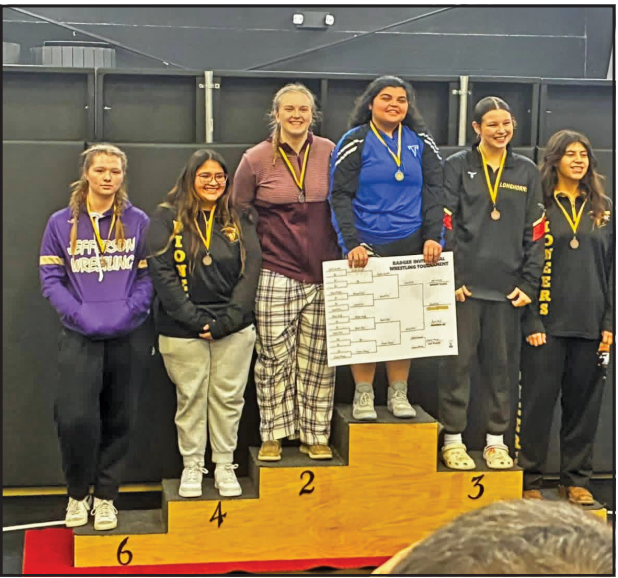






## Bulldog Wrestlers Kick Off Their Season in Cascade

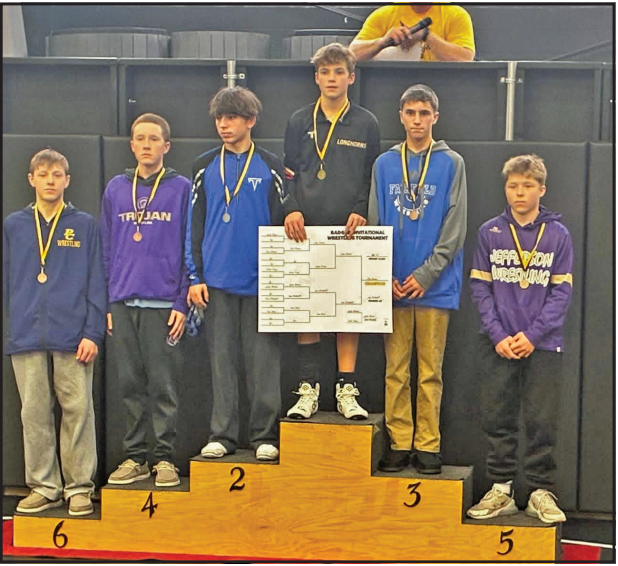


Gabby Rico, fourth from left, placed 1st in girls' 190lb-235lb division.  
Photo Credit: Bryleigh Erickson

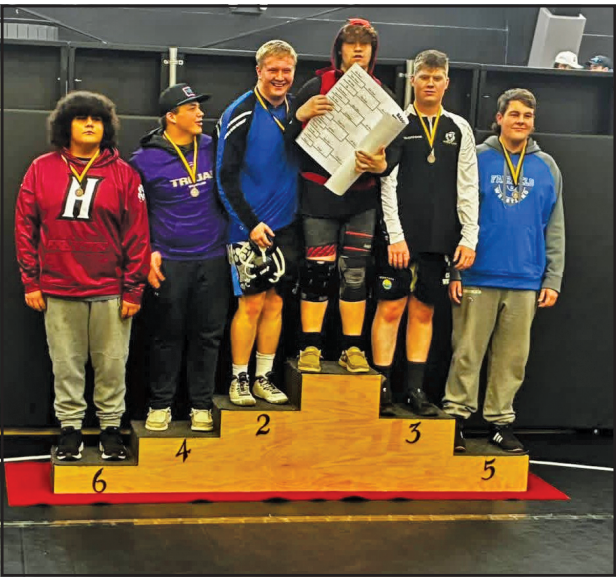
**Bryleigh Erickson**  
*BHS Sports Reporter*

On December 5th and 6th, the Bulldogs wrestling team travelled to Cascade to compete in their first tournament of the season. Twenty teams participated so the Bulldogs got to see a variety of competitors. The team will later face teams they played in the tournament, including Jefferson, Darby, Red Lodge, Conrad, Three Forks, and Harlem.

This was a great start for the team as they placed 10th out of 20 teams. Four Bulldog wrestlers found their way to the podium. Isaac Brakefield finished 2nd in the



Isaac Brakefield, third from left, place 2nd in the 110lb weight class.  
Photo Credit: Bryleigh Erickson



Gavin Schemele, third from left, placed 2nd in the heavyweight division.  
Photo Credit: Bryleigh Erickson

110lb weight class. Trenton Dales finished in 4th place in the 135lb weight class. Gavin Schemele finished in 2nd place in the Heavyweight division. Gaby Rico won the 190 lb- 235lb girls' division. Most of the Bulldogs finished the tournament with a winning record. Lane Bantz went 4-2 and Aiden Mosher placed a 3-3 record in the Heavyweight division. Jace Wellenstein had 4 wins and 2 losses in the 126lb division, and in the 144lb weight division, Parker Hunt won 2 matches and lost 2. The Bulldogs' season-opening tournament was an overall success. The Bulldogs travel to Whitehall on December 12th for two days to compete in a dual against the Trojans.



BHS wrestler Trenton Dales, second from left, placed 4th in the 135lb weight class.  
Photo Credit: Bryleigh Erickson

## Bulldog Basketball Season Starts with Blue White Scrimmages

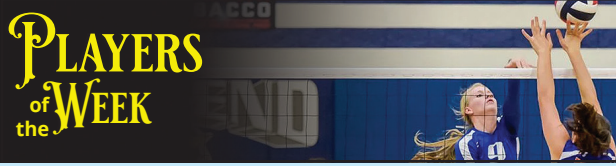
**Bryleigh Erickson**  
*BHS Sports Reporter*



On December 4th, the basketball season for both Bulldog basketball teams kicked off with the Blue/White scrimmage. The boys' and girls' teams both showed what they have been practicing for the past two weeks. The girls' game was first, and it ended with the White team winning. The boys' game followed, and the blue team won. Both the boys and the girls showed early signs of a successful season. The teams have been working hard to prepare for their upcoming tournament in Red Lodge on December 12th and 13th. The week after that, the boys and girls will start conference play at home against Whitehall on December 19th.

Both Bulldogs Basketball teams are led by new head coaches. Clint Watson will coach the boys' team. He previously coached for the Bulldogs for 26 years, 6 of those as Varsity head coach. From 1995-2021, coach Watson led the Bulldogs to state placing and winning records. He retired in 2021, but now he's back to coach the team this year, hoping to continue his legacy. His assistant coaches, Kirk Flynn and Dan Harrigfeld, have also returned to help Watson coach.

The girls have welcomed a new head coach from Bozeman, Dave Wheeler. He was previously the Junior Varsity coach and Assistant Head coach for Bozeman High School. He was hired in August to coach the girls' varsity team. He works as a personal trainer and offers private basketball lessons in Bozeman. He played basketball for St. Lawrence University in his college years. Both coaches are excited for the upcoming season and hope to find success.



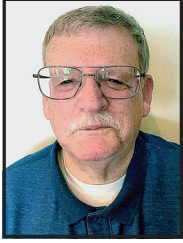
*Speech & Drama:*  
Shaelyn Sentinella  
Townsend Booster Club Photo



*Wrestling:* Isaac Brakefield  
Townsend Booster Club Photo

## Passenger Rail Service in Southern Montana

**Victor Sample**



When I was still in high school here in Townsend (admittedly a very long time ago), we still had Passenger rail service. The passenger train stopped here in Townsend. Tickets could be purchased at the Train Depot.

I remember my father had a grant/scholarship for a summer semester at a college in Chadron, Nebraska. If he had driven there, our family would have been without a car. So, he took the passenger train. I remember our whole family went to the depot to see him off! I thought traveling by train looked like it would be very cool and lots of fun.

When I was going to college in Seattle, I took the train back to Montana one Christmas. The Amtrak route stopped in Butte; my parents drove to Butte to pick me up. It was much cheaper than a plane ticket and was a very pleasant trip. I boarded the train in the early evening and arrived in Butte the next morning.

When I was living on the East Coast, I took the train from New Haven, Connecticut, to New York City - and home again - many times. I also took the train to Boston and Washington, DC several times.

It was always much more pleasant than driving on very crowded interstate highways - especially to New York City.

One year, when we were living in Detroit, Pam and I took the train to Denver to spend Christmas with family. This time we splurged on a sleeper car: real beds, a bathroom and seating. We left Detroit early in the morning and arrived fresh and rested around noon the next day. We had a terrific dinner and breakfast en route. Instead of driving for 2 days in winter weather and spending the night in a hotel, we arrived rested in Denver.

