

Poker Run Participants Love the Ride

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Gordon Huft spoke enthusiastically about the Poker Run All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) event on Saturday. “This is my 6th year making the run. I like to help out with raising funds for Broadwater Search and Rescue. Mostly, I like to get out to do something different.”

Huft said this year’s run was a little over 60 miles through Winston, up Beaver Creek to Crow Creek, where he and his crew took a shortcut from Crow Creek to Indian Creek, then home.

This year, funds raised from the event will be split among Broadwater Search and Rescue, Emergency Medical Services Ambulance Service, and the 4th of July 250th Celebration. Glueckert said they raised \$1,160 in the 50/50 drawing and \$1,400 from the poker hand game. There were 237 poker hands, according to Chairperson Anna Glueckert, with 165 registered vehicles signed up for the ride.

Serving smoked hamburgers was Chris Starr’s

Heleburger concession trailer. Starr has operated Rock Starr barbecue for 8 years in Helena and has a restaurant in Helena’s Reeder’s Alley.

Chamber ofCommerce members would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make the event successful and to Ted Culbertson, owner of Top Gun Auto, for allowing the event to unfold at his parking lot on Highway 287 North of Townsend. Also, would like to thank A da Z Concrete, Pitstop Porta Potty and Custom Sheds for use of the parking lot.



Hundreds of ATV enthusiasts register in Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce's Annual Poker Run at Top Gun Auto Saturday. MT43 News Photographer

County Commissioners Face Resident Frustration with Solid Waste and County Road Maintenance

Nancy Marks

MT43 News Reporter

Tempers flared and accusations of financial mishandling flew at Monday’s Commissioner Meeting. County residents fired angry questions at County Public Works Director.

TJ Graveley and Commissioners Debi Randolph and Jesse Swenson. Commissioner Lyndsey Richtmyer was not present.

Twenty-year Toston resident Vicky Botsford recounted how she had attempted to take her household garbage to the Toston dump, only to find it closed. even though the hours were posted and she was there during open hours. She said she had even found the attendee asleep in his truck one time when she tried to enter. She wondered if the county would hire more employees so the Toston site could be open more hours or different days of the week.

She also questioned whether dump attendants were taking side money to allow people to place too much grass clippings in the dump. She questioned the size of



the load of grass: “How big is a load of grass?”

Graveley countered by defining an acceptable load of grass as 3 cubic yards, or 3 full garbage cans. He explained that money is only accepted at the Solid Waste Transfer Station on Indian Creek Road. “As to whether attendants are taking money,” he said,” I highly doubt it.”

He explained the difficulty of hiring site attendants because the pay is \$13.75 an hour. His last application for hiring only garnered 2 people- one with no commercial driver’s license. Botsford pointed out there were now 8,493 residents living in Broadwater County. “We need to be able to dump our garbage!” she exclaimed.

Resident Robert Sellers was shaking he was so emotional when he told of being yelled at by site attendants, that they “forced” him to take a small piece of furniture -maybe part of a baby crib- to the transfer station to dispose of and pay \$10. After a lecture to the commissioners about not treating citizens fairly, that “everything that goes ‘round, comes ‘round” saying “You should reconsider your policies.”

Sellers dashed out of the meeting before either Graveley or the commissioners could address his concerns.

The annual solid waste fee of \$265 on property tax assessments came up in several residents’ questions. Rural resident Mary Huth questioned why many residents were still not paying their solid waste fees. Several years ago commissioners and County Treasurer Doug Ellis learned that property owners were not being charged their annual waste fees. Both the State Department of Revenue and Solid Waste have been trying to solve the problem.

Huth said she has seen people’s property tax assessments with no solid waste fee listed. “Your miracle did not work. It is unbelievable to me that people are still not making their payments,” she pointed out.

Huth also addressed the question of the Solid Waste Department’s unpaid assessment fees. Graveley explained it this way: “We’ve captured \$156,000 of the original \$250,000 for unpaid fees. The remainder is from assessments on mobile homes and many homes that are “off the grid.” Antelope Road resident Chris Ravndal asked how long the department had been in the black and exactly how the department’s budget is funded. Graveley said the entire budget is funded by the \$265 solid waste disposal fees and has been in the black since last year.

Graveley presented a timeline of how the Solid Waste Department evolved since he took the job as Supervisor in October of 2022. He pointed out the department in the red financially by around \$100,000, that he inherited old equipment acquired as far back as 1983. Since then, the self-sustaining department, referred to as an enterprise business, has been paying off the loan given by the commissioners from the county general fund of \$278,000 as well as three payments on a trailer, a hook

truck and the excavator. The department has 4 fulltime employees and 5 parttime employees.

He also reported the he and the Solid Waste Advisory Board have considered moving the Transfer Station from Indian Creek Road to the Cedar Street Site, pointing out the cost savings in gas and allowing more access for residents. He pointed out tire recycling and tree/branch burning would remain at the present Site.

Graveley and the Solid Waste Advisory Board are studying the move. Although the Department of Environmental Quality permitting process is long and arduous he feels the move would be beneficial. Other counties have moved their transfer stations with the help of grants so the board is looking into that path. Volunteers who sit on the board are Lisa Rowell, Eric Stahl, Doug Jones, Kip Meier and Patrick Miller.

City Council member JB Howick commented he is in favor of the transfer station moving to the Cedar Street Site, that the move would cut down on the city’s gas bill for hauling city garbage to the present transfer station.

Kathy Brekke and Zona Hale asked for better access to the Solid Waste Department budget on the county website.

Having gone the distance on public concerns about solid waste sites, Commissioner Debi Randolph opened the floor to questions about road maintenance.

Gurnett Creek residents Al Bodle and Mary Huth strongly voiced their displeasure about the maintenance on their county road. “Our road needs maintenance. My daughter-in-law and her children hit a rut in the road and ran down the embankment into the creek. I had to carry my granddaughter up from the creek! Why is the county not grading our road? Who is in charge here?” he asked rhetorically.

He said they had emailed the commissioners but nothing happened until he and his wife posted the accident on Facebook.

Commissioner Randolph responded to the question saying they were working on the problem but she had not answered their email. Bodle admitted that it was a big job to maintain the 800 miles in Broadwater County now, but that they needed the service. Huth questioned why county road crews were only required to work 4 days a week. “We should have at least 5 days a week coverage for snow plowing and road grading. I’m so disgusted,” she ended.

Graveley responded by saying the crew works, per their union contract, Monday through Thursday 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. per week. “We tried to work 8-hour shifts, but it just did not work for us,” he explained.

He pointed out they are always available for emergencies, 24/7: “People can call me directly, or call the Sheriff’s office for emergency road problems.”

Commissioners Swenson and Randolph also responded to letters and emails from residents about Springville Road, Winston and Dry Hollow Drive.



Toston resident Vicky Botsford questions Public Works Director TJ Graveley and County Commissioners at Monday's meeting. MT43 Staff Photographer

ATTENTION!

IMPORTANT

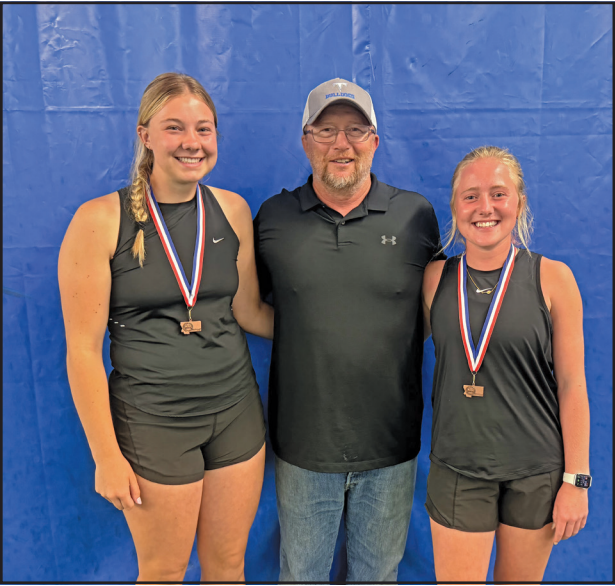
The next edition of MT43 News is dated Friday, June 19.

Vendors will be stocked as per usual, however, mail subscribers may get late newspapers that week because of the federal holiday.

We appologize in advance for any inconvenience.

Thank you for being a part of our MT43 News family!

Bulldog Tennis Team Ends Their Season at State Tournament



5th Place Winners in Doubles - Bryleigh Erickson, Coach John O'Dell and Chloe Flynn.
Photo Provided

Bryleigh Erickson
BHS Sports Reporter



On May 28th, 29th, and 30th, six Bulldog Tennis athletes travelled to Missoula to compete in the State tournament. The Bulldogs qualified two doubles teams: Kylee Warburton and Addy White, and Bryleigh Erickson and Chloe Flynn, along with two singles players, Harper Wolfgram and Bella McDaniel.

There were 32 total singles players, and both Bulldogs players had a successful tournament. Harper Wolfgram won her first two games of the tournament, beating Jefferson and Forsyth opponents. She lost in a close match to a different opponent from Forsyth, which sent her to the backside of the bracket. Harper fought in a tough match against a Choteau opponent, eventually falling short.

Arabella McDaniel started the tournament strong with a win against a Choteau opponent. Her loss to Forsyth sent her to the backside of the bracket. Then, she beat her opponent from Fort Benton but lost her next match against Superior.

Kylee Warburton and Addy White started the tournament with a tight win against a Wolf Point team. They battled Fairfield but came up short. They faced off against opponents from Anaconda to win that match-up. They played Fort Benton only to lose the match.

