

Sautter Field Dedicated at McCarthy Park



*Susan Sautter Ritter and Karen Sautter cut the ribbon, dedicating the ballfield to Jack and Gregg Sautter.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer*



*Teammates Lucas Bleile and Douglas Boone present a bouquet of white roses to Karen Sautter.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer*

MT43 News Staff Reporter

The ballfield is now called Sautter Field, named in honor of two of Townsend's most accomplished baseball players.

That would be Jack Sautter and his son Gregg. Friday afternoon, April 17, President of Townsend Youth Baseball John Blielle dedicated the field in front of the Sautter family, who had traveled from Missoula, Great Falls and other parts, to receive accolades to their loved ones. In a speech, Blielle gave homage to the two men, pointing out their influence on what Townsend has today as Youth Baseball. Two team members presented Gregg's widow, Karen, with a bouquet of white roses. Blielle told of Jack, born in 1930, as a young man

passionate about baseball. Jack pursued it professionally and was drafted by the York, Pennsylvania White Roses. Known as "Hollywood" to his teammates, Jack made his first professional win on May 15th, 1951.

As a dedicated father and citizen, he and his wife Doreen had four children, all of whom grew up in Townsend, where they played in the newly formed Little League teams in the early 1960's. According to Jack's daughter, Susan, both of her brothers and she played on those teams with her dad as coach. She later would play fast ball for a City AA league in Missoula.

To support his family, Jack ran the Rex Theater at night while working as a mail carrier and serving his church in the choir. He sang at too many-to-count funerals and weddings in Townsend. He, among others, worked to build and dedicate Indian Creek Campground, near

the Missouri River on Highway 287.

All the while, his son Gregg, born 1954, played on little league teams while Jack coached. Later, Gregg coached those teams as well. Gregg continued his baseball career playing Legion ball with the Helena Senators and finally played at Montana State University (now UM), where he would run the club baseball team, according to Blielle.

Both men have since passed away- Jack in 2016 and Gregg in 2025, Blielle continued, but the two men would be pleased for the honor. "We are opening a chapter of our community's story...Let's play ball!" he ended.

The Townsend teams played the Livingston Park County Rangers. Livingston teams won 17-4 with Junior Varsity 4-0.

Townsend Teachers' Association Hosts School Board Candidate Forum



*From left: forum timekeepers Jami Lawson and Shayna Gillespie and moderators Jeremy Bartlett and Lyndsey Moldenhauer.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer*



*School board candidates from left: Chase Ragen and Jason Kool, who are incumbents, and Jean Hodges.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer*

MT43 News Staff Reporter

In a well-planned, well-publicized Candidate Forum, Townsend Teachers' Association members grilled three candidates for two School Board seats up for election on May 5.

The one-hour forum, held at the Library Community Room on Wednesday, April 15, included several pertinent questions that incumbents Chase Ragen and Jason Kool, along with Jean Hodges, answered with clarity and conviction. About 25 people attended.

Of the thirteen questions asked the candidates, three will be discussed here. To the question "what do you believe is the primary responsibility of a school board

member," Candidate Ragen emphasized that student learning should be at the center of every board member decision: "Is this decision best for the student?"

Jason Kool said a member is tasked with balancing financial dictates and legal and policy mandates. "In the end, it is about being student centric," he said.

Jean Hodges gave a general outlook of guidance and oversight, not trying to micromanage. "I will work with the teachers and administration to lead the way," she said.

"What one specific step would you take to improve physical and emotional safety in our schools?"

Ragen pointed out emphasis on making the school a safe and a fun place to learn. Throughout the questioning, both Ragen and Kool stressed the need to rehire the SRO position, which they felt would engender a climate of trust between the officer and students. This opportunity for students to confide in someone would add a better mental health outlook for them. Kool pointed out the "Bulldogs Don't Bully" program already instated in the school as an improvement in emotional safety. Hodges emphasized making students feel valued and wanted in the school setting.

"How do you think the district can better attract and retain families who might otherwise choose private or homeschool options?"

Kool emphasized the district should improve its website so families could access information and personnel easier. If the district could "think outside the box," giving families more options, such as where to go for housing options and answering their critical questions about school safety. Ragen discussed more positive experiences for students, including growth in classes and extracurricular experiences. He pointed out

Senate President Matt Regier Keynote Speaker at Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinner

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Matt Regier, President of the Montana State Legislative Senate, headlined the Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinner for Broadwater County Republicans Saturday at the Watson Center.

Regier served as Speaker of the Montana House of Representatives for one term, having been a member between 2017 to 2023. He later ran for the Senate and won. The Kalispell resident graduated from University of Montana and now owns Stillwater Sod Company as well as working in real estate, according to his website.



*Keynote Speaker Matt Regier at the Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinner Saturday.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer*

A talented speaker, Regier praised Montana's all Republican-led national administration credit for giving taxpayers the largest cut in history, enhancing border security, and cleaning up the Department of Education, moving its administration to individual states. "Our leader gets things done," he said, "because this president doesn't care about critics."

In a nod to barring transgender boys from playing in girls' sports and using girls' bathrooms, Regier pointedly noted that liberals do not give a straight answer on the subject of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. "The Left doesn't know the difference between a sports bra and a jockstrap." He suggested.

He railed against the nine Republican Senators who voted with Democrats in the 2025 Montana legislature to change rules, reshape committees and generally votes

PLAYERS of the WEEK



Baseball: Mason Bauman
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Tennis: Chloe Flynn
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Golf: Caleb Swanson
Townsend Booster Club Photo



Golf: Louie Parr
Townsend Booster Club Photo

Bulldog Tennis Teams Win Duals in Fairfield and Choteau

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter



On April 17th and 18th, the Bulldogs brought their top 10 players to play in multiple duals. The Bulldogs played in Fairfield on April 17th and then stayed the night in Choteau. On April 18th, they played 6 different teams.

The Bulldogs won their first dual against Fairfield, 7 wins to Fairfield's single win. Jacey Brunette played in the number 1 singles spot and won her match, 4-6, 6-3, and 10 to 6 in the tie breaker. Arabella McDaniel defeated her opponent at 2 singles, 6-2, 6-2. Addy White played the 3 singles position and won her match 6-2, 6-2. Hailey Hildreth played at singles 4 and lost her match 5-7. As for doubles, Violet Collins and Bryleigh Erickson played at 1 doubles and won their match 6-4 and 6-4. Harper Wolfgram and Chloe Flynn played at 2 doubles, and won their match 6-4, 6-4. After that, Nayal Mendoza and Kylee Warburton played two matches together and won each of them 6-4 and 6-2.

The team traveled to Choteau to stay the night with a host family. They did team bonding by watching a movie, talking, and eating popcorn. The next day, Saturday, they dualled St. Patrick's Academy from Great Falls. They won the dual with 5 wins to St. Pat's zero wins. Hailey Hildreth played in the singles one spot and won her match 6-2 and 6-3. Nayla Mendoza won her match in 2 singles, 6-2 and 6-3. Kylee Warburton and Nayla Mendoza played doubles 2 and won their match 6-2 and 6-2.

In a following game, the Bulldogs dualled Choteau. Arabell McDaniel played at 1 singles and won her match easily, 6-2 and 6-2. Jacey Brunette, who played at 2 singles, had a close match. She ended winning the match 6-3, 5-7, and 10-7 in the tie breaker. Violet Collins and Bryleigh Erickson played in the doubles 1 spot and won their match 6-2 and 6-2. After that, Hailey Hildreth and Addy White won their doubles match 6-3 and 6-3. Then, Addy White and Kylee Warburton won their doubles match 6-2 and 6-2.

The next dual was against Simms and only doubles 1 and 2 played. Bryleigh Erickson and Violet Collins played in the doubles 1 spot and won their match 6-2 and 6-3. After that, Jacey Brunette an Arabella McDaniel played and lost their match 2-6 and 3-6.

After that, the Bulldogs played a dual against Conrad. Harper Wolfgram played in the singles 1 spot and won her match 7-5 and 6-3. Bryleigh Erickson played the singles 2 spot and won her match 6-2, 6-3. After that, Chloe Flynn and Violet Collins played a doubles match and won 6-4 and 6-2. Then Kylee Warburton and Hailey Hildreth played doubles and beat their opponent 6-2 and 6-3.

The last dual of the day was a short one against Fort Benton. Arabell McDaniel played a tight match at singles 1 and ended up winning. Arabella won the first set 6-4, lost the second 2-6, and won the tie breaker 12-10. After that, Chloe Flynn and Harper Wolfgram won their doubles match 6-2 and 6-3.

Bulldog Baseball vs Park High Rangers

Kelly Morris Photography



Park High for the win: 17-4.



The Bulldog's Cinch Reynolds puts the bat on the ball during the Bulldog's game against the Park High Rangers last Friday.
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldog's Dallas Fligge tracking a ground ball at 3rd base during the Bulldog's game against the Park High Rangers last Friday.
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldog's Mason Bauman pitching during a brief snow squall during the Bulldog's game against the Park High Rangers last Friday.
Kelly Morris Photography

Townsend Teachers', 1



School Board candidate forum April 15 at the Library Community Room.
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer

463 young people were involved in the new baseball program, which has fostered a high school team, and the new E-sports team which won at the state tournament this year.

The candidates' answers to a second question about whether homeschool students should be allowed to participate in BHS activities gave a better picture to the controversial subject of students not in the system. The law, mandated in MCA20-5-112, requires Townsend Schools to allow participation in extra-curricular activities by homeschooled students, but the District may limit participation in student organizations and social events.

Both Kool and Ragen stressed the district must follow the law about students not in the system, but they felt those students should have access to school opportunities. "We might be able to coax them back," Ragen suggested.

Hodges had a stronger opinion: "Homeschool students should have access to our school's activities because they are peers of our students. This would foster better relations between the two groups. Besides, those families pay school mill levy taxes, the same as we do."

Senate President, 2 against their own party, thus weakening Republican power in the legislature.

In the next legislature he vowed to fix the property tax situation, eliminate tax on Social Security, push for school choice and declared, once again, there would be no sales tax in Montana.

Regier ended his speech admonishing people to vote saying the primary election will decide how the general election goes. "The primary election matters. We must demand that all voters be vetted before they are allowed to vote," he said.

County conservatives heard from most of the Republican candidates who are running for office. Candidates who spoke ranged from those running for US Senate District 2 and Montana Supreme Court down to the local Sheriff's office candidates.

Kurt Alme, who has resigned as United States Attorney for the District of Montana, will run in the Eastern District Senate race in Montana after Senator Steve Daines resigned the day before filing closed. Born in Great Falls, Alme graduated from Miles City High School. His degree is from University of Colorado and he has a law degree from Harvard University. He served as budget director during Governor Gianforte's first term. The former district attorney has been endorsed by President Trump and Gregg Gianforte as the man to hold the Republican seat for US Senate in the 2025 election.