Passenger Rail Service,

## College Credit Courses Available to BHS Students

**Bryleigh Erickson**  
*BHS Reporter*

In the fall of 2023, Broadwater High School's counselor, Mike Schnittgen, introduced a program that could change many BHS students' futures. He, with the help of the Montana Advanced Opportunities grant, has worked to provide Broadwater High students with the opportunity to participate in, and access college classes both online and in person and receive credits for these classes. The grant covers the cost of books, tuition and other college fees, widening the education available for high school students.

Through the Early College program, students attend college classes online, taught by college professors. Over 32 percent of juniors and seniors attending BHS are enrolled in these online classes and together they will earn a total of 135 college credits this fall. From the Fall of 2023 to the Spring of 2026, Mr. Schnittgen will help students save approximately \$287,887.16 in college tuition and fees through this program. There are a variety of classes offered to students to complete their general studies. History, math, science, and art credits are all available. The students who attend these classes have an assigned period in their daily schedule to complete their classes. They can also attend classes over the summer.

The Dual-Credit enrollment program still allows students to participate in college-level classes, but they also receive credits towards graduating high school. These classes are special because they are taught by BHS teachers and are offered to high school seniors and juniors. There are 5 teachers teaching math, science, writing, and welding classes. These teachers are extremely passionate about these programs and provide these opportunities for their students. This program allows students to attend college-level classes with smaller class sizes and closer relationships with their teachers. Only teachers with a Master's Degree in their field may teach these classes. Their curriculum is approved by and closely follows that of the college they're working with.

Jason Thomas teaches Dual Credit Biology and Anatomy. He is very passionate about providing these opportunities for high school students to learn beyond a high school level. He says that he's "pushed these students hard" and they have responded." I've pushed them through really difficult, high-level material. So, for

me, they're working at a level that needs to be earning college credit," he explained.

These classes provide students with "an opportunity for learning at a whole different level," Mr. Thomas continued.

When asked why he decided to start this program for the students, Mike Schnittgen listed many reasons. The cost of college is very high, and these programs provide opportunities for students to save money. Through this program, students can complete their whole first year of college. This means that when these students attend college, they will not be required to stay in the dormitories. Most colleges require first-year students to live on campus. Not living on campus saves thousands of dollars on housing costs. Another reason that Mr. Schnittgen started this program is that it is a great opportunity for students to try college and determine whether it's something they can and want to do, or if it's not for them. This program also allows students to complete college one year faster, allowing them to enter the workforce sooner.

Students have capitalized on their new opportunities, and 4 students will graduate this spring with their general studies completed, and 31 college credits to their name. With the addition of these classes, BHS students have a new scope of opportunities when it comes to their education. Broadwater High School students are extremely fortunate to have these opportunities. Hopefully, this program can continue in the future, as it is an amazing aid to students wanting to jump-start their college careers.



BHS Counselor Mike Schnittgen with Madelyn Schritz, who graduated with her college-level General Studies completed.  
Photo Credit: Bryleigh Erickson



### Passenger Rail Service, 2

I have truly missed having Passenger train service here in Townsend. Of course, the northern route is still available - but it's pretty inconvenient to drive all the way to Shelby to catch the Northern Amtrak. It would be very convenient to take the train to Helena, Bozeman, Billings and Missoula - especially if we could board the train right here in Townsend!

A coalition of 20 southern Montana counties has created the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority with the goal of reestablishing passenger rail service in southern Montana linking Billings, Bozeman, Helena and Mis-soula - and of course towns like Townsend.

It is a very costly project and will take a lot of time and money to make it a reality.

The Montana Free Press has recently published an article that explores the pros and cons of the project. Many, many people support the project; others see a doomed money pit.

The full article is republished on the MT43News website. Visit <https://mt43news.com> to read the full Montana Free Press article.

### East Helena Christmas Stroll Photos

Article on Page 1



James Koester and his wife Dru and their daughters run Jak's Heating and Air in East Helena.  
MT43 News Photo



Buyers and Sellers at the East Helena Stroll  
MT43 News Photo



The lapdog Ginger and her mom loved the stroll. Many dog lovers enjoyed their evening out with their dogs.  
MT43 News Photo

CONGRATILATIONS TO THE WINNERS!



**Subscription Drawing Winner:**  
**Mike Dexter**

**East Helena Stroll Winner:**  
**Kim Metzger**

**Townsend Stroll Winner:**  
**John Shuler**



### Fundraising Goals, 1



Santa and Mrs. Claus, aka Mrs. Gene and Mr. Jim Hoff of Helena, listen intently to a request from an anxious child. Hoff and his wife volunteer as Santa and Mrs. Claus at both the East Helena and Townsend Strolls every year. They do other events as well.  
MT43 News Photo

Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce plans the annual event to encourage strollers to “buy local.” Indications from how full Townsend Hardware, The Bird’s Nest and Lake Side Distillery were showed the stores full of shoppers from 4 p.m. until the stroll closed at 7. The highlight of the evening was a raucous parade of trucks and floats with kids throwing candy.

A highlight of the evening for kids and parents alike was a visit to Santa’s Workshop. People lined up throughout the evening to ask Santa and Mrs. Claus to bring their wish list of gifts for Christmas. Rocky Mountain Mini Cabins not only donated the use of a small log cabin, but also did the work to move the building to and from Broadway and Front Street for the festivities, according to Chamber member Doug Sitton. Townsend Rotary members helped put finishing touches on the street with lights on the trees. New this year was lighting of the Massa Park Tree. “We would like to thank all the businesses and organizations who helped make this a very successful stroll this year,” Sitton said.



A customer listens as Winston Eager Beaver 4-H Club members pitch their offerings.  
MT43 News Photo



Emotional Support Reindeer at Treeline Counseling office.  
MT43 News Photo



Santa's Workshop was a big draw for kids to visit with their Christmas wishes.  
MT43 News Photo



Jeff Kirksey family was decked out in match Christmas light necklaces. Jeff and his wife Sarah smile with family Campbell, Bennett, Titus, Everett, Wesley and friend JoeJoe Osborne.  
MT43 News Photo



FFA members Cheyanne Douglas and Emma Delgado were selling Christmas mugs and wreaths at their fundraising booth in the Nook at Reading Leaves.  
MT43 News Photo



Whitney at Broadwater Blooms spent hours replacing Thanksgiving decorations with Christmas decorations. The result is an eyecatcher.  
MT43 News Photo

Merry Christmas



visit our website for more information!



20 Trailhead View Dr  
Townsend, MT 59644  
406-266-4406

Candle Light Christmas Eve Service

4:30pm



A Gift For

BROADWATER COUNTY COMMUNITY

Free Christmas Dinner

DECEMBER 25TH AT 12 PM

DELIVERED TO YOU

TO ORDER: SCAN THE CODE

OR CALL 406-266-4406







Townsend School & Sports

DECEMBER

Fri 12 - Sat 13

- High School Basketball at Red Lodge Tournament

Friday 12

- NO SCHOOL
- High School Wrestling at Whitehall Duals
- Big Sky Big Leadership MSU Extension - Community Room
- 4:00pm: Middle School Boys Basketball vs. Ennis
- 5:00pm: Noyes - Elementary Commons and Kitchen
- 6:15pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Saturday 13

- High School Wrestling at Whitehall Duals
- 3 on 3 Youth Basketball Tournament - Stage Gym and 63 Gym
- Middle School Boys Basketball at Sheridan Tournament
- Speech and Drama at East Helena

Sunday 14

- 5:00pm: Volleyball Awards Dinner - Elementary Commons and Kitchen

Mon 15 - Thu 18

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

Monday 15

- 6:15pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Tuesday 16

- 4:15pm: Little Dog Cheer Camp - Stem Room
- 6:00pm: Elementary Winter Concerts - Stage Gym at 6:00 and 7:00
- 6:00pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Wednesday 17

- 6:15pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym
- 7:00pm: Old Baldy Open Gyms - Pickleball, Basketball and Laps

Thursday 18

- TBD Staff Christmas Breakfast - Community Room
- 4:15pm: Little Dog Cheer Camp - Stem Room
- 6:00pm: Elkhorn Basketball Practice - Elementary Gym

Friday 19

- NO SCHOOL- WINTER BREAK BEGINS
- High School Wrestling at Great Falls - CMR
- 3:00pm: High School Basketball vs Whitehall