Chloe Flynn and Bryleigh Erickson had a first-round bye, as they were the one seed from the Southern division. They beat a Fairfield team. Following that game, they played Chinook in a tight match, but fell short, propelling them to the backside of the bracket. They beat Baker and Fort Benton to advance to the placing matches. They lost in a tough match against Loyola, sending them to battle for 5th and 6th place. They faced off against Chinook and won their match. This placed them in 5th and named Bryleigh Erickson and Chloe Flynn as All-State placers.

Overall, this was a great tournament for the Bulldogs tennis team. As a team, they barely missed the podium, but they plan to continue to improve and eventually place as a team next year.



BHS Tennis Team 2026 from left: Harper Wolfgram, Kylee Warburton, Violet Collins, Bryleigh Erickson, Coach John O'Dell, Chloe Flynn, Arabella McDaniel, Addy White and Coach Kara Bryant.
Photo Provided



Bryleigh Erickson hits a strong forehand shot during last Thursday's competition at the State Tennis Meet.
Kelly Morris Photography



Bella McDaniel returns a serve during last Thursday's competition at the State Tennis Meet
Kelly Morris Photography



Chloe Flynn with the serve during last Thursday's competition at the State Tennis Meet.
Kelly Morris Photography



Harper Wolfgram returns a serve during last Thursday's competition at the State Tennis Meet
Kelly Morris Photography

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- Colonoscopy Age: 45+**
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- Prostate Age: 50+**
Talk to your healthcare provider about how often a prostate screening is right for you. If you are African American or if your father or brother had prostate cancer before the age of 65, get a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test.
- Lung Cancer Age: 55-80***
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Journalism Scholarship Won by Kaitlyn Noyes

MT43 News Staff Reporter

It is interesting how one year as a Future Farmers of America Club reporter will spark your desire to learn how to write.

Recently graduated Kaitlyn Noyes applied for and won the Rotary journalism scholarship and will use it to take courses in journalism at Montana State University this fall. She will take those along with her major in business marketing and graphic design. All those courses will hone her communication skills.



Scholarship Winner Kaitlyn Noyes at her graduation May 31st
Kelly Morris Photography

Noyes, one of the co-valedictorian-salutatorians of her class, said she really enjoyed interviewing people to put together stories about the club’s activities when she wrote for FFA two years ago.

Noyes said she’ll kick back this summer before she dives into college, going to her sister’s wedding and travelling to Europe with the Bulldogs Beyond group. Her summer will be filled with her final 4-H activities and helping on her family’s farm. She will miss high school but will look forward to life at MSU.

Townsend Rotary offered the \$2,000 scholarship through donations given in memory of 45-year newspaper writer Hugh van Swearingen, who passed away in 2024.

Crazy Mountain Ranch Softens Approach in Latest Battle Over Water

Nick Mott
Mountain Journal

Crazy Mountain Ranch says it wants ‘day-to-day’ control of key diversion structure. But opponents fear the request could reshape how water is managed across Montana.

This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press and The Mountain Journal. It is republished here courtesy of the Montana Free Press and The Mountain Journal.

A few miles downstream from a controversial invitation-only ranch in the Shields Valley, Rock Creek rushes over cobblestones with a hint of color, occasionally overtopping its banks with spring runoff. About 25 miles away, a pending decision on a Wednesday court hearing could impact who controls a key diversion, known as a headgate, on the creek — and the fate of the water and local ranching families who depend on it.

The Mountain Journal has written an extensive article about this important Montana water rights issue.

You can read the full article at our website: <https://mt43news.com>

Big Sky, Big Leadership Graduates Celebrate Success and Community Impact



Participants in Big Sky, Big Leadership, Broadwater County 2025-2026.
Photo Credit: Allison Kosto

Allison Kosto
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent



Fifteen emerging and current leaders from across Broadwater County celebrated their graduation from the Big Sky, Big Leadership program on Friday, May 8. These individuals—Todd Beatty, Andrea Dabling, Grace Davison, Denise Donnelly, Angela Janacaro, Diane Letendre, Shawna McCauley, Bobbie McCauley, Barbara Mock, Connie Myles, Michele Rauser, Karee Reiman, Elaine Roy, Anna Shearer, and Maggie Tiska —spent the previous nine months building skills, exploring local issues, and making a difference in their communities.

Launched in Broadwater County in 2021, Big Sky, Big Leadership is part of a statewide initiative developed by MSU Extension to build strong, engaged, and forward-thinking leaders in rural Montana. Rural communities face significant challenges that range from struggling economic conditions to changing demographics to quality of life. These complex issues cannot be easily solved and require innovative leaders to look and think in new ways. Since its inception, 64 participants in Broadwater County alone have completed the program. The 2026 cohort was the largest cohort to date.

Over the course of the program, participants attended monthly sessions focused on leadership development and community experiences. Leadership training covered everything from understanding personality types to managing conflict, motivating others, and creating gracious spaces. The most highly rated topics from this year were personality types, conflict management, values, leadership styles, generations, volunteer engagement, and emotional intelligence.

But the experience extended beyond the classroom.

Each session also included community tours and/or guest speakers, offering participants a deeper understanding of local industries, resources, and challenges. Memorable visits included Hamilton Honey, Bruce Seed Farm, GT Vintage Trailer Service, Graymont Western, Townsend Mercantile and Goosebay Glass.

Participants didn’t just learn—they acted. As part of the program, participants worked in small groups to plan and implement community projects.

This year’s class delivered three impressive initiatives:

- McCarthy Park Concession Stands: Insulated the concession stands to allow for longer or earlier use of the stands.
- Memorial Park Blue Star Memorial: Assisted with raising funds and labor to replace plants and improve landscaping.
- Care Closet: Partnered with Townsend Schools to organize, clean, stock and raise funds for the care closet for homeless students.

The program’s impact speaks for itself. On the final program evaluation, 83.3 percent of the respondents felt the class had helped them become a better leader at home, work or in the community. Seventy-five percent also said the class helped to improve the effectiveness of organizations or groups they are a member of. Since completing the course, several alumni have stepped into leadership roles—joining boards, mentoring others, and being involved in new efforts.

If you're ready to grow as a leader and make a meaningful difference, now’s the time to step up. The next Big Sky, Big Leadership will begin in the fall of 2027. For more information, contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or allison.kosto@montana.edu. Be part of the next class of leaders. Together, we can build a stronger Broadwater County.



Pat Hughes, Founder and CEO of Trillium Leadership Consulting from Seattle, WA, discusses gracious space.
Photo Credit: Allison Kosto



Jason Kool with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks discusses local hunting land access.
Photo Credit: Allison Kosto

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(Across from Big Bull. Past the Tracks on Right)



BREAKING NEWS //

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 8, 2026

Transparent Election Initiative to Host Montana Plan Madness Community Celebration in Helena

HELENA, Montana — The Transparent Election Initiative (TEI) announced today that it will host a community celebration in partnership with the local Teriyaki Madness location in Helena on Sunday, June 14th, to offer voters the opportunity to discuss ballot initiative I-194, also called the Montana Plan. I-194 proposes to end the influence of corporate and dark money in Montana politics, grounded in Montana’s constitutional ability to define and regulate corporations within the state.

The community event will take place on Sunday, June 14th, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. with catering from Teriyaki Madness, live music, and various outdoor games provided. It will be free and open to the public. No RSVP is necessary, and all community members are invited to come enjoy a free Sunday activity while learning about the impact of dark money in politics and how The Montana Plan strategy will help restore transparency to elections. There will also be Montana Plan Madness celebrations in Great Falls and Billings at the same time.

“The communities of Helena, Great Falls, and Billings have given so much support to I-194, and we wanted to thank everyone who has supported the Montana Plan with some family fun and delicious food,” said Jeff Mangan, founder of the Transparent Election Initiative. “This will also be a great opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about I-194 to have a conversation with TEI volunteers about the impact of dark money and how Montana can fix it.”

The event in Helena will take place at Memorial Park bandshell. TEI volunteers will be present to gather last-minute signatures for the I-194 petition, but the goal of the event is to create a fun environment to connect, thank communities for their continued support of I-194, and answer any questions about The Montana Plan.

EVENT DETAILS:

- **Date:** Sunday, June 14th, 2026
- **Time:** 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Location:** Memorial Park bandshell in Helena
- **Admission:** Free and open to the public

For more information, visit MontanaPlan.com or contact tei@transparentelection.org.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

HELP WANTED

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

Job Posting

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

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

Townsend School & Sports

JUNE

Mon 8 - Wed 10

- 8:00 am: Little Dog Basketball Camp - 63 and Stage Gyms

Thursday 9

- 6:00 pm: School Board Meeting - Community Room



East Helena Schools & Sports

JUNE

Friday 15

- 6:30 pm: Booster Club Meeting - East Helena High School

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

JUNE

Monday 15

- 6:00 pm: Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 16

- 9:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting
- 3:30 pm: Three Forks Mosquito Board Meeting
- 4:00 pm: Townsend Mosquito Board Meeting
- 7:00 pm: Noxious Weed Board Meeting

Wednesday 17

- 10:00 am: Commissioners Meeting
- 10:00 am: Public Hearing 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
- 6:00 pm: Airport Board



LIBRARY HOURS

Broadwater School & Community Library

The library reopens Friday, June 5th, at 9:00 am with summer hours!
Curbside available. Please call: (406)441-3461



201 N Spruce St, Townsend
Photo Provided

PUBLIC SUMMER HOURS are:

Monday - Thursday 1:00 to 7:00 pm
Friday - Saturday 9:00 to 4:00 PM
Closed Sunday

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson
Branch Manager

HOURS:

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



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

JUNE

Wednesday 17

- 10:30 am: Storytime
- 11:30 am: Outdoor Lawn Games in Mainstreet Park- All Ages Welcome