Spokesperson Eliza McLaughlin gave a short statement from Senator Steve Daines. Dan Wilson who is running for State Supreme Court was not present. Others who touted their credentials to either run for office or rerun for office were Commissioner of Insurance, State Auditor James Brown, House District 77 delegate Jane Gillette, Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder, Elections Administrator and County Surveyor Angie Paulsen. Senator from District 39 Wylie Galt of Martinsdale also spoke. He is currently not up for re-election.

Those challenging incumbent County Commissioner Debi Randolph were Tim Ravndahl and Audrey Walliser. Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer read Debi Randolph's statement. Randolph was not present.

Two candidates are vying for the Broadwater County Sheriff and Coroner's office: Those who spoke were deputy Luis Espinoza, formerly of Gallatin County Sheriff's office and recently promoted to Staff Sergeant in the Army National; and Mark Wood, recently appointed interim Sheriff after the resignation of Sheriff Nick Rauser.

Tri County Republic Women's Club president Joy Navota ended the evening by congratulating Broadwater County Republic Women for their successful meet and greet this month at the Mint for Republic Candidates.

The evening was emceed by Precinct Committee President Ed Regan.

Helena Singer and Composer Bruce Anfinson to Perform in Townsend

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Montana's Musical Ambassador, Bruce Anfinson, will perform at the Lodge in Townsend Saturday, April 25.

The 6:30 p.m. program will feature Anfinson's well-known ballads, including "Backroads of Montana," the theme song of a Montana Public Broadcasting program.

A longtime entertainer, Anfinson has shared the stage with Merle Haggard, Doc Watson and Michael Martin Murray. He has performed in all 50 states and multiple countries.

The event, sponsored by Broadwater Community Theater, will include hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Babysitting will be available. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to www.bctmt.com or call (406) 980-0592.

Montana Cash Winning Ticket Sold at Bob's in Townsend

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Bob's Supermarket has announced someone in Townsend bought the winning Montana Cash lottery ticket Saturday night at the grocery store.

According to Tanya Klinkenborg, office manager, the owner of the ticket remains anonymous until he or she claims the ticket at Montana Lottery in Helena. The ticket is listed at \$535,323.

"Hopefully it was someone local," Klinkenborg said.

Correction to Lion's Easter Egg Hunt Story

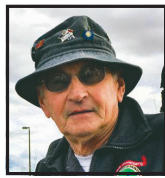
In Matt Nelson's article "Lion's Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt was Held at Heritage Park," published in the MT43News on April 10, it was incorrectly stated that Teena Larsen is the current Broadwater County Lions Club President and Dela Chatriand is the current Treasurer.

Dela Chatriand is the current Broadwater County Lions Club President and Teena Larsen is the current Treasurer.

Barnes
Jewelry
357 N Last Chance Gulch,
Helena MT
406-442-3000

Tree Board Preparing for Arbor Day Weekend

Pat Plantenberg
Tree Board



The City of Townsend has been designated as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for the 26th year!

The Townsend Tree Board will celebrate Arbor Day, Thursday, May 7. The Tree Board will announce the winners of the 2026 5th-grade Arbor Day Poster Contest and will plant a tree with the 5th-grade students and teachers. Tree planting will continue throughout the weekend of May 2 through May 4th.

The Tree Board will be planting many new trees in Broadwater County and in Townsend on public property in April and May with the help of our second Carbon Reduction Fund project from Graymont. Broadwater County High School horticulture class students, 4H Exchange Club and Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club members will be helping pot and plant the new trees. The Tree Board also received another small grant from Backyards of Broadwater County to plant trees this year.

The Tree Board invites you to help celebrate Arbor Day and the Tree Board's 35th year anniversary by planting trees now for future generations to enjoy in Broadwater County.

Montana Youth to Explore Meat Science "From Farm to Fork"

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



What: MSU Extension and Broadwater County 4-H will host the first-ever Meat Science Education Day, a hands-on learning event for 4-H and FFA youth from across Montana. The program includes live processing demonstrations, sausage making, cooking workshops, meat judging, and taste testing of under-represented species such as lamb, goat, and rabbit. This event offers strong visuals and interview opportunities with youth, educators, and agriculture professionals.

Who: 4-H and FFA youth from across Montana, MSU Extension educators, 4-H volunteer leaders and FFA advisors, Local producers and industry professionals

When: Saturday, April 25, from 1:00–4:30 PM

Where: Townsend Schools, 210 N Pine Street, Townsend, MT

Why it matters: Montana faces increasing demand for locally sourced meat, yet processors continue to struggle with capacity, workforce shortages, and long wait times. This program helps prepare the next generation of producers, processors, and informed consumers by teaching the full farm-to-fork continuum.

Helena League of Women Voters Compiles VOTE411 Online Guide for May Elections

Sue O'Connell
VOTE411 Committee

An online voter guide compiled by the League of Women Voters of the Helena Area provides information on the upcoming May 5 school and special district elections in a four-county area.

The VOTE411 website lists the candidates running for the various offices and includes the responses candidates provided – in their own words – to questions about their qualifications and priorities.

The site also lists the ballot measures voters will face, dealing with school, hospital, and ambulance district property tax levies and, in Madison County, hospital district boundaries.

The guide includes races for the following positions:

- in Lewis and Clark County, Augusta Elementary School District #45, the Canyon Creek Rural Fire District and the Lincoln/Lewis and Clark County Sewer District;
- in Broadwater County, Townsend School District #1;
- in Jefferson County, Clancy Elementary School District #1, Whitehall School District #2, and Jefferson High School District #1;
- in Madison County, Ennis School District #52, Harrison School District #23, Cardwell Elementary School District #16, the Harrison Rural Fire District, the Madison Valley Rural Fire District, and Ruby Valley Hospital District #1.

The VOTE411 site also has information on candidates for the Cardwell Elementary School District #16/31 seat.

Certain voters in both Madison County and Jefferson County are eligible to vote on that school board seat.

"We're so pleased candidates took the time to answer our questions and let voters know where they stand on the issues," said Cherri Jones, president of the Helena League. "The more information voters have, the better prepared they'll be to cast their votes in this election."

Ballot measures included on the Vote411 site for the four counties involve:

- a mill levy increase to fund the Lincoln Hospital District;
- a proposal to re-establish a combined Madison and Ruby Valley Rural Ambulance District and impose a mill levy to fund it;
- a proposal to split the Madison Valley Hospital District into two districts by removing the Big Sky Resort Area District from the existing hospital district to create a separate Big Sky Hospital District;
- school mill levy increases in the following communities: Augusta, Cardwell, East Helena, Ennis, Harrison, Helena, Montana City, Sheridan and Twin Bridges.

VOTE411 is a national online platform designed by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. For more than 15 years, VOTE411 has provided objective, nonpartisan information on elections in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

In addition to listing candidates and ballot measures, the site helps voters navigate state specific voting matters ranging from voter registration and voting requirements to the location of polling places.

Jones noted that VOTE411 is updated for each election in Montana, with information on the June 2 primary election to be available in early May.

"We encourage voters to visit VOTE411 to review their races and make a voting plan, not just for May 5 but for future elections, as well," she said.

Voters can access the information by going to <https://VOTE411.org/montana> then clicking on "Preview Your Ballot Info," and entering their address on the subsequent page. That will bring up a list of races and ballot measures specific to a voter's location.

Meet & Greet with Candidate for County Commissioner Reelect, Debi Randolph

This is your opportunity to meet with 2026 Candidates!



5:30 - 6:30pm April 29 @ The Mint:
Candidate for Sheriff and Coroner, Sheriff Mark Wood

5:30 - 6:30pm May 6 @ The Legion:
Candidate for Sheriff and Coroner, Luis Espinoza

Secretary of State Warns Montana Businesses of New Deceptive Mailing

Christie Jacobsen
Montana Secretary of State



Montana Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen is alerting Montana business owners about a new deceptive mailing that misleads new businesses by forcing them to pay exorbitant fees for various documents and registrations, including Employer Identification Number (EIN), Labor Law posters, and Certificate of Status.

The solicitation, titled "2026 Additional Business Documents Needed," includes phrases such as "REQUIRED BY LAW" in red ink, frightens and worries businesses by referencing fines as high as \$25,000, and lists urgent "respond by" dates, all of which can give the impression that the notice is an official government requirement. A brief solicitation disclaimer stating that the offer is merely an advertisement is intentionally written in small, nearly unreadable font.

"This mailing is designed to look official and scare new businesses into paying egregious fees for documents and services they can obtain directly from trusted government sources, often at a much lower cost or even for free," said Secretary Jacobsen. "I made a promise to make it easier and more affordable to do business in Montana, and I won't stand by and let deceptive solicitations undermine that work or take advantage of Montana's job creators."

The latest solicitation was brought to the attention of the Secretary of State's Office by a Montana business. In response, Secretary Jacobsen immediately sent a cease-and-desist letter to the organization responsible for the mailer, demanding that the deceptive practice stop immediately.

This is not the first time Secretary Jacobsen has acted to protect Montana businesses from misleading solicitations. Secretary Jacobsen previously issued a cease-and-desist order to a different company, successfully forcing that organization to halt its deceptive practices and safeguarding business owners across the state.

Secretary Jacobsen reminds Montana businesses that the services advertised in these types of solicitations are not required to be purchased from third parties, and the companies sending them are not affiliated with the Montana Secretary of State's Office, the IRS, the Department of Labor, or any other government agency. Official filings and records, such as Certificates of Existence, EIN applications, and labor law information, are available directly through government websites and the Secretary of State's online business portal at <https://biz.sosmt.gov/>.

Secretary Jacobsen also reminds Montana businesses to:

- Look for disclaimers or fine print stating that the document is a solicitation, advertisement, or not associated with a government office or agency.
- Ignore mailings or emails demanding large fees for filings or certificates.
- Do not send any money to these companies. You may contact them directly to request removal from their mailing list or simply disregard their notices.
- Share this warning to help protect your fellow Montanans.

ATV Poker Run Event Plans Move Forward

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce is asking its members to step up and volunteer for the June 6 event to be held at Top Gun Auto. Chamber officers are encouraging members to contact them to sign up for jobs and stations.

The large event, in past years, has hosted up to 300 ATVs from around the state to traverse the 100-mile run and win prizes. The event will include food, parking, gaming and lots of fun for participants.

Top Gun Auto, at 7675 US Highway 287 north of Townsend, has graciously offered their facility and parking lot as a staging area for poker runners and their vehicles, according to Doug Sitton, Chamber member and chairman of the committee. The event begins with sign-in at 9:00 a.m. To register for the event, go to www.townsendmtchamber.com.

In other business, Sitton and Tom Hay of Rocky Mountain Mini Cabins have moved forward with plans for the US 250th celebration on July 4 at Heritage Park.

Tim Pool at American Legion Post #42 is in charge of the parade on Broadway Street. Hay explained that the group was able to secure a small grant for signs and food, so a food truck will provide free dinners for everyone who attends. Townsend Rotary has donated some funds for the event, according to Sitton: "There will be lots of food, fun, music and hopefully fireworks. We haven't worked out all the details yet."

