

Broadwater County Search and Rescue

“So Others May Live”

Cindy Christopherson
Search and Rescue



2025 was a busy one for the Broadwater County Search and Rescue (BCSAR). BCSAR is staffed by numerous volunteers who have skills with ice rescues, water rescues, locating people via information from 911, mountain searches, being able to assist with First Aid needs, and administrative needs. Each volunteer receives training with boats, ice rescue, ATV/UTVs, map location, bringing people out that need medical attention, and working as a group for whatever a situation requires. Members also maintain equipment, including vehicles, 4x4s, snowmobiles, side-by-sides, boats, ice suits and this year replaced decking on trailers used to haul equipment.

This past year, the BCSAR responded to 15 calls, which included incidents on Canyon Ferry Reservoir, the Missouri River, and the Elkhorn Mountains. These incidents included lost hunters, lost bicyclists, the location of individuals, and assistance to recreationists throughout the county. They also provided support for fishing tournaments and poker runs. Volunteers also assisted in Cascade and Gallatin County with the location and recovery of individuals.

Numerous donations were received that helped in acquiring equipment and supplies. Graymont provided



*BSAR Team
Obtained from the Sheriff's Office Website*

funding to purchase a Side-by-Side and then, in 2025, to outfit it with accessories. The Montana Walleyes Unlimited-Gallatin Chapter made a donation to purchase new and improved ice suits. Grants were received to purchase updated radios and to outfit a van for use in communications. Rocky Mountain Supply and Broadwater Clinic-Billings provided raffle prizes for our fall raffle during Fall Fest. Also, thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets. Thanks to all of these donations

and many more from the VFW, Chamber of Commerce, and all others.

BCSAR's future can only continue with the inclusion of new volunteers and through continued training and the purchase of specialized equipment. Volunteers do not have to be experts in all areas. We welcome people with varying interests, skills, and backgrounds. Please contact Eric Crusch, President, at 406-524-0275 or obtain a volunteer application at the Sheriff's Office.

Heritage Park Cottonwood Stump Becomes a Broadwater Bulldog

MT43 News Reporter

Saturday was a good day for an old, dead cottonwood stump to become a Broadwater Bulldog statue. Jarrad Flowers, a professional wood carving artist, chainsawed his way through bark and wood

chips to turn the once stately cottonwood tree into an image that will honor Broadwater High School's mascot.

Flowers, 33, will be in Townsend for around ten days, trimming and carving the two stumps. An employee of Carve Me A Bear Chainsaw Carving Company of Lincoln and Napa, Idaho, he learned

Most Montana Voters Don't Want a Statewide Sales Tax

Eric Dietrich
Montana Free Press

Only 33% of registered voters in the state support a sales tax for property tax relief, according to an MTFP-Eagleton poll.

This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press and is reprinted here courtesy of the Montana Free Press. https://montanafreepress.org/2026/03/02/most-montana-voters-dont-want-a-statewide-sales-tax/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newspack%20Newsletter%20%28262691%29&utm_source=2&utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=The%20race%20to%20replace%20Zinke&utm_campaign=Newspack%20Newsletter%20%28262691%29

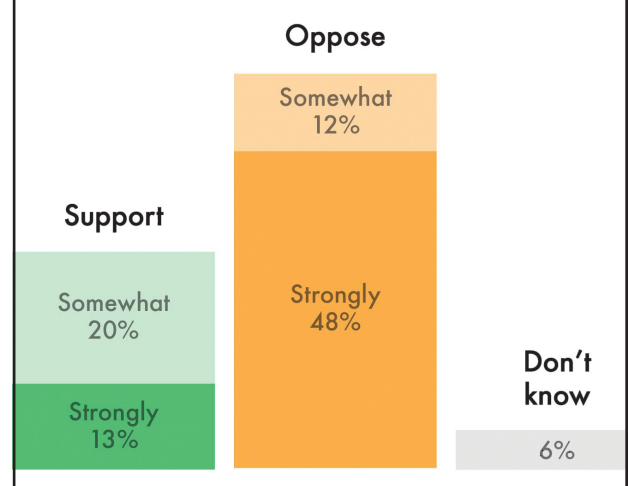


*Chainsaw carving artist Jarrad Flowers, right, and Tree Board Member Charles Freshman wield the tools to change tree stumps to statues.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer*

the skill from his mentor, Lewis Clark. Flowers spent time in California but has done on-the-job training with Clark for six years as an apprentice. He is originally from Little Rock, Arkansas.

Townsend Tree Board obtained a \$10,000 anonymous donation to pay the cost of carving the trees, according to Pat Plantenberg. Townsend Elementary Schools submitted several suggestions for the chainsaw carvings. The two chosen were Broadwater Bulldog and a squirrel feeder.

To what extent would you support or oppose a statewide sales tax if the revenue was used to reduce property tax bills?



Per responses to Dec. 2025/Jan. 2026 MTFP-Eagleton poll. Poll overall margin of error +/- 4.1%. Responses don't sum exactly to 100% due to rounding. Graphic: Scott Reinhard

Montana voters' generations-long aversion to a state sales tax is alive and well, according to a poll conducted by Montana Free Press and the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University.

Despite support in recent years from business groups that argue the state's tax structure should adapt to an increasingly tourism-focused economy, a majority of voters polled in late December and early January said they would prefer to keep the state one of the few in the nation without a sales tax — even if the revenues are used to reduce property tax bills.

Montana Voters,

Water Rights: A Critical Montana Issue (Part 3 of 4)

Turn to Page 9

**ENJOY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!
CELEBRATE LOCAL!**

**Happy Saint
Patrick's Day!**



**BIG BELT
AUTOMOTIVE**
320 Broadway Street | (406) 459-7529

AMERICAN LEGION POST 42

CORNBEEF AND CABBAGE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

St. Paddy's Dinner



\$15 MUSIC BY DJ JOHN **5 PM**

211 BROADWAY, TOWNSEND, MT.

**TOPGUN
Autobody**
Townsend, MT

Have a Great
Saint Patrick's Day!

406-266-3110
7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT
topgunt3110@gmail.com
topgunautobodytownsend.com



Looking for something special?

Try your luck at
THE BIRDS NEST!

Unique Gifts,
Antiques & Treasures



**HAPPY
SAINT
PATRICK'S
DAY**

125 S Pine St | (406)266-1335

With any luck, you will come
in for your corned beef,
cabbage and other favorite
St Patty's Day foods!

"Where You're a Neighbor Not a Number!"
HERITAGE
Food Store
Serving the community for 50 Years!

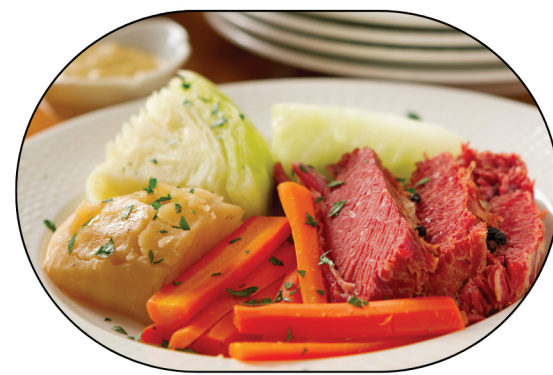


109 S Lane Ave, East Helena | (406) 227-5304

HAPPY ST PATTY'S DAY!

Tuesday, 3/17: Starting @ 1PM
Join us for a hot plate of Corned Beef
and Cabbage with all the Trimmings!

Feeling
LUCKY



BUNKHOUSE BAR

(406) 266-5302

8846 US Highway 287, Toston, MT

**Broadwater Community Theater
St. Patty's Day Fun Raiser
March 14, 2026 ~ At The Lodge**

MUSIC BY ~ HELENA HANDBASKET

- *Includes: Pot O' Gold 50/50, Four-Leaf Clover Draw, St Patty's Photo Booth ~ Dress for A Photo, Elf Games and Lucky Silent Auction
 - *Beer and Wine at the Donation Bar
 - *Catered Dinner at Table
- Doors open at 5:30pm, Dinner at 6pm

Tickets are \$40 per person sold at
The Bird's Nest or BCT Website:
<https://bctmt.org/>

BCT 2026 Sponsors: Jak's Heating and Air, Rotary Club of Townsend; The Lodge/ Tina Homann, Jeannie Mainwaring; Jan Hubber; Judy Schenk; Ron & MaryAnn Salladay; John & Tami Hahn; Chuck McLane; Bob Saxby

STOKE
Science • Technology • Outdoor
Knowledge • Entrepreneurship



THE LODGE
Broadwater Community Theater

Broadwater Community Theater 501C3 Purpose: To foster, promote, and increase the public knowledge and appreciation of the arts and cultural activities in Broadwater County through theater and the arts.

Reach Higher Scholarship - Design A Sticker

Cullen Gilbreath
Reach Higher Montana

Every year, Reach Higher Montana holds a competition to allow students to use their creative side to win scholarship dollars.

The competition asks students to design a sticker that helps pass along the message to fellow students to find their path after high school. The top two designers will each receive a \$1,500 scholarship. The third and fourth place designers will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The fifth and sixth place designers will each receive a \$500 scholarship. This year, we have added Judges' Choice Awards; the three winners will receive a \$500 scholarship. The high school art programs of the respective winning students will also receive \$250 to purchase art supplies or equipment.

Entries can be submitted at: <https://woorise.com/reachhighermontana/sticker-design-by-march-31st>.

The winning sticker designs will be produced and sent to all Montana high schools in the fall as part of the Stick-With-Scholarships campaign. As part of that effort, Reach Higher Montana gives out six \$500 scholarships to students who enter the competition by posting a picture of one of the stickers on their social media account and tagging Reach Higher Montana.

The Design-A-Sticker, Win-A-Scholarship Competition is part of Reach Higher Montana's efforts to help students use their creativity to access resources to continue their education. The Reach Higher Montana website provides access to a list of hundreds of scholarships for Montana students, and the organization posts new scholarship opportunities on its Facebook and Instagram pages every Thursday.

