

Townsend Attends State SkillsUSA

Clint Watson

Advisor, Clint Watson, took six young men to compete in the State SkillsUSA Skills Competition on April 7-10. The competition was held in two places: the Pacific Steel Arena at the fairgrounds and the Paris Gibson School. Aiden Mosher received the silver medal in Cabinetry and Spencer Abbott received the bronze medal in the same event. Trenton Essary received a silver medal in Technical Drafting (CAD). Teigen Volkman received the silver medal in Power Equipment Technology. Aiden Kitto and Teigen Volkman received the bronze medal in the Welding Fabrication Contest. Our students were also competitors in an individual welding competition, woods furniture contest and the Job Interview Contest. The events took place from Tuesday evening until Thursday evening, with the Awards Ceremony taking place Friday morning. I am very proud of their accomplishments. A big THANK YOU goes out to the parents and everyone else who donated time, money and support to our Local Chapter.



From left to right: Spencer Abbott, Teigen Volkman, Aiden Kitto, Sam Smith, Trenton Essary, and Aiden Mosher. Photo Credit: Clint Watson

Kindergarten Roundup Held

Bob Brastrup
Broadwater County Lions Club

Emotions ranging from tears to exuberance were displayed by the fifty-eight youths participating in the Townsend Elementary School's Kindergarten Roundup. The event is held so youths can demonstrate readiness for kindergarten by participating in various activities. The screening includes stations for motor skills, language skills, academic concepts, vision and hearing. The youths get to hop and stand on one leg, skip, and throw a bean bag at a target taped to the wall. It is very entertaining to observe. Some youths, after missing the bullseye, would move closer to score a direct hit. If the hearing or vision screening indicated a possible problem, parents can take the child to a professional for further testing. Thirty-nine people, including current and retired teachers, volunteers, and the school nurse helped to conduct the event. Currently, sixty-eight youths are registered to enter kindergarten this fall and another Kindergarten Roundup will be held on August 24th. Youths may be pre-registered by calling the Townsend Elementary School (406-441-4451).



Broadwater County Lion Gary Olsen shows Kinsey Gillespie her "picture" at the vision screening station while White Sulphur Springs Lions Gerald and Lucy Zarr look on. Photo Credit: Townsend Lions Club

Election Officials Remind Voters About Envelope Birth Year Requirement

Angie Paulsen
MACR Communication Committee Chair



As the ballots for the May 5 school and special district election are mailed this week, election officials are reminding voters that they must write their birth year and signature on their mail ballot envelope before mailing it or returning it to their elections office. Failure to provide either detail will result in the rejection of the ballot. "These laws impact every voter using mail ballots, and we want to ensure that people are aware of this requirement before they send in their ballots to help set our voters up for success," stated Communication Committee Chair Angie Paulsen. "We understand that some voters may be hesitant to send this information through the mail. If that's the case, we encourage them to drop off their ballot at their local election office." The birth year requirement is a result of House Bill 719, passed by the 2025 Legislature, which took effect on October 1, 2025. For mail-in elections and absentee voters, the return envelope features two red arrows guiding voters on where to write their signature and year of birth. Election staff will reach out to every voter with a rejected ballot to attempt to resolve the issue before 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 6. The most effective way for

voters to verify that their ballot has been accepted is to visit myvoterpage.mt.com and click on "Track my Ballot." Voters are encouraged to mail their ballot before Tuesday, April 28, to ensure it arrives on time, or contact their local elections office for a list of ballot-drop locations available on Election Day.

**MUST INCLUDE YOUR
BIRTH YEAR
and
SIGNATURE**

BALLOT WILL BE REJECTED IF NOT INCLUDED!

SIGN HERE →

MUST PROVIDE →

Signature
SIGNATURE

1973
BIRTH YEAR





I hereby affirm that I am registered to vote in Montana, have met the Montana residency requirements, and understand that attempting to vote more than once, or signing someone else's name to this envelope is a violation of Montana law. I understand that failure to sign and provide my birth year may invalidate my ballot.

Election staff will reach out to every voter with a rejected ballot to attempt to resolve the issue before 5 p.m. the day after the election.

New Montana Law - effective Oct. 1, 2025

Local Organizations Team Up to Support Area Youth

Shawna McCauley
Big Sky Big Leadership

The local 2025-2026 Big Sky Big Leadership (BSBL) program is nearing its end. Participants in this MSU-Extension offering come together monthly throughout the year to learn ways to work more effectively for positive change in their community. One of the requirements of the program is a small group project focused on helping fill a need in the community with a sustainable solution. This year, one group has partnered with the Care Closet in the Townsend Schools. The Care Closet provides new clothing, hygiene supplies and school supplies for youth in need. The Care Closet is meant to provide a private "shopping" experience for youth in need in the school environment. The school counselors run the Care Closet and provide access to those students who could benefit from its resources. The BSBL group has helped organize and catalog the Care Closet contents and is running a financial donation drive to support the Care Closet's future needs. Once the BSBL season has ended, the Rotary Club of Townsend has generously agreed to support the Care Closet by providing a secure location for the financial operations. They have also agreed to organize financial

and clothing drives throughout the year. The initial support of the Care Closet by the community has been wonderful. The current need is for financial donations to provide a way for the school counselor to purchase items as they are used or for special needs as they come up. Cash or check donations can be made in person from April 20 to May 6 at Reading Leaves, Canyon Ferry Brewery, Little Creek Feeds/The Mercantile, Trailhead Church and The Bunkhouse. Checks should be made to the Rotary Club of Townsend Foundation with Care Closet in the memo. Donations can also be made to the Rotary Club of Townsend Foundation via Venmo any time of year at www.venmo.com/u/RotaryClubofTownsend. The BSBL group of Grace Davison, Shawna McCauley, Connie Myles, Elaine Roy, Anna Shearer and Maggie Triska thank you for supporting their efforts to help students in need in the Townsend community. The group would also like to thank the Rotary Club of Townsend for their generosity in providing the initial funds to purchase the required items to organize the Care Closet funding drive. Questions should be emailed to TownsendCare-Closet@gmail.com.

Photo on Page 13

PLAYERS of the WEEK



Baseball: Tyzer Raines
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Golf - Brynlee Brown
Townsend Booster Club Photo



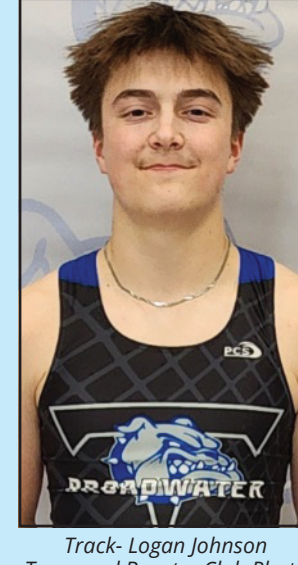
Golf - Gunner Cox
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Tennis - Adalyn White
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Track - Kaitlyn Noyes
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Track - Logan Johnson
Townsend Booster Club Photo

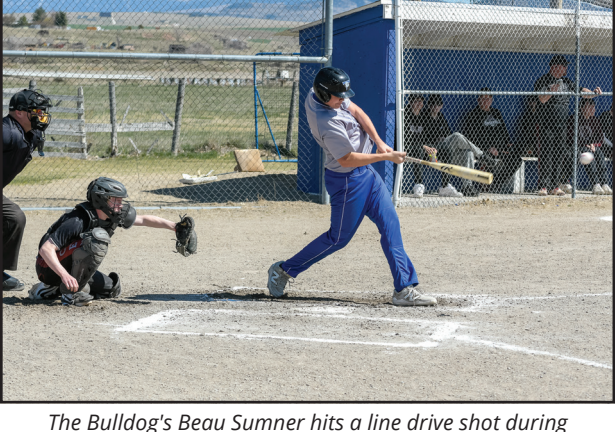
Broadwater High School Baseball:



Kelly Morris Photography



Bulldog Pitcher Tyzer Raines delivers a pitch during Thursday's game against the Butte Central Maroons.
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldog's Beau Sumner hits a line drive shot during Thursday's game against the Butte Central Maroons.
Kelly Morris Photography



Bulldog Infielder Traven Chamberlin tracks down a grounder during Thursday's game against the Butte Central Maroons.
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldog's Mason Bauman catches an infield fly during Thursday's game against the Butte Central Maroons.
Kelly Morris Photography

Broadwater High School Golf:

Kelly Morris Photography



Lady Bulldog golfer Brynlee Brown watches her drive on the 9th hole during Friday's Home Meet at the Old Baldy Golf Course. Brynlee tied for 5th place.
Kelly Morris Photography



Lady Bulldog golfer Jazel Ragen chips onto the green on the 9th hole during Friday's Home Meet at the Old Baldy Golf Course. Jazel tied for 5th place.
Kelly Morris Photography



Bulldog golfer Gunner Cox tees off on the 7th hole during Friday's Home Meet at the Old Baldy Golf Course. Gunner tied for 8th place.
Kelly Morris Photography

Bulldog Golf Team Hosts a Successful Home Tournament

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter



On Friday, April 10th, the Bulldog Golf team hosted a home meet. Ten teams from around the region travelled to Old Baldy Golf Course to compete in the competition.

The Bulldog girls' team placed second out of the ten teams that attended. They were led by juniors Brynlee Brown and Jazel Ragen, who both shot a

97. They tied for 5th place overall. Louie Parr, a freshman, also contributed to the girls' placing by shooting a 101. She tied for 7th place overall.

Bulldog boys placed 3rd overall out of the ten teams there. Freshman Gunner Cox and Alex Weiss led the boys, both shooting an 82, tying for 8th place overall in the boys' division.

On Monday, April 13th, the Bulldogs traveled to Green Meadows golf course in Helena. Tuesday, the 14th, the golf team traveled to Bozeman to play on Cottonwood Hills golf course. Scores for those matches will be in next week's paper.



Varsity golfers Alex Weiss, Caleb Swanson, Nick Taylor, Jace Mainwaring, Gunner Cox, Brando Parr, Autumn Heinke, Loui Parr, Brynlee Brown, Claire Swanson and Jazel Ragen.
Bryleigh Erickson, BHS Photographer

Bulldog Tennis Teams Play During a Busy Week

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter

On April 10th, the Varsity and Junior Varsity tennis squads travelled to Belgrade to take on Jefferson, Three Forks, Red Lodge and Granite opponents. They played abbreviated sets, meaning they started at two games each. They played best of two sets, but each set only

contained 4 games (because they started at 2-2).

The Varsity ended up winning 7 matches and losing 7 matches. Addy White played two matches for the Bulldogs against Jefferson and Granite singles. She lost her match against Jefferson 6-7 and 3-6, but won her match against Granite 6-2 and 6-2. Jacey lost a tough match to Jefferson in a tie breaker, 5-7, 6-4, and

Bulldog Tennis, 2



Varsity player Kylee Warburton hits a backhand. Bryleigh Erickson, BHS Photographer



Millie Simms is ready to hit the ball in her Junior Varsity match. Bryleigh Erickson, BHS Photographer



Violet Collins serves the ball in her Varsity doubles match. Bryleigh Erickson, BHS Photographer

10-12 tie breaker score. She won her match against her Red Lodge opponent 6-4, 3-6, and 7-1 in a tie breaker. Next, Hailey Hildreth won her match against Three Forks 6-3 and 6-2, but lost her match against Jefferson 3-6 and 2-6. Arabella McDaniel won her match against Red Lodge 6-4 and 6-3. She lost her next match against Jefferson 2-6 and 3-6. As for doubles, Bryleigh Erickson and Violet Collins lost their match against Jefferson 3-6 and 4-6, but won their match against Three Forks 6-2 and 6-4. Harper Wolfgram and Chloe Flynn won both of their matches against Red Lodge and Three Forks. They won both matches 6-2 and 6-2.

The Junior Varsity players won 6 matches and lost 1. Emma Delgado lost a close match to Three Forks in a tie breaker, 6-4, 3-6, and finally 8-10. Emma Delgado and Avery White won their match against Three Forks in doubles 6-0. Millie Simms and Haedyn Poe played doubles against Three Forks and won their match 6-4. Nayla Mendoza and Kylee Warburton played their match against Red Lodge and won 6-2, 6-2. Kay Crush and Shannon Burn played a match against Reg Lodge and won 7-5. Tessie Hughes and Shannon Burn won their match against Three Forks 4-6, 6-4, and 10-6 in the tie breaker.

