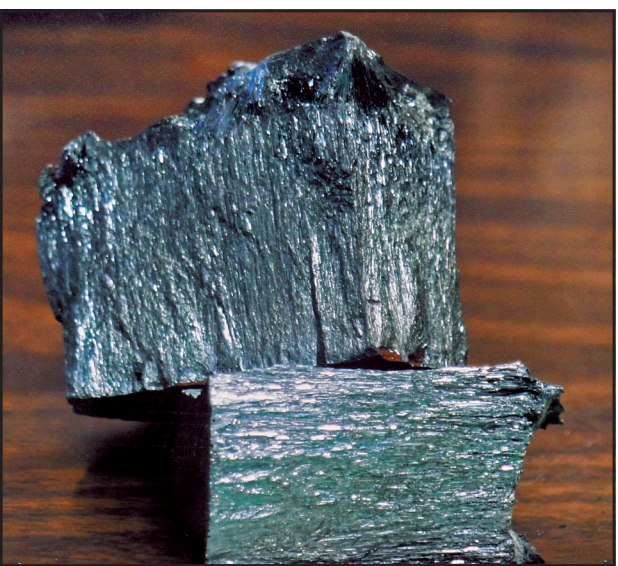


New Antimony Concentrating Facility in Radersburg



Antimony
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

Matt Nelson



Very close to the Radersburg Cemetery, the United States Antimony Corporation (USAC) opened a new mineral processing facility that it purchased this past January. On Tuesday, July 7th, instead of having a ribbon-cutting ceremony, there was a rock-breaking ceremony. Governor Greg Gianforte was the key speaker, along with USAC key personnel.

Aaron Tenesch, the Vice President of the Antimony Division for United States Antimony Corporation (USAC), said, “We are here to have a rock-breaking ceremony to christen this facility and its recent upgrades and lab for the further vertical integration for United States Antimony, and really for the United States as a



Rock-breaking people L-R Joe Bardswich, Chief Mining Officer, Governor Gianforte, CEO Gary Evans, VP Aaron Tenesch, Jeff Fink
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

country.

Antimony is very much a critical mineral. It is used in fire retardant; it's a fining agent for glass; and it has military applications in alloys and as a spark initiator. So obviously, it is very critical to us. Raw ore comes from a mine that USAC owns near Thompson Falls, Montana. At the Radersburg facility, it is concentrated enough for further processing in other facilities. The lab that we recently constructed for roughly a million dollars should support this process, and the mining that we will do not only in Montana but in Alaska.

Gary Evans, the USAC CEO and Chairman, then spoke:

“We acquired this property in January, and we made a lot of upgrades, not only to the lab but also to the equipment inside the facility. We made it to do what we needed to do, especially as it revolved around the critical mineral of antimony. The reason why this facility upgrade is so important to us and our customers, and really, the U.S. Government, is because it is a necessary ingredient for us to take critical minerals, New Facility, 2

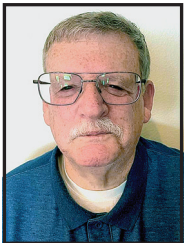
Elenore Lenore Performed at the Canton Church



Scout Lynde and Laura Frazer
Photo Credit: Pam Sample

Victor Sample

Canton Church



On July 10, a large audience gathered to hear Scout Lynde and Laura Frazer perform at the Canton Church as “Elenore Lenore”.

Scout and Laura are both Townsend natives and well-known in the community. This is the second time Scout has performed at the Canton Church, and the first time for Laura.



Scout Lynde playing her guitar
Photo Credit: Pam Sample

Scout Lynde believes music is for everyone; it requires nothing from an audience to be enjoyed. As a singer/songwriter, Scout enjoys telling stories about the human experience through her art.

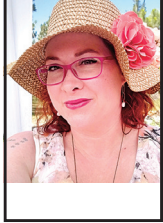
She writes and composes music using guitar and ukulele to create songs with an alternative folk sound. The content of Scout’s lyrics highlights the strange and beautiful experience of “being human” and largely focuses on connection, resilience, and the relationships she treasures. She wants to speak the transcendent language of music for as long as she lives, and desires to inspire others to pursue their artistic passions.

Laura Frazer added her voice to provide the “Elenore Lenore” duet a beautiful sound.

Townsend City Council Meeting

Rachael Brug

Staff Reporter



The Townsend City Council granted a one-year waiver of the city's special event insurance requirement to preserve a 40-year street dance tradition, received an Council Meeting, 7

The Yard Sales Maps for the 10th Annual Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale are Available

Vic Sample

The maps showing all of the Yard Sales registered for the 10th Annual Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale are now available. We have 62 yard sales registered for the Annual event.

The printed maps are available at the Reading Leaves Bookstore and at The Bird's Nest. In addition, all of the maps and the Master List of addresses are available online at: <https://mt43news.com/YardSaleMaps>

In addition to the regular maps, an interactive Google Earth Map is available online. In order to use the Google Earth Map, you will need to have the Google Earth Map app installed on whatever device you choose to use (cell phone, tablet, laptop).

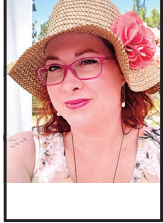
All maps are FREE. Do not pay for a map to the Yard Sales.

Please join us on July 18 and visit all of the registered yard sales!

Broadwater County Commission Meeting

Rachael Brug

Staff Reporter



Broadwater County Commissioners moved through a packed agenda July 8, approving a hardship exemption for a soldier deploying overseas, clearing two airport items, and adopting a pair of updated land use policies — while laying the groundwork for broader reforms to subdivision exemption rules.

Soldier's estate planning need prompts hardship variance

The meeting's most immediate action came first. Commission Chair Debi Randolph and fellow commissioners unanimously approved a hardship variance allowing Army Staff Sgt. First Class Cameron Armstrong to Commission Meeting

Woman Accused of Killing a Man in White Sulphur Springs

KXLH - MTN News

This article was originally published by MTN News - KXLH.

A woman was arrested following a fatal shooting Sunday in White Sulphur Springs.



Kyle Ann Morrow
Meagher County Sheriff's Office Photo

The Meagher County Sheriff's Office reported on social media that deputies responded to a report of a gunshot shortly before 2 p.m. at 202 West Main Street.

The sheriff's office did not identify the property, but the address is associated with the Spa Hot Springs Motel.

When deputies and medical crews arrived, they found one person with a gunshot wound. The person was pronounced dead at the scene.

A suspect was arrested after being identified by witnesses as "an individual who was at the property at the time of the shooting."

On Monday, the Montana Department of Justice identified the woman arrested as Kyle Morrow of White Sulphur Springs.

The victim's name was not immediately released.

The Montana Highway Patrol and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks assisted the county sheriff's office with the arrest. No information about where the arrest was made was released.

The Montana Division of Criminal Investigation is assisting local and other state agencies with the investigation, the sheriff's office said.

"The Meagher County Sheriff's Office asks everyone to respect the privacy of the families involved in this tragedy while they work through this difficult time," the social media post states.

Court documents are shedding additional light on a fatal shooting Sunday in White Sulphur Springs.

Kyle Ann Morrow has been charged with one felony count of deliberate homicide in Meagher County. Morrow is accused of killing a man at the Spa Motel.

According to an affidavit of probable cause, staff says Morrow, 73, had come in asking about two individuals at the business. Morrow is accused of walking into an office, and then staff heard a gunshot. On leaving, witnesses allege Morrow admitted to them that she had shot a man.

Video surveillance captured a woman allegedly matching Morrow's description walking into the business with a gun and then leaving in a white Nissan Frontier. Meagher County Sheriff's Office says Morrow is known to drive a similar vehicle.

Meagher County Undersheriff Jerami West went to Morrow's home and attempted to communicate with her, but did not receive a response.

Later, Morrow attempted to leave the property and was taken into custody. A report from law enforcement states officers found a bottle of alcohol in the console of the vehicle and an empty handgun case. In the process of conducting a search warrant, deputies found a Smith and Wesson .38 revolver and clothing that matched what was seen on the Spa Motel surveillance footage.

MTN News spoke with family members of the victim, who has not been identified by law enforcement. Family members released a statement asking for privacy and declined further comment.

New Facility, 1

predominantly antimony, from a low grade up to a higher grade so that we can take it up to Thomson Falls and make military-grade material and antimony ingots. We were successful last year in winning a \$245 million contract with the federal government. It is a sole-source contract with the only company qualified in North America that fills the needs of the U.S. Military. This is a contract with the Defense Logistics Agency, an arm of the Department of War.

That mineral stibnite will be concentrated and upgraded to a level that will allow other facilities to make antimony ingots, which are 99.7% antimony. These are 50-pound bars, serial stamped, put on a pallet, shrink-wrapped, and shipped to the government. We started making our first deliveries in May.

Radersburg was our missing link. Now, we can probably beat our chest and say we are a fully integrated mining company - the only one in the world outside of Russia and China!"



