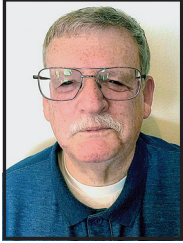


Townsend Middle School Students Visit Radersburg

Victor Sample



On April 29, Preserve Broadwater History, the Broadwater County Museum, Radersburg Historical Preservation, Inc. (RHPI), and the Radersburg Cemetery hosted the Townsend Schools 7th-grade class's 6th annual outing at the historic Radersburg School.

The 7th-grade class is the class that studies Montana History and Radersburg has a very rich history!

Linda Huth (Broadwater County Museum Curator) started off the outing by giving an interesting and entertaining history of Radersburg. All of the students were enthralled with Linda's presentation.

After the presentation, the students were given a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and water. Bob's Supermarket generously donated the hamburgers and buns.

Chef Bob Tootell cooked the hamburgers while Barb Mock, Gary Richtmyer and Vic Sample served lunch to the students.

The students were given time to run off some energy outside, then went to the Radersburg historic Methodist Church. Victor Sample talked about the founding of the Church by Brother Van Orsdell. He also pointed out the site where the Jefferson County Courthouse stood and talked about the history of the Courthouse.

The trip finished with a visit to the Radersburg cemetery. Jackie Smith of the Radersburg Cemetery Association hosted the students as they researched the cemetery AND had ice cream bars and popsicles.

We really appreciate teachers Dave Lawson and Andra Tullos for taking the time to bring the students to Radersburg.

We would also like to thank Bob's Supermarket for helping us make the trip possible with the donation of \$100.00 worth of food.



Townsend Middle School 7th-grade class, along with teachers David Lawson and Andra Tullos.
Photo Credit: Victor Sample

"In an upset in the Townsend School District #1 board trustee race, Jean Hodges, has won a seat on the board." School Board Election Results on Page 7

Alice Brummer: From the Fireline to a Space Grant

Megan Strickland

Montana Tech Marketing and Communications Specialist

Alice Brummer didn't expect that fighting wildfire would help launch her toward a NASA-related internship, but looking back, the connection feels almost inevitable.

A second-year computer science student at Montana Technological University, Brummer was recently awarded a Montana Space Grant Consortium Autonomous Aerial Systems Office internship, a competitive, paid opportunity that will place her in aerospace research focused on drone technology and wildfire applications. The Montana Space Grant Consortium was established in 1991 as a component of NASA's National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program.

"Words can't describe how excited I am for this opportunity," Brummer said.

The path to the internship began well before she ever applied.

Brummer, who grew up in Townsend, chose Montana Tech for its strong computer science program and hands-on learning environment. Inspired by her father, a computer scientist, she arrived on campus already interested in how technology works beyond the screen. She's drawn more to hardware and systems than software alone.

That interest deepened after an unexpected experience the summer before college, when she signed up to work as

a wildland firefighter.

"At the time, I thought it could be a career path for me, but afterwards, I realized I could combine my computer science knowledge with firefighting," she said.

What she gained went far beyond a paycheck. On one fire, Brummer helped guide a division leader to a smaller blaze, an experience that demonstrated both awareness and leadership under pressure. At the time, she didn't fully understand how that moment might shape her future.

"I have always been some kind of a leader," she said. "But being around the firefighting environment showed me how important it is to make the right choices at the right times."

At Montana Tech, a conversation with peers connected her to the Montana Space Grant Consortium, a program administered through Montana State University that provides students across the state with access to NASA-related research opportunities. Brummer applied, highlighting both her field experience in wildfire response and her academic background in computer science.

That combination stood out.

This summer, she will work on drone systems designed for wildfire environments, building controllers and contributing to technologies that can detect heat signatures, monitor conditions, and ultimately make firefighting safer and more efficient.

"I've always loved working with hardware systems, and I know I would excel," she said.

Her internship will begin in Missoula, where much of the research is currently based, with potential opportunities to continue work at NASA facilities in the future.

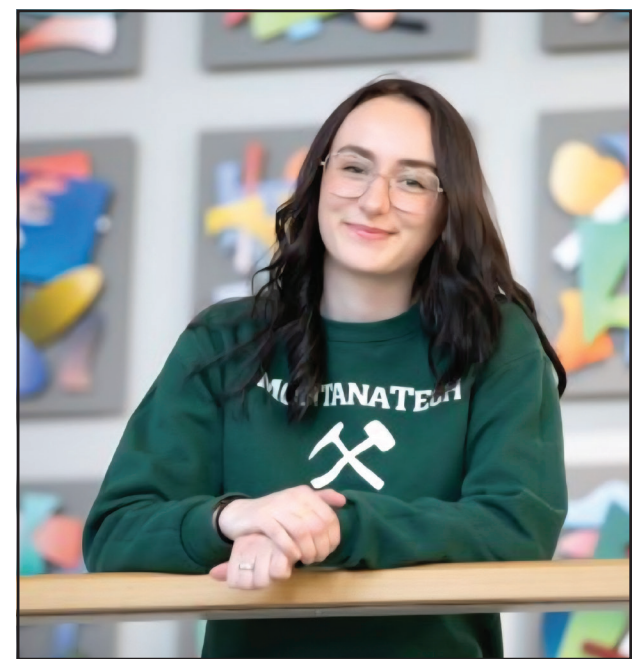
The work sits at the intersection of several rapidly evolving fields: aerospace engineering, environmental monitoring, and autonomous systems. For Brummer, it also connects directly back to the risks she saw firsthand on the fire line.

"It's a super dangerous environment," she said. "A lot of people are putting themselves into situations where quick thinking is very important."

Her goal is to use technology to reduce that risk.

"My main goal is to be able to help other people by creating those drones to keep people safe," she said.

In her coursework, she's already beginning to build the technical foundation for that work. An embedded systems class has introduced her to circuits and microcontrollers, where she's learning to program hardware components like sensors, lights, and signal systems, skills directly applicable to drone development.



Alice Brummer
Photo Credit: Montana Tech

"Using Raspberry Pis, we are converting analog into digital inputs," she said. "Later on, I'll be able to program a computer to tell a drone exactly what I want it to do."

As drone technology advances, so does the need for secure, U.S.-developed systems. Brummer noted that recent shifts in policy have increased demand for domestically built drone controllers and software, opening new opportunities for engineers and computer scientists.

"It's our job to create our own controllers for drones," she said. "We're always asking how we can modify and improve them."

Though still early in her academic career, Brummer is beginning to see a clear direction for her future. It's one that blends hands-on engineering with real-world impact.

"I have a good feeling this could be a career for me moving forward," she said.

She also hopes her experience sends a message to others, especially women considering careers in STEM fields where they remain underrepresented.

"The only way that you're going to be limited is if you limit yourself," she said. "You can't listen to the people who don't know what you're capable of."

From a small-town classroom to wildfire lines and now to aerospace research, Brummer's path has been anything but linear. But each step, planned or not, has contributed to where she stands now: on the edge of a career that could help reshape how technology supports those on the front lines of wildfires.

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PLAYERS of the WEEK



Tennis - Emma Delgado
 Townsend Booster Club Photo

Baseball - Wyatt Hensley
 Townsend Booster Club Photo


Golf - Jace Mainwaring
 Townsend Booster Club Photo

Golf - Claire Swanson
 Townsend Booster Club Photo

Track Boys - Tannen Tuffelmire
 Townsend Booster Club Photo

Track Girls - Aspen Slyker
 Townsend Booster Club Photo

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MT 43 News

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Weather Forecast MAY



Friday 8 High Temp: 69 Low Temp: 47 Wind: 13 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Tuesday 12 High Temp: 76 Low Temp: 52 Wind: 13 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Saturday 9 High Temp: 62 Low Temp: 47 Wind: 11 Rain: 0.008 Cloud Cover: 100	Wednesday 13 High Temp: 78 Low Temp: 54 Wind: 10 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 90
Sunday 10 High Temp: 75 Low Temp: 45 Wind: 10 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Thursday 14 High Temp: 89 Low Temp: 56 Wind: 18 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 87
Monday 11 High Temp: 82 Low Temp: 53 Wind: 24 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	

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Buying, Selling, Trading



BHS Golf Team Plays in Three Forks

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter



On Tuesday, April 28th, the Bulldogs Varsity Golf team travelled to Three Forks to compete. Eight teams played. The boys' team finished in first place; the girls' team finished in third place.

Alex Weiss led the boys' team, shooting an 82. He finished 4th overall. Caleb Swanson finished in 6th and shot an 85. Jace Mainwaring shot an 89 and finished in 8th place. Gunner Cox ended in 10th and shot a 90.

Jazel Ragen led the girls, shooting a 92 and tying for 5th place. Louie Parr and Brynlee Brown both shot a 107 and tied for 15th place. Claire Swanson shot a 118 and placed 19th.

The BHS golf teams will travel to Ennis on Monday, May 4th. After that, they travel to Anaconda to compete on the Old Works golf course on Thursday, May 7th.



The Bulldog's Alex Weiss watches his drive during last week's meet at Three Forks
Kelly Morris Photography



The Lady Bulldog's Claire Swanson with a putt during last week's meet at Three Forks
Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldog's Jace Mainwaring tees off during last week's meet at Three Forks
Kelly Morris Photography



The Lady Bulldog's Louie Parr tees off during last week's meet at Three Forks
Kelly Morris Photography

Bulldog Track: Russ Pilcher Top 10 Meet in Missoula

MT43 News Sports Reporter

The Montana track and field season has officially entered an exciting section of the schedule where three regions of the state host meets that feature top athletes regardless of class. The Russ Pilcher Top 10 meet in Missoula was the first such meet, being held last Tuesday, April 28th, featuring the top competitors in the West.

The North and South regions host their Top 10 meets in Sidney and Laurel on Tuesday, May 5th. Our Broadwater Bulldogs sent four athletes to this elite event.

Senior Trace Giomi made his first appearance at the prestigious meet in both the discus and shot put. He managed a pair of 6th place finishes with tosses of 141'8" and 46'2". Fellow senior Kaitlyn Noyes qualified in both horizontal jumps, where she marked a distance of 16'2" in the long jump to finish 8th and a triple jump of 32'11.75" to place her 9th.

Junior Kyla Meissner qualified for the Top 10 meet in the 800-meter, 1600-meter and 3200-meter runs. Distance runners generally will not run in more than one race at a time-shortened meet like this, so she chose to focus on the one-mile distance where she ran her personal best time of 5:08.27 which placed her 3rd. Fellow junior Jim Tew landed a long jump of 19'10" to finish 8th in his first appearance at Top Ten.

The entire Bulldog track team traveled to the Laurel Sports Complex for the Harlo/Park City Invitational Meet on Saturday, May 2nd, along with 23 other schools. The ladies outscored Huntley Project by one point to secure their first team victory of the season, while the men tallied 43 points to tie for third.

Girl's Varsity: 100-meter dash: 7 Elaine MacDonald 14.01, 13 Holly Newman 14.36, 26 Alexis Fryer 14.81, 33 Logan Barkhurst 14.98, 41 Savannah Paulsen 15.31, 45 Hannah Hildreth 15.53. 200-meter dash: 2 Kaitlyn Noyes 27.05, 4 Elaine MacDonald 27.45, 10 Alexis Fryer 30.36, 27 Logan Barkhurst 30.74, 37 Hannah Hildreth 32.21. 400-meter dash: 2 Kaitlyn Noyes, 1:01.45, 4 Elaine MacDonald 1:03.87, 21 Logan Barkhurst 1:10.32, 27 Abigail Allen 1:12.75, 30 Alexis Fryer 1:15.02, 34 Sarah Morgan 1:21.25.

110-meter hurdles: 4 Aspen Slyker 17.66, 10 Holly Newman 18.43, 14 Emmalin Fischer 18.70, 21 Savannah Paulsen 20.05, 27 Cheyanne Douglas 22.68. 300-meter hurdles: 6 Aspen Slyker 49.61, 24 Cheyanne Douglas 1:08.97. 4x100-meter relay: 1 E. Fischer, E. MacDonald, A. Slyker, K. Noyes 50.99. 4x400-meter relay: 4 E. Fischer, L. Barkhurst, A. Slyker, E. MacDonald 4:28.92.