Secretary Rachael Brug reported a Montana Nonprofit Association training program for building communities will be held May 5 in White Sulphur Springs at Two Bassett Brewery. For more information or to sign register or for information, go to websites: www.mtnonprofit.org or www.townsendmtchamber.com.

The next Chamber meeting is planned for May 14 at Heritage Park at 6:00 p.m. It will be a potluck, and all Chamber members are encouraged to attend.

Weather Forecast April



Friday 24
High Temp: 42
Low Temp: 30
Wind: 15
Rain: 0.0
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Saturday 25
High Temp: 45
Low Temp: 28
Wind: 12
Rain: 0.0
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Sunday 26
High Temp: 48
Low Temp: 29
Wind: 17
Rain: 0.008
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Monday 27
High Temp: 52
Low Temp: 34
Wind: 10
Rain: 0.004
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

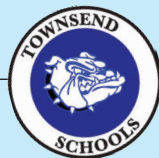
Tuesday 28
High Temp: 59
Low Temp: 40
Wind: 8
Rain: 0.0
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Wednesday 29
High Temp: 59
Low Temp: 45
Wind: 16
Rain: 0.012
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Thursday 30
High Temp: 60
Low Temp: 43
Wind: 6
Rain: 0.0
Snow: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Townsend School & Sports

APRIL



- Friday 24**
- **NO SCHOOL**
 - 10:00 am: High School Track @ Boulder
 - 10:00 am: Private Event - Community Room

- 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
 - 10:00 am: How Money Works (Free Class) - Library Classroom
 - 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 at Reading Leaves Bookstore

- Monday 27**
- 4:00 pm: FFA Banquet (Promethean Board) - K-8 Commons

- Mon 27 - Thu 30**
- 11:45am: 1st and 2nd Grade SEL

- Tuesday 28**
- High School Track - Top 10 @ Missoula
 - 9:00 am: High School Golf @ Three Forks
 - 3:00 pm: High School Baseball @ Butte
 - 6:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Taxidermy - Library Classroom

- Wednesday 29**
- Student Council Blood Drive - Community Room
 - 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Open Gyms - Pickleball, Basketball, Laps

- Thursday 30**
- Q4 Midterms
 - 3:00 pm: High School JV Track @ Corvallis
 - 3:00 pm: High School Baseball vs Dillon
 - 5:45 pm: Adult Volleyball - 1963 Gym
 - 6:00 pm: Old Baldy Beginning Taxidermy - Library Classroom

MAY

- Friday 1**
- **NO SCHOOL** - Teacher PLC Day

- Fri 1 & Sat 2**
- State Music Festival
 - 9:00 am: High School Tennis @ Billings

- Saturday 2**
- Middle School Track @ Big Sky
 - 9:30 am: High School Track @ Laurel

- Sunday 3**
- 2:00 pm: Old Baldy - Jam Sessions @ Reading Leaves Bookstore
 - 6:00 pm: Senior Banquet

East Helena Schools & Sports

APRIL

- Monday 27**
- 12:30 pm: Early Release

MAY

- Friday 1**
- Loyalty Day

- Saturday 2**
- 8:00 am: State Music Festival

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

APRIL

- Tuesday 28**
- 9:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting



- Wednesday 29**
- 10:00 am: Commission Meeting
 - 1:00 pm: Compensation Board

BROADWATER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL

- 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**
- 6:30 pm: Bruce Anfinson Live at The Lodge at The Lodge of Townsend **DETAILS ON PAGE 2 & 13**
 - 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

- Tuesday 28**
- 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 29**
- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
 - 5:30 pm: Meet & Greet with Broadwater County Commissioner, Debi Randolph @ The Mint **DETAILS IN AD ON PAGE 3**

- Thursday 30**
- 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

MAY

- Friday 1**
- 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 2**
- 6:30 pm: BCT: Queen City Swing Dance at The Lodge of Townsend **DETAILED AD ON PAGE 13**
 - 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

- Wednesday 6**
- 3:00 pm: Career Fair & Open House at Billings Clinic Broadwater **DETAILED AD ON PAGE 13**
 - 5:30 pm: Meet & Greet with Broadwater County Commissioner, Debi Randolph @ The Legion **DETAILS IN AD ON PAGE 3**

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 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.

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| QUESTIONS? MENU? VOLUNTEER? | STOP BY OR CALL AFTER 3PM (406) 266-3611 |
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LET US FEED YOU - AND TOGETHER WE CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY

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

Broadwater 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 14
@ Heritage Park
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

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

- Tuesday 28**
- 4:00 pm: Teen/Tween Switch Gaming

- Wednesday 29**
- 10:30 am: Storytime

- Thursday 30th**
- 3:30 pm: Mobile Memory Café

MAY

- Friday 1**
- 4:30 pm: Movie Matinee for Adults - "Forever My Girl"



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

Distribution days (1st & 3rd Saturday + 5th if applicable)
May 2 & 16: 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Donations of food items are accepted Friday May 1, 15 & 29: 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. May is Trailhead Fellowship Church.

For questions, donations appointments and emergency food supplies **call OUR NEW PHONE number (406) 916-0034.**

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY



A+ STORAGE
SEVERAL SIZES OF STORAGE UNITS
BOATS, RVs & TRAILER STORAGE
IN TOWNSEND, MT
WE ARE AVAILABLE WHEN YOU NEED US!
406-266-5377, 406-580-5425

ALLIED MACHINE
Quality & Service Since 1988
• RV Repair • Trailer Repair
• Pump Repair • Machine Work
• Aluminum Welding
406.266.3108
511 N. Front St., Townsend, MT

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

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

KOLAR TIRE 24/7 Towing & Roadside Assistance
Townsend, Three Forks and Helena
www.helenatire.com
(406) 202-1113

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

MADISON RIVER 7812 US-287 Townsend, MT 406-266-4278
PROpane
A THOMPSON GAS COMPANY
Metered Propane
Budget Billing
Lease Tanks
Service Department

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

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

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

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

Support LOCAL Businesses RESTAURANTS IN AND AROUND BROADWATER COUNTY

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



American Legion Hall
211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611
Dining Hours:
Tuesday= Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM
Thursdays 5:00PM= FREE Community Dinner
SPECIAL Event with Food:
St Patty's Day Meal:
5PM Saturday 3/14/26
Bar hours may vary

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

Kick Start Nutrition
500 N Front St, Townsend (406) 266-0033
Dining Hours:
Mon - Thu 7:00AM - 2:00PM
Fri - Sat 10:00AM - 2:00PM
Closed Sunday
Daily Specials:
Facebook & Instagram

The Betsy Sports Zone
217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001
Dining Hours:
Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close
Closed Monday
Takeout placed only in person.
Menu:
www.betsysportszone.com

Copy Cup
303 N Front St, Townsend (406) 980-8400
Please call in business hours.
Drinks and Pastry Hours:
Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM
Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM
Closed Sunday

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

Bread and Butter Cafe
205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025
Dining Hours:
Tue - Fri 7:00AM- 2:00PM
Sat 7:00AM- 12:00PM
Closed Sunday & Monday
Menu available on Facebook

Deep Creek Pizza Co.
415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002
Dining Hours:
11:00AM - 8:00 PM
Closed Sunday
Menu:
deepcreekpizzaco.com
Accepting Orders Online

Mountie Moose Bakery
109 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-5800
Dining Hours:
Tue - Sat 7:00AM - 4:00PM
Closed Sunday & Monday
Online Ordering:
Mountie-moose-bakery.square.site

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

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

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

C Hangin' C Mercantile & Creamery
310 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-9087
Dining Hours:
Mon - Fri 7:30AM - 7:00PM
Sat 8:00AM - 7:00PM
Sun 9:00AM - 5:00PM
Menu:
Facebook
changinmerc.square.site

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

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

Broadwater Area Restaurants
Contact MT 43 News, Monday- Friday 10 - 2, if you would like to talk about how to add your dining location and open hours to our paper!
406.266.0086 | 408 Broadway, Townsend, MT

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

Weekly SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

GONE GUY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sturdily built
 - 7 Evergreen-scented cleaning brand
 - 14 Cows' milk deliverers
 - 20 Perjurious way to be caught
 - 21 Transition zone between biomes
 - 22 Go on a trip
 - 23 "... at least"
 - 24 Hundredth of a peseta
 - 25 Cure
 - 26 Managers' evaluations of employees
 - 29 "Rope-a-dope" boxer in Ontario
 - 31 "Ltd." cousin
 - 32 Hit the slopes
 - 35 Tries to swat with an open hand
 - 39 2002 film with Jennifer Lopez and Raul
 - 45 "I have it!"
 - 48 Uno plus due
 - 49 Narrow ship passages
 - 50 Regulation of a computer network
 - 55 White wader
 - 56 1/24 of a day
 - 57 Torrid
 - 58 Capital of the Bahamas
 - 61 Try out for the role
 - 65 Realm that began with the reign of Charlemagne
 - 71 Monk's title
 - 72 Crumple (up)
 - 73 Mafia bosses
 - 74 Meadow
 - 75 Denials
 - 76 They were given to Moses on Mount Sinai
 - 79 Most energetic
 - 81 Humiliated
 - 82 Suffix with 52-Down
 - 84 Creamy cheese
 - 85 "May I see ___?" (diner's question)
 - 88 "Don't Cry Out Loud" singer
 - 94 Full of subtlety
 - 97 Little kid
 - 98 Plaza Hotel girl of kid-lit
 - 99 They deliver fuel and air from carburetors to cylinders
 - 102 National anthem in Ontario
 - 106 Fleur-de- —
 - 107 "Bad" cholesterol, in brief
 - 108 Worker's pay
 - 111 Bonn article
 - 112 What you have to do before entering seven answers in this puzzle?
 - 120 Actress Hedy
 - 123 Long rants
 - 124 Put new cables in
 - 125 To-do list
 - 126 Illustrious
 - 127 Loves to bits
 - 128 Rises from bed
 - 129 Insists
 - 130 Pastry chefs, e.g.
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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

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

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 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

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

NOTICE OF VOTING SYSTEM EXHIBITION AND BALLOT LAYOUT

Please note that the county's voting systems are on public exhibition at THE BROADWATER COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE at 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT, from April 27, 2026 through May 5, 2026. Please see diagrams of the voting system(s), ballot arrangement and instructions on voting below.