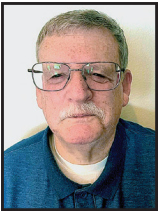
Governor Gianforte is holding up a sample of an antimony ingot
Photo Credit: Matt Nelson

Governor Gianforte spoke as he held up a 4-inch-wide ingot bar of antimony: "Welcome, everybody. This is antimony, used by the Department of War. This bar was produced from ore dug out of the ground in Thompson Falls. Increasing production of domestic metals is key for our energy sector and national security. Antimony is a critical mineral that's used to produce batteries, even some types of semiconductors, and ammunition – that's why the Department of War was interested. In fact, today, China and Russia control 85 percent of the world's antimony production. We cannot, and must not, rely on China and Russia for these imports. That's why today it is about more than opening a new facility. It's about strengthening Montana's economy, creating good paying jobs at home, and continuing to secure America's future. Thank you."

After the Governor spoke, the rock-breaking ceremony began, and a tour of the facility commenced afterwards. Each of the 10 participants had a sledgehammer with the USAC logo and the date 7/7/26 printed on the handle. Although there were 10 participants, only 5 were identified. They are Rod Blakestad, Vice President, Mining Division; Joe Bardswich, EVP, Chief Mining Officer, & Director; Governor Greg Gianforte; Gary C. Evans, CEO & Chairman; Aaron Tenesch, Vice President, Antimony Division; and Jeff Fink, Vice President & General Manager – BRZ.

Kamara and Friends to Perform at the Canton Church

Victor Sample
Canton Church



Canton Church
Photo Credits: Canton Church

The 2026 Canton Church Summer Events will continue on July 24, 2026. The Historic Church will host Kamara and Friends.

Kamara Wilbur founded "Kamara & Friends" to gather like-minded musicians in sharing a variety of music with the surrounding

community. The group focuses on gatherings in rural and underserved populations throughout Montana.

For this performance, she is joined by Sam Ramsey and her father, Richard Wilbur, performing classical, folk, fiddle, and original numbers from their recent tour.



Kamara Wilbur
Photo Provided

Kamara is currently studying music and psychology at the University of Montana. While her primary instrument is the violin, she also includes the piano and voice as part of her repertoire.

Sam enjoys composing music and playing the piano, guitar, and ukulele. He will be sharing a few of his original piano compositions at the concert.

Richard plays the organ, piano, and various brass instruments. In Bozeman, he is the organist for First Lutheran and sings with the Bozeman Symphonic Choir.

The Canton Church events are always FREE, but donations are welcome!

The Historic Canton Church was built in 1875-1876 and is one of the few surviving buildings from the town of Canton, which was flooded during the creation of Canyon Ferry Lake. All of our events begin at 5:00 pm, but the Canton Church will be open to visitors from 3:00-5:00 pm before events.

Visit our website at <https://www.Canton-Church.org> for more information about our events, the Historic Canton Church, and the Town of Canton.

Historic Canton Church

July 24 at 5:00pm

Kamara and Friends will be performing.

Kamara Wilbur is an accomplished musician and vocalist.

Kamara and friends will be performing classical Folk Fiddle and original numbers.



Canton Church Events are always Free
But donations are appreciated

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

Looking for firestarter,
or extra paper for a
special craft project?



Stop into our office at 408 Broadway
in Townsend between 10am - 2pm,
Monday - Friday, and talk with us
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1518 Prospect Ave, Helena | 406-590-5925

FTC Announces Settlement with John Deere Allowing Right to Repair

Federal Trade Commission



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
PROTECTING AMERICA'S CONSUMERS

FTC, States Secure Settlement with Deere & Company, Advancing Farmers’ Right to Repair.

Settlement resolves FTC and states’ lawsuit alleging Deere unfairly restricted the ability of farmers and independent technicians to repair John Deere farm equipment.

The Federal Trade Commission, along with five states, secured an important settlement in an antitrust lawsuit against farm equipment manufacturer Deere & Company that will ensure farmers can enjoy the right to repair their own John Deere tractors and farm equipment.

The FTC’s settlement requires Deere—for the next 10 years and under the supervision of the FTC and plaintiff states—to provide farmers and independent repair providers with the same equipment repair resources, including applicable software capabilities, that it currently provides to authorized Deere dealers.

The settlement resolves the FTC and states’ joint lawsuit against Deere, which alleged that Deere used unlawful practices to limit the ability of farmers and independent repair providers to perform repairs on Deere farm equipment. The settlement represents the Commission’s latest commitment to reducing the cost of living for Americans, including both farmers and downstream consumers of the products those farmers produce.

Deere makes the only software repair tools capable of performing all electronic repairs on Deere equipment. Deere, however, has previously made such tools available only to its authorized dealers, forcing farmers to rely on authorized dealers for many necessary repairs, according to the FTC and the states’ lawsuit filed in January 2025. By withholding these repair capabilities, the complaint alleged Deere unlawfully acquired and maintained monopoly power in markets for repair services for Deere farm equipment. Deere’s practices led to service delays and higher costs for farmers, the complaint further alleged.

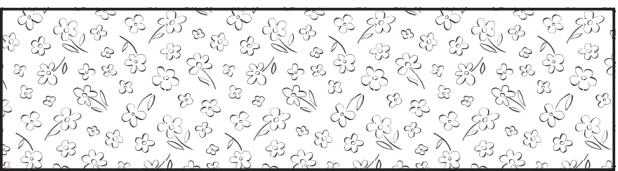
Under the terms of the stipulated order settling the lawsuit, Deere will be required to:

- Make available to farmers and independent repair providers, on fair and reasonable terms, repair resources equivalent to those Deere now makes available to Deere dealers including:
- Reading, clearing and resetting electronic fault codes;
- Reprogramming of electronic components (including “pairing” newly installed electronic parts with equipment);
- Restarting a machine following an emissions-related shutdown (commonly referred to as “limp mode”);
- Viewing and searching technical manuals, troubleshooting solutions (including so-called “product improvement programs” and “DTAC solutions”) and other guidance and information useful for equipment diagnosis, maintenance, repair or upgrade.
- Make available to farmers and independent repair providers any future repair resources that are similar or reasonably necessary for repairs, once Deere makes them available to over 50 percent of its authorized dealer network in the United States;
- Instruct its authorized dealers to promote the availability of these repair resources and support their use, and not to discriminate or retaliate against any farmers or independent repair providers who purchase or use such resources rather than dealer repair services;
- Provide notice to the public, to Deere’s farmer and independent repair provider customers and to its authorized dealers information about the stipulated order and the availability of Deere’s repair resources.

Deere will also be subject to strict reporting and oversight requirements to ensure its compliance with the stipulated order. The term of the order is 10 years and may be extended if Deere violates its terms.

The Commission vote to issue the proposed stipulated order was 2-0. The order was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Joining the proposed order are the FTC’s co-plaintiffs, the states of Illinois, Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Chairman Andrew N. Ferguson issued a statement joined by Commissioner Mark R. Meador.

NOTE: Stipulated orders have the force of law when approved and signed by the District Court judge.



MFU Applauds FTC Announcement Establishing Right to Repair for Farmers

Montana Famers Union

The Federal Trade Commission on July 8 secured a settlement and established a Farmer’s Right to Repair following an anti-trust lawsuit filed by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the state attorneys general of Illinois, Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin against John Deere & Co., alleging the company’s repair restrictions violate competition laws. Montana Farmers Union and National Farmers Union proudly supported the lawsuit and have been longtime leaders in advocating for a farmer’s right to repair.

“The announcement made by the FTC establishing the farmer’s right to repair their own equipment is monumental,” said MFU President Walter Schweitzer. “Farmers Union has been advocating for over a decade to require equipment manufacturers to provide the necessary tools to diagnose and repair their own equipment. The FTC rules now require John Deere to provide these tools at a reasonable cost.”

A win for family farm agriculture, Montana Farmers Union has been a statewide leader on agricultural right to repair efforts at the Montana state legislature in addition to the lawsuit. MFU most recently brought forward farmer-focused legislative solutions in 2021, 2023, and 2025.

Right to repair for agricultural equipment has an immediate impact on a farmer’s bottom line: A 2023 study by the US Public Interest Research Group found that U.S. farmers could save as much as \$1.2 billion a year if manufacturers like John Deere stopped imposing repair restrictions.

Schweitzer added that this a clear example of why it is important to have a strong farm organization that is willing to stand up to the corporate monopolies and fight for fairness for the family farm and rural communities.

Farmers Union will continue to monitor and ensure that John Deere and other manufacturers will abide by the ruling and work with farmers and ranchers on how to access and use these tools.

Hoot-owl Restrictions in Effect

Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Hoot-owl restrictions take effect Saturday on some rivers in southwest and north-central Montana.

Hoot-owl restrictions take effect Saturday, July 11 at 2 p.m. on the following rivers:

North-central Montana:

- Sun River – from the Highway 287 bridge to the mouth of Muddy Creek

Southwest Montana:

- Lower Madison River – From Warm Springs Fishing Access Site to the confluence with the Jefferson River
- Madison River above Hebgen Reservoir – From the upstream most Yellowstone National Park boundary to Hebgen Reservoir
- Lower Beaverhead River – From Highway 41 near East Bench Road and Beaverhead Rock to its confluence with the Big Hole River

Hoot-owl restrictions prohibit fishing from 2 p.m. to midnight each day. These restrictions will stay in effect until conditions improve.