Shot Put: 23 Mishayla Lambott 26'10", 24 Tayleigh Anderson 26'6", 33 Kinsley Heggen 23', 53 Alex Bakken 20'6". Discus: 11 Kinsley Heggen 84;2", 28 Mishayla Lambott 69'7", 35 Tayleigh Anderson 67'1", 54 Alex Bakken 52'9",



Trace Giomi, Kyla Meissner, Kaitlyn Noyes, and Jim Tew represented the Bulldogs at the Top Ten Meet in Missoula
MT43 News Photo

67 Annabelle Kline 38'9". Javelin: 35 Aspen Slyker 73'11", 41 Kinsley Heggen 70'1", 45 Tayleigh Anderson 68'7", 65 Mishayla Lambott 60', 69 Alex Bakken 58'3".

Long Jump: 14 Holly Newman 14'6.25", 34 Emmalin Fischer 12'11.5", 59 Abigail Allen 11'2.25". Triple Jump: 4 Kaitlyn Noyes 32'3.25". High Jump: 2 Kaitlyn Noyes 5'2", 7 Holly Newman 4'10".

Boy's Varsity: 100-meter dash: 5 Tannen Tuffelmire 11.93, 21 Heston Vandenaere 12.42, 26 Logan Johnson 12.59, 37 Ryker Moos 12.79. 200-meter dash: 26 Heston Vandenaere 25.20, 41 Logan Johnson 26.06, 47 Ryker Moos 26.79, 59 Sawyer Harrigfield 28.62, 47 Ryker Moos 29.13. 400-meter dash: 20 Rylan Hoveland 56.52, 21 Logan Johnson 56.60.

800-meter run: 4 Gavin Greene 2:11.68, 8 Clayton Rice 2:25.45, 9 Rylan Hoveland 2:25.83, 18 Gavin Johnson 2:34.04. 1600-meter run: 4 Gavin Greene 4:45.36, 18 Clayton Rice 5:19.92, 27 Gavin Johnson 5:41.37.

110-meter hurdles: 5 Jim Tew 16.81, 6 Tannen Tuffelmire 16.93, 10 Tavyn Anderson 18.35. 300-meter hurdles: 5 Tannen Tuffelmire 43.20, 10 Tavyn Anderson 45.49. 4x100-meter relay: 4 H. Vandenaere, J. Tew, L. Johnson & T. Tuffelmire 45.90. 4x400-meter relay: 8 H. Vandenaere, L. Johnson, R. Moos, R. Hoveland 3:48.01.

Shot Put: 2 Gavin Schmele 48'2.5", 3 Trace Giomi 47'6.25", 17 Pat Gossard 37'11.755", 29 Tanner Bird 34'9.75", 52 Braylon Rice 31'3", 81 Creighton Wright 24'5.5". Discus: 7 Gavin Schmele 127'1", 10 Trace Giomi 119'7", 15 Tanner Bird 110'5", 25 Pat Gossard 99'7", 35 Marek Easter 95'1", 86 Creighton Wright 55'5". Javelin: 5 Tavyn Anderson 145', 13 Pat Gossard 125'8", 19 Marek Easter 117'10", 38 Tanner Bird 105'4", 49 Trace Giomi 96'1", 68 Sawyer Harrigfield 78'2".

Long Jump: 3 Jim Tew 20'2.25", 16 Tavyn Anderson 18'5.5", 39 Max Wickens 16'8.25", 40 Ryker Moos 16'8", 42 Marek Easter 16'7.5", 63 Tyler Brake 12'11.75". Triple Jump: 9 Jim Tew 39'2", 15 Tannen Tuffelmire 38'2.25", 18 Tavyn Anderson 36'11.5", 12 Tannen Tuffelmire 37'9", 26 Heston Vandenaere 35'11.25", 33 Ryker Moos 33'9.25", 34 Max Wickens 33'4.25". High Jump: 7 Jim Tew 5'8", 31 Max Wickens 5'2".



Trace Giomi has the best discus throw for all of Class B this season (and the 6th best shot put toss).
MT43 News Photo



Senior Kaitlyn Noyes is now qualified for state in all five of her individual events: 200, 400, high, long, and triple jump.
MT43 News Photo

Bulldog Baseball Against Dillon: Page 12

Tennis Teams Play in Billings

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter

On Friday, May 1st, the Bulldogs tennis team travelled to Billings to play in the Billings Invite tournament. More than ten teams played. The Bulldogs were able to dual 6 teams and tied one of them.

The first dual was against Three Forks. The Bulldogs won 6 matches and only lost 2. Jacey Brunette won her match at one singles in a tie breaker, 6-4, 2-6, 11-9. Harper Wolfgram won her match at two singles 6-2 and 6-3. Bella McDaniel won her match at 3 singles 6-2, and 6-2. Nayla Mendoza won her match at four singles 6-2 and 6-3. Emma Delgado played a tight singles match, but lost in a tie breaker 6-3, 4-6, and 7-10. Bryleigh Erickson and Chloe Flynn won their doubles, one match 6-3, and one 6-2. Kylee Warburton and Addy White won their doubles match 7-5, 3-6, and 10-3 in the tie breaker. Avery White and Haedyn Poe played a

close match, but lost in a tie breaker 6-3, 4-6, and 7-10.

The Bulldogs played against Baker and the Bulldogs tied with the Spartans, winning 3 matches each. In singles one, Jacey Brunette lost her match 3-6 and 4-6. Arabell McDaniel played two singles and lost her match 4-6, and 4-6. Harper Wolfgram won at the singles 3 spot, 6-4 and 7-5. Nayla Mendoza played at singles 4, and won her match 6-3 and 6-2. In doubles, Bryleigh Erickson and Chloe Flynn won their match 6-2 but were only able to play one set.

After that, the Bulldogs played a mixed team of Forsyth and Granite girls. They won four matches and lost 3. Jacey Brunette played singles one against Granite and lost her match in a tie breaker 2-6, 7-5, and 3-10. Haedyn Poe played singles against Granite but lost her match 2-6, 2-6. Emma Delgado played singles against Forsyth and lost 4-6, 4-6. Avery White played singles against Granite and won her match 6-3, and 6-3. Hailey
Tennis Teams, 12

PRECISION BUSINESS RESOURCES
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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!

Townsend School & Sports

MAY

Friday 8

- **NO SCHOOL**
- 9:00 am: High School Tennis @ Helena
- 3:00 pm: High School Baseball @ Livingston

Saturday 9

- 9:00 am: High School Tennis Senior Day at Home
- 9:00 am: High School JV Track at Dillon
- 10:00 am: High School Varsity Track at Missoula

Sunday 10

- 2:00 pm: Old Baldy Jam Sessions @ Reading Leaves Bookstore

Monday 11

- 3:00 pm: High School Baseball @ Dillon

Mon 11 - Tue 12

- High School Divisional Golf @ Anaconda

Mon 11 - Thu 14

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

Tuesday 12

- 1:00 pm: High School Junior Varsity Tennis @ Boulder
- 4:00 pm: High School Baseball vs East Helena
- 6:00 pm: School Board Meeting - Community Room

Wednesday 13

- 11:30 am: Hanson Testing - Community Room
- 7:00 pm: Old Baldy Open Gyms - Pickleball, Basketball, Laps

Friday 15

- **NO SCHOOL**
- 9:00 am: District Track @ Boulder

Fri 15 - Sat 16

- 8:00 am: High School Tennis - Best of the West @ Missoula

Saturday 16

- 1:00 pm: High School Baseball (Senior Day) vs Columbus

Sunday 17

- 2:00 pm: Old Baldy - Jam Sessions at Reading Leaves Bookstore

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

MAY

Tuesday 12

- 9:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting
- 11:30 pm: Trust Board
- 1:00 pm: Planning Board
- 6:00 pm: Solid Waste Board

Wednesday 13

- 1:00 pm: Commission Meeting

LIBRARY HOURS

Broadwater School & Community Library

HOURS:
Monday-Thursday: 4:00 - 7:00pm
Friday-Saturday: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00pm
Curbside also available please call: (406)441-3461
Books & Babies Story Hour: Mondays 11:00am.-12:00pm the first 4 Mondays of the month.

201 N Spruce St, Townsend
Photo Provided

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson
Branch Manager

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

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

MAY

Tuesday 12

- 4:00 pm: Teen/Tween Switch Gaming

Wednesday 13

- 8:30 am: Walk and Talk Book Club at Prickly Pear Park
- 10:30 am: Storytime

Friday 15

- 8:30 am: Walk and Talk Book Club at Prickly Pear Park

East Helena Schools & Sports

MAY

Friday 8

- 10:00 am: Track @ Fergus
- 04:00 pm: High School Softball

Fri 8 - Sat 9

- Tennis @ MayFair

Saturday 9

- 12:00 pm: Baseball @ Dillon

Sunday 10

- 5:30 pm: School Board Meeting at EVMS

Tuesday 12

- 12:00 pm: Baseball @ Townsend
- 3:00 pm: Softball @ Lockwood

Thursday 14

- 3:00 pm: Baseball @ Big Sky

Friday 15

- Varsity Softball @ Butte Laverne Tourney
- 9:00 am: Tennis vs Hardin and Havre
- 10:00 am: Track @ Park
- 12:00 pm: Baseball vs. Lockwood

BROADWATER COUNTY CALENDAR

MAY

Friday 8

- 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
- 5:30 pm: Bridger Brewing Takeover at The Betsy **SEE AD ON PAGE 13**

Saturday 9

- 7:00 am: Fireman's Mother's Day Breakfast at the Fire Station, 130 S Cedar St
- 1:00 pm: Build Your Own Succulent at C Hangin' C **SEE AD ON PAGE 12**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Sunday 10

- Mother's Day at Reading Leaves Bookstore **SEE AD ON PAGE 2**

Tuesday 12

- 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 13

- 1:00 pm: Assistance in applying for and receiving Military Benefits at American Legion Post 42
- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- 5:30 pm: Meet & Greet with Commissioner Debi Randolph **SEE AD ON PAGE 12**

Thursday 14

- 5:00 pm: **FREE** Homemade Dinner Served at American Legion, 211 Broadway, Townsend
- 6:00 pm: BCDC Trails Committee at the Lodge **READ ABOUT IT ON PAGE 11**
- 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 15

- 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
- 6:00 pm: **FREE** Montana Constitution Road Show at Bridger Brewing **SEE AD ON PAGE 12**

Saturday 16

- 8:00 am: Yard Sale at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church **SEE AD ON PAGE 12**
- 1:00 pm: Celebration of Life- Steve Kimpton **SEE PAGE 11**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Sunday 17

- 2:00 pm: Broadwater County Museum's 50th Birthday Open House **SEE AD ON PAGE 13**

MUST INCLUDE YOUR BIRTH YEAR and SIGNATURE

BALLOT WILL BE REJECTED IF NOT INCLUDED!

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

SIGN HERE [Signature]

MUST PROVIDE [1973]

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

New Montana Law - effective Oct. 1, 2025

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

HELP WANTED

Farm Help Needed: Harvesting and Haying
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Toston Irrigation District is hiring a person to maintain and distribute water.
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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!

TOWNSEND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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QUESTIONS? MENU? VOLUNTEER?	STOP BY OR CALL AFTER 3PM (406) 266-3611
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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.**

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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

LAST BEST
Heating & Air Conditioning
Jeb Pedrazzi (406) 459-4868
lastbestheatingandair.com

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
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A THOMPSONGAS COMPANY
Metered Propane
Budget Billing
Lease Tanks
Service Department

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

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

Special K
Plumbing and Heating
Danny Kurk- Owner
Open 24/7 | Townsend, MT
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CONTACT MT43 NEWS TO LIST YOUR BUSINESS NOW!
MONDAY - FRIDAY
10:00AM - 2:00PM
408 BROADWAY, TOWNSEND
406.266.0086

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: TBA
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

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS
I ACHIEVE THAT BY INTERLOCKING AS SHOWN HERE. THE MORE POPULAR OVERLAPPING TECHNIQUE ACHIEVES THE SAME GOAL. USE ONE OR THE OTHER TO TIE YOUR HANDS TOGETHER.