For more information, please visit Reach Higher Montana's website: <https://www.ReachHigherMontana.org> or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

MARCH VIRTUAL SERIES

Friday, 9:00 am-10:00 am MST
Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia
Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Join us to learn about the impact of Alzheimer's; the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia.
March 13 2026
[Link to zoom](#)

Friday, 9:00 am-10:00 am MST
Know the 10 Signs
Join us to learn how to recognize common signs of the disease; how to approach someone about memory concerns; the importance of early detection and benefits of a diagnosis; possible tests and assessments for the diagnostic process, and Alzheimer's Association resources.
MARCH 20 2026
[Link to zoom](#)

Friday, 9:00 am-10:00 am MST
Managing Money
Join us to learn tips for managing someone else's finances, how to prepare for future care costs and the benefits of early planning.
MARCH 27 2026
[Link to zoom](#)

**DESIGN-A
Sticker**

**WIN-A
Scholarship!**

9 designs, 9 scholarships



Deadline:
Entries must be submitted by **Mar 31**

Eligibility:

This contest is open to all Montana high school students, **grades 9 - 12**, planning on attending an accredited institution after high school.

Rules and details:

Go to ReachHigherMontana.org to learn more.

Follow us

Be Creative and Original!

Lady Bulldogs Basketball Season Ends at District Tournament



Kaitlyn Noyes
Kelly Morris Photography



Mishayla Lambott
Kelly Morris Photography



Trace Giomi
Kelly Morris Photography

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter



The Lady Bulldogs basketball team went into the district tournament as the fourth seed out of seven teams.

Their first game was against the fifth-seeded Whitehall Trojans. The Bulldogs have won the previous games against Whitehall during conference play.

The game was very close the entire time, with each team swapping scores. At halftime, the Bulldogs had a close lead on the Trojans, 17 to 16. By the end of the game, the Trojans pulled ahead and were able to come out on top. They scored 48 points to the Bulldogs 43 points.

Bryleigh Erickson led the Bulldogs, scoring 17 points, and Emmalin Fischer scored 12.

This early loss sent the Lady Bulldogs to the loser's side of the bracket, where they then played the Three Forks Wolves. The Wolves had previously won both conference games against the Bulldogs. The Lady Bulldogs jumped to an early lead in the game and were able to keep it throughout the game. They were up by

two points at halftime but outscored the Wolves by 10 points in the second half. They ended up beating the Wolves 57-45.

Kaitlyn Noyes led the Bulldogs with 20 points, and Emmalin Fischer had 16 points. Janeth Garcia contributed 4 steals and 3 offensive rebounds.

After winning that game, the Bulldogs advanced to play in the game that would determine third and fourth place. They faced off against the Whitehall Trojans again. This game was even closer and came to the last few minutes. The Bulldogs led 23-20 at halftime, but the Trojans outscored the Bulldogs by 9 points in the second half. They pulled away at the end and won the game 42 to the Bulldogs 36. Kaitlyn Noyes scored 16 points, and Bryleigh Erickson scored 10.

The Broadwater Boys basketball team entered into the district tournament as the fourth seed. Their first matchup was against the fifth seed, Lone Peak, who they had previously beat twice during conference play. The boys' game against Lone Peak was a sure win for the Bulldogs. They took an early lead against the Big Horns and kept it throughout the game.

The Bulldogs finished the game ahead 68 to 46. Rylan Hoveland scored 20 points and had 5 steals.

Tavyn Anderson also had 5 steals and scored 15 points. Tannen Tuffelmire contributed 12 points and 4 rebounds. Trenton Hoveland scored 8 points, and Trace Giomi and Blake Graham both scored 6 points. Trace Giomi also contributed 10 rebounds.

After the Bulldogs won against Lone Peak, they advanced to play Three Forks to get into the championship game. The Bulldogs previously lost to the Wolves twice in conference play. The game was very close, and the Bulldogs were up 18 to 16 at halftime. The Wolves were able to pull ahead to a 15-point lead in the third quarter and finished the game up by 13 points.

The Wolves scored 50, and the Bulldogs had 37 points. Tannen Tuffelmire scored 14 points and had 2 steals. Tavyn Anderson and Trace Giomi both scored 6 points.

After the Bulldogs lost to Three Forks, they went into the game that determined third and fourth place. They matched up against the Ennis Mustangs. The Bulldogs previously split with the Mustangs in conference play, losing one game and winning the next. This game was neck and neck the entire time. It came down to the last few minutes, and the Bulldogs weren't able to catch the Mustangs. They lost the game 49 to 54.

FCCLA - Not Your Average Home Economics Class



FCCLA Club members include, back row left: Jacey Brunette, Molly Hall, Logan Barkhurst and Ayden Thompson. Front row left: Advisor Ms. Bruusema, Destiny Grandy, Tessie Hughes and Harley Cox. Members not pictured: Kylee Warburton, Kaitlyn Noyes and Harper Wolfram. Photo Provided

Tia Tallwhiteman
BHS Reporter



Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) club membership teaches students leadership skills. The Chapter Advisor is Ms. Shae Bruusema, who teaches many Family Consumer classes at Broadwater High School. She says, "It's fun to see students step out of their comfort zone and gain leadership and practical skills that are for life."

FCCLA was founded in 1955 in Chicago, Illinois. It was initially called Future Home Makers of America. Its name was changed in 1999 to better reflect the activities that include a variety of skills to build a successful family career.

The FCCLA Club members do various community works. This includes volunteering at Helping Hands and at Broadwater Food Pantry. At school, they run the Sweet Treat stand, which operates as a fundraiser for the club. Members sell sweet treats for the students in high school, usually brownies or cookies. Members man the stand to pay for supplies for their projects. They also serve the high school community through the Care Closet. They wash coats, organize clothes, and make fleece tie blankets to hand out to students for warmth and comfort. Middle School and Elementary School

Counselor Holly Smedley started the Care Project to have clothing and personal care items on hand so students can grab them. "We are always looking for ways that we can help serve our community," said advisor Ms. Bruusema.

Members of FCCLA help serve the local businesses. They fundraise to help them compete against other schools' clubs. They do numerous activities that deal with leadership. They learn skills that help the students prepare for their futures. The competitions further develop their skills in practical knowledge and leadership skills.

The club's competitions against other schools involve picking a project that members present to two judges. The judges award either gold, silver or bronze medals. The top three contenders then go to the National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. They have 43 categories from which to choose a project, including baking and pastry, cupcake decoration or teacher preparation, digital stores for change, relevant change or repurpose and redesign.

FCCLA is most definitely not the average Home Economics class. It is full of vibrant members, fun categories, and an awesome chapter advisor. FCCLA really does help students learn different ways to become successful leaders and to learn a lot of different practical skills.

Boys District Basketball Statistics

Clint Watson

#4 Townsend verses #5 Lone Peak- District Tournament, 2/25/26

Townsend- 13 21 22 12: 68

Lone Peak- 6 11 14 15: 46

Scorers- Rylan Hoveland-20; Tavyn Anderson- 15, Tannen Tuffelmire-12; Trenton Hoveland-6; Trace Giomi-8, Blake Graham-7

Lead Rebounders- Trace Giomi-11; Trenton Hoveland-5; Rylan Hoveland-4; Tannen Tuffelmire-4; Tavyn Anderson-1, Bryce Lessley-1; Blake Graham-2

Assists- Tavyn Anderson-3, Tannen Tuffelmire-2; Blake Graham-2; Rylan Hoveland-2; Bryce Lessley-1, Trenton Hoveland-1

Steals- Tavyn Anderson-4; Rylan Hoveland-3; Trace Giomi-3; Tannen Tuffelmire-2; Trenton Hoveland-2

Deflections- Tavyn Anderson-4; Trace Giomi-3; Tannen Tuffelmire-2; Bryce Lessley-1, Trenton Hoveland-3

Townsend Shooting- 2pts- 29/48 60.4% 3pts- 1/6 16.7%

Lone Peak Shooting- 2pts- 10/24 42% 3pts- 7/25 28%

Townsend Free Throws- 7/11 64%

Lone Peak Free Throws- 5/7 72%

Townsend Turnovers- 9

Lone Peak Turnovers- 15

Coach's Thoughts:

We had a great start to our District Tournament as we beat Lone Peak out of Big Sky with some tenacious defense. We were able to pound it inside to the tune of 54 points scored in the paint. Lone Peak was missing one of their starters due to illness, so that would contribute to some of their troubles. Rylan Hoveland had an exceptional game with his 3 steals, 4 rebounds and 20 points. Tavyn Anderson contributed 15 points and Tannen Tuffelmire netted 12 points and grabbed 4 rebounds to help our cause. Trace was our big guy in the middle, grabbing 11 rebounds, where 5 of them led to fast breaks for our team.