NOTICE OF METHOD OF COUNTING MAIL BALLOTS AND POLLING LOCATION ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Townsend School District No. 1 Board of Trustee mail ballots will be publicly counted on Election Day, May 5, 2026, starting at 8 AM at the following accessible polling place location: Clerk and Recorder Office located at 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT, as specified in 13-15-201, MCA, by the following method:

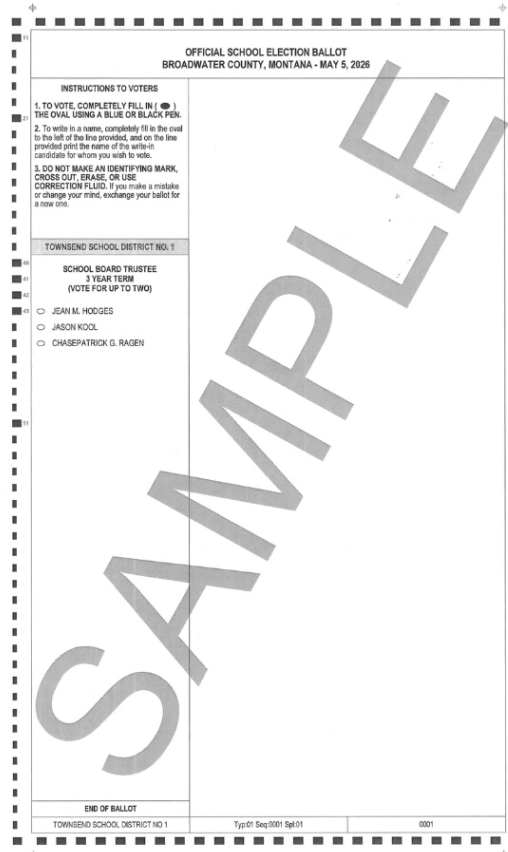
Counting by a voting system while the polls are open. Any person observing the procedures of the count must be sequestered with the board until the polls are closed and is required to take the oath provided in 13-15-207 (4), MCA.

Counting will continue after the polls are closed.

DATED this 24TH day of April, 2026.

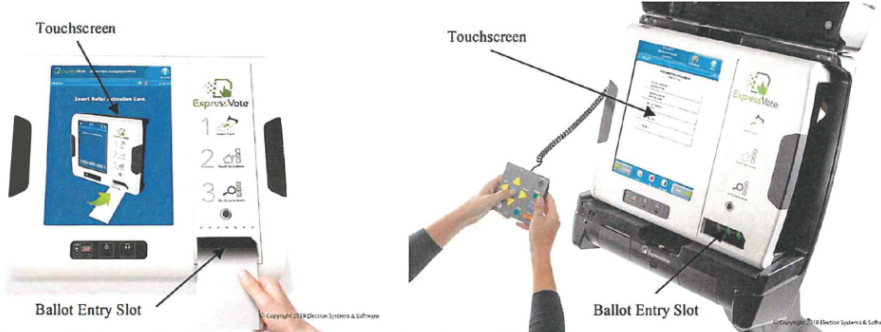
/s/ ANGIE PAULSEN
BROADWATER COUNTY
Clerk and Recorder | Elections Administrator | County Surveyor

BROADWATER COUNTY SAMPLE BALLOT TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 ELECTION: MAY 5, 2026



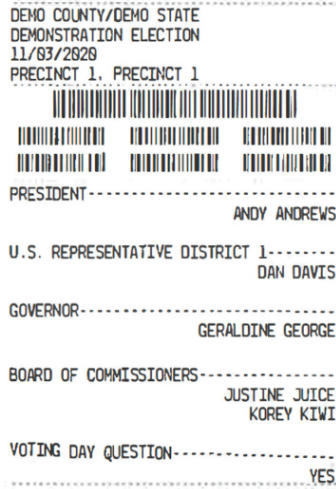
Published April 24, 2026

HOW TO VOTE ON AN EXPRESSVOTE VOTING SYSTEM



The ExpressVote is a ballot-marking system that is available for anyone to use during the upcoming election. Its main purpose is to allow voters with disabilities and other special needs to mark a ballot privately and independently.

1. Inform the election official that you wish to vote using ExpressVote.
2. You will be issued a ballot card.
3. Insert the ballot card into the ballot feed tray on the front of the machine.
4. The screen will display instructions and the ballot choices.
5. The following helpful options are available:
 - a. Change contrast and font size for readability
 - b. Audio headphones
 - c. Braille keypad
 - d. Connection for Sip-n-Puff personal device
6. Make your selections by using the touch-screen capability, or by using the keypad.
7. After you have completed your selections, the ExpressVote will confirm your selections on the screen, and by audio if you select the audio option.
8. After verifying your selections, the ExpressVote will mark and print out your ballot card.



- ← Election Information
- ← Barcodes of election information and votes
- ← Votes for candidates and measures are printed on the card.

9. Confirm your choices on the printed and marked ballot card.
10. Return the marked ballot card to the election official.
11. You can request help anytime during the process.

MNAXLP

Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!

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

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!

It's your future. Let's protect it.®

Dustin Gillaspie
410 Broadway, Townsend, MT
406.442.0456
fbfs.com/find-an-agent/
dustingillaspie

Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

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

Medicaid Changes - Informational Webinars

Montana Department of Health and Human Services

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is hosting informational webinars regarding upcoming changes to Medicaid resulting from the federal House Reconciliation bill (H.R. 1). H.R. 1 introduces new federal requirements that will impact how certain individuals apply for and maintain Medicaid coverage. These changes will primarily affect adults enrolled in Medicaid Expansion.

During these webinars, DPHHS will provide an overview of:

- Key provisions of H.R. 1 and associated federal requirements

- Community engagement expectations for certain Medicaid members and associated timelines
- Additional information on how you can help support clients

This session is intended to share currently available information. Guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is still forthcoming, and program details may be updated as additional federal direction is received.

There will be two webinar options available:

- The first option will take place on Tuesday, Apr. 28, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Registration is required - Register at: <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/DPHHSMedicaidRegister1>

- The second option will take place on Wednesday, May 13, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration is required - Register at: <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/DPHHSMedicaidRegister2>

Additionally, DPHHS will host a topic-specific informational webinar specifically for health care providers. This webinar will take place on Thursday, May 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Registration is required - Register at: <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/DPHHSMedicaidRegister3>

For more information on community engagement requirements and exclusions, visit <https://medicaid-changes.mt.gov>

DPHHS will continue to update the website as new federal guidance becomes available.

Justice of the Peace Report

Samuel Anagnostou
Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Harley Ternes – Helena – Speeding on National 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

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

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

Nathan Kosted – Helena – Speeding on National 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Mitchell Johnson – Belgrade – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Dawson Gunville – East Fairview, ND – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$120 fines & fees

Christopher Corcoran – Helena – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees

Lawrence Barnes – Townsend – Speeding on National 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

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

Michael Butner – Helena – Seatbelt Violation – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

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

Michael Mclean – Billings – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Alphia Fanuzzi – Emigrant – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Tyler Graveley – Avon – Reckless Driving, 1st offense – plead guilty - Court to defer imposition of sentence for six (6) months with good behavior and completion of other programs. \$285 fines & fees. Defendant to enroll and complete Alive at 25 Course within six (6) months.

Jimmy Hilario – Toston – Driving without a valid driver's license – plead guilty - \$85 fines & fees

- Fail to carry proof or exhibit/insurance in vehicle – owner or operator, 1st offense – plead guilty - \$275 fines & fees

- Aggravated Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs, 1st offense – plead guilty - \$1,075 fines & fees. Sentenced to one (1) year in Broadwater County Jail with the execution of all but two (2) days suspended for one (1) year with good behavior & completion of other programs. Defendant to enroll in ACT class within one (1) month, to be completed in four (4) months. Court recommends restrictive probationary license after payment of reinstatement fees, if defendant is otherwise eligible for said license. Homeland security hold.

Brian Warren – Montana City – Fail to give notice of accident by quickest means/ apparent damage over \$1,000.00, 1st offense – plead guilty - \$285 fines & fees

Christian Wyant – Helena – Driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked, 2nd offense – Found Guilty - \$325 fine. Sentenced to six (6) months in Broadwater County Jail with the execution of all but two (2) days suspended for six (6) months.

- Operate a vehicle which has not been properly registered – Found Guilty - \$75 fines & fees

- Fail to Carry Proof or Exhibit/ Insurance in Vehicle – owner or operator, 1st offense – Found Guilty - \$575 fines & fees

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Christian Torres Morales – Bozeman – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid

fines - \$70 fines & fees

Adam Stokes – Bozeman – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed night limit of 65mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

Jeremy Cross – Townsend – Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs, 1st offense – Plead Guilty - \$685 fines & fees. Sentenced to six (6) months in Broadwater County Detention with the execution of all but one (1) day suspended for six (6) months with good behavior and completion of other programs. Defendant to enroll in the ACT class within two (2) months, to be completed within four (4) months. Restrictive Probationary License recommended after payment of reinstatement fees.

Charity Lamere – Townsend – Fail to give notice of accident by quickest means/ apparent damage over \$1,000.00, 1st offense – plead guilty - \$285 fines & fees - Fail to stop and ID self after striking unattended vehicle, 1st offense – Plead Guilty- \$1,000 restitution to the victim in this matter. Sentenced to twenty (20) days in Broadwater County Detention with all but two (2) days suspended for six (6) months.

- Owner permitting operation of vehicle without liability insurance, 3rd offense – Plead Guilty - Court to defer imposition of sentence for a period of two (2) years with good behavior & payment of fines, including victim restitution. \$535 fines & fees.

Kayla Hurni – Helena – Aggravated Driving Under the Influence of alcohol or drugs, 1st offense – plead guilty - \$1,085 fines & fees. Sentenced to one (1) year in Broadwater County Jail with the execution of all but two (2) days suspended for one (1) year with good behavior & completion of other programs. Defendant to enroll in ACT class within one (1) month, to be completed within four (4) months. Restrictive probationary license recommended after payment of reinstatement fees.

- Careless Driving – plead guilty - \$85 fines & fees.

Shayne Trujillo – Helena – Reckless Driving, 2nd or subsequent offense – plead guilty - \$535 fines & fees. Sentenced to six (6) months in Broadwater County Jail with the execution of all but five (5) days suspended for six (6) months.

- Negligent Endangerment (Substantial Risk – Death/ Serious Bodily Injury) – plead guilty - \$575 fines & fees. Sentenced to one (1) year in Broadwater County Jail with the execution of all but five (5) days suspended for one (1) year.

Dennis White Quills – Browning – Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or drugs, 1st offense - \$685 fines & fees. Sentenced to six (6) months in Broadwater County Jail with the executions of all but one (1) day suspended for six (6) months with good behavior and completion of other programs. Defendant to enroll in ACT class within one (1) month, to be completed in four (4) months. Court recommends a restrictive probationary license after payment of reinstatement fees.

INITIAL APPEARANCE FOR DISTRICT COURT

Deborah Winslette – Macon, GA – Defendant was given curtesy appearance in Justice Court to have charges explained to them. The Defendant is innocent until proven guilty. The Defendant is charged with Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs – Not otherwise provided for in subsection 45-9-201(1) or (2) as well as Criminal Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Conditions of Bail set. \$2,500.00 bond. Waiver of extradition required prior to release. Given District Court Hearing Date.