CryptoQuip
This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.
Clue: P equals W
XMC RISOGPHROHYJ OIPJ PGRIH
FMOMQHJR TWW IPJ T ETRY
IU CYTFHUSW EIIZ XMYZR:
OPI-RPTJ, TYMQIJT.
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KNIGHT MOVES
Z E R
D Z
L I D
Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.
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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

TRAPPED WATER

ACROSS
1 Spot's foot
4 Motorcycle maker
10 ATM output
14 Baffle
19 Driving hazard
20 Region in Spain
21 Actress Falco
22 Country singer Tucker
23 Kiting, e.g.
25 Is discovered doing a misdeed
27 Roomy auto
28 Bungle
29 Kind of pear
30 U.S. Shakers founder
31 Driving hazard
33 What a cyclist signals with an arm extended straight out
35 Attacked boxer-style
41 Boise is its cap.
42 Canon camera line
43 French assent
44 Been shut down, as a theater
47 Dropped a bit
50 Actor Davis
53 Focal point
54 Pull back (in)
56 Disney lion
60 Insulated
62 ATM drink cup
63 Bovine captured by Hercules
66 Actor Erwin
67 Chou En-
69 Railroad or bus terminus
70 Clean air org.
73 Loyalty program
78 Duet number
79 Rover's rope
82 Hugs, in texts
83 "Carte" start
86 "Super work!"
89 1985 Kentucky Derby winner
95 Like some questions
96 Bug's feeler
98 "— found it!"
99 Japanese fish dish
100 Door fixture
103 Overindulges
106 Director's cry
107 — Fridays
110 Partakes of
112 Bluegrass
115 Japanese banjo pioneer financially
120 That woman
121 Copious arrival
122 Talks shrilly
123 Hamm on a soccer field
126 Make — in (do some work on)
130 Not educated by others
132 Downs an omelet, maybe
134 Subway unit
135 Ark builder
136 "Will do, cap'n!"
137 Subway unit
138 Direct at, as a remark
139 Be inactive
140 Frolicked
141 What remains if you remove all the consonants from 13 long answers in this puzzle
10 Implore
11 Latin "that is"
12 Nutlike Chinese fruit
13 The, in Tours
14 Tolerate
15 Tease
16 Detach by dissolving an adhesive
17 Cry to a rescuer
18 Eucharist-holding plates
24 Bistro's kin
26 Gondola path
29 "The View" co-host Joy
32 Comic's joke
33 Certain PC readout
34 Paid spots
35 Horn honk
36 "Be silent!"
37 Escalate
38 Sci-fi writer Frederik
39 "E pluribus —"
40 Cosmic cloud
45 Fun activities, in brief
46 White wine aperitif
48 Lacks being
49 "I call that as mine!"
51 Taxis gp.
52 Lifesaving pro
55 Carter of sitcomdom
57 Mongrel
58 Hard hit
59 Rival of lams
61 Special glows
62 Needlefish
64 Sorority "T"
65 Just — (equally undestrable)
68 Wedding vow
70 Nervous
71 Sweat source
72 Ripens
74 "C"— la vie"
75 Pummel
76 Distress call
77 Xerox product
80 Gangly
81 Alma mater of Wills
84 "Deck the Halls" syllables
85 — Dhabi
87 "Deck the Halls" syllables
88 Winter illness
90 Dastardly
91 Ensnarers
92 Maritime rescue gp.
93 Drink quickly
94 Baby foxes
97 Makes ready, informally
101 Fictional belle
102 Disallow
104 Pudgy
105 Educ. inst.
107 Coils
108 Biological subdivisions
109 Like live balls
111 Deity ruling the heavens
113 Brought up
114 Language of Islamabad
116 How clothes are tailored
117 Follower of "You'd think so ..."
118 1986 Indy 500 winner Bobby
119 Pick — pace
123 BLT addition
124 Bit of news
125 "PDQ!"
127 Suffix with exist or differ
128 Final 40p.
129 By way of, informally
131 Lead-in to cycle
132 Cochlea site
133 "See ya!"

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SCRAMBLERS
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Trim
NUPER
Place
DATES
Burn
GENIS
Saying
EAGAD

TODAY'S WORD

"Of course David knows you're staying for a while, Mother — we _____ about it all week!"

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.



ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR
ANGIE PAULSEN

NOTICE OF JUNE 2, 2026, PRIMARY FEDERAL ELECTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC TESTING OF VOTING SYSTEM

NOTICE is hereby given that a public test for Broadwater County DS450 Digital Scanner and Express Vote Ballot Marking System will be conducted on May 14, 2026, at 8:15 a.m. in the Clerk and Recorder's Office located at 515 Broadway in Townsend, MT. The test shall be conducted by processing a pre-audited group of ballots from each precinct.

The test will be observed by an Observation Board and is open to representatives of the Political Parties, the Press, and the general public.

DATED this 8th day of May 2026.

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

Published May 8, 2026

MNAXLP

ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR
ANGIE PAULSEN

NOTICE OF NOMINATION DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to § 13-14-118, MCA, that individuals may file declarations for nomination for the offices of County Treasurer and Superintendent of Schools from June 1-10, 2026, due to a candidate's withdrawal.

Declarations for nominations must be submitted to Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder, located at 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644. A filing fee of \$355.39 is required, payable by check or cash.

Dated and effective this 6th day of May 2026

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

Published May 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2026

MNAXLP

BROADWATER COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED BOARD MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Broadwater County Noxious Weed Board will be taking comments regarding the Broadwater County Noxious Weed List Resolution. A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 19th at 7:05 pm in the Flynn Building located at 416 Broadway Street, Townsend.

The proposed resolution is posted on the Broadwater County website at www.broadwatercountymt.gov.

Written comments are also being accepted at Broadwater County Noxious Weed District, 515 Broadway St., Townsend, MT 59644

Published May 8 and 15, 2026

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on May 27, 2026, at 10:00 am at The Flynn Building for the purpose of hearing comments on the proposed amendments to the Procedure for the Creation and Administration of a Rural Improvement District (RID) MCA Title 7, Chapter 12 pertains to Improvement Districts. A copy of the proposed procedure is available online. Written comments are also being accepted.

Published May 8, 2026

MNAXLP

Justice of the Peace Report

Samuel Anagnostou
Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

- Robert Stensby – Deltona, FL – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees
- Jenna Simpson – Camarillo, CA – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$120 fines & fees
- Javier Hughes – Greenville, TX – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees
- Peter Banks – England, AR – Fail to have child 8 years old or under properly restrained – paid fines - \$85 fines & fees
- Ryan Murphy – Bozeman – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees
- Josina Bomgardner – Great Falls – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$70 fines & fees
- Gavin Ballard – Helena – Speeding on national 4 lane – exceed day limit of 75mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

- Melissa Dennis – Hoover, AL – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees
- Brandan Weber – Belgrade – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees
- Synnove Neese – Belgrade – Speeding on non-interstate – exceed day limit of 70mph – paid fines - \$20 fines & fees
- Dallas Fligge – Townsend – Careless Driving – Plead Guilty - \$135 fines & fees. Defendant to complete five (5) hours of community service in one (1) month.
- Jeffrey Vaughn – Roberts – Assault, Purposely or knowingly causing bodily injury to another - \$335 fines & fees. Defendant to serve one (1) day of jail. Court to defer imposition of sentence for six (6) months with good behavior.

US Congress Finally Passes Farm Bill

Rebecca Colnar
Montana Farm Bureau Communications Specialist

The Montana Farm Bureau applauds the House passage of the Farm, Food and National Security Act of 2026, also known as the 2026 Farm Bill. There has not been a farm bill since it expired in 2023.

“Montana’s agricultural community appreciates the reinforcements to the farm safety net provided by the One Big Beautiful Bill last summer but so many of the primary titles of the Farm Bill, such as nutrition, conservation, research and trade - to name a few - remain in jeopardy without a finalized, reauthorized bill,” said MFBF President Cyndi Johnson.

America has lost over 160,000 farms since 2017. Low commodity prices, rising supply costs, inflation and outdated farm policy provisions threaten to put more out of business. Without action to pass a new bill, farm families risk losing access to critical programs ranging from conservation and rural development to research and energy.

The Conrad wheat farmer did express disappointment that a uniform pesticide provision didn’t make it into the bill. “That provision is vital to Montana agriculture for interstate commerce protections. Having patchwork pesticide laws will wreak havoc with commerce across state lines.”

Still, Johnson was pleased to see the legislation advance and noted that the farm bill’s impact extends well beyond the farm by protecting our nation’s food supply, providing access to nutrition for families facing hunger, advancing conservation efforts and spurring innovation through agricultural research.

“Managing risk on the farm is critical to keeping food on our tables,” added Johnson. “The farm bill helps farmers hold on through weather disasters, high supply costs and inflationary pressures. You can’t run a business without a plan; a Farm Bill is a critical component of every farmer’s business plan – it delineates your risk, opportunities, restrictions, and challenges as you plan your farming year. We’ve been struggling to operate without a clear plan for far too long. We look forward to seeing this legislation quickly pass in the Senate so farmers can continue to operate with certainty and continue to feed the world.”

Broadwater Trails Committee Continues to Move Forward

Al Christophersen

The Broadwater Trails Committee continues to move forward along several paths to improve outdoor recreation, safety and community connection opportunities across the County.

Utilizing the Trail Vision Plan’s trail maps and vision, we continue to step up grant writing, coordination and collaboration efforts with state and federal agencies, neighboring partners, non-profits and national organizations.

The committee has established internal teams to pursue specific efforts to build and expand digital trail mapping, designs for and select program logos, making connections for participation in community events and fundraising.

Grants:

BCDC Trails Awarded Funding for Front Street Trail Project. Good news for local trail users. The BCDC Trails Committee has been selected to receive most of the requested funds for the Front Street Asphalt Trail Resurfacing Project. This funding is through the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Trail Stewardship Program. This project covers the paved trail along Front Street (Highway 287) north from the Townsend city limits to the Indian Road Day Use area.

This grant will provide \$52,465, leaving roughly \$10,000 still needed to fully fund the trail resurfacing. With support already pledged from Rotary and the Broadwater County Trust Board, the committee is now seeking additional donations to help fill the gap. If you would like to help with donations, please contact any of us on the Trails committee.

The group has also applied for several other grants, including one from AARP and is exploring partnerships with Rails-to-Trails and the Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance to bring national support to Broadwater County’s growing trail network.

Logos and Digital Maps:

Several committee members are working to create digital maps of trail routes identified within the Trails Vision Plan so residents and visitors can easily find information about local routes. Others are designing a new Trails Program logo for use on publications and outreach materials, along with a trail marker logo to identify trail numbers on posts throughout the county.

BCDC Trails Committee Gears Up for a Busy Summer. The BCDC Trail Committee is hard at work planning events or participating in other events that bring people together and highlight our growing trail network.

- BCDC Trail Committee volunteers will participate in Rotary’s Epic Cleanup Day, May 16.
- For National Trails Day on June 6, a countywide cleanup is planned along routes in our Trails Vision Plan, as well as on Forest and BLM trails.
- Members are also looking to have an informational walking group or float in the 4th of July parade, showing community pride and support for our trails and outdoor recreation.
- On July 18, mark your calendars for the trail dedication for the Missouri River Paddlers Trail BC 43 at the Lower Toston Dam access site. This trail is the Missouri River below Toston Dam and in Broadwater County. The event will include an inaugural float and river cleanup.
- We are looking into a fun run this summer and a booth at Fall Fest.
- Stay tuned for more details – and join in as we connect Broadwater County through safe trails, teamwork and outdoor fun!

Partnership Coordination:

The BCDC Trails Committee continues to stay closely connected with Gallatin Valley Land Trust and Prickly Pear Land Trust, sharing ideas and information to strengthen trail programs across the region. Representatives from Rails-to-Trails and the Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance have also been great partners, helping us learn more about national trail initiatives.

One exciting opportunity ahead is exploring a water trail connection from Twin Bridges to Indian Road, linking the Jefferson River Canoe Trail to Broadwater County’s Paddlers Trail under the Lewis and Clark program. This could bring national visibility to our local trail system and the businesses that support it.

With these collaborations, active projects, and a clear long-term vision, Broadwater County is moving toward a future where trails, open spaces, and outdoor recreation play a central role in community life and growth.

If you are interested in being a part of the BCDC Trails Committee, please come to the next planned meeting May 14 at 6 pm, at the Lodge in Townsend. We continue to seek volunteers with skills and interests in trails program: marketing, public relations, media, writing articles and newsletters, signs and posters, or actual trail construction-related work and fundraising activities.