Thursday 18

- 1:00 pm: Crafternoon

Friday 19

- CLOSED for Juneteenth Holiday

BROADWATER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

Friday 12

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

Saturday 13

- 7:00 am: 2026 Broadwater County Fly-In **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
- 7:00 pm Headwaters Amateur Radio Club of Montana Meeting, Belgrade, MT

Tuesday 16

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

Wednesday 17

- 1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
- 2:00 pm: Slice of Summer at Heritage Park **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**
- 7:30 PM: Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting at the Townsend Fire Station, 130 So Cedar St **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

Thursday 18

- Townsend Crimson Red Hat Ladies Lunch- Contact Sandy for information 406-949-0081
- 3:00 pm: Townsend Farmers Market at WiFi Park
- 6:00 pm: Monthly Chamber of Commerce Community Meeting at Heritage Park **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
- 7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 19

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

Saturday 20

- 4:00 pm: Celebration of Life for William Ford Hallenberg at American Legion **SEE PAGE 11**
- 6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
- 6:00 pm: **FREE** Summer Solstice Outdoor Dance at The Lodge **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**

Monday 22

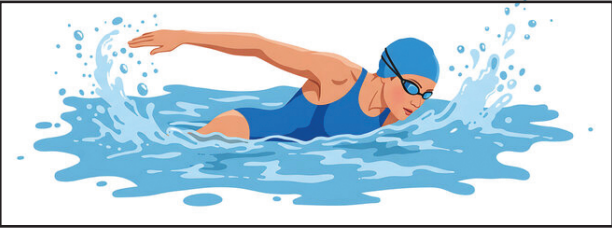
- 5:00 pm: Broadwater Western Days Rodeo sign-ups **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**

Friday 26

- 5:00 pm: Mary Duede and Carla Amundson at the Historic Canton Church **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**

Saturday 27

- 1:00 pm: **FREE** Groceries for Veterans at American Legion Post #42 **SEE AD ON PAGE 11**



CITY POOL OPEN

The community pool officially opens for the season on Monday, June 15th.

This season's schedule offers plenty of opportunities to beat the heat this summer!

Admission & Passes

Daily Swim Rate: \$4 per person
Season Pass: \$80

Open Swim Hours

Monday – Friday: 1:00pm – 4:00pm & 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Saturday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Sunday: Closed

Water Aerobics

Classes begin Monday, June 22nd, and will run Monday through Thursday from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM.

Holiday Closures

The pool will be closed on July 3rd and July 4th for Independence Day. Regular hours will resume following the holiday.



Shields River Farm & Nursery
26 Becker Lane, Wilsall, MT 59086



Open Friday - Sunday 9-5
(see website for hours of operation or to schedule an apt)
www.shieldsriverfarm.com

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6
FOR JOBS & LEGAL NOTICES!

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Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.

Next meeting: June 17, 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, June 18
@ Heritage Park
All members of the community welcome!

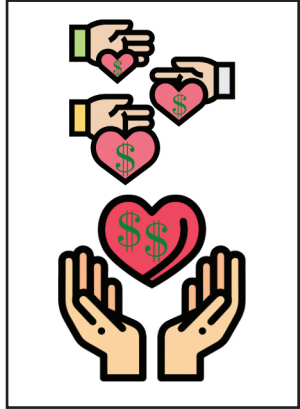
Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting of the Broadwater Community Health Foundation will be held **Thursday, June 26, 2026, at 6:30 pm** in the meeting room of the Billings Clinic – Broadwater Hospital.

DONATION MATCH!

Monetary Donations to the Broadwater Food Pantry, from Mother’s Day, May 10th, to Father’s Day, June 21st, will be matched by the Rotary Club of Townsend!

Please send your donations to PO Box 1164, Townsend, MT 59644; drop off at the Food Pantry (315 Broadway) on Friday, Jun 5th and June 19th, 9:00AM – 11:00AM; or find the donation box at Bob's Supermarket!



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

Distribution days (1st & 3rd Saturday + 5th if applicable)

June 6th and 20th: 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Donations of food items are accepted Friday June 5th and June 19th: 9:00 to 11:00am

This month donation suggestions: Coffee, burger, fresh fruit & vegetables.

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. June is Holy Cross Catholic Church.

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

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Sunday 9:00 - 3:00

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Helena Shop

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MONDAY - FRIDAY
10:00AM - 2:00PM

408 BROADWAY, TOWNSEND
406.266.0086

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: H equals Y

M UBNRQ ICVJYMPRH PBJ
VCIBFFCPQ JOYJ JYMRBV JB
YPHBPC CRZC. OC QMQP'J
ZNMJ FC UCRR.

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KNIGHT MOVES

R	D	H
A		A
F	M	N

Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

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SCRAMBLERS

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

Part
MOULDE _ _ _ _ _

Perform
CANTE _ _ _ _ _

Keen
AGREE _ _ _ _ _

Lift
SHOTI _ _ _ _ _

TODAY'S WORD



"Our slow waiter is moonlighting, during the day he's an _____."

Super Crossword

FLAVOR NOT TO SAVOR

ACROSS
1 Film blooper compilation
8 Illinois and Iowa's trees
12 "Bali —"
15 Bushy hairdos, for short
19 "Stephen," in Paris
20 Cookie often twisted apart
21 Boat mover
22 Engrossed
23 Start of a riddle
26 Concerning
27 Mil. title
28 Lysol target
29 D.C. insider
30 Contribute one's share
32 Kitchen pests
34 Starts litigation
39 Stop on —
40 Riddle, part 2
44 "Misérables"
45 Taking way too much, in brief
46 Loud weather events, for short
47 Inner city, informally
50 Leopard markings
53 "Eso —" (Paul Anka song)

DOWN
54 Riddle, part 3
64 Cave effect
65 Bovine beast
66 Celebrity astrologer
67 Sydney
68 Omit, as a vowel
69 College head
73 3/15, e.g.
74 Map book
76 Artist Duffy or film director
77 Critical hosp. area
78 Lock lips
79 Riddle, part 4
84 Tiny charged things
85 "It wouldn't — first time"
86 Poppa
87 Intraparty rifts
91 Vast South American plain
95 Football coach
97 Parseghian
104 End of the riddle
105 Arizona
106 Waterway with the Roosevelt Dam

DOWN
106 Vikings' tale, perhaps
107 Novelist
109 Original "King Kong" studio
110 Cast forth
113 Moose's kin
114 Art gallery in London
115 Riddle's answer
121 Drummer
122 Burke or pitcher
123 Labine
124 Iraq export
125 Full of zeal
126 Before now
127 The lady's
128 Norm: Abbr.
129 Sort
130 Lutz or axel performers
131 Showy trinket
132 Wisdom deity
133 Behemoths
134 On Soc.
135 Security, e.g.
136 Prefix with skeleton
137 Writer Blyton
138 Made the first move
139 "Impressive!"
140 Consist of
141 Pub barrel
142 The meal is ready!

DOWN
143 — at the Moon"
(1951 Hank Williams song)
144 Partner of 8-Down
145 — "Z" ('80s Camaro)
146 "Yep, alas"
147 More hoarse
148 Ideal condition
149 High-minded sorts?
150 Duet plus one
151 Juvenile
152 Must exist
153 Longtime NBC show
154 Unconfined
155 "77 Sunset Strip" actor
156 Byrnes
157 Biol. or anat.
158 Schlegel
159 Composer/pianist John
160 Facet
161 Actress
162 Rae of "Vengeance"
163 Employed for the purpose of
164 Head for very quickly
165 So as to be 50% less
166 Oompah band music
167 Coin-op cafeteria
168 Bus. bigwig
169 Letter after upsilon
170 Reactions to cute babies
171 Maude's partner in a 1971 film
172 Intrusive plant
173 Military forces
174 Edmund Spenser's "The — Queen"
175 More hideous
176 Los Angeles hoops team
177 "Terrible" time for tots
178 Writer
179 Dinesen
180 Reid of "Sharknado"
181 #1 song, e.g.
182 Climbing vine
183 Pointer
184 Lofty poem
185 Diner sandwich, for short

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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 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
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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
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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
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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
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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
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Broadwater Area Restaurants

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

406.266.0086 | 408 Broadway, Townsend, MT

Vaquero's Mexican Restaurant

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

Weekly SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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LEGAL NOTICES

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



MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
BROADWATER COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILMA FRANCIS JONES MASOLO, Deceased.
Probate No. DP-4-2026-13
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Phyllis Price has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be mailed to Phyllis Price, the Personal Representative, return receipt requested at 27 Neill Avenue – Suite 200, Helena, MT 59601, or filed with the Clerk of the above Court. Dated this 2nd day of April, 2026.
Phyllis Price, Personal Representative
DRAKE LAW FIRM, P.C.
DarAnne Dunning
Attorneys for Personal Representative
Published May 29, June 5 and 12, 2026

MNAXLP

Permissive Mill Notice

The Board of Supervisors of the Broadwater Conservation District will hold a public hearing to hear public comments on a proposal to levy funds for the purpose of providing group benefits to employee(s) of the district. The hearing will be held at 6:30pm on June 16, 2026, at the USDA Service Center Conference Room. Send comments/questions to Broadwater Conservation District, 415 South Front Street, Townsend, MT 59644, 406-266-3014, broadwatercd@gmail.com
Published June 5 and 12, 2026

MNAXLP

PUBLIC HEARING

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR FY2025-2026
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council for the City of Townsend, Montana, has proposed to amend the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget in one of its funds, Urban Forestry. The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 7th at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT. Members of the public may appear and be heard for or against any part of said budget. After hearing public comment, the Council will review and make necessary changes, if needed, to pass the budget amendment. The Council will act on the proposed budget amendments at the regular council meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing.
Published June 12 and 19, 2026