Saturday 20

- High School Wrestling at Great Falls - CMR
- Speech and Drama at Choteau
- 1:00pm: High School Basketball vs Manhattan Christian

Sunday 21

- 3 on 3 Youth Basketball Tournament - Stage Gym and 63 Gym

Townsend Schools

12

BROADWATER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Friday 12

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

Saturday 13

- 6:00 pm: Broadwater Community Theater Interactive Christmas Murder Mystery
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Monday 15

- 6:00pm: Wine Tasting at the Betsy at The Betsy

Tuesday 16

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

Wednesday 17

- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- 7:00 pm: Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting at the Station, 130 S Cedar St **AD ON THIS PAGE**

Thursday 18

- Townsend Crimson Red Hat Ladies Lunch Contact Sandy for information 406-949-0081
- 5:00 pm: **FREE** Homemade Dinner Served at American Legion, 211 Broadway, Townsend
- 6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
- 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 19

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

Saturday 20

- 5:00 pm: Big Sky Culinary Classes and Catering Host a Gourmet Dinner at The Lodge of Townsend
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Monday 15

- 3:00 pm: Board of Health Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 16

- 110:00 am Commission/CAO Working Meeting

Wednesday 17

- 12:30 pm: Commission Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Airport Board

Broadwater County

15

LIBRARY HOURS

Broadwater School and Community Library

HOURS:

Monday-Thursday: 4:00 - 7:00pm

Friday-Saturday: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00pm

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

Books & Babies Story Hour: Mondays 11-00am.-12:00pm the first 4 Mondays of the month.

201 N Spruce St, Townsend

Photo Provided

The Broadwater County Library will be closed Saturday, December 13, 2025, from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

East Helena Schools & Sports

DECEMBER

Monday 15

- 5:00pm: Kindergarten Holiday Program
- 6:30pm: Booster Club Meeting - EHHS
- 6:30pm: Kindergarten Holiday Program

Tuesday 16

- 6:30pm: EHHS Choir Concert

Thursday 18

- 6:00pm: EVMS Choir Concert
- 7:00pm: EVMS Band Concert

Fri 19 - Sat 20

- Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball at Hamilton Tip-Off

Friday 19

- 1:30pm: Early Release

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson  
Branch Manager

HOURS:

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

Thursday and Friday: 10 am- 5:00 pm

Saturdays: 10 am-1:00 pm

Sundays: Closed

Lewis & Clark Library East Helena Branch, 16 E Main Street in East Helena.

Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

DECEMBER

Mon 1 - Sat 13

- East Helena Food Drive & Free Book

Saturday 13

- 11:00 am: Celebrating 25 years of Holiday Carols with Helena Express Singers. Cocoa and snacks available. All ages welcome.

FUND RAISER FOR HELPING HANDS

Helping Hands Townsend has served Townsend with thrift stores since 2016 and has given the community over \$112,000 in aid during that time. Our stores have provided volunteer opportunities as well as a place to buy necessary items at reasonable prices. Since renting a building is unpredictable, we are launching a capital campaign to raise funds to purchase a building large enough to house both of our thrift stores. **It's time for us to buy our own HOME!** As we are a 501(c)(3) organization, your donations to HHT are tax deductible. Donate today by depositing funds in “Helping Hands Building Fund” at Opportunity Bank. If you have any questions, please contact Sheila at Helping Hands Townsend 4 KIDS & U2 Thrift Store or call 406-422-6043

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

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

EGGS!

Eggs for sale! \$4.00 Dozen - Toston area  
Call and leave message and I'll call you back.  
406-980-0650

WANTED

I want to buy a Home, Lot, Parcel or Acreage in the vicinity of Highway 284 East of Canyon Ferry Reservoir. Could buy outright, trade for what I have or will consider other options.  
Call Dick at 406-581-5635. Please leave message if no answer.

LOCAL WORK HELP WANTED

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

Job Posting

Toston Irrigation District is hiring a person to maintain and distribute water.  
Contact Leonard at 406-949-0208 or by email [tid@mt.net](mailto:tid@mt.net)

ATTENTION!

TOPGUN Autobody

Townsend, MT

Top Gun Auto Body Townsend is offering Gift Certificates for Vehicle detailing.

Call 406-266-3110 or stop by 7675 US Hwy 287 in Townsend!

What do you get for someone who has everything?

Give them a gift subscription to MT 43 News!

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Call or come by our office to order your gift subscriptions!  
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406.266.0086 | 408 Broadway

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DOUBLE DIAMOND FABRICATION



Support

LOCAL

Businesses

RESTAURANTS IN AND AROUND

BROADWATER COUNTY

Dates and times may vary due to events, seasons or holidays. Call the restaurant with any questions. Happy Dining!

<b>American Legion Hall</b> 211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611 Dining Hours: Tuesday Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM SPECIAL Event with Food: Saturday 11/22/25 @ 1:00PM FREE Thanksgiving Dinner Bar hours may vary	<b>Commercial Bar</b> 101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook	<b>Mint Cafe</b> 305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867 Dining Hours: Mon - Wed 8:00AM - 2:00 PM, Thur - Fri 8:00AM - 8:00PM Sat - Sun 7:00AM - 8:00PM SPECIAL: N/A
<b>The Betsy Sports Zone</b> 217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close Closed Monday Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com	<b>Copy Cup</b> 303 N Front St, Townsend (406) 980-8400 Please call in business hours. Drinks and Pastry Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM Closed Sunday	<b>Mountie Moose Bakery</b> 109 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-5800 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM - 4:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Online Ordering: Mountie-moose-bakery.square.site
<b>Bread and Butter Cafe</b> 205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Fri 7:00AM- 2:00PM Sat 7:00AM- 12:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Menu available on Facebook	<b>Deep Creek Pizza Co.</b> 415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Closed Sunday Menu: deepcreekpizzaco.com Accepting Orders Online	<b>Mountain Grounds Coffee</b> (406) 475-0672 401 Broadway, Townsend Dining Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 4:30PM Sat - Sun 8:00AM - 5:00PM Online Ordering: MTNGROUNDS.com
<b>Bunkhouse Bar &amp; Grill</b> 8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 SPECIAL: N/A Dining Hours: 10:00AM – Close Grill off at 10:00PM	<b>Fishtale Tavern</b> 209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: Tuesday 10:00AM - Midnight Wed - Sat 10:00 AM - Close Sunday 10:00 AM - Midnight Closed Monday Daily Specials: Facebook	<b>Peking China</b> 10 N Main St, Three Forks (406) 285-3225 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 11:30AM - 8:30PM Menu: Google
<b>Canyon Ferry Brewing &amp; Taproom</b> 300 Broadway, Townsend (406) 694-5687 Hours: Wed - Fri. 4:00PM - Close Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close	<b>Full Belli Deli</b> 209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 8:00AM - 7:00PM OPEN 4th of JULY	<b>Rocky Mountain Supply Deli</b> 7847 US Hwy 287, Townsend (406) 266-3456 Hot & Cold To-Go Hours: Mon-Fri6:00AM - 6:00PM Menu: Board Inside Store for Take-and Bake or Ready-to-Eat Pizza Call Ahead or Order Inside
<b>C Hangin” C Mercantile &amp; Creamery</b> 310 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-9087 Dining Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30AM - 7:00PM Sat 8:00AM - 7:00PM Sun 9:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: Facebook changincmerc.square.site	<b>Kick Start Nutrition</b> 500 N Front St, Townsend (406) 266-0033 Dining Hours: Tue - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 9:00AM - 3:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Daily Specials: Facebook & Instagram	<b>TB’s Diner</b> 316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Mon- Sat 7:00AM - 8:00PM Sunday 7:00AM - 7:00PM Specials: Facebook

Broadwater Area Restaurants

Contact MT 43 News, Monday- Friday 10 - 2, if you would like to talk about how to add your dining location and open hours to our paper!

406.266.0086 | 408 Broadway, Townsend, MT

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: E equals B

MAITZOCPGQ OEGSC O  
WPZAWTL GZ TOMLESV CJOC  
NZAWAZR ORIAQMPQV RSZWOIAR:  
PC'R OQ SNJPTT EAACTA.

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KNIGHT MOVES

T	Y	R
E		A
M	U	L

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!

