team this season, made Bird the clear choice for the IR’s All-Area Player of the Year.

Mackenzie Jackson, a Montana State signee, also had a stellar season for the Bengals, earning second-team All-State in Class AA. Birdie Heuiser was also second-team All-State as a middle blocker. They were

also under consideration along with Townsend’s Luci Horne, a defensive specialist who led the Bulldogs with 708 digs and 106 aces this season.



Emily Bird spikes against Columbus during the semifinal at the Class B state tournament in Bozeman. Photo Credits: Gary Marshall/BMGPHOTOS.COM

### The complete All-Area Volleyball Team is listed below:

2023 IR ALL-Area Volleyball First Team – Emily Bird, Townsend, SR, Setter, 5-5

The two-time Class B All-State: Led team with school record 1385 assists; set MHSAA record 66 single match assists; Career 4755 assists(school record); No. 2 with 458 digs, 69 service aces; Career 1564 digs, 191 aces; Helped spearhead Lady Bulldogs (24-5) to 5B championship and State B runner-up.

Makenzie Jackson, Helena, SR – Outside Hitter, 6-2 Second team Class AA All-State; Led team with 267 kills, 67 blocks; No. 2 with 47 aces; Helped Lady Bengals to Conference runner-up.

Luci Horne, Townsend, SR. Libero/Defensive Specialist, 5-2

Class B All-State; Led team with 708 digs (school record 44 in a match) and 106 aces; Career 1659 digs, 206 aces; Helped spearhead Lady Bulldogs to State B runner-up.

Birdie Heuiser, Helena, SR. Middle Blocker, 6-2 Second team Class AA All-State; Led team with 62

Player of the Year, 2

## FESTIVAL OF TREES

Rachael Elliott-Brug



This year 4-H shared six of their trees with Missouri Valley Marketing to decorate for the Stroll. We asked local businesses to help us decorate the trees which were then put up for a silent auction starting the night of the Stroll.

All monies collected from the auction will be given to our local 4H groups.



Festival of Trees in Reading Leaves Bookstore's outdoor Nook Photo Credits: Rachael Elliot-Brug

The trees each have their own theme and range in decorated value from \$60-\$275 with opening bids varying accordingly. There is still time to bid on the trees and support 4-H!

You can stop by Reading Leaves Bookstore's outdoor Nook and put in a bid on a pre-decorated tree. The auction will end on Saturday, December 9th.

You can also view all the trees by visiting our website at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/2023FestivalTrees>

Festival of Trees, TREE PHOTOS, 2

**Spirit of Giving 1**

The Stroll was sponsored by local business owners who jumped in to organize the event. Jeanne said she was motivated to participate in the Stroll due to the leadership and energy of the organizers. “Even people who have lived here all their lives, ‘lifers’ she called them, remarked it was the best Stroll ever,” she commented.



Several 4-H club floats brightened the parade including the Radersburg Rough Riders club shown here preparing a gingerbread house in a Candyland theme. Photo Credit: Angie Paulsen

The parade saw many floats including 4-H groups and others. Foth Farms Float put a new twist on Christmas Stroll giving. They gave away bags of baby red potatoes to the crowd instead of candy. And yes, there was still lots of candy for the kids along the street.

Rough Riders’ 4-H club of 19 members and their parents sold New York steak sandwiches. Townsend District Forest Service employees came with their usual great chili and cornbread. Deep Creek Pizza was packed. Stores up and down the street, and on Front Street were full of shoppers buying gifts. Many of the businesses including Canyon Ferry Brewing and the Fishtale Tavern offered hot chocolate and goodies for kids. Amanda Hazelett offered free face painting for kids in her soon-to-open daycare center. Lakeside Distillery owners Jake and Carolina Ballieu hosted an art display and gave tours of their distillery.

Historic Characters and unique entertainment were everywhere on Broadway. Townsend Hardware owner Monica Howick sang carols outside the store dressed in a period Christmas Carol outfit. “One of the stroll organizers contacted me to ask if I could put together a caroling activity outside our store. I got online, found an old-fashioned hat, made a cape from material I had lying around and began practicing Christmas carols.”

Ten-year-old Izzy Sentinella, a Townsend Elementary School fifth grader, played Christmas carols on her xylophone at the gazebo while Santa Danny Irvin greeted children who were both crying and otherwise, while they had their pictures taken with him. The Green Grinch of Doctor Seuss fame prowled around with his Jack Russel terrier mix, Jackie. Jeremy Schwartz of Helena sports the costume at most Strolls in the area, he whispered through his green mask.



After school program STOKE members sported Christmas costumes as well as costumes from recent plays in which they were actors. Photo Credit: Jim Domino

The spirit of giving remains the bedrock of the Townsend Stroll. The nonprofit Christmas Connection offers tags to buy gifts for our town’s needy children. Organizers Carol Anderson and Brett Anderson kept their vigil at the lighted tree at Reading Leaves Bookstore. By the end of the evening, only one tag remained as generous givers had taken all of them.

Claire Harris and Jessica Crushe promoted donations to Love Wins Foundation founded in the name of downed law enforcement officer Mason Moore. A brochure explains that the foundation promotes communication between the public and law enforcement. It also gives grants to first responders across Montana,



Townsend Rotary members jumped in to help organize the parade with a float. Townsend Fire Department set up detour signs to block off Broadway for the evening’s event. Photo Credit: Pat Plantenberg

Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Missouri Valley Marketing, and individual store owners wish to thank all who helped make the Stroll a success.

To view all of the MT43 News Christmas Stroll pictures and see them in full size-high definition visit our website at:

<https://mt43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/2023XmasStroll>

**Player of the Year, 1**

service aces; No. 2 with 252 kills; no. 3 with 66 blocks; Helped Lady Bengals to Conference runner-up.  
 Malena Onespot-Danforth, Helena, SR. Setter, 5-3 First team AA All-Conference; Led team with 780 assists; Helped Lady Bengals to Conference runner-up.  
 Reese Wolfram, Townsend, SR. Outside Hitter, 5-8 First Team All-5B Conference; Led team with 360 kills; No. 3 with 40 aces; Helped spearhead Lady Bulldogs to State B runner-up.  
 Kate Berg, Capital, Sr. Libero/DS, 5-8 Second team All-Conference; Led team with 406 digs; No 2 with 28 aces.

**SECOND TEAM**

Mackenzie Layng, Jefferson, SR. Setter, 5-6 Class B All-State; Led team with 537 assists, school career record 1104; 97.9 serve percentage; helped Lady Panthers to 5B runner-up.  
 Arena Falor, Jefferson, SR. Outside Hitter, 5-10 First team All-5B Conference; Led team with 344 kills; 33 blocks; Helped Lady Panthers to 5B runner-up.  
 Cassidy Flynn, Townsend, JR. Outside Hitter, 5-9 Southern B H M All-Conference; 289 kills; 28 blocks; Helped Lady Bulldogs to 5B runner-up.  
 Cameron Toney, Jefferson, JR. Outside Hitter, 5-7 First team All 5B Conference; No. 2 on the team with 321 kills, 26 blocks; Helped Lady Panthers to 5B runner-up.  
 Annika Nehring, Helena, Libero/Defensive Specialist, 5-6 Western AA HM All-Conference; Led team with 332 digs; Helped Lady Bengals to Conference runner-up.  
 Dymon Root, East Helena, SR. Middle Hitter, 5-11 Southwest A HM All-Conference; 169 kills, 48 aces, 46 blocks, 67 digs.  
 Taylor Ferretti, Capital, SR. Setter, 5-6 Led team with 372 assists.  
 Honorable Mention: Kaitlyn Noyes (Towns), Chloe Sanders (HHS), Tey’Anan Lintner (CHS), Katryn Seliskar (HHS), Maddie Averill (JHS), Ella McCarthy (HHS).

**Broadwater Blooms Flower and Gift Shop**  
 406-266-3558  
 Gifts 20% off Wreaths  
 Holiday Gnome floral Class December 16th 1:00-2:00  
 Centerpiece class December 21st 6:00-7:00  
 Call to register

**Festival of Trees Article, 1**



All Booked Tree Photo Credits: Rachael Elliott-Brug



Blooms in Red and White Tree Photo Credits: Rachael Elliott-Brug



Bulldog Tree Photo Credits: Rachael Elliott-Brug



Christmas Carol Tree Photo Credits: Rachael Elliott-Brug



Woodland Christmas Tree Photo Credits: Rachael Elliott-Brug



Vintage Tree Photo Credits: Rachael Elliott-Brug

# THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<b>December 8</b>	1:00PM Three Forks Library - Pinecone Swag Craft (\$15) 2:00PM Open Court at City Hall
<b>December 9</b>	10:00AM Three Forks Library Gnome ornament craft class (\$5)
<b>December 12</b>	1:00PM Three Forks Library - Mah Jongg 6:00PM City Council Meeting at City Hall
<b>December 13</b>	5:15PM Three Forks Community Library Board Meeting at Library
<b>December 14</b>	10:00AM Three Forks Library: Storytime 6:00PM Three Forks Music Night with www.twang at Bridger Brewing Three Forks
<b>December 15</b>	1:00PM Three Forks Library - Lego Club 1:00PM Three Forks Library - Holiday Reading Raffle Drawing
<b>December 16</b>	Three Forks Library CLOSED

# Three Forks School Calendar

<b>Dec 8 - Dec 9</b>	Basketball Shelby Tourney TBD HS Wrestling @ Whitehall Duals
<b>Dec 9</b>	Speech and Drama Three Forks
<b>Dec 11</b>	3:00 PM HS Basketball vs Manhattan Christian (home) 4:00 PM MS Girls Basketball @ Whitehall
<b>Dec 12</b>	6:00 PM Elementary Holiday Concert 8:00 PM 6-12 Holiday Concert
<b>Dec 14</b>	3:00PM HS Basketball @ Jefferson 12:05-12:45PM NHS Meeting Large Conf Rm
<b>Dec 15 - Dec 16</b>	HS Wrestling @ CMR Great Falls
<b>Dec 16</b>	1:00 PM HS Basketball vs Ennis (home)

# Townsend School Calendar

<b>Dec 8 - Dec 9</b>	HSBB @ Manhattan Tourney HSWR @ Whitehall Duals
<b>Dec 8</b>	6:00PM Interact Club Movie Night at Elementary Commons/Elementary Gym <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>Dec 9</b>	S&D @ Three Forks
<b>Dec 11</b>	6:15PM Elkhorn BB at Elementary Gym MSBBB- 1st Practice
<b>Dec 12</b>	6:00PM School Board Meeting at Community Room 6:15PM Elkhorn BB at Elementary Gym Shakespeare in the Schools at stage gym/community room/STEAM room
<b>Dec 13</b>	6:00PM Elkhorn BB at BHS Stage Gym 6:15PM Elkhorn BB at Elementary Gym 7:00PM Old Baldy Adult Open Gym at BHS 63 Gym 7:00PM Old Baldy Adult Pickleball at BHS Stage Gym
<b>Dec 14</b>	6:15PM Elkhorn BB at Elementary Gym
<b>Dec 15</b>	<b>SCHOOL IN SESSION</b>
<b>Dec 15 - Dec 16</b>	HSWR @ Great Falls 4:15PM HSBB vs Sheridan
<b>Dec 16</b>	8:00 AM Noyes Grad Party at Elem Commons/Kitchen 1:00PM HSBB vs Whitehall S&D @ Livingston