Basketball, 8

Townsend School & Sports

MARCH



Friday 13

- NO SCHOOL

Fri 13 - Sat 14

- High School Basketball State Tournament at MSU Bozeman

Saturday 14

- 9:00 am: Middle School Wrestling at Dillon

Sunday 15

- 12:00 pm: Annual County Contest - High School Foyer and HomeEc Room
- 5:00 pm: High School Girls Basketball Banquet - Elementary Commons

Monday 16

- 1st Day of High School Spring Sports Practice
- Monday 16 - Thu 19
- 11:45 am: 1st and 2nd Grade SEL

Tuesday 17

- Middle School Academic Olympics

Wednesday 18

- High School Academic Olympics
- 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Open Gyms: Pickleball, Basketball, Laps

Thursday 19 - Fri 20

- State FCCLA at Bozeman

Friday 20

- NO SCHOOL

Fri 20 - Sat 21

- Skills USA Welding Competition at Great Falls

Saturday 21

- TBD: Middle School Wrestling at Conrad

Sat 21 - Sun 22

- Youth Volleyball Tourney
- 8:00 am: EMT Class - K8 Commons

East Helena Schools & Sports

MARCH

Friday 13

- 8:30 am: Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival in Missoula

Monday 16

- 12:30 pm: Early Release
- 6:30 pm: Booster Club Meeting - EHHS

Thursday 19

- 2:00 pm: 4th Grade Spring Program
- 6:00 pm: 4th Grade Spring Program

SPEED WORKS

Tanner-
Home Improvements &
Restoration Specialist
Larry-
General Property Maintenance &
Handyman Services

Larry 406-502-8607 | Tanner 406-475-5435

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

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

MARCH

Wed 18 & Thu 19

- 10:30 am: Storytime

Tuesday 24


- 4:00 pm: Video Game Event

Wednesday 25

- 10:30 am: Storytime
- 3:30 pm: Kid's Matinee Movie

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

MARCH



Monday 16

- 10:00 am: Board of Health Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 17

- 10:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting
- 11:30 am: Trust Board
- 1:00 pm: Planning Board Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Noxious Weed Board Meeting - **CANCELLED**

Wednesday 18

- 10:00 am: Commissioner's Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Airport Board

BROADWATER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH

Friday 13

- 9:00 am: Alzheimer's Association Virtual Series Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia **SEE PAGE 2**
- 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 14

- 5:00 pm: 2026 American Legion St. Patrick's Day Dinner at American Legion Club **DETAILED AD ON PAGE 2**
- 6:00 pm: Broadwater Community Theater St. Patrick's Day Fun-Raiser at The Lodge **DETAILED AD ON PAGE 2**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Tuesday 17

- 1:00 pm: Start Serving Corned Beef at Bunkhouse Bar and Grill **SEE AD ON PAGE 2**
- 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

Tue 17 & Wed 18

- Helping Hands Soft Opening, 122 Broadway St **DETAILED AD ON THIS PAGE**

Wednesday 18

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

Thursday 19

- 5:00 pm: **FREE** Homemade Dinner Served at American Legion, 211 Broadway, Townsend **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
- 5:30 pm: 2026 Broadwater Education Foundation Trivia Night at Broadwater County Fairgrounds
- 6:00 PM: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805
- 6:00 pm: Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting at the Lodge **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
- 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 20

- 9:00 am: Alzheimer's Association Virtual Series-Know the 10 Signs **SEE PAGE 2**
- 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 21

- 10:00 am: Helping Hands GRAND OPENING, 122 Broadway St **DETAILED AD ON THIS PAGE**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

HELPING HANDS THRIFT STORE IS BACK

NEW Address: 122 Broadway, Townsend



We're now accepting donations.

- When we are open (10:00-3:00)
- Lightly used, clean items
- No Furniture

Join us for a Soft Opening:
Tuesday & Wednesday March 17 & 18

GRAND OPENING
Saturday March 21, 2026 10:00 am - 3:00pm



A BIG thank you to everyone who has helped us move!

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.
Next meeting: March 18th, 7:00PM
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

Monthly Chamber Meeting



6:00 pm, March 19
at The Lodge.
All members of the community welcome!

FREE THURSDAY DINNERS!

Every Thursday, 5:00 - 6:30PM
American Legion Post 42,
211 Broadway, Townsend.

HOMEMADE & ALWAYS YUMMY!
Join us for a hot, delicious meal - no cost to you.
DONATIONS WELCOME & APPRECIATED to help us continue supporting our community.

QUESTIONS? MENU? VOLUNTEER?	STOP BY OR CALL AFTER 3PM (406) 266-3611
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LET US FEED YOU - AND TOGETHER WE CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY
Hosted with care by the Sons of the American Legion (SAL).

Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale



Are you thinking about having a yard/garage sale or a rummage sale fundraiser this year?
Consider joining the Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale on July 18, 2026.
You hold the sale and keep all the profits - we will do the advertising. NO FEE to join the County-Wide Yard Sale.
Contact Pam at 406-422-7028 to be put on the map or for more information.

The Olde Place


Herbs, Spices, Teas, Sprays
Antiques & Vintage Collectibles
Birds Nest Booth B-11 Townsend
Kathryn McBee & Family
406-570-0299

Travel, Shopping & Cleaning Assistance

Do you need help getting to doctor appointments, grocery shopping, light housekeeping?
Call Brandie at (406) 980-1937 or email brandie.reichman@yahoo.com

EMPLOYMENT AND SERVICE OPORTUNITIES

PAGE 8



Broadwater Food Pantry
P.O. Box 1164 • Townsend, MT 59644

Broadwater Food Pantry is located at 315 Broadway, Townsend, MT.

Distribution days (1st & 3rd Saturday + 5th if applicable)
March 7th and 21st 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Donations of food items are accepted Friday March 6th, 20th 9:00 to 11:00am
This month donation suggestions: Ground Beef, Tuna, Canned Pasta, Chili, Fruit
Monetary donation can be mailed to PO Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644.
Donation boxes are available at Bob's Market at check stands.
Food Pantry is staffed by volunteers from local churches.
March is Mountain Valley Church
For questions, Donations appointments and Emergency Food supplies **call OUR NEW PHONE number (406) 916-0034.**

LEGAL NOTICES

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



Subdivision Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Broadwater County Commissioners will be taking comments regarding amendments to the Broadwater County Subdivision Regulations.

A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 25th at 10:05 am in the Flynn Building located at 416 Broadway Street, Townsend.

The proposed amendments are posted on the Broadwater County website at www.broadwatercountymt.gov.

Written comments are also being accepted.

Published February 27 and March 13th

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: BOYD MAXFIELD IVERSON, AKA BOYD M IVERSON, B MAX IVERSON Deceased.

Probate No DP-4-2026-0000005-IT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bo Brix Iverson has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyd Maxfield Iverson. 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 their claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be mailed to the Personal Representative, return receipt requested, at Silverman Law Office, PLLC, P.O. Box 4423, Helena, Montana 59604, or filed with the Clerk of the Broadwater County District Court. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct. Bo Brix Iverson

DATED this 18th day of February, 2026

Published March 6, 13, and 20, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROSEMARY LEE PENNINGTON, Deceased.

Probate No. CDP-26-06

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Delbert G. Pennington has been appointed Personal Representative of this estate. Claims against the decedent must be presented within four months after the first publication of this notice or be forever barred. Claims must be either mailed to the Personal Representative via his Attorney, Peter T. Simon (303 Broadway St, Townsend, MT 59644) return receipt requested, or filed with the Clerk of the above-titled Court.

Dated March 13, 2026.

/s/ Peter T. Simon

Gallatin Elder Law & Estate Planning PLLC

Attorney for Personal Representative

Published March 13, 20 and 27, 2026

MNAXLP



Valerie Hornsveld
MT43 News Reporter



*March 6, 2026, Judge
Mike Menahan*

ADC-25-18 Vicente Nicholas Padierna appeared for a Change of Plea Hearing. The defendant plead guilty to Count 1- Criminal Endangerment and, in his own words, stated what he had done. The State dismissed Counts 2,3, and 4. Sentencing is scheduled for Friday, June 5, 2026.

ADC-25-21 Andrew Michael Roberts appeared for a Pre-Sentence Hearing. The Attorneys addressed the Court and said they had come to an agreement so the trial could be vacated. A Change of Plea hearing is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2026, before Judge Kathy Seeley.

ADC-25-04 Bradley James Wright appeared for Sentencing for Count 1- Criminal Possession. The defendant received 3 years deferred with all listed conditions.

ADC-26-05 Logan Charles Geick appeared for a Change of Plea hearing. The parties signed an Agree Prosecution Agreement for one year. A dismissal will be filed in this case.

DDC-25-06 Jack Kenneth White appeared for Change of Plea by No Contest. The defendant pleaded No Contest to Counts 4, Criminal Endangerment, Count 5 - Criminal Endangerment, and Count 7- Criminal Mischief. Counts 1,2,3,6,8 and 9 were dismissed. Sentence is scheduled for Friday, May 22, 2026, before Judge Christopher Abbott.

Justice of the Peace Report

Samuel Anagnostou

Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Justin M. Pocha – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Mikayla M. Scheet – Helena – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Cobe T. Brown – Great Falls – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Stormi R. Townsley – Townsend – Operating without liability insurance in effect [1st] – paid fines - \$285 fines & fees

Cheyenne M. Welsh – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Tyler J. Vaughn – Bozeman – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Charles J. Ringenberg – Townsend – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Anthony F. Perpignano – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Laurelle R. Pennington – East Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Mak W. Parks – Helena – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Joshua D. Killian – Bozeman – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Lauren E. Kaplan – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Anjali Dhawan – Hayward CA – speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Joseph E. Farar – Bozeman – Driving without a valid driver's license – plead guilty - \$125 fines & fees

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Cecillia R. Boehm – Townsend – Reckless Endangerment of Emergency Personnel [1st] – Plead Guilty - \$285 fines & fees. Sentenced to ninety (90) days in Broadwater County Detention Center with execution suspended for six (6) months with good behavior and completion of other programs. Defendant to complete defensive driving course within four (4) months.

Vince L. Boster – Townsend – Reckless Driving [1st] – plead guilty - \$385 fines & fees. Sentenced to ninety (90) days in Broadwater County Detention Center with execution suspended for six (6) months with good behavior and completion of other programs. Defendant to enroll in the ACT class within two (2) months, to be completed within four (4) months.

COUNTY CRIMINAL

Raymond L. Gillespie – Toston – Disorderly Conduct – plead guilty - \$150 fines & fees. Sentenced to ten (10) days in Broadwater County Detention Center with execution suspended for six (6) months with good behavior and completion of other programs. Defendant to complete thirty (30) hours of counseling within five (5) months. Defendant to complete Chemical Dependency Evaluation within two (2) months.