You can check for other restrictions at: <https://fwp.mt.gov/news/current-closures-restrictions>

FWP's drought policy provides for angling restrictions when flows drop below critical levels for fish, when water quality is diminished or when maximum daily water temperatures reach at least 73 degrees for three consecutive days. Water temperatures of 77 degrees or more can be lethal to trout.

These restrictions are designed to protect fish that become more susceptible to disease and mortality when water temperatures warm. Restricting angling to only cool morning hours can help reduce catch-and-release mortality.

Catch-and-release anglers can reduce stress on fish by getting them to the net or in hand quickly, keeping them in the water and reviving them prior to releasing them back into the river.

As the summer warms, Montana offers many other angling options with better conditions for fish, including larger lakes or reservoirs, or higher elevation lakes and streams.

Along with monitoring stream temperatures, FWP also monitors stream flows and, in some streams, holds instream flow water rights. FWP’s water program can issue a call on junior water users, when appropriate, to contribute to stream flows through the late summer and early fall.



Letter to the Editor:

Our town, Townsend, MT, is trying to survive and grow. At the same time, we are shooting ourselves in the foot, weekly! How you say? I’m glad you asked.

With the summer months in full swing, we have many tourists and folks locally from surrounding areas coming to visit our great city. Our biggest problem? Businesses are short on people who actually want to work!

Everyone who works and needs to make a living, especially those who are trying to keep their businesses open, is having a rough time finding reliable folks to show up and do a day’s work. Take a walk / drive downtown on a Monday morning. No Restaurants are open! I have talked with local people who are just looking to get a cup of coffee or a mid-morning snack. If they don’t wish to go into a Bar, they are out of luck.

Even Tuesdays, there are few places that are open “regularly” that can be relied on to be open most days. One local restaurant has closed, soon to be replaced. Broadway on Mondays is a ghost town, and not the fun kind. As the week goes on, you can see many people walking around looking for places to shop. They really like our special town, but are having a hard time trying to guess when businesses will be open. When they do find a place to eat, are there people to wait on them?

When all our places of business ARE open, they are short-staffed. WHY? There are plenty of jobs available, many folks “don’t like working in food service.” Tough! Do they like eating, themselves? Do they like having a roof over their heads? Over many years, I have seen small towns fade away; they don’t provide services that people want to use. Local and tourists. Empty storefronts are the death of small towns!

We loved retiring here, 14 years ago. Still do, PLEASE find workers to keep your businesses open. People without a job- make yourself not only available, but able to be relied upon to do the work. Towns can grow too much, become “citified,” and drive locals away!

Townsend, MT has great festivals, parades, etc. These are wonderful, but our day-to-day businesses need to be welcoming. Please find ways to hire and be open for visitors to our great town. Don’t make me call in the Military.

Great talking with you all again. Stay well.

Bill Garwood
Townsend

To the Editor:

Our country is in danger from Socialists. Hopefully, smart Americans who love the USA will get involved and stand up to people intent on destroying America.

Denise Feller
East Helena

Invasive Fish Found in Community Ponds in Three Forks

Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Fisheries staff with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks confirmed recent reports of invasive fish in community ponds in Three Forks and Livingston.

FWP received two reports from anglers who observed northern pike in the Three Forks Ponds, which are less than a mile from the Madison River. Fisheries staff confirmed these reports on May 28 when two pike were captured by gillnetting.

While northern pike are found in other areas of Montana, they are not native to the upper Missouri River basins.

FWP is aware of introduced species in additional community ponds elsewhere, such as the River Rock Pond in Belgrade. In such cases, the fish were introduced illegally. State law prohibits transporting any live fish away from the body of water where it was taken, with only a few exceptions noted in fishing regulations. Landowners with private ponds or community ponds must obtain a license to stock fish, and only approved species may be used.

Illegal transportation and introduction of fish into other waterbodies can be detrimental to existing fisheries, especially for native species. Aquatic invasive species can be extremely difficult or impossible to remove once established.

FWP staff are continuing to assess how best to mitigate concerns caused by these most recent discoveries. Montana’s Statewide Fisheries Management Plan contains possible management tools for fish removal based on local circumstances. These options will be considered through the same process as other management removal projects, which follow the Montana Environmental Policy Act.

FWP relies on tips from the public about crimes against wildlife resources and state lands, including illegal fish introductions. Anyone with possible information is encouraged to visit <https://tipmont.mt.gov> to provide details. You may be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000.

To learn more about preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, click here: <https://fwp.mt.gov/conservation/aquatic-invasive-species>

Townsend School & Sports

JULY

Sat 18 - Sun 19

12:00 pm: 4H Overnight

Mon 20 - Wed 22

High School Cheer Camp -
Townsend Wrestling Room



East Helena Schools & Sports

JULY

Monday 20

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

Broadwater County Government Calendar

JULY

Friday 17

5:30 pm: Parks and Recreation Working Board Meeting

Monday 20

6:00 pm: Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 21

9:00 am: Commission/CAO Working Meeting

Wednesday 22

10:00 am: Commissioners Meeting



Broadwater Community Calendar

JULY

Friday 17

11:30 am: Red Cross Blood Drive at American Legion Club
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
7:00 pm: 2026 Montana Lineman's Rodeo at Broadwater County Fairgrounds **SCHEDULE ON PAGE 10**

Saturday 18

9:00 am - 3:00 pm: 10th Annual Broadwater County-Wide Yard Sale **READ MORE ON PAGE 1 AND SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
7:45 am: 2026 MT Lineman's Rodeo at Broadwater County Fairgrounds **SCHEDULE ON PAGE 10**
6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Sat 18 - Sun 19

Last Best Yard Sale at 4165 Hwy 284 **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**
9:00 am: Estate and Garage Sale at 35 River Road **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

Monday 20

Headwaters Amateur Radio Club of Montana Meeting at Belgrade's Chamber of Commerce Building every 3rd Monday

Tuesday 21

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 22

1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St
6:00 pm: Broadwater Democrats Meeting at The Betsy **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**

Thursday 23

3:00 pm: Townsend Farmers Market at Wi-Fi Park
7:00 pm: Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 24

5:00 pm: Historic Canton Church Presents Kamara and Friends at Canton Church **SEE ARTICLE AND AD ON PAGE 2**
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 25

9:00 am: 2026 Backyards of Broadwater at Broadwater
6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945



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

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

Distribution days (1st & 3rd Saturday + 5th if applicable)
July 4th and 18th: 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Donations of food items are accepted Friday July 3rd and July 17th: 9:00 to 11:00am
This month donation suggestions: Canned pasta meals, crackers, tuna, 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. July is Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.
For questions, donations appointments and emergency food supplies **call OUR NEW PHONE number (406) 916-0034.**

LOCAL MEETINGS

Broadwater Democrats Meeting

Wednesday July 22, 6:00PM

All are welcome!

at The Betsy, 217 Broadway, Townsend

Questions: Call (406) 581-8538

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.

Next meeting: August 19, 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



Thursday, August 20 @ TBA

All members of the community welcome!



Dedicated to Restore And Preserve Radersburg History

The mission of Radersburg Historical Preservation, Inc. is to restore and preserve Radersburg, MT history. We are a nonprofit organization (501)(c3) that depends upon membership, donations and grants. Our historic Methodist Church needs repairs to the north side this summer. We are also planning to complete the ADA accessible ramp on the Schoolhouse.

Every Contribution large or small brings us one step closer to our mission. Please consider making a fully tax deductible donation to Radersburg Historical Society. Donations can be sent to PO Box 96, Toston, MT 59643. We truly appreciate your support and commitment to the RHPI mission.

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:
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

JULY

Wednesday 22

10:30 am: Storytime

Thursday 16

1:00 pm: Crafternoon
4:00 pm: East Helena Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 6 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

YARD SALES & MORE!





The printed maps are available at the Reading Leaves Bookstore and at The Bird's Nest. In addition, all of the maps and the Master List of addresses are available online at: <https://mt43news.com/YardSaleMaps>

LAST BEST YARD SALE!

Saturday July 18th & Sunday July 19th
4165 Hwy 284 (3 miles from town)
Antiques, Collectables, Cool Yard Art, 12’ Corral Panels, Rustic Décor Items, Knick-Knacks, Household Stuff, Pickup Bed Trailer; More stuff added Sunday!

ESTATE AND GARAGE SALE

Saturday - Sunday, July 18 - 19
Opens 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
No early Sales. 35 River Rd. Townsend.

Craftsman wrench sets, odd size wrenches, painting tools, paint, stain, hose connectors, gardening tools, floor tiles, ball hitches, chains, 2 sawhorse sets, small desk, bench style coffee table, moveable shelf, leather couch 84” X 34”, glassed-in curio cabinet 80”X44”X15”; household items, Samsonite carryon weekender suitcase, HP cartridge style printer, framed prints, photographs, painting, side tables, lamps.

Cash or checks only. No credit cards.

ESTATE AUCTION

1021 US HWY 12E, TOWNSEND, MT
11AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

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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: E equals T

VSE WVL OPUSDL REFWGDL

PRDM OH V MJWEJL XCDT CD

UVGDR CJPRD WVQQR:

“CDVQEC FR JT ECD XVH!”

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KNIGHT MOVES

E	R	V
E		S
E	R	P

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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Bob Schrodde

“It must be an exciting game — you just took a bite out of the _____ !”