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Jacob Huotari – Defendant was arrested on a warrant issued by Powell County District Court to answer a petition to revoke a suspended sentence. Defendant to be committed to Broadwater County Jail until transportation. No Bond.

Deborah Winslette – Defendant was arrested on a warrant issued by Gallatin County Justice Court for failing to appear. Defendant committed to Broadwater County Detention until transport or post bond. \$285 bond with conditions. If bond posted, Defendant to appear in Gallatin County Justice Court within ten (10) days.



Valerie Hornsveld
MT43 News Reporter



Judge Kathy Seeley presided over the following cases. County Attorney Kevin Bratcher brought the charges. The defense attorney Qasim Abdul-Baki, from the Office of Public Defenders, represented the defendants in all cases.

Michael Paul Taylor- Petition to Revoke hearing was held. Mr. Taylor denied all allegations with the Evidentiary Hearing set to be held on August 21, 2026.

Andrew Robert Anderson- Arraignment for his case was held. Mr. Anderson pleaded not Guilty to 2 counts of incest. The following dates were provided by the court for his upcoming hearings, Omnibus Memorandum must be filed no later than June 12, 2026, Pretrial hearing September 11, 2026 and Jury Trial October 5, 2026. The Court ordered that Mr. Anderson sign a waiver of extradition and go to the Broadwater County Jail for him to be booked and released before heading back to California.

Christopher Ballanger-Brooks- Initial Appearance and Arraignment. Mr. Ballanger-Brooks was charged with Assault on Peace Officer/Judicial Officer, and 2 counts of Criminal Mischief. Mr. Ballanger-Brooks pleaded Not Guilty to the charges. The following dates were set by the Court, Omnibus memorandum must be filed no later than June 19, 2026, Pretrial hearing October 16, 2026, and the Jury Trial November 16, 2026.

Douglas James Knight- Petition to Revoke hearing was held. Mr. Knight denied the allegations. An Evidentiary hearing is scheduled for August 7, 2026. Mr. Knight was released from jail. Mr. Knight must immediately upon release contact his Probation and Parole officer and continue to follow all previous conditions in place.

Jacob Huotari- Petition to Revoke, Bail Modification, and Admit/Deny Hearing- Mr. Huotari denied all allegations against him. An Evidentiary Hearing is scheduled for July 17, 2026. The Court lowered his bond to \$20,000. Upon bond payment Mr. Huotari must remain in compliance and follow all previous conditions in place.

Dwight Robert Murdough- Initial and Arraignment Hearings. Mr. Murdough was charged with 2 counts of Criminal Possession of Drugs with Intent to Distribute, Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs, and Possession of Stolen Firearm. Mr. Murdough pleaded not guilty to the charges. The Court set the following hearing schedule, Omnibus Memorandum, June 19, 2026, Pretrial conference, October 16, 2026, and Jury Trial, November 16, 2026.

For definitions of Legal Terms, visit the MT43 News website at: <https://mt43news-business-services.com/Legal Terms>

Townsend City Council Update

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter



The Townsend City Council on April 7 voted to separate two long-running fire-related agreements with the Townsend Rural Fire District, approved moving forward with a lease for Massa Park, and signed off on a short-term repair approach for the city's aging Well #1.

Mayor Vickie Rauser called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members Angie Wintrow, Nate Brown, Vivian Boaz, J.B. Howick and Peter Simon were present.

Fire agreements split for clarity:
Council members and representatives of the rural fire City Council, 8

City Council, 7

district agreed to untangle two documents that have been discussed together: a memorandum of understanding (MOU) focused on fire station facilities and property, and a separate mutual aid agreement focused on emergency response.

Council members said the MOU addresses shared building use, maintenance and ownership of Lots 17–19, while the mutual aid agreement outlines inter-jurisdictional cooperation during emergencies. During discussion, concerns were raised that mandatory language in the mutual aid agreement could be interpreted to require responders to leave an active emergency to answer another call, potentially creating safety risks and liability.

Council members also emphasized that “responsibility follows the apparatus,” meaning firefighters respond under the jurisdiction of the entity operating the vehicle they are on.

As part of MOU revisions, council members discussed property ownership: the City of Townsend owns Lot 17, and Lots 18–19 are jointly owned, with 50% owned by the city and 50% owned by the rural fire district. Council recommended verifying the ownership details through deeds at the courthouse.

Mayor Rauser was authorized to finalize the building-focused MOU with the mutual aid language removed. Council members said the mutual aid agreement will be handled separately by the Fire Committee, with a focus on flexible response protocols during simultaneous emergencies, clear liability assignments and command coordination.

Council member J.B. Howick said the city and rural department have informally shared costs and leadership for years, which has blurred operational lines. City fire volunteers Shawn Simon and Nichole Simon are working on clarifying responsibilities for billing, council members said.

Massa Park lease and letter to the family:

The council approved the lease agreement for Massa Park and also voted unanimously to send a letter to the Massa family regarding a request from Lakeside Distillery owner Jake Balliew, who has expressed interest in purchasing the property to expand his business.

Council members said the Massa family’s internal consensus remains unresolved and the family has indicated it prefers leasing the property to the city rather than selling. They also noted that a neighboring property

owner has declined multiple offers from Balliew.

The council directed that the letter express support for the distillery’s expansion and invite the family to reconsider a sale, while also stating that the city has no plans to purchase the property. Council members discussed the need to word the letter carefully to avoid the perception of pressure and to acknowledge the family’s rights and historical connection.

Parking concerns raised by distillery owner:

During public comment, Balliew told council members that vehicles have been blocking access to his distillery’s roll-up doors, particularly the door by the alley, and said an abandoned vehicle recently remained in place for several days. He asked the city to consider an ordinance limiting parking to 24–48 hours during business hours, suggesting a 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. window.

Mayor Rauser said the issue was not on the agenda and will be placed on the April 15 meeting agenda.

Water system update: Well #1:

Rauser said the city is dealing with issues at Well #1, which she said is 66 years old and has a casing hole that increases contamination risk. Council members reviewed three options: drilling a new well estimated at \$3 million; replacing the well screen for about \$20,000 but with higher contamination risk; or installing a blind flange to modify the current pump for about \$5,000.

The council unanimously approved the blind flange option, with annual maintenance and inspections every two to three years. Rauser said the approach was recommended by engineers at Robert Peccia & Associates (RPA) as a way to address the immediate issue while planning for a new well in five to 10 years.

Other business included an update that the city’s wage and salary matrix work is in progress, telecommunications review materials were distributed by the city attorney, and a committee of Simon, Boaz and Wintrow was formed to review the draft animal control ordinance for undefined terms and inconsistent language.

In roundtable updates, city fire volunteers said new recruits are nearing certification pending council approval, and the department is pursuing a FEMA grant of \$360,000 for turnout gear and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Public Works staff reported McCarthy Park’s playground is nearing completion, pool covers have been received, and the sewer lagoon blower unit replacement has been more costly than expected. The meeting adjourned on a unanimous vote.

Broadwater County Commissioners Agenda

Broadwater County Commissioners



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

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

Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, the agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting. Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. 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 28, 2026

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

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

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

10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder / Elections Administrator / County Surveyor, Angie Paulsen, 2026 Primary Federal Election designation of polling place and election judges for precincts

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Parker Chadwick Townsend Airport hangar lease

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Westside Trails Major Subdivision representative request approval of trip calculation deviation from 8 vehicle trips per day to 5.3 vehicle trips per day

10:15 AM Discussion/Decision, Carol Hatfield, Parks and Recreation Board Chair, request for use of Parks and Rec funds for Centerville Clean-up day preparation

10:20 AM Public comment on any subject not on the agenda, that the Commission has jurisdiction over

Thursday, April 30, 2026

9:00AM Commissioners attending Sandfire Mine Tour in White Sulphur Springs

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
lrlichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov

Jesse Swenson, Vice Chair
(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213
jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov

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

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

- Trust Board Meeting on May 12th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Meeting on May 12th at 1:00 PM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on May 12th at 6:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on May 14th at 5:15 PM
- Board of Health Meeting on May 18th at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on May 18th at 6:00 PM
- Three Forks Mosquito Board Meeting on May 19th at 3:30 PM
- Townsend Mosquito Board Meeting on May 19th at 4:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on May 19th at 7:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on May 20th at 6:00 PM

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

Townsend School Board Update

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter



Townsend School District trustees heard updates on student achievements, transportation challenges, and facility needs during the April 14 school board meeting, while approving a slate of spring contracts and staffing actions.

Board Chair Jason Noyes opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a reminder that public comment is welcome, but must respect individual privacy. No public comment was offered at the start of the meeting.

The Parent-Teacher Association reported progress on elementary school safety and family engagement. PTA representative Jocelyn Cahill said the PTA created a handout and video promoting safer drop-off procedures at the elementary school and plans to share the materials on ClassDojo and Facebook. Cahill said morning monitoring has shown improvement as families adjust routines.

The PTA also worked with Superintendent Brad Racht on posting “no cell phone use” signage for locker rooms, assisted with Kindergarten Roundup, and has volunteers helping in the elementary lunchroom. Cahill said the PTA is planning activities for Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4–7, and recently wrapped up Coin Wars, with second grade and seventh grade winning their divisions.

Cahill also shared parent feedback on elementary concerts. A PTA survey drew about 200 responses. Parents cited challenges with evening events for younger children, visibility and crowding issues, and the difficulty for working parents to attend daytime performances. Most respondents did support a move to daytime concerts. Cahill said a consistent theme was that any change should be announced well in advance and implemented at the start of a school year.

Transportation remained a key topic after another bus breakdown over the weekend. Bulldog Bus Lines representative Jeramy Rice told trustees the district is getting buses running daily—“sometimes three in a day”—and said the latest issue involved overheating on a return trip from Columbus for track. Rice said the bus was secured safely at Columbus High School, retrieved the next day, and is scheduled for repairs.

Trustees thanked Rice and Columbus staff for helping ensure students returned home safely.

Trustees also recognized student accomplishments, including highlights from FFA and career and technical education programs. Student presenter Cheyenne shared convention-related updates, including five state degree recipients—described as a Broadwater County record—and Aiden Kidder’s Star Placement award. The chapter also received second place from the Montana Department of Agriculture in the “Building Communities” category. Trustees also heard updates on FCCLA and SkillsUSA results, Academic Olympics success, and an undefeated Esports season that ended with a state championship.

Superintendent Brad Racht reported total district enrollment at 1,081 students and said Kindergarten Roundup distributed 67 kindergarten packets and scheduled 57 screening appointments. Racht also noted strong middle school testing gains and shared honor roll figures, including 23 students earning 4.0 GPAs.

Facility needs included ongoing issues with the 1963 gym sound system. Nancy Marks said an assessment estimated upgrades at \$17,030. Marks said \$15,000 in Pepsi funding is available and the district is applying to the Broadwater County Trust for the remaining amount, with electrical work still to be determined. Racht also reported an emergency lighting system failure estimated at about \$23,000, roof damage from a windstorm with an insurance claim filed, and flagpole damage.