INITIAL APPEARANCE FOR DISTRICT COURT

Ruben E. Juarez – Three Forks – Defendant alleged to have committed Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs [4th offense], displaying license plates belonging to other vehicle, and leaving vehicle on highway right of way for over 48 hours. Defendant given courtesy appearance in Broadwater County Justice Court to have charges explained. No plea taken in Justice Court. Defendant given District Court Hearing Date. Condition of release 24/7 alcohol monitoring via Soberlink within 48 of release. \$5,000.00 bond.

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Ruben E. Juarez – Three Forks – Defendant arrested in Broadwater County on a probation warrant & authorization to hold. Defendant committed to Broadwater County Detention Facility until transportation or post bond. \$75,000.00 Bond with conditions. Defendant to contact probation/parole immediately upon release.

Dillon Downard – Townsend – Defendant arrested in Broadwater County on probation warrant & authorization to hold. Defendant committed to Broadwater County Detention Center until transportation or post bond. \$100,000.00 bond with conditions. Defendant to contact probation/parole immediately upon release.

Montana Voters, 1

In the poll, 48% of respondents indicated that they “strongly” oppose a statewide sales tax “if the revenue was used to reduce property tax bills,” with another 12% saying they are “somewhat” opposed. In contrast, only 33% indicated strong or lukewarm support, putting the idea underwater by 27 percentage points.

That opposition held up across party lines. Only 34% of Republicans, 38% of Democrats and 32% of independents voiced support for a sales tax.

Montana is currently one of five states without a sales tax. Instead, the state’s current tax system relies heavily on income and property taxes, which are the primary revenue streams for state and local government, respectively. Historically, property tax revenues were anchored by payments from large industrial properties such as mines and timber mills, many of which have closed or scaled back their operations over the past several decades. That means the cost of paying for local services such as schools and law enforcement has to fall elsewhere.

In a series of presentations last summer, Montana Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Todd O’Hair contended that the long-term decline of property-intensive mining and timber industries has undermined the foundation of that tax system. O’Hair, who represents the state’s largest business lobbying group, said he believes it’s time for Montana to consider other options for the revenues necessary to fund public services without placing undue burden on homeowners and businesses.

Meanwhile, opponents of a sales tax argue that shifting to a general sales tax model would result in a heavier tax bill for lower- and moderate-income families.

Montana voters have historically voted down sales tax measures by large margins, defeating referendums in 1971 and 1993 — with the latter failing by 49 percentage points. Voters also passed a constitutional amendment in 1994 that caps any future state sales tax at 4% unless that state constitution is amended again.

As such, while some Montana resort communities levy sales taxes as local-option taxes, the state remains one of five in the country without a statewide sales tax.

The MTFP-Eagleton poll surveyed 801 registered voters through telephone interviews and text-to-web questionnaires. Data was collected from Dec. 23, 2025, to Jan. 3, 2026. The poll, which was weighted to reflect the state’s electorate, has an overall margin of error of plus or minus 4.1 percentage points.

Legislative Advocacy

Workshop Held in Townsend

MT43 News Reporter

It’s never too early to brush up on your skills as a strong voice for your interests at the Montana Legislature, coming up in January 2027. Last week, Montana Farmers’ Union representatives held a legislative advocacy training at the Lodge.

Outreach Coordinator Bella Folino walked workshop attendees through the Legislative website, including how to reach your representative and the procedure for sending letters, emails, as well as direct contact through phone messages to the heads of committees. She pointed out that the legislature continues between sessions in interim committees. Many of the bills from those committees are the basis of the work of the following legislature.

Regarding the work of interim committees, District 77 Representative Jane Gillette discussed data centers and how Montana’s water and electricity will be affected by them. Interim committee members are concerned about developers’ plans. There are no laws on the books now so they can actually do what they want. “It is not a transparent situation right now,” she said.

In a PowerPoint presentation, Folino continued to explain where to find bill information and the status of each bill. Should the user not know which district they live in, she pointed out the district map as well as where to find the correct representative or senator for that district.

Among other avenues for an interested voter to keep informed is through watching and participating in committee meetings. There are strict rules for testimony presented both in person and over Zoom. Some of the most effective communications can be done by sending a message to your legislator by phone. Just leave a message with the operator. “That communication can be very productive because someone will return the call so you can talk directly to your legislator,” she said.

Other good ways to further a subject a voter is interested in is through letters to the editor. Most papers limit letters to 250 words. “Make your case clear with facts and close with a clear ask of what you want to happen,” she explained.

Executive Director Rachel Prevost presented Montana Farm Union’s points on their various platforms, which include County of Origin labeling (COOL), farmers and ranchers’ right to repair their equipment, fair access to health care for farmers and ranchers and prioritizing producer-owned cooperatives to feed Montanans with food produced in the state.

Trust Board Grants Fund Rod & Gun Expansion, New Rescue Boat; Commissioners Adopt Exemption Process

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter



Broadwater County commissioners on March 4 approved two Broadwater County Trust Board grants — one to expand sporting clays at the Broadwater Rod and Gun Club’s Indian Creek range and another to help county Search and Rescue replace a decades-old lake boat — before adopting a revised subdivision exemption review process aimed at making land-division steps clearer for the public.

The meeting opened with routine public comment, including updates from commissioners on recent travel and upcoming events.

Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer told the public she recently attended the National Association of Counties conference in Washington, D.C., where she serves on a policy steering committee focused on economic development, workforce and labor. She said the trip included being in the nation’s capital the day of the State of the Union address.

Vice Chair Jesse Swenson announced that an upcoming MBAC meeting scheduled for the following day had been canceled and postponed to April 2.

Richtmyer also highlighted plans for a June 13 fly-in at the Townsend/Broadwater County Airport, which she said has grown from a small open-house style event into a larger family day. She said organizers expect a 4-H group to cook breakfast and that Billings Clinic plans to bring a helicopter, with additional military participation anticipated.

Rod and Gun grant: sporting clays expansion

Commissioners then turned to the first of two Trust Board awards: a \$23,350.94 grant for the Broadwater Rod and Gun Club to expand its Indian Creek Sporting Clays range.

Trust Board Chair Steve McCullough presented the request and said participation has increased dramatically, creating the need for additional capacity. Brad Peck, representing the club, attended the meeting.

Swenson recused himself from the vote, noting he serves on the Rod and Gun Club board.

During the discussion, commissioners briefly clarified the difference between trap shooting and sporting clays — with sporting clays designed to simulate hunting scenarios such as “rabbit” targets or flushing birds — before voting.

With no public comment, the commissioners approved the grant unanimously among the remaining members.

Search and Rescue grant: new lake boat

The Commissioners next approved a \$123,726.50 Trust Board grant for Broadwater County Search and Rescue to purchase a new lake boat designed specifically for rescue operations.

McCullough said the county’s current boat dates back to 1984, when it was purchased after a drowning and the county had no recovery option besides private boats. He

said the boat is still functional but is no longer well-suited for modern search-and-rescue needs and replacement parts are difficult to obtain.

The new boat, he said, is purpose-built for rescue work, with rear platforms and an expanded through-hull area that can accommodate a stretcher. He also described a side door designed to help crews bring a person aboard from the water.

McCullough said the boat’s total cost was initially about \$220,000, but the manufacturer reduced the price by \$40,000 because it is being built for search and rescue, bringing the grant request to \$123,726.50.

Timothy McAlpine told commissioners the boat will be a jet boat capable of operating in shallow water. He said it draws about 12 inches of water at idle and about 10 inches when running on plane, which could allow crews to navigate much of the Missouri River when conditions permit.

McAlpine said the new boat is custom-designed and expected to take nearly a year to build. He also said the sheriff’s office plans to sell the old boat, likely marketing it to other county search-and-rescue teams.

Commissioners approved the grant unanimously, with no public comment.

Subdivision exemption process adopted

Later in the meeting, Community Development & Planning Director Nichole Brown presented a revised subdivision exemption review process intended to spell out, step-by-step, what applicants can expect when seeking a subdivision exemption in Broadwater County.

Brown said the goal is to put the process “in black and white” so members of the public can better understand where they are in the timeline and what materials are required. She said the updated process is also intended to align county practice with state law requirements that exemptions be acted on by the governing body.

Commissioners emphasized the process may need adjustments over time, particularly as state law changes, but agreed that a clearer roadmap would help applicants who are unfamiliar with land-division rules.

During public comment, Chuck Hahn asked questions about how the process document relates to the county’s existing exemption application and a proposed replacement form. Brown clarified that the March 4 vote was on the process only, and that the commissioners plan to continue discussing a revised exemption form at a future meeting.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the subdivision exemption process.

The board also approved minutes from the Feb. 11 meeting and approved claims, including payroll of \$296,453.19 and additional claim sets totaling \$96,781.12, \$27,193 and \$10,495.74.

Before adjournment, McAlpine asked for written verification of the Search and Rescue grant approval and commissioners said staff would provide documentation, including by email.

The meeting concluded with no further business.

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 <https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov>.

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, the agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting.

Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Mail and items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded.

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

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

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

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

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

10:00 AM Department Updates

- MSU Extension, Allison Kosto, Extension Agent
- Public Works, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director
- Public Health, Ruby Taylor, Public Health Director

10:05 AM Monthly report MCA 7-6-612 from Broadwater County Treasurer, Melissa Franks

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Debbie Kelley, Finance Officer/Payroll Manager, Insurance Review Committee rate increase proposal

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

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

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – on-going advisory board appointments
- Claims/Payroll/minutes
- County Audit / Budget
- Ongoing and renewing contracts
- Ongoing grants, grant applications
- Correspondence – support letters
- Task Orders
- Mail

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

drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov

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

lrlichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov

Jesse Swenson, Vice Chair
(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213

jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov

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

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

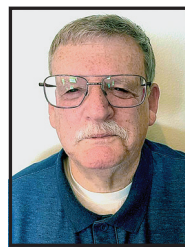
- Board of Health Meeting on March 16th at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on March 16th at 6:00 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on March 17th at 11:30 AM
- Airport Board Meeting on March 18th at 6:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on April 9th at 5:15 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on April 14th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Meeting on April 14th at 1:00 PM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on April 14th at 6:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on April 15th at 6:00 PM

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



To ID or Not to ID – That’s the Question

Victor Sample



I am the secretary/treasurer for a number of non-profit organizations, or at least do the filing with the MT Secretary of State and with the IRS. For a number of years, I have filed a 990N tax document with the IRS for 4 different organizations.