JUNIOR VARSITY TEAM HOSTS THREE FORKS

Earlier in the week, on Tuesday, April 7th, Three Forks travelled to Townsend to take on the Bulldogs Junior

Varsity team. This was the first Junior Varsity-only meet, and the girls were excited to show off the skills that they practiced hard to improve. This was a super successful meet for the Bulldogs, as they won 9 matches and lost 2.

Haedyn Poe played a singles match and lost 3-6 and 3-6. Millie Simms also played singles and lost her match 3-6, 4-6. Then, they played together in a doubles match and won 6-3 and 6-4. Kay Crush and Ella Toney won their match 6-4 and 6-4. Avery White and Nayla Mendoza won their match 6-2 and 6-3. Emma Delgado and Kay Crush won their match 6-2 and 6-2. Emma then played with Haedyn Poe and they won their match 6-2 and 6-2. Tessie Hughes and Shannon Burne played two matches; won the first 6-3 and 6-4 and the second, they won in a tie breaker 4-6, 6-4 and 10-6. Then, Emma Delgado and Nayla Mendoza won a close match in a tie breaker 4-6, 6-3 and a tie breaker score of 10-2. In the last match, Ella Toney and Avery White played together to win 6-3, 6-4.

The next Junior Varsity only meet will be on May 5th in Three Forks. They will have another meet on May 12th in Boulder. Most Junior Varsity players play in regular tournaments, though not as often as Varsity players.

VARSITY TEAM DOMINATES IN ANACONDA

On April 8th, the Varsity tennis team travelled to Anaconda

to dual with the Granite and Anaconda teams. They had a dominant performance, as they won 10 matches and lost only 1. None of these teams are in the Bulldogs division, but they might play them in postseason tournaments.

They played two sets, starting at zero for both. They played 6 games in each set. As Granite has few players, the dual was a mix of the Anaconda and Granite teams against the Bulldogs. First, the doubles played. Bryleigh Erickson and Violet Collins versus the doubles team from Anaconda, and they won 6-0, 6-0. Next, Harper Wolfgram and Chloe Flynn matched up against an Anaconda doubles team and beat them 6-1, 6-0. After that, two singles players, Addy White and Jacey Brunette, teamed up to play doubles against Anaconda. They won the match 6-0, 6-0.

As for singles matches, Arabella McDaniel, Harper Wolfgram, and Nayla Mendoza played a match against Anaconda opponents. They each won their matches 6-0, 6-0. Hailey Hildreth versus Anaconda twice, and won her matches 6-1, 6-1 and 6-1, 6-0. After that, Addy White played a Granite opponent and won her match 6-0, 6-0. Jacey Brunette also played Granite and won 6-0, 6-3. Arabell McDaniel played a tough match against a Granite opponent. It was very close, but Arabella ended up losing 6-7 and 2-6.

Bulldog Track: Joliet/Park City Invitational Meet

MT43 News Sports Reporter

The Broadwater Bulldog track team traveled to the Laurel Sports Complex for the Joliet/Park City Invitational Meet on Friday, April 10th along with 35 other schools. This meet offered an opportunity to preview some of the other Southern B Divisional schools they will be facing later this year.

The men tallied 34 points to tie for fourth, while the ladies finished seventh with 31 points.

Senior Kaitlyn Noyes was missed last week in Boulder, but it would have been hard to miss her efforts in Laurel. Kaitlyn finished 1st and 2nd in the long and triple jumps, 4th in the 200-meter dash and 5th in the high jump. Sophomore Elaine MacDonald placed third in the 200-meter dash.

Seniors Trace Giomi and Gavin Schmele finished second and fourth in the shot put, while junior Jim Tew made it to the podium in the long jump and 110-meter hurdles, finishing 3rd and 4th, respectively. Senior Gavin Greene had another great meet for the Bulldogs, finishing 4th and 3rd, in the 1600 & 3200-meter runs. Freshman Clayton Rice secured a point for the team with a 6th-place finish in the 3200-meter run.

Boys' Varsity: 100-meter dash: 10 Tannen Tuffelmire 11.72, 30 Heston Vandenacre 12.07, 35 Logan Johnson 12.16, 37 Bryce Lessley 12.17, 58 Rylan Hoveland 12.48, 112 Alex Johnson 14.47. 200-meter dash: 14 Tannen Tuffelmire 24.49, 24 Bryce Lessley 24.86, 26 Heston Vandenacre 25.01, 40 Logan Johnson 25.59, 49 Tavyn Anderson 16.15.

400-meter dash: 7 Bryce Lessley 56.18, 9 Logan Johnson 56.39, 10 Rylan Hoveland 56.46.

800-meter run: 7 Rylan Hoveland 2:18.89, 11 Clayton Rice 2:26.05, 40 Alex Johnson 2:48.71. 1600-meter run: 4 Gavin Greene 4:51.21, 10 Isaiah Lapsley 5:21.80, 30 Keaton Cavasos 5:52.34, 35 Cole Thompson 5:59.07.

3200-meter run: 3 Gavin Greene 11:12.44, 6 Clayton Rice 12:18.16.

110-meter hurdles: 4 Jim Tew 16.65, 7 Tannen Tuffelmire 17.62, 8 Tavyn Anderson 18.21.

300-meter hurdles: 8 Tavyn Anderson 45.42.

4x100-meter relay: 8 B. Lessley, J. Tew, H. Vandenacre & T. Tuffelmire 46.15.

4x400-meter relay: 8 L. Johnson, R. Hoveland, I. Lapsley, B. Lessley 3:54.43.

Shot Put: 2 Trace Giomi 46'11", 4 Gavin Schmele 45'5", 20 Pat Gossard 38'0.5", 32 Tanner Bird 35'8.5", 79 Alex Johnson 25'7".

Discus: 15 Trace Giomi 109'11", 16 Gavin Schmele 109'1", 26 Tanner Bird 101'9", 29 Pat Gossard 100'7", 48 Marek Easter 86'6".

Javelin: 6 Pat Gossard 134'1", 7 Marek Easter 131'2", 26 Tanner Bird 111'3", 41 Gavin Schmele 100'3".

Long Jump: 3 Jim Tew 19'10.25", 21 Tavyn Anderson 17'10", 22 Heston Vandenacre 17'9.5", 39 Logan Johnson 16'8".

Triple Jump: 8 Tavyn Anderson 38'8", 12 Tannen Tuffelmire 37'9", 15 Jim Tew 36'11", 20 Heston Vandenacre 35'7".

Girls' Varsity: 100-meter dash: 9 Elaine MacDonald 13.56, 24 Aspen Slyker 14.55, 32 Holly Newman 14.65, 45 Savannah Paulsen 15.16, 61 Logan Barkhurst 15.45.

200-meter dash: 4 Kaitlyn Noyes 27.12, 12 Elaine MacDonald 28.38, 46 Logan Barkhurst 32.03.

400-meter dash: 3 Elaine MacDonald 1:05.60, 15 Logan Barkhurst 1:13.79.

110-meter hurdles: 12 Holly Newman 18.59, 13 Aspen Slyker 18.69, 17 Emmalin Fischer 18.99, 25 Savannah Paulsen 20.73.

300-meter hurdles: 10 Emmalin Fischer 54.00, 12 Aspen Slyker 55.02, 19 Savannah Paulsen 58.95.

4x100-meter relay: 6 H. Newman, E. MacDonald, K Heggen, A Slyker 53.40.

4x400-meter relay: 8 E. Fischer, L. Barkhurst, S. Paulsen, E. MacDonald 4:47.95.

Shot Put: 21 Tayleigh Anderson 26'10", 29 Mishayla Lambott 24'5.25", 33 Kinsley Heggen 23'4.75".

Discus: 18 Kinsley Heggen 76', 39 Tayleigh Anderson 65'10", 46 Mishayla Lambott 62'7".

Javelin: 23 Aspen Slyker 78'4", 37 Taleigh Anderson 66'9", 53 Kinsley Heggen 62'6", 63 Mishayla Lambott 59'2".

Long Jump: 2 Kaitlyn Noyes 17'1", 23 Emmalin Fischer 12'11.5", 34 Holly Newman 12'5.25".

Triple Jump: 1 Kaitlyn Noyes 33'6.25".

High Jump: 5 Kaitlyn Noyes 5', 24 Savannah Paulsen 4'2".



Precision Business Resources
- Townsend Office
We are Remodeling Starting
April 27th until July 4th

Our Townsend office will be operating from our East Helena office during the remodel.
Please call or stop by and see us at: 101 S Lane Ave in East Helena - Office # 406-266-0062
We are excited for this new remodel and look forward to seeing all our Townsend clients in July!

2026 Broadwater County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Missy Cox
Broadwater County Farm Bureau

This year, the Broadwater County Farm Bureau is offering ONE (1) \$1000.00 Scholarship to all graduating seniors from Broadwater County. The winner will be selected on the following criteria: scholastic achievement, leadership, school and community activities, and financial need. However, Broadwater County Farm Bureau will give extra points (in the scholarship judging) to seniors whose family are Farm Bureau members, whose family's primary income comes from agriculture, and whose family is actively involved in the local Farm Bureau.

Scholarship applications are available from the Broadwater High School Counselor or by calling Missy Cox at (406) 594-2207 or by emailing coxisabel@aol.com.

Broadwater County Farm Bureau has been continuously offering scholarships to graduating seniors from Broadwater County for over six decades and this is one way the organization continues to demonstrate its commitment to furthering the education of young people in our community. Call Missy Cox (406) 594-2207 if you have questions concerning the scholarships.

Completed applications must be turned in to the counselor at Broadwater High School or to Farm Bureau President Chuck Plymale (406) 266-3590 by May 8, 2026.

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*In Region includes all Broadwater County, Helena, East Helena, Montana

City, Clancy, Jefferson City, White Sulphur Springs and Three Forks

**Snowbird rate includes two address changes per year. Gift subscriptions are also available!

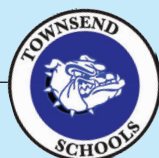
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Subscriptions good for 1 year

Townsend School & Sports

APRIL



- Friday 17**
- NO SCHOOL**
 - 9:00 am: High School Tennis at Choteau/Conrad
 - 9:00 am: High School JV Golf at Townsend
 - 10:00 am: High School Track at Belgrade
 - 12:00 pm: Election Judge Training - Community Room
 - 3:00 pm: High School Baseball vs Park High
 - 6:00 pm: Old Baldy Basic Car Care @ Big Belt Automotive
- Sunday 19**
- 2:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Harmonica @ Reading Leaves Bookstore
- Monday 20**
- Middle School Golf @ Livingston
 - 7:00 pm: Spring Musical Performances
- Mon 20 - Thu 23**
- 11:45 am: 1st and 2nd Grade SEL - Library Classroom
- Tuesday 21**
- 11:30 am: Hanson-Training
 - 3:00 pm: High School Baseball @ East Helena
 - 3:00 pm: High School Track @ Helena
 - 7:00 pm: Spring Musical Performances
- Wednesday 22**
- ACT in the Community Room
 - 7:00 pm: Old Baldy - Open Gyms: Pickleball, Basketball, Laps
- Thursday 23**
- 9:00 am: High School JV Golf @ Livingston
 - 9:00 am: High School Varsity Golf @ Ennis
 - 5:45 pm: Adult Volleyball in the 1963 Gym
- Friday 24**
- NO SCHOOL**
 - 10:00 am: High School Track @ Boulder
- Fri 24 - Sat 25**
- 9:00 am: High School Tennis @ Great Falls
- Saturday 25**
- 8:00 am: 4-H and FFA Meat Science Education Day
 - 10:00 am: High School Track @ Missoula
 - 1:00 pm: High School Baseball @ Huntley
- Sat 25 - Sun 26**
- 8:00 am: EMT Class in the Community Room
- Sunday 26**
- 2:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Harmonica @ Reading Leaves Bookstore

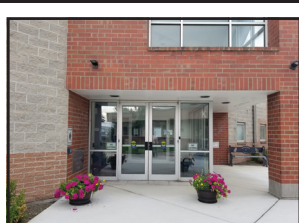
East Helena Schools & Sports

APRIL

- Monday 20**
- 6:30 pm: Booster Club Meeting - EHHS
- Wednesday 22**
- 8:00 am: Secretary's Day

LIBRARY HOURS

Broadwater School and Community Library



201 N Spruce St, Townsend
Photo Provided

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.