**NorthWestern Energy**  
Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

# TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

<b>December 8</b>	10:00 AM: Free Story Time and Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 12:00 pm: Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
<b>December 9</b>	6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30 pm: Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway Shrimp Saturday at The Betsy <b>SEE PAGE 10 FOR MORE!</b>
<b>December 10</b>	4:00pm Trailhead Church: Annual Children's Christmas program
<b>December 11</b>	5:00pm Townsend Rotary and Townsend Lions Club Annual Senior Citizen Dinner and Light Tour at Senior Center <b>SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS!</b> 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
<b>December 12</b>	5:00pm Townsend Rotary and Townsend Lions Club Annual Senior Citizen Dinner and Light Tour at Senior Center <b>SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS!</b> 5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry 6:00PM Winter Rancher Roundtable <b>READ MORE ON PAGE 4</b> 6:00pm Doug Sitton and Chase Ragen Present: White Christmas Wine Tasting Event at The Betsy 6:00pm Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway
<b>December 13</b>	1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St Wing Wednesday at The Betsy <b>SEE PAGE 10 FOR MORE!</b>
<b>December 14</b>	7:00pm Al-Anon at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
<b>December 15</b>	10:00AM Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library 12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry 1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St 6:00pm Broadwater Community Theater Presents: Best Christmas Pageant Ever at The Lodge of Townsend <b>SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS!</b>
<b>December 16</b>	1:00- 2:00pm Holiday Gnome Floral Class at Broadwater Blooms <b>SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS!</b> 6:00pm Broadwater Community Theater Presents: Annual Holiday Dinner Theater <b>SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS!</b> 6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945 6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway Shrimp Saturday at The Betsy <b>SEE PAGE 10 FOR MORE!</b>
<b>December 17</b>	3:00pm Broadwater Community Theater Presents: Best Christmas Pageant Ever at The Lodge of Townsend <b>SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS!</b>
<b>December 21</b>	6:00- 7:00pm Centerpiece Class at Broadwater Blooms <b>SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS!</b>
<b>December 24</b>	4:30pm Christmas Eve Service at Trailhead Church <b>SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS!</b> 9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass at Holy Cross Parish, 101 S Walnut <b>SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS!</b>
<b>December 25</b>	8:00am Christmas Day Mass at Holy Cross Parish, 101 S Walnut <b>SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS!</b> 11:00am- 12:00pm Christmas Dinner Delivered by Trailhead Church <b>SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS!</b>

## LIBRARY HOURS

### THREE FORKS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm  
Tuesday - 9:00am - 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 their website: [threeforkslibrary.weebly.com](http://threeforkslibrary.weebly.com)

### BROADWATER SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Monday through Thursday 4:00- 7:00PM  
Friday through Saturday 9:00AM- 4:00PM  
Sunday 12:00- 5:00PM  
Curbside available. Please call (406)441-3461



# BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

<b>December 11</b>	10:00am Commission Meeting at Flynn Building
<b>December 12</b>	11:30pm Trust Board at Flynn Building
<b>December 13</b>	10:00am Commission Meeting at Flynn Building 6:00pm Planning Board Public Hearing & Regular Meeting at Flynn Building
<b>December 18</b>	2:00pm Public Q & A Session at County Administrative Officer Bill Jarocki's Courthouse Office <b>READ MORE ON PAGE 6</b>
<b>January 29</b>	2:00pm Board of Health Meeting at Flynn Building

## Chase vs Transfer Case Benefit & Raffle

Sponsored by The Fish Tale Tavern

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**  
**from 4-7pm at the Fish Tale Tavern**

**Taco Bar - \$10 per plate**

**Raffle Tickets - 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20**  
**Winners will be drawn during the benefit, need not be present to win.**  
**Tickets are available for purchase at The Commercial, The Betsy, The Fish Tale Tavern & The Mint.**

**Raffle Items:**

- 1/2 of the 2023 grand champion Broadwater County 4H market steer cut & wrapped (Donated by Fish Tale Tavern)
- 10 yards of gravel (Donated by Gruber Excavating)
- \$300 gift certificate to Rocky Mountain Supply (Donated by Commercial Bar)

**Silent Auction during benefit:**

- Two (2) 10 yards of gravel delivered within 10 miles of Townsend (Donated by Quarry Services)
- Ten (10) pounds of processed buffalo meat (Donated by Scott Vine)
- And many other great items



**All proceeds to benefit Townsend resident, Chase Masolo.**

# SPEECH, DRAMA AND DEBATE

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Townsend Speech, Drama and Debate Team is off to a spectacular start for their 2023-2024 season bringing home the Class B Drama Trophy twice already. For those who are not familiar, Speech, Drama and Debate is an extracurricular competitive activity sanctioned by the Montana High School Association (MHS) taking place from October through January. It is an excellent opportunity to develop public speaking skills by offering a variety of speaking and performance events.

Both debate and speech events require professional attire with costumes and props not allowed. Debate events can be either solo or duo and include Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Policy Debate and Public Forum Debate. Speech events include Dramatic Oral Interpretation (DOI), Extemporaneous (Extemp), Humorous Oral Interpretation (HOI), Impromptu (Impromptu), Informative (Inform), Memorized Public Address (MPA), Original Oratory (OO) and Spontaneous Oral Interpretation (SPOI). Drama Events may be serious or humorous, present one or more characters, and costumes and props are allowed but not stage makeup. Drama Events include Classic Theater (Classic), Dramatic Solo, Dramatic Theater, Humorous Solo, Humorous Theater and Pantomime (Mime).

Tournaments consist of each competitor or group of competitors participating in at least three preliminary rounds (sometimes up to five preliminary rounds, depending on the size of the meet). Each of these rounds sees the pieces ranked 1st thru 8th by volunteer Speech, **Drama and Debate,**

Speech, Drama and Debate, 3



First meet of the season in Ennis.  
Photo Credits: Denise Bakkum

judges. After the preliminary rounds are complete, the top 8 in each event move on to the final round (sometimes there is a semifinal round as well, again depending on the size of

and 8th Kayley Conner (HOI). The Drama Team results 1st Scarlett McDaniel & Nykia Mondragon (Classic), 1st Trista Moos and Dania Peltier (Dramatic Theater), 2nd Arabella



Valley of Gold Meet in Helena  
Photo Credits: Denise Bakkum

the meet). After completion of the rounds, the competitors are ranked using points from all the rounds with the winner of that event having the lowest number of points.

Like track and field or cross country, Speech, Debate and Drama is both an individual sport AND a team sport. Teams are awarded points for competitors who place in the Top 8 of their events. Team trophies are awarded for each category (Debate, Speech & Drama) and usually by class. Most tournaments are one day events taking place on Saturdays, but some of the larger meets hold preliminary rounds on Fridays.

Townsend's Speech and Drama Team is coached by Denise Bakkum and Allie Lampman and is 30 Bulldogs strong. They kicked off their season on November 18th traveling to Ennis and capturing the Class B Drama Championship. The Speech Team results 3rd Lexi Davies (OO), 7th Sam Flesch (SPOI

McDaniel (Mime), 2nd Jazlyn Martin, Hayley Reinke & Melania Lambott (Dramatic Theater), 2nd Hannah Hall (Drama Solo), 3rd Noah Borrer, Sarah Morgan, Angel & Shalyn Sentinella (Classic), 3rd Jasmine Thomas (Hum Solo), 4th Caleb LeLacheur & Cooper Hines (Hum Theater), 5th Jenna Smucker (Hum Solo) and 8th Riley Rauser, Logan Barkhurst, Aidan Easter & Jenna Mainwaring (Hum Theater).

The Bulldogs went to a massive tournament in Helena over the weekend and brought home the Class B Drama Trophy again. The Valley of Gold Speech and Drama took place over two days with speech events at Capital High School, drama events at East Helena High School and a debate tournament at Carroll College. There were several hundred competitors from nearly 40 schools, representing all classes of high school competition. All classes compete in debate and speech, while only A, B & C compete in drama. The 76 drama competitors completed

five preliminary rounds, a semifinal and a final round.

The Drama Team results 1st Scarlett McDaniel, Noah Borrer & Nykia Mondragon (Classic), 2nd Hannah Hall (Drama Solo), 2nd Havyn Vandenaere & Kyla Meissner (Hum Theater), 4th Arabella McDaniel (Mime), 5th Jazlyn Martin & Hayley Reinke (Drama Theater), 5th Caleb LeLacheur & Cooper Hines (Hum Theater), 6th Dania Peltier, Trista Moos & Shalyn Sentinella (Drama Theater), 6th Jasmine Thomas (Hum Solo), 6th Creighton Wright, Isiah Cassidy & Grace Kroeger (Classic), 7th Riley Rauser, Logan Barkhurst, Aidan Easter & Jenna Mainwaring (Hum Theater) and 8th Jenna Smucker (Hum Solo). Ashley Sanderson placed 3rd in SPOI for the Speech Team.

Our Bulldogs next travel to Three Forks this Saturday, December 9th. Spectators are welcome, but be prepared to laugh out loud or need a tissue. Tournaments begin at 8:00 a.m.

**Holy Cross Parish wishes you a Merry Christmas!**

Come join us in celebrating our Savior's birth!

<b>Christmas Eve</b> Sunday 12/24/23 Mass at 9:00 pm	<b>Christmas Day</b> Monday 12/25/23 Mass at 8:00 am
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**Family Night Christmas Party**  
Sunday 1/7/24 at 5:45pm

101 S Walnut  
Townsend

## EXTENSION OFFICE TO HOST WINTER RANCHER ROUNDTABLE SERIES

Allison Kosto  
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



After a two-year hiatus, the Broadwater Rancher Roundtable series hosted by MSU Extension in Broadwater County is back! Rancher Roundtables have been a tradition in the county and are a time for local agricultural producers to gather, share a meal, exchange ideas and listen to guest speakers. This year there are two sessions each featuring two to three speakers to address a variety of relevant topics.

The Roundtables will kick off on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:00 pm. The focus of this program is technology and grazing management. Jeff Mosley, MSU Extension Range Management Specialist, will discuss some of the latest research in riparian grazing management including selective culling and streambank trampling. Sam Wyffels, MSU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist, will discuss technology in beef cattle systems. Some of the latest technologies include virtual fencing, GPS ear tags and activity sensors.

The next program will take place on Tuesday, January 9th at noon. The theme for this program is policy and land management. A representative of the Montana Stockgrowers Association will give a policy update and discuss issues affecting Montana ranchers in addition to what they are doing as an organization to address these issues. The next topic is conservation easements. Together, Justin Meissner who works with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service as the Assistant State Conservationist with a focus on easement programs and Kendall Van Dyke with Montana Land Reliance, will discuss the ins and outs of conservation easements including benefits, types of easements and how to get started.

These programs are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend one or both sessions. There is no cost to attend. The programs take place at The Lodge of Townsend (131 S. Spruce). Meals are provided so please RSVP at least four days in advance. For more information or to RSVP, contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or [broadwater@montana.edu](mailto:broadwater@montana.edu). You can also stay up to date on upcoming programs at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/broadwater/>.