The 990N is called a 990N Postcard because it used to be just a postcard that we would certify the non-profit organization did not expect to make more than \$50,000 a year and sign it. Even though it is now an online process, it is still called filing a 990N Postcard. Go Figure!

It generally would take me about 15 minutes to file all four 990N Postcard tax filings. It’s simple and easy. Who would think the IRS would make anything simple and easy?

This year, I went to the official site for filing 990N. Of course, you have to sign in. I clicked on the sign-in button – and was asked for the MY.ID sign-in.

I don’t have a MY.ID sign-in. I do have a Login.gov ID; I use that for Social Security and Medicare, but I do NOT have a MY.ID sign-in. I was not given an option to use my Login.gov; I was just given the MY.ID sign-in. OR, of course, I could create a MY.ID account. Just what I need, yet another US government sign-in.

So, I clicked on Create MY.ID.

I was asked for my email. I put in my email and clicked next. I got a message that I have to verify my email – pretty standard. So, I went to my email and clicked on the verify. I was told it was successful and to return to the browser. I was then asked for my phone number. After entering the phone number, I was told I would receive a text with a code to verify it was my phone number. Again, pretty standard 2-phase verification. I got the code, entered it in the browser and it was accepted.

Then I was instructed I would have to provide pictures of the front and back of my driver’s license. Hmmm – that was more than I was used to doing. I clicked next and got a text on my phone with instructions to click on a link. It then opened the camera on my phone and had me take a picture of the front of my driver’s license. I did. Then

it opened the camera to take a picture of the back. I did. Then I was told to upload the pictures, so I selected the pictures and did the upload. I was instructed to go back to my browser.

My browser then informed me I would have to provide a “selfie” of myself and that I would get a text on my cell phone. I did. I clicked on the link, and it opened the camera. I held it up to take the selfie. I was told the camera was too close. I extended my arm – it was too far away. I moved the phone closer and was too close. Finally, I got just the right distance. I was starting to feel a little like Goldilocks with the bowls of porridge.

I took the picture and was told to upload it. I selected the picture and clicked the upload button. I was then directed back to my browser. The browser took a couple of minutes to think about it and then told me it could not verify it was me. My options were to do the whole process over again or just do a video call. I selected a video call.

I was instructed that I would need to provide not only my driver’s license but also another form of id: a social security card, a passport, or a Medical Insurance card. I had my Medicare Card handy, so I said okay. I received another verification email. I did. I received another text telling me to take a picture of my driver’s license. I did the front and back again. Uploaded it again. Received another text telling me to take a picture of my Medical Insurance card. I did; selected the picture and uploaded it. I was then directed back to my browser.

I was told that I would get an email in the next 2-4 days with instructions for the video call to verify it was actually me. Clearly was not going to get the 990Ns filed that day.

Since I couldn’t sign in with MY.ID, I brought up the original page I started with and scrolled farther down the page – and there it was: an option to sign in with my Login.gov ID. I clicked on that, entered my user ID and password and I was in. It took about 15 minutes to file the 990N forms for all four organizations.

It only took 2.5 hours to get that done – 2 hours and fifteen minutes trying to set up a MY.ID account.

Oh, it’s been 5 days since then. I have received 2 emails informing me that I have not been forgotten. I will indeed, someday, get a scheduled video call to complete my MY.ID account.



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 Seth 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) 594-7609
MountainValleyChurch.org
Sunday: 10:00am Services with Nursery, Kids and Youth Ministry
Wednesdays: 6:30- 8:00pm The Rock Youth Ministry and Adult Bible Study Groups
Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406
Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.
*

Radersburg Baptist Church
7 Main St, Radersburg
Special Service Pastors (406) 266-4673
Sunday: 9:45am Sunday School | 11:00am Worship
*

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

Seventh Day Adventist Church
200 N Cedar St. Townsend
(406) 241-0042
Saturday: 9:30 Service | 10:30am Sabbath School
Tuesday: 6:30pm Bible Study
*

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod
301 N Cherry St. Townsend
Steve Ward, Synod authorized minister (406) 220-8911
Office hours Mon & Wed 9 am to noon
Council President Rick Arnold (406) 633-2677
Sunday: 9:30am Services
Second Tuesday of the month: 4:00pm Women of the ELCA meet.
Bible Studies meet weekly. Call for more information.
*

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
916 Broadway St. Townsend
Bishop Matt Graham (406) 266-4255
Sunday: 9:00am Choir Practice | 10:00am Sacrament Meeting | 11:10am Sunday School (1st & 3rd Sundays)
Wednesday: 6:00 - 9:00pm Family History Center Open For Family History Center appointment call Director, Rebecca Mitchell, (406) 980-0270
Wednesday: 6:30pm Youth Activities
*

Townsend United Methodist Church
200 N Cedar St. Townsend
Pastor Mele Moa (406) 266-3390
TownsendUMC.org
Sunday: 9:00am Services
*

Trailhead Christian Fellowship
20 Trailhead View Dr. (5 mi. north of Townsend)
Pastor Clay Muinzer (406) 266-4406
Sunday: 9:00am Sunday School and Christian Education | 10:00am Services
Wednesday: 4:25 - 5:50pm Awana Program for K- 6th Grades | 6:15 - 8:00pm Youth Group for 7th-12th Grades



SR. CENTER MEALS:
MARCH 16 - MARCH 20

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

Monday, March 16
Swedish Meatballs
Steamed Potatoes
Green Beans
Whole Grain Bread
Apricot Halves

Tuesday, March 17
Birthday Dinner/St. Patrick's Day
Corned Beef & Cabbage
Lucky Potatoes
Carrot Coins

Blarney Stone Roll
Green Pears
Birthday Cake

Wednesday, March 18
Beef and Veggie Stew
Fresh Baked Biscuit
Tossed Salad with Garbanzo Beans
Plump Peaches

Thursday, March 19
Roast Pork
Mashed Potatoes
Key Largo Vegetables
Whole Grain Bread
Zesty Pineapple

Friday, March 20
Tilapia
Macaroni and Cheese
Purple Beets
Green Peas
Fruit Cocktail

Basketball, 3
Townsend Plays Three Forks in Semi-Final at Districts, 2/27/26

Townsend- 8 10 7 12: 37
Three Forks- 14 2 14 20: 50
Scorers- Tanen Tuffelmire-14; , Tavyn Anderson-6; Blake Graham-6; Trace Giomi-4; Trenton Hoveland-3; Heston Vandenaere-2, Rylan Hoveland-2
Lead Rebounders- Tavyn Anderson-5; Tannen Tuffelmire-5; Blake Graham-4; Trace Giomi-4; Trenton Hoveland-3; Colby Flynn-2
Assists- Trace Giomi-3; Tavyn Anderson-3; Trenton Hoveland-1, Tannen Tuffelmire-1; Blake Graham-1; Rylan-1
Steals- Tavyn Anderson-3, Trenton Hoveland-1, Tannen Tuffelmire-1; Heston Vandenaere-1; Trace Giomi-1
Deflections- Tavyn Anderson-1, Heston Vandenaere-2; Trenton Hoveland-2, Rylan Hoveland-2
Townsend Shots- 2pts- 14/34 41.2% 3pts- 2/12 16.7%
Three Forks Shots- 2pts- 20/32 54% 3pts- 1/18 5.6%
Townsend Free Throws- 3/6 50%
Three Forks Free Throws- 7/17 41.2%
Townsend Turnovers- 17
Three Forks Turnovers- 8

Coach's Thoughts:

Our guys played the Three Forks Wolves pretty well, but we were plagued a bunch of fouls and too many turnovers. Tannen was able to score 14 points and capture 5 rebounds. Three Forks is a very physical team and when we got physical with them, it just resulted in fouls. They did go on to beat Manhattan for the District Championship and put us into the losers' bracket on Saturday morning. We did hold Three Forks to only 2 points in the second quarter and we were actually ahead 18-16 at the half, so we did make them a little nervous.

Townsend VS. Ennis at Districts 2/28/26

Townsend- 11 8 13 17: 49
Ennis - 9 11 17 16: 54
Lead Scorers-Tavyn Anderson-12; Tannen Tuffelmire-8, Trenton Hoveland-8;Rylan Hoveland-6, Blake Graham-5; Heston-5; Colby Flynn-2, Trace Giomi-3
Lead Rebounders- Tannen Tuffelmire-6, Trace Giomi-10, Rylan Hoveland-5; Colby Flynn-2, Blake Graham-4, Tavyn Anderson-4, Heston-2; Bryce Lessely-2
Assists- Trenton Hoveland-3; Trace Giomi-2; Rylan Hoveland-2 Tavyn Anderson-1; Colby Flynn-1, Bryce Lessely-1
Steals- Blake Graham-1, Tavyn Anderson-3, Rylan Hoveland-1
Deflections- Tavyn Anderson-2; Blake Graham-1, Trace Giomi-4, Tannen Tuffelmire-3, Rylan Hoveland-1
Townsend Shots- 2pts- 16/40 40.0% 3pts- 2/16 12.5%
Ennis Shots- 2pts- 9/28 32.1% 3pts- 7/31 22.6%
Townsend Free Throws-10/15 67.0%
Ennis Free Throws- 14/19 74%
Townsend Turnovers- 9
Ennis Turnovers- 8

Coach's Thoughts:

The Ennis game was on Saturday morning at 11:15 in Manhattan. We played a pretty clean game, except Ennis had six more offensive boards than we did and they made 4 more free throws than us. This would account for the five-point loss. We had a great rebounding effort from our team overall with Trace Giomi and Tannen leading the effort with 10 and 6, respectively. We just didn't make our three-point shots, which has plagued us most of the season. Shooting is something we definitely need to improve on in order to have a winning season. On a bright note, these young men are so much fun to work with, as they are super respectful. They have a great work ethic, which made for a great practice and game atmosphere.