Contact Al Christophersen, Trails Committee lead at 406-439-0197, John Hahn, BCDC Co-chair at 406-202-1050 or Carol Hatfield, Broadwater County Parks and Recreation Board Chair at 406-431-9656. Email: bcde@mt.net

It’s your future. Let’s protect it.®

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

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

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)

Barnes Jewelry

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

School Board Election Results

Nancy Marks
MT43 News Reporter



In an upset in the Townsend School District #1 board trustee race, Jean Hodges, a grandmother who is new to Townsend, has won a seat on the board.

She ran against Jason Kool and Chase Ragen for a three-year term. Both Kool and Ragen are incumbents.



Jean Hodges
Photo Provided



Jason Kool
Photo Provided

Hodges amassed 794 votes, Kool received 1,020 votes and Ragen received 648 votes.

Results came in from Angie Paulsen, Elections Administrator, late Tuesday night.

All County Election Offices Will Be Open on Saturday, May 30th

Christi Jacobsen
Montana Secretary of State



Montana Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen says the state has entered the late registration period for the June 2nd Primary Election. Secretary Jacobsen and the Montana Election Team—state and local election officials across all 56 counties—are reminding Montana voters that all county election offices will be open on Saturday, May 30th, for expanded registration and voting opportunities.

“Expanding voter registration and opening county election offices on Saturday before a federal election gives more Montanans a real chance to participate in our electoral process, especially those voters in our rural communities, folks who work long hours during the week, and college students and professors with busy weekday schedules,” said Secretary Jacobsen. “Same-weekend registration is about providing additional opportunities to voters and making sure eligible Montanans who want to register or update their registration, as well as vote ahead of Election Day, have the opportunity to do so.”

Eligible Montanans may register or change their registration information and vote in the federal election by obtaining their ballot in person from their county election office on Saturday, May 30th. Registration for the federal election is also available through noon on Election Day, June 2nd. Voters can contact their local election office for more information. Contact information is available on the Secretary of State’s website at <https://sosmt.gov/elections/election-administrators-contact-list/>.

Secretary Jacobsen and the Montana Election Team remind eligible Montanans that they can visit <https://voterportal.mt.gov/> to confirm their voter registration information is accurate and up to date. For additional voter resources, Montanans may visit <https://votemt.gov/>.

Nationwide Survey: Most Farmers Can't Afford Fertilizer

Rebecca Colnar
Montana Farm Bureau Communications Specialist

An overwhelming majority of America’s farmers who responded to a nationwide survey say they cannot afford to purchase enough fertilizer to get them through the year. The percentage who pre-purchased fertilizer varies significantly by region.

Conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation April 3-11, the survey shows 70% of respondents say fertilizer is so expensive that they will not be able to buy all the fertilizer they need.

The majority (58%) of Montana farmers who responded to the survey indicated that they cannot afford all of the fertilizer they need for this year's crop. Furthermore, a staggering 88% of Montana farmers said that their farm's financial condition is either experiencing the same or worse financial condition it experienced in 2025.

Montana Farm Bureau President Cyndi Johnson, a Conrad wheat farmer, added, “With the value of our commodities stuck at 1980 prices and the cost of inputs escalating to record highs, we’ll have to make hard choices about what to plant, how much to plant or whether we just sit this spring out. The results of this survey tell me we aren’t alone in Montana, and the rest of the nation is feeling the same pinch.”

More than 5,700 farmers, both Farm Bureau members and non-members, from every state and Puerto Rico took the survey. Farm Bureau economists analyzed the results in the latest Market Intel Report.

The analysis reveals that almost 8 in 10 farmers in the southern U.S. say they can’t afford all needed supplies this year, followed by the Northeast and West at 69% and 66%, respectively, compared to 48% of the farmers in the Midwest. Even with higher pre-booking rates, almost one in three Midwestern farmers still report entering the season without securing all their fertilizer needs.

The conflict in the Middle East sent fertilizer and fuel prices soaring. The closure of the Strait of Hormuz is keeping critical fertilizer supplies and crude oil from reaching global markets, putting a squeeze on supplies around the world.

“Spring planting decisions depend heavily on access to fertilizer and diesel fuel, both of which have been impacted by geopolitical risks that have disrupted global markets,” the Market Intel states. “Since the escalation of tensions in the Middle East, nitrogen fertilizer prices have risen more than 30%, while combined fuel and fertilizer costs have increased roughly 20% to 40%. Urea prices have increased by 47% since the end of February, marking the largest month-to-month percentage increase in the price of urea. These increases are occurring when many producers were already facing tight margins for many consecutive years.”

Many of the farmers surveyed said they will forego applying fertilizer this spring in hopes that prices will return to an affordable level later in the growing season.

Get more survey results and read the full Market Intel at fb.org/market-intel.

GUEST EDITORIALS

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

Paying it Forward

Mary Sheehy Moe
Editorial Columnist in Missoula



Twenty springs ago, Montana school boards presented 73 requests to local voters to increase funding for their elementary schools. All but two (97.3%) passed. In the same year, 52 such requests were made for high schools. All but three (94.2%) passed.

Ah, those were the days — before the recession ... before information and communication technology changed how community members, especially our children, learn and interact ... before school shootings necessitated making greater investments in security personnel and infrastructure in our schools ... before billionaire-funded tell-you-what-to-think tanks convinced lawmakers to syphon public funds for private schools ... before COVID intensified children’s isolation, depression, and dysfunction.

Despite these new needs and the same old ones, last spring only 36 Montana school boards (less than half the 2006 number) presented elementary school funding requests to their local voters. Only half the requests passed — a 47.3% drop from 2006. At the high school level, of 25 mill levy requests, only 14 (56%) passed — a 38.2% drop. The declines in asks

Paying it Forward, 8

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, May 12, 2026

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

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

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

10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, Kevin Angland, Broadwater County Floodplain Administrator, Floodplain permit MDT Project: Bridge Removal West of Toston UPN 10557000 STPB 900 4(23)

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Consideration of the Compensation Board’s recommendation for a \$0.90 per hour Cost of Living Adjustment for Elected Officials

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

Friday, May 15, 2026

1:00 PM Closed-door litigation strategy meeting, Flynn Building

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
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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
 - 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)

Paying it Forward, 7

and answers were not one-offs. They're a trend.

That trend has led to other trends. We know that smaller class sizes, particularly in the elementary grades, improve student learning and prevent teacher burnout. But when mill levies fail, school boards have no choice but to cut teachers and overload those who remain. Student performance suffers and teacher attrition escalates.

We know that providing a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities is a moral and legal responsibility. Their special needs require services averaging triple the cost of educating the average student. Recognizing that, the federal government promised to shoulder 40% of the cost when it created the FAPE mandate in 1975. By 2014, the costs of special education had more than tripled, and the federal share had sunk to 26%. Ten years later, with more Montana students than ever (1 in 7) qualifying for special education, the federal share has shrunk to less than 15%.

Left holding an ever-heavier bag, local schools turn to their taxpayers to fund this mandate. If the taxpayers say no, schools have no choice but to cut programs, reduce staff, and overcrowd the classes that serve all seven students to meet the specialized needs of one.

We know that a highly qualified professional staff is the sine qua non of a good school, but a number of factors have contributed to a chronic teacher shortage in Montana. The 2025 legislature's STARS Act addressed starting salaries significantly, but had little effect on mid-career salaries. And salary is just one component of teacher recruitment and retention. With students' behavioral and mental health problems escalating and anti-education rhetoric become ever more abusive, teachers seek schools that are supported by their communities — and leave them when they're not.

We know students and staff cannot function optimally when their basic needs for comfort and safety go unmet. Too many Montana schoolteachers are bringing space heaters to heat their classrooms adequately. Too many support staff — average annual salary: \$18,000 — are helping students navigate crumpled playgrounds and avoid lead-ridden drinking fountains.

Safety devices alone require an astonishing investment. "Crash bars" on doors, protective window coverings, electronic entry systems, panic buttons, emergency communication systems, cameras everywhere ... you want to call it overkill, but Sandy Hook gave that word new meaning.

And so it is that desperate Montana school boards turn once again to their citizens to fill the gaps created by state and federal governments. Begging is never fun, and trustees know the same cost increases affecting schools are affecting you too. They also know that what they're asking is a fraction of what they really need, but they cannot ask for more in this strained economy.

One of the great gifts of growing up in Montana is the sense of community our public schools instill, not only in students but in all of us. When our team wins, all of us cheer. When our choir sings like seraphim, all our hearts soar. And when that kid across the street comes home from commencement and frisbees his mortarboard across the lawn, you smile and muse, I had a hand in that.

Please keep having a hand in that. Montana's children — and communities — need you more than ever.

Journey Home Opens to Expand Access to Immediate Behavioral Health Support

Amber Johnson
Communications Specialist

Many Rivers Whole Health invites community members, partners, and neighbors to an open house on April 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate the opening of Journey Home. Journey Home will open as a crisis receiving facility, expanding access to immediate behavioral health support in Helena and surrounding communities.

Journey Home will officially open April 27 to provide up to 23 hours and 59 minutes of voluntary care for individuals experiencing an acute behavioral health crisis. The facility offers timely assessment, intervention, and connection to ongoing care in a safe, therapeutic environment. Journey Home can quickly accept first responder drop-offs with a "no wrong door" policy.

The opening of Journey Home is the result of collaboration among many community partners, local leaders, and first responders.

"This facility fills a critical gap in our community," said Drenda Niemann, Health Officer of Lewis and Clark Public Health. "By working together to create a welcoming place where people can receive help at the moment they need it, our community is improving outcomes for individuals and families while easing the burden on other

community resources."

Located at 45 E. 16th St., the facility was purchased by Many Rivers Whole Health from Lewis and Clark County in June 2025. The facility, which has sat dormant since Western Montana Mental Health vacated the property in December 2019, restores a core element of the crisis care continuum: a safe place to go for help.

Key features of Journey Home include:

- Crisis risk assessment, evaluation, and intervention
- 12 recliner chairs for short-term Crisis Receiving services (six crisis stabilization beds to be phased in at a later date)
- Rapid connection to community-based supports
- Coordination with St. Peter's Health's Mobile Crisis Response Team, other care providers, and law enforcement

"We know that crises can happen to anyone," said Sydney Blair, CEO of Many Rivers Whole Health. "Journey Home reflects our commitment to providing dignified, evidence-based care, right when it matters most."

The April 24 open house will include guided tours, opportunities to meet staff, and information about services. Donations of blankets, clothing, canned goods, toiletries, and cleaning supplies will be accepted during the event or by contacting Many Rivers Whole Health at 406-443-7151.

OPI Highlights Strong Impact of Level All Partnership

Susie Hedalen
Superintendent of Public Instruction



Superintendent Susie Hedalen highlights the strong early progress of Montana's statewide partnership with Level All, pointing to encouraging growth in student engagement, educator participation, and district adoption throughout this school year. The platform offers more than 15,000 short-form, expert-developed resources covering college planning, career exploration, financial literacy, and essential life skills. Building on that momentum, the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is looking ahead to expand the initiative even further in the months to come, bringing these opportunities to more students, classrooms, and communities across the state.

Since its launch, the partnership has focused on making college, career, and life-readiness tools easy to access for students and educators across Montana. Today, that vision is a reality. Every school, educator, and family in the state can use Level All's digital platform at no cost. Together, this effort supports Montana's broader commitment to preparing students for success after high school, whether they choose college, enter the workforce, or pursue a skilled trade.

As of April 2026, more than 5,700 accounts have been created statewide, including 3,687 student users, with 29 districts already launched and another 125 preparing to come online.

"These results show what's possible when we provide our students and educators with meaningful, accessible tools for future planning," said Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction Susie Hedalen. "Our mission at OPI is to ensure every Montana student is prepared for college, a career, and life after graduation. This partnership

is already making a measurable difference in classrooms across the state, and we're just getting started."

From the start of the partnership, momentum has built quickly across the state, with strong early results reflecting both enthusiasm and impact. The number of participating districts has more than tripled since January, marking a significant expansion in access for Montana students. Engagement is also on the rise, with students spending more time on the platform than ever before. At the same time, educator adoption has surged by over fifty percent, meaning more teachers are actively using these tools to bring college and career readiness into their classrooms. These tools align directly with Montana's Personalized Career Plan and Financial Literacy standards, enabling educators to deliver personalized, relevant instruction while tracking student progress through integrated dashboards.