MNAXLP

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
BROADWATER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of
DELBERT GORDON MORRIS, Deceased.
NO. DDP-4-2026-0000019-IT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that JEREMY DANIEL MORRIS has been appointed Personal Representative of the Will and Estate of DELBERT GORDON MORRIS, deceased. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within FOUR MONTHS after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be mailed return receipt requested to JEREMY DANIEL MORRIS, C/O KELBY R. FISCHER, P.O. BOX 267, HELENA, MONTANA 59624-0267, or filed with the Clerk of the above-entitled Court. JEREMY DANIEL MORRIS declares under penalty of perjury and under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and correct. Dated this 4th day of June 2026.
Published June 12, 19 and 26, 2026

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Broadwater County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on July 1, 2026, at 10:30am in The Flynn Building for the purpose of hearing comments on the proposed Buildings for Lease or Rent Regulations and possible adoption by Resolution. A copy of the proposed procedure is available at www.broadwatercountymt.gov . Written comments are also being accepted.
Published June 12 and 26, 2026

MNAXLP

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Broadwater County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of the updated floodplain permit application fee schedule on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 10:05am. The Broadwater County Board of Commissioners will consider public comment and may render a decision at this time. To view the documents, please visit www.broadwater-countymt.gov. Comments should be directed to the Broadwater County Floodplain Administrator via email to kangland@greatwesteng.com.
Published June 12 and 26, 2026

MNAXLP

Job Vacancy

Broadwater County Treasurer's Office is seeking qualified applicants for the full-time position of Treasurer Assistant. Duties and responsibilities include answering phones, processing mail, taxes, motor vehicles, and cash receipting. 2 years' experience in an office setting and computer skills required. Good customer service, attention to detail, and accounting/bookkeeping experience preferred. Valid driver's license is required. Applicant must pass a background check. Some overtime may be required during tax season. Starting pay is \$19.00-\$20.00/hr., DOE. A complete job description can be obtained by sending a request to mfranks@broadwatercountymt.gov. Resumes, coversheets, references, and other application materials can be sent to the same email. Position is open until filled. Broadwater County is an equal opportunity employer. Broadwater County shall upon request, provide reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified individuals with disabilities. Veterans and Disabled preferences are applicable.
Published June 5 and June 12, 2026

MNAXLP

NOTARY PUBLIC



Notary Service Available

At MT43 News Office

408 Broadway St, Townsend, MT

Mon - Fri 10:00 – 2:00pm

Or by Appointment

Contact: Brenda Phillips

406-231-9752

GUEST EDITORIALS

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

Montana Plan Hurts Montana Business

According to the New York Times, 300 individual billionaires spent more than \$3 billion during the 2024 election cycle. Keep those figures in mind as you consider I-194 and its potential impact on Montana values.

The Montana Chamber of Commerce, the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, and the Billings Chamber of Commerce have taken a clear and united stand against Initiative 194. We believe Montanans deserve a full and transparent explanation of why.

No doubt, I-194 would prohibit Montana businesses and nonprofits from participating in the political process. Under this initiative, family-owned businesses, including farms, ranches, restaurants, and retail stores, could not respond publicly to a ballot initiative targeting them. A Main Street restaurant could not support a local levy to improve public safety. A small business coalition could not push back against misleading claims that threaten their livelihoods and their employees’ jobs. These are not hypothetical concerns; they are the everyday realities of how Montana businesses engage in the civic life of our communities.

But make no mistake, I-194 does not remove big money from our politics.

While cleverly named “The Montana Plan”, I-194 should be called the “California Plan” since California is home to more than 200 individual billionaires and places no restrictions whatsoever on out-of-state wealthy individuals. Under I-194, a single well-funded outsider could bankroll a campaign to devastate a Montana agricultural practice, a logging operation, or a ranching family, while the Montana businesses under attack would be legally silenced. That is not campaign finance reform. That is a one-sided disarmament of Montana’s own voices.

The supporters of I-194 like to reference the Copper King’s influence that occurred at the beginning of the 20th century. And while this initiative would have prohibited the Anaconda Copper Company from supporting candidates, the actual individual Kings of copper--the millionaires that owned those companies--would have still been free to bankroll their preferred candidates, while the rest of Montana’s small business community sat in silence. They would have loved this proposal.

Montana has a proud history of fighting outside influence in our politics, from the battles against the Copper Kings to the Corrupt Practices Act of 1912. But that Act targeted corruption and covert control of government, not the right of businesses and community organizations to have an open voice in the state they call home. There is a meaningful difference between a corporation secretly buying a legislator and a chamber of commerce publicly advocating for its members.

We raised constitutional and legal questions about I-194’s scope before the Montana Supreme Court because those questions deserved an answer. We respect the Court’s ruling. And now we are doing exactly what any organization or individual is entitled to do: making our case openly, with our names attached, and letting Montanans decide.

That is what chambers of commerce do. We advocate for Montana’s businesses and workers—the coffee shops, hardware stores, family farms, and yes, the larger employers whose presence helps keep smaller businesses alive. We are Montanans representing Montana’s economic engine.

We agree that Montanans deserve a political system where their voices matter more than outside money. Silencing Montana businesses while leaving out-of-state billionaires free to spend without restriction does not achieve that goal. It simply changes who gets silenced.

We urge every Montanan to read I-194 carefully—all of it—and ask: Does this make our democracy stronger, or does it make some voices louder by making others disappear?

Montana Chamber of Commerce

Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

Billings Chamber of Commerce

GUEST EDITORIALS

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

The Montana Plan is Good for Montanans

To the Editor,

We are writing to correct the inaccuracies in Tom Millett’s recent op-ed claiming I-194 could cost Montana taxpayers millions without fixing campaign finance. In his piece, Millett mischaracterizes the mechanism, legal grounding, and scope of Initiative 194, also known as The Montana Plan. A reading of the actual initiative text reveals a robust, tightly drafted measure designed to fix the fundamental structure of our broken campaign finance system and wrestle campaign spending away from companies.

Millett claims that I-194 contains a "loophole" because it targets organizations rather than wealthy individuals. This is not a loophole - it is the core mechanism of the law. By redefining the corporate charters and legal powers which are granted by the State of Montana, I-194 explicitly revokes the authority of corporations, LLCs, nonprofits, and trade associations to spend corporate funds to influence our elections. It forces billionaires and corporate executives to use their own personal, post-tax money and sign their own names to political checks, putting them on the same playing field as everyday Montanans instead of hiding behind a company. As a result, individual speech is protected while corporate political spending is limited. That is thoughtful reform, not a loophole.

Next, the op-ed asserts that out-of-state groups and PACS could easily bypass the law with "pass-through funding" or by avoiding "doing business" in Montana. This completely ignores the explicit language of the initiative, which applies equally to all domestic corporations and any foreign corporation or artificial entity utilizing the legal privileges granted by the state to operate or impact commerce within Montana. These dark-money pass-throughs rely entirely on corporate and non-profit structures. By restricting the foundational legal capacity of these entities to spend on political theater, these "tributaries" of dark money are effectively dried up at their source.

Finally, Millett resorts to fearmongering regarding potential litigation costs, claiming it flies in the face of Citizens United. In reality, The Montana Plan is an innovative legal strategy that avoids conflict with federal First Amendment and Citizens United by concentrating on corporate governance and state charter authority. Furthermore, the Montana Supreme Court already rejected a lawsuit brought by corporate opponents attempting to block this initiative, signaling that it is legally sound and can proceed to the voters. Therefore, claims that defending I-194 would cost taxpayers "millions" are merely scare tactics.

Montanans have a proud, bipartisan history of fighting corporate corruption, from the Copper Kings to the 1912 Corrupt Practices Act. I-194 is a necessary, constitutional evolution of that legacy. This is a carefully drafted, constitutionally grounded step toward ensuring that Montana elections reflect the will of people. Please ignore the corporate spin and read the actual text at MontanaPlan.org, then sign the petition to put power back in the hands of human voters.

Sincerely,

Representative Alanah Griffith, HD60

Representative Bob Carter, HD96

Editor Note: The Editorial written by Tom Millett can be read at: <https://montanasentinel.press/opinion/2026/05/19/i-194-could-cost-montana-millions-without-fixing-campaign-finance/>

Wylie Galt Suspends Property Tax Cap Ballot Initiative

Victoria Eavis

Montana Free Press Contributor

The initiative would have limited local governments’ property tax increases to no more than 2% per year, with some exceptions.

Wylie Galt is the MT Senator from District 39 - that includes Broadwater County.

This article was originally published in the Montana Free Press. It is republished here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.

A state senator has suspended his property tax cap ballot initiative just two weeks before signatures come due, alluding to pushback from key stakeholders.



Newly elected Speaker of the House Wylie Galt (center), surrounded by fellow Republican lawmakers during GOP caucuses Nov. 18, 2020. Photo Credit: Eric Dietrich / MTFP

Martinsdale Republican Sen. Wylie Galt, former speaker of the House and member of a prominent land-owning family, announced in a Monday press release that the effort was being halted following “feedback from businesses, public officials, and other individuals.”

A spokesperson for Galt’s initiative did not immediately respond when asked to share details of the feedback or who specifically made the comments that spurred the longtime state lawmaker to make this decision.

If approved by voters, the ballot initiative would have amended the state Constitution to limit local governments’ property tax increases to no more than 2% per year — unless there were improvements to the property — for all classes, including residential, commercial, agricultural, industrial and others.

It also would have protected voter-approved mill or bond levies by allowing those to exceed the cap. Likewise, it was intended to leave public school funding alone by excluding their levies from the cap. Property taxes are critical to local public school funding.

The backers of constitutional initiatives must submit more than 60,000 signatures by June 19 to qualify for the November ballot. Galt’s spokesperson did not immediately respond when asked how many signatures the group had gathered as of Monday.