Broadwater County Board Vacancies

Broadwater County Commissioners

We invite interested residents to consider serving on a County Board. Your voice and involvement make a real difference in shaping the future of Broadwater County.

Current County Board openings include:

- Compensation Board (2)
- Townsend Mosquito Board (4)
- Three Forks Mosquito Board (5)
- Parks & Recreation Board (1).

If you have a desire to contribute, learn, and be part of local decision-making, we encourage you to submit a letter of interest.

Letters of interest can be mailed to Daylene Hansen, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644, or email dhansen@broadwatercountymt.gov

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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

Job Opening

Part time position for an administrator- editor at MT43News.

Applicant will be versed in invoicing, accounting and good with copy editing stories as they come to the paper.
Please respond to mtskydog@gmail.com or call Nancy at (406) 980-0592.

Yard Help Wanted

Need person to power rake and remove dead grass at a large yard.
Call or text 406-980-0592

OPEN POSITION

Department: Broadwater County Sheriff's Office
Position: Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator
Status: ¾ Time (32 hours per week)
Probationary Period: One (1) Year
Compensation: \$25.05 per hour
Benefits: Health Insurance, Sick Leave, and Annual Leave
Open Until Filled

Position Summary

Broadwater County is seeking a ¾-time (32 hours per week) Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator. Under the general direction of the Sheriff or Undersheriff, the DES Coordinator performs a variety of duties related to disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and emergency management coordination.

The DES Coordinator is directly supervised by the Undersheriff and may work under the authority of the Sheriff and Captain on various incidents. This position requires independent judgment within prescribed standards set forth by Broadwater County policies, procedures, and applicable statutory provisions.

Applicants must possess a valid Montana driver's license and meet all requirements. Complete job description available at https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov/citizen_resources/employment_opportunities/job_postings

To apply: Please submit a letter of interest and resume to Undersheriff Mark Wood at mwood@broadwatercountymt.gov or deliver in person to the Broadwater County Sheriff's Office.

Equal Opportunity Employer Statement: Broadwater County is an equal opportunity employer. Upon request, reasonable accommodations will be provided to otherwise qualified individuals with disabilities. Veterans' and disabled preference policies apply.

Print Date: March 13, 2026

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.
2 Corinthians 10:5

Detail of "Man in Thought" by Hanns Kralik (1929)

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HELENA AREA DEATHS

Cherish Elizabeth Hand

Family of Cherish Elizabeth Hand

Cherish Elizabeth Hand, age 53, of East Helena, MT, passed away March 2nd, 2026.

“The [Fourth] Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. — I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by Solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be Solemnized with Pomp and Parade with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.”
 ~ John Adams

Water Rights: A Critical Montana Issue (Part 3 of 4)

Eliza DuBose
 Reporter for The Monitor; Boulder, Montana



This article was originally published in the inaugural East Helena Monitor December 17, 2025. It is reprinted with permission of The Monitor in Boulder, Montana.

Water has been all over the headlines lately, particularly in The Monitor.

From Boulder selling bulk water to a posh ranch-resort in the Crazy Mountains to an East Helena subdivision that needs to find a new water source, and from the state refusing to grant East Helena the water rights to the former ASARCO smelter lands to Clancy struggling to secure a reliable water source from more than a decade, there's a great deal of ground to cover.

Thankfully, retired water rights attorney Stan Bradshaw — who literally wrote the “Buyer’s Guide to Montana’s Water Rights” — recently found the time to sit down with me to touch on all these topics as well as the history of water rights and how they’re shaped today. We chatted for so long, in fact, that the interview had to be broken into multiple articles.

This is part 3 of 4

Monitor: Could you tell us about water rights adjudication?

SB: Prior to 1973, the resolution of water rights claims happened haphazardly, when parties on a given stream or drainage went to court to resolve those disputes. When a court rendered judgment in those cases, it would often appoint a water commissioner to physically go to the ditches in dispute and measure the water that claimants were actually diverting. But such court decrees represent a minuscule part of the water rights claimed within the state. So as a practical matter, the totality of water use in Montana was largely unknown.

Hoping to get a handle on how water is claimed and used within the state, the 1973 legislature enacted two measures: one that required any new proposed uses — with some exceptions — to apply to the state DNRC for approval, ensuring it would not harm any existing uses; and second, that the state embark on a statewide adjudication to quantify existing claims.

The adjudication effort would require every water right claimant in the state — including state agencies — to file water right claims with Montana DNRC. The process works as follows: First, the claim is filed. Second, DNRC examines the claim. Third, DNRC issues a summary report and forwards it to the Water Court. Fourth, the Water Court issues a preliminary decree. Fifth, claimants file objections to the preliminary decree, which can lead to full-blown evidentiary hearings. And sixth, after all objections within a basin are resolved, the court issues a final decree. Pretty straightforward, right?

Monitor: Right, so why is a project that began in the 1970s still dragging on?

SB: The state has been divided into five divisions, which are then subdivided by basins. For instance, the Upper Missouri Division includes the Boulder River basin, which is basin 41E. For each basin, DNRC's task included the examination of each claim to see that the required information was included on the claim form, and then follow up with the claimant to complete the information.

Needless to say, this was a highly work-intensive process. Once DNRC has completed its effort (which is still ongoing in some basins), the water court issues a temporary decree, which triggers the right for claimants to challenge water rights claims of others. The result is that, 40-plus years on in the process, while there have been a few final decrees issued, there are still a substantial number of basins still to be finally decreed. In fact, in the upper Missouri Basin, the Water Court has yet to issue a final decree.

Technically, adjudication won't conclude until the last final decree is issued and all appeals are resolved.

As to when that will be, is anybody's guess. A Water Policy Interim Committee report for the 2017 legislature estimated that all final decrees would be issued by 2028. Given where things are as of January 2026, that seems pretty optimistic to me. For a long time, I held out the hope that it would happen in my lifetime. Now, at 76, I am not so sure that will happen.

Monitor: Could the water rights adjudication play into the state's decision with the former ASARCO water rights in East Helena?

SB: As a practical matter, given that the Montana Environmental Custodial Trust has proposed to transfer (and may already have transferred) the rights that it offered to the City of East Helena to Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the status of those rights as affected by the adjudication may be moot. Water rights can be transferred and their places and purposes of use can be changed while the adjudication is ongoing. Regardless of who owns those rights, the adjudication will, at least theoretically, determine the amount of water represented by each water right claim.

If East Helena had accepted the State's offer for the industrial-use water, the city would have had to apply to DNRC to seek a change in purpose of use and prove the amount claimed in the adjudication was in fact accurate, and show that the change in purpose, place of use, etc., would not adversely affect other water rights. All of that could be done before the adjudication is complete.

Monitor: OK, and if someone has a right to water connected to the Gallatin River, what happens to that claim when the water is gone?

SB: One of the things that would happen is that adjudication would provide a roadmap for water commissioners in each basin, for ditch riders to review. But again, other states have this in spades. We don't. I think the legislature passed a bill that says if you have a preliminary decree in your basin, you can get a water commissioner to regulate water use in that basin with this temporary decree. It's not final, and some things in that decree may change, but it provides a way to address that priority.

But even if the system goes into place and we have water commissioners on critical streams, and the Gallatin is one of those, if things continue the way they are in terms of snowpack and climate change, what I can imagine happening is that you're going to see the water go away from the most junior of those rights. They're not going to have anything they can use.

As it gets worse, senior rights holders will begin to experience the same thing. And in part, that's what drove a lot of these basin closures. It was to say, let's not keep adding to the pain here. But there's not a happy answer here. The likelihood is that even if we do everything we can within the constraints of the law to make this work — everybody gets their monitoring devices and we have water commissioners who know what they're doing — even with all of that, there's going to be some people who drop off this cliff because they're junior.

Monitor: And is it mostly surface water, or groundwater, these people have rights to?

SB: It's connected. An awful lot of the early subdivision stuff around here, those are all wells, city or municipal groundwater. Here [in Helena], it's a combination of 10 Mile Creek, some groundwater coming up, Orofino Gulch, and the Missouri. So a lot of it's surface water. Water folks here will tell you the best water we have is 10 Mile Creek. But it's not enough. In the summer months, they have to switch to Missouri River water. The cost increase of delivering that water to the households is enormous.

In Gallatin County municipalities, their surface water is rapidly going towards failure, and they've launched residential water conservation efforts. We've tried to do that here, but it's not been as successful. And one step they're talking about now is a pipeline from Canyon Ferry Reservoir to Bozeman, which would be enormously expensive.