Trustees also noted a recent visit from U.S. Sen. Tim Sheehy, who met with military families and spoke with students about space programs, including NASA’s Artemis mission.

In action items, trustees approved the certified collective bargaining agreement, the summer food program at Heritage Park, a bus contract with Bulldog Bus Lines, FCCLA national conference travel for Aiden Thompson, an out-of-district attendance agreement, a three-year superintendent contract for Racht, and volunteer approval for Daniel Truesdale. Trustees also approved multiple coaching hires, 21st Century program staffing, and contract renewals, with one contract not renewed.

The board’s next steps include pursuing funding for facility upgrades ahead of the next school year and continuing to address transportation reliability as spring activities ramp up.

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



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](https://www.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

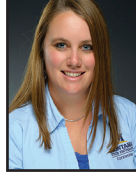
SENIOR CENTER



| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| SR. CENTER MEALS: | Wednesday, April 29 |
| APRIL 27 - MAY 1 | Spaghetti with Meat Sauce |
| 516 2nd Street, Townsend, MT 406-266-3995 | Carrot Raisin Salad |
| | Golden Corn |
| | Garlic Bread |
| | Fruit cocktail |
| Monday, April 27 | |
| Swedish Meatballs | Thursday, April 30 |
| Steamed Potatoes | Deli Sandwich |
| Green Peas | Potato Salad |
| Whole Grain Bread | Pickled Beets |
| Apricot Halves | Sweet Peaches |
| Dessert | |
| Tuesday, April 28 | Friday, May 1 |
| Roast Pork | Polish Sausage |
| Mashed Potatoes | Sauerkraut |
| Key Largo Vegetables | Steamed Potatoes |
| Whole Grain Roll | California Vegetables |
| Applesauce | Whole Grain Roll |
| | Pineapple |

Exploring Lawn Alternatives

Allison Kosto
 MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



Something about a lush green lawn is as American as apple pie. It's a tradition that built a whole industry dedicated to green spaces.

In some neighborhoods, it's seen as a status symbol where neighbors are counting the dandelions while peeking through the curtains. However, did you know that the average home landscape uses as much as 50 percent of the water in the household?! In addition to being a heavy water user, traditional turfgrass lawns have poor shade tolerance, don't do well on slopes, require high nutrient inputs and are susceptible to pests and diseases. Due to these issues, there is a slow trend to move away from traditional Kentucky bluegrass lawn to lawn alternatives.

Before you make any changes or even look at the options, it's important to analyze your goals and reasons behind having a lawn or yard. Do you have kids who play on it? Pets who run around? Do you just look at it? Are there areas of your lawn that you mow but never use? Break down your existing lawn into subareas to help determine the lawn alternative options.

One of the more common alternatives to turfgrass is clover or microclover. Microclover is a type of white clover that has smaller leaves and a lower growth habit. It is best mixed with lawn grass because, alone, it tends to be clumpy. The top growth also dies back over the winter which can create bare spots in the yard which are subject to erosion. Mixing it with lawn grass helps provide continued ground cover. In Montana, it still needs to be watered regularly, about 1 inch a week, so if you pair it with a minimal maintenance turfgrass like sheep fescue, it could make a good combination. Other downsides of microclover are that it is not drought tolerant, doesn't do well in shade or high traffic areas, and the seed is more expensive.

Creeping thyme is another option but is best used in smaller areas. It is a woody plant that does not die back each winter. The stems remain on the ground but do not have the soft texture of traditional lawns. It sometimes does not survive our winters if there is not enough snow cover. Creeping thyme also needs water and should even be watered at least once a month during the winter. However, it uses less water than a high maintenance lawn, has a lovely purple flower that makes a nice ground cover, and attracts pollinators.

There are a variety of other groundcovers, including carpet bugle, dwarf chamomile, creeping buttercup and goldmoss sedum. Most of these are ideal for subareas of the lawn and are not something that you would use throughout. For example, creeping buttercup is a good option for areas that have poor drainage and are often damp. Groundcovers can be weedy in certain conditions so pay close attention to keep it contained. Your neighbors may not want to be involuntary recipients of your groundcover.

Developing bee lawns is another popular alternative. This is using a combination of turfgrass and low growing flowers such as Dutch white clover, creeping thyme, self-heal and common violet. Bee lawns still need to be watered, especially to encourage summerlong blooming and should still be mowed.

If you don't want to mow often or at all, then a Prairie or Meadow lawn might be a good option to consider. This is the use of a landscape dominated by native or naturalized grass and flowering perennial plants to mimic a native meadow. There are many benefits to this type of lawn including little to no water, no fertilizer and minimal mowing. It also can encourage wildlife, improve water infiltration, reduce erosion and improve nutrient transfer. However, it can be tricky to choose the most appropriate grasses and forbs that can thrive in your landscape. It takes three years or more to start looking like a meadow and weeds can be an issue.

If you decide you want to maintain a large space for a traditional lawn, changing species of turfgrass can also make a difference and reduce water use. The most common turfgrass in Montana is Kentucky bluegrass which needs at least 2 inches of water a week. Sheep fescue is a drought tolerant species that can also be used in lawns. It requires half as much water as Kentucky bluegrass, only needing about 1 inch per week. Keep in mind though that by switching to a different grass, your lawn may lose its manicured sod-like look. However, you can still have a wonderful lawn that kids and pets can play on, and for you to enjoy.

For more information about lawn care or alternatives, contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu.

LETTER to the EDITOR



Dear Editor:
 While waiting for a ferry to cross a river in Ireland last September, I talked to an elderly fisherman (he was about my age) who had lived in the U.S. for 25 years. We commiserated about the poor fishing and exchanged a few friendly comments about life in our two countries. As the ferry approached and I started to leave he made a point of telling me: "Trump is ruining your country." I agreed.

Since then Trump has threatened to invade our NATO ally Greenland; blew dozens of boats out of International waters on grounds they were running drugs; kidnapped the president of a sovereign nation on grounds he was a drug lord and then pardoned the former president of another country who had been convicted in our courts of actually being a drug lord; started a war against Iran apparently at the behest of Netanyahu and against the advice of his vice-president and secretary of state and without consulting Congress - then asked them for \$200 million to continue his war; posted a picture of himself as Jesus; insulted the Pope, and threatened genocide on the people of Iran if their leaders didn't do what he wants.

He denies any obligation to consult with our NATO allies before attacking Iran but then gets angry because they won't bail him out when Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz.

It is time we recognize our president is mentally unstable and not competent to hold the office.

Sincerely,
Thomas Budewitz
 Townsend

What You Did After School Matters More Than You Think.

David Nelson
 Founder of ChuckBucket

Your after-school activities probably shaped you more than your GPA did - not your test scores; not the number of AP classes on your transcript. The thing you showed up for after the bell rang (the sport, the instrument, the program, the mountain) is what built you. It sounds like a reach, but the research backs it up, and honestly, so does my own life.

Passion plus perseverance - I read a book a while back called "Grit" by Angela Duckworth that kind of reframed how I think about success. Her research is simple and a little unsettling: talent isn't what separates the people who finish things from the people who don't - neither is IQ nor how many advanced courses you took in high school. It's grit: a combination of passion and perseverance toward something that matters to you. The best place to build it? - Outside the classroom.

Duckworth found that sustained follow-through in extracurricular activities (sticking with something year after year, getting better, being pushed by someone who believes in you) predicted college completion, leadership, and long-term achievement better than grades or test scores alone. The specific activity didn't matter: tennis, debate, robotics, skiing. What mattered was that a kid chose something, came back the next year and made progress. That's grit being built in real time. Most of the time the kid has no idea it's happening.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...If a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her; for her hair is given to her for a covering.

1 Corinthians 11:15

"Francoise" by Pablo Picasso (1946)

EAST HELENA AREA DEATHS

Donna Ellagene Anderson

Family of Donna Ellagene Anderson

June 18, 1943 – April 15, 2026

The family of Donna Ellagene Anderson is deeply saddened to announce her passing. Please check back shortly for a complete obituary and service information.

AREA DEATHS

Violet Linora Johansen

Family of Violet Linora Johansen

Violet Linora Johansen, age 90, of Townsend, MT, passed away April 13th, 2026.

Betty Devaney

Family of Betty Devaney

July 2, 1945 – April 19, 2026

Betty Devaney, age 80 of Townsend, passed away on April 19, 2026. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church, 20 Trailhead View.



Betty Devaney
Photo Provided by Family

Arlene Gail Nehring

Family of Arlene Gail Nehring

Arlene Nehring, 80, of Toston, MT, passed away April 18, 2026.



Arlene Gail Nehring
Photo Provided by Family

Rachael Brug
Staff Reporter



Townsend Airport Board members approved a new hangar lease, reviewed water well drilling quotes, and continued planning for the June 13 fly-in event during their April 15 meeting.

The meeting opened with public comment from Parker Chadwick, who told the board he had applied for Lot 13 and brought additional information requested by the board. Members said the next step was a completed lease. Chadwick provided the document and stayed for later discussion.

The board approved claims that included \$224 for fly-in postage and \$43,911 for road mix gravel. Members discussed that the expenses are being paid from the tax increment finance (TIF) fund and are expected to be reimbursed when grant funds are received.

For a new water well, Airport Board member Rob Baratz said he standardized three bids to make them easier to compare. A1 Drilling proposed \$55 per foot for an estimated

OBITUARIES

Victor Karlos Larson

Family of Victor Karlos Larson

Victor Karlos Larson, age 88, of Townsend, MT, passed away on April 11, 2026, in Helena, MT.

He was born on April 4, 1938, in Big Timber, MT, to his parents Carl and Opal Larson nee Cubbison. Victor grew up in the Gallatin area and attended Gallatin High School in Bozeman, MT. After completing high school, Victor furthered his studies by attending college in Minnesota.

After completing college courses, Victor started working for the United States Postal Service. He obtained the rank of Postmaster and worked at various locations as a Postmaster throughout Montana and Washington. After 35 years in the United States Postal Service, Victor retired.

Before retiring, Victor met his wife, Wava Larson. They were married on November 15, 1986. They spent the last 39 years together before Victor's passing.

As a true Montanan, Victor enjoyed his winters here and made the best of them. He enjoyed winter sports such as skiing and snowmobiling. Recently in his retirement, Victor enjoyed being outside and working on his yard. He was also very proud of his home in Townsend. Victor enjoyed the community and the lifelong friends that he made while living in Townsend.

Victor was a part of the local Elks Club and also a member of the United Commercial Travelers Club (UCT).

Victor is preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Opal Larson.



Victor Karlos Larson
Photo Provided by Family

He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Wava Larson; daughters Jann Gallier of Bozeman, MT, Marcy Larson of Townsend, MT, Vicki Walton of Benton City, WA, Rhonda Larson of Killingworth, CT; stepdaughter Gayle Thom of Helena, MT; a stepson, Dan Stevens of Moore, MT; five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Victor can kindly be made to the Gallatin History Museum, 317 W Main Street, Bozeman, MT 59715 or gallatin-historymuseum.org.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home, 212 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644. Please visit www.stevensonwilke.com to share condolences.