Galt said in the press release that, by ending the initiative, he hopes to allow for “a more holistic solution to be considered in the upcoming Legislative session.”

“I’m more than willing to work with anyone who’s committed to achieving meaningful property tax relief,” Galt continued. “If substantial relief for Montanans doesn’t get done in the upcoming session, we may be back.”

Galt’s current term in the Legislature runs until 2029, and his district stretches across central Montana from Three Forks to Big Timber and stops just south of Geraldine.

Since property taxes spiked in 2023, pushing many homeowners into a financial bind, politicians of all stripes have called for reforming how property taxes are assessed and levied. The issue topped Gov. Greg Gianforte’s and the Legislature’s list of priorities entering the 2025 legislative session.

On the last day of the 2025 legislative session, lawmakers passed sweeping property tax reform after debating it for most of the four month session. That legislation lowered 80% of Montana residents’ property tax bills in 2025, according to the state revenue department. But detractors of that legislation have pointed to the fact that some residents also saw massive increases, including owners of high value properties worth millions.

Galt was the sponsor of the bill that implemented most of those new laws, although many of the specific policy changes in the bill originated from Gianforte’s property tax task force and other legislators.

Legislators will convene in Helena for the 2027 legislative session in January, where they are likely to again debate the best ways to keep property taxes manageable for home and business owners.

Broadwater Commissioner Meeting

Rachael Brug

Staff Reporter

June 3, 2026
Broadwater County Commission approves mutual aid pact with Gallatin County, hears public outcry over solid waste and roads.

See our front page article by Nancy Marks about solid waste and about road maintenance.

The Broadwater County Commission opened its Monday morning meeting with a unanimous vote to approve a mutual aid agreement with the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office — a deal that will give both agencies cross-jurisdictional authority in the Three Forks area and lay the groundwork for a newly hired resident deputy set to begin work June 24.

A Broadwater County Sheriff’s Office official told commissioners the agreement will allow deputies from both counties to patrol each other’s jurisdictions and take arrests, with the other agency filing supplemental reports. The arrangement is especially significant for the county’s southern corridor, where the new resident deputy — whose name was not released pending his start date — will be based.

"It'll definitely help a lot," the official said, noting the pact would improve police presence and response times in an area that has historically relied on longer backup travel. Gallatin County commissioners were expected to take up the agreement at their June 16 meeting, at which point it would take effect.

Other business:

In other action, commissioners approved a task order amendment for a state-funded mental health crisis diversion grant, as presented by Public Health Director Ruby Taylor. The amendment updated contract language and personnel contacts through the grant's June 30, 2027, end date.

Commissioners also approved a Capital Improvement Plan project description for the Townsend Airport, a non-binding document required by the FAA that outlines potential airport projects through 2032. The board concluded the meeting by approving \$272,531.82 in payroll claims.

The commission noted there will be no regular Wednesday meeting this week due to a scheduling conflict.

Firewood permits for Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest Now Available Online

United States Forest Service

Firewood permits for the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest are now available for purchase through a new online E-Permit system at: <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/2026FirewoodPermits>

Visit the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest's firewood permits webpage at <https://mt43news.com/mt43newsRouter/FirewoodPermits> to learn more about gathering firewood or to purchase a permit online.

The Forest Service will continue to enhance and improve the online permit system’s quality and will introduce additional special forest product permits in the future. Hard copy permits remain available for purchase at all Forest offices.

For more information about the firewood program on the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, visit its website or call (406) 449-5201.

USDA Invests \$65 Million for Projects that Help Farmers

Tasha Gibby

USDA State Public Affairs Specialist

Thanks to the Working Families Tax Cuts Act, USDA Invests \$65 Million for Projects that Help Farmers Improve their Operations and Conserve Natural Resources through Science and Innovation.

WASHINGTON, May 27, 2026 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced the availability of \$65 million in funding this year for new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands through the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program.

CIG is supported by the Working Families Tax Cuts Act (WFTCA), which increased funding for farm bill conservation programs, like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which funds CIG. The WFTCA strengthens the ability of USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to support farmers, ranchers, and partners in tackling

USDA Invests, 10

Broadwater Commissioners Meeting 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, June 16, 2026

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

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

11:00 AM Discussion/Decision, Angie Paulsen, Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder | Elections Administrator | County Surveyor, the Canvass of Votes for the 2026 Federal Primary will be conducted on June 16, 2026, at the Flynn Building, 416 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

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

10:00 AM Monthly report MCA 7-6-612 from Broadwater County Treasurer, Melissa Franks

10:00 AM Public Hearing, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, 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

10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, 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

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Miller Mortgage Exemption Request; S9 T8N R1E

10:15 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Drye Boundary Relocation exemption request; S16 T2N R1E

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Montana River Ranch Holdings, LLC request Boundary Relocation Exemption Request; S31 T7N R4E

10:25 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Westside Trails Major Subdivision request release of Irrevocable Letter of Credit

10:30 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Changes to the Family Transfer Affidavit from the Attorney General’s office

10:35 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Broadwater County Subdivision Supplements

10:40 AM Public comment on any subject not on the agenda, that the Commission has jurisdiction over

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

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

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

Debi Randolph, Chair
(406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050
drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov

Lindsey Richtmyer
(406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834
lrichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov

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

E-mail: commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov
Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway)
Please note: These meeting times/dates may change. Please check the county website.

- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on June 15th at 6:00 PM
- Planning Board Meeting on June 16th at 12:00 PM
- Three Forks Mosquito Board Meeting on June 16th at 3:30 PM
- Townsend Mosquito Board Meeting on June 16th at 4:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on June 16th at 7:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on June 17th at 6:00 PM
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting on June 18th at 1:00 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on July 9th at 5:15 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on July 14th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Meeting on July 14th at 1:00 PM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on July 14th at 6:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on July 15th at 6:00 PM
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting on July 16th at 1:00 PM

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

8

Friday, June 12, 2026

MT 43 News

It's your future. Let's protect it.®



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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 CompanyLaramie, WY. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services. PR-SM-B (10-21)

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

R	D	H
3	8	5
A		A
6		2
F	M	N
1	4	7

FARMHAND

CryptoQuip

answer

I would certainly not recommend that tailor to anyone else. He didn't suit me well.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Module; 2. Enact
3. Eager; 4. Hoist

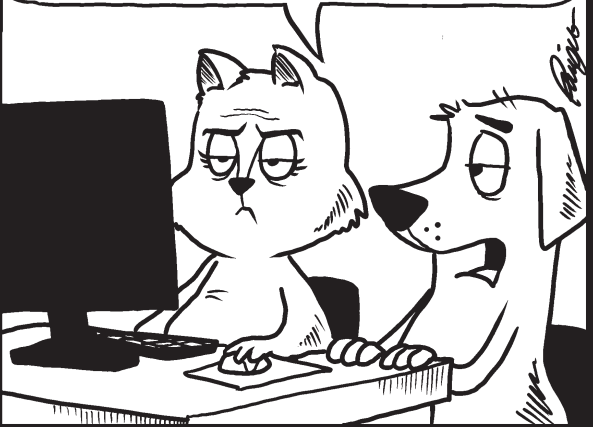
Today's Word

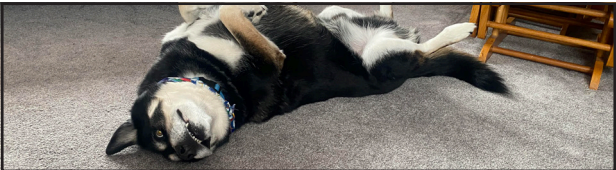
AUDITOR

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

AT THIS POINT I DON'T THINK TECH SUPPORT WILL HELP... I MEAN, THEY WOULD HELP, BUT BASED ON THE LAST 3 CALLS THEY MAY BE AFRAID TO ANSWER.





GRIN and BEAR IT

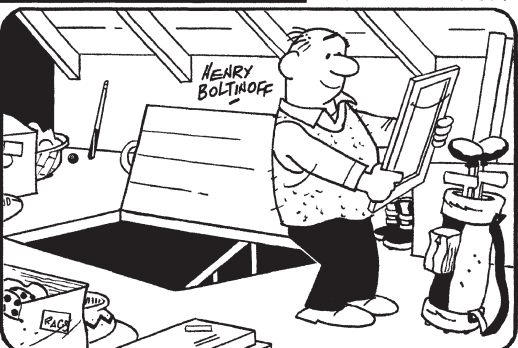
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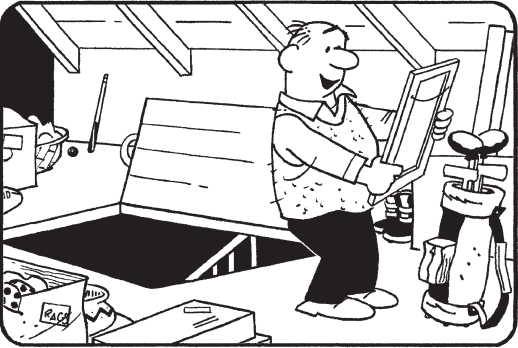
"I saved enough to pay for the fender!"

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Strap on golf bag is different. 2. Box is thicker. 3. Stair railing is different. 4. Door opening is wider. 5. Pocket on golf bag is moved. 6. Mouth is open.

HOCUS FOCUS SPONSOR:

SANDY JANES

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



FISH OUT OF WATER, OUT OF GAS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



OK, PEPPER, I GIVE UP. YOU WON'T FETCH THE FRISBEE, A BALL OR EVEN THE STICK.



I CAN'T SEEM TO GET YOU TO ROLL OVER OR EVEN PLAY DEAD.