NOTARY PUBLIC

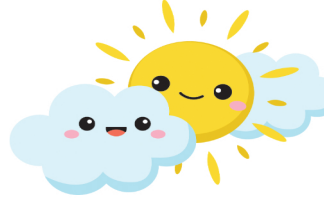


Notary Service Available

At MT43 News Office
 408 Broadway St, Townsend, MT
 Mon - Fri 10:00 - 2:00pm
Or by Appointment
 Contact: Brenda Phillips
 406-231-9752

Weather Forecast

March



Friday 13 High Temp: 57 Low Temp: 38 Wind: 28 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Tuesday 17 High Temp: 66 Low Temp: 39 Wind: 6 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Saturday 14 High Temp: 40 Low Temp: 22 Wind: 20 Rain: 0.032 Snow: 0.166 Cloud Cover: 100	Wednesday 18 High Temp: 74 Low Temp: 49 Wind: 11 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Sunday 15 High Temp: 35 Low Temp: 21 Wind: 14 Rain: 0.024 Snow: 0.056 Cloud Cover: 100	Thursday 19 High Temp: 72 Low Temp: 53 Wind: 10 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Monday 16 High Temp: 52 Low Temp: 28 Wind: 7 Rain: 0.024 Snow: 0.358 Cloud Cover: 100	

Barnes Jewelry




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 Helena MT
 406-442-3000

The Garden Bug Herbals

Many of the earliest medical writings were known as “herbals.” They were books that described plants and how they might be used to heal illnesses. Most began as traditional oral information, written down so they could be shared more widely. These collections also included other natural materials in the environment which were thought to be useful as medicines, such as milk, salt, honey, and even gemstones.


— Brenda Weaver
 Source: circulatingnow.nlm.nih.gov



At left: “Gladiolus bulbs with leaves and flowers” from *De Historia Plantarum* (1644).

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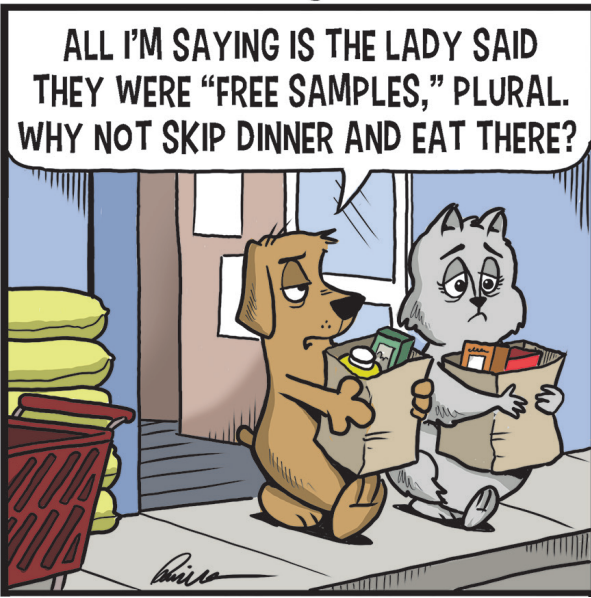
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Weekend appointments available.



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner

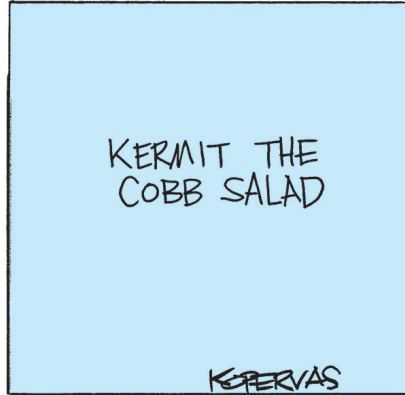


"He should be coming out of hibernation any day now."

Out on a Limb



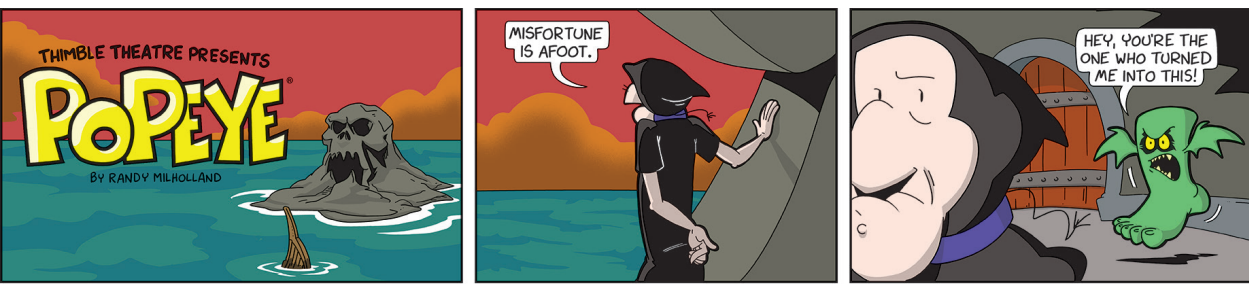
by Gary Kopervas



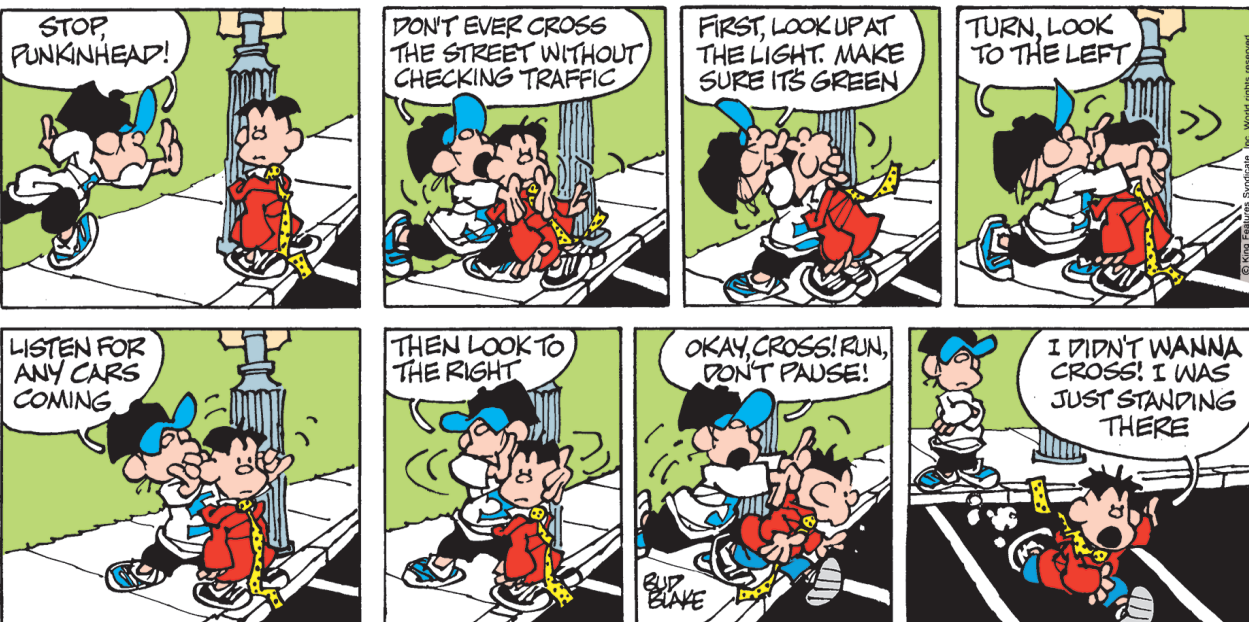
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The Spats



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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Hat is larger. 2. Bottom of lamp is not showing. 3. Ear is different. 4. Book cover is different. 5. Glasses are missing. 6. Ribbon is moved.

HOCUS FOCUS SPONSOR: SANDY JANES

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

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

ATTACKER

CryptoQuip

answer
I am hooked on studying the history of official kingly decrees. I guess I'm an edict addict.

SCRAMBLERS

solution
1. Snare; 2. Ripen; 3. Smudge; 4. Nurse
Today's Word **RUNNING**

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ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR ANGIE PAULSEN

NOTICE OF CLOSE REGULAR REGISTRATION MAY 5, 2026, ELECTION TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD TRUSTEE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that regular registration for the Townsend School District No. 1 Board Trustee Election on May 5, 2026, will close at 5:00 PM on April 6, 2026.

Note: If you miss the regular registration deadline, you can still register in person at the County Election Office until noon on election day.

All active and inactive electors are eligible to vote in this election. Inactive electors may reactivate their status by:

- Visiting the Clerk and Recorder Office in the Courthouse, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644,
- Requesting an absentee ballot, or
- Notifying the County Election Administrator in writing of their current residence.

If you are not currently registered, you can register by:

- Requesting a registration form from the County Election Administrator, or
- Submit a completed registration form by mail, provided it is received before the registration deadline.

If you have moved, please ensure your registration is updated to your current address.

DATED this 9th day of March 2026.

/s/ Angie Paulsen

Broadwater County

Clerk and Recorder | Elections Administrator | County Surveyor

Published March 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 2026

MNAXLP



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Must be at least 55 years of age and able to commit between 5 and 40 hours each week.

Demystifying Soil Amendments

Allison Kosto

MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



square foot garden, it takes about 115 pounds of beef manure. Poultry manure is higher in nitrogen than that of other animals.

Green Manure

This is the use of short-lived crops with the purpose of integrating more organic matter into the soil. Common green manure crops include clover, small grains, field peas, buckwheat and radishes. The type of crop can be specifically selected to target certain benefits. For example, legumes can fix nitrogen in the soil. The crop is then mowed or terminated at some point during the growing season and eventually tilled into the soil to add organic matter.

Peat

Peat moss is a good option for adding organic matter. Organic matter (determined by a soil analysis) should be about 4-6%. Peat contains little nutrients but does help the soil hold water and will break down over time.

Compost

There are many types of compost. You can purchase it or make your own. A plant-based compost is typically recommended as it will add more organic matter and nitrogen to your soil. Examples are composted lawn clippings, leaves, food scraps, straw and so on. As we already discussed, manure-based composts add a lot of potassium, which isn't necessary in our area. Herbicide residual can also be an issue with any type of compost.

Wood Ash

This is not recommended for Montana gardens. Ash raises the pH in the soil and is high in salts and potassium. In Broadwater County, our soils are already alkaline (high pH), so ash continues to raise the pH to an unproductive level over time. Ash can be a better soil amendment in areas of the country with highly acidic soil.

Other amendments such as lime, gypsum, perlite and vermiculite are rarely needed unless a soil analysis says otherwise. Nitrogen fertilizer is often needed in addition to soil amendments. High nitrogen fertilizer options include synthetic high nitrogen fertilizers, blood meal, fish meal or cottonseed meal. Micronutrient fertilizers are rarely needed, especially with a good organic matter regime.