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson
Branch Manager



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

HOURS:

- Monday - Wednesday: 10 am- 6:00 pm.
- Thursday and Friday: 10 am- 5:00 pm
- Saturdays: 10 am-1:00 pm
- Sundays: Closed

APRIL

- Wednesday 22**
- 10:30 am: Storytime
- Thursday 23**
- 4:00 pm: Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting
- Friday 24**
- 3:00 pm: Reading Circle Book Group Discussion

Broadwater Democrats Meeting

Wednesday April 22, 6:00PM
All are welcome!

at The Betsy, 217 Broadway, Townsend
Questions: Call (406) 581-8538

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

APRIL

- Monday 20**
- 3:00 pm: Board of Health
 - 6:00 pm: Parks and Recreation
 - 9:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting
- Tuesday 21**
- 1:30 am: Trust Board
 - 3:30 pm: Three Forks Mosquito Board
 - 4:00 pm: Townsend Mosquito Board
 - 7:00 pm: Noxious Weed Board Meeting
- Wednesday 22**
- 10:00 am: Commission Meeting



BROADWATER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

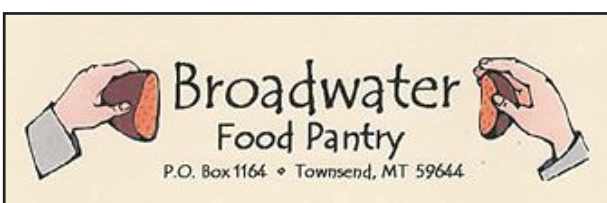
APRIL

- Friday 17**
- 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 Mountain Grounds Coffee
- Saturday 18**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
- Tuesday 21**
- 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 22**
- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
 - 6:00 pm: Broadwater Democrats Meeting at The Betsy **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

- Thursday 23**
- 5:00 pm: **FREE** Homemade Dinner Served at American Legion, 211 Broadway, Townsend **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
 - 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

- Friday 24**
- 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 Mountain Grounds Coffee

- Saturday 25**
- 1:00 pm: Celebration of Life for Connie Thomas at Trailhead Church **DETAILS ON PAGE 11**
 - 1:00 pm: Celebration of Life for Gary Mattson at Faith Baptist Church **DETAILS ON PAGE 11**
 - 6:30 pm: Bruce Anfinson Live at The Lodge of Townsend
 - 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945



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

Distribution days (1st & 3rd Saturday + 5th if applicable)
April 4th & 18th 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Donations of food items are accepted Friday April 3rd & 17th 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. April is Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
For questions, Donations appointments and Emergency Food supplies **call OUR NEW PHONE number (406) 916-0034.**

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 & 7 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

The Olde Place

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

FRESH CHICKEN EGGS!

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

HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE NEEDED

Disabled Vietnam veteran - looking for someone to do house cleaning.
Call Duane at 406-461-0073

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
--	--

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

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

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.
Next meeting: May 20, 7:30PM
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St
See Board Meeting Agenda at: https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov/community/rural_fire_board.php

Monthly Chamber Meeting



6PM Thursday, May 21

Location: TBA
All members of the community welcome!

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.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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



MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Ruthie Sharon Knowles, Deceased.
Probate No. ADP-2026-16

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Brian Lee Knowles 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 Brain Knowles at 1925 Martha Dr, East Helena, MT 59635, return receipt requested, or filed with the Clerk of the above-titled Court.
Dated March 30, 2026.

Published April 10, 17 and 24, 2026

MNAXLP

Montana First Judicial District Court, Broadwater County

In the matter of the Name Change of Amythyst Lee Peters:
Amythyst Lee Peters, Petitioner
Case No.: DV-2026-27

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

This is notice that the Petitioner has asked the District Court for a change of name from (your name now) Amythyst Lee Peters

To (name you want) Amythyst Lee Buffington
The hearing will be on (date) 05/08/2026 at (time) 10:30 AM
The hearing will be at the Courthouse in (county) Broadwater County.

Filed Date 3/31/2026

Valerie J Hornveld, Clerk of District Court
By Audrey Plymale, Deputy Clerk of Court

Published April 10, 17, 24 and May 1, 2026

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGULAR VOTER REGISTRATION AND OPTION FOR LATE REGISTRATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to § 13-2-301 MCA, that regular registration for the 2026 State and Federal Primary election to be held on June 2, 2026, will close at 5:00 p.m. on May 4, 2026.

During regular registration, individuals who wish to register to vote or update their voter registration must submit a voter registration form to their county election office.

During late registration, individuals who wish to register to vote or update their voter registration for this election must submit a voter registration form in person to their county election office. As this is a Federal election, late registration will be available at the Broadwater County Elections Office at 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT, from 8am to 5pm on all regular business days, 8am to 5pm on Saturday, May 30, and from 7am to 12pm on June 2. This is due to a change in the late registration statutes that occurred at the 2025 Montana Legislative Session.

Please contact the Broadwater County Elections Office at 406-266-3405 or elections@broadwatercountymt.gov with any questions.

Dated and effective this 6th day of April 2026

/s/ ANGIE PAULSEN BROADWATER COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER | ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR | COUNTY SURVEYOR

Published April 10, 17 and 24, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES ROBERT MASOLO, Deceased.
Probate No. DP-4-2026-11

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Gay Ann Masolo has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be mailed to Gay Ann Masolo, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested at 27 Neill Avenue – Suite 200, Helena, MT 59601, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

DRAKE LAW FIRM, P.C. DarAnne Dunning Attorneys for Personal Representative
Dated this 2nd day of April, 2026.

Published 17, 24 and May 7, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN EVAN MASOLO, Deceased.
Probate No. DP-4-2026-12

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Carol Elonora Masolo has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must be mailed to Carol Elonora Masolo, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested at 27 Neill Avenue – Suite 200, Livery Square Building, Helena, MT 59601, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court.

DRAKE LAW FIRM, P.C. DarAnne Dunning Attorneys for Personal Representative
Dated this 2nd day of April, 2026

Published 17, 24 and May 7, 2026

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

To be sold for cash at a Trustee's Sale on July 13, 2026, at 02:00 PM at the South entrance steps of the Broadwater County Courthouse, 515 Broadway Street, Townsend, MT 59644, the following described real property situated in Broadwater County, State of Montana:

LOT 10, BLOCK 39 OF THE ORIGINAL TOWNSITE OF TOWNSEND, BROADWATER COUNTY, MONTANA.
More commonly known as 513 N Spruce St, Townsend, MT 59644.

Mitchell Lee Nieters, as Grantor, conveyed said real property to Rocky Mountain Title Guaranty, LLC, as Trustee, to secure an obligation owed to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as designated nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, Beneficiary of the security instrument, its successors and assigns, by Deed of Trust on August 8, 2022, and filed for record in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder in Broadwater County, State of Montana, on August 10, 2022 as Instrument No. 194359, in Book 244, at Page 60 of Official Records.

The Deed of Trust was assigned for value as follows:

Assignee: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
Assignment Dated: January 28, 2025
Assignment Recorded: January 28, 2025
Assignment Recording Information: as Instrument No. 200815, in Book 268, at Page 21
All in the records of the County Clerk and Recorder for Broadwater County, Montana.

Jason J. Henderson is the Successor Trustee pursuant to a Substitution of Trustee recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Broadwater County, State of Montana, on February 24, 2026 as Instrument No. 203323, in Book 279, at Page 337, of Official Records.

The Beneficiary has declared a default in the terms of said Deed of Trust due to the Grantor(s) failure to make monthly payments beginning November 1, 2024, and each month subsequent, which monthly installments would have been applied on the principal and interest due on said obligation and other charges against the property or loan. By reason of said default, the Beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by said Trust Deed immediately due and payable. The total amount due on this obligation is the principal sum of \$297,188.14, interest in the sum of \$21,943.24, escrow advances of \$5,472.94, other amounts due and payable in the amount of \$2,530.51 for a total amount owing of \$327,134.83, plus accruing interest, late charges, and other fees and costs that may be incurred or advanced.

The Beneficiary anticipates and may disburse such amounts as may be required to preserve and protect the property and for real property taxes that may become due or delinquent, unless such amounts of taxes are paid by the Grantor. If such amounts are paid by the Beneficiary, the amounts or taxes will be added to the obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Other expenses to be charged against the proceeds of this sale include the Trustee's fees and attorney's fees, costs and expenses of the sale, and late charges, if any.

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

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

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

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

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

Important Notice to Potential Bidders: Federal law administered by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN"), a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, requires certain residential real estate transactions to be reported to the federal government. If you are the winning bidder at auction, you may be required to provide identifying information about yourself and, if applicable, any entity or trust purchasing the property. This information is required by federal law and must be provided to complete the sale. Failure to provide required information after the sale may delay or prevent issuance of the foreclosure deed.

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

Dated this 5th day of March, 2026.

Jason J. Henderson Substitute Trustee, 38 2nd Avenue East Dickinson, ND 58601.

Telephone: 801-355-2886

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

(MST) File No. MT23544

Published April 3, 10 and 17, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
ANNABELLE BARNETT, Deceased.

Probate No. CDP-26-08

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Scott A. Bennett 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 April 3, 2026.

/s/ Peter T. Simon GALLATIN ELDER LAW & ESTATE PLANNING PLLC Attorney for Personal Representative

Published April 3, 10 and 17, 2026

MNAXLP

AUDIT PUBLICATION STATEMENT

An audit of the affairs of the City of Townsend, Townsend, Montana, has been conducted by Nexus CPA Group. The audit covered the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

Section 2-7-521, MCA requires that this publication concerning the audit report include a statement that the audit report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at City Hall, located at 110 Broadway, Townsend, Montana, and that the City of Townsend will send a copy of the audit report to any interested person upon request.

Published April 17, 2026

MNAXLP

Public Notice

A+ Storage does hereby give notice to the following customers renting storage units containing household goods and miscellaneous items that this property will be sold to satisfy rent past due, fees and costs.

Charlee Strozier JF-9

The public sale will be held on April 18th, 2026, at 12:00-1:00 PM at A+ storage located at 76 Jack Farm Rd, Townsend, MT.

Published April 17, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DAVID CALVIN STINE, Deceased.

Probate No. ADP-26-09

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

David N. Stine 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 April 3, 2026.

/s/ Peter T. Simon GALLATIN ELDER LAW & ESTATE PLANNING PLLC Attorney for Personal Representative

Published April 3, 10 and 17, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT- BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
HELEN THERESA REISER, a/k/a HELENA THERESA GAFFNEY, Deceased.

Probate No. DP-26-14

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Kathleen Ann Foote has been appointed Personal Representative of the above name estate. All persons having 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, Kathleen Ann Foote (252 Convict Grade Road, Livingston, MT 59047) return receipt requested, or filed with the Clerk of the above-titled Court.
Dated April 7th, 2026.

Kathleene Ann Foote, Personal Representative

Published April 17, 24 and May 1, 2026

MNAXLP

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

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

Justice of the Peace Report

Samuel Anagnostou
Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Allan Scott – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees
Joshua Murphy – Bonners Ferry ID – Operate a vehicle which has not been properly registered – paid fines - \$85 fines & fees

Taylor Horton – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Daniela Garcia – Sycamore IL – Speeding on National 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$200 fines & fees

- Operating with expired registration – failure to reregister – paid fines - \$85 fines & fees

- Seatbelt Violation – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees
Shania Daniels – Townsend – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Christopher Bryant – Townsend – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Kristopher Tanner – Havre – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Kelsey Carvell – Southborough, MA – Speeding on National 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Sebastian Allen – Great Falls – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Kennedy Nelson – Helena – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Jeffrey Graham – Blackfoot, ID – Operating without Liability Insurance in effect – 1st offense – plead guilty - \$285 fines & fees

- Careless Driving – plead guilty - \$85 fines & fees
- Seatbelt Violation – Plead Guilty - \$20 fines & fees

Matthew Vidales – Bozeman – Owner permitting operation of vehicle without liability insurance – 2nd offense – plead guilty - \$385 fine. 90-day license plate suspension. Probationary plates recommended once proof of insurance is provided to MVD.

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Cole Rogers – West Linn, OR – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Kylynn Barr – Great Falls – Speeding on on-interstate – exceed night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Niles Madison – Butte – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Sean Buchanan – Townsend – Operating without liability Insurance in effect – 1st offense – plead guilty - \$285 fines & fees

- Driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked – 1st offense – plead guilty - \$225 fines & fees. Sentenced to six (6) months in Broadwater County Detention with execution suspended for six (6) months with good behavior.

- Unlawful Possession of Open Alcoholic Beverage Container in Motor vehicle on Highway – plead guilty - \$20 fines & fees

Sharad Thiry – Dillon – Obstructing a peace officer or other public servant – plead guilty – Court Defer Imposition of sentence for two (2) years with good behavior, enrollment, and completion of ACT Class.

MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES

Joseph Hovley – Townsend – Exceed 34,000lbs Tandem Axle Weight Limit – paid fines - \$110 fines & fees

INITIAL APPEARANCE FOR DISTRICT COURT

Dwight Murdough – Townsend – Defendant was given Courtesy Appearance in District Court to have charges against him explained. The Defendant is innocent until proven guilty. Defendant is charged with Obstructing a Peace Officer or Public Servant, Criminal Possession of Drugs with Intent to Distribute, Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs – not otherwise provided for subsection 45-9-102(1) or (2) and was in possession of a stolen firearm. Defendant was given District Court Hearing date. \$50,000 bond with conditions.

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Quinn Duvall – Three Forks – Defendant was arrested on Warrant issued by Gallatin County Justice Court for failing to appear. Defendant committed to Broadwater County Detention facility until transport or post bond. \$285 bond with previous conditions. If bond is posted, Defendant to appear in Gallatin County Justice Court within ten (10) days.

Quinn Duvall – Three Forks – Defendant was arrested on Warrant issued by Manhattan City Court for failing to appear. Defendant committed to Broadwater County Detention Facility until transport or post bond. \$100 bond with previous conditions. If bond is posted, Defendant to appear in Manhattan City Court the first Monday following release.

Revoke- (Judge Kathy Seeley) Allegations are Count 1- report of Violation, Count 2- No Employment, Count 3- No report of Evidence of Change of Residence filed with Probation and Parole. An Admit Deny Hearing and Bond Hearing are scheduled for April 17, 2026.

ADC-25-21- Andrew Michael Roberts- Change of Plea-(Judge Mike Menahan) Defendant pleaded guilty to Amended Count 1 and 4 and Original Count 3. With the assistance of his attorney stated what he had done. The Court ordered a PSI and scheduled sentencing for June 5, 2026, with all conditions in place. The Defendant will be returned to Gallatin County to deal with charges there.

BDC-26-11- Barbara Lee Degroot- Arraignment- Defendant plead not guilty to Count 1 and Count 2 and the following hearings were set. Omnibus June 9, 2026, Pretrial September 11, 2026, and Jury Trial October 5, 2026.

Sample Ballots Available

Christi Jacobsen
Montana Secretary of State



Election Team: 'Sample ballots available for June's Primary Election'.

HELENA, Mont. — Montana Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen says the Montana Election Team, consisting of state and local election officials, has provided Primary Election sample ballots for voters across the Treasure State. As of Monday afternoon, sample ballots are available to Montana voters in all but one county. (Missoula County is expected to finish this week.)

Secretary Jacobsen and the Montana Election Team completed ballot certification for the June 2nd Primary Election last month and immediately began the ballot-proofing process for every precinct across the state. Once a county's ballot was finalized, sample ballots were uploaded to the state's voter information site:

<https://voterportal.mt.gov/>.

"It's never too soon to begin preparing for Election Day, and voters across Montana can view their sample ballots to make a plan for casting their votes in the June 2nd Primary Election," said Secretary Jacobsen. "I'm grateful to the Montana Election Team for the efficiency in providing these sample ballots to Montana voters in such a timely manner."

Registered voters can log in to the state's voter information site using their name and date of birth, then select the "sample ballot" option in the menu to view each qualified political party's primary election sample ballot. As a reminder, voters will be allowed to vote for only one party's ballot in the June 2nd Primary Election.

Voters can also use the voter portal website to confirm their voter registration information, including name, address, and absentee voter status. The Montana Election Team is also reminding Montana voters of important election information, including:

- Showing a photo voter ID at the polls
- Signing, dating, and including birth year on absentee return envelopes
- Same-weekend registration will be available statewide on Saturday, May 30th.

Barnes
Jewelry

**357 N Last Chance Gulch,
Helena MT**

406-442-3000

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



Valerie Hornsveld
MT43 News Reporter



April 10, 2026,
with Judge Mike McMahon

BDC-26-15 - Dana Lynn Toney- Arraignment – Defendant plead not guilty to Count 1- Driving under the Influence (5th or Subsequent Offense) and Count 2- Possession of Open Alcohol Container in Vehicle. The Court sent hearing dates as follows: Omnibus, June 9, 2026; Pretrial, September 11, 2026; and Jury Trial, October 5, 2026.

CDC-18-22- Jacob Huotari- Initial on Petition to

Become a Classroom Mentor

Volunteer with the Foster Grandparent Program today.

- Provide academic support to children in a variety of settings such as elementary schools, preschools, and Head Start.
- Earn a Non-taxable stipend of \$1000–\$8300 per year.
- Paid vacation, sick days and holidays.

Call 406-447-1680 or visit
mdc.net

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

ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR
ANGIE PAULSEN

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that ballots will be mailed to the voters on April 17, 2026, for the election of two (2) Townsend School District No. 1 Board Trustees for three-year terms. The candidates who will be on the ballot are: **Jean M. Hodges, Jason Kool, Chase Patrick G. Ragen**

The number of candidates who filed for the 1-year Trustee term is equal to or fewer than the available positions. Therefore, the following candidate has been elected by acclamation in accordance with Montana Code Annotated 13-1-304: **Judy R. Gillespie**

This election will be conducted by MAIL BALLOT ONLY. The regular polling places will not be open. The place of deposit and the days and times when ballots may be returned to the place of deposit before election day and on election day are:

BROADWATER COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER'S OFFICE
515 Broadway
Townsend, MT 59644
Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Election Day, May 5, 2026, 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM

In order to be counted, ballots must be received at the election office by 8:00 PM on Election Day, May 5, 2026. If you have questions about your ballot, please call 406-266-3405. If you believe you should receive a ballot and did not, ballot(s) may be obtained at the Clerk and Recorder's office. If you have moved, please ensure your registration is updated to your current address. After April 6, you must register to vote in person. Registration will also be available on election day from 7 AM to 8 PM.

DATED this 30th day of March 2026

ANGIE PAULSEN
BROADWATER COUNTY
Clerk and Recorder | Elections Administrator | County Surveyor

Broadwater County CLERK & RECORDER Office · 515 Broadway · Townsend, MT 59644
Phone (406) 266-3405 · Fax (406) 266-4502

www.broadwatercountymt.gov

Published April 3, 10 and 17, 2026

50 Year Anniversary

Broadwater County Museum

This year, 2026, is the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Broadwater County Museum in 1976. I remember the opening and thinking how really good the museum was for a small museum in a small town.

Fast forward 50 years and a couple of additions, and the Broadwater County Museum is truly a gem of Townsend and Broadwater County. Our current curator, Linda Huth, has done a spectacular job of maintaining and growing the museum over the last 16 years.

The museum season is from May 15 to September 15. Every year, we start the season with an Open House and a presentation by various speakers over the years. This year, the Museum Open House will be on Sunday, May 17, at 2:00 pm. Linda Huth, a great presenter, will talk about the history of the museum.

In preparation for the 2026 Season, the museum is getting a major spring cleaning, including cleaning the carpets. Linda, with help from the Museum Board, has been planning for this year and creating new exhibits as well as sprucing up existing exhibits.

Join us for a great visit to your county museum; learn about the history of the museum AND have some great 50-year anniversary cake!

Curator Linda Huth is also working on a new book she plans to have published this year that contains the various historical presentations made by herself and various other people. The book will feature Linda's very popular presentations on the history of the buildings on Broadway.

In addition to the Museum Open House, the Broadwater County Museum will have a new sign. While we love our existing wood sign, the sign has never held up to the weather and has required more and more maintenance.

This year, the Board made the decision to replace the existing wood sign with a metal sign. In conjunction with Montana Hydraulics, which fabricated and installed the sign and aided with a Store Front Grant from BCDC (Broadwater County Development Corp.), the museum authorized the creation of the new sign.

Watch for our new sign in the next couple of weeks.

VA Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program

Michael J Lohman

The twenty-first day of April will always be a somber day for me, perhaps for some of you, too. Roland Heaton may have left us, but he is now together with Sharon Doig and many others who served this nation and are honored at our Fort Harrison Cemetery.

The moment I hear a lawnmower, images of the man inhabit my heart and soul, and indeed, I have heard some recently. His kind soul encouraged me to add a little more to my initial 12/5/2025 Letter to the Editor submission - not to mention a nearby neighbor mowing their lawn.

The VA Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (RRTP) for veterans is still very much alive at Fort Harrison (406) 447-6000 [Mental Health] and (406) 442-6410 [Main phone number].

It was good to have a refresher course. However, to say that it took me away from a place that I hate getting trapped in would be wrong. This isn't about me, but "for" my brothers and sisters who may need help. I have some things to add to the post I didn't mention earlier.

I forgot to mention that veterans may go there as many times as they feel is necessary to deal with their issues. My "after treatment care" from the Helena Vet Center (406) 457-8060 helps me, and it could help other veterans as well as those who may not need an intensive residential program. Remember also, there's an excellent substance abuse recovery program (SUDS).

If there are questions about benefits, there's someone else you need to contact. You will need to call the Veteran Service Office at Fort Harrison.

They are located in the Administrative Office on post. Currently, that number is (406) 495-2080 and the point of contact is Breanna Richardson, who, coincidentally, comes down to the American Legion every second Wednesday of the month from 12 pm to 2 pm. She can give you more information about that; she's trained extremely well and the information is current.

If you cannot secure a ride, transportation to the hospital can be arranged by the Disabled American Veterans DAV: (406) 447-7760, or by a fairly new group, 'Great Plains Veterans Services Centers' (406) 519-0401. Either group can get you there.

If you know of a veteran whose life may benefit from the programs at Ft. Harrison, by all means, please give them the (406) 442-6410 number; it's where they start. You could make an impact on their living or their "just existing".

Michael Lohman
Townsend, MT

GUEST EDITORIALS

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

Serious Concerns Regarding the Planned Activation of the New Water Tower

Dear Mayor Rauser and Esteemed Council Members, I am writing to formally express serious concerns regarding the planned activation of the new water tower and associated system changes in Townsend.

Based on publicly shared discussions, including the outlined "Water Pressure Letter," it is evident that the City is aware of significant risks associated with increased water pressure. However, the current approach places the burden of preparation, cost, and risk mitigation almost entirely on residents, many of whom have not received sufficient notice, guidance, or support.

The guidance being proposed to residents includes:

- Locating water shut-off valves and curb boxes
- Checking water pressure before and after system activation
- Scheduling plumbing inspections
- Installing or upgrading pressure-reducing valves
- Monitoring for leaks and system failures
- Responding to potential damage such as water hammer or pipe failure

These are not minor or optional precautions. They indicate a substantial system-wide impact that could affect nearly every property connected to the municipal water system.

Despite this, residents have not been adequately informed in advance, nor has there been a clear, proactive effort to ensure that all households, especially those on fixed incomes, can safely comply with these requirements.

Key Concerns:

Insufficient Public Notice and Transparency:

Residents should have been informed well in advance of any infrastructure change that could directly impact private plumbing systems and household expenses.

Financial Burden on Residents:

The cost of inspections, pressure-reducing valves, plumbing upgrades, and potential repairs may be significant. For seniors and others on fixed incomes, these costs are not easily absorbed.

System-Wide Risk Acknowledgment:

While statements have been made suggesting that not all homes are at risk, it has also been acknowledged that all properties connected to the system may be affected. This contradiction requires clarification and accountability.

Lack of Subject Matter Expertise:

There is no clear evidence that independent engineering or plumbing experts have been publicly engaged to assess risk, provide guidance, or validate the City's approach. Proceeding without transparent expert consultation raises concerns about negligence in duty.

Responsibility of the City:

If this project introduces new risks or required upgrades to private property, the City must share responsibility for the consequences, not transfer it entirely to residents.

Requested Actions:

- Delay activation of the new water system until adequate public outreach and preparation time have been provided
- Provide clear, written, and accessible communication to all residents explaining risks and required actions
- Offer financial assistance, rebates, or compensation to residents required to make plumbing upgrades
- Engage and publicly identify qualified subject matter experts to evaluate and guide this transition
- Direct Public Works to assist residents in locating curb stops and shut-off valves where needed
- Hold a public forum to address citizen concerns and answer questions transparently

This situation is not simply an infrastructure upgrade; it is a change that directly impacts the safety, finances, and well-being of Townsend residents. The City has a responsibility to act with diligence, transparency, and fairness.

Failure to do so may constitute a neglect of duty to the citizens you serve.

I urge the Mayor and Council to take immediate action to address these concerns before proceeding further.