"Level All was founded on the belief that every student deserves a clear, actionable path to success in every community," said Kevin Kenny, Co-CEO of Level All. "We're incredibly proud to partner with Superintendent Hedalen and the OPI team to turn that vision into a reality for Montana families. Seeing the number of participating districts more than triple in just a few months proves there is a deep hunger for engaging, accessible tools that prepare students for the realities of the modern workforce and beyond."

OPI and Level All will continue increasing implementation statewide over the summer and into the next school year, with a focus on onboarding additional districts, expanding educator training, and increasing student engagement. The expansion aims to ensure that every Montana student, regardless of location, has access to high-quality tools that support informed decision-making about their future.

To learn more about the partnership's early impact, view the full report visit: [Montana OPI Level All Engagement](https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/OPILevelUp) at <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/OPILevelUp>

Montana State University Students Publish a Study on Caffeine Use for Infants with Heart Disease

Frankie Beer
MSU News Service

Montana State University students published a paper alongside Duke University researchers in the *Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics* this spring, validating a study on the optimal caffeine dosage for newborn babies with congenital heart disease.

External validation means the research findings could be put to use in hospitals nationwide, beyond the group of patients studied at Duke, said Dr. Danny Benjamin, affiliate professor in MSU's Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology and Duke University STAR principal investigator and pediatrics professor.

Benjamin said such validation is not often done in pediatric research because of the difficulty of studying infant populations. He noted that administering medication to babies based on adult trials can have harmful results but that it has only been since 2002 that laws were passed to require drug testing for children. MSU students are given the chance to participate in devising ethical, groundbreaking pediatric studies through Duke's Summer Training in Academic Research program. MSU's connection to STAR began in 2024, and Duke-MSU STAR reserves four to five spots for Montana students in a program that receives more than

1,000 national applicants for just 25 spots each year.

"The goal for STAR as a research program is to invest in students who want to go back to their state and do research and medicine in their state," Benjamin said.

In 2024, three MSU undergraduates and two Montana WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) students joined a research effort driven by Liz Thompson, STAR mentor and assistant professor of pediatrics at Duke, that studied caffeine dosages for neonates, or newborns younger than 28 days, who are undergoing a cardiopulmonary bypass for congenital heart disease.

Caffeine can reduce the likelihood of neonates developing acute kidney injury, which can lead to chronic kidney disease, by improving blood flow and reducing inflammation. The treatment is used most commonly for babies born before their due dates and who often experience respiratory issues. Using mathematical modeling and leftover blood samples from the neonate patients, Thompson's team examined how caffeine is metabolized differently in neonates with congenital heart disease. Their study found that hospitals' standard dosage was too low.

Duke-MSU STAR students distilled the team's findings into a journal article in PubMed and, like more than 95% of all STAR participants, they are listed as co-authors on a peer-reviewed publication. Duke-MSU

STAR students, some of whom have since graduated from MSU, include Calla Castro, a microbiology alum from Boulder, Colorado; Jessminda DiCello, a junior from Bozeman studying food and nutrition; Courtney Hallock, a third-year Montana WWAMI student from Laurel; Annalisa Hawk, a third-year Montana WWAMI student from Charlo; and Andrea Storer, a cell biology and neuroscience alum from Anchorage, Alaska.

"The more I learned about the pediatrician path through this program and through the research, I realized I do love every part of it, which has been affirming and motivating for me," Storer said.

While preparing the scholarly article, Storer and her classmates spent five weeks shadowing physicians at Duke and receiving career mentorship. Storer, a former Udall Scholar at MSU, said she gained valuable clinical research experience that she presented at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in April 2025. Her insight into the pediatrics field also bolstered her application for medical school, and she will join the University of Washington's School of Medicine through WWAMI, a collaborative program between Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho that aims to train rural physicians. Students complete the first 18 months of foundational medical classes in their home states before starting clinical rotations throughout the WWAMI regions.

SPEED WORKS

Tanner-

Home Improvements & Restoration Specialist

Larry

General Property Maintenance & Handyman Services

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

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

Z	E	R
4	7	2
D		Z
1		5
L	I	D
6	3	8

DRIZZLED

CryptoQuip

answer

Big southwestern town whose citizens all own a pair of graceful pond birds: Two-swan, Arizona.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

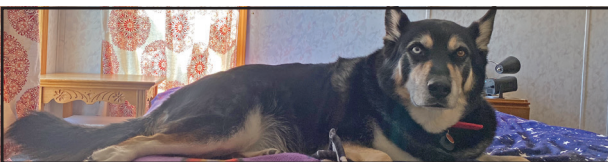
1. Prune; 2. Stead
3. Singe; 4. Adage

Today's Word

ARGUED

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN the BEAR IT

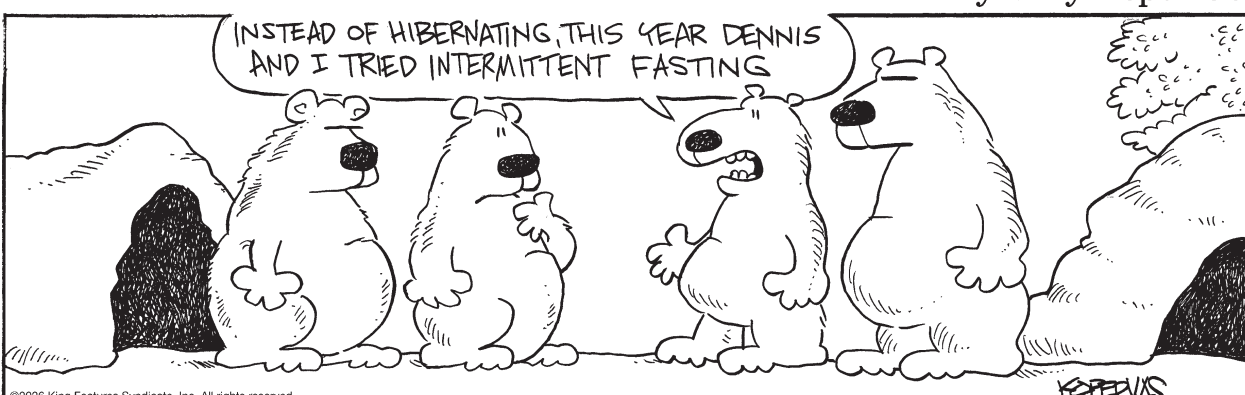
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“Take a letter, Flo! Heck, take the whole alphabet!”

Out on a Limb

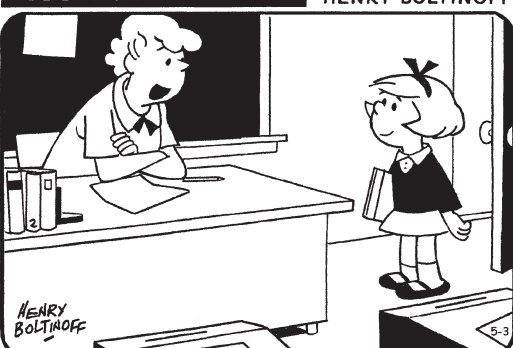
by Gary Kopervas



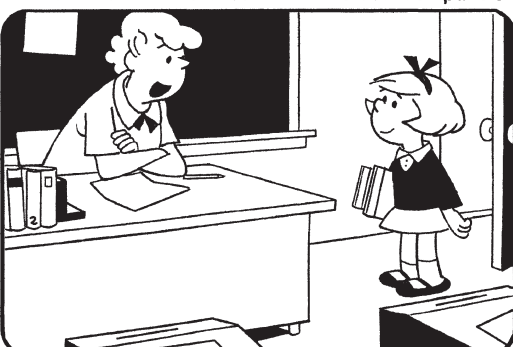
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

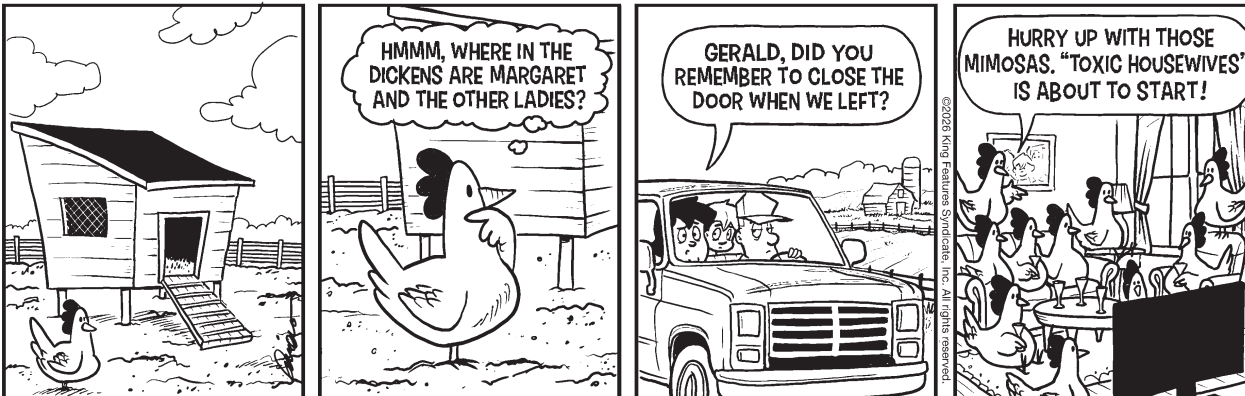


Differences: 1. Teacher's desk is not as wide. 2. Student desk is holding two books. 6. Door opening is wider.

HOCUS FOCUS SPONSOR: SANDY JANES

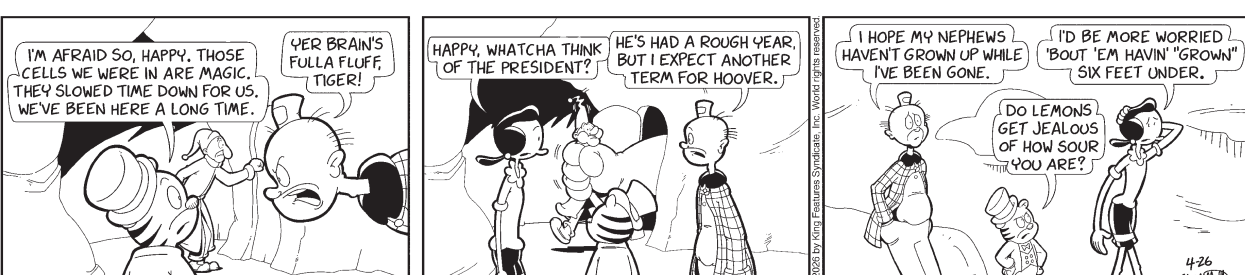
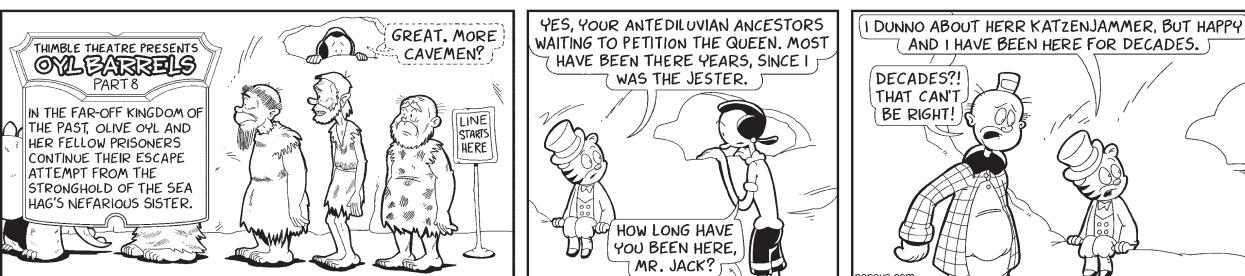
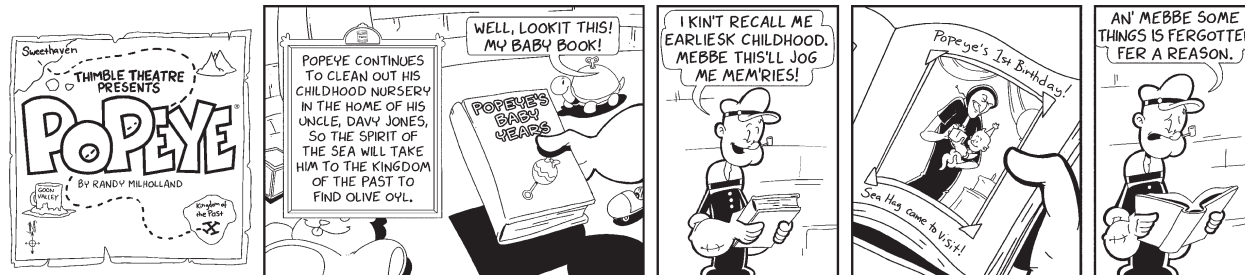
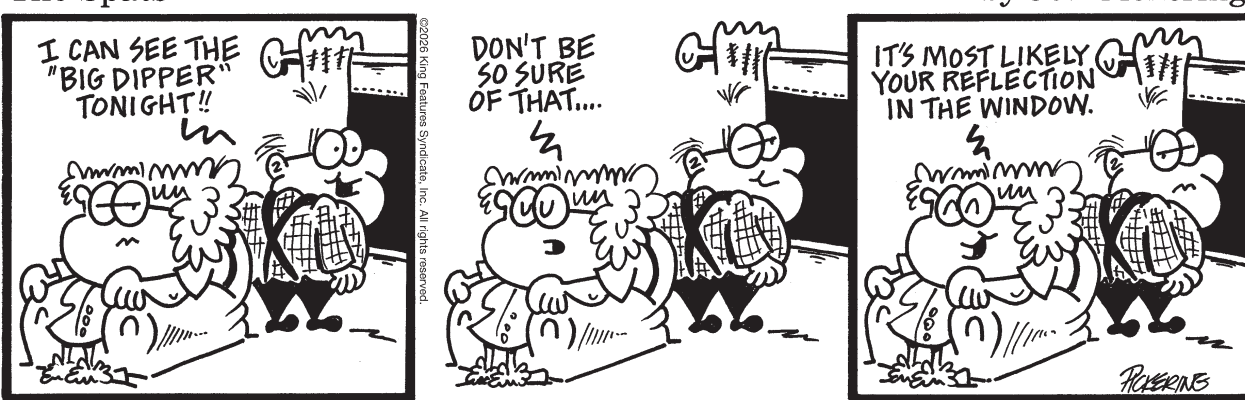
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