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!

Exempt
UNMIME _ _ _ _ _

Bitter
CARDI _ _ _ _ _

Accept
TOPAD _ _ _ _ _

Grove
SOFTER _ _ _ _ _

TODAY'S WORD

Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 Reserves of stock
9 Person applying a mail stick-on
16 Understands
20 Actress Palicki of "Friday Night Lights"
21 Popcorn personage Redenbacher
22 Out of the wind, nautically
23 Start of a riddle
25 Watson of "Little Women"
26 Was bested
27 Rug threads
28 Emo of zany comedy
30 Crafty plans
34 Amraz of "I Love Lucy"
35 Have in mind
36 King, in Paris
37 Riddle, part 2
41 Unhappy
44 Almonds, e.g.
45 See 63-Across
46 Jamaican music genre
47 Alpine climber's tool
49 Extra NFL periods
51 Actress Long of "Missing"
53 Nobelist Bohr
54 Riddle, part 3
60 "The Taking of — 123" (2009 film)
61 Check casher, e.g.
62 Pre-2001 space station
63 With 45-Across, informed on the latest
67 Lacking living organisms
69 Shampoo brand
71 Vidal — (shampoo brand)
73 Some till bills
74 Helium, e.g.
76 Dot in the ocean
78 Fife sound
79 Riddle, part 4
82 Pong producer
86 Tart's cousin
87 Capote, to his pals
88 "The First 48" network
89 Ricky Martin's old boy band
91 "Sir," in colonial India
95 "Hey there, tiger!"
97 Wee child
98 End of the riddle
102 Yoga chants
103 Loosen up
104 Tolkien trilogy initials
105 To some degree
109 Popular rum brand
111 Swindling guy
113 Really ruin
114 Scraped (out)
115 Riddle's answer
120 Give for a while
121 Determines the sum of
122 Thief's activity
123 Uno + dos
124 Some tax cheats
125 Lays out for proofing
DOWN
1 Cries loudly
2 Like a one-off committee
3 Fail suddenly
4 Purring baby
5 Precept
6 "Warzone" singer Yoko
7 Wildebeest
8 Narcissist's love
9 People crying loudly
10 Maple fluid
11 Greed for wealth
12 Russian-built fighter jets
13 Arafat's gp., once
14 Formed a secret union?
15 Ginger's trait
16 Scottish Celt
17 Suburb of Phoenix
18 Pertaining to time
19 Ocean coasts
24 "White Flag" singer of 2003
29 Have in mind
31 Tailless feline breed
32 Aussie bird
33 New Jersey's — Hall
35 Smaller than large
38 Lens aperture setting
39 Russo of "The Intern"
40 Hi-tech movie effects
41 Hold to one's decision
42 Novelist Chinua
43 Buy and sell
48 Eldest of the Musketeers
50 Suddenly lose patience
52 Warts and all
55 Pal, in Peru
56 Song line
57 Kin of "Oy!"
58 Beautiful, in Bologna
59 Poetic Muse
63 Old Glory's land, informally
64 Really strong
65 City in Spain or Ohio
66 A short round of tennis
68 AI who drew the Yokums
70 For fear that
72 To the extent that
75 Bern's land, to the French
77 Australia Zoo owner Irwin
79 Not as messy
80 Harvest
81 "The Flight Attendant" star Kaley
82 Bandleer, informally
83 Drink infusing device
84 Cutoff cry from a film director
85 Long to undo
90 Out with one's sweetie
92 Hint-providing columnist
93 "My thoughts exactly"
94 Alternatives to GIFs or JPEGs
96 Hulk Hogan's 1980s org.
99 Isaac of sci-fi
100 Actress Drescher
101 Sings in the Alps, perhaps
106 Perez of film
107 Quaint reply of denial
108 Canoodles, in Cambridge
110 Determines the sum of
111 Street rep
112 Hawk's home
116 Plato's "H"
117 Hog's home
118 Vivacity
119 "Little" actress Issa

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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!

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211 Broadway, Townsend
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Bar hours may vary

Copy Cup
303 N Front St, Townsend
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Please call in business hours.
Drinks and Pastry Hours:
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Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM
Closed Sunday

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

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

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

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

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

Fishtale Tavern
209 Broadway St, Townsend
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Wed - Sat 10:00 AM - Close
Sunday 10:00 AM - Midnight
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Facebook

Reading Leaves and Lattes
(406) 475-0672 Text Only
401 Broadway, Townsend
Dining Hours:
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Canyon Ferry Brewing & Taproom
300 Broadway, Townsend
(406) 694-5687
Hours:
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Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close

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Rocky Mountain Supply Deli
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Hot & Cold To-Go Hours:
Mon-Fri6:00AM - 6:00PM
Menu:
Board Inside Store for Take-and Bake or Ready-to-Eat Pizza
Call Ahead or Order Inside

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

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

Silos/Canyon Ferry Lake KOA
81 Silos Road
406-266-3100
Dining Hours:
Mon - Thu 7:30AM - 8:00PM
Menu:
Changes Weekly
Breakfast, Soup, Sandwiches to go