McKenna Gregg
Townsend

Broadwater Commissioners

Agenda

Broadwater Commissioners



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

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

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

Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Written public comment must be received by 5pm the day before the meeting. This allows time for comments to be reviewed before 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, April 21, 2026

9:00 AM Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in CAO office, regarding projects and deadlines

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

No Commission Meeting

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 / Decision / Review / Signature – Consent Agenda

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – on-going advisory board appointments / Board bylaws
- 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 lrichtmyer@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 April 20th at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on April 20th at 6:00 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on April 21st at 11:30 AM
- Three Forks Mosquito Board Meeting on April 21st at 3:30 PM
- Townsend Mosquito Board Meeting on April 21st at 4:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on April 21st at 7:00 PM
- Compensation Board Meeting April 29th at 1:00 PM

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

Americanisms



"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature."
— Rachel Carson

SPEED WORKS

Tanner-

Home Improvements & Restoration Specialist

Larry

General Property Maintenance & Handyman Services

Larry: 406-502-8607 | Tanner: 406-439-9765

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

N	G	U
5	8	3
T		I
2		6
N	N	S
7	4	1

STUNNING

CryptoQuip

answer

One of five bodies of water that many tykes could have learned about by watching "Sesame Street": Lake Erie.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Teacup; 2. Prone
3. Large; 4. Dome

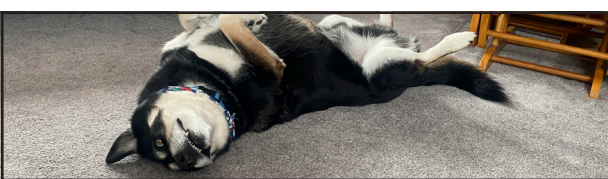
Today's Word

GOLDEN

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

UH, REMIND ME AGAIN. WHAT THE HECK DID WE COME TO SEE? I KIND OF FORGOT AFTER THE 15TH TRAILER?



GRIN and BEAR IT

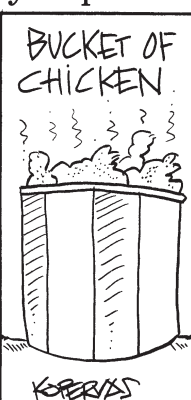
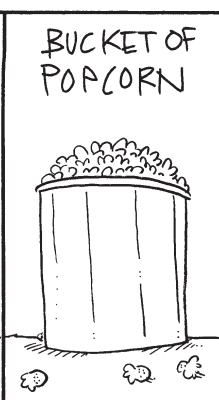
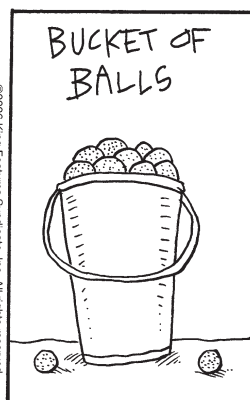
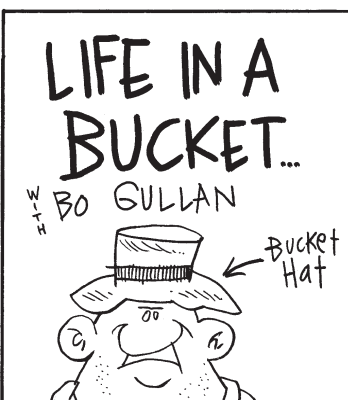
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"I've been a model prisoner. ... I model for 'Prison Wear Daily!'"

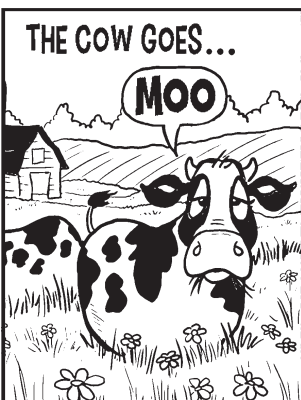
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



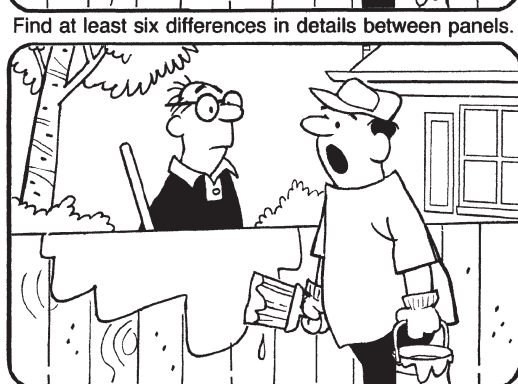
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Brush is larger. 2. Painted area on fence is larger. 3. Shirt is longer. 4. Man has more hair. 5. Window is larger. 6. Ear is smaller.

HOCUS FOCUS SPONSOR: SANDY JANES

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

MT 43 News, Inc.

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408 Broadway Street Suite A
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(406) 266-0086
MT43News@MT43News.com

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Advertising: **Tue 11 a.m.**
Pre-Designed: **Tue 11 a.m.**
MT43 Designed & Ads Needing Proof: **Mon 10 a.m.**

ALL CONTENT CONTRIBUTIONS MUST be submitted as text document, word doc, etc. Pictures of documents WILL NOT be accepted.

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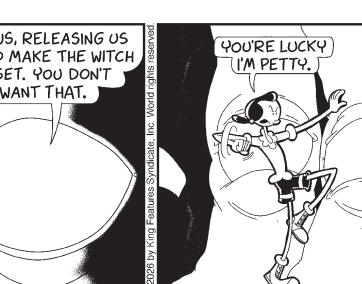
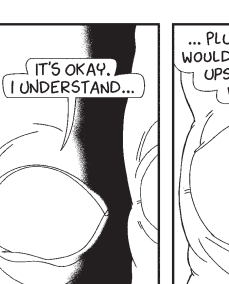
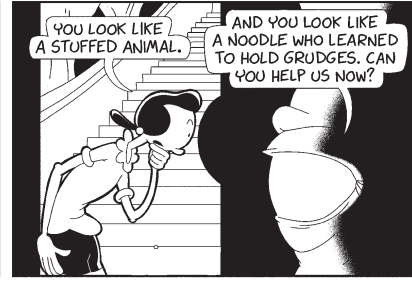
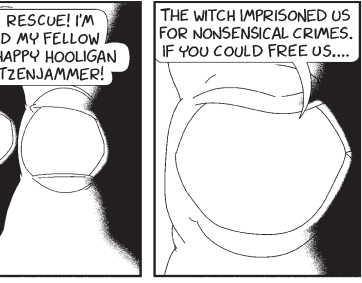
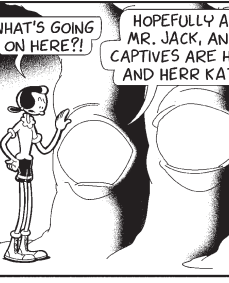
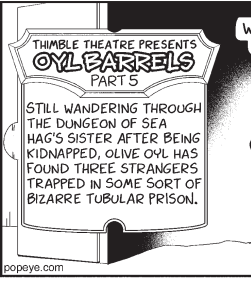
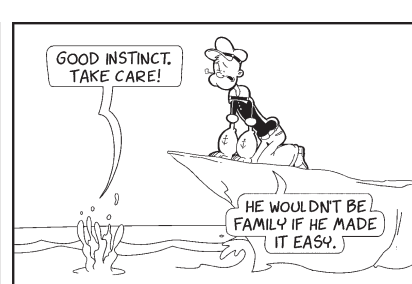
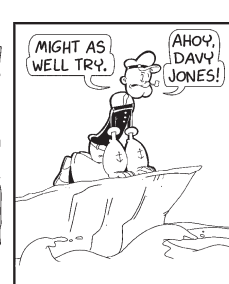
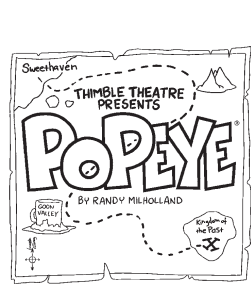
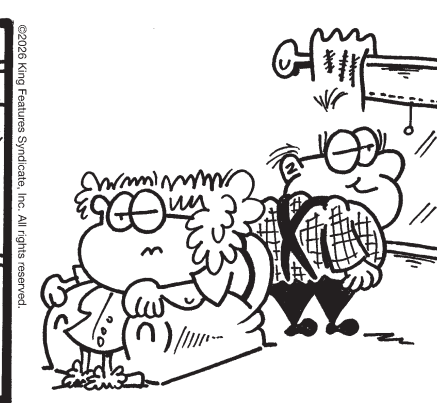
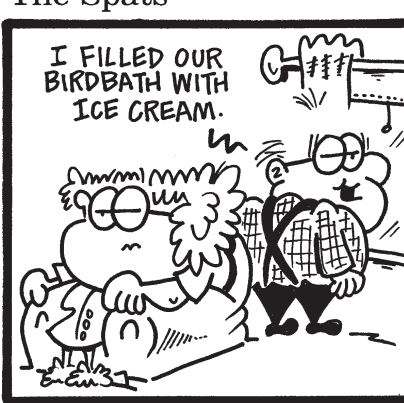
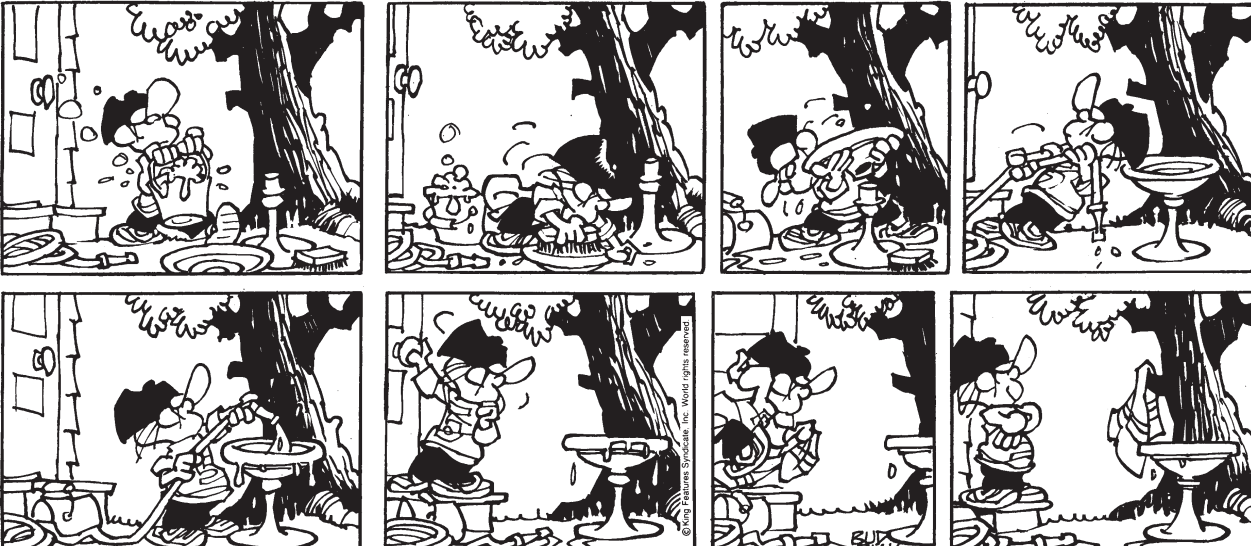
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Forms and Policies
https://mt43news-business-services.com/node/124

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



OUR WALK IN FAITH

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

SENIOR CENTER

SR. CENTER MEALS: Cinnamon Applesauce
APRIL 20 - APRIL 24 Birthday Cake

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

Monday, April 20
Sloppy Joes on a Bun
Baked Beans
Creamy Coleslaw
Juicy Pears


Tuesday, April 21
Birthday Dinner
Baked Ham
Scalloped Potatoes
Garden Peas
Whole Grain Bread

Wednesday, April 22
Sweet-N-Sour Pork
Fried Brown Rice
Broccoli Spears
Oriental Vegetables
Whole Grain Bread
Baked Apples

Thursday, April 23
Roast Beef Dinner
Steamed Potatoes
Green Beans
Whole Grain Bread
Plump Peaches

Friday, April 24
Closed for Staff Training

Celebrate the Strengths of Your 2026 Graduating Senior!



Acknowledge their achievements in a personalized ad!

Call or Stop by
Mon - Fri 10 - 2
408 Broadway,
Townsend.
406-266-0086



Broadwater County Fair Board Update

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter



Broadwater County Fair Board members met April 9 to approve March minutes, review early planning for the 2026 fair, and begin assembling cost estimates for a larger 4-H building kitchen upgrade aimed at expanding rental and food-prep options.