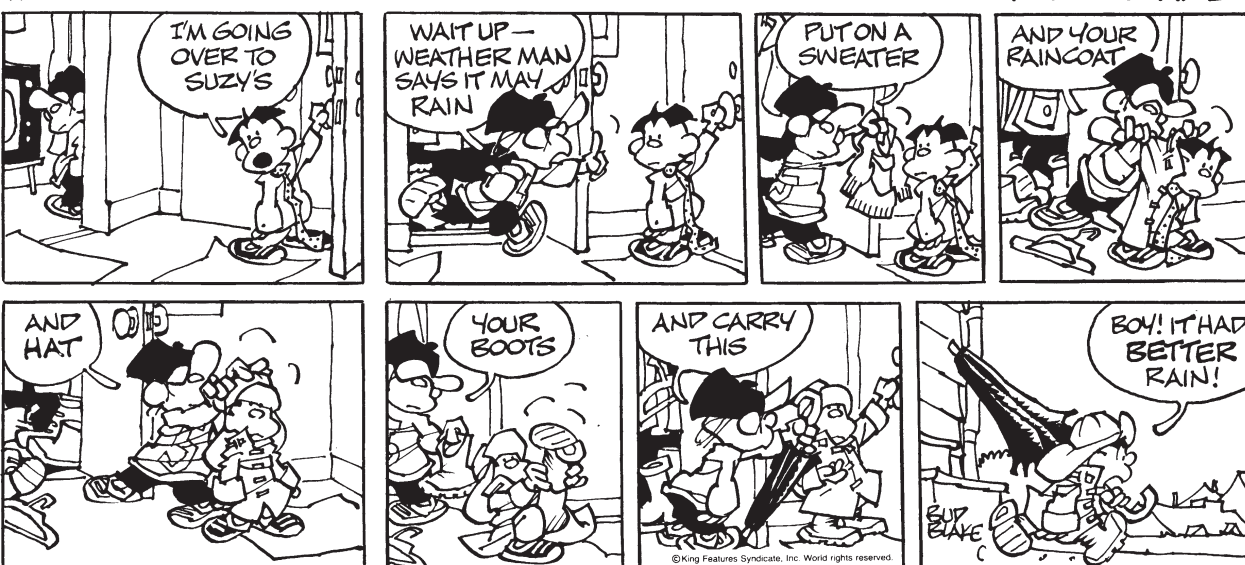
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

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

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

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https://mt43news-business-services.com/node/124



Elkhorn Community Fellowship
 126 N Cedar St. Townsend
 Pastor Eric Crusch (406) 949-0183
Sunday: 11:00am- Services
Wednesday: 4:00 - 5:30pm Team KID for K - 5th Grades
 | 6:00 - 7:30pm Youth Group for 6 - 12th Grades
 *

Faith Baptist Church
 5 Jack Farm Rd. Townsend
 Pastor Seth Wenzel (406) 266-4219
Sunday: 10:00am Sunday School | 11:00am Morning
 Service | 6:00pm Evening Service
Wednesday: 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer
 *

Holy Cross Catholic Church
 101 S Walnut St. Townsend
 Parish Contact (406) 266-4811
 email: office@holycrossmt.org
Sunday: 3:30pm - 4:15pm (or by appt.) Reconciliation |
 4:30pm- Mass | 5:30pm (during the school year) Dinner
 with 6:00pm Religious Ed for all Grades
 Adult Education Programs found on holycrossmt.org
Monday: 9:00am Mass | 9:30am Adoration
Tuesday: 9:00am Mass
 *

Mountain Valley Church (of the CMA)
 110 E Street Townsend
 Pastor Eric Krueger (406) 594-7609
 MountainValleyChurch.org
Sunday: 10:00am Services with Nursery, Kids and
 Youth Ministry
Wednesdays: 6:30- 8:00pm The Rock Youth Ministry
 and Adult Bible Study Groups
 Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406
 Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.
 *

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



SR. CENTER MEALS: Wednesday, May 13
MAY 11 - MAY 15
 Chef Salad
 Carrot and Celery
 Sticks
 Whole Grain Bread
 Pineapple
 Dessert

Monday, May 11
 Beef Stroganoff
 Egg Noodles
 German Vegetables
 Lima Beans
 Whole Grain Bread
 Fruit Cocktail

Thursday, May 14
 Roasted Turkey
 Mashed Potatoes
 Key Largo Vegetables
 Whole Grain Bread
 Applesauce

Tuesday, May 12
 Fish Patty on a Bun
 Green Peas
 Cauliflower
 Sweet Peaches

Friday, May 15
 Cabbage Rolls
 Mashed Potatoes
 Green Beans
 Whole Grain Bread
 Apricot Halves



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is Beloved by Families—and Backed by Research

Susan Gianforte
 Montana First Lady

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has long been cherished by families. Now, new groundbreaking research confirms what parents, caregivers, and educators have known by experience: the program significantly strengthens early literacy skills and fosters a lifelong love of reading.

A study led by Dr. Claire Galea of United Way Australia surveyed more than 86,000 caregivers across five countries, tracking children from enrollment through to the end of their first year in the program. After receiving just 10 books, the results were striking—especially in the United States. Children enrolled in the Imagination Library were 11 times more likely to show interest in books, 15 times more likely to engage during shared reading, nine times more likely to initiate shared reading themselves, and nearly three times more likely to demonstrate early understanding of print concepts.

At its core, this research reinforces something simple but powerful: shared reading in the earliest years of life matters.

When I first learned about the Imagination Library from First Lady Fran DeWine of Ohio, I knew I wanted to bring the program to Montana as my First Lady Initiative. It is a scalable, replicable program with a proven track record of success. But what truly sets it apart is its accessibility. The books are provided to families at no cost and mailed directly to children's homes—an especially critical feature in a rural state like Montana, where access can be a barrier.

And families love it. As I travel across Montana, I consistently hear enthusiastic stories from parents and caregivers—stories now validated by research. Families describe how the program inspires a love of reading in young children, encourages parents and caregivers to read aloud together, and helps prepare children to be ready to read and ready to learn when they enter kindergarten.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, was created more than 30 years ago in honor of Dolly's father, who could not read or write. Its mission is simple and profound: to inspire a love of reading by gifting free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five. Today, the program mails more than three million books each month worldwide. Every enrolled child receives one book per month from birth until their fifth birthday.

By June 2023, I had raised the funding to expand Imagination Library statewide in Montana. Today, more than 29,000 children—about one in two eligible Montana children—are enrolled. That is something to celebrate. But it also means there is more work to do.

Together, we can ensure even more Montana children benefit from this well-loved and research-based program. Whether you are a parent or caregiver, community advocate, or simply someone who loves Dolly Parton, I encourage you to help spread the word. The Imagination Library is available to all Montana children under age five.

Children's future literacy can begin with something as simple as a book in the mailbox—and a caring adult ready to read it with them.

To enroll or learn more, visit www.montanaimaginationlibrary.org.

DPHHS and Imagination Library of Montana Announce Partnership to Promote Early Literacy

Jon Ebel
 DPHHS Communications Director

First Lady Susan Gianforte and the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) today announced a new partnership with the Imagination Library of Montana to put more books into the hands of young Montanans, fostering early literacy and a lifelong passion for learning.

The DPHHS Early Childhood and Family Support Division (ECFSD) is joining forces with the Imagination Library of Montana to encourage more Montana families to enroll in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a program that mails free, high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five each month.

"This partnership will help us connect more directly with providers, partners, and programs serving Montana families with young children," said First Lady Gianforte, who also serves as the volunteer executive director for Imagination Library of Montana. "Our hope is that this partnership will result in more families registering their young children for this impactful program. It's about more than just books, it's about empowering families to read together, strengthening bonds, and preparing children for kindergarten and beyond."



DPHHS and Imagination Library of Montana Announce Partnership to Promote Early Literacy Photo Provided

The ECFSD will promote the Imagination Library through its various initiatives supporting children and families, such as home visiting, early intervention services, maternal health, child care, and the Women, Infants, and Children program. The ECFSD works with health care clinics, community providers, and local organizations to ensure Montana's youth are healthy and thriving. By integrating literacy resources into these existing services, the division provides a holistic support system for families.

"The long-term outcomes of the Imagination Library closely align with and support the core objectives of the division," said ECFSD administrator Tracy Moseman. "This partnership is vital to our mission of providing coordinated services and resources that promote well-being and support the health and development of children, families, and our entire community."

Under the leadership of First Lady Gianforte, the Imagination Library of Montana expanded statewide in 2023 and is now available to all children under age five. Currently, more than 29,000 Montana children are enrolled, representing approximately half of the state's eligible population.

The partnership was announced this week in recognition of the Week of the Young Child. Every April, the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) hosts the Week of the Young Child to highlight the importance of early learning.

Governor Greg Gianforte issued a proclamation recognizing April 11 to 17, 2026, as the Week of the Young Child in Montana. This year, Montana celebrates the Week of the Young Child by ensuring the Imagination Library program continues to reach children across the Treasure State.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, was created more than 30 years ago in honor of Dolly Parton's father, who could not read or write. Today, the international program mails more than 3 million books each month to children around the world.

To register a child under the age of five or learn more about the Imagination Library of Montana, visit: <https://montanaimaginationlibrary.org>

To view Gov. Gianforte's proclamation for Week of the Young Child, visit: <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/WeekYoungChild>

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

JAMES 1:27

Detail of "Mothers" by Kathe Kollwitz (1919)

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Trust Board Funds Lions Club Safety Upgrade (Part 1)

Aura Lewis
Broadwater County Trust Board

Broadwater County Trust Board Funds Lions Club Safety Upgrade for 2025 Season

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

The Broadwater County Trust Board approved an \$11,550 grant to help the Broadwater County Lions Club upgrade the deep-frying system in its well-known corndog wagon, bringing the operation into compliance with the Montana state fire code. The funding

was awarded in April 2025 as part of the Trust Board's ongoing support for local recreation-related projects.