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

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

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

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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7 Friday, July 17, 2026		MT 43 News	
Commission Meeting 1 transfer a recently received family transfer parcel into a revocable trust before his deployment, scheduled for July 10. Armstrong, stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, received the parcel from Paul Armstrong in May 2025. Current regulations require a two-year waiting period before a family transfer parcel can be conveyed again, but Naomi Cheni of Cheney Law submitted a letter requesting a variance given the military hardship, noting the transfer was necessary to protect Armstrong's minor children's assets in the event something happened during service. Community Development Director Nichole Brown presented the request. Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder Angie Paulsen, a former military spouse, noted the process is standard procedure before deployment. "I want to thank him for his service," Randolph said after the vote. Airport lease released; apron work approved Commissioners approved the release of Parker Chadwick from an airport hangar lease, after the airport board signed off on the termination. Commissioners noted that recent runway work has added hangar space at the airport, so no waiting list currently exists. Commissioners also approved \$12,293.40 for access apron road work at the airport — correcting a typo on the published agenda that had listed the amount as \$12.25. Public Works Director T.J. Gravely explained the project will use leftover millings already stored on county property to build a new apron for spray planes and improve access to the new taxiway. Crushed rock for a base layer will cost approximately \$1,225. Gravely estimated the two-person crew could complete the work in about a week, targeting either July 20 or 27 to avoid conflicts with the lineman rodeo and county fair. Miller mortgage survey approved over public objections Commissioners approved a mortgage tract exemption for James and Melissa Miller on 15.01 acres of a 100-acre parcel they co-own with Jonas and Nancy Coblentz in Section 9, Township 8 North, Range 1 East. The exemption is needed to secure a construction loan through Intrepid Credit Union for completion of a home on the property. Public commenter Chuck Hahn raised questions about two existing mortgages on the property held by Farmers State Bank, arguing commissioners should verify whether Farmers Bank had consented to Intrepid's mortgage and who would hold priority in the event of a default. Commissioners and Brown engaged in extended discussion before concluding that mortgage priority between lending institutions falls outside the county's purview. "We're not bankers," Randolph said. The motion passed. Dry boundary relocation clears up 2007 record Commissioners approved a boundary relocation between lots 53 and 54 of the Wheatland Meadows subdivision, shifting		a shared property line roughly 10 feet along the northwest corner of lot 54 to allow vehicles using the storage unit facility to navigate more easily. The request also resolved a paperwork gap from nearly two decades ago. Brown read into the record a 2007 letter from then-Commissioner James Hahn confirming that the commission had unanimously approved changing lot 53's use from residential to commercial — but the required amended final plat was never filed. The boundary relocation certificate of survey incorporates that commercial designation, cleaning up both matters in a single filing. David Dry, husband of lot owner Karen Dry, confirmed the lot remains vacant. BLR and RID policies modernized Commissioners adopted updated Buildings for Lease or Rent regulations, bringing them into compliance with 2025 state legislation that moved RV spaces and mobile home parks from subdivision regulations to BLR oversight. The update also clarifies that BLR fees are nonrefundable. No public comment was received. Commissioners also adopted a revised Rural Improvement District policy and procedure manual, replacing a 2013 document. Brown and Gravely said the update is more user-friendly and that RID administration will be handled jointly between community development and public works, using FEMA-based rate schedules. The 5% administrative fee is set by state statute. Public commenter Tim Ravendal raised questions about staffing capacity and administrative oversight; staff and commissioners said no new department is contemplated and that outsourcing to an engineering firm is being researched as a future option if demand grows. Subdivision exemption amendments tabled pending legal review A lengthy discussion on proposed amendments to the subdivision exemption application was laid on the table pending review by the county attorney's office. Proposed changes discussed include adding a field for a second landowner in boundary relocation applications, updating family transfer MCA citations, rewording a question about prior family member ownership on deeds, adding a question about whether property is encumbered by mortgages or liens, requiring proof of relationship for family transfers, and addressing transfers to minors under state law. The item is expected to return to the agenda on July 22. Proposed amendments to subdivision supplements were also tabled at the request of Deputy County Attorney Haransh Singh, who asked for additional time to review language governing environmental assessments. Commissioners approved minutes from six meetings spanning May 27 through July 1 and approved a single claim of \$40,770.78. The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.	
Council Meeting 1 encouraging update on the city's new water tower, and approved the Rotary Club's Fall Fest event application at its regular meeting Tuesday, July 15. Street Dance Insurance Waiver: John Fuchs, owner of the Commercial Bar, asked the council to waive the city's 2-to-4-million-dollar liability insurance requirement for the annual rodeo street dance, scheduled for August 7 and 8. Fuchs said obtaining that level of coverage would cost between \$2,600 and \$4,800, effectively ending the longtime event. He noted that Helena, Bozeman, Great Falls, and other Montana cities require only 1 to 2 million dollars for comparable events, and that the Montana Department of Transportation — which owns the highway right-of-way where the dance takes place — requires only \$500,000 to \$1 million. Council members noted the higher threshold had been set based on guidance from the Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA) and expressed frustration that MMIA appeared to have given different recommendations to different cities. Council voted unanimously to grant the waiver for the 2026 event, conditioned on Fuchs providing proof of his existing 1-to-2-million-dollar policy. Mayor Vickie Rauser said the city will contact MMIA for clarification on its recommendations ahead of next year's events. Water Tower Filled Without Incident: Townsend's Public Works Director reported that the city's newly constructed water tower was successfully filled last week with no leaks and no equipment failures. Pumps performed beyond expectations, and the lower portion of the tank filled ahead of schedule. He credited water system technician Eric Crusch and the city's contractors for a smooth process and said the Harrison Street barricade — left in place while crews finish insulating the connecting pipes — should come down within about a month. The director also addressed a brief low-pressure event that occurred the night of July 3: the cause was not a failure of city equipment but of a communications port with the city's remote monitoring provider, Global Net Port, which prevented pressure alerts from transmitting. The problem was identified and resolved within roughly 10 minutes. As a result, technicians have added a loss-of-communication alarm to the monitoring system so future outages are detected immediately. Pool Inspection and Committee Meeting: Following a recent state inspection, the public pool has several compliance items in progress. The deep end was temporarily closed after the cover's paperwork could not be produced for the inspector; a new cover was expected to arrive the following day to allow the area to reopen. The public works director requested a meeting with the pool		committee — tentatively set for Thursday, July 17, at 5 p.m. at city hall — to review quotes from the inspector before deciding which recommended upgrades to pursue. He also raised a broader question about the city's long-term plan for the facility, noting that capital costs are rising each year. Rotary Club Fall Fest Application Approved: Council unanimously approved the Rotary Club of Townsend's event application for Fall Fest 2026, praising it as thorough and well-organized, complete with maps showing street closures and park setup. No Rotary representatives were present, but council took the opportunity to thank the club for this year's Fourth of July parade, which drew large crowds along Broadway and produced minimal cleanup concerns the following morning. Budget and Financial Updates: Council approved a \$10,000 amendment to the 2025-2026 urban forestry fund budget following a public hearing with no public comment. The increase, requested by the urban forestry board to cover higher watering costs during warmer temperatures, will be funded from existing cash within the urban forestry fund. Council also approved the preliminary 2026-2027 city budget, which precedes the required public hearing process. In a financial update, Mayor Rauser reported that a meeting with Opportunity Bank confirmed that a previously identified administrative fee — which had reduced the city's interest return from 3 percent to around 1.5 percent — has been reduced from two percentage points to a half-point, restoring the rate to approximately 3 percent. June interest earnings totaled roughly \$14,500. Council will continue monitoring rates and may explore the State Investment Pool (STIP), currently yielding around 3.8 to 4 percent, for a portion of the city's funds. City Clerk Carrie also noted that Special Improvement District loans for SID 5 and SID 6 have been paid in full. A minor appropriation change will come before council at the next meeting to close out the accounting. Other Notes: A military vehicle convoy will stop in Townsend on August 2, parking along South Pine Street near the park. The public is welcome to view the vehicles. Residents on the first two blocks of South Pine will receive advance notice by letter. The public works director flagged ongoing trouble with the North Cherry Street reconstruction project, where the contractor has been unable to establish an adequate base layer. An engineer was expected on site the following morning. Potholes on I Street and South Maple are being monitored; repairs are planned to be combined with the eventual North Cherry paving. Claims for June 2026 were approved.	
		Broadwater County Commissioners Agenda Broadwater County Commissioners  515 Broadway, Townsend Meetings are held at the Flynn Building on 416 Broadway St. Current and previously recorded meetings, official agenda, and minutes may be viewed on the website at https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov. Per Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 2-3-202, the agenda must include an item allowing public comment on any public matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the agency conducting the meeting. Public comments will be taken either in writing before the meeting or in person at the beginning of the meeting. Written public comment must be received by 5pm the day before the meeting. This allows time for comments to be reviewed before the meeting. Mail and items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded. OFFICIAL agendas are posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in the Courthouse (1st-floor bulletin board), on our website at www.broadwater-countymt.gov, in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline. Tuesday, July 21, 2026 9:00 AM Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, in CAO office, regarding projects and deadlines Wednesday, July 22, 2026 10:00 AM Public comment on any subject not on the agenda, that the Commission has jurisdiction over 10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, FAA Grant Amendment Request, A.I.P. 3-30-0078-017-2024 10:05 AM Discussion/Decision, Kevin Angland, Great West Engineering Floodplain Administrator, request approval of Floodplain Permit Application for Toston Bridge removal 10:10 AM Discussion, Jessica Erickson, Fair Manager, update on the Broadwater County Fair 10:15 AM Discussion, Rodeo Club Representative, update on 2026 Broadwater County Rodeo 10:20 AM Monthly report MCA 7-6-612 from Broadwater County Treasurer, Melissa Franks 10:25 AM Discussion/Decision, First Reading on Ordinance to change Winston speed limit on Weasel Creek Road from 15mph to 25mph, 61-8-310 (2) MCA 10:30 AM Discussion, Tax Increment Financing Application for the Wheatland Targeted Economic Development District 10:35 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) 451-6035 drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov Lindsey Richtmyer (406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834 lrichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov Jesse Swenson, Vice Chair (406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213 jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov E-mail: commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov Future Meetings will be held at the Flynn Building (416 Broadway) Please note: These meeting times/dates may change, please check the county website - Board of Health Meeting on July 20th at 3:30 PM - County Parks and Recreation Meeting on July 20th at 6:00 PM - Planning Board Meeting on July 21st at 1:00 PM - TEDD Advisory Committee Meeting on August 10th at 4:00 PM - Trust Board Meeting on August 11th at 11:30 AM - Planning Board Meeting on August 11th at 1:00 PM - Solid Waste Board Meeting on August 11th at 6:00 PM - Fair Board Meeting on August 13th at 5:15 PM The Commissioners may be attending these board meetings (except the Planning Board)	

LITTLE STINKERS



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SERVICING HELENA,
TOWNSEND, BOZEMAN &
SURROUNDING AREAS

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

E	R	V
5	2	7
E		S
8		4
E	R	P
3	6	1

PRESERVE

CryptoQuip

answer

Apt car bumper sticker used by a doctor when he makes house calls:
"Health is on the way!"

SCRAMBLERS

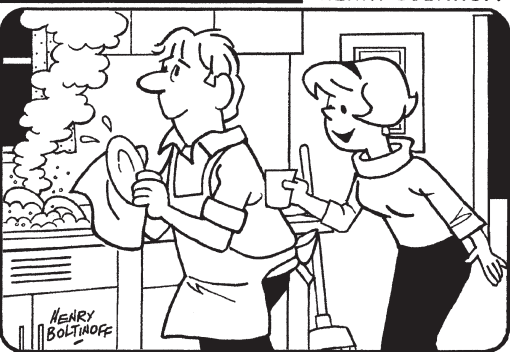
solution

1. Immune; 2. Acrid
3. Adopt; 4. Forest

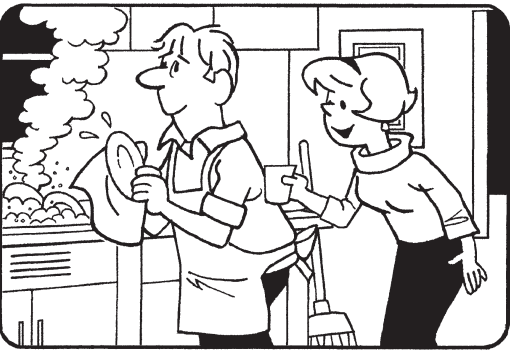
Today's Word
REMOTE

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cabinet is wider. 2. Apron is different. 3. Hair is different. 4. Arm is missing. 5. Curtain is moved. 6. Broom is different.

HOCUS FOCUS SPONSOR:

SANDY JANES

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Super Crossword

Answers

BACKLOGS	STAMPER	GETS
ADRIANNE	ORVILLE	ALEE
WHATWOULD	BEAGOOD	EMMA
LOST	FIBERS	PHILIPS
SCHEMES	DESIR	MEAN
NAMEFOR	ACREDIT	CARD
SADNUTS	SPEED	REGGAE
ICEAX	OTS	NIA
THATCAN	ONLY	BEUSED
PELHAM	PAYEE	MIR
ABIOTIC	PRELL	SASSOON
TENS	GAS	ISLET
TOOTLE		
TOPURCHASE	COFFEE	ES
ATARI	PIE	TRU
MENUDO	SAHIB	RROW
MADEIN	ASPECI	FCWAY
OMS	EASE	LOT
BACARDI	CONMAN	DOIN
EKED	AMERICAN	SPRESSO
LEND	TOTESUP	STEALING
TRES	EVADERS	TYPESETS

MT 43 News, Inc.