For more information on soil amendments or if you need help with a soil analysis, you can find the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at 416 Broadway, Townsend or contact us at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.

Livestock Manure

Manure is easy to find. Options include fresh manure, aged manure (stockpiled) and composted. Aged or stockpiled manure is most common but composted is ideal. Composted manure goes through an active heat cycle that kills most pathogens and weed seeds. If you use stockpiled manure, wait at least one year but longer is better. Do not use fresh manure. Herbicide residual can be an issue with all types, so know where your manure came from.

Manure is high in potassium, which is generally not needed in large amounts. Fortunately, high potassium typically doesn't cause a lot of major problems, but it can disrupt the uptake of other nutrients such as magnesium, zinc and iron. If you add manure to increase nitrogen, it takes a lot. To add 2 pounds of actual nitrogen to a 1000

Townsend Drug and Spirits Changes Hands

MT43 News Reporter

Two pharmacists from Helena are the new owners of Townsend Drug and Spirits as of March 1. Hugh and Annie Daniels have purchased the pharmacy and liquor store from Seth and Charis Wolfram.

Both Hugh and Annie are from Montana. Hugh was born and raised in St. Ignatius and completed his undergraduate and doctoral degrees at the University of Montana in Missoula, MT. Annie is a fifth-generation Montanan from Butte, MT. She began her undergraduate degree at Montana State University in Bozeman before completing it in her hometown at Montana Tech. She also completed her doctoral degree in pharmacology at the University of Montana.



Hugh and Annie Daniels will serve Townsend and surrounding areas as the new owners of Townsend Drug and Spirits at 308 Broadway. Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

Hugh, a licensed pharmacist for over a decade, has been in charge at Townsend Drug & Spirits since the summer of 2025. Annie joined the team in December. Hugh is a familiar face to many with his past retail pharmacy experience at Walgreens, Safeway, and St Peter's Health Broadway Pharmacy in Helena. Additionally, he has a different edge of experience in long-term care pharmacy and hopes to bring this service to Townsend.

Annie has experience in community pharmacy for 15 years and has concurrently practiced for 10 years in a clinical setting, most recently as a Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner and Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist in Helena.

Hugh said he and Annie feel fortunate to have this opportunity to pull together their diverse skill set to serve Townsend and the surrounding areas. The family, including two children, is looking for a housing in Townsend or the surrounding area. They currently live in Montana City.

Charis and Seth Wolfram have served Broadwater County at Townsend Drug for "almost 10 years to the day," according to Charis. They have no future plans as yet but are set on helping out Annie and Hugh as needed, and "finishing getting their daughters, Reese (already graduated) and Harper, graduated from Broadwater High School.

Charis expressed her thankfulness for the community: "Seth and I are thankful for this community's support of our business and for supporting our girls in Townsend Schools. It has been a great place to raise a family and run a business."

MDOT Issues Scam Alert

Montana Department of Transportation and Non-Stop Local



Residents in Montana are being targeted by a text scam pretending to be from the Department of Transportation, claiming you owe toll fines. The scam has resulted in over 200 calls to the DOT and includes a link that could compromise personal info.

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has alerted residents to a new text scam circulating across the state. The scam suggests that residents owe fines for toll roads, which do not exist in Montana.

MDT reported receiving more than 200 calls in the

past week regarding this scam. The scam texts, which first appeared at the beginning of the year, had faded but have now returned at an alarming rate. They appear to be from MDT, urging recipients to pay "toll dues" or face consequences such as vehicle suspension, legal action, or credit damage.

View the MDOT Facebook posting at:
<https://www.facebook.com/100068809796287/posts/1211318851171763/?app=fbl>

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

March 14

1903

Radersburg Items

Representative Davie Williams was in Radersburg Tuesday.

Will Duff visited the home folks a few days last week, returning to Townsend Monday.

Owing to an accident to one of the boilers, a few of the Blacker men were laid off temporarily Tuesday.

Miss Ella Pennell, who has been attending school at the county seat, returned to her home in this place Saturday, the schools of Townsend having closed on account of the prevalence of scarlet fever.

Local News

Dr. J.L. Belcher was placed under quarantine last week for scarlet fever. He is slowly recovering and will undoubtedly be able to attend to his practice when the term limit expires.

Jeff Doggett of Confederate spent Wednesday evening in town.

Ad Turner of Hassel shook hands with old friends in town Tuesday.

Joe Greaves of Crow Creek Valley was in town Wednesday on business.

1925

Local News

Miss Ruth Grant, Mrs. F.L. Hollaway, Miss Mildred

Hale and Mrs. Ray Ward were among those who went to Helena last Friday evening to hear the renowned violinist, Fritz Kreisler.

Mrs. Guthrie and grandson, Lawrence Gabisch, came out from Helena on Saturday morning. Mr. Lawrence is quite well again after a recent operation for appendicitis.

Miss. Helen Connors came out from Helena on Monday where she had been employed in the legislature and began duties on Tuesday morning in the office of the Townsend Hardware and Imp. Co. as bookkeeper. Miss Connors is succeeding Miss Katherine Kelly, who leaves soon for Chicago.

1953

Girl Scouts Please with Original Program

In an original program, Girl Scouts entertained the public Monday evening as a birthday anniversary observance of the 41st year of Scouting. The entertainment was given in the high school gymnasium with 125 attending and enjoying the quick wit, dancing and singing of the 22 young girls in the troop.

The act, entitled "The Rehearsal" represented a class being rehearsed by teacher to appear before the school board members. At times, the teacher didn't approve of all the proposed entertainment, but the audience did, while the young actresses exemplified what they might do.

The applause was generous. Mrs. Wm. McElwee, leader of one of the troops, was the teacher and also called for the square dance numbers. Mrs. McElwee said she was "pinch-hitting for another leader, Mrs.

Lyman Etwiler unable to take part because of illness.

Mrs. McDougal, another leader, read the script for the clever playlet entitled "Kidnapped in a Potato Sack".

\$22.60 was taken in in silver offering that will be used to help pay rent.

Girls taking part in the program are Marilyn Barraughs, Judy Collins, Helen Damuth, Dorothy Deadmond, Ann Etwiler, Joan Jeffries, Jan Kieckbusch, Pat Kirley, Joyce Massey, Carol Ann McElravy, Mardee McElwee, Adalee Olsen, Judy Olsen, Karen Ann Olsen, Roberta Queen, Sandra Sitton, Judy Snell, Beth Thompson, Kay Thompson, Grace Tintinger, Diana Ulmer, Binkie Wallace, Marilyn Young and Diana Schiltz.

1970

Toston Briefs

Mrs. Olive Middleton attended the Eastern Star card program in Townsend Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bieber, Jr. and family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bieber, Sr. and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Slifka and family were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Flynn and family in Butte. They also attended the snowmobile races.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Arden and family visited in Winston Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Andre Prevel, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Herrington and their houseguests, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hill of St. Regis.

Business callers in Bozeman this past week were Mr. and Mrs. Gust Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Johnson and sons, and Edna Cass.

Byrl Beyers spent the weekend in Radersburg.



Sometime around August 2026 the new water tower will be activated. This will result in your house's line pressure increasing to about 75psi. Depending on the age of your house, the nature of your pipes and the nature of your fixtures (faucets etc.), this could... maybe... cause something to burst.

But, for a lot of reasons, a regulator is a good idea and we'd like to help. We're offering Cash Acme pressure regulating valves for COST + 50¢ (ask and we'll prove it). That's \$37.55 for a 1/2" valve and \$38.05 for a 3/4" valve. We'll contact you for payment when we place the order. Visit the store to sign up. We need your name, phone number and pipe size. The valves will arrive about the third week of April.



Historic Townsend Hardware
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2025 Projects Funded by the Broadwater County Trust Board

Broadwater County Commissioners



This is part two of a four-part series of articles, highlighting the projects that the Broadwater County Trust Board has supported this past year.

In February of last year, the Trust Board approved a grant request in the amount of \$47,689.30 submitted by the Broadwater Rodeo and Fair Association Inc. This grant was used to repair and improve the handicap grandstands access ramp and seating, provide a necessary upgrade to the sound system for the outdoor arena, purchase a push mower for the handicap park area, and a large mower to maintain the entire rodeo grounds. In addition, it was also used to purchase a shipping container to securely store the sponsor signs, mower, sound equipment, maintenance supplies, and other necessary items utilized by this group.

The Broadwater Rodeo and Fair Association works hard to create an updated, safe, and inclusive site for this community and the surrounding area, making it one of the best rodeo and fair facilities in the state. The Trust Board was pleased to partner with this group to support their mission.

The Broadwater County Trust Board (BCTB) was established to oversee and manage the Broadwater County Trust Fund created by the sale of cabin properties along the north end of Canyon Ferry reservoir in the 1990's. The purpose of the fund is to support recreational projects in the county. The interest from the investment of the trust fund principle is accessed through a grant process, screened and managed by the Trust Board. Their recommendations for grant approval and payments are sent to the County Commissioners for action. All contracts and disbursement of funds are completed by the Broadwater County Commission.

The BCTB meets monthly to receive, discuss, approve, and manage grant applications, which satisfy the criteria set forth in the Trust's by-laws. These criteria can be found on the Trust website at: <https://broadwatercountytrustboard.com/about/>

BCTB welcomes ideas and proposals from the public to improve Broadwater County recreational facilities and their use. The BCTB usually meets the



Cleanup crew
Photo Provided by Broadwater County Trust Board



The storage container
Photo Provided by Broadwater County Trust Board



Hard at work
Photo Provided by Broadwater County Trust Board

second Tuesday of every month at 11:30 AM. Grant application forms can be found on the BCTB website at <https://broadwatercountytrustboard.com/about/>