God  
TIDEY

Fold  
PLATE

Rouse  
WEAKO

Hint  
LIMPY

TODAY'S WORD

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

A+ STORAGE

SEVERAL SIZES OF STORAGE UNITS  
BOATS, RV's & TRAILER STORAGE  
IN TOWNSEND, MT  
WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN YOU NEED US!  
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Quality & Service Since 1988  
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• Pump Repair • Machine Work  
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7200 HWY 287, TOWNSEND, MT  
BRANDON BAKKEN  
SHANE TEW  
P – (406)266-3772  
C – (406)980-1100

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406-266-0080  
308 N Front St, Townsend, MT  
Mon - Fri 7:30 - 6:00pm  
Saturday 9:00 - 4:00  
Sunday 9:00 - 3:00

LEYLAND INSURANCE

TURNING 65 SOON?  
CALL ME WITH ANY MEDICARE QUESTIONS!  
MARK LEYLAND  
406-438-7315  
LEYLANDMT.COM

MADISON RIVER PROpane

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Metered Propane  
Budget Billing  
Lease Tanks  
Service Department

Mar Painting

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

Schauber Surveying, Inc. Land Surveyors

Surveying Montana and Broadwater County since 1995  
Dan Swenson, PLS  
Bernadette Swenson, PLS  
64 Jack Farm Road, Townsend, MT 59644  
406-266-4602 schaubersurvey@gmail.com

MONTANA HYDRAULICS LLC

• DD Custom Flatbed Dealer  
• Laser Cut Parts Fabrication  
• Machining Hydraulics  
406-449-3464 | Townsend - Helena

Special K

Plumbing and Heating  
Danny Kurk- Owner  
Open 24/7 | Townsend, MT  
(406)922-1315

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦♦

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

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Super Crossword

MECHANICS OF SOLVING

ACROSS

1 Has a snooze  
5 Workout unit  
8 Anti-DUI ad, maybe  
11 "The Maltese Falcon" hero  
19 Conical-bore woodwind  
20 Log chopper  
21 Possess  
22 Former airline to Rome  
23 Composer of the 1938 ballet "The Incredible Flutist"  
26 Squirrel-sized monkeys  
27 Super-cold  
28 Poddled plant  
29 What a dieter may reduce  
31 Pressure-reducing elastic stockings  
34 Mork's home planet  
35 German city  
36 Ordinal suffix  
37 Yvette's "yes"  
38 "Grem'lins" actress Cates  
44 Folk great  
47 Edison's phonograph medium  
49 Writer Rand  
52 Prefix with treat or trust

53 Bird bill  
55 Booting out  
56 Horn honk  
58 Cleans up, as code  
60 Hit PC game of the 1990s  
62 Director  
63 Heater along the bottom of a wall  
67 Houston ballplayer  
68 Ending for Gator  
69 CIO partner  
70 Greek vowels  
75 Bracing wear for a body-builder  
81 Dog in "The Thin Man"  
85 "Little" actress Rae  
86 Mrs. with a famous cow  
87 "500" auto race  
88 Hone  
90 William of "Hopalong Cassidy"  
91 Its cap. is Buenos Aires  
93 Levy  
94 Video surveillance device, briefly  
97 Of — (somewhat)  
99 Bit of skin art  
100 Timid

101 Cable TV channel for buying goods  
103 Flee to wed  
107 "I solved it!"  
108 Type of needle-free syringe  
111 ThinkPad power source, e.g.  
118 Cl- or Na+  
119 Gold, to Luisa  
120 Zesty potato chip go-with  
121 Where nine key words in this puzzle can be found  
124 Word after poet or Nobel  
125 LA-to-MI dir.  
126 Tea vessel  
127 Swing about  
128 Evaluated  
129 Lobed thing  
130 Turndowns  
131 Actress Harper

DOWN

1 Not at all, quaintly  
2 Ancient calculator  
3 Corals, e.g.  
4 Workout unit  
5 Less ordinary  
6 Brit living in America, e.g.  
7 Architect I.M.  
8 Soil-enriching compound

9 Very muscular, in modern lingo  
10 Year, to Nero  
11 Like  
12 "Weekend Update" reports  
13 "Alas and —"  
14 Lee of Marvel  
15 Component  
16 Et — (plus others)  
17 Rinky- —  
18 Relieve  
24 Person for whom a thing is named  
25 Kilt wearer  
30 Butter-and-flour mixture  
32 Crosswalk user, for short  
33 Coop female  
37 Tree of Illinois  
38 Largest dwarf planet  
39 — and hers  
40 Aware of  
41 Revise text  
42 Crooked  
43 Therefore  
45 Venice beach resort  
46 Totally lost  
47 "That — close call!"

48 Former Royals manager Ned  
49 "Mamma Mia" group  
50 In-favor votes  
51 Chick's home  
53 Indian religion founder  
54 White heron  
57 For each  
59 Talks big  
60 Ticked off  
61 Crimean resort port  
64 Curtsy, e.g.  
65 How often the sun rises  
66 Fix, as a fight  
71 Osaka sash  
72 Festival shelter  
73 Actor Alan  
74 River of myth  
76 "Old Mac-Donald" letters  
77 Lacks entity  
78 Impend, as a deadline  
79 Investments for later yrs.  
80 Songwriter Laura  
81 Helper. Abbr.  
82 Old New York ballpark  
83 Diplomacy  
84 In — (mired)

89 Expert  
90 Large inlet  
92 Actor Lorne  
95 Like a slingshot or a wishbone  
96 Schmoose  
97 Singer DiFranco  
98 Pampering, for short  
101 Cowboy doing a roundup, say  
102 Eye affliction  
104 Peter of "Becket"  
105 Spongelike  
106 Wears away  
107 Grab — (eat fast)  
108 Actress Eilfman  
109 Hot rod fuel  
110 Long — (winter undies)  
111 Singer Falana  
112 Santa — (hot winds)  
113 Name of 12 popes  
114 Ripped for later yrs.  
115 Small bills  
116 Sidewalk smooches, e.g., for short  
117 Melody  
122 Leg it  
123 Prez after FDR

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## Justice of the Peace, 6

Draiden L. Hays – Belgrade – Fail to carry proof or exhibit/ insurance in vehicle [1st] – paid fines - \$285 fines & fees  
- speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Erik S. Peiluck – Calgary, AB – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$120 fines & fees  
Raj N. Shah – Mtn Hous,e CA – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – plead no contest – One (1) week deferred imposition of sentence. \$70 fines & fees as well as completion of Traffic School within one (1) week.  
Pete A. Ellis – Tampa, FL – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded night limit of 65mph – plead guilty – One (1) week deferred imposition of sentence. \$70 fines & fees as well as completion of Traffic School within one (1) week.

### DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Christopher J. Hurley – Helena – Violation of Commission or Department Orders or Rules - paid fines - \$135 fines & fees  
Gary L. Nellist – Manitowoc WI – Violation of commission or department orders or rules – paid fines - \$135 fines & fees  
Bridger D. Shoemaker – Clancy – Insufficient personal flotation devices – paid fines - \$85 fines & fees

### BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Alexandra M. Bakken – Townsend – Speeding on non-interstate – Exceed night limit of 65mph – Paid Fines - \$20 Fines & Fees  
Amy E. Balmain – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Mary S. Burgess – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees  
Michael C. Conrad – Townsend – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Benjamin D. Foreman – Belgrade – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Mateo D. Garreffa – Aurora, CO – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Elijah M. Kolb – Granite City, IL – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees  
Eljas P. Koistinen – Kalispell – Speeding – exceeded restricted speed limit established by local authority – paid fines - \$105 fines & fees  
Enver Kandemir – Chicago, IL – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees  
Robert J. Paris – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceeded night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Gabriel A. Russell – Horn Lake, MS – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees  
Zackary T. Supalla – Montana City – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees  
Carson T. Cote – Helena – speeding on non-interstate – exceeded night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$120 fines & fees  
Carter J. Cookson – East Helena – Careless Driving – paid fines - \$85 fines & fees  
Jennifer A. Goding – Three Forks – speeding – exceeded restricted / special zone speed limit established by department – paid fines - \$55 fines & fees

### COUNTY CRIMINAL

Justin T. Theriault – Ralston, WY – Reckless Driving [1st] – plead guilty – Ninety (90) days jail with execution suspended for six (6) months with good behavior. \$535 fines & fees as well as enrollment in chemical dependency assessment within one (1) month, to be completed within four (4) months.