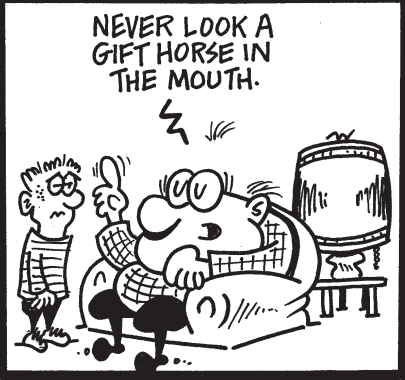
YOU KNOW HOW FRUSTRATING IT IS WHEN DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS YOU REFUSE TO LISTEN?



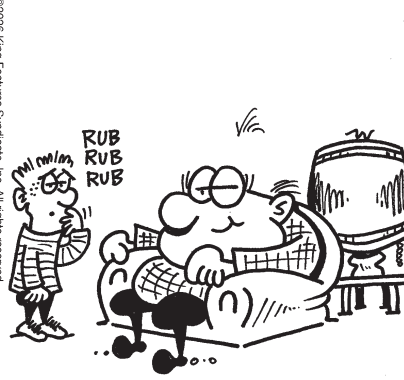
NOT A WORD.

The Spats

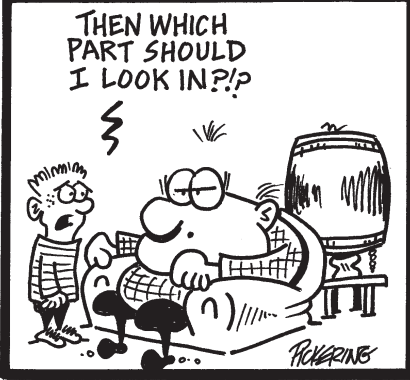
by Jeff Pickering



NEVER LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH.



RUB RUB RUB



THEN WHICH PART SHOULD I LOOK IN?!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

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

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

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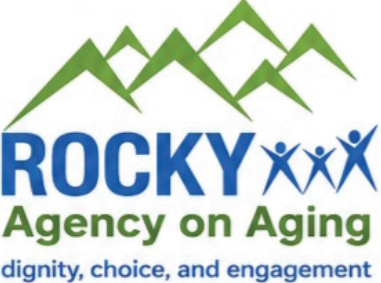
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BROADWATER COUNTY:

AGENCY ON AGING

PUBLIC COMMENT



ROCKY Agency on Aging
dignity, choice, and engagement

Your voice shapes services and supports for older adults in our community.



WHERE:
Townsend Senior Center



WHEN:
Wednesday, July 8 @ 11:30 AM



WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
Adults 60+ Caregivers Community Providers

WE WANT YOUR INPUT ON THESE 8 QUESTIONS:

1 What makes your community a good place for older adults to live and age?

2 What are the three biggest concerns facing:

- Older adults?
- Family members caring for aging loved ones?

3 What services or supports help older adults stay in their homes and communities as they age? What services would be most helpful for family caregivers? Are there any services you think the Agency on Aging should offer?

4 What are the best ways to reach older adults and family caregivers who may need information, support, or services?

5 What kinds of support do caregivers of people with dementia or Alzheimer's disease need most?

6 What challenges do older adults who live alone face, especially those living with dementia?

7 In addition to providing services, how can the Agency on Aging help educate the community about aging issues and advocate for policies that support healthy aging?

8 Is there anything else you would like to share? Stories, examples, and personal observations are welcome.

YOUR INPUT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD a better future for aging well.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

John Gorton 406.457.7359 jgorton@RMDC.net

Thank you for sharing your voice and helping shape the future of aging in Broadwater County.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SENIOR CENTER	
SR. CENTER MEALS: JUNE 15 - JUNE 19	Whole Grain Bread AppleSauce Birthday Cake
516 2nd Street, Townsend, MT 406-266-3995	Wednesday, June 17 Chef Salad Carrot and Celery Sticks
Monday, June 15 Beef Stroganoff Egg Noodles German Vegetables Great Northern Beans Whole Grain Bread Fruit Cocktail	Whole Grain Bread Pineapple
Tuesday, June 16 <i>Birthday Dinner</i> Roasted Turkey Mashed Potatoes Green Beans	Thursday, June 18 Baked Cod Rice Pilaf Green Peas Cauliflower Sweet Peaches
	Friday, June 19 <i>Closed</i>

Weather Forecast

JUNE



Friday 12
High Temp: 74
Low Temp: 48
Wind: 10
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Saturday 13
High Temp: 62
Low Temp: 49
Wind: 17
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Sunday 14
High Temp: 64
Low Temp: 44
Wind: 12
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Monday 15
High Temp: 74
Low Temp: 45
Wind: 10
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Tuesday 16
High Temp: 88
Low Temp: 54
Wind: 15
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Wednesday 17
High Temp: 84
Low Temp: 61
Wind: 19
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

Thursday 18
High Temp: 87
Low Temp: 56
Wind: 16
Rain: 0.0
Cloud Cover: 100

DPHHS Equips Emergency Agencies with Tools to Support Children with Autism

Jon Ebelt
Communications Director, DPHHS

Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Director Charlie Brereton today announced the successful distribution of 472 Carter Kits to every licensed EMS agency across the state.

This milestone ensures that all Montana ambulance services and Quick Response Units (QRUs) licensed to provide prehospital medical care are now equipped with specialized tools to support children with autism and other sensory processing needs during emergencies.

Carter Kits are sensory bags containing clinically approved items — such as noise-canceling earmuffs, weighted blankets, non-verbal cue-cards, fidget toys, and sunglasses — designed to help first responders calm and focus children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or those experiencing sensory overload during traumatic events. The kits are inspired by Carter, a young Michigan boy with autism.

Funding for the Carter Kits was provided by the DPHHS Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) program, which provides financial assistance and support for Montana children with special health care needs and chronic conditions. The Department’s Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program spearheaded the \$41,000 statewide rollout.

Four Carter Kit specialized instructors from the Billings area will lead local education on ASD awareness and kit usage. This training equips emergency personnel with practical communication strategies to reduce distress for children and families, while also fostering a statewide network of knowledgeable professionals.

Furthering this mission, Simulation in Motion - Montana (SIM-MT) has integrated Carter Kits into its pediatric simulation training. This allows EMS providers to practice using the sensory tools in realistic, high-pressure scenarios, particularly those involving children with autism. This hands-on approach allows EMS providers to practice real-world applications, improving outcomes during critical moments.

“These kits are invaluable for focusing a hypersensitive patient who is overwhelmed by the pre-hospital environment,” said Lee Roberts, Clinical Partnerships Lead for SIM-MT. “We’ve seen firsthand how they help clinicians provide better care in emergency rooms and in the field.”

The EMSC program encourages all emergency response agencies to actively utilize these resources and participate in ongoing training.

For more information on Carter Kits or the EMSC program, please visit the EMSC website or contact Kelly Little, EMSC Program Manager, at 406-444-0901 or Kelly.little@mt.gov.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Mercantile Opens Drive Through Service



Drive Up Window at C Hangin' C Mercantile with Carley Sawyer, food manager and owner Cassie Cooper.
MT43 News Photographer

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Whether you need an early cup of jo or you crave that afternoon huckleberry milkshake, the new drive-through service at C Hangin’ C Mercantile and Creamery has you covered.

The drive-through service at C Street and South Front opened May 22nd, according to owner Cassie Cooper. She opened the business several years ago when Rocky Mountain Supply moved to its new location.

She explained that mothers carrying babies in car seats and people on their way to work early in the morning prefer not to come into the store. “People

have been asking for a year if we could put in window service,” she said.

The window opens at 6:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and 8:00 a.m. Sunday. With the new service, Cooper has hired 5 additional employees and now has a total of 16 people working 2+ shifts. Summer will see the business stay open evenings. The new manager, Carley Sawyer, oversees the food section of the store, which also offers upscale clothing and gifts.

Cooper emphasized that she hires local young people. “Lots of times it’s the kids’ first job. I like working with teenagers to teach them customer service, cooking, and handling money. I try to treat them with respect, and I always see the results of that,” she said.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grapes give a good smell.

Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away!

SONG OF SOLOMON 2: 12,13



Detail of "The Flower" by Alphonse Mucha (1897)

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OBITUARIES

Raymond Parr

Family of Raymond Parr

December 5, 1951 – May 23, 2026

Raymond Eugene Parr of Townsend, Montana, passed away on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at the age of 74. He is survived by his loving wife, Candy (Storer) Parr, his 9 children and their families; Drew Parr, Jason Parr, Jared Parr, Icie Parr, Rachel Katelyn (Jeremy) James, Hannah Verdine, Jacob Parr, Jesse (Kahlan) Parr, and Harvey (Summer) Parr. Raymond was preceded in death by his parents, Harvey David Parr and Evelyn Rossetta (Walker) Parr and his older siblings Norma Jean McGeeney and William Parr.

In Liveoak, Florida, Raymond was born on December 5, 1951. He grew up in Florida and Georgia on family love and southern cooking, regularly served with fried cornbread and sweet tea. Raymond was a dreamer and also extremely logical and intelligent, to where he knew down to the penny what his dreams would cost. He had a determined spirit toward anything he put his mind to. He loved learning and acquired much knowledge and many skills throughout his adventures here on earth. With his southern gentleman charm, Raymond connected with people easily. If you were close to him, you knew he was unapologetically himself, who didn’t put up with bull, and was stubborn to a fault at times. He was confident in who he was and what he knew. Over the years, he learned the value of peace and you do whatever you have to do to protect it.