Connie Lee Thomas

Family of Connie Lee Thomas

October 10, 1951 – October 22, 2025

Connie Lee (Glowaski) Thomas, formerly Clemons, passed away in her home of over 30 years in Toston, Montana, on October 22, 2025, just 12 days after her 74th birthday.

Despite recent health complications, Connie maintained her trademark smile and stayed true to her tradition of ending every conversation with, "I love you" or "I love you all."

Connie was her children's protector. She was always there to listen, encourage, and love them, and she was never more than a phone call away.

Connie had a cautious nature, a quality shaped by several attempts on her life while living in Seattle. This led to a time when she reported a suspicious note on her car in Belgrade, only to be relieved to discover it was a playful gesture from a cousin.

We remember her as a fierce advocate for animals. At one time, she tried to rescue what turned out to be metal horse statues on a hillside!

Another testament to her character was a heroic moment at age 14, when she carried her injured cousin down a hill and across a stream to safety.

She held her childhood memories close, especially those of picking raspberries with her grandpa. She often shared stories of him with her aunt Lois and, because of their similar sense of humor, Connie would tease that Lois must surely be her real mom.

Connie shared a beautiful bond with her granddaughter through flowers, rhubarb, and many life secrets. Her family holds many joyful memories of her, from playing 45s and teaching dance moves to the "Yummy Yummy Yummy" soundtrack, to her teasing stories about her early days of "untrained" babysitting.

Even in her final days, Connie's spirit and humor remained intact. She joked about her hospital stay and her love for chocolates, maintaining a smile even while discussing her diagnosis. She will be deeply missed by



Connie Lee Thomas
Photo Provided by Family

all who knew her. We invite you to hold your memories of Connie close and remember the love and joy she brought into our lives.

Connie is survived by her daughter, Dina (Tim) Sapp; son, Jason (Rose) Clemons; granddaughters, Tegra Tufts (Janelle Britz), Sammie Clemons, and Elizabeth Clemons; grandsons, Alex (Sarah) Clemons and Mason Clemons; great-grandchildren, Zaiden, Maxton, and Olivia Clemons; sister, Pat Glowaski; brothers, Edward Glowaski Jr., David (Scarlett) Svaleson, Chuck Wilberg, and Cody Wilberg; aunt, Charlotte (Mervin) Lefferts; and many cousins, nephews, and nieces.

Services will be held at 1 pm on Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church, 20 Trailhead View Dr. in Townsend. A reception will follow the service in the fellowship hall of the church.

Service Schedule

Memorial Service

1:00 p.m. Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church, 20 Trailhead Lane, Townsend, Montana 59644

Reception

Following the Service

Airport Board Update

150-foot well (\$8,250) plus a pump and in-well pressure tank system (\$7,898), for a total of \$16,148. Old Town Drilling quoted \$70 per foot for an estimated 140 feet (\$9,800) plus a pump and pressure system (\$8,081), totaling \$17,881. Western Water Wells quoted \$50 per foot but did not include casing; after adjusting for drilling and casing, the estimate was \$11,857, plus a pump system (\$19,809.72) and a pressure tank estimate (\$1,453), totaling \$21,262.72.

Members discussed the pros and cons of in-well versus external pressure tanks, and Western's recommendation to avoid in-well tanks in favor of a heated enclosure. The board also noted a separate fire suppression system quote of about \$37,999.88, but said the timing is not urgent. The board voted to forward the well information to engineer Lance Bowser of Robert Peccia & Associates for review and recommendations.

Chadwick later outlined plans for a 44-by-40-foot, stick-built hangar with steel siding, slab-on-grade construction, and a diamond door with a 40-foot by 10-foot opening. The board discussed fire code requirements and permitting, including state electrical and building permits and FAA height

approval. Under the lease terms discussed, Chadwick has 180 days to start construction and 180 days to complete it, with lease payments beginning July 1. The board approved the lease for Lot 13/Hangar 13.

In fly-in updates, members discussed signage, traffic coordination with the sheriff's office, and the possibility of a Bridger Aerospace speaker focused on firefighting. Engineer updates from Robert Peccia & Associates included an airport layout plan in final review, an instrument approach pending conditions, and a beacon repair expected to be mostly salvageable.

The board also approved up to \$2,000 for an apron area for agricultural operators, based on a proposal from Broadwater County Public Works Director T.J. Gravely and subject to FAA approval. Members discussed drainage and a potential septic conflict that will require coordination with the county sanitarian.

The meeting concluded with a fuel pricing update: the current price is \$6.38 per gallon, based on an estimated \$0.83 margin over wholesale, with 3,900 gallons in the tank and sales exceeding projections due to improved reliability.

What You Did, 10

They're just having fun.

We're removing the resistance that builds character. Instant gratification has never had more meaning than in 2026. In a world optimized for convenience, everything is faster, easier, more frictionless than it's ever been. That's mostly good, but there's a quiet cost. We're slowly removing the resistance that builds grit in the first place. It goes beyond parenting style; it's a cultural phenomenon, which is exactly why programs like STOKE feel so important right now.

What is STOKE doing in Townsend, Montana? STOKE serves kids from sixth through twelfth grade, giving those who might not otherwise get the chance to access real activities led by people who genuinely care: skiing, pottery, cooking, horseback riding, robotics. It's not babysitting. It's actually hard things, with actual instructors, that require actual commitment. Jim Domino, Stoke's president, and the board behind him aren't just filling kids' afternoons; they're giving them something most adults spend years searching for: something that is worth showing up for; Something that challenges them; Something that (without them even knowing it) is building the passion and perseverance that will carry them through everything that comes next.

These kids aren't thinking about grit. They're just having a good time. That's exactly the point.

I know this because of a ski pass. When I was 11, my parents got me skis for Christmas (rentals, as it happened) and a ski pass sponsored by an after-school kids program. I can't recall many Christmas presents from my childhood, but I can vividly retell my first experiences on the mountain: Pizza! Pizza! Pizza! - Until eventually something clicked, the mountain opened up, and someone said "Hey, why don't we try

the second lift now?"

I was learning grit. First, the perseverance (just trying to stay upright), then later a deep, lasting passion for skiing. That passion became the reason I woke up in the morning. I didn't know I was building grit at 11. I was just having fun. But looking back, that's where it started. The drive, the love for the outdoors, the belief that hard and uncomfortable things are worth doing.

When we learned about what STOKE is doing (giving kids who might not otherwise get the chance to access the exact kind of experiences that build passion and perseverance), we didn't hesitate. We're proud to donate a Chuck Bucket to help haul more kids up the mountain. And even prouder to put our name next to an organization doing work this meaningful.

STOKE is building the next gritty generation. One ski run, one pottery class, one robotics competition at a time. The impact on these kids' lives (their confidence, their drive, their sense of what they're capable of doing) will compound in ways none of us can fully measure, but it's there. It starts with just giving them something worth showing up for.

Before you scroll on, sit with these three questions:

1. Do you have a passion that helps you persevere through hard things?
2. If you have kids (or plan to), are you giving them real opportunities to find theirs?
3. Is there a program, an organization, a kid in your community who just needs access to something that could change everything for them?

That's what STOKE is doing. It's what we all can do, in whatever way we're able.

Passion isn't found, it's built. And it usually starts after school.

OPI Announces Partnership to Promote Youth Outdoor Recreation

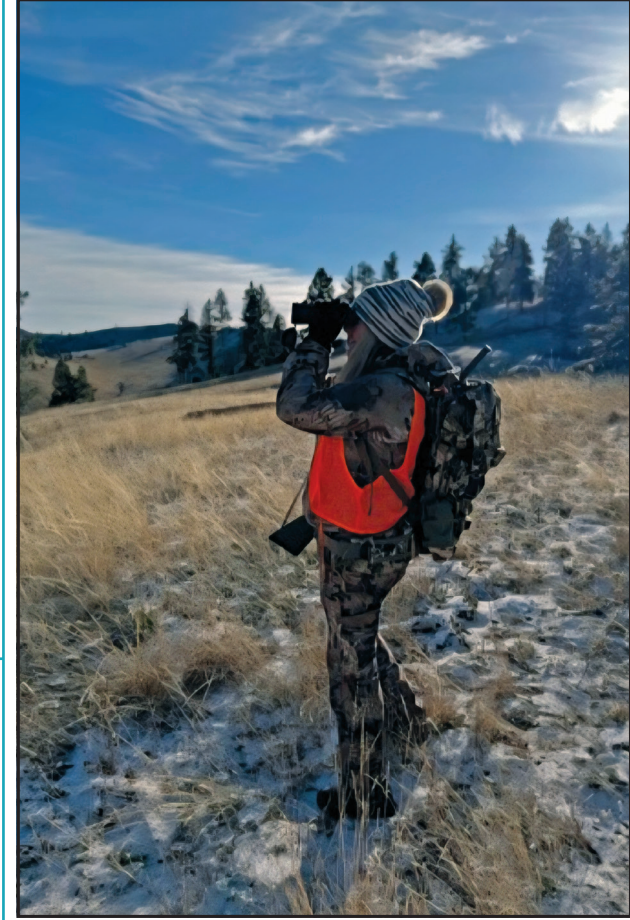
McKenna Gregg
Montana Office of Public Instruction

The Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is proud to announce a new partnership with Montana-based company onX aimed at encouraging students to safely explore the outdoors and embrace healthy, active lifestyles rooted in Montana's outdoor heritage.

Through this partnership, Montana students ages 12-17 who have successfully completed a certified hunter safety course will be eligible to receive a free one-year subscription to onX Hunt Premium. Students can participate by clicking the designated link, completing the form, and uploading proof of their hunter safety certification from Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

This effort highlights the importance of hunter education, which includes firearm safety, responsible outdoor practices, and conservation principles. It also includes the importance of understanding private property, block management, and public land access, all of which onX helps support. By incentivizing participation in hunter safety courses, OPI and onX are working together to promote responsible recreation and healthy outdoor activity among the next generation of outdoorsmen and women.

"Montana's outdoor heritage is one of our greatest traditions, passed down from generation to generation," said Superintendent Susie Hedalen. "As an avid outdoorswoman and hunter myself, I know firsthand how time spent outdoors promotes both physical and mental health. This partnership reflects our shared commitment to raising healthy, confident young Montanans who understand safety, responsibility, and stewardship. I want to sincerely thank onX for being such a strong proponent of this effort. Their dedication to conservation and public land access helps us inspire students to get outside, be active, and develop a lifelong love for our great outdoors."



Superintendent Hedalen hunting
Photo Provided

"Knowing where you stand isn't just onX Hunt's tagline, it's essential for every hunter," said Kevin Vine, Business Development Manager at onX. "onX is proud to partner with the Montana Office of Public Instruction to promote ethical and responsible hunting for Montana's next generation of hunters."