## Winter - What Better Time to Talk about Mosquitoes in Montana?

Jessica Bushnell  
Broadwater County Weed and Mosquito Control

As winter finally arrives, what better time to talk about mosquitoes in Montana?  
Montana is home to 50 species of mosquitoes. The genus Aedes accounts for the largest percentage of species in Montana. The most prolific biter is Aedes vexans, which gets its name from the fact that it vexes everyone with its aggressive feeding. Traps in the county collected over 50,000 A. vexans in one night. Luckily, this trap is located outside the Townsend mosquito district.  
Broadwater County Mosquito Department plans our trap locations to monitor West Nile Virus (WNV), decide where to start treatment operations, and collaborate with Carroll College on their vector testing and monitoring efforts. The two most important species for transmitting diseases are Qulex tarsalis and Qulex pipens. These species transmit WNV and other mosquito-borne illnesses. Some other species in Montana are rarely encountered by people. These species have more specific blood sources or habitats, such as feeding on rodents or reptiles, or hatching from snowmelt pools or in tree holes.  
Worldwide, there are over 3,500 species of mosquitoes. Some are incredibly beautiful, with vibrant colors or flashy body parts, while most are quite similar, with subtle differences in their features.  
Mosquito professionals face unique challenges. Some species act like invasive species. For example, Canyon County Mosquito Abatement District in Nampa, ID, collected an Aedes aegypti in a trap this September. Aedes aegypti can carry more serious diseases such as yellow fever, dengue fever, and the Zika virus. Ae. aegypti thrives in urban habitats, preferring to get its blood meal from people and completing its entire life cycle in the city. It is expected that more of these invasive species will be found in the future as new information and data on plant and animal movement become available.

## Broadwater County Commissioners Tackle Subdivision Rules, Water Planning, and Board Appointments

Rachael Brug  
Staff Reporter




At their December 2 meeting, the Broadwater County Commissioners addressed a packed agenda, ranging from tributes to community members and subdivision regulation amendments to a major step forward for the Wheatland Targeted Economic Development District (TEDD).  
The session opened on a somber note, with Commissioner Swenson expressing condolences for the recent passing of Kory Bakkum, a retired teacher, local golf course superintendent, and so much more, whose contributions to the community were acknowledged by the board.  
Security changes at the county courthouse were also reviewed. Going forward, public access will be limited to the back entrance nearest the hospital, which provides ADA access and dedicated parking. The commissioners emphasized that this measure, prompted by recent security assessments, is intended to protect both staff and the public.  
Routine business included approval of a new airport hangar lease for ISAR Services LLC, with Commissioner Randolph explaining the process and noting continued demand for hangar space from both local and out-of-county applicants.  
The board also reviewed several land use and subdivision items, including the approval of the Spiker Tract B minor subdivision and a one-year extension for the Meadows 3 minor subdivision. A family transfer exemption request for the Koblentz property was tabled for further research after questions were raised about property history and easements.  
A significant portion of the meeting focused on amendments to the county’s subdivision regulations. Community Development and Planning Director Nichole Brown outlined proposed changes, including new requirements for signed fire plans and clarification of fire protection standards. The commissioners approved these amendments as interim changes, with plans to revisit the full regulations after new state guidance is released in early 2026.  
The highlight of the meeting was a discussion on using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds to support a planning grant for the Wheatland TED. Eric Seidensticker, representing Montana Business Assistance Connection, explained that the \$16,666 in county TIF funds would serve as a match for a \$33,334 state grant. The funds will be used to assess and plan for water and sewer infrastructure in the TED, helping to attract new businesses and ensure long-term viability.  
County Administrative Officer Bill Jarocki noted that the TIF fund has a healthy balance and that investing in infrastructure planning is a legitimate and strategic use of these resources. The commission unanimously approved the funding request.  
The meeting concluded with the approval of board appointments and resignations, routine financial claims, and a reminder that the next commission meeting will be held on December 17 at 12:30 p.m.

## Townsend City Council and Cooperative Housing Meeting Tackles Opportunities, Challenges for Local Housing

Rachael Brug  
Staff Reporter

Townsend, MT — The Townsend City Council’s December 2 meeting was anything but routine, as city business gave way to a vigorous community conversation about the future of local housing and the potential for innovative, cooperative solutions.  
Council Handles City Business, Prepares for Community Discussion  
Mayor Vickie Rauser and council members began the evening by rearranging the agenda to tackle all city business first, allowing the remainder of the night to focus on housing. After opening the floor for public comment—with none offered—the council approved minutes from November 18, 2025, with a key correction: “The fire department’s recent presentation was intended to propose a referendum for city residents to choose between three options, rather than presenting options directly to the city council,” clarified one council member.  
Routine updates followed, including approval of November claims and brief reports from city departments. The ongoing water project and street maintenance were noted, while Council Member JB Howick shared plans to bring the state’s exempt water well issue to the next agenda, saying, “I believe it might impact the next review of the zoning board.”  
With business concluded, the council adjourned, noting Councilman Nate Brown’s absence for the record.

## Broadwater County Commissioners Agenda

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 <a href="https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov">https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov</a> .
Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, the agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting. Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Mail and items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded.	
OFFICIAL agendas are posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in the Courthouse (1st-floor bulletin board), on our website at <a href="https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov">www.broadwatercountymt.gov</a> , in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline.	
Tuesday, December 16, 2025	
10:00 AM	Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, CAO office, regarding projects and deadlines
Wednesday, December 17, 2025	
12:00 PM	Public comment on any subject not on the agenda, that the Commission has jurisdiction over
12:00 PM	Discussion/Decision, Vic Sample, Broadwater County Hospital District Board President, allocation of remaining hospital district funds to the county ambulance Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
12:05 PM	Discussion/Decision, Megan Bullock, contract for doing establishment inspections and getting reimbursed by DPHHS.
12:10 PM	Discussion/Decision, Ruby Taylor, Public Health Director, Task Order HHS-ECFS-00000715 for the Title V Maternal & Child Health Block Grant Program (MCHBGP), \$4959
12:15 PM	Discussion/Decision, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director, Purchase or Lease of 872P John Deere Grader for Purchase - \$539,000 or Lease; Option 3 - \$128,708.73
12:20 PM	Discussion/Decision, Letters of interest and letter of resignation for county boards
12:25 PM	Discussion, use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds for the Community MT Planning grant match, Montana Business Assistance Connection (MBAC), for the Wheatland Targeted Economic Development District
1:00 PM	Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Jepson Family Transfer Exemption Request; S25 T7N R1E
1:05 PM	Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Lambott Boundary Relocation Exemption Request; S3 T6N R2E
1:10 PM	Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Coblentz Family Transfer Exemption Request; S9 T8N R1E
2:00 PM	Working meeting with the commissioners and Gallatin Power about the Trident Solar Project
The county strives to make the meeting available virtually but cannot guarantee access due to platform failure, internet interruptions, or other potential technological malfunctions	
Items for Discussion / Action / Review / Signature – Consent Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Certificate of Survey review</li><li>Management – on-going advisory board appointments, by-laws approval, interlocal agreements and non-financial contract renewals</li><li>Claims/Payroll/minutes</li><li>County Audit / Budget</li><li>Mail – ongoing grants</li><li>Correspondence – support letters</li><li>Task Orders</li></ul>	
Debi Randolph, Vice Chair (406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050 <a href="mailto:drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov">drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov</a>	
Jesse Swenson (406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213 <a href="mailto:jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov">jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov</a>	
Lindsey Richtmyer, Chair (406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834 <a href="mailto:lricthtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov">lricthtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov</a>	
E-mail: <a href="mailto:commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov">commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov</a> Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway) Please note: These meeting times/dates may change. Please check the county website	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Board of Health Meeting on December 15th at 3:00 PM</li><li>County Parks and Recreation Meeting on December 15th at 6:00 PM</li><li>Noxious Weed Board Meeting on December 16th at 6:00 PM</li><li>Airport Board Meeting on December 17th at 6:00 PM</li><li>Fair Board Meeting on January 8th at 5:15 PM</li></ul>	
The Commissioners may be attending these board meetings (except the Planning Board)	







# HELENA OBITUARIES

## Terry L. Lamping

### Family of Terry L. Lamping

May 27, 1956 – November 22, 2025

Terry Lynn Lamping, 69, passed away on November 22, 2025, in East Helena, Montana. Born on May 27, 1956, in Great Falls, Montana, Terry lived a life rooted in dedication to her family, her work, and the simple joys that brought her happiness.

Terry graduated from Polson High School and went on to build a diverse and accomplished career. She worked for the Internal Revenue Service, demonstrating diligence and professionalism. Later, she embraced entrepreneurship as a business owner. After retirement, Terry “convinced” her husband, Phil, to return to work in a capacity that provided them both physical activity and social engagement, so they started a position in personal shopping. In each role, she brought integrity and commitment that reflected her resolute nature.

Those around her knew her as charismatic and loyal, qualities that shone through in every aspect of her life. Her honesty was unwavering, and she carried herself with compassion and patience that left lasting impressions on all who knew her.