Just like his daddy, he was a hardworking man and a diehard Atlanta Braves fan. For football season, he rooted for Georgia Tech and the Atlanta Falcons. Raymond was not just a sports fan from the sidelines; he coached his kids and other athletes in various sports with strategy and love. The news was often on the television at Raymond’s house as he believed in keeping up with current events and the impacts they had on society. There was a special soft spot in his heart for animals, and many pets found companionship with him. Over the course of his adult years, he traveled and called many places across the country his home, but the Montana mountains always drew him back. On any given day, up some obscure back woods dirt road hidden in the wilderness, you could often find him camping during his time off. And while he sure loved all of these things,

Raymond Parr

Photo Provided by Family

he loved his family the most.

Raymond cherished the love of his life, Candy, for the 36 years they had together, and there was no doubt that he was a loving father and grandfather. Raymond had his serious moments, but he also knew how to joke around. “If my mouth is moving, I’m joking and teasing,” he would tell the grandkids. It didn’t matter how far away a family member lived or how long it had been since you last spoke, family was family. Love looked like sharing a thoughtful conversation either over the phone or over a delicious meal he prepared. He taught us that family was to be loved, respected, and protected at all costs. If a family member was going through a tough time, he lent an attentive ear and offered wise advice and assistance where he could. He was a rational, down-to-earth thinker who could talk you off the ledge on your toughest days and would celebrate your wins in life with you.

While Raymond lived a fulfilling life, his passing leaves a wounded hole in our hearts as he will be sorely missed by family and friends. There will not be a service to attend, as he did not wish for one. Instead, treasure the memories you had with him and keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. Remember the simple pleasures in life as he did, and never take any of them for granted.

William Ford Hallenberg

Family of William Ford Hallenberg

USDA Invests, 7

conservation challenges at the landscape scale.

“America’s strength is rooted in the hands that work the land. With the announcement of new NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants, we’re investing in the farmers, ranchers, and private landowners who keep our soil healthy, our water clean, and our nation strong,” said NRCS Chief Colton L. Buckley. “Strong farms build a strong America. NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants are helping producers pioneer the next generation of conservation while protecting the working lands that define our nation.”

The national CIG program has two parts: CIG Classic and CIG On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials. Through CIG Classic, partners develop new tools, technologies, and strategies to support next-generation conservation efforts on working lands and develop market-based solutions to resource challenges. Through CIG On-Farm Trials, partners focus on widespread adoption and evaluation of innovative conservation approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. Incentive payments are provided to producers to offset the risk of implementing innovative approaches.

For fiscal 2026, NRCS is investing \$50 million for CIG On-Farm Trials and \$15 million for CIG Classic.

This year’s priorities for CIG On-Farm Trials are:

Irrigation water management technologies

Nutrient management

Grazing lands

Soil health demonstration trials

This year’s priorities for CIG Classic are:

Water management

Conserving ecosystems by managing pest pressure

Soil

Habitat improvement

Farmer-focused conservation outcomes

Notices of funding for CIG Classic and CIG On-Farm Trials are available on Grants.gov. Applications are being accepted now through July 27, 2026.

Since 2004, NRCS has invested \$528 million to fund 923 innovative projects and 467 partners through CIG. For more information, visit the CIG website at:

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/conservation-innovation-grants

For more than 90 years, NRCS has helped farmers, ranchers and forestland owners make investments in their operations and local communities to improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and wildlife habitat. NRCS uses the latest science and technology to help keep working lands working, boost agricultural economies, and increase the competitiveness of American agriculture. NRCS provides one-on-one, personalized advice and financial assistance and works with producers to help them reach their goals through voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs. For more information, visit nrcs.usda.gov.

Small Fish to Fry

Fish, Wildlife and Parks



Anglers encouraged to keep small walleye on Canyon Ferry.

Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Walleyes Unlimited of Montana want to remind walleye anglers to keep more of the smaller fish they catch on Canyon Ferry Reservoir. With fewer small fish in the reservoir, larger fish will face less competition for food and will have the opportunity to grow.

The first walleye in Canyon Ferry Reservoir was captured in 1989 during rainbow trout fall netting. Since then, walleye have become a very popular target species in the reservoir. Walleye populations in Canyon Ferry, Hauser, and Holter reservoirs are self-sustaining, or not supplemented through stocking, and require intensive active management to maintain a balanced fishery.

Current walleye fishing regulations on Canyon Ferry allow for 10 fish daily, with only 1 over 15 inches, and a possession limit of twice the daily limit. This management strategy focuses on keeping smaller size fish in check to benefit the overall population size structure.

“By focusing harvest on more abundant, smaller fish, biologists hope to increase the number of large walleye in Canyon Ferry,” said FWP Fish Chief Adam Strainer. “FWP and Walleyes Unlimited have a shared goal of maintaining a healthy walleye fishery for anglers to enjoy now and into the future.”

“I’m encouraged by the current walleye population trend on Canyon Ferry,” said Dale Gilbert, a Walleyes Unlimited of Montana member. “Walleye size in Canyon Ferry is improving with the current management strategy, so anglers must do their part by keeping more walleye under 15 inches to ensure the population remains on its current, positive trajectory”.

Under the 2020–2029 Upper Missouri River Reservoir Fisheries Management Plan, active walleye management — such as liberal fishing regulations — could be necessary to meet management goals. Those goals are intended to maintain walleye abundance to reduce impacts to other species while maintaining desirable size classes in the walleye fisheries.

Marilyn Margaret Barnett

Family of Marilyn Margaret Barnett

November 14, 1941 – June 1, 2026

On the afternoon of June 1, 2026, Marilyn passed away at Townsend Hospital from stroke complications. Marilyn was 84 years old. She was born on November 14, 1941, in Spokane, WA, to Delmar and Margaret Smith. Marilyn’s hometown was Radersburg, MT.

Marilyn attended High School in Moro, Oregon and attended the University of Oregon. On September 26, 1960, Marilyn married Keith Barnett. Husband Keith recalls that Marilyn was an expert marksman with either pistol or rifle, shooting 44 magnum pistols without hesitation.

Around 1965, Keith and Marilyn started floating the Colorado River, where Keith was a boatman for six years. During the first trip, Marilyn was six months pregnant with first born son, Paul, and hiked 20 miles out of the Grand Canyon in extreme heat. Marilyn and family embarked on several-day river running excursions as well as backpacking trips.

Marilyn and family moved to various locations in Montana, settling in Radersburg in the early 1970’s. Marilyn drove her beloved team of mules in the Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming centennial wagon trains.

Marilyn was an expert in cooking wild game and putting together gourmet meals in extreme conditions, often over a fire or in an old VW bus or slide-in camper. Many meals were prepared for several individuals giving her the nickname of Ma Barnett. Marilyn milked cows, sold milk & cream, bartended, waitressed and drove a truck to make ends meet. Later in life Marilyn became an extreme seamstress, making quilts, blankets and many articles of clothing for all. Marilyn kept three sewing machines running and wore out several.

Marilyn was a mother to many and friend to all.

Marilyn is survived by her Spouse Keith Barnett; son, Lee Barnett; granddaughter, Morgan White; grandson, Brandan Barnett; great-grandsons, Dalton White and Wyal White; great-granddaughter, Addison Krebs; and brother, William Smith.

She is preceded in death by son, Paul Barnett.

Memorial Services will be held TBD at her home in Radersburg, where her ashes will be distributed.

William Ford Hallenberg

Family of William Ford Hallenberg

On June 1, 2026, the world dimmed just a little as William Ford Hallenberg, “Big Red,” left it – suddenly, quietly and far too soon.

At age 35, Willie had already filled a lifetime with light. He moved through the world with a smile, a heart that never stopped giving, and a spirit that lifted others without ever asking for anything in return.

To know Willie was to feel joy; to be loved by him was to feel seen. Willie carried a rare gift – the ability to make people feel valued simply by being himself. His laughter lingered, his kindness echoed, and his presence made ordinary days feel softer, brighter, and easier to bear.

He leaves behind his mother, Julie Navarro (Rick); father, Brian Hallenberg; sister Brandi Truesdell (Daniel); brother, Tim Wilburn; nieces and nephews that he adored, MaKenzie, Madelyne, and Parker Truesdell, and Adrian and Brinley Wilburn; grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and an incredible number of friends in the Townsend Community. They will carry his light forward each in their own way.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date – a gathering of stories, memories, laughter and tears woven together in honor of a man who loved boldly and lived with an open heart.

Celebration of Life for William Hallenberg

June 20th 4:00 PM

At American Legion Post 42 – Townsend MT



Come share stories of “Big Red”.
Good Food!
Good Stories!
Good drinks!

Barnes Jewelry

357 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena MT

406-442-3000

SLICE OF SUMMER

Heritage Park

Wednesday June 17

Free Kids Activities 2-8pm

Live Music from 5-8 pm

Rotary

Come join us for the official dedication of
Broadwater County Airport!

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 808

SATURDAY JUNE 13TH, 2026
7-12:00PM

FREE ADMISSION



- *Aircraft Static Displays
- *Local Vendor Booths
- *First Responder Exhibits
- *AVGAS Fuel Raffle
- *4-H Breakfast
- *STOKE Lunch

- 7:00 - Breakfast Starts
- 10:00 - Airport Dedication
- 10:30 - Skydive Drop
- 11:00 - Candy Drop
- 9:30 - 11:00 - Quiet Time
(No flights during this time)

BROADWATER WESTERN DAYS RODEO

- Local Kids Aug. 6
- Local Adults Aug. 9th
- Sign up June 22, 2026 5:00-8:00pm at the Blue Ticket booth at Broadwater Co Fairgrounds.
- Forms available at townsendfairgrounds.com

Contact Tanya for information
406-670-9235 dundast@mt.net



Historic Canton Church

2026 Summer Events

June 26: Mary Duede and Carla Amundson

July 10: Scout Lynde and Laura Frazier as Eleanor Lenore

July 24: Kamara and Friends

August 21: Eliel Family and Friends

August 28: Linda Huth

Events Start At 5:00pm!