### Other Upcoming Programs:

- Crop School – Wednesday, January 31st at Headwater Livestock Auction near Three Forks
- Pest Management Update – Tuesday, March 12 in Townsend
- Advanced Master Gardener Course – Mondays, March 25, April 1, 15 and 22 in Townsend

**Merry Christmas**  
FROM TRAILHEAD CHURCH

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
4:30 PM

**TRAILHEAD**  
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## MT 43 News, Inc.

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employees, or advertisers.

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MT43News@MT43News.com

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- Letters must be signed and include the author's legal name, phone number, and address for verification purposes. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
- All accepted letters will appear on the MT43News.com website. Letters will be published in the print edition in the order received as space allows and may not be published

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- MT 43 News embraces our freedom to speak freely and freedom of the press, but we reserve the right to refuse publication of any letter. We will make a reasonable effort to resolve any issues we may have with the submitter.

- Letters may discuss any subject, but are expected to deal with only one subject per-letter and be 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and length. We further reserve the right to require documentation or evidence when discussing the behavior, motivation, or lives of other people.
- Letters to the Editor may not be used as a thank-you, sales pitch, or any type of solicitation. These must apply to paid space.
- Letters should be submitted via

email (MT43News@MT43News.com) in plain text. Please do not attach any files.

- Headlines and bylines will be determined by the Editor at the editor's sole discretion.

**Political Letters and Editorials**  
Political candidates are allowed to submit one biographical article during an election year. Additional articles must be paid for or they will be considered only as space allows.

- Any letter that calls into question another person's character will be held until the other party can respond to the allegations. Rebuttals must be submitted within one week of our request. If no rebuttal is received, the letter will not be printed.

# LEGAL NOTICES

## MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN RE THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM ANDREW BERGSTAD  
Deceased  
Probate No. DP-2023-15.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, CAROL BERGSTAD has been appointed Personal Representative of the above- named estate on November 22, 2023. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed to CAROL BERGSTAD, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at 11 Cottonwood Rd., Townsend, MT 59644, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

*Printed December 08, 15 & 22, 2023*

MNAXLP

### Public Notice

A+ Storage does here by give notice to the following customer (s):

**Lilly Anne Hews**

**Jeff Jensen**

renting storage units containing household goods and miscellaneous items, that this property will be sold to satisfy rent past due, fees and costs.

The public sales will be held on December 16, 2023 at 12 PM to 1:00 PM at A+ Storage located at 21 Cemetery Lane, Townsend, MT 59644 Units G-4 and A-1

*Printed December 08 & 15, 2023*

MNAXLP

## TOSTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT, NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE COMMISSIONER ELECTION

Nomination Petitions for Water Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner for Division 1 (all lands west of Highway 287 and South of Lone Mountain Road) to be elected at the March 14, 2024 Annual Meeting may be picked up by qualifying landowners at the Toston Irrigation District Office, 8711 Hwy 287, Toston, MT 59643, 266-1630.

The petitions must be returned to the District Office no later than December 28, 2023.

*Printed December 08 & 15, 2023*

MNAXLP

## NOTICE OF PUBLI HEARING REGARDING SOLID WASTE FEE INCREASES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Solid Waste Department will be taking comments regarding the proposed solid waste fees. A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 13th at 10:00 am in the Fynn Building located at 416 Broadway Street, Townsend, MT 59644.

Thereafter, the Board of Commissioners will discuss and vote on a Resolution regarding the proposed fees.

Any public comment may be sent to 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644 or commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us and must be received prior to the hearing in order to be considered.

MNAXLP

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at Trustee's Sale on the 22nd day of February, 2024, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., on the steps of the front door of the Broadwater County Courthouse, 515 Broadway Street, Townsend, Montana, is the following property:

Lot 2 in Block 48 of the Amended Plat of Springville Townsite, recorded in Book 1 of Plats, page 510, Broadwater County, Montana.

Kimberly A. Carter, solely, as Grantor, conveyed the above-described property to Rocky Mountain Title Company, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Opportunity Bank of Montana, as Beneficiary, by Trust Indenture, dated July 31, 2015, and recorded July 31, 2015, under Document No. 173509, records of the Clerk and Recorder of Broadwater County, Montana. The beneficial interest in the Trust Indenture is currently held by Montana Board of Investments as a result of the most recent Assignment, recorded October 6, 2015, as Document No. 173921, records of the Clerk and Recorder of Broadwater County, Montana. The Trustee in the Trust Indenture was replaced by a Successor Trustee, namely, Jeff A. Turner, the undersigned.

The default in the obligation, the performance of which is secured by the aforementioned Trust Indenture, and for which default this foreclosure is made, is the failure by the Grantor, or other person owing an obligation, or by their successors-in-interest, to pay the monthly installments of \$740.79 due thereunder on the 1st day of the months of May 1, 2023, through October 1, 2023, which is applied to principal and interest and to an escrow account if established for other obligations under the Trust Indenture, late charges which are 4.00% of all payments more than 15 days in arrears, and late charges and escrow shortages currently \$227.65, attorney's fees and foreclosure costs, currently \$1,606.47, advances for property protection and partial funds, currently none, for a current total default of \$6,278.86; together with accruing late charges, advances, and expenses of

foreclosure, including attorney's fees and costs.

There is presently owed on the obligation secured by the Trust Indenture the principal sum of \$93,047.78, plus interest thereon at the rate of 2.2500% per annum from the 1st day of April, 2023, until paid, or \$5.7300 per day, currently a total of \$1,072.60, late charges, advances for property protection, and escrow shortages, currently, \$227.65, attorney's fees and costs, currently \$1,606.47, for a current total indebtedness of \$95,954.50. Other expenses to be charged against the sale proceeds include accruing late charges, escrow shortages, if any, attorney's fees and costs, and expenses of foreclosure and sale.

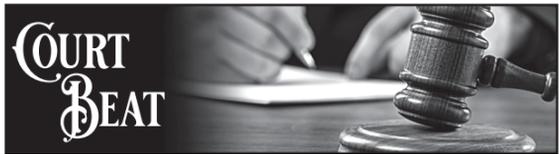
The Beneficiary has elected to sell the above-described property to satisfy the aforementioned obligation and has instructed the undersigned Trustee to do so. The sale is a public sale and any person, including the beneficiary, excepting only the Trustee, may bid at the sale. The bid price must be paid in cash. The conveyance will be by a Trustee's Deed, made "as is," without representations or warranties, express or implied, including warranties of title, possession or encumbrances. The purchaser shall be entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day following the sale.

The sale may be postponed up to 15 days for any reason by public proclamation at the scheduled sale. If there is a stay by bankruptcy or court order, the sale may be postponed up to 30 days at a time by public proclamation, for a total of no more than 120 days. The grantor, successor in interest to the grantor, or any other person having an interest in the property, at any time prior to the Trustee's Sale, may pay to the beneficiary the entire amount then due under the Trust Indenture 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 thereby cure the default theretofore existing.

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT; ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. DATED this 5th day of October, 2023.

*Printed December 08, 15 & 22, 2023*

MNAXLP



## DECEMBER 1, 2023

**Dee Gannon**

*MT43 News Correspondent*



The criminal docket in Judge Michael Menahan's courtroom on Friday, December 1 is as follows:

Hector Martinez had an Arraignment, pleading Not Guilty to bail jumping. He will be in court again on December 15.

Dylan Ridenour had a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to resisting arrest and burglary. In his elocution, he stated "I entered my stepfather's home without permission and had a verbal argument. I fled the scene on foot, a deputy tackled me and I fought him." He will be sentenced on January 5, 2024.

Tylor Castona had an Initial Appearance on a Petition to Revoke. He allegedly violated his conditions of release. His bond is \$150,000. His Pre-Trial Conference is set for January 12, 2024; with the Jury Trial scheduled for February 5.

Paul Creason did not show up for his Pre-Trial Conference. An Arrest Warrant is issued. His Jury Trial is scheduled for January 2, 2024.

Damien Duffy had a Petition to Revoke a suspended sentence. He will be back in court on January 12.

Priscella Evan had a Change of Plea; pleading Guilty to a charge of criminal possession of dangerous drugs (meth). In her elocution, she stated that "while in Broadwater County, I was a passenger in a car involved in a traffic stop. The driver gave permission for the deputy to search. I had syringes in my purse with methamphetamine residue. She will be screened for appropriate treatment in Great Falls. She is Sentenced to three years D.O.C., all suspended. She must pay \$80 in fees and surcharges.

John Hansson had an Initial Appearance and Arraignment; pleading Not Guilty to charges of intimidation and criminal mischief. Omnibus is due by February 9, 2024; Pre-Trial is set for May 10; with the Jury Trial scheduled on June 10, 2024.

Jody Giles had an Initial Appearance on a charge of accountability to criminal mischief and burglary. Her Arraignment will be December 15.

Cassandra Washington has a Change of Plea continued until January 19, 2024.

Stacy Croy will be seen on January 5, 2024.

Adam Lee pled No Contest to negligent endangerment; for allegedly firing a shot into a car. He received a one-year deferred sentence. He must pay \$80 in fees and surcharges.



# JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORT DECEMBER 8TH, 2023

Kelsi Anderson, Justice Court Clerk

### MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES

- Kaycee Woodward, Helena: day speed \$70.00
- Jennifer West, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Michael Winters, Bozeman: day speed \$120.00
- Marilyn Verploegen, Havre: day speed \$70.00
- Joshua Treaster, Townsend: night speed \$20.00
- Stella Summerfield, Missoula: day speed \$70.00
- Todd Schneider, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Michael Stratton, Clancy: night speed \$20.00
- Elrahm Swoope, St. Louis, MO: day speed \$120.00
- Kaedin Rosling, Helena: day speed \$20.00
- Oscar Ruiz-Rojas, Bozeman: day speed \$120.00
- Jarrett Rhodes, Billings: day speed \$20.00
- Stone Pogany, Anchorage, AK: night speed \$120.00
- Desarea Martinez, Helena: day speed \$120.00
- Benjamin Luitjtes, Three Forks: day speed \$120.00
- Jonathan Jenkins, Butte: interstate day speed \$40.00
- Brian Holwerda, Greenough: day speed \$70.00
- Brendyn Hewitt, Great Falls: day speed \$20.00
- Morgan Hancock, Toston: day speed \$120.00
- Steven Ferretti, Helena: day speed \$70.00
- Charles Ellis, East Helena: turning when unsafe to do so \$85.00
- Colleen Dales, Townsend: day speed \$70.00
- Kirk Dowdy, Bozeman: night speed \$20.00
- Conner Defrance, East Helena: night speed \$120.00
- Shannon Brown, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Breanna Brewer, Helena: restricted speed \$55.00
- Jose Almaraz Jr, Townsend: day speed \$20.00
- Libby Fuller, Butte: day speed \$20.00
- Patricia Murnane, Three Forks: day speed \$70.00
- Niki Bates, Teton Village, WY: day speed \$70.00
- Ryan Hartum, Ulm: day speed \$20.00
- Hayden Atwood, Bozeman: day speed \$70.00
- Aaron Mraz, Rapid City, SD: day speed \$20.00
- Owen Harvey, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00
- Andrea Smith, Townsend: day speed \$70.00
- Stephanie Bain, Helena: expired registration \$85.00
- Joel Paradis, Belgrade: day speed \$70.00

### MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

- Ashley Barber – Helena – operating without liability insurance in effect- 1st offense, pleaded guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees; day speed, pleaded guilty, \$70.00 fine.
- Ashley Barber – Helena – operating without liability insurance in effect- 2nd offense, pleaded guilty, \$385.00 fines and fees, license plates and registration to vehicle operated at the time of the offense are suspended until proof of compliance provided to MVD; expired registration, pleaded guilty, \$75.00 fines and fees.
- Richard Holstein – Whitehall – driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked - suspended for 61-8-1002, pleaded guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but two days suspended on conditions, \$135.00 fines and fees.
- Nathan Petrlich – Three Forks – driving without a valid driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$85.00 fines and fees.
- Jace Skogen – Whitehall – driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs - 2nd offense, pleaded guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but seven days suspended on conditions, \$2085.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete Act program followed by monthly monitoring for one year.

### BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

- Michael Coleman – Townsend – Partner or family member assault, causing reasonable apprehension of bodily injury in partner or family member-1st offense, pleaded guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$1085.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete Batterer's education.
- Joshua Good – Gilmer, TX - Partner or family member assault, causing reasonable apprehension of bodily injury in partner or family member-1st offense, pleaded guilty, sentenced to one year in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$1085.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete Batterer's education.
- Jeffry Schritz – Townsend – Vicious Animal, pleaded guilty, \$1027.00 restitution, \$100.00 fine.
- Brea Whitebird – Babbit, Mn – Disorderly Conduct, pleaded guilty, \$185.00 fines and fees.
- Jeffrey Jensen – Townsend – failure to secure load, pleaded guilty, \$55.00 fines and fees.

### BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES

- David Warren, Murrieta, CA: day speed \$70.00
- Lindsay Vandersloot, Shepherd: day speed \$70.00
- Jane Thayer, Great Falls: day speed \$70.00
- Tyler Smith, Helena: night speed \$20.00
- Donald Sterhan, Billings: night speed \$20.00
- Levi Poling, Addison, MI: night speed \$70.00

**Justice of the Peace, 5**

Alexander Lee, Helena: day speed \$120.00  
 Trey Lynn, Three Forks: night speed \$20.00  
 Matthew Lange, Lanse, MI: night speed \$20.00  
 Milen Krastev, Whitefish: day speed \$120.00  
 Michelle Jolley, Bozeman: day speed \$120.00  
 Nicholas Edlund, Great Falls: night speed \$20.00  
 Joel Silverman, Helena: night speed \$20.00

**MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES**

Joshua Geeraerts, Great Falls: exceed 20,000 lbs single axle weight limit \$110.00  
 Uladzislau Shylau, Brooklyn, NY: operating w/o temp special fuel permit \$85.00, No CDL for type of vehicle being operated \$135.00

**INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION**  
 Eric Reichman – L & C Co. Justice Court, \$1000.00 bond  
 Eric Reichman – L & C Co. Justice Court, \$ 5000.00 bond  
 Eric Reichman – L & C Co. Justice Court, \$1000.00 bond  
 Eric Reichman – L & C Co. Justice Court, \$1000.00 bond  
 Samuel Collins – L & C Co. Justice Court, \$50,000.00 bond  
 Erika Stratton – Silver Bow Co. Justice Court, \$5000.00 bond

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HOLD SHORT REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 29**

**MT 43 News Staff Reporter**

County Administrative Officer Bill Jarocki announced at the regular Commissioners meeting he will be holding public sessions to answer any questions the public or press might have related to ongoing county government business. The first meeting is Monday, December 18 at 2:00 pm in his courthouse office.

Wade Litton has purchased an airplane hangar at the airport. He requested to sign a lease to rent airport space with Broadwater County and the City of Townsend. The new lease, which was developed by Deputy County Attorney Jania Hatfield, will apply to all airport leases. Commissioner Darrel Folkvord, who is the county liaison on the Airport Board, said all hanger spaces are filled at this time. The lease with Litton was approved.

A Parks and Recreation Board Update was postponed.

The Commissioners approved the selection of Mt 43 News as the county's newspaper of record after discussion about two submitted requests for proposal. Mt 43 News and Broadwater County News responded to the county's request for bids. The two-year contract includes a set charge for county legal advertising. The newspaper will print meeting agendas without charge.



*Broadwater County Residents,*  
 MT43 News is proud to announce that it was selected by the County Commissioners to receive a contract for printing legal advertising for Broadwater County.

At the November 29 Commissioners meeting, they were presented a recommendation from an ad hoc committee named to review bids submitted to their request for proposal (RFP).

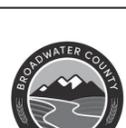
The contract term is through June 30, 2025, when the county will issue a new RFP.

MT43News looks forward to working with the county and to continue providing factual, unbiased reporting.

**MT 43 News Editor**  
 Townsend, MT

**COMMISSIONER'S AGENDA DEC 13, 2023**

**Melinda Banks**  
 Administrative Assistant



**BROADWATER COUNTY 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.com>.

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, 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 in the Courthouse (1st floor bulletin board), on our website at [www.broadwatercountymt.com](http://www.broadwatercountymt.com), in the window of the Flynn Building at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, and in the local MT43 Newspaper

*Monday, December 11, 2023*

**11:00 AM** Weekly Working Meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in the Commission Office regarding projects and deadlines

*Wednesday, December 13, 2023*

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

**10:00 AM** Discussion/Decision, Commander Spurlock, Broadwater County Detention Center, Resolution to Increase Daily Inmate Rate

**10:10 AM** Discussion/Decision, Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, Public Safety Department Budget Amendment

**10:15 AM** Discussion/Decision, Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, Press Briefing Schedule

**10:20 AM** Discussion, Jessica Erickson, Fair Manager, Fair Board Update

**10:25 AM** Discussion/Decision, Sign Resolution Contract with MT43 News for "Newspaper of Record"

**10:30 AM** Discussion/Decision, Dave and Tabitha Dixon, Lineman Rodeo Requests to Use Broadwater County Fairgrounds 2024

**10:35 AM** Discussion, Decision, Jerry Grebenc, Great West Engineering, Toston Irrigation District Pump Site Floodplain Permit

**10:40 AM** Discussion/Decision, Adam Schumaker, Gallatin Power, Extension of the Tax Abatement for the Trident Project

**10:50 AM** Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Planning and Development Director, Westside Trails Phase 3 (Township-2N, Range-1E, Section 18), requests final plat approval

**11:00 AM** Discussion/Decision, Adopt Resolution for Commission to Assume Duties of Refuse District Board

**3:00 PM** Weekly Working Meeting with Deputy County Attorney Kaylan Minor, in the Commission Office regarding projects and deadlines

*Thursday, December 14, 2023*

**10:00 AM** Working Meeting with OPXNETWORKS to discuss telecom assessment in the Flynn Building

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

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – on-going advisory board appointments
- Claims/Payroll/minutes
- County Audit / Budget
- Mail – ongoing grants
- Correspondence – support letters

Debi Randolph, Chairman  
 (406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050

Darrel Folkvord, Vice Chairman  
 (406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213

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

E-mail: [commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us)  
 Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)

(Please note: These meeting times/dates may change, please check the county website)

- Trust Board Meeting on December 12th at 11:30 AM
- BC Planning Board Meeting on December 12th at 1 PM
- Mental Health LAC Meeting on December 13th at 2 PM
- Planning Board Public Hearing & Regular Meeting on December 13th at 5:30 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on December 14th at 7 PM
- Bill Jarocki, CAO, Press Briefing on December 18th at 2 PM in his office
- Parks & Rec Meeting on December 18th at 6 PM
- Weed Board Meeting on December 19th at 6 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on December 20th at 6 PM
- COUNTY OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH FOR CHRISTMAS
- Broadband Advisory Meeting on December 28th at 4 PM
- COUNTY OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY

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

**REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR SOUTH COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING**

**Broadwater County Commissioners**



*Greetings Broadwater County residents,*  
 The Broadwater County Commissioners request letters of support for the proposed emergency services building in southern

Broadwater County. While the commissioners have saved a sizeable amount to help with the engineering and construction, supporting documentation assists with securing the grant funding needed to complete the project. The planned building location donated by Bridger Brewing is on three acres within the Wheatland TEDD and includes space for fire, EMS, law enforcement, and search & rescue.

As Broadwater County grows, there is an undeniable need for greater presence and coverage of all EMS, fire, and law enforcement services, especially in the Wheatland area. The county commissioners are leading the effort to address these needs, however, public involvement and participation will be the deciding factors of how these services are ultimately implemented.

We will continue discussion and community engagement regarding all aspects of the potential building and the ways to expand services there. At this time, your written support strengthens the efforts to bring this initial project to fruition.

The Letters of support and any questions or comments can be sent to the Broadwater County Commissioners at [commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:commissioners@co.broadwater.mt.us).

*Thank you,*  
 Broadwater County Commissioners  
 Debi Randolph - Commissioner District 1 Email: [drandolph@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:drandolph@co.broadwater.mt.us); Phone: 406.980.2050  
 Lindsey Richtmyer - Commissioner District 2 Email: [lrictmyer@co.broadwater.mt.us](mailto:lrictmyer@co.broadwater.mt.us); Phone: 406.521.0834  
 Darrel Folkvord - Commissioner District 3 Email: [dfolkvord@co.br oadwater.mt.us](mailto:dfolkvord@co.br oadwater.mt.us); Phone: 406.980.1213



*Editor,*  
 We have been asked to comment on the presidential race. I think the best way is to compare Biden against the Republican party.

Joe Biden: American Rescue Plan, Infrastructure Bill, 1st major gun safety bill in decades, Chips and Science Act, Inflation Reduction Act, cut child poverty in half, capped senior drug prices, reduced health care premiums for the ACA by \$800 a year, Medicare can negotiate drug prices, signed the PACT Act, reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act, support for Ukraine defense, hands-on in Gaza, rejoined the Paris Agreement, imposed a minimum 15% corporate tax, unemployment under 4% for 21 months in a row, wages up 5.6%, GDP up 5.7%, America's economy is growing faster than China's for the first time in 40 years.

Now let's look at Republicans. Since they took back the House they have just kicked the budget can down the road; had 2 speakers and have not passed a single bill. With the chaos in the last Republican president's cabinet and the chaos in the present House it is clear the Republican Party does not have the compassion or caring to lead the United States of America.

**Doug Purcell**  
 Townsend

**SWANSON SEEKING CHIEF JUSTICE SEAT**

**Nancy Marks**  
 Reporter



Broadwater County Attorney Cory Swanson is running for chief justice of the Montana Supreme Court. In a news release announcing his candidacy, Swanson said he is committed to being fair and impartial.

January 11 at 8 a.m. is the opening date and time for candidates to file for election to state offices, legislative and judicial seats. The filing deadline is 5 p.m. March 11.