Terry found joy in the everyday moments: tending to her garden with care, cheering passionately for Montana Grizzlies football games, and expressing creativity through baking and cake decorating. She especially cherished time spent watching her children and grandchildren play sports—a source of pride and connection for her. Summers camping at Lake Mary were among her favorite traditions, offering peace and togetherness in the beauty of nature.

She is lovingly remembered by her husband, Philip Lamping; sons, Chris (Tiffany) Lamping, Jory Lamping, and Brandon Lamping; brother, Alan (Jackie) Fryslie; sister, Denise (Cliff) Willis; grandchildren, Kiya, Kelton, Jayana, and Karsyn Lamping; and beloved pets,



Terry L. Lamping  
Photo Provided by Family of Terry L. Lamping

Mugsy and Hopper.

Terry was preceded in death by her father, James Hayes; mother, Ramona Paul; stepmother, Naomi Hayes; and sisters, Scarlett Mills, Cyndy Nelson, and Lloydene Paul.

In lieu of flowers, an account has been opened at Valley Bank of Helena in Terry’s name. The family would welcome charitable donations and contributions to help cover funeral costs.

Her memory lives on in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. May it bring comfort to all who mourn her passing. A Funeral Service will be held on December 12, 2025, at 03:00 PM at Anderson Stevenson Wilke & Retz Funeral Home, 3750 North Montana Ave. Burial Services will immediately follow the funeral services at Saint Ann’s Cemetery in East Helena, and a reception will be held at the Helena Valley Community Center, 3553 Tizer Rd, in its wake.

## Peter James Rummel

### Family of Peter James Rummel

Peter James Rummel died at his home in East Helena on Monday, November 24, 2025. He was born on February 4, 1950, in Hamilton, Montana, to Clyde and Verda Rummel. He joined older sister Linda. Brother Carl and sister Julie later completed the family.

Pete graduated from Corvallis High School in 1969 and attended Northern Montana College, studying drafting.

Pete was a hard worker. As a teen, he worked on the family ranch and helped out his nearby grandparents. Pete worked as a millwright for many years in the timber industry in Missoula. In 1991, Pete relocated his family to East Helena, where he worked at Ash Grove Cement Plant until his retirement in 2012.

Pete married Donna Mae Knutson on April 10, 1975. Pete proudly raised Donna’s two sons, Michael and Steven, as his own. They were joined later by their son, Jeremy. Donna passed away in January 2025, after a brief illness. They were married just a few months shy of 50 years. Pete missed her immensely and often said she was his best friend.

Pete loved all things outdoors: hunting and fishing. Pete not only bagged wild game, he would also butcher it, can it, smoke it and cook it. He had a special recipe for Smoked Summer Sausage that was enjoyed and devoured by friends and family. Pete taught Hunter Safety for several years in Lolo and was always happy to share what he knew.

Pete spent some of his best days fishing in the boat, either with his boys or friends. Fishing was a common topic, even in his final days. In his retirement years, Pete enjoyed cooking and gardening. You were fortunate if you were a recipient of a jar of Pete’s pickled beets or a serving of stuffed peppers.

Pete was an ingenious and clever craftsman. He was always looking for ways to get things done better, quicker or easier. He fabricated tools when he couldn’t



Peter James Rummel  
Photo Provided by Family of Peter James Rummel

find one to do the job. He was a skilled welder and made many signs for friends and family.

Pete was a no BS type of guy and was genuine with everyone. He had a big heart and was always kind to others. He was quick-witted and brought a smile to others whenever he went.

In addition to his wife, Donna, he was preceded in death by his parents, Clyde and Verda Rummel, and brother-in-law Larry Niezgodzki. He is survived by his sons, Jeremy, Steve and Michael, brother Carl (Annette) Rummel, sisters Linda Niezgodzki and Julie Rummel, granddaughter Tori Dess, grandson Damon Taylor, and several great-grandchildren.

Pete suffered from bone cancer for over 12 years. He was a fighter and kept pushing through, although he was often in tremendous pain. He was loved and will be missed.

At his request, no services will be held. Memorials are suggested to support cancer or Parkinson’s research.

# OBITUARY

## Donald John Messling

### Family of Donald John Messling

October 23, 1940 – November 29, 2025



Donald John Messling  
Photo Provided by Family of Donald John Messling

Donald John Messling, age 85, passed away the evening of November 29, 2025, at home in Toston, MT.

Donald was born on October 23, 1940, in Prairie Du Chien, WI. He was the third child of William and Nellie (Whiteaker) Messling.

His childhood was spent in the hills of southern Wisconsin. He learned to hunt at an early age, which he enjoyed throughout his lifetime. His dog was named Bobbie and they were constant companions as Donald roamed the great outdoors.

In June of 1963, Donald joined the Army (327th Inf, 101st Airborne) because he wanted to jump out of planes. He was a member of an elite marksmanship group, went to Recondo school, then he spent one year in Vietnam, mostly on the front lines. During his time, he earned an Army Medal for Heroism, saving wounded men during heavy fire.

When he got back home, he returned to the dairy farm. He received a Vocational Diploma in Productive Agriculture in 1976. He also went to horseshoeing school.

He got married and had his only daughter, Nevada, in 1975.

Donald did a number of jobs, from welding, riding in the stockyards, and guiding hunters on horseback in Idaho.

At his core, Donald was a horseman. He competed in rough stock, roping, and cutting. He went around the country learning everything he could from the best competitors of the day. He started breaking horses and instructing riders. He eventually ended up in Toston, MT. Besides training horses and giving riders lessons, he really loved riding in the mountains with his local ranching friends chasing cattle.

He met Carol Zirkle in 2000 in Toston, and they started the StockHorse training facility, where he focused on teaching horses and riders to work cattle for cutting and other cattle-related events.

Donald is survived by his wife, Carol Zirkle, and his sister, LuLu Belle (Messling) Lechnir. He is preceded in death by his parents, William and Nellie (Whiteaker) Messling, his brother, Roy Messling, and his daughter, Nevada Leigh Messling.

There will be no services.

# AREA DEATH

## Kory David Bakkum

### Family of Kory David Bakkum

August 10, 1962 – December 2, 2025

The family of Kory David Bakkum is saddened to announce his passing. Please check back shortly for a complete obituary.

### Service Schedule:

#### Celebration of His Life

2:00 pm, Saturday, December 13, 2025  
Broadwater High School, 201 N Spruce Street  
Townsend, Montana 59644

#### Burial

Following the Service  
Saturday, December 13, 2025  
Deep Creek Cemetery, 50 Deep Creek Road  
Townsend, Montana 5964

#### Reception

Following the Graveside Service  
Saturday, December 13, 2025  
Broadwater High School, 201 N Spruce Street  
Townsend, Montana 59644





**Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!**

**406-266-3110**

**7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT**

**topgunt3110@gmail.com**

**topgunautobodytownsend.com**

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406.442.0456  
fbfs.com/find-an-agent/  
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Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company\*/West Des Moines, IA, Mountain West Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/Laramie, WY. \*Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. PR-SM-B (10-21)



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

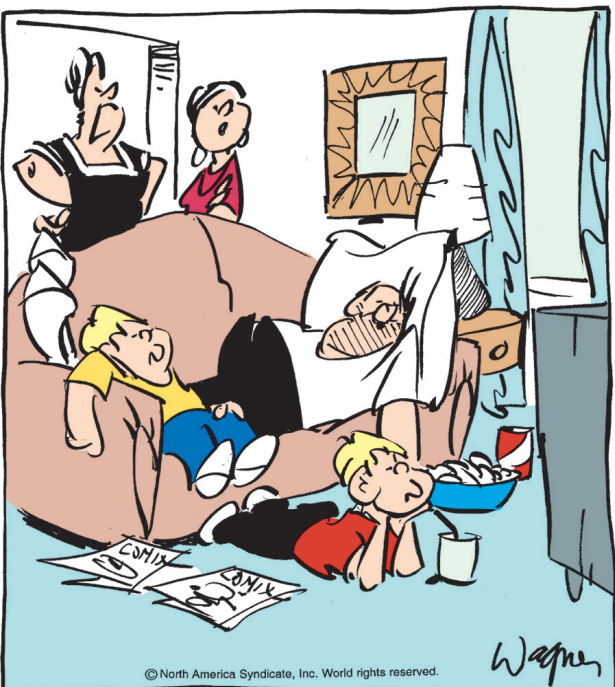
NO, THERE'S NOT A "DOWNHILL SETTING."  
DEAR, I THINK YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT.



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GRIN and BEAR IT



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"I wanted Roscoe to spend more time with the boys. ... What was I thinking?"