Chair Tayla Clark, who also serves as open class supervisor, reported that open class planning is moving quickly, with all superintendent positions now filled. Clark said volunteers are working to update the fair book, with each superintendent coordinating edits with Fair Manager Jessica Erickson. The board set an April 27 deadline to deliver final changes to Erickson.

Clark also outlined a patriotic “day of contest” concept tied to the nation’s upcoming 250th anniversary, with the board considering handouts to distribute to local businesses while hanging fair posters. In a separate vote, the board approved changes to ribbon premium payouts: purple ribbons will pay \$4, blue \$3, red \$2, and white \$0. Members said the goal is to better reward top entries while setting clear expectations with judges to avoid over-awarding.

Entertainment planning under the tent is also underway. Erickson said the board has received interest from local musicians for short sets on Friday (3:30–5 p.m.) and Saturday (5:30–7 p.m.), though no performers were confirmed at the meeting. The board also discussed returning activities, including a magician, Mickey O’Connor, and a paint party led by Julie Ferris, with participants registering through Ferris directly. Clark said she is following up with Stoke Robotics and a pottery session to see if those demonstrations will return.

The board continued planning for fair games and discussed whether to add face painting, weighing a vendor option against a lower-cost do-it-yourself approach. Members also confirmed a mechanical bull vendor for the weekend, budgeting \$800 for the first day and \$500 for the second.

A major focus of the meeting was kitchen upgrades at the 4-H building following a walkthrough with Sanitarian Megan Bullock. Board members said the minimum requirements to permit the kitchen for commercial use include adding a dedicated handwashing sink and a mop sink, along with proper signage and plumbing configurations designed to prevent septic backups from contaminating sinks. Longer-term ideas included a dishwasher, an improved dish-drying setup, and a grease trap. Erickson said local plumber Danny Kurk, owner of Special K Plumbing and Heating, has begun reviewing the site and is expected to provide a starting quote.

The board’s next meeting is scheduled for May 14 at 5:15 p.m.

Understanding Well Water Quality in Broadwater County

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



Water is a precious resource that we often take for granted. However, wars have started over water and there are areas of the world, particularly in Africa and Asia, that do not have access to safe, clean drinking water. We are fortunate in the United States to have access to such a valuable commodity. However, just because you have easy access to water, it should not be assumed that the water is safe or high quality. We can still have water quality issues in our country, even right here in Broadwater County. If you are connected to a public water supply, there are standards in place to ensure safe drinking water. However, if you have a private well, then it is your responsibility to protect your water quality and the only way to know is through testing. The MSU Extension Well Educated program is a resource to help with testing and learning about what’s in your water.

MSU Extension in Broadwater County has partnered with the Well Educated program to offer reduced-cost comprehensive well testing paired with education on interpreting the results and improving water quality. Here is how the program works:

1. Pick up a well testing kit at the Extension Office located at 416 Broadway in Townsend between April 20th and May 1st. There are 40 kits available, which will be available on a first come first serve basis.
2. Return the kit with the water sample to the Extension Office on Tuesday, May 5th, between 7:00 am and 12:30 pm. The cost due at this time is \$125 (a savings of more than \$265 for a comparable test from a private lab). Collecting the sample at home typically takes just a few minutes.
3. Receive your results and interpretations at an informational community workshop on Thursday, May 28th at 6:00 pm in Townsend. All screening results are confidential. If you’re unable to attend the workshop, we will make arrangements to get the results to you.

There are many reasons why well testing is important. There are a variety of common contaminants found above health thresholds, including arsenic, lead, copper, uranium, nitrate and bacteria. Southern Broadwater County is known for high arsenic and uranium levels and high nitrates and bacteria have been found throughout the county. Some containments can pose significant health risks, especially with long-term exposure. These health risks are especially amplified for young children, pregnant women and immunocompromised individuals. Regular testing is one of the simplest ways to protect your family’s health and better understand your water system.

One common contaminant is nitrate. High levels can cause baby blue syndrome, and some evidence shows an increased risk of cancer. Nitrate can come from human waste, animal waste or fertilizer. Nitrate breaks down quickly and moves easily in water. Increases in nitrate levels over time may suggest that human activity is influencing the water supply.

Bacteria are found everywhere, but certain bacteria are red flags. Well tests specifically look for coliform and E. coli. If these bacteria are present, it’s often an indication that water is being influenced by surface activities, or the well may not be correctly sealed. Shallow wells are more likely to have contamination, but any well can have issues if not protected.

Arsenic is naturally occurring in the Earth’s crust. When groundwater flows through mineral deposits high in arsenic, the minerals can break down and release arsenic into the water. This is more common in areas with geothermal features like hot springs and mined ores like copper, gold and zinc. High arsenic levels have been found in the county. It is particularly common in aquifers connected to the Madison River.


Many people are concerned about “hard water” deposits on faucets, pipes and other fixtures. Hard water deposits are made of calcium and magnesium. Neither of these elements pose a health risk. Soaking fixtures in vinegar will remove hard water deposits. Other common concerns in agricultural areas are pesticides and fertilizers. Due to the nature of pesticides, it is unlikely that they would contaminate groundwater. Testing for pesticides is extremely expensive and it is helpful to know what you are looking for before testing. Nitrates from fertilizer is a more common issue.

Regular testing helps provide peace of mind that you have a safe, quality water source for your family. Even outside of this particular program, well testing kits are available at the Extension Office throughout the year. The cost of the test for the traditional program varieties depending on the type. Contact us at 406-266-9242 or broadwater@montana.edu with any questions about well and water testing.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

“Now acquaint yourself with Him, and be at peace; thereby good will come to you. Receive, please, instruction from His mouth, and lay up His words in your heart.”

Job 22:21-22



Detail of “Jugend” cover art for April by Otto Eckmann (1896)

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EAST HELENA AREA DEATHS

Lynette Kay Fisher

Family of Lynette Kay Fisher

Lynette Kay Fisher, known affectionately by all as "Lynnee," passed away on April 2, 2026, at the age of 60. After a long and courageous battle with aggressive cancer, she found peace at 2:40 p.m. at the home of her niece, Tracy Salminen, in East Helena. Lynnee spent her final weeks in what she called her "happy place," surrounded by the deep love of her family.

Born on September 9, 1965, in Billings, Montana, to Bob and Wanda Hert, Lynnee's journey took her through Billings, Butte and Missoula before she finally found her home in Boulder. A proud graduate of Jefferson High School, she dedicated over 30 years of her life to the community, first at IGA (later L&P Grocery) and then at Hardware Hanks.

For Lynnee, work wasn't just a job; it was an opportunity to help people and spread her cheer. Whether you were a lifelong neighbor or a passing stranger, you were greeted with a beaming smile and a warm "HI HONEY". Lynnee will be remembered most for her infectious smile and a laugh that could light up any room.

Lynnee was a true believer in the power of a good time. She was an avid bowler in Boulder, which took her to many bowling tournaments in Reno. She loved playing cards and trivia games. Her family will fondly remember and laugh about, for years to come, the colorful language she used whenever a card game wasn't going her way.

She found beauty in the simple joys of Montana: long mountain drives, exploring ghost towns, soaking in hot springs, riding on the back of a Harley, shooting guns, camping and spending the day on the lake. The Philipsburg candy store and Virginia City were always highlights of her adventures. One of her favorite sayings, borrowed from the 1973 animated Robin Hood, "Put your hand on your heart and cross your eyes."

Lynn married Jim Fisher on May 9, 2012. They spent nearly ten wonderful years together, building a life centered on fun and adventures, before his passing in November 2021.

While she took pride in her work and her hobbies, Lynnee's greatest achievements were her children and grandchildren. She cherished every moment spent with her grandkids, whether they were playing Wii bowling, playing board games/card games or settling in to watch movies together. She spent her final year dedicated to making lasting memories, seizing every possible chance



Lynette Kay Fisher
Photo Provided by Family

to be with them. During this time, she also focused on building deep relationships with her daughter-in-law, Gabby, and her son-in-law, Seth. She was the steady heart of a large, vibrant family.

She is survived by: Children: Her son, Larry Mann (fiancé Gabrielle Mozer), and daughter, Nicole Mann (fiancé Seth Merrill). Grandchildren: Landon and Harper Mann.

Siblings: Her sisters Brenda Kremer and Gail Paige, and sister-in-law Kelly Hert.

Extended Family: Numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins whom she loved dearly.

Lynnee is now reunited with those who preceded her in death: her husband, James Fisher; her parents, Bob and Wanda; her brother, Robert Hert; and her sisters, Jo Anne Cordell and Ann Ledbetter.

Please join us to share your favorite "Lynnee stories" and celebrate a woman who made the world significantly brighter. A true friend to all.

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Volunteer Hall at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds (Whitetail Road, Boulder, MT 59632)

Format: Potluck style—bring your favorite dish and your best memories.

Cremation arrangements were handled by Simple Cremation in Helena, MT.

Lois Inger Lebahn

Family of Lois Inger Lebahn

On a cold day in January, Ewald and Myrtle (Imsland) Lebahn were patiently waiting for the birth of their 4th child. Their first daughter, Lois Inger Lebahn, was born under the care of the local doctor.

On March 25, 2026, Lois would lose her courageous battle with cancer at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena, Montana, after 10 years of treatment.

Lois went to a one-room schoolhouse for her elementary years. She was an A student and loved to learn and went on to Graduate from Ramona High School, where she continued receiving mostly A's throughout her 4 years of attendance. She began her long career at Bethel Lutheran Home and then at the Madison Hospital as a Nurse's Aide and even delivered a baby all by herself when the doctor couldn't get there in time. When her parents died, she and Le Ann embarked on a multi-state trip to decide where to live. Finally, landing in Helena, Montana, where brother Sid invited them to live with him and his family until they found an apartment of their own and a job to begin her second career.

She was a long-time member of First Lutheran Church in Helena, Montana, attending almost every Sunday, singing in the choir until she lost her singing voice due to cancer radiation. While the Big Sky Singers existed, she loved singing with them.

She is preceded in death by her parents, brothers Maynard Lebahn and Douglas Lebahn of South Dakota, Kenneth Lebahn of Missouri, brother-in-law James Ferron, Sisters-in-law Mary Ann, Karen, Delores and Flora and Donna Hoffman, friend and D'et Miskneman.

She is survived by her brother, Sidney of Helena, and sister Le Ann of East Helena. Nieces and nephews – Nita



Lois Inger Lebahn
Photo Provided by Family

SD, Tim (Pat), Wes (Amy), Missouri, Dean (Marian), Louisiana, Sheila (Steve), Texas, Dawn Poirier, AZ, Cathy (Jeff) Dillon, Rob (Dawn) Helena, Lori, Diane, Eugene, Melanie, Mike and Angie SD. Best friends Dorothy and Tim Cail. Dorothy drove her to most of her cancer treatments and medical appointments. She is more like a sister than just a friend and we are forever grateful for her support. Other people supportive of her cancer journey are Robin and Tom Steber, Bonnie Nelson and Lory Morrow.

Cremation has taken place and burial will be at St John's Lutheran Church in rural SD near Ramona, where she was confirmed and began her Christian journey.

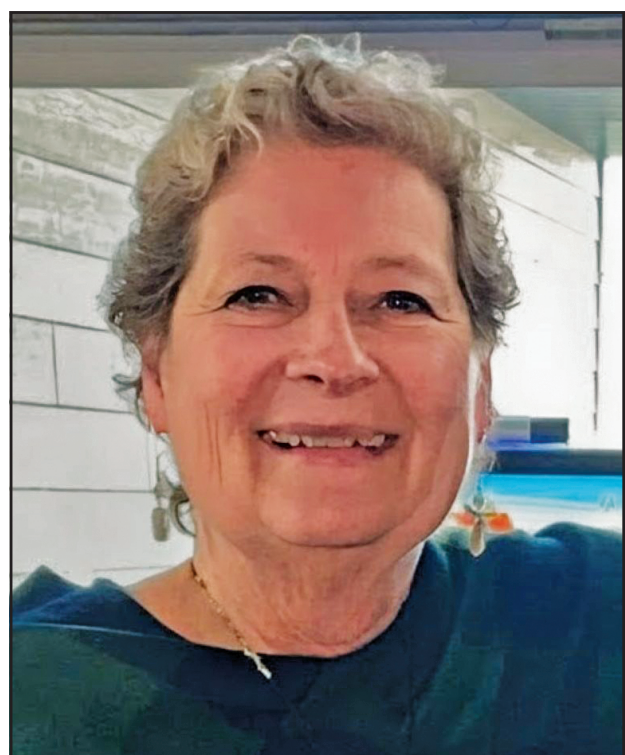
The memorial will take place at a later date. Memorials can be sent to First Lutheran Church on Broadway or the American Cancer Society.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Memory of Debra D. 'Deb' Redmond

Family of Debra D. 'Deb' Redmond

February 8, 1958 – March 17, 2026



Debra D. 'Deb' Redmond
Photo Provided by Family

Debra D. 'Deb' Redmond, age 68, of East Helena, passed away on March 17, 2026.