The Lions Club requested the grant to replace its aging fryer with a new Autofry unit equipped with a self-contained fire suppression system—an upgrade required by State Fire Marshal Dirk Johnson. The club's previous setup has served Townsend for years at major community events, including rodeo and Fall Fest.

Kim Kondelik, speaking on behalf of the club, said the new programmable fryer will reduce oil exposure, improve safety, and streamline operations. Kondelik estimates the club sells more than 2,000 corndogs at each major event, making the equipment essential to its fundraising efforts.

Townsend Farmers Market Returns for the 2026 Season

Sheree Beauchamp
Townsend Farmer's Market



The beloved Townsend Farmers Market is set to return for the 2026 season, bringing fresh flavors, local talent, and a strong sense of community back to town. Beginning May 21, 2026,

the market will be held every Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the WiFi Park in Townsend.

More than just a place to shop, the Townsend Farmers Market has grown into a vibrant gathering space where neighbors connect, local producers shine, and the best of the region is proudly displayed. Guided by its motto, "Grow It, Make It, or Bake It," the market ensures that every item offered is locally produced and crafted with care.

Visitors can expect a wide variety of goods throughout the season. Early markets will feature fresh, in-season vegetables, gradually transitioning into a full summer harvest and some of the finest sweet corn in the fall.

Shoppers will also find freshly-baked goods, including sourdough breads, along with unique treats like freeze-dried candies.

Local ranchers and farmers bring high-quality meats such as fresh frozen chicken, pork, beef, and lamb, as well as farm-fresh eggs. The market also highlights the creativity of the community, offering locally grown flowers, homemade jams and jellies, and a wide assortment of handcrafted items from talented local artisans.

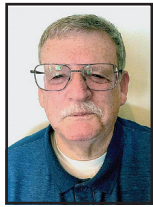
What truly sets the Townsend Farmers Market apart is its role as a celebration of community, sustainability, and local agriculture. It's a place where people gather not just to purchase goods, but to support one another, share stories, and enjoy the simple pleasures of small-town life.

Whether you're a long-time resident or just passing through, the Townsend Farmers Market offers something special for everyone. Mark your calendars and come experience the heart of Townsend—one Thursday at a time.

If you would like to become a vendor at the market, please contact Sheree Beauchamp, Market Manager at (406) 465-4977.

Mobile Home Property Taxes Could Skyrocket

Victor Sample



Are you a mobile home owner or renter? You could see your property taxes increase by 300% this year if you did not opt-in for the new property tax relief.

The property tax relief legislation passed last year

requires taxpayers to actively opt-in for the relief - it is NOT automatic.

The Montana Free Press published a comprehensive article about the mobile home tax increases and what you should do to prevent getting a major tax increase.

To read the full article, visit us at: <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/MobileHomeTaxes>

EAST HELENA NEWS

Rose Powell, Eastgate Elementary School Librarian, Remembered



Bobbi Scott, Terry Love, FayeAnn Cummings, KD Jones, Susan Anthony, Debbie Bugni, Shirley Thomas, Chris Dexter, Kerry Logan, 2 unidentified ladies.
Photo Credit: Pat Plantenberg

Patrick Plantenberg
Tree Board Chair



On Saturday, May 2nd, a memorial tree was planted at Eastgate Elementary School for Rose Powell by her friends.

Rose was a librarian at Eastgate for many years

and was loved by the students and fellow teachers.

Townsend Tree Board members, Patrick Plantenberg and Mary Mistek, with the help of Rose's friends, planted the Autumn Splendor Ohio Buckeye at the school. Fortunately, it was planted near the school library.

Terry Love of Townsend, a dear friend of Rose, helped organize the event and led the discussion of memories of Rose.

Celebration of Life

Honoring Steve Kimpton



Saturday, May 16
2026, at 1:00 pm
at The Lodge
of Townsend

Located at 131 South Spruce Street in Townsend, Montana.
Family and friends are warmly invited.

AREA DEATHS

Dennis Michael Gorsich

Family of Dennis Michael Gorsich

The family of Dennis Michael Gorsich is saddened to announce his passing.



EAST HELENA OBITUARY

Cheryl "Kay" Leach

Family of Cheryl "Kay" Leach



Cheryl "Kay" Leach
Photo Provided by Family

Known to most people as Kay, she was born in Springfield, Missouri on September 10th, 1941, with the name Francis Lucille Claton.

The unwanted child of a single mother was then raised in an orphanage for the first two years of her life. Maxine, a childhood friend of her mother's, had a boy and wanted a little girl, but could no longer bear children. Therefore, Maxine stole baby Francis from the orphanage and moved to California with her husband and named this little girl Cheryl Kay Hunt.

Kay was the wife of Robert (Bob) Leach and mother of four sons, Richard, Rolland, Robert, and Raymond. Bob and Kay were married for over 60 years, and Kay was a very loving and supportive wife and mother. Bob and Kay met in 1958 at school, eating lunch. Bob put his arm around her and said, "Hey, Cutie," and the rest was history - dating through high school and getting married on November 7th, 1965.

Kay did not know how to cook, so Bob taught her, and then she made sure that once the kids were old enough, they knew how to cook. Richard, Robert, and Raymond became cooks. Rolland just enjoys cooking for his family.

Kay enjoyed gardening, animals, and art. She loved to color, paint clay houses, beading, and doing puzzles, which are decorating their home. She loved supporting the ministry of the Gideons. She was a woman who prayed every day for her family and friends.

Services will be held on Sunday, May 3rd, 2026, at the Canyon Ferry Road Baptist Church, at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Gideons Memorial Bible to provide Bibles in memory of "Kay".

Celebration of Life:

2:00 pm Sunday, May 3, 2026, at Canyon Ferry Road Baptist Church, 3384 Canyon Ferry Rd, East Helena, Montana 59635.

Build Your Own Succulent Workshop

1pm May 9th @ C Hangin' C
310 S Front, Townsend



For Information or to Register:
Ask for Cassie 406-266-0030

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



FREE EVENTS

Join us for an informal hour.
Bring your questions!

5:30 - 6:30pm May 13

@ Galvanized Events,

214 1st Ave West, Three Forks:

Candidate for Sheriff and Coroner,
Sheriff Mark Wood

Beverages and snacks provided at this event.

5:30 - 6:30pm May 21

@ Bridger Brewing, Three Forks:

Candidate for Sheriff and Coroner,
Sheriff Mark Wood

Tennis Teams, 3

Hildreth won her match against Forsyth and won 7-5. For doubles, Bryleigh Erickson and Chloe Flynn played a close match against Forsyth, winning in a tie breaker 5-7, 6-4, and 10-5. Addy White and Kylee Warburton won their match against Forsyth 6-4 and 6-3.

The next duals were on Saturday, May 2nd. The Bulldogs played Red Lodge first and won 4 matches and lost 2. Harper Wolfgram played at singles one and won her match 6-3 and 6-4. Hailey Hildreth played at singles two and won her match 7-5, 3-6, and 10-6 in the tie breaker. Nayla Mendoza lost her match 3-6 and 4-6. Haedyn Poe lost her match 3-6 and 4-6. Chloe Flynn and Bryleigh Erickson won their match 6-2 and 6-2. Addy White and Kylee Warburton beat their opponents 6-3, 6-2.

In the next dual, the singles played Jefferson, and the doubles played a mix of Red Lodge or Wolf Point. Jacey Brunette lost her match against Jefferson 4-6, 3-6.

Arabella McDaniel lost her match 4-6, and 3-6. Harper Wolfgram lost her match 4-6 and 4-6. Hailey Hildreth won her match 6-2 and 6-3. Bryleigh Erickson and Chloe Flynn played Wolf Point and won their match 6-1. Addy White and Kylee Warburton won their match 6-2 and 6-3.

The Bulldogs took on Lone Peak and Poplar in the last match of the tournament. They won every match. Hailey Hildreth won her match against Lone Peak 6-4 and 6-2. Jacey Brunette won her match against Poplar 6-2 and 6-2. Bella McDaniel won her match against Poplar 6-2 and 6-2. Nayla Mendoza won her match against Lone Peak 6-2, and 6-2. Harper Wolfgram and Chloe Flynn played Poplar and won their match 6-2 and 6-2. Addy White and Kylee Warburton won their match against Lone Peak 6-4 and 6-2. Lastly, Emma Delgado and Haedyn Poe won their match 6-2, 4-6, and 10-8 in the tie breaker.

The tennis team will host the Dawg Bite tournament in Townsend and Helena on May 8th and 9th.

Townsend Bulldog Baseball Against Dillon Beavers Last Thursday

Kelly Morris Photography



The Bulldogs lost 16-0, but Dillon is considered the best high school baseball team in the state, according to MaxPreps.

The Bulldogs actually played very well defensively for most of the game, but in the 5th inning, the Beavers' offense exploded for 8 runs to put the game away.

Great work, Bulldogs!



The Bulldog's Tyzer Rains makes solid contact
Kelly Morris Photography



Bulldog Left Fielder Keaton Boylan catches a fly ball
Kelly Morris Photography



Bulldog Center Fielder Teigan Volkman catches a fly ball
Kelly Morris Photography



Bulldog Center Fielder Luke Tullos catches a fly ball
Kelly Morris Photography

UPPER SEVEN LAW PRESENTS THE

MONTANA CONSTITUTION ROADSHOW

Join us for an engaging presentation on the Montana Constitution—Montana values written by Montanans for Montanans.

Bridger Brewing
Fri., May 15, 6:00-7:30 PM
75 Vigilante Wy, Three Forks, MT 59752

Register here:



Saturday May 16, 2026

8:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
301 North Cherry Street

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.

Broadwater Brainiacs Take on the World Stage in Houston



The Broadwater Brainiacs take a moment to snap a picture in front of the Championship backdrop. From left to right: Courtney Webber, Kathryn Six, Sky Sellay, Eriyn Strait, Everrett Kirksey, Karter Schmaus, Andrew Beatty, Titus Kirksey, Jayden Flynn.
Photo Credit: Roger Flynn

Roger Flynn
STOKE

Houston Robotics

Broadwater Brainiacs Take on the World Stage in Houston.

Last week, the Broadwater Brainiacs headed to Houston, Texas to compete at the FIRST LEGO League



Everett Kirksey (left) and Kathryn Six (right) prepare for competition as referees make final adjustments.
Photo Credit: Roger Flynn

World Championship. The event ran April 29 through May 2 and brought in more than 50,000 people across middle school and high school competitions. Out of more than 600,000 FIRST LEGO League participants worldwide, only about 0.2% make it this far. The Broadwater Brainiacs showed up ready, backed by an

Broadwater Brainiacs, 1

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY

to the

Broadwater County Museum

You are invited to join us in a celebration at the

Broadwater County Museum

At 133 North Walnut Street

Townsend, Montana

At 2:00; Sunday, May 17

There will be an Open House Program with the

History of the museum, a story about a

WWII soldier, Robin C. Pennington

and a few stories about Broadwater County

Presented by Linda Huth, Curator of the Museum.

2026 Hunting Regulations Available

Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Deer, Elk, Antelope and Moose, Sheep, Goat, and Bison Regulations are currently available on the FWP website and in print. Pick them up at all FWP offices or FWP License ambassador locations.

Download the 2026 Fish, Wildlife and Parks regulations at:

<https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/2026FWPRegulations>

Bridger Brewing Takeover @ The Betsy!

217 Broadway Street, Townsend, MT



Bridger Brewing will take over ALL the taps at the Betsy this Friday, May 8, at 5:30.

There will be prizes, raffles and give aways; as well as discounts.

You don't want to miss this event! Only @ the SportsZone!

AI – Amusing and a Little Terrifying

Victor Sample

The other day, I asked AI what I thought was a simple question: On many of the Food Network Baking Championship shows, the host doesn't get served the food. Only the judges get the food. Why?

It seemed like a pretty straightforward question. The answer I got was well formulated and coherent and given with all confidence – and was absolutely wrong. Basically, the answer was that it would affect the baker's time to create the extra serving, and it would cost extra for the ingredients.

A totally reasonable and well-written answer – and totally wrong. It's a baking show. The bakers are asked to create a dozen cookies, a pan of brownies, a whole cake or pie, etc. In other words, no extra ingredients would be required, and no extra time would be required to serve a dish to the host.