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

LOOK, GUYS, AT MY AGE WITH MY BAD BACK, LUGGING HUGE BAGS OF TOYS IN AND OUT OF A SLED IS A STRUGGLE...

I NEED YOU TO TAKE MY CREDIT CARD AND BUY SIX BILLION GIFT CARDS



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Amber Waves


by Dave T. Phipps

CLUCK! CLUCK! CLUCK! CLUCK! CLUCK!

OH, BARB, DID YOU ALL HEAR ABOUT HELEN'S DAUGHTER? I MEAN, WHAT A SCANDAL!

EXCUSE ME, I'M HELEN!

OK, THAT'S IT. WE ALL NEED TO START WEARING NAME TAGS.



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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

DO YOU PREFER PAPER OR PLASTIC STRAWS?

NEITHER...

...THEY BOTH SUCK!!




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THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY RANDY MIKHOLLAND



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KENJI'S TOYS

NOW IN STOCK...

LAMOOMOO DOLLS!

DEEZIL'S BEEN WANTIN' ONE OF THESE DOLLS. I'M GONNA GRAB ONE.

NO.

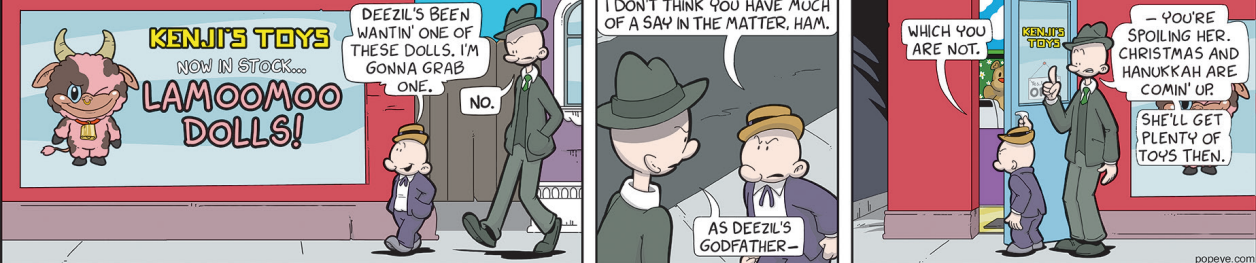
I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE MUCH OF A SAY IN THE MATTER, HAM.

AS DEEZIL'S GODFATHER--

WHICH YOU ARE NOT.

-- YOU'RE SPOILING HER. CHRISTMAS AND HANUKKAH ARE COMIN' UP.

SHE'LL GET PLENTY OF TOYS THEN.



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WHAT I GET FOR MY KID ISN'T YOUR BUSINESS, HAM.

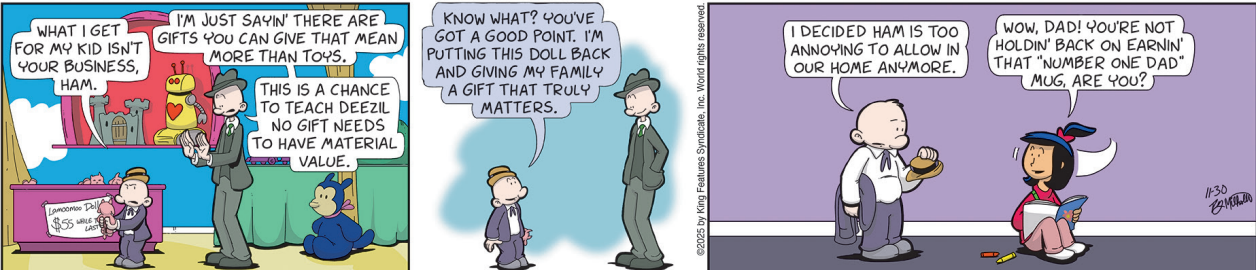
I'M JUST SAYIN' THERE ARE GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE THAT MEAN MORE THAN TOYS.

THIS IS A CHANCE TO TEACH DEEZIL NO GIFT NEEDS TO HAVE MATERIAL VALUE.

KNOW WHAT? YOU'VE GOT A GOOD POINT. I'M PUTTING THIS DOLL BACK AND GIVING MY FAMILY A GIFT THAT TRULY MATTERS.

I DECIDED HAM IS TOO ANNOYING TO ALLOW IN OUR HOME ANYMORE.

WOW, DAD! YOU'RE NOT HOLDIN' BACK ON EARNIN' THAT "NUMBER ONE DAD" MUG, ARE YOU?



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TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

PIE, HUGO?

YOU BET

HERE'S A PIECE FOR YOU, HUGO

YOU REALLY DO GULP YOUR FOOD, HUGO

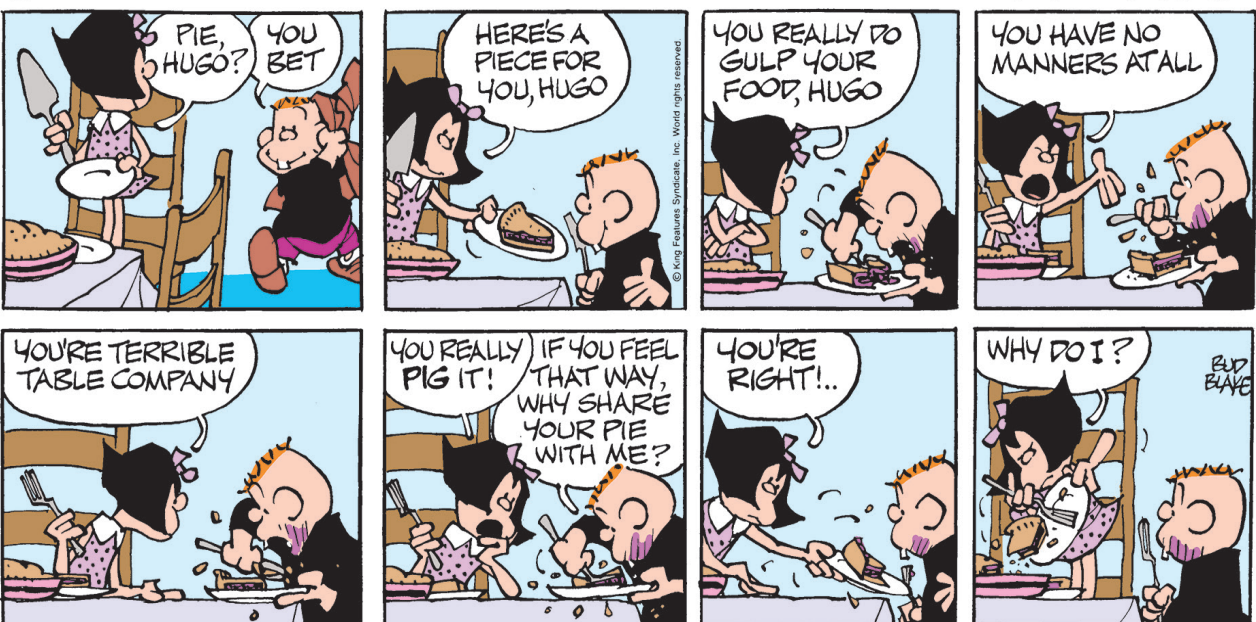
YOU HAVE NO MANNERS AT ALL

YOU'RE TERRIBLE TABLE COMPANY

IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY, WHY SHARE YOUR PIE WITH ME?

YOU'RE RIGHT!...

WHY DO I?



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TIZER MEATS

for Your Choice Holiday Meats!



tizermeats.com | 406-422-4822

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Bulldog Cuts & Styles

406-235-0817

108 N Front St, Suite D

Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5pm

Full barber with hot shaves and hairstylist available.