"These kinds of partnerships give an extra boost to our education program, which is critical for kids to learn how to be safe and ethical hunters, while also understanding the important role private landowners play in Montana's hunting heritage," said FWP Director Christy Clark.

Together, the Montana Office of Public Instruction and onX are investing in the next generation of healthy, informed outdoor leaders, fostering appreciation for conservation, strengthening communities, and celebrating the natural beauty that defines Montana. The OPI will continue working to expand access to hunter education opportunities across the state by encouraging more students to enroll in Hunter Education courses and supporting stronger partnerships between schools and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) to offer these programs. By increasing availability and awareness of these courses, OPI aims to ensure that more students gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to participate in Montana's outdoor traditions safely and responsibly.

For more information and to access the student submission link, please visit the Montana Office of Public Instruction's website:

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



STOKE Van
Photo Provided



You know it is finally spring in Broadwater County when the ditch burning starts! A crew burning out the Montana Ditch on April 14.
Photo Credit: Susan Ramsey, Townsend



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& Service ware
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406-502-1029
Weekend appointments available.



FLING INTO SPRING WITH QUEEN!
 Queen City Swing Dance

Price:
 Dance Ticket: **\$30** per person
 Dance Lesson Ticket: **\$15** per person

Time:
 Dance Lesson: **5:30-6:15 PM**
 Dance: **6:30-8:30 PM**

Location:
 The Lodge – **131 S Spruce,**
 Townsend, MT

Date: May 2, 2026
 Food included with Dance ticket.
 Donation bar for beverages.

Tickets sold at BCTMT.com & at the door

Bruce Anfinson LIVE at The Lodge Saturday, April 25th

Singer & composer of "Home is Where Montana Is," the theme song for the PBS show "Backroads of Montana," Bruce has been called "Montana's Musical Ambassador" by the Bozeman Chronicle. Having shared the stage with Merle Haggard, Doc Watson, Michael Martin Murray and many more, he's performed in all 50 states and multiple countries. Now he'll perform in Townsend, MT!

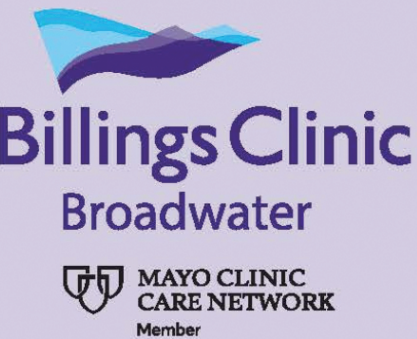
When: April 25th
Time: 6:30 PM
Where: The Lodge– 131 S. Spruce St. Townsend
Price: \$30 for 19 and older
 \$20 for 18 and under

Babysitting IS available!!
 • Hors d'oeuvres provided
 • Donation Bar: Beer, Wine, Soda

Learn more about the artist at www.charlierussell.com

Tickets for sale at BCTMT.com or at the door

Broadwater Community Theater



Career Fair & Open House

Now hiring for the following positions:

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- CNAs
- LPNs
- Emergency Care Provider - EMT/AEMT
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For more information or to apply, call **406-266-3186** visit billingsclinic.com/broadwater or scan here

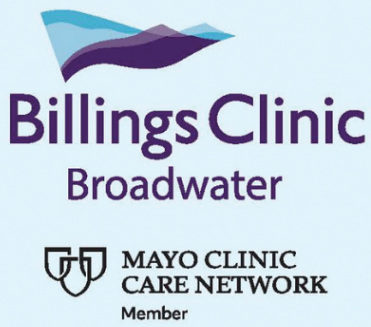


Wednesday, May 6
3 to 6 pm

Join us and check out our beautiful building, interact with some of the managers, apply onsite for open positions with our assistance, review our benefits, and more.

Refreshments will be provided.

110 N. Oak St.
Townsend, MT 59644



Welcome to Townsend

Eric J. Widmaier, MD

Family Medicine



Eric J. Widmaier, MD

We would like to welcome Eric J. Widmaier, MD to our community. Dr. Widmaier grew up in rural Western Maryland; where he was very active in 4-H, music, athletics, and outdoor pursuits with his family. While majoring in Biology at Ursinus College, Eric competed in Varsity Track and Field. He earned his medical degree at Penn State University and completed a Residency in Family Medicine at York Hospital in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Widmaier has 3 children. He resides in Townsend with his girlfriend Sarah, a critical care flight nurse. They have 2 dogs: Jaspur and Gracie.

Professionally, Dr. Widmaier brings over 20 years of experience in Emergency, Family, and Rural Medicine to Billings Clinic; as well as a Fellowship in Wilderness Medicine. In his free time, you can find him outside hunting, fishing, camping, or snowboarding!

He looks forward to serving and being an active part of the Townsend and Broadwater County communities for many years to come.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (406) 266-3186. billingsclinic.com/broadwater
 110 North Oak Street, Townsend, MT 59644

Clinic Hours:
 Monday - Friday
 8 am to 5 pm

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

April 23

1903

Local News

John Ross of Deep Creek carried a load of wheat for the Helena market Tuesday and Wednesday and Arnold Widmer of the same neighborhood carried a load of oats on Thursday and Friday.

J.R. Wine has discontinued his relations with the A.M. D'Arcy merchandising house at Radersburg and Add Turner has charge in his stead. Mr. Wine was highly pleased with his social and business relations with Crow Creekites and makes no bones of saying that the people with whom he has associated during the past six months represent the acme of human excellence.

Townsend furnished its quota of representatives to the cornerstone laying at the entrance of Yellowstone Park. Among those who took the train on Thursday were G.W. Gilham, W.H. McKnight, John Starkweather, Wm. Davis, Thos. McCormick and James Munden.

1925

Junior Prom

The junior Class of Broadwater County High School is giving the annual Junior Prom in honor of the Seniors at the Townsend Auditorium on May 1. The hall is to be decorated in order to produce a May Day effect.

The Grand March, which will be followed immediately

by the crowning of the May Queen, will begin promptly at nine thirty o'clock.

Anna McClure was elected by the Junior Class as the Queen. Elaborate preparations are being made by the Juniors for the crowning. There will be a Maypole and May dance by a few of the girls of the public school.

The music will be furnished by the Broadwater Syncopators. The supper will be served in the I.O.O.F. hall by the Rebekah Lodge.

Winston News

The primary children who have been neither tardy nor absent during the month ending April 17 are Marylin Blever, Marjorie Miers, Rosella Mires, May Moody and Erma Sass.

A dance was given at the Mires Hall on Saturday of last week by the Crescent Orchestra from Townsend. A good time was enjoyed by all.

Warren Myles is out of school with the measles. Con Sweeney has a new Ford Sedan.

1953

Crow Creek News

Birthday Party

Jimmie Webb celebrated his 8th birthday on April 3rd. Guests invited to help him enjoy the occasion were Barry Seaman and Billy Harris of Radersburg and Clifford Cox of the valley. Games were played, followed by ice cream and cake.

Toston News

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Seery of Helena were visiting Mr.

and Mrs. Jim Greaves on Tuesday.

The Toston Post Office is the scene of much activity these days. It has been moved up to the front of the Mitchell building and is being painted inside and out and the floors are in the process of sanding and refinishing. The carpentry work was done by Frank Hargrove and the other work by Wayne Miller.

Mrs. Grace Sitton of Townsend called at the Pete Greaves home Monday.

Kathy Anderson and Mrs. Jesse Knight spent Sunday at Alhambra.

1970

East of Townsend

Denise White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barry White, was released Friday from Shodair Hospital, where she had been a patient following a fall in which she broke her collar bone.

Miss Carynn Bieber returned Sunday by plane from Seattle. Le Roy will remain in Seattle for a while.

Shirley Collins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Colling, celebrated her 11th birthday April 19, and the following guests spent the day: Mrs. Andy Johnson, Ruth, Reba, Rita and Ruby, Mrs. Nick Helner, and Mrs. Esther Stroh of Helena.

Warren Toombs was six years old April 20, and he celebrated with a party given by his mother, Mrs. Raymond Toombs on Tuesday afternoon. Guests attending were Johnny Ryan, Jan Bingham, Craige Harrison, Julye Vesely, Angelia Carmody, Andrea Bruce, Robbie Gillespie, Steve Ballard, John Lukes and Pam Wilson.



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- 20% off All Primers
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- 20% off SIMPSON STRONG TIE
- 20% off the BUILDING SUPPLY ROOM

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New STOKE Aviation Program for Townsend Kids

Matt Nelson



In Townsend, in addition to nine other STOKE youth events going on, a new one is just being started, which is centered around aviation. (STOKE stands for SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, OUTDOORS, KNOWLEDGE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP. The Stoke Montana website is <https://stokemt.org/>.) Broadwater/Townsend Airport Manager Dwight Thompson is leading the effort, along with Townsend's STOKE Program Director Candice

O'Hara. The Vice-President of STOKE in Townsend is Tina Homann.

There was an Aviation Career Day at Helena Airport on Friday, April 3rd. It was free and open to kids in the 6th to 12th grades. A dozen girls and boys met up at The Lodge and participated. Tina drove the kids to Helena in the STOKE van that somebody donated.

"Do you look up at the sky and wish you were there? Now you can be! STOKE is working with the Helena chapter of Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) to learn about aviation scholarship opportunities & career opportunities such as becoming a pilot, ATC controller, aircraft mechanic, and more!" (STOKE website)

Upon arrival at the Helena airport, the group first went to Montana Aeronautics and met with Barbara Barnum, the Aviation Program Coordinator, and two pilots, Steven Torske, who is the Aviation Program Manager, and Kelly Atkins, the Aviation Support Officer. Steve inspects every public airport in Montana, both by flying over them and doing ground inspections. The students eagerly climbed into the cockpits of two planes that Montana Aeronautics owns. One is a 1975 Beech A36 and the other is a 1999 Cessna 206.

After that, everybody went to Sky Service (formerly Exec Air) for a session about many of the steps students must go through to earn their pilot licenses, which was led by pilots Brenna Youmans, the Vice President of

the Helena Chapter 344 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Michelle Petrina, the President of this organization, and Martin Petrina who is a First officer at Delta Airlines and previously was a SkyWest captain. It was quite comprehensive and enjoyable.

In addition to this, the students were able to register to become Young Eagles. The purpose of the Young Eagles Program is to introduce kids to aviation. Over the years, over 2 million participating kids around the country have been given free Young Eagles flights by volunteer EAA pilots. Often, these were the kids' first flights. Many have gone on to receive their private pilot's license. Some have even gone further to become commercial and/or military pilots.

After the tour of the planes, lunch was bought by the STOKE organization. One participant said that she now wanted to be a pilot because of her experience that day! Another girl said she is thinking about joining the Air Force!



Townsend STOKE aviation students, some parents, and flight instructors are standing in front of a fantastic looking 1944 Howard DGA-15 airplane. Photo Credit: Matt Nelson