Published & edited by the Board of Directors

Editors in Chief:
Victor Sample and Nancy Marks

408 Broadway Street Suite A
Townsend MT 59644-2323
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MT43News@MT43News.com

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

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ISSN 2833-2571
USPS Bulk Mailing Permit #43
First Publication Date: July 15, 2022

MT 43 News is published Thursday of each week in Townsend, MT. Its service area is Broadwater County, MT.

Affiliation
Letters to the editor, guest columns, Op-Ed, editorials and advertising do not necessarily reflect the opinion of MT 43 News, Inc. or any of its executives, employees, or advertisers.

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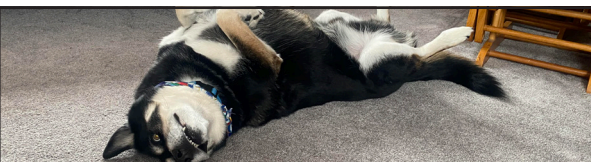
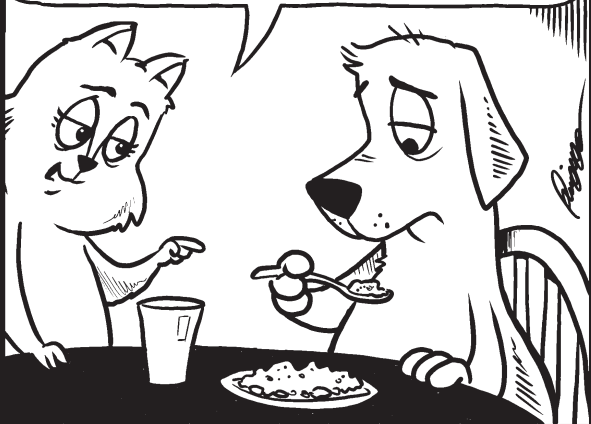
CONTENT CONTRIBUTIONS MUST be submitted as a text document, word doc, etc. Pictures of documents WILL NOT be accepted.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

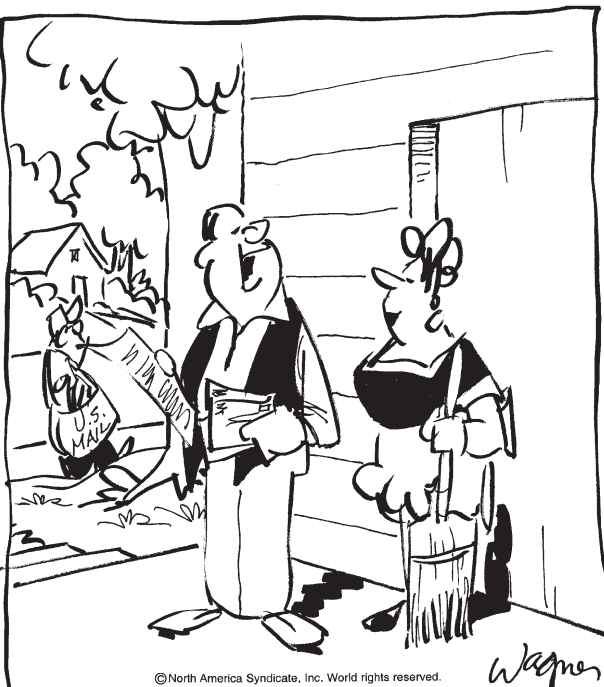
by Dave T. Phipps

TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK. IT'S MY FRIEND ELMA'S SPECIAL RECIPE. HER LATE HUSBAND ATE IT ALL THE TIME.



GRIN & BEAR IT

by Wagner



"Our once-in-a-lifetime offer has been extended!"

Out on a Limb

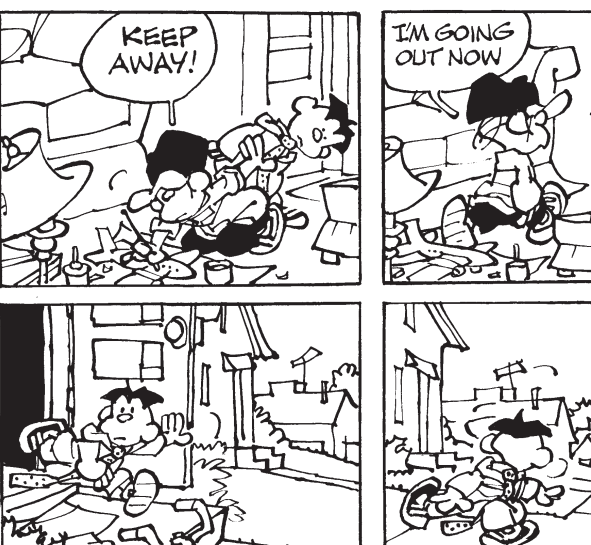
by Gary Kopervas



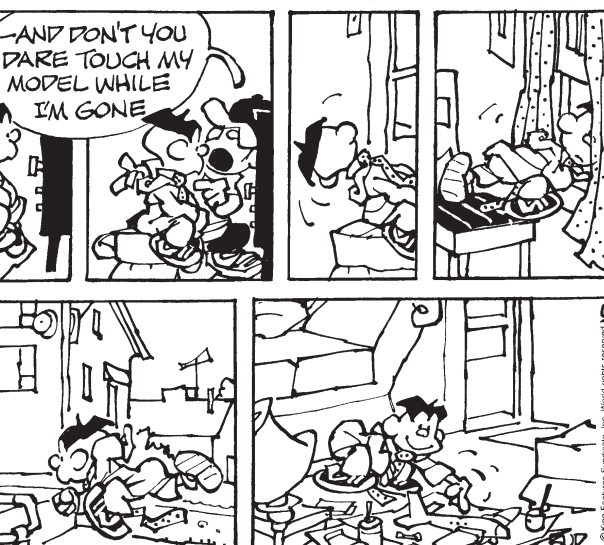
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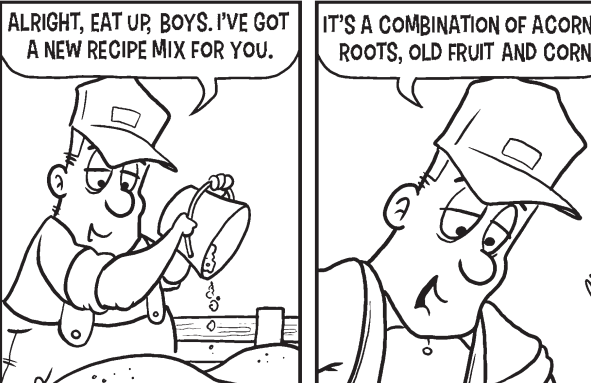
TIGER



by BUD BLAKE



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

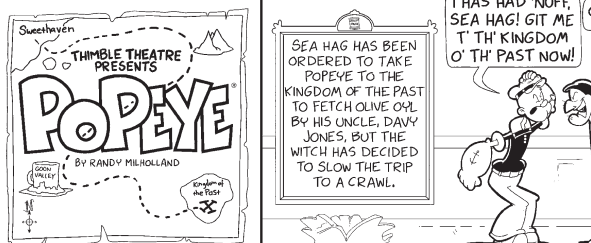


by Jeff Pickering



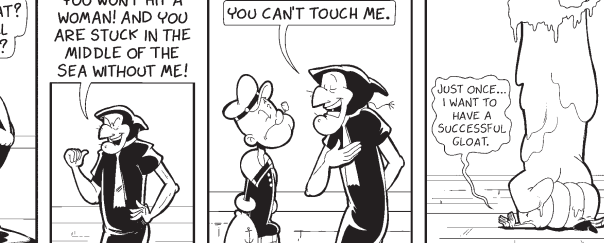
THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS POPEYE

BY RANDY MICHOLLAND



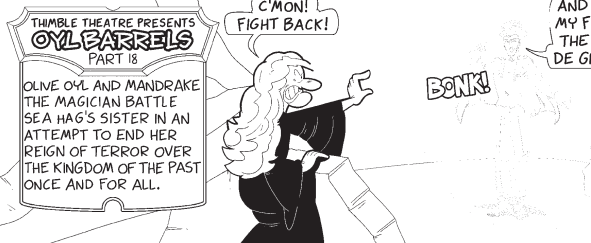
THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS OYLBARRELS

PART 18



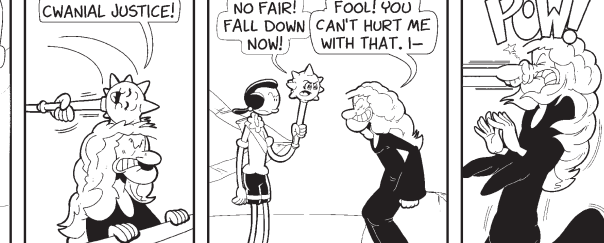
THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS OYLBARRELS