If elected, Swanson would replace Mike McGrath who is not seeking re-election. Also running for chief justice is former federal magistrate judge Jerry Lynch. Supreme Court seats are nonpartisan positions and are for terms of eight years. Also retiring from the Supreme Court is Associate Justice Dirk Sandefur.

Swanson, now in his third four-year term, has served as county attorney since 2014. In his announcement

# OBITUARIES

## LEONA GRACE HARRIS

### Family of Leona Harris

July 24, 1933- November 17, 2023

Leona Harris passed away on November 17, 2023, at 90 years old of natural causes while living with her daughter and son-in-law, Donna Gregus and Mark Turner, in Edgerton, Wisconsin. Leona was born to Lee and Goldibell Fallis on July 24, 1933, and grew up on a farm in Oskaloosa, Iowa. She was the eldest of four sisters and grew up working in the fields, driving a tractor, until the time she left for college.



Leona Harris  
Photo Credits: Leona Harris Family

Leona attended Wheaton College in Illinois for nursing when she met her future husband, Bill Harris, at Oak Park Nazarene Church. She married Bill Harris on August 15, 1953, and they made their home in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Leona had three children, Darrell (1954), Donna (1955) and Diane (1961). Leona and Bill were foster parents of Suzanne Fulk, who was a welcome addition to the family.

In 1975, Bill and Leona moved to a farm on Confederate Gulch in Townsend, Montana. Leona worked as a bank teller, both in Illinois and at the State Bank of Townsend, from 1969 until 1985 when she provided end-of-life care for her mother and father, Goldibell and Lee Fallis.

Leona loved her church family and was a devoted Christian. She served on the Helena Nazarene Church Board and was the missionary president. She started a quilting ministry group that crafted and provided quilts to the Riverside Correctional Facility, the Nazarene Missions and the Helena Veterans Hospital. The Nazarene ministry's quilts can be found as far away as Tanzania Africa.

She was active in the Montana Farm Bureau and loved volunteering for the Helena Carroll College nursing program. Leona volunteered at the Helena Senior Center and could often be found after lunch playing a card game called Hand and Foot. She enjoyed sewing, reading, playing Scrabble and puzzles.

Leona is survived by her three children: Darrell Harris, Donna Gregus (Mark Turner), Diane Gray (Michel Valentin) and foster daughter, Suzanne Fulk; five grandchildren, Aimee Estell (Lee Estell), Dawn Harris, Kyle Gray (Kate Bonn), Kelly Gregus (Kyle Simpson), Tristan Gray (Madison McCurdy); four great-grandchildren, Michael Harris (Kristi Harris), Nicholas Fitzsimmons, Daniel Estell, and Annalisa Brown; one great-great-grandchild, Benjamin Harris; her younger two sisters, Mildred Lockard (Keith), and Karen Mortz (Lon); their families.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband; her sister, and Louise Simmons; and daughter-in-law, Barbara Harris.

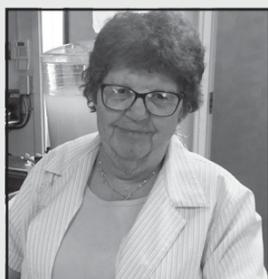
A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. MTN on Saturday, December 9, 2023 at the Helena Nazarene Church, 117 Valley Drive, Helena, MT. For those unable to attend a live stream will be available at <https://helenanaz.church/watch-live/>. In lieu of flowers, we request donations to the Helena Nazarene Church on Leona's behalf.

The family would like to thank Donna and Mark for their long-term loving care of our Mom and all the Mercy Assisted Care Hospice workers. Please visit [www.retzfuneralhome.com](http://www.retzfuneralhome.com) to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Leona.

## CORALEE J. HORNE

### Family Of Coralee J. Horne

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Coralee J. Horne of Townsend, Montana, who passed away on November 28, 2023, at the age of 84, leaving to mourn family and friends. Family and friends are welcome to leave their condolences on this memorial page and share them with the family.



Coralee Horne  
Photo Credits: Jackie Kynett

She was predeceased by: her parents, Warren Horne and Irma Horne; her siblings, Bonnie, Dorothy, Lorna, Charlene (Sherry), Vickie, Ray and Jay; her nephews, Dean, James and Bruce; and her niece Kathy.

She is survived by: her sisters, Billie Marie Thornes, Geraldine White (Doug) of Judith Gap, MT and Paddy Horne (Roann) of Clinton, MT; and her friends, Jackie

Kynett and Audrey Plymale. She is also survived by 28 nieces and nephews; and many great nieces and nephews.

Viewing was held on Monday, December 4th, 2023 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home (212 Broadway St, Townsend, MT 59644). A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Holy Cross Catholic Church (101 S Walnut St, Townsend, MT 59644). A burial was held on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 at the Holy Cross Cemetery.

## BEATRICE MAY NELSON

### Family of Beatrice May Nelson

Beatrice May Walters Nelson, age 96, of Absarokee, passed away at the Billings Clinic on the morning of November 24, 2023, after suffering a stroke. Bea was born January 24, 1927, in Holcombe, Wisconsin, the daughter of Ernest Walters and Eva May Beighley, the oldest daughter of 6 children. She graduated from Cornell High School in June 1944.



Beatrice May Nelson  
Photo Credits: Family of Beatrice May Nelson

She was recruited to join the war effort at the Boeing Air Craft Company in Renton WA, and was an honest-to-goodness 'Rosie the Riveter' assembling wings of the airplanes being built for WWII.

After the war, she married Clifford John Nelson of Soldiers Grove WI, on March 25, 1946, in Tacoma WA. Their first child, Michael David, died in May 1949. They lived in Madison WI, raising two children, until 1968 when they moved to Bozeman MT. They lived briefly in Lewistown MT until they moved to Townsend in 1973. Bea worked various jobs including hospital dietitian, service industry employee, partner in running the Continental Bakery in Bozeman, and grocery store clerk. In January 2023, she moved to Absarokee MT to be closer to her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, son Michael, brothers Delbert and John, husband Cliff, and sisters Kathryn and Marjorie. She is survived by her sister Ruby of Puyallup WA, daughter Patricia Nelson (husband Scott Zamvil) of Woodside CA, son Kenneth Nelson (wife Irene) of Absarokee MT; five grandchildren: Toby, Melissa, Luke, Matt, and Sam; nine great-grandchildren: Alivia, Tahlia, Aidan, Wyatt, Chloe, Kooper, Kayla, Josie and Blake; one great-great granddaughter Paisley; and long time best friends Jeanne and Dan Mainwaring.

Living in Wisconsin and Montana most of her life afforded many opportunities to enjoy camping, fishing, hiking, and hunting. In her 30s, she and Cliff were both WI state archery champions. For Bea, family was number one, but she was an avid reader, and loved gardening, puzzles, baking, cooking, playing cards, and the color RED. Her final wish was to be cremated with her favorite book "The Good Earth" by Pearl Buck. She was active in her church and bible text studies. May her memory be a blessing.

*Stevenson Wilke*  
Funeral Home & Crematory

Family Owned and Operated  
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## TOWNSEND TREES PLANTED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

Patrick Plantenberg  
Tree Board Chair



*This is the sixteenth of a series of articles about trees planted in Townsend and Broadwater County to honor people, special events, or for other purposes.*

The Tree Board hopes people will come forward with more information on other trees planted on public as well as private property so the tree and its purpose can be documented.

73) *Tilia x flavescens* 'Dropmore', Dropmore Linden; planted in 2007 in Veterans Park in memory of Chuck Holling.

This tree was planted on May 6, 2007, on Join Hands Day in memory of Charles "Chuck" Holling. He was an Air Force Veteran, Montana Power Lineman, and Long-Term Member of the Rotary Club. "Don't worry, Chuck-There are no power lines around!" Planted by Family, Rotary, American Legion, Boy Scout Troops 231 and 235, and the Tree Board. The tree was paid for by the Rotary Club, Eleanor Holling, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The tree is the third tree west of the pine tree in the northeast corner of Veterans Park. The tree is in good condition.

74) *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* 'Patmore', Patmore Green Ash; planted in 2007 at 300 N. Cherry Street in memory of George Morrison.

This tree was planted in May 2007 at 300 N. Cherry Street in memory of George Morrison, "Fuzzy the Clown". He was a devoted Shriner. Thank you from the Broadwater County 4-H. Planted by the 4-H and Tree Board. The tree was funded by a National 4-H Council Deft, Inc. Grant. The tree is in good condition.

75) *Prunus virginiana* 'Canada Red', Canada Red Chokecherry; planted in 2008 in Veterans Park in memory of Kristian Skyberg.

This tree was planted on May 29, 2008, in memory of Kristian Skyberg. The tree was planted by the Family and the Tree Board. The tree is on the west side of the park and the second tree is north of the alley. The tree is in good condition.

76) *Picea pungens*, Colorado Blue Spruce; planted in 1992 in Holloway Park in memory of Lucas Johnson.

This tree was planted in the spring of 1992, in memory of Lucas Johnson. He passed away on October 30, 1991. The tree was donated by Gerald and Anne Knodie. The tree is the fourth tree from the northeast corner of Holloway Park. The tree is in good condition.

77) *Prunus virginiana* 'Canada Red', Canada Red Chokecherry; planted in 2007 at 204 Broadway to commemorate the grand opening of the Hardware Hank store owned by the Chamberlains.

The tree was planted on May 5, 2007, to commemorate the grand opening of the Townsend Hardware Hank Store owned by Jim, Jeff, Peggy, and Quinn Chamberlain. The tree was planted and funded by Hardware Hank and the Tree Board. The tree is in good condition.

## Swanson, 6

he said he handles a prosecutorial caseload of about 50 felonies and 300 misdemeanors a year. He previously served as a deputy attorney general in the state Department of Justice under Attorney General Tim Fox. He currently is vice president of the Montana County Attorneys Association.

"When Montanans go to court, they expect a fair judge who will issue rulings based on the facts and the law, not on ideology," Swanson said. "I'm committed to being a fair and impartial chief justice, who will interpret the law and not legislate from the bench."

Swanson attended Montana State University and Carroll College, where he was a member of the 1999 Fighting Saints national champion debate team. He graduated with honors from the University of Montana law school with honors in 2004.

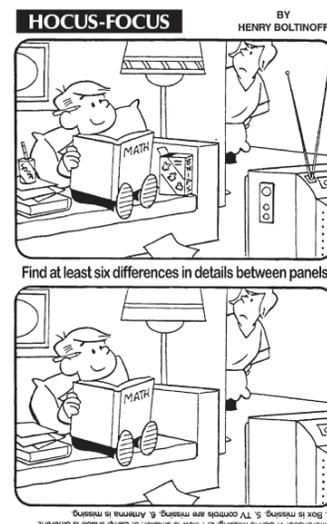


Cory Swanson  
Photo Credits: Cory Swanson

Swanson is a colonel in the Montana Army National Guard. During his 26 years in the Guard, he has served on three deployments to the Middle East, including as commander of the 1-163rd Combined Arms Battalion

for Operation Spartan Shield in 2022. He has been awarded the Bronze Star medal.

Swanson and his wife Julie and two children live in Townsend.



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.* LUKE 2: 6,7



# BROADWATER COUNTY POOL LEAGUE FOOD DRIVE

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Non-perishable items can be dropped off at the Fish Tale Tavern, the Commercial, the Mint, the Bunkhouse and the Legion.