Manicures and Pedicures

Flexible; By Appointment

Super Crossword

Answers

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

Barnes Jewelry

357 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena MT

406-442-3000

CryptoQuip

answer

Declaration about a firefly or ladybug that prefers ascending surfaces. It's an uphill beetle.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Deity; 2. Pleat; 3. Awoke; 4. Imply

Today's Word

PAYDAY

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

T	Y	R
E		A
M	U	L
MATURELY		

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

MT43News@MT43News.com

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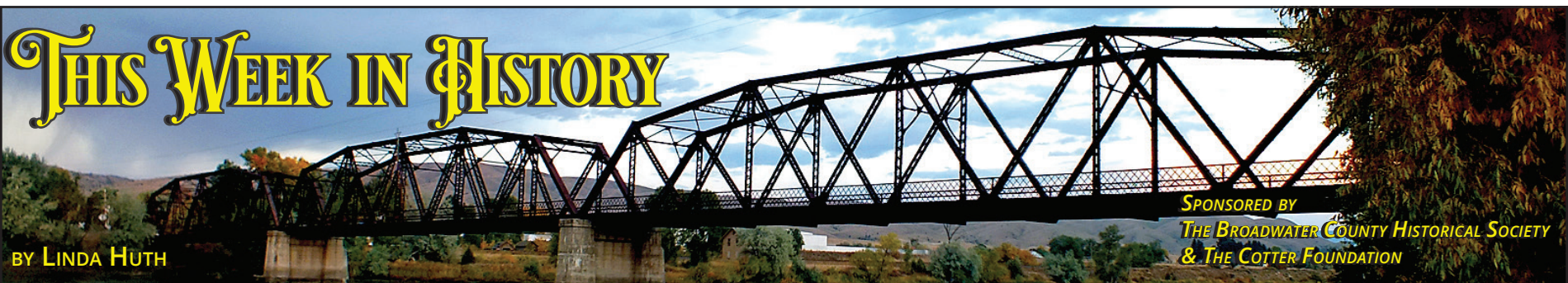
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# December 11

1902

## Local News

Mrs. VanVoast has completed a very fine selection of Broadwater County views. She has them in book form or by single card. Don't fail to see them.

A.C. Carson advertises a fine line of robes, blankets and all kinds of leather goods. Call and look his stock over.

Joseph Woods of Eagle Gulch was in town a few days this week.

On December 31st, Winston is to have a Grand Masquerade ball. This diversion will be given by some of the young men of that place and will no doubt be a hummer. Music will be furnished by the Broadwater orchestra and is sure to be as good as that place has ever had. The Durnen Hotel will furnish the supper and if anyone goes away hungry, report to headquarters and draw down the price. D.J. Lane will be general director. William Robbins, W.S. Williams and George Balentine will manage the floor. C.E. Henneberg and George Mires will arrange for your comfort in a true western manner, while H.E. Johnson, George Lambert and W.S. Dodge will receive you in Metropolitan style. You can't afford to miss it.

1941

## The U.S. Is at War With Japan, Germany & Italy

War was declared on Japan by the United States Monday following an unexpected attack on Pearl Harber, Hawaii Sunday and similar attacks on other United States possessions in the pacific. Japan declared war on the U.S. three hours after the surprise attacks.

A declaration of war has been declared upon the United States by Germany and Italy this morning and Congress this morning declared war on these two axis powers.

The senate vote of 82-0 and the house vote of 388-1 told their own story of unity in the face of common danger. The speed with which the two chambers granted President Roosevelt's request for a declaration was unprecedented.

The single adverse house vote was that of Miss Jeannette

Rankin, Republican congresswoman from Montana, who was among the few who voted against the 1917 declaration of war on Germany.

## Home Boys at Wake Island Believed to be Safe Yet

News from Wake Island is the news that the majority of locals is anxiously trying to pick up up by radio or other means. The first authentic news and perhaps the only reports that can be forthcoming for a week or two came last night when the Philippine clipper piloted by J.H. Hamilton landed in San Francisco. The clipper was turned back on its flight to Singapore last Sunday by radio warnings and landed at Wake just a short time before the bombing commenced at the hand of the Japs.

The clipper rescued the Pan American personnel and arrived safely home last night with nine aboard bringing the first authentic news of the first raid. Damage done as reported was the burning of the hotel and some of the government buildings. However, it is a well established fact that adequate cellar shelters against bombing have given the men who are working there protection, and relatives feel they are safe for the present at least.

1958

## Winston News

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Diehl returned home from California on Wednesday, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Morgan of Seattle. Their itinerary included a visit to Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, and Hollywood where they saw the Lawrence Welk show. On their return trip they visited some of the fabulous nite spots in Las Vegas. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lemon in Salt Lake City and took a tour of Temple Square. The Morgans departed for Seattle Saturday.

## Radersburg News

Charles Masolo of Winston was a business visitor in Radersburg Tuesday.

Mrs. Bud Harris and Mrs. Geo. Harris entertained at a birthday dinner Sunday for their mother, Mrs. O.J. Allen and Mrs. Rita Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Harris. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. O.J. Allen and son, Harry, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Harris and family and Mrs. And Mrs. Bud

Harris and family and Miss Colleen Siebold of Townsend.

## Service of Admission for Girls Friendly Society

The Service of Admission for the Girls Friendly Society was held on Monday evening, Dec. 8, in St. John's Episcopal Church. The Rev. Ralph Krohn conducted the ceremonies.

The Junior group was presented by Mrs. Wm. McElwee who is their leader. The girls are Dorothy and Donna Doig, Cynda Holland, Marcia Lots, Vicki Huth, Susan Aldworth, Lynn Meyer, Candy Davis, Trudy Buck, Susan Rains, Linda Damuth and Mary Ellishag. Their assistant leader is Mrs. John Schreiner.

The Senior group was presented by their assistant leader, Mrs. Don Hollaway. They are Donna Fogland, Deena Hollaway, Sydney Sherwood, Mary Lee Etzwiler, Coy Jane Damuth and Sharon Rains. Mrs. D.W. Neifert leads this group.

Members of St. Mary's Guild who were admitted as Associate Members are Mrs. Wm. McElwee, Mrs. Clint Holland, Mrs. Geo. Damuth, Mrs. Geo. Krohn, Mrs. Geo. Lots, Mrs. Garrison Rains, Mrs. Lyman Etzwiler, Mrs. Wally Rauser, Mrs. Clarence Fisher, Mrs. Don Hollaway, Mrs. John Poole, Mrs. J.G. Braley and Mrs. Wm. Aldworth.

After the services St. Mary's Guild entertained the group with games in the parish hall. Refreshments were served and Mrs. Irma Meyer led the group in singing Christmas carols.

1975

## Traditional Townsend Tree

THANKS JACK – Jack Sautter has opened the Christmas season in Townsend again with the raising of his traditional 25-foot Christmas tree out in front of his Rex Theater. This year he adorned it with a special string of lights and decorations that when lighted give the entire downtown area a glow. We all know it is the season to be jolly when the Sautter tree rises, and the end of the holidays when the tree comes down. Jack cut the tree up in the Deep Creek area.

The other strings of city lights that crisscross Broadway will be put up this week by local citizens and city crew volunteers, along with the pole decorations, according to Chamber President John Jepson. But no matter who does what for the holiday season, it just would not be the same without the big Christmas tree in main street that the Sautters have been putting up for over 35 years. Thanks, Jack!!

### Christmas Decorations and Lights 50% Off!

(Poinsettias and Christmas Cacti excluded)

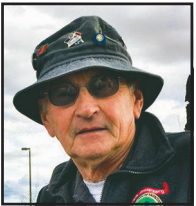
### The best heating pellets in town \$7.99/bag or \$300/ton

WE'VE A SNOWBLOWER THAT'S  
GOTTA GO! THIS OFFER WILL NOT  
BE REPEATED. \$599. COME CHECK  
IT OUT BEFORE THE HEAVY SNOW!

# Rotary Holiday Light Contest Winners

Patrick Plantenberg

Rotarian



Each year, the Rotary Club of Townsend encourages community residents to decorate their homes for the Holidays. Rotary offers a cash award: First place: \$100, Second place: \$50, and Third place: \$25. As always, the judges had trouble deciding what homes to select as there are some great displays again this year.

The committee decided to select some new entries this year to encourage more people to start decorating for the Holidays. The 2025 winner was Amber Meagher located at 610 S. Cedar. The second-place tie was Jason Quick and Larry Gersch at 200 and 202 S. Cherry. The third-place tie was Sally Byrd, 412 S. Oak and Holly and Bryson Dykstra at 410 S. Oak.

Some of the amazing displays you do not want to miss include decorations at:

- 400 S. Harrison

- 202 N. Harrison
- 407 N. Maple
- 308 S Cherry
- 126 S. Walnut
- 301 N. Walnut
- 213 N. Walnut
- 412 S. Cedar and
- 319 N. Cedar

Thanks to everyone from Rotary for making Townsend so beautiful through the Holiday season!



First Prize: Amber Meagher, located at 610 S. Cedar  
Townsend Rotary Club Photo



Second Prize (Tie): Jason Quick and Larry Gersch at 200 and 202 S. Cherry.  
Townsend Rotary Club Photo



Third Prize (Tie): Sally Byrd 412 S. Oak  
Townsend Rotary Club Photo



Third Prize (Tie): Holly and Bryson Dykstra at 410 S. Oak  
Townsend Rotary Club Photo