PART 18



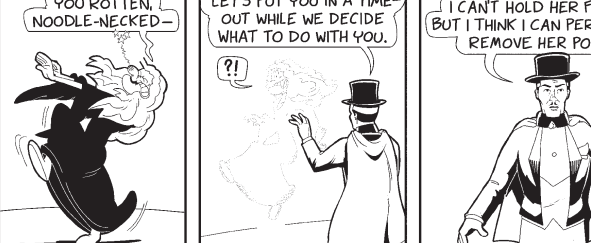
THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS OYLBARRELS

PART 18



THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS OYLBARRELS

PART 18



THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS OYLBARRELS

PART 18





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: *(Paused for Summer)* 6:30- 8:00pm The Rock Youth Ministry and Adult Bible Study Groups
Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406
Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.
*

Radersburg Baptist Church

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

Set Free Christian Fellowship

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

Seventh Day Adventist Church

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

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church ELCA Synod

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

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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

Townsend United Methodist Church

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

Trailhead Christian Fellowship

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



SR. CENTER MEALS:

JULY 20 - JULY 24

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

Monday, July 20	Birthday Cake
Beef Stroganoff	Wednesday, July 22
Egg Noodles	Tilapia
German Vegetables	Brown Rice Pilaf
White Beans Salad	Green Peas
Whole Grain Bread	Cauliflower
Fruit Cocktail	Juicy Pears
Tuesday, July 21	Thursday, July 23
	Chef Salad
	Carrot and Celery
	Sticks
	Whole Grain Bread
	Pineapple
Birthday Dinner	Friday, July 24
Roasted Turkey	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Mashed Potatoes	Golden Corn
Green Beans	Purple Beets
Whole Grain Bread	Garlic Bread
Applesauce	Apricot Halves

Justice of the Peace, 6
of one (1) year. Court recommends restricted probationary license after mandatory forty-five (45) day hard suspension. Any vehicle operated to have functioning interlock device.

COUNTY CRIMINAL

Kolbie Mclearn – Helena – Contempt of Court – Sentenced to one (1) day in Broadwater County Jail with credit for actual time served and is ordered to get back on track with Court fines & fees.

MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES

Zachary Fox – Barling, AR – No driver shall use within 4hours of going on duty, be under the influence of, nor possess alcohol – paid fines - \$535 fines & fees
- Operating a vehicle on public highways w/o license plates – paid fines - \$85 fines & fees

Townsend City Court Fines and Forfeitures May and June

Kirk Flynn
Justice of the Peace

Kaiden Yates - Great Falls – Expired Registration: \$85.00, Stop Sign Violation: \$85.00
Harrison Burnett - Alaska – Stop Sign Violation: \$85.00, No Liability Insurance 1st Offense: \$285.00
Jessica Perales – Townsend – Theft 2nd Offense, pled guilty, 6 months jail suspended on conditions, \$285.00 fines and fees and ordered to pay \$280.36 in restitution.
Johnathan Lacunza – Townsend – Disorderly Conduct, 10 days jail suspended on conditions, \$185.00 fines and fees.
Kevin Fail – Utah – Theft 3rd Offense, pled guilty, 6 months jail with all but 30 days suspended on conditions, \$1585.00 fines and fees.
Dillon Downard – Townsend – Habitual Offender Operating a Motor Vehicle, found guilty at trial, Deferred 6 months on conditions, pay fines and fees of \$385.00 and complete 14 days of jail.
Hannah Mattausch – Townsend – Fail to Stop and ID After Striking Unattended Vehicle 1st Offense, pled guilty. Fines and fees of \$235.00 and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$500.00.
Anthony Swanson – Helena – No Liability Insurance 2nd Offense, pled guilty. Deferred 6 months on conditions. Fines and fees of \$385.00.
Natasha Flores – Great Falls – Assault – Pled Guilty, 6 Months jail, all but 7 days suspended on conditions, \$185.00 fines and fees.
Dyle Williams – Bozeman – Habitual Offender Operating Motor Vehicle, pled guilty, 1 year jail, all but 14 days suspended on conditions. Fines and fees of \$235.00. No Insurance 3rd Offense, pled guilty, 10 days jail suspended on conditions, \$525.00 fines and fees.
Cezar Chase – Anaconda – Driving Suspended or Revoked 1st Offense, pled guilty, 6 months jail, all but 5 days suspended on conditions, \$285.00 fines and fees.
Anthony Peek – Townsend – Driving Suspended or Revoked, pled guilty, deferred 6 months on conditions, \$135.00 fines and fees.



Weather Forecast

courtesy of open-meteo.com

JULY

Friday 17 High Temp: 95 Low Temp: 66 Wind: 16 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100	Tuesday 21 High Temp: 84 Low Temp: 60 Wind: 6 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Saturday 18 High Temp: 96 Low Temp: 66 Wind: 11 Rain: 0.004 Cloud Cover: 100	Wednesday 22 High Temp: 92 Low Temp: 63 Wind: 18 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 100
Sunday 19 High Temp: 95 Low Temp: 65 Wind: 14 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 65	Thursday 23 High Temp: 90 Low Temp: 65 Wind: 9 Rain: 0.0 Cloud Cover: 67

GUEST EDITORIALS

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

Section 504 is a Promise Montana Must Not Abandon

Cassie Wick
Public Policy and Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator Ability Montana

In Montana, we pride ourselves on independence, fairness, and looking out for one another—especially when distances are long and resources are few. For Montanans with disabilities, one of the most important tools that makes those values real is Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Often overlooked, Section 504 is not a bureaucratic technicality. It is a civil rights promise—one that is now at risk.

Passed in 1973, Section 504 was the first federal law to prohibit disability discrimination. Its principle is simple: any program or service that receives federal funding must be accessible to and inclusive of people with disabilities. That includes public schools, colleges, hospitals, clinics, housing authorities, and state and local governments. In practice, it ensures reasonable accommodations, accessible facilities, and policies that do not exclude people because of disability.

In a rural state like Montana, these protections are essential. When a community has only one hospital, one school district, or one public transit option, exclusion is not an inconvenience—it is a barrier to daily life. Section 504 helps ensure that a student with epilepsy can attend school safely, that a wheelchair user can access a county office, and that a Deaf patient can communicate effectively in an emergency room.

Education is one of the clearest examples of its impact. Thousands of Montana students rely on 504 plans for accommodations related to chronic illness, mental health conditions, or learning differences. These supports are not special treatment; they are what allow students to participate fully and succeed alongside their peers.

Health care access also depends heavily on Section 504. The law requires federally funded providers to offer accessible medical equipment and effective communication, including sign language interpreters. In a state where people may travel hours for care, accessibility can make the difference between receiving treatment and going without.

Beyond individual services, Section 504 reflects a broader civil rights principle: people with disabilities have the right to live and receive services in their communities, not be separated or pushed into institutions. This was affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in its 1999 Olmstead decision, which recognized unnecessary institutionalization as a form of discrimination.

That legacy is now being challenged.

Montana’s Attorney General is a party to Texas v. Kennedy, a federal lawsuit seeking to invalidate key portions of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ 2024 Section 504 regulations. These regulations clarify how the law is applied today, including reinforcing the right of people with disabilities to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate. The lawsuit asks the court to block those protections and weaken their enforcement.

If successful, Section 504 could remain in name but be diminished in practice. It would become far more difficult for individuals to challenge systems that limit access or push them toward institutional care. For Montanans who rely on Medicaid-funded home and

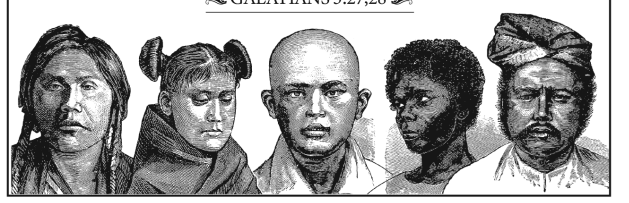
Section **504**, 1973



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

— GALATIAN 3:27,28 —



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Don't forget to hug your loved ones.

EAST HELENA AREA DEATH

Karen L. Larson

Family of Karen L. Larson

August 4, 1944 – July 9, 2026

It is with a heavy heart, the family of Karen announced her death. Funeral services are pending at this time and will be announced when arrangements have been completed.



EAST HELENA OBITUARY

Patricia Ann Ziesman

Family of Patricia Ann Ziesman

March 17, 1936 – July 6, 2026



Patricia Ann Ziesman, age 90, passed away on July 6, 2026. Patricia was born to Julia and George Kokoruda on March 17, 1936, at the Kokoruda Homestead, about a mile away from her and Harley’s residence.

Mom grew up riding horses on the family ranch, bringing in the milk cows, and riding with her sister Geraldine. She was never one who wanted to be inside. Her favorite horse, Chubby, died while she was in the hospital having her tonsils out. Her dad bought her a yearling mare that she named Ginger. She worked with her, and when she met Harley, he helped her break Ginger. They spent the summer riding all over the Elkhorns.

She attended the McClellan Creek country school, later attending East Helena School and graduating from Helena High School in 1954. On July 3, 1954, she married Harley Ziesman. Together, they shared a marriage that spanned 72 incredible years.