All donations will be delivered to the Christmas Connection on Wednesday, December 13th.

*Please help someone in need this holiday season by donating!*



**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  
Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406  
Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.

**Radersburg Baptist Church**  
7 Main St. Radersburg  
Pastor Richard Summerlin (406) 410-0458  
**Sunday:** 9:45am Sunday School | 11:00am Worship

**Set Free Christian Fellowship**  
318 Broadway St. Townsend; PO Box 1163  
Pastor Carol Bergstad (406) 461-2181  
**Sunday:** 9:30am Service | 7:00pm Set Free Recovery  
**Thursday:** 7:00pm Bible Study

**Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
200 N Cedar St. Townsend  
Pastor Ney Khut (269)-362-5768  
**Saturday:** 9:30 Service | 10:30am Bible Study

**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod**  
301 N Cherry St. Townsend  
Council President Ross Johnson (406) 465-3791  
**Sunday:** 9:30am Services  
**Second Tuesday of the month:** 6:00pm 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  
**Tuesday:** 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 Mark Roelofs (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



<b>SR. CENTER MEALS DEC 11 - DEC 15</b>	<b>Thursday, December 14</b> Roast Pork Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Whole Grain Bread Baked Apples
<b>Monday, December 11</b> Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes California Vegetables Whole Grain Bread Mandarin Oranges	<b>Friday, December 15</b> Chicken and Rice Casserole Key Largo Vegetables Garden Salad Whole Grain Bread Sweet Peaches
<b>Tuesday, December 12</b> Baked Cod Rice Pilaf Carrot Coins Bean Medley Whole Grain Bread Fruit Cocktail	The Townsend Pinochle Club meets every Wednesday and Friday at the Broadwater County Senior Center for an afternoon of pinochle and camaraderie. The Club plays from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. All ages and experience levels are welcome! If you have never played Pinochle and would like to learn come and join us.
<b>Wednesday, December 13</b> Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Green Beans Tossed Salad Garlic Bread Pineapple Dessert	



## 2023 – THE YEAR OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Victor Sample



This has been the year of Artificial Intelligence. All the tech publications I see have AI articles in every issue. The US government has been researching laws on AI. Several countries, including the US, attended a conference on regulating AI.

I have seen political leaders and tech industry leaders (Bill Gates has been very active) touting Artificial Intelligence AND issuing warnings about the dangers of Artificial Intelligence.

I read one interesting article from a Wall Street reporter that AI might totally destroy the world stock markets. According to the author, most of the large Wall Street firms and hedge managers will start using Artificial Intelligence to make trades – and since they will likely be using the same AI engine, AI could destroy the stock markets worldwide.

Last January, I was in a meeting in Butte. The meeting was specifically to create a new Mission Statement and Vision Statement for Southwest Montana. After hours of struggling with ideas and wording, someone from a marketing firm brought up ChatGPT (an Artificial Intelligence program) and asked it to generate a Mission Statement for a tourism organization.

WOW! The mission statement the AI program generated was really good. It was pretty impressive. We did NOT use the generated mission statement; but, we did scavenge some of the ideas and wording from the generated mission.

Both the Microsoft Bing search programs and Google made Artificial Intelligence programs available for asking questions (searching).

Out of curiosity, I started using both the Bing AI program and the Google AI program every morning to see how they really performed. I was underwhelmed!

Where the Artificial Intelligence programs really shine is as Generative Artificial Intelligence – where they generate some sort of writing. When we asked for a mission statement we got a very good statement. Asking a Generative AI program to generate an essay is likely to work very well.

The AI programs are also actually pretty good at conversation. If you get into a conversation with a really good Generative AI program it is hard to tell that it is not a human being. They respond and carry on a conversation quite well.

Where they fail terribly is learning and giving correct answers. I have asked the AI engines technical questions and gotten terrible results. Sometimes they do answer correctly, but many times the answers are just plain wrong. When I pointed out that what they answered was wrong and what was wrong, they would say I was correct and that what they said was wrong and give me a new answer – quite often another wrong

answer. Sometimes, after repeated iterations of wrong answers, they would come up with the right answer; sometimes they would just go into apologizing for the wrong answer and then repeat the wrong answer.

Quite often, after giving wrong answers repeatedly, the AI engines would just quit answering and say “I am just a Large Language Module and can’t answer questions” – which was actually more correct than the answers I got.

One question I asked the Microsoft AI program every morning was “What is the current newspaper in Townsend Montana?”. Usually, the answer was the Broadwater Reporter OR the Townsend Star. Quite often the answer would mix the two: “The current newspaper is the Broadwater Reporter. The Broadwater Reporter started publishing in 1899.”

Every morning I would respond that the Townsend Star stopped publishing in 2013 and the Broadwater Reporter stopped publishing in 2022. It would acknowledge I was right and then tell me something nonsensical. Every morning I would ask “How about MT43 News?”. Then it would tell me the newspaper in Townsend is MT43 News and tell me it was dedicated to reporting the news in Townsend and Broadwater County and give me links to the Facebook page.

After months, it did start listing MT43 News along with the Broadwater Reporter (or sometimes the Townsend Star). I would again respond that whichever had stopped publishing and the date.

Every once in a while, it would actually just give me MT43 News.

When it regressed back again, I would respond that “Yesterday you knew about MT43 News and today you seem to have forgotten”. Generally, the response was “I’m just a poor Large Language Model and don’t know anything about that”.

Once, I asked it to list the 10 largest towns in Montana by population. The list flashed on my computer (I was able to read the first 2-3 entries) then it went away and I got “I am just a Large Language Model and can’t answer that question”. When I pointed out that it actually did answer the question it responded “Oh, you are correct. I apologize for the confusion.” then actually presented the list again.

If the AI danger to the world is that it might write essays for college students, then there is a clear and present danger.

For anything else, the only danger is people just believing that the information it spews out (when not stating it’s “just a Large Language Model”) is correct.

Even though Artificial Intelligence has been worked on for many decades (at least 50 years), it is still in its infancy. And the “learning” what the AI engines are doing seems to be based on information distilled from the internet – and we all know that just because it’s on the internet doesn’t make it true OR correct.

I do actually use a form of Artificial Intelligence that does work extremely well. Every week after we publish MT43 News, I run a program that “indexes” each article. The program analyzes the article and returns a list of words and what type of grammar they are. I look for just the nouns. In addition, it returns very useful information – for instance, if the article contains the name “Royal Smith”, I get the proper nouns “Royal” and “Smith” but it also recognizes that it is a name and returns “Royal Smith”.

The information that I get back about the article is saved in a database and can be used to search the articles for specific information.

For instance: I could ask for all articles that include the name “Royal Smith”. When I do that, I can distinguish between articles that contain the name “Royal Smith” and articles that just contain the word “royal” or “smith”. That allows me to rank the results and display the most relevant article that contains “Royal Smith” vs. the articles that just contain the words royal and/or smith.

As Artificial Intelligence continues to develop it might become a concern, but the state of the AI I now is pretty weak.

Just be aware and know that articles you read or conversations you have with “support people” might be generated by Artificial Intelligence – and beware of the information we get from that article or “support” person.

# NOTARY PUBLIC

**Notary Service Available**

At MT43 News Office

In the Reading Leaves Building  
401 Broadway St, Townsend, Mt  
Hours 10:00 – 2:00pm weekdays

**Or by Appointment**

Contact: Brenda Hess Phillips

406-231-9752

**WEATHER INFO CONTRIBUTED BY JEFF ROSS**

Fri 12/08  Mostly Cloudy 34°   18° ● 0% ⇨ 1   13 mph	Sat 12/09  Mostly Cloudy 32°   25° ● 0% ⇨ 4   21 mph	Sun 12/10  Mostly Cloudy 40°   25° ● 0% ⇨ 7   23 mph	Mon 12/11  Partly Cloudy 34°   18° ● 0% ⇨ 5   10 mph	Tue 12/12  Partly Cloudy 31°   18° ● 0% ⇨ 2   7 mph
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**Precipitation:**

July: 1.181"	August: 1.34"
September: 4.39"	October: 0.760"
November: 0.398"	December: 0.00"
2022: 15.272"	2023: 13.598"



**CryptoQuip**

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

Clue: Z equals H

IZC RN QZT EYZDAEQDYQF NL D  
GTRKQDEY FNWQZTDFQ DFEDY  
EFMDYR DMIDCF FTTS FN  
LTDKLMW? ATGDWFT QZTC'KT  
QESNK-NWF.

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**KNIGHT MOVES**

C	L	R
D		Y
C	E	E

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

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**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!

Fewest  
**STEAL**

Companion  
**SECTOR**

Lift  
**ARISE**

Vast  
**GATER**

**TODAY'S WORD**



"When I said give him everything you've got—  
I didn't mean your \_\_\_\_\_!"

**Super Crossword** **TRIMMING UP**

**ACROSS**

1 Sports events played by visiting teams  
10 Obeys reluctantly  
16 Boho-chic Aussie boots  
20 Arched shoe part  
21 She talks on iPhones  
23 Parasites plaguing the Cheshire cat?  
25 A party to Everlasting, poetically  
27 Above ground  
28 Bedazzled  
29 Worked to get a different reward?  
35 Pizza base  
38 Tic-tac-toe win  
39 Geometry assignments  
40 "Dr." who raps  
41 Above, poetically  
42 Yard separators  
45 Prefix with cyclist  
46 Combat vet's affliction, for short

47 One giving technical advice to wizards?  
52 Bull in a ring  
54 Structure near a tonsil  
55 "Othello" adversary  
56 Relatives of alpacas  
59 Adversary  
60 City area where lots of radiators are produced?  
63 Sword variety  
66 Medic  
67 Hiking aid  
68 Disgusting  
69 Untwisting threads  
75 "I think —!"  
77 Mobile's state  
78 Smell horrible  
79 Big ape  
83 Hoofbeat  
84 Math student doing sums correctly?  
87 Mötley —  
89 — hub (tech device)  
91 Widely known  
92 "Nope"  
93 Narrow estuary  
94 Guinea pig's cousin

97 Ring legend Muhammad  
98 Speechily  
100 Clock setting at the rear of a ship?  
105 Makes grimy  
106 Eye color, e.g.  
107 Non-Spanish spelling of an Arizona tribe's name  
111 Pack neatly  
112 Trim request ... or what this puzzle takes, based on what its missing letters spell?  
117 Sicilian peak  
118 Use a hammer to fix, perhaps  
119 Angry cry to a captor  
120 Promising  
121 Lacey's partner on TV  
122 Hugh Jackman film about robot boxing

**DOWN**

1 Vex  
2 Doing the job  
3 Suffix with clear or vigil  
4 Certain plows and tractors  
5 Give a smile  
6 Ed of "Gus"  
7 Trim grass  
8 "Do Ya" rock gp.  
9 Wash, bigwig  
10 Good, in Spain  
11 Freeway access point  
12 More shrewd  
13 Begin  
14 "X" number  
15 Eccentric  
16 Consuming  
17 Popular highball  
18 Gardeners, farmers, etc.  
19 Well-muscled  
24 Affront, in rap  
28 GEICO's bus.  
30 Incessantly  
31 Geologic spans  
32 Lead-in to drama  
33 Sweetie pie  
34 Should that be the case  
35 Super-deep sleep  
36 Skim, say  
37 Spur (on)  
42 Pâté de — gras  
43 Hollywood's Kazan  
44 Eye color, e.g.  
46 Itchy, medically  
48 Make weak  
49 Pigeon sound  
50 Geologic span  
51 Shearer of "A Free Soul"  
53 Sept. follower  
56 Bigwig  
57 Comic strip cry of dismay  
58 Sloppy farm area  
60 Animal in a 58-Down  
61 Greeting with a GIF, maybe  
62 June honoree  
63 Geologic span  
64 Chum  
65 Pre-hurricane orders  
66 Stuff in the gene pool  
70 Thai language  
71 Oppose as false  
72 Snoozing site  
73 Atoll feature  
74 Sticky pod in Cajun cuisine  
75 Entre — (between us)  
76 Tolkien beast  
79 Astronaut's wear  
80 "Girls" creator Dunham  
81 Legal exam, for short  
82 Former court king Arthur  
84 Lying adjacent to  
85 Epps of "Scream 2"  
86 Give up a poker hand  
87 More boorish  
88 Trattoria rice dish  
90 Distress call  
94 — Antiqua  
95 Plaid design  
96 Even-scored  
98 Nebraskan Native Americans  
99 Reinstate in an office  
101 1999 Super Bowl MVP John  
102 Humdinger  
103 Wolfed down  
104 Spying info  
108 To — (perfectly)  
109 Living space  
110 German car company  
112 Circle part  
113 Rural stretch  
114 Rink legend Bobby  
115 Stipend or toll  
116 St. Pete loc.