HAPPY SUMMER SOLSTICE

LONGEST DAY OF THE YEAR!

FREE Summer Solstice Americana/Bluegrass Musical Celebration and Outdoor Dance

Broadwater Community Theater is proud to sponsor a Summer Solstice Celebration in Townsend on **Saturday, June 20th!**

Helena Handbasket will be playing a range of old-time Americana, bluegrass, Celtic traditional and western swing songs!

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH
6:00-9:00 PM

OUTSIDE THE LODGE
131 S. Spruce
Townsend, MT

Celebrate the season. Celebrate community.

BRING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS & DANCING SHOES AND HELP CELEBRATE THE CHANGING OF THE SEASON!



FOOD will be catered by The Betsy, \$20 a plate



DRINKS provided by The Betsy



LIVE MUSIC & DANCING from 6 - 9 pm!

For more information, please call Patrick Plantenberg at 406-431-4615

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



FREE GROCERIES FOR VETERANS

Join us at the

American Legion Post 42

211 Broadway - Townsend

Saturday 6/27/2026

1 - 4 PM

PLEASE bring proof of Veteran Status to be served

For More Information:
Jay Wood - (406) 846-4777 OR
Linda - (406) 949-2300

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Join us daily from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM for all your Full Belli breakfast classics, plus **NEW** breakfast bagel sandwiches like the All American, Belli Burner, and Gravy Train.



Fresh-made breakfast, hot coffee, and great service to start your day right!

209 S Front St, Townsend | 406-266-5459



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- Estates
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- Sterling Flatware & Serviceware
- Vintage Watches and More



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Downtown Helena
357 Last Chance Gulch
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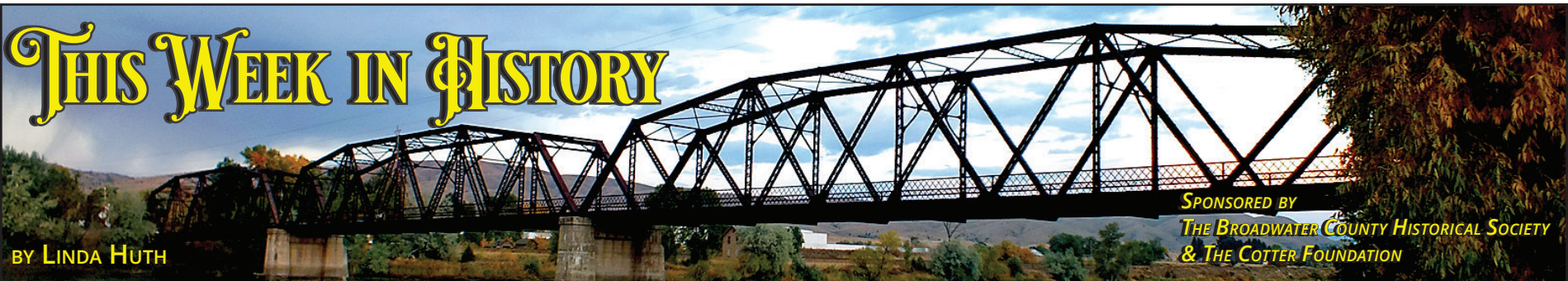
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June 13

1903

Toston Topics

O.T.H. Allen and son and daughter, Lan and Pearle, of Dogtown, in company with Arthur Smith of Radersburg, were in town Sunday. Mr. Allen returned to the mines in the evening, while his daughter went to Townsend and the boy to Chestnut.

Lillie Linton went to the Johnson sheep camp with Mrs. Johnson Sunday and spent the day.

Mrs. Tom Hudson spent a few days at the Bembrick home the latter part of last week.

Radersburg Items

Lan Allen and Arthur Smith left for Chestnut Sunday, where they intend to work during the summer.

Mrs. Gruber and her daughter, Augusta, were in our little burg Saturday.

Mary Doughty and Maude Pennell left Wednesday for Missoula, where they will attend the summer school.

Miss Alice D’Arcy and W.E. Tierney drove over from Townsend Sunday on business connected with their store at this place.

Frank Keefe has been driving his new thoroughbred horse to Toston on the coach this week.

1925

Local News

Miss Emma Neild spent Tuesday with friends in Townsend, coming down from the ranch on Ray Creek.

Otha Allen and wife and son, Jack, arrived in Townsend on Thursday of last week, traveling in a new Oldsmobile sedan, and spent the following day visiting relatives before continuing their journey to Park City to visit Mrs. Allen’s father. They are motoring from their home in Idaho Falls to Southern California and home through Portland over the northern route.

Mrs. Josephine Sperling returned to her home in

Townsend Wednesday evening after completing a term of school near Miles City.

Several of Townsend’s young people attended the dances at Toston and Radersburg last Saturday evening.

Miss Sarah Rollings visited her mother, Mrs. Geo. Rollings, the fore part of the week and went on to Bozeman on Tuesday to visit her sister, Mrs. Wm. Hendershott. She was accompanied to Bozeman by her little sister, Miss Ruthie.

Little Miss Dorothy Gilham is visiting Grandmother and Dr. Grandfather Gilham this week from her home in Anaconda.

1953

Toston News

Those who are attending the vacation bible school in Townsend are Jeanie Greaves, Eddy, Gary and Judy Spatzierath.

Mrs. C.A. Nelson flew down from Alaska Sunday to visit with her sister, Mrs. Cliff Wallace and will accompany her mother, Mrs. J.N. Sawyer, to Maine this week.

Frank Beyers made a hurried trip to Idaho Falls Tuesday to pick up his wife and daughter, who had been on a trip to Utah with her parents. Mrs. Pearson suffered a heart attack at Idaho Falls and had to be hospitalized. Mr. Pearson remained with her.

Local News

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Engh departed Thursday for Colorado to spend the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Scofield and two sons, Ward and Mike, returned the latter part of the week from a two weeks’ vacation in Utah.

Jimmy Kelly arrived in Townsend this week from his home in Idaho Falls for a few weeks visit with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Van Voast.

Mr. and Mrs. James Kearns and sons, Bill and David, left by car last Wednesday for Toledo, Ohio to visit relatives for two weeks. But upon reaching Forsyth, they discovered the following morning that their son, Bill, had the measles. They returned immediately to

Townsend and say they are going to try it again today.

Mike Ragen, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Ragen, celebrated his sixth birthday Friday by inviting a group of his neighborhood playmates in for an afternoon of games, entertainment and refreshments.

Guests were Carol Ann, Lyna and Mike Smith, Sharon, Susan and Stephanie Rains, Stephen Olsen, Pat, Chris and Cathy Ragen, Pat and Judy McDonnell and Jim and Tim Ragen.

1970

Crow Creek News

Miss Dixie Turman served dinner to her folks Sunday, honoring them on their 26th wedding anniversary. Others present were Charles Krub and Paul Abenroth of Manhattan, Mrs. Byrd and Merle Turman. Mr. Krub was a Saturday overnight guest of the Turman family.

Mr. and Mrs. Hershal Simpson and their daughter and family of Olympia, Wash., were Saturday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kolberg and family.

Valery Horne had a slumber party Friday night. Her guests were Kathy Kimpton, Laurie Sanderson, Nancy Hossfeld, Deena and Karen Horne, Judy Rauser and Beverly McHenry.

Eighth graders from Crow Creek who graduated in exercises at Townsend Friday were Cindy Rauser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Rauser, Karen Cazier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Cazier, Danny Moudree, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Moudree, and Dennis Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Williams.

Brad Kitto Celebrates Birthday

Mrs. Kenneth Kitto complimented her son, Brad, by inviting his classmates from the first grade at Crow Creek to a birthday party Thursday afternoon. Guests were Jeff Sanderson, Pamela Hansen, Deena Horne, Tim Rauser and Bobby Hossfeld. Michelle Lewis, Julie Sanderson and Don Kitto were also present. The theme of the party was “The Big Bear”. Cake and ice cream were served to the guests and Brad received many nice gifts.

Oh we know they’re watching,
And they know we know,
And we know they know we know!

A little pest control in your garden today can do wonders for hungry critters tomorrow. From Sevin to Special 38 to Tempo... we have what you need to control grasshoppers.



Cattle Branding in Broadwater County - A Tradition

MT43 News Staff Reporter

While the traditional methods of identifying cattle with an iron brand mark have changed to other methods, the old ways still hold true in Broadwater County. A unique branding gathering took place on Upper Greyson Creek Road this weekend.

It was the usual corralling of cows and calves, the boss giving directions on who does what, with many neighbors and friends standing around waiting for the word. Suddenly, as the boss gave the word, everyone stepped into place, gathered their tools and set to work.



Chute boss Michael Santi and herd owner John Denison talk about corral strategy.
Nancy Marks Photographer

What was unique about this branding was the size of the operation. Usually, branding day involves 15 or 20 people who are veterans at the chutes. There are 20 horses, 10 dogs and a bevy of kids. The work consists of branding 200 calves during the day long process. Pure organized chaos.

This branding consisted of branding and vaccinating 7 calves, with a crew of 9 people. Truly different odds. Truly shorter time. The job finished in less than an hour. Then it was off to the house for a feed of fancy lasagna, salads and pie. And visiting. Cattle ranchers were very grateful for the help. Neighbors and friends were grateful for a chance to discuss the signs of the times.



Neighbor Tony Wagner pushes calves up the chute.
Nancy Marks Photographer



Bundled up on a cold and windy day, Janet Wagner passes the branding irons.
Nancy Marks Photographer



Neal Denison helps sort calves from their mothers in preparation for branding.
Nancy Marks Photographer