A Celebration of Deb's Life will be held May 9, 2026, at the Hellgate Campground York Shelter Group Site B, starting at 12:00 p.m. until the party ends.

Celebration of life
for *Gary Mattson*

1PM Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Faith Baptist Church in Townsend.
Coffee hour to follow at the American Legion in Townsend.

Celebrating the life of
Connie Lee Thomas

October 10, 1951 - October 22, 2025

April 25, 2026 | at 1:00pm
Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church
20 Trailhead View Dr. Townsend, MT
Reception to follow

Weather Forecast

April

Friday 17 High Temp: 47 Low Temp: 28 Wind: 14 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Tuesday 21 High Temp: 76 Low Temp: 48 Wind: 17 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Saturday 18 High Temp: 58 Low Temp: 31 Wind: 19 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Wednesday 22 High Temp: 57 Low Temp: 44 Wind: 10 Rain: 0.681 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Sunday 19 High Temp: 66 Low Temp: 37 Wind: 14 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Thursday 23 High Temp: 48 Low Temp: 41 Wind: 21 Rain: 0.3 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Monday 20 High Temp: 72 Low Temp: 46 Wind: 11 Rain: 0.0 Snow: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	

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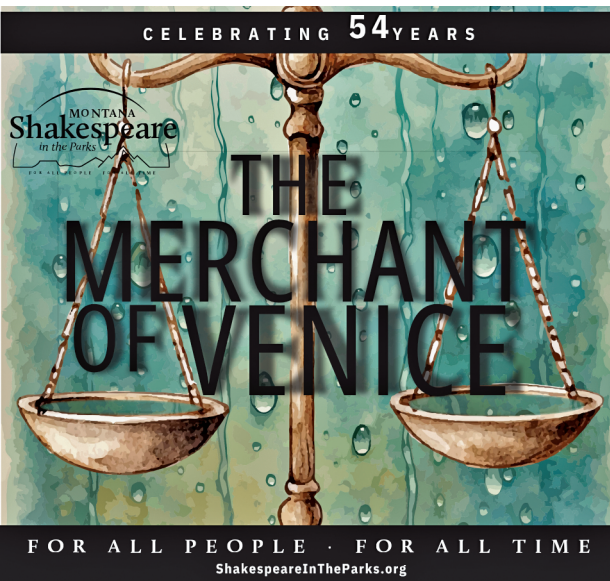
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Montana Shakespeare in the Parks Coming to Townsend



Rachael Brug
Chamber of Commerce



Montana Shakespeare in the Parks (MSIP) is celebrating its 54th season with free, professional performances of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Merchant of Venice* across the region.

The season opens in Bozeman with *Much Ado About Nothing*, June 10–13, and *The Merchant of Venice*, June 17–20, with performances held at 8 p.m. in the MSU Duck Pond Grove. Pre-show entertainment begins at 7 p.m., and audiences are encouraged to arrive early, bring a picnic, and enjoy an evening outdoors.

After the Bozeman run, MSIP's company of 11 actors will head out on a 12-week tour, bringing theatre to 64 communities across five states—Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, North Dakota, and Washington—serving more than 20,000 audience members annually.

Townsend's local MSIP performance of *The Merchant of Venice* is scheduled for Sunday, September 6, at 5 p.m. in Heritage Park. All ages are welcome, and the event is free and open to the public.

This year's productions offer two very different Shakespeare experiences. *Much Ado About Nothing* is a lively comedy that explores love, reputation, and how quickly misunderstandings can spread—while also showing how honesty and resilience can restore trust. Director Johamy Morales notes that the play “insists on laughter, music, and communal celebration,” ending “not in division, but in dance.”

The Merchant of Venice takes on deeper questions of justice, mercy, prejudice, and belonging. As romance and courtroom drama unfold, the story examines the cost of exclusion and the power of mercy. Director Kevin Asselin calls it “one of the most complete plays in Shakespeare's canon,” highlighting both the young characters' journeys and the human questions faced by Shylock, Antonio, and Portia.

Many MSIP stops also include pre-show performances by local artists through the organization's Share Our Stage program. Please contact the Townsend Chamber if your organization would like to be a part of the pre-show! townsend43chamber@gmail.com

Community support helps bring MSIP to Townsend. If you would like to donate toward the cost of bringing the performance here, please mail a check made out to Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce to P.O. Box 947, Townsend, MT 59644, or drop off a check at Reading Leaves Bookstore.

For more information and the full tour schedule, visit ShakespeareInTheParks.org.

Latest Push to Cap Property Taxes in Montana

Victor Sample
MT43 News

The backers of three ballot initiatives maintain that homeowners in the state pay too much in taxes. Opponents warn that the caps could have wide-ranging and detrimental effects.

Property taxes continue to be a very hot and controversial topic in Montana. This decade, many Montana homeowners have seen their property taxes double -- or more.

Despite Montana rebates and legislative attempts to give homeowners property tax relief, there continue to be initiatives proposed to alleviate the property tax burden

The Montana Free Press has published a very detailed look at three such initiatives, including how they would affect homeowners, county and city governments and school funding.

To read the full article examining the Property tax initiatives, visit:

<https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/PropertyTaxInitiatives>

Whispers of the Past

Shelley Douthett



Eenie meeny miney mo, who will be in this edition of *Whispers of the Past* and how do I pick the subjects? Honestly, it's anybody's guess, including mine. My friend, and the boss of me sometimes, Linda Huth, handed me a list of names she'd run across in her research for the newspaper articles she puts out every week of people buried in Centerville. I use her list to cross-check my list and sometimes a name not in my list pops up and I do my own research, head out to the cemetery and find a headstone to match. Most of the time, there aren't any but this time I struck gold on two. When I say I struck gold, I literally did in the sense that these two gentlemen came here for gold and ended up doing other things because they didn't strike gold. Get it? I admit, it's a stretch.

Richard H. Weedem, born February 12, 1844, in Missouri and died on July 27, 1907. He was a black man from Missouri who spent almost the entire Civil War in the 60th Illinois Infantry, Company F (1861–1864). He came west to Diamond City, married Eliza Jackson in White Sulphur Springs in 1897, and had two daughters, Helen and Lillian. He bought a small place in Duck Creek and worked for several ranchers, specifically Jim Marks, as a gardener. While raking hay for the Marks ranch in 1907, he was struck by lightning and killed, leaving behind his wife and daughters. Eliza ended up selling the little ranch and moving to town, working many jobs to make ends meet.

Eliza remarried to Lewis Miles, who lived in Toston, where she was a cook at the Toston Hotel. She later divorced him on the grounds of neglect and desertion and moved back to Townsend, where she was an active member of the United Order of Odd Fellows. Eliza had a lot of friends and was well-liked by the people she worked for and knew in town. She spent her last years in Billings with her daughters. She died in 1940 and is buried next to Richard.

I wonder what it was like to be a black person in the west during the late 1800s. Not many black people



Weedem Headstone
Photo Credit: Shelley Douthett

lived in Montana back then and truth be told, there still aren't. The population out here was a mix of both Union and Confederate soldiers and from what I've read, they did not get along well as the war was still fresh in their minds. I also wonder about Richard's service in the Union army. I'm guessing he was an aid to officers in camp rather than fighting in the infantry. All black infantry regiments weren't established until later in the war. It seems that both he and Eliza were well accepted in the communities here. I haven't found any information regarding Eliza's race, but I assumed she was also black. What I wouldn't give to have a conversation with them about life back in the war and then here in settlement days.

I've had to take a break out at the cemetery because I got my right knee replaced and I'm pretty sure I'd need a crane to get up and down off the ground. Now that it's warming up a bit, I really want to get some of the broken headstones reset. Patience has never been one of my virtues. The ospreys are starting to come back along the river and lake. There's been no sign of Benny and Joon, but as soon as they show up, I'll let you know. I bet you, like me, are hanging by a thread to see if they show up.

In the next article, I'll talk about the other man I mentioned above, Robert Fields. If you have any information about ANYBODY out there, feel free to contact me at rangebabe56@gmail.com.

Could an Amazon Warehouse Be Coming to Helena?

JoVonne Wagner
Montana Free Press

A proposal for a “warehouse distribution center” has been filed with the city of Helena, just outside the capital's limits. City staff says the zoning and annexation journey has just begun. *This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press and is published here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.* https://montanafreepress.org/2026/04/08/could-an-amazon-warehouse-be-coming-to-helena/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newspack%20Newsletter%20%28264664%29&utm_source=2&utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Is%20Amazon%20coming%20to%20Helena%3F&utm_campaign=Newspack%20Newsletter%20%28264664%29

Amazon may be eyeing a spot near Helena for its next Montana warehouse location, but is at the early stages of the city's planning process, according to city commissioners and staff.

City Commissioner Julia Gustafson raised a question about the project during a Monday evening city commission meeting after receiving a public comment about it earlier this week.

“We also received public comment this week ... about a possible Amazon warehouse. Can you clarify maybe some of the confusion that's out there about this?” Gustafson asked city staff.

During the Monday meeting, city planner Michael Alvarez responded to Gustafson by confirming that applications had been submitted to the city, but did not mention Amazon as the entity behind the request. A copy of the application available on the city's website lists Kimley-Horn and Associates, an engineering, planning and design consultant company that has helped develop other Amazon facilities, as one of the applicants. The proposal describes the development of a “distribution center,” but does not list Amazon by name.

How quickly could a distribution center pop up at the proposed location? Not very quickly.

Alvarez said that the applications are for pre-zoning and annexation for a parcel of unincorporated Lewis and Clark County land near Mountain View Meadows, east of I-15 and south of Highway 12. Helena's future land-use map has that area zoned as B-2, or mixed-use, and does not allow a distribution center.

“[The applicants] would need to be pre-zoned, annexed and, after annexation, apply for a conditional use permit to operate a warehouse or distribution center in that location,” Alvarez told commissioners. “They've been offered no guarantees of any sort of approval at this time.”

City staff won't be able to access a conditional use permit until annexation, he clarified.

Pre-zoning is the first step in the process for the city to designate a zoning classification to a portion of land before

annexation. During the Monday meeting, Alvarez said the project's pre-zoning application was scheduled to go before the city's zoning commission on April 12.

But that step has now been delayed after the city's community development staff realized the pre-zone application was incomplete, Helena Public Information Officer Amanda Opitz told Montana Free Press in a Wednesday email.

Staff noticed that the transportation impact study submitted by the applicant did not adequately address future traffic impacts, according to Opitz.

“The [transportation impact study] is important for evaluating compliance with applicable zoning and transportation standards,” Opitz wrote. “Staff does not believe the record is sufficient at this time to support informed zoning commission deliberation.”

Opitz added that city staff will recommend that the zoning commission table the application until the applicant resubmits a revised impact study before returning to the zoning commission.

If that application is resubmitted, there would still be many other review steps and public meetings in order for the proposal to proceed.

Once the zoning commission takes action on the pre-zone application, it would forward its recommendation to the city commission for consideration at a meeting, which will include both the pre-zone and annexation items. Opitz said that the meeting would occur about 30 to 45 days after the zoning commission meeting.

If the resolution is passed, the applicant or the project's development team would need to ensure that the proposal meets any conditions of annexation before the city commission could approve a final annexation resolution.

But that wouldn't be the end of the road.

After the land has been officially added to city limits, the applicant would need to have a conditional use permit approved under the city's zoning process.

“[A] ‘Green light’ would be given after that final zoning action has been approved, whenever that may be,” Opitz added.

During Monday night's meeting, Gustafson reiterated that this project was still in the early stages and that the public would have time to submit comments about the proposal.

According to online city planning documents, the address listed for the project is 3645 Alice St., and is described as a “development across the street from Crosswoods Parkway from the site location ... with the intent to be a Warehouse Distribution Center, zoned as Industrial.”

If the application passes the city's standards and gets approved, it would be one of several Amazon developments in Montana. Facilities have opened up in Missoula, Belgrade, Butte, Kalispell, Great Falls and Billings, all with varying fulfillment and delivery operation capacities.