**Kids' Maze**



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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

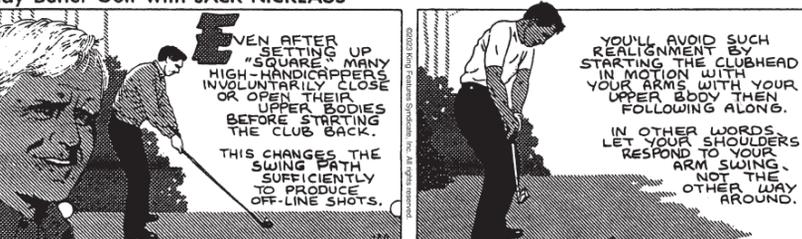
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦

♦♦ Moderate ♦♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS**



**EVEN AFTER SETTING UP "SQUARE" MANY HIGH-HANDICAPERS INVOLUNTARILY CLOSE OR OPEN THEIR UPPER BODIES BEFORE STARTING THE CLUB BACK. THIS CHANGES THE SWING PATH SUFFICIENTLY TO PRODUCE OFF-LINE SHOTS.**

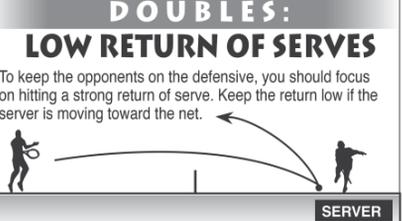
**YOU'LL AVOID SUCH REALIGNMENT BY STARTING THE CLUBHEAD IN MOTION WITH YOUR ARMS WITH YOUR UPPER BODY THEN FOLLOWING ALONG.**

**IN OTHER WORDS LET YOUR SHOULDERS RESPOND TO YOUR ARM SWING, NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.**

**STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS**

**DOUBLES: LOW RETURN OF SERVES**

To keep the opponents on the defensive, you should focus on hitting a strong return of serve. Keep the return low if the server is moving toward the net.



**SERVER**

**WEAK**

**STRONG RETURN**

The server will have to hit a tough low volley. If you hit a low strong return, your team can move to the net. It is important to take control of the net. Suddenly, you have the serving team on the defensive.

**MT 43 News Subscription Renewal Reminder**

MT 43 News subscribers with subscriptions due soon, look for a reminder from us in the mail!

RENEW ONLINE at mt43news.com, over the phone, 406-266-0086, or in person at 401 Broadway, Townsend, MT!

Renewals can be paid by credit card over the phone or in person, check or cash by mail or in person at above address.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS can follow the same directions above to join our family! SEE OUR RATES ON THE SUBSCRIPTION FORM BELOW!

Don't remember when you signed up? Subscription dates are listed on you emailed PDF or by the address of your printed edition.

Call us at 406-266-0086 or stop in most weekdays 10am-2pm! We would love to help you!

Your support inspires us to be better every day. MT 43 News Team

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Print Snowbird**:	\$74	\$138	\$200

\*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 access to the online edition.

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check or deliver to 401 Broadway St. Ste A, Townsend MT 59644 or visit [www.MT43News.com](http://www.MT43News.com)

**Just Like Cats & Dogs** by Dave T. Phipps



**GRIN and BEAR IT** by Wagner



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**A GIFT OF MOBILITY FOR CHRISTMAS!**

**FOR SALE:**  
 Rascal Scooter including loading ramps. Super clean condition. Purchased but never used! Located in Townsend. Could deliver to Helena or Bozeman. \$800 OBO Call Brenda: 406-231-9752.



**Senior Dinner and Light Tour**

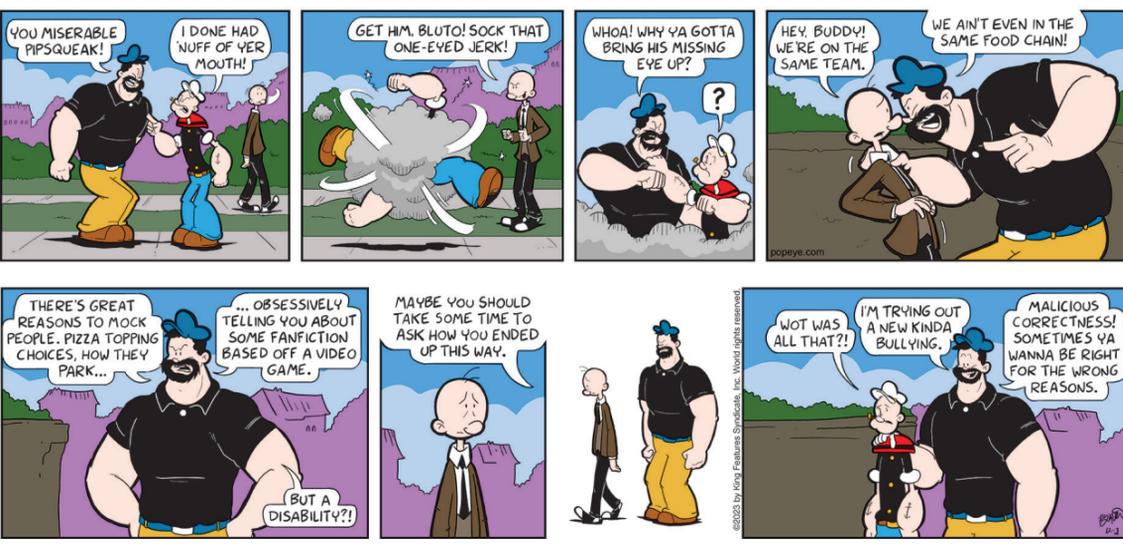
The Townsend Rotary Club and the Townsend Lions Club are excited to once again be sponsoring the Annual Senior Citizens Dinner and Christmas Light Tour.

*"It will be on December 11th and December 12th. Everyone will have a great time!"*

Dinner will be served at 5:00 and the light tour will start at 6:00. Dinner will be prepared and served at the Townsend Senior Citizens Center. Rides will be provided to the event for anyone that needs one.

Please plan on attending and having a terrific evening!

Rotary and Lions Clubs will be calling Seniors for reservations. You can also call John Rains at 406-202-5309 or Christina Hartman at 406-698-0133 for more information or to reserve your spot.



**Amber Waves**



**WEEKLY SPECIALS!**

at **THE BETSY**  
 217 Broadway Street, Townsend, MT

**Wing Wednesday**  
 Double Order of Bone In Wings for \$15.00

**Shrimp Saturday**  
 Tempura Shrimp with your choice of any appetizer for \$11.00

**CryptoQuip**  
 answer

Why do the inhabitants of a certain Southeast Asian island always seem so fearful? Because they're Timor-ous.

**SCRAMBLERS**  
 solution

1. Least 2. Escort; 3. Raise; 4. Great

Today's Word  
**TITLE**

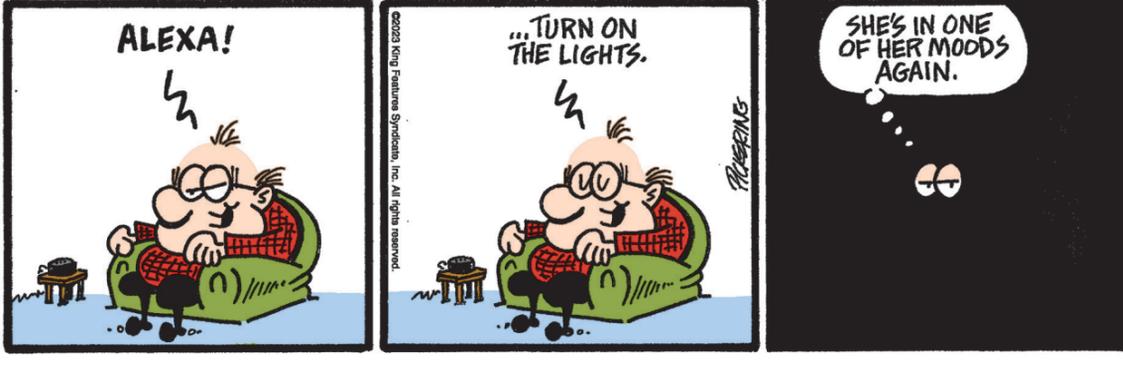


**KNIGHT MOVES**  
 Answer

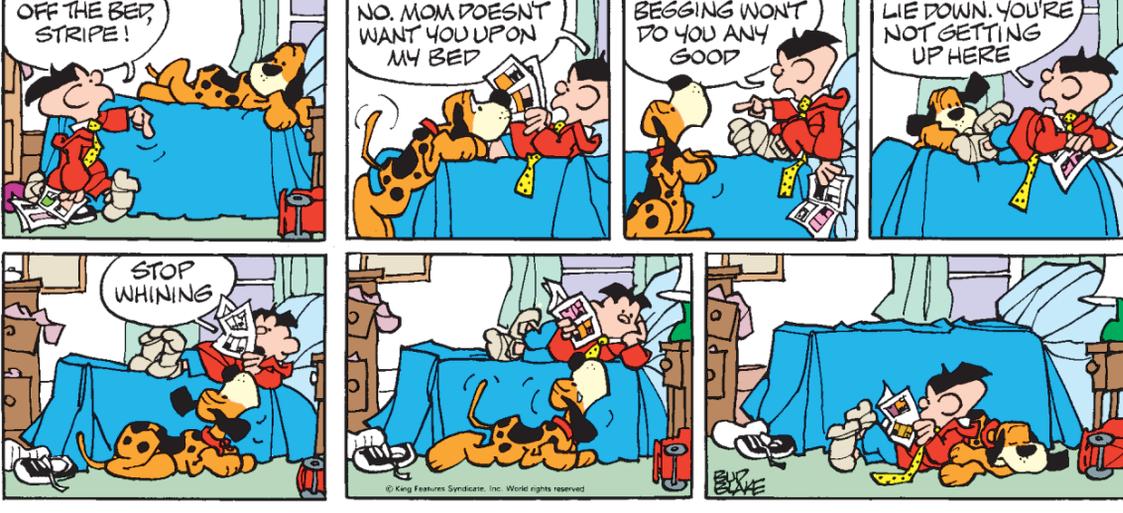
C	L	R
D		Y
C	E	E

RECYCLED

**The Spats**



**TIGER**



**Out on a Limb**



**Kids' Maze Solution**

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
 Answer

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

**Super Crossword**  
 Answers

R	O	A	D	G	A	M	E	S	B	O	W	S	T	O	U	G	G	S
I	N	N	E	R	S	O	L	E	U	N	I	T	E	D	S	I	R	I
L	I	C	E	I	N	W	O	N	D	E	R	L	A	N	D	I	N	O
E	T	E	R	N	E	I	N	A	I	R	I	N	A	W	E			
E	A	R	N	E	D	S	O	M	E	T	H	I	N	G	N	E	W	
C	R	U	S	T	O	O	O	P	R	O	O	F	S	D	R	E		
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**ARE "SITUATIONSHIPS" WORTH IT?**