When I told the AI engine the answer was a total fabrication, the AI engine apologized and admitted that it gave an answer based on statistical probabilities without having any actual basis for the answer.

In this case, I knew immediately the AI engine hallucinated the answer, but in many cases, that is not

the case. People accept the answers even when there is absolutely no basis. I find that a little frightening.

I was reading an article written by someone in the marketing business that was lamenting that professional marketers were some of the first people to adopt use of AI in their work, although AI has advanced, marketers have not advanced their usage. They still just treat what they get from AI as a rough draft and go from there.

The author said that in the early days of AI, while the output was well formulated, it was not always very accurate or usable. There were many AI hallucinations. He went on to say that with all of the new advances, only around 7% of the answers are hallucinated.

ONLY 7%!

Imagine if you are a manager of an employee, or a coworker of an employee, who knew 7% of what the employee told you was totally made up; no actual facts and false references for what was said.

When I was a manager, I would have fired an employee who totally fabricated 7% of what they told me!

In the world of AI (at least according to the author of the article I read), 7% hallucinations are perfectly acceptable (of course, it is marketing...)

I find that attitude to be more than frightening!

STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

SIDESTEP ON THE BASELINE

When recovering a short distance to the center of the court along the baseline, slide your feet with your chest facing the net. It's easier to push off in either direction if you don't cross your legs while shuffling.

If you see opponents who have crossed their feet, try hitting the ball behind them. They will have a hard time changing direction to reach the ball. Placement is just as important as power.

SCAM ALERT

NEVER:

- SHARE PERSONAL INFO (Do Not Share Bank Details, Passwords, SSN)
- PAY VIA GIFT CARDS (Or Wire Transfer/Crypto)
- CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS (Emails Texts From Strangers)

BEWARE! Protect Yourself From Scams

STAY SAFE: Always Verify!

PROTECT YOURSELF

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Scam Alert

Victor Sample
MT43 News



A friend of mine received this text:

"Montana District Court – Mediation Notice

Judge: Robert Harlan

Issuing Agency: Montana Vehicle Enforcement (MVE)

Case #: MT-DC-2026-TR-17594

You are scheduled to attend a court-directed mediation session regarding your unpaid traffic citation. The session is set for May 4, 2026, at 9:00 AM. This mediation is part of the court's process to assist in resolving the outstanding balance and to help prevent further proceedings.

If you do not attend or fail to reach a resolution, the court may enter a default judgment, issue a bench warrant, suspend your driving privileges, and assess additional administrative fees.

For case details and mediation instructions, please visit the secure case portal: <https://mt.swiom.cam/dmv>

Please reply with "A" and visit the above link to confirm receipt of this notice.
MT District Court"
There are so many things wrong with the text. Do not go to the website listed. If you want to verify whether any text like this is legit or not, CALL your local District Court Clerk.

We buy:

- Gold, Sterling Estate Jewelry
- Native American Jewelry
- Sterling Flatware & Service ware
- Vintage Watches and More

RC Jewelry MT

Check out our Google reviews!

Located:
Downtown Helena
357 Last Chance Gulch
(2nd floor of Barnes Jewelry)

Store Open:
Tues - Wed - Thurs
10 AM - 5:30 PM

Best to make an appointment
406-502-1029

Weekend appointments available.

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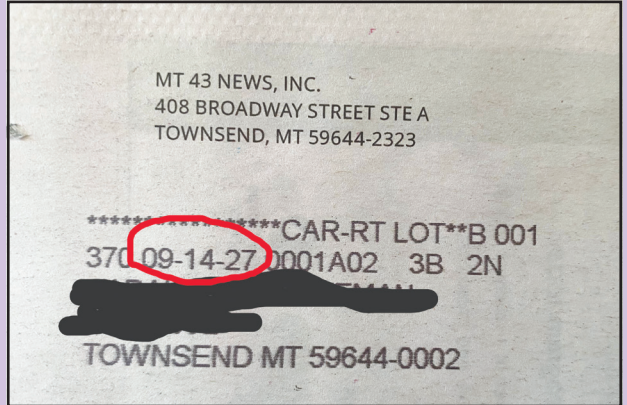
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We would love to help you!



Your MT43 News for April 3, 2026 Weekly Edition PDFs x

mt43news@mt43news.com

Dear [Redacted]

All subscribers to MT43 News have the option to download the electronic issue of our paper.

The Current Issue of the MT43 News is now available for download. Please note that the elec

As a courtesy reminder your subscription expires on 2027-09-14.

As a print subscriber you may not want to receive these weekly emails with the link to the PD

Thank you for your support!

The Staff at MT43 News

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

BY LINDA HUTH

SPONSORED BY
THE BROADWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& THE COTTER FOUNDATION

May 7

1903

Toston Topics

Jake Ross and wife, accompanied by their niece, Ruth Linton, went to Helena Saturday, returning the same night. Miss Linton stayed with her mother for a few days.

What might have proven a very serious accident occurred last Friday evening, when the Misses Lillie, Ruth and Myrtle Linton and Nellie Benham were returning from a ride. They had driven up in front of the store when one of the horses rubbed its bridle off. Miss Lillie was stepping out of the buggy to put it on again when the horse saw that he was loose and started to run, throwing Lillie down and running over her limb. The team ran over the hill and back of Mr. Nolan's barn and started down over the point of the hill near the blacksmith shop, where they turned, throwing the girls out and upsetting the buggy. It was thought for a while that they were hurt very severely, but all are getting along nicely at present. Nellie, however, is compelled to carry her arm in a sling.

Cliff Rader returned from Jardine last week and will remain to help his father during the summer.

1925

Local News

Mrs. J.D. Doggett spent a couple of days this week in Townsend, coming in from her ranch home.

Miss Margaret Connors and Miss Mae McCormick, accompanied by Helena friends, attended the Junior Prom here last Friday evening.

Mike Massa was a Townsend visitor on Monday, coming down from Toston.

R.L. Dickey took a car of young swimmers into Broadwater plunge Sunday and the youngsters tried out their swimming strokes to see if they had forgotten when last used last fall in the old swimming pool here. The boys reported a dandy time and a good feed after their swim, which is known to be a wonderful appetite invigorator.

Mr. and Mrs. H.O. Miller of Diamond were in Townsend Monday.

Mayor Gene McCarthy has been on the sick list for the past week, suffering with a severe attack of the flu, but is reported better at the present writing.

Miss Clara Shaw spent Saturday and Sunday with home folk here.

1953

Has Party

Little Miss Lynda Sue Damuth was four years old on last Thursday, so she had some of her little friends in to help her celebrate the occasion. Those who came to play and eat some of the birthday cake and ice cream were Mary Lou and Marcia Thompson, Kay Davis, Anita Olsen, Johnny Poole, Claudia Crawford, Susan Rains.

News Briefs

Mrs. D.L. Hollaway and daughter, Deena, and Mrs. Dennis Scofield were in Helena Saturday, Mrs. Scofield taking her Merit Examinations to qualify her for secretarial work in the office of the Case worker here.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sherwood and children returned Wednesday from New York after several months' absence.

Radersburg News

Mr. and Mrs. Art Sitton and family were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Vennekolt of Townsend were Radersburg visitors one day last week.

Mrs. Estelle Knight was a business caller in Townsend Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Harris and Mrs. Lan Allen drove to Butte on business Thursday evening, returning home on Friday evening.

A group of men here met the truck with young fish on Monday and planted 36,000 Eastern Brook trout in Crow Creek and the Swamp Creeks. These are the little Eastern Brook trout that will be available for planting, since the hatchery has quit breeding them.

1970

Piano Students to Present Recital

Students of Merle Turman will present their piano recital tomorrow night, (Friday) May 8 at 8:00 in the new gymnasium.

Those participating will be Valerie Horne, Kathy Kimpton, Susan Foster, Betty Lau, Pat Welch, Jackie Sautter, Theresa Vesely, Donnie Walters, Susan Sautter, Kimberly Bucy, Tama Bucy, Jenelle Jersey, John Sautter, Sally Christie, Vallie Trarbach, Beth Meyer, Beth Armstrong, Eddie Armstrong, Karin Foster, John Foster, Kimberly Bieber and Stephani Bieber.

Prizes will be awarded to recent contest winners. Everyone is welcome and cordially invited to attend.

Local News

John Rains and a friend, Bill Baker, students at Montana State University, Bozeman, spent the weekend with John's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Garrison Rains.

Tim Ragen, Tim Evans and Dale Sprout were here from Western Montana College, Dillon, to spend the weekend at their homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Scott and daughter of Dillon visited over the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leanhart.

**When you've had enough...
...We know what you need**

Historic Townsend Hardware
204 BROADWAY • PROUDLY SERVING TOWNSEND SINCE 1953

The Garden Center

Broadwater Brainiacs, 12

incredible group of coaches, mentors, and a community that has supported them from the very beginning.

They competed alongside teams from all 50 U.S. states, Canadian provinces, and more than 50 countries across six continents, including countries like Brazil, Japan, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, Rwanda, Estonia, Australia, Romania, Uruguay, Morocco, and South Africa. For a small-town team, just being part of that group is something special.

This year's theme was "Unearthed," focusing on archaeology. For their Innovation Project, the team created an app to help archaeologists document stone features like tipi rings. What used to take hours or even days can now be done much faster using LiDAR scanning and photogrammetry to capture and map structures in detail. The team got the chance to present their idea to judges and talk with other teams from around the world, which was a huge highlight.

At Houston Museum of Natural Science, they were given a private tour of the dinosaur exhibit and even got to talk with paleontologists working on real specimens. It was one of those moments you don't forget.

The robot game brought a whole new level of competition. The robots on that field were impressive. Every

match gave the Brainiacs a chance to learn, adjust, and push themselves. They stayed positive, worked together, and came away with experience that will stick with them.

The trip wasn't just about competition. At Johnson Space Center, the team visited the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory and watched astronauts training underwater for future missions to the moon. They also got to see mission control, which gave them a real look at how space missions come together. It was a powerful reminder that just because you come from a small town in Montana does not mean you cannot aim for something bigger. Experiences like this can open up new possibilities and expand what these students see for their future.

"Seeing astronauts training underwater at the Neutral Buoyancy Lab was something I'll never forget. It gave me a whole new respect for what it takes to train for space missions. Seeing all the students from around the world was crazy. It was cool to see how their minds worked and how they approached problems differently. It showed me that no matter where you're from, you have to be able to work as a team and communicate, especially when everyone thinks a little different." — *Jayden Flynn, Broadwater Brainiacs team member*

This trip came after eight months of hard work designing, building, and improving both their robot and their project. Earlier this season, that effort paid off when they

won the Montana state competition and earned their spot in Houston. They did not bring home a top award from Houston, but the growth these students experienced on this journey will last far longer than any trophy.

During the awards ceremony, a message from FIRST leadership summed it up well:

"This whole thing we call FIRST and FIRST LEGO League is not actually about the robot. It's not actually about the kids building the robots. It is the other way around. We are using the robots to build the kids." — *Chris Rake*

The team includes Andrew Beatty, Jayden Flynn, Titus Kirksey, Everett Kirksey, Sky Sellay, Karter Schmaus, Kathryn Six, Erilyn Strait, and Courtney Webber. They were supported by mentors Aiden Kitto, Karolyn Schmaus, Trenton Essary, Cooper Nichter, and Kay Crusch, along with coaches Jessica Crusch, Dr. Adam Six, Dr. Lisa Brown, Spencer Sellay, Jim Strait, and Roger Flynn.

This experience wouldn't have happened without the support of the community. Local businesses, families, and individuals stepped up in big ways to help get this team to the world stage. A special thank you goes to STOKER for believing in this program from the beginning and continuing to support it every step of the way.

The Broadwater Brainiacs represented Townsend well and showed what can happen when a group of kids is given the chance to learn, grow, and take on something big.



Students, mentors and coaches standing in front of NASA Mission Control. The tour of the NASA facilities was a major highlight. Photo Credit: Sarah Kirksey



Twins, Everett and Titus Kirksey, at NASA's neutral buoyancy lab. They watched the astronauts train in the pool in their spacesuits with a replica of the space station to mimic weightlessness in space! Photo Credit: Sarah Kirksey