The most recent additions were in Kalispell and Great Falls, where locations opened their doors last month. Missoula opened the state's first Amazon location in March of 2024, with a 71,000-square-foot building that generated over 100 jobs.

Local Organizations Team Up to Support Area Youth
Article on Page 1



BSBL participants assembling the new racking for better organization of the Care Closet
Big Sky Big Leadership Photo

THANK YOU FOR RISING!

Nearly one year ago, I suffered a major health scare and was ambulated to Billings Clinic Broadwater. I remember nothing that happened for weeks, so I can't thank anyone by name.

I do know that the ER team and the clinic staff in Townsend made the right choices for me and, no doubt, saved my life. That's a BIG thank you. Billings Clinic Broadwater deemed an air ambulance necessary and flew me to Billings Clinic Hospital in a timely manner. Once admitted, the hospital personnel took over and continued life-saving treatment. Another BIG thank you.

Some weeks later, I woke up in the Advanced Care Hospital in Billings for rehab. The staff there performed PT, shared instructions on my "new" life, and interacted in a way that made me want to fight for myself. What a great staff they have! My husband, Jeff, my kids, and my brother & family were also there to encourage me and cheer me on.

Once home, I was honored with phone calls, cards, gifts, texts, meals, visits, and more. Thanks to all of you, family, and friends, for everything you did to support my recovery!!!

A year later, I can report that I have been back to my old self (you decide whether good or bad) for quite some time. I'm enjoying life to the fullest and feeling great and very lucky, thanks in part to many of you.

Again, a HUGE thanks for your love and support - your prayers, positive vibes, and good mojo were a big factor in my "comeback." I am grateful to all of you for your love, care, and support. Despite all of the world's ugliness, good people rise above. Thank you for rising!

Dawn Langlinois

Precision Business Resources Temporarily Closed for Remodeling

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Precision Business Resources in Townsend will close temporarily Friday, April 24th, according to owner Anna Glueckert. Their East Helena location at 101 So. Lane Ave. will be open for Townsend clients 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The 302 Broadway Street location was opened the fall of 2022 when Tromley's Accounting closed. Remodeling for the 1883 building will include new windows and insulation to make it more heating and cooling efficient.

The building was erected in 1883 across the street, according to Broadwater Museum curator Linda Huth, and was moved in 1910 to its present location. It has housed many businesses, including a furniture store, carpenter shop, compounding medicine shop, law office, post office and hat shop.

PBR's Townsend staff will work in the East Helena office until remodeling is completed. Glueckert

estimated remodeling work would be completed within two months. She said all Townsend contractors will be doing the work. For more information, please contact the office at (406) 266-0062.



Precision Business Resources opened in October of 2022. Shown here owner, Anna Glueckert, and her staff. Photo Provided

Broadwater Senior Center Update

Broadwater County Senior Citizens

One of the lesser-known non-profit organizations in Broadwater County is the Broadwater County Senior Citizens.

While the organization is not well known, its mission and activities are well used! The Broadwater County Senior Citizens is the organization that runs the Broadwater County Senior Center and provides lunch meals for Seniors 60+.

The Broadwater County Senior Citizens contracts with RMDC (Rocky Mountain Development Corporation) to provide meals to seniors. The Senior Center hosts congregate meals (lunch meals provided at the Senior Center), pick-up lunch meals and also delivers meals within the city of Townsend. Meals are also prepared for the Headstart Program in Townsend.

The Broadwater Pinochle Club uses the Senior Center to host pinochle every Wednesday and Friday.

Long-time member and President of the Broadwater County Senior Citizens, Ruthie Knowles, recently passed away. A new Board has been formed, and they are recruiting new members to the organization.

Rachael Brug is the new Broadwater County Senior Citizens Board President; Amanda Renwick has assumed the Vice Presidency and Pam Sample is now Secretary/Treasurer of the Board.

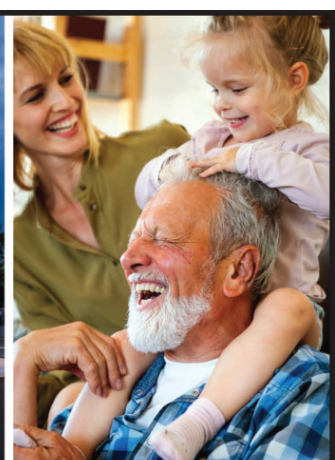
Broadwater County Senior Citizens is currently recruiting volunteers who can help at the Senior Center as needed. With the passing of Ruthie Knowles, the Senior Center is short of help to get meals prepared to deliver meals.

Please consider being a volunteer for this vital county service. Contact the center at 406-266-3995 for more details.

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

April 16

1903

Local News

D.J. Ragen and wife, who spent Easter with Ed Ragen and family, returned to their home near Helena Monday.

W.D. McCormick went to White Sulphur Springs on the first of the week to purchase horses for John Schreiner.

Scott Dewell has a new fence around his residence, which greatly improves the appearance of the same.

D.W. Jenkins and son of Crow Creek were in town Monday. He had sold some stock to McCormick and came to deliver the same.

John Poe of Radersburg was in town Monday on business. He reports Mrs. Poe, his son's wife who was very low last week, as much improved.

For Sale: - Two black Jacks Montana bred. One 8 years old and one 3 years old. Bred from best Kentucky stock. Will sell cheap for cash or trade for horses or cattle. Stock can be seen at my ranch about 1 1/2 miles north of Townsend.

~M. McMahon
Jack Ross of Toston shook hands with friends in Townsend Wednesday.

Joe Parker was busy Monday and Tuesday repairing the roof of the D'Arcy block preparatory to a coat of paint.

James Perkins came down from his mines Wednesday and departed for Helena. He is negotiating a sale of the Hard Cash, Lion and Klondyke lodes to a Montana firm.

1925

Local News

Bruce Huntley and Bert Tarrant of Toston attended the Easter Monday ball in Townsend.

Broadwater High school Junior Prom, May 1st.

Wallace Burt of Fort Logan was in Townsend Minday

visiting his siter, Miss Ruth and attended the Easter Monday ball.

Toston News

Mike Antonette and son, Alex, and Arno Burt motored to Three Forks Monday.

Wigmore Sherlock expects to leave for Butte in a few days, where he will work in a mine.

The seniors of the Toston High School will give a play entitled "Fascinating Fanny Brown" on Saturday evening, April 18th.

Mr. and Mrs. Evan Kimpton entertained at 6 o'clock dinner on Friday Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Williams and son of Helena, Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Sherlock and Neil Spangler.

Mrs. Addie Conrad returned Wednesday from a visit in Livingston.

1953

News Briefs

Mr. and Mrs. John Schreiner drove to Ronan on Sunday to visit Mrs. Schreiner's sister, Mrs. T.G. Curtis (Doris Cartwright) and Mr. Curtis and family.

Mr. and Mrs. H.G. White are in Missoula this week at a Lumbermen's convention. They were accompanied by P. Wallace of Great Falls.

Mrs. Elizabeth Nash of Bozeman and daughter, Katherine, spent Easter Sunday in Townsend with their son and brother, respectively, Dr. Frank P. Nash and family. Mrs. Nash remained for a week's visit in Townsend and returned to Bozeman on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Doig and daughters, Donna and Dorothy, departed Tuesday of last week for Seward, Alaska, where they will spend the next several months.

Fred Fletcher returned Thursday of last week from a several weeks visit in California, Mexico, Arizona and other southwestern points.

Carol Ann Cartwright, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.S.

Cartwright, was ten years old April 1st. In honor of the occasion, she invited nineteen of her classmates and several neighbor children to help her celebrate. Games were played and prizes were won by a number of children.

A large birthday cake centered the serving table and colorful candy rabbits were used as favors. Guests were Darrell Ann Johnson. Carol Horne, Phyllis Neild, Wendie Williams, Suzanne Johnson, Beth Thompson, Helen Braley, Patsy Kelly, Karen Grover, Georgia McCormick, Marcia Lots, Jimmie Lots, Robin Alley, Carol Stiner, Cheryl Thurston, Jean Burkhart, Judy Tintinger, Cathy Bucy.

1970

Thirty Area Boys Register for Farm Safety Course

Thirty area boys between the ages of 14 and 17 enrolled in the USDA Rural Development Committee's farm safety course Wednesday night.

Completion of this course is required of boys in this age bracket to work on farms other than their own family farm. It consists of six training sessions, which are held for two hours every Wednesday night at the high school shop. Instruction is provided by Ray Grossman of the SCS; Bruce Eckert, county agent, and representatives of three local implement dealers, which are Strong and Bradley, Zipp's Truck and Tractor and Townsend Implement. Sponsoring organizations are the local Soil Conservation District, the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club.

Young men taking the course are: Jim Toma, Mark Geisser, Keavin Toney, Randy Leanhart, Tom Huth, Dave O'Hern, Kim Toney, Doug Stocks, David Miller, Craig Schledewitz, Dan Moudree, Bill Kirley, Tom Ragenn, Brent Helimck, Eddie Sayer, Richard Graham, Lester White, Jesse Mayte, Spencer Holling, David Brammer, Jeff Stocks, Cliff Wogamon, Fred Geisser, Doug Stewart, Ken Doig, Gene Kenney, Bob Ouren, Gary Anderson, Matt Meyer and Jim Foster.

The course concludes tentatively on May 20 with a tractor driving contest.

Townsend District #1 School Board Candidates Discuss Their Qualifications for Office

Nancy Marks
MT43 News Reporter

With one new face in school politics, two incumbent Townsend School District #1 board members will vie for two three-year positions. Jean Hodges is running for one of the two seats against incumbents Chase Ragen and Jason Kool.

Judy Gillespie, who was appointed to fill Vanessa Flynn's one-year term after Flynn resigned early, will be elected by acclamation.

Jean M. Hodges



Jean Hodges, Candidate for School Board Trustee
Photos Provided

Jean M. Hodges, age 70, moved to Townsend to retire and to be near her daughter and grandchildren in 2020 from LaGrand, Oregon. Hodges has a bachelor's degree in business administration and is a Certified Public Accountant. She has worked as an internal auditor for corporations and agencies, including as an auditor for the State of Oregon. She also worked as a comptroller for the municipality of Juneau, Alaska. She has extensive knowledge reporting to federal and state agencies.

From a family of teachers, Hodges understands the importance of board trustees communicating and understanding the needs of teachers and staff. She favors students' opportunities to take college-level courses as well as have access to extracurricular clubs and activities.

She would encourage the school to beef up its courses in the trades: "We need more emphasis in the trades so students have alternatives to college."

Jason Kool



Jason Kool, Incumbent Running for School Board Trustee
Photos Provided

Jason Kool, age 39, if elected, will serve his second term as trustee. Jason, along with his wife Heidi and their two children, operates a cattle operation in Lone Mountain Area. Originally from Iowa, Kool has a bachelor's degree in animal biology and a minor in law enforcement. He finished his education with a master's degree in natural resources. He currently serves as program manager for Fish, Wildlife and Parks Hunting Access Division. He heads a 40-member staff and administrates a \$19 million budget for the agency, which manages the Block Management Program.

Kool emphasized he has worked in the public service arena for his entire career.

"I have two children in Townsend Schools and feel passionate about public service," he said.

In his second term, should he be re-elected, he would prioritize continuing improvements to school safety, including re-establishing the school resource officer. He would like to see the school push academic success, including encouraging students to graduate. He emphasized his thoughts about student health: "I feel we should seek ways to help support students both physically and emotionally

- including increased use of local foods/beef, reduced screen time and securing funding for a school nurse."

Chase Ragen



Chase Ragen, Incumbent running for School Board Trustee
Photos Provided

Chase Ragen, age 49, has filed for his second term as trustee. Ragen, a 1994 graduate of Broadwater High School, has a long history with the school as his mother, father and grandfather graduated from the school. He and his wife, Daniella, have three children currently attending. Their oldest, Devinn, graduated in 2015. Ragen has a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He is a Colonel in the Montana Army National Guard, currently serving as the G4 Director of Logistics.

If elected to a second term, Ragen said his biggest priority will be to bring the Safety Resource Officer (SRO) back to the school. "If you don't have a safe school, everything else is a moot point," he emphasized.

Quality of education is another of Ragen's priorities: he would like to reimplement a program to give teachers a forum to improve their teaching skills. Superintendent Brad Racht facilitated the program during his stint as Middle School Principal. "The program really bore fruit with teachers doing well," he explained.

The program goes hand in hand with talent enhancement. He said, "We acknowledge our top performers, but at the same time help those not meeting the standards by strengthening their abilities to meet our expectations."