*Dear Two Cents,*

I'm a 21 YO female currently in a 'situationship' with an older guy. We met at a birthday party and vibed all night long, because we were the only 2 single people amongst the friend group. We exchanged numbers and started chatting a lot. Fast forward - we've moved from a WhatsApp 'situationship' to a full-on sneaking around. We made a deal to hit each other up whenever the itch was there and then move on with our separate lives. We've been carrying on like this for months now. Then suddenly, he stated he wanted to take a break. I must have accidentally fallen because I was distraught but agreed to it, and gave myself some time to get over this crazy feeling cause it wasn't part of the deal. But now we're back at it like nothing happened, and he says things that make me think he might feel something too. I'm really unsure. What do I do?

*Sincerely, Caught Feelings*

*Dear Caught,*

Stop seeing this boy and move on! Friends-with-benefits/situationships almost never last - as someone inevitably catches feelings. You have, and it's noticeably one-sided. Healthy relationships can come from these arrangements, but they certainly don't involve "maybe" feelings, and instead are a resounding, undoubtedly "YES!" We're concerned that during your "break" he was potentially pursuing another partner that fell through. (Don't believe us? Ask him directly.) You deserve to be someone's first choice, not the fallback option. Know your worth and get gone.

*Sincerely, Two Cents*

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

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**You can also stop in at our office: 401 Broadway.**  
 We'd love to see you!

MT 43 News

**Broadwater Community Theater**

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**  
 by: Barbara Robinson

Amanda Hazlett, Director  
 This treasured play is sure to make you laugh and add joy to your Holidays. Invite your friends and family.

Theater Dates: December 15th at 6PM  
 December 17th at 3PM  
 Tickets \$10 with children under 5 free

**Annual Holiday Dinner Theater**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 16TH**  
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER THEATER**  
**AT THE LODGE AT 6PM, 5:30 DOORS OPEN**

**ONLY 54 TICKETS SOLD FOR THE 16TH ONLY! \$40/ticket**

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 Doors open at 6:30  
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**TRAILHEAD**

# THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

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& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

## DECEMBER 7

### 1939

#### Local Briefs

Mrs. Joe Sitton and son, Wm., Of Radersburg were county seat visitors Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kapinos enjoyed a visit over the week end from their son, Kay, who is a member of the U.S. Army stationed for training at Fort Missoula. He took in the high school hop while here.

Miss Jane Ragen spent the week end here from Helena. Miss Dorothy Doggett spent the week end here with her family.

Jack Poole spent the week end here. He is working with the highway crew out of Helena now in the vicinity of Boulder.

### 1950

#### Winston News, by Mrs. Hugh Whitehea

Mrs. Wm. Riis and daughter Miss Anne and Son, Ervin, left on a motor trip to Idaho to visit relatives Wednesday afternoon. They expect to return about December 9.

Mrs. Albert Albright and family spent the week end at their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Davies and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Whitehead were capital city visitors Thursday.

Claude Cartwright moved his cattle home from the Sweeney ranch Wednesday.

Hugh Whitehead loaded a carload of cattle out of Winston Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Bisby attended the Marshall-Wells opening on Saturday.

#### Radersburg News, by Mrs. Jack Rall

Mr. and Mrs. George Lynde and family of Sydney, Mont. Spent several days as guests of their daughter, Mrs. Harold Sitton and family.

Mrs. John Williams and son, Tommy, drove to Helena last Monday to visit her sister, Mrs. Bill Greaves. Mrs. Greaves recently suffered a broken arm, having fallen on ice.

Mrs. Lewis Kramp drove to Helena last Saturday. She was accompanied by Steve and Terry Ralls, who had spent the previous week with her.

The Ladies Aid held a bake sale and bazaar at the Odd Fellows hall Tuesday.

### 1961

#### Water Tower Star

A beautiful addition to our Christmas lighting program was put up last week – a large star on top of the water tower. The star was made by men from our three civic groups – Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and the Men’s Club. Lorin Waling and Mark Mayhew installed the new fixture.

#### Radersburg News, by Mrs. Jack Ralls

Members of the Radersburg Church club wish to thank all those who attended and helped with our Bazaar and Country store last Wednesday, making it the success it was.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williams of Helena were Radersburg visitors Wednesday, attending the bazaar and visiting friends and relatives.

Jack Williams came out from Helena Friday, staying until Sunday. On Friday he came to visit Thomas Williams, who that day, December 1, celebrated his 93rd birthday. Mr. La Reau of Helena also visited Mr. Williams Friday.

Mrs. O. J. Allen celebrated her 75th birthday Saturday, Dec. 2 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George Harris. Attending their mother’s birthday were son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Connie Allen and daughter, Rosalie, of Butte; daughters and husbands, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Price and family of Crow Creek Valley; Mr. and Mrs. Art Roberts and family; Mr. and Mrs. George Harris and family; Mr. and Mrs. Bud Harris and family; son, Harry, and Mr. Allen of Radersburg. Johnny Allen came from Butte Sunday to visit his mother, returning to Butte Monday.

Miss Merrilee Miller spent the week end in Townsend with Miss Vicki Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ralls and Mrs. C.J. Castleberry were in Townsend on business Monday.

Wayne Miller was a business visitor in Winston Monday.

### 1967

#### Boy Scout Troop Elects Officers

Boy Scout Troop 210 held election of officers Tuesday night, Dec. 5 when they met at the youth center of the Catholic Church. David Brammer was elected senior patrol leader; Kerry Pottruff was named assistant senior patrol leader and David Thompson was elected scribe.

Patrol leaders elected were: Eagles – Tommy Ragen; Wolves – Bob Gearheart; and Panthers – Mark Meyer. Officers elected Tuesday night will serve for six months. Dale Davidson is scout master with Dave Fischer and Dick

Lukes as assistants.

#### Asks Permission to Discontinue Passenger Train

This week the Northern Pacific Railway filed application with the Interstate Commerce Commission to discontinue passenger trains No. 1 and 2, known as the Mainstreeter, between Fargo, N.D., and the West Coast terminal. The Mainstreeter is the train that serves Townsend, Toston, Winston, East Helena and Helena.

There is no move at this time to discontinue the line’s other passenger train, North Coast Limited, which goes through Butte. The nearest point residents of this area could be served by this train is at Logan.

The railroad stated in their petition that the line had lost nearly a million dollars in the first eight months of this year on the Mainstreeter (one train each way daily) and that the loss would amount to about \$2 million per year.

Since the post Office Department has pulled off railway mail cars, the railroad has lost a substantial source of revenue, and is the immediate cause for discontinuance of the passenger train.

### 1978

#### South of Townsend, Toston & Crow Creek, News by Julie VanCamp

Doug Slifka celebrated his 14th birthday Monday evening with a dinner party. Dinner guests were Paul and Curt Rauser, Steven and Karen Smith, Uncle Bill and Aunt Joyce, Nancy, Nicky, Jay and Jimmy Lane, Gladys Johnson, Mary and Frank Slifka and Ken Williams. Edna and Emil Hansen and Phyllis Rauser joined them later for ice cream and cake.

Boyd, Nadine and Steven Cazier spent Sunday in Sheridan, Mt. Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Louie Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Kitto and Miss Pearle Kitto attended a special church meeting in Twin Bridges Sunday.

Jean Lewis Spent from Wednesday until Saturday in Helena with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Strong and boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Plummer were business callers in Helena on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wally Rauser and Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Etzwiler attended the Madrigal dinner at the Bozeman College Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Diehl, Shay, Shawn, Whitney and Lisa attended the LDS church conference in Bozeman Sunday.

Chris and Gene Van Camp and Tony Anthony enjoyed seeing Santa on Saturday and the movies afterwards in Townsend.



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## DPHHS URGES MONTANANS TO CHECK THEIR HOMES, DISCARD RECALLED PRODUCTS

Department of Public Health and Human Services



Federal, state, and local officials are urging Montanans to check their homes, childcare facilities, and schools for the recalled cinnamon-containing applesauce or apple puree products (listed below) and discard them immediately.

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) also urges medical providers to continue to monitor for possible cases of lead poisoning in children potentially associated with consuming the recalled products.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), there have been 57 reports of adverse events (e.g., person with symptoms or exposure to this product) potentially linked to tainted pouches of cinnamon apple puree and applesauce in 26 states, as of November 30, 2023.

The following were recalled by the FDA due to reports of elevated levels of lead found in certain units of the products:

- WanaBana brand apple cinnamon fruit purée pouches
- Schnucks brand cinnamon applesauce pouches
- Weis brand cinnamon applesauce pouches

According to the FDA and DPHHS, these products were sold at 19 Dollar Tree stores in Montana prior to the recall announcement and have been removed from all of these locations across the state.

These products are also sold and available nationally through multiple retailers, including Amazon and other online outlets. At least one purchase from an online source has been reported in Montana.

Montana is not among the 26 states with confirmed cases reported by the FDA; however, DPHHS and local public health officials are currently investigating four reports of children with elevated blood levels who also reported consuming the recalled products.

“These products have a long shelf life, so consumers are advised to check their homes and discard these products.” said Dr. Maggie Cook-Shimanek, Public Health Physician at DPHHS. “If you think your child may have consumed recalled fruit pouches, you should talk to your child’s health care provider about getting a blood test for lead.”

There is no safe level of lead exposure, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) uses a marker of 3.5 micrograms per deciliter to identify children with blood lead levels higher than most.

In this outbreak, the reported symptoms of children with lead poisoning may include but are not limited to, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, a change in activity level and anemia.

Cook-Shimanek said children are more vulnerable to lead poisoning than adults because their nervous systems are still developing. Although children with lead exposure may have no apparent acute symptoms, even low levels have been associated with learning, behavioral, and cognitive effects.

For more information, see the November 13, 2023 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Health Advisory Network message, or the FDA November 2023 investigation webpage.

**Happy Chanukah!**



**May your year be full of light and joy!**