Patricia was a stay-at-home mom, dedicating herself to raising her children. Her first job outside the home was cooking for Head Start during summer school vacation. However, her favorite job was planting trees for the Forest Service during the summers. She really enjoyed the camaraderie and spending time outdoors. In 1974, she went to work for Kmart in the accounting department. She later went to work at First Security Bank, where she remained until her retirement in 2002. Following her retirement, she enjoyed spending her time caring for her grandchildren. Her grandchildren were the light of her life.

She had a love for sweets and never said no to her grandchildren. Whether that meant hosting tea parties with sweet Kool-Aid, letting the kids make pudding, or, one time, the kids built a fire (in a bad fire year) attempting to make potato chips. She found them all gathered around the fire and decided to just supervise.

She is survived by her devoted husband, Harley; her children, Debbie (Bill) Niehoff, Julie (Tim) Gilchrist, and Fred (Deanna) Ziesman; her grandchildren, Spencer Gilchrist and his partner Corey, Brianna Oestreich and her husband Cory, Alisa Gilchrist and her husband (TJ) Schwartz, Terra Gilchrist and her partner Ryan, Allen Ziesman and his partner Brittany, and Mandy Ziesman and her husband Skyler McClain; sister, Geraldine Ogle and sister- in- law Ardis Kokoruda. She was preceded in death by her parents, Julia and George Kokoruda; her brothers, Bob and sister-in-law Colleen Kokoruda, Bill Kokoruda; her sister Betty and brother-in-law Larry Shearer, brother-in-law Phil “Archie” Ogle. She also leaves behind a huge extended family.

A private graveside service will be held at Forestvale Cemetery in Helena.



OBITUARY

Lorene Williams

Family of Lorene Williams

June 19, 1937 – May 23, 2026



*Lorene Williams
Photo Provided by Family*

Lorene Williams, age 88, of Townsend, a loving mother, sister, and friend, passed away May 23, 2026, in Sun City West, AZ, with her family by her side.

Lorene graduated from high school in Jackson, KY, in 1956. She married Bertum Williams in Bays, KY, on September 1, 1957, and celebrated 68 years of marriage. They had three children. She was a dedicated member of the Eastern Star for 50 years and traveled to Europe as a Navy wife. Lorene loved fishing, hunting, camping, mowing the yard, but most of all she loved working in her garden.

Lorene is preceded in death by her parents, Daely Roark and Bessie Back Roark; her husband Bertum Williams; and a daughter, Brenda ‘Gail’ Borninkhof. She is survived by her sons Mike (Tina) Williams and Harold (Linda) Williams; grandson Kenny (Kristina) Borninkhof; granddaughter Richelle (David) Borninkhof; and a great-granddaughter, Gracie.

A Graveside Service is scheduled for 12:00 p.m., Monday, August 17, 2026, at the Montana State Veterans Cemetery, Fort Harrison. She will be laid to rest with her husband, Bertum.

Section 504, 9 community-based services, the consequences could be immediate and significant.

This is not an abstract legal debate. It is about whether people can remain in their homes, attend school, access health care, and participate fully in their communities. It is about whether disability rights remain enforceable—or become symbolic.

Disability is not rare, and it is not someone else’s issue. Most Montanans will experience disability at some point in their lives or within their families. Section 504 is a safeguard many of us will rely on, whether we realize it now or not.

Montana’s values emphasize fairness, independence, and community. Those values are best reflected by strengthening protections that allow all people to participate, not by stepping into legal efforts that could weaken them. This is a moment to pause, to listen to those most affected, and to ensure that Montana stands on the side of inclusion.

Section 504 is more than a law. It is a promise—one Montana should choose to uphold, not walk away from.

JULY, 2026

MT

LINEMAN’S

RODEO

FRI. 17

WELCOME

Lantern Ceremony 7:00pm

Live Music 8:00pm

SAT. 18

COMPETITION DAY

Opening Ceremony 7:45am

Competition Begins 8:30am

Dinner & Awards 4:30pm

189 US HWY 12 E

TOWNSEND, MT 59644

WWW.MTLRA.COM



Thank You!

Rick and Julie Navarro, parents of William Hallenberg, would like to thank all who helped us celebrate his 35 years on this Earth, with special thanks to:

- The American Legion Post 42, for providing the venue for the outpouring of friends to meet and share.
- The American Legion Post 42 Auxiliary, for the food, the grace, the coordination, the outpouring of support.
- Jim and Amber, and the Fish Tale Tavern, for the help, the support, the short escapes from grief.
- Townsend Flooring, for your kind words and prompt professional service while coping with William’s home.
- MT43News, for going the extra mile with William’s Celebration of Live announcement.
- Broadwater County Sherriff’s Department, for their beyond the call of duty support.
- Nick Andrews of Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home, for the extra steps taken for us lost souls.
- Mike Uhland, William’s roommate, for your calm under stress, we know it wasn’t easy for you.
- Val Baraza, for the wonderful buckets of yellow roses, you are thoughtful, considerate, gracious and amazing.
- Butch Colby, for the beautiful eulogy poem.
- Our daughter, Brandi Truesdell, for coordinating the details we were too far away to coordinate.
- Our son-in-law, Daniel Truesdell, for connecting with people we didn’t know we needed.
- Our son, Tim Wilburn, for keeping us grounded.
- Our grandchildren, MaKenzie, Madelynne, and Parker Truesdell; Adrian and Brinley Wilburn, for being you.
- Our former daughter-in-law, Brittney Wilburn, for the collages.
- And most of all, to friends who shared their memories of our son.

~Gratefully Rick and Julie Navarro
Conrad Montana

Barnes

Jewelry

357 N Last Chance Gulch,

Helena MT

406-442-3000

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How to Stay Safe from Wildfire Smoke

Zeke Loyd
Montana Free Press

Tracking smoke via a state database, filtering your air, and wearing a mask can substantially reduce the long-term health risks of wildfire smoke.
This article was originally published by the Montana Free Press on July 7, 2026.

Fire season, during which millions of acres burn across the country each summer, is an annual obstacle for anyone aspiring to enjoy a long and healthy life immersed in the outdoors.

As of early July, wildfire season hasn’t picked up in Montana yet. But as summer progresses and forests and grasslands burn, the state’s air quality will deteriorate.

Carrie Nyssen, an air quality expert with the American Lung Association, told Montana Free Press that wildfire smoke contains toxic compounds including carbon monoxide and carcinogens including benzene and formaldehyde.

Breathing wildfire smoke has long-lasting impacts on lung function, according to a study from the University of Montana. Researchers examined residents around Seeley Lake after the community was exposed to “unprecedented levels of wildfire smoke” in 2017. The study found that residents’ lungs remained damaged two years after the fires, when the study concluded.

Nyssen said smoke has even worse impacts on children, a susceptible demographic that breathes faster than adults. Smoke can inhibit healthy lung development. It can also exacerbate the impacts of chronic lung and heart disease among older populations.

Experts offer a range of strategies to keep what Nyssen described as the “toxic cloud” of wildfire smoke out of your lungs. Here are a few simple and affordable ways to keep the worst of this summer’s smoke at bay.

#1 TRACK THE SMOKE

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality tracks air quality statewide and regularly updates a map of the state’s skies. Different colors, ranging in increasing severity from green to yellow to red to purple, indicate the level of air pollution.

“I think it’s kind of fun to check your air quality to see what color we are on the scale,” Nyssen said.

Nyssen said the map can help Montanans “make a better-informed decision” about where to recreate.

“If you get the day off and you want to go fishing, now, are you going to let a little wildfire smoke bother you? Well, at least check and see what the air quality is and what level it’s at,” Nyssen said.

You can also sign up for smoke forecasts from DEQ, which will email or text air quality updates several times a week during fire season.



Smoke is dangerous not just for the children and the elderly, but for young, healthy adults as well, so Nyssen says it’s important to avoid it.

“When you’ve got a red day, or even worse, a maroon or a purple day, there is not a pair of lungs in the world that isn’t adversely affected by breathing in that bad air,” Nyssen said.

#2 FILTER, FILTER, FILTER

If you’re staying inside during an intense smoke event, you can make a DIY air filter to keep most of the smoke out of a single designated room. And installing one doesn’t have to break the bank, according to Robert Byron, with Montana Health and Climate, an environmental advocacy group.

“What it involves is just an inexpensive box fan with a filter for an air conditioning unit,” Byron told MTFP.

Byron recommends following this DIY guide from Climate Smart Missoula. On the smokiest days, it’s best to place the filter in a small room, ideally one that has no exterior door and as few windows as possible. Set the fan up where airflow is unobstructed, run it whenever you’re home, and use the room as a haven when the air quality outside keeps you indoors.

DPHHS also maintains a website with more information and wildfire smoke response toolkits for individuals, schools and childcare facilities.

#3 WEAR A MASK

Many residential air filters, and especially homemade ones, can’t entirely remove one of the most dangerous ingredients in wildfire smoke: tiny suspended molecules called particulate matter. The most dangerous kind, called PM2.5, is composed of solid particles and liquid droplets that are two and a half micrometers in diameter or less. Their size allows them to bypass the body’s regular defenses and reach deep into the lungs. That means irritation and coughing, in addition to more serious health risks like chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma flares, heart attacks and strokes.

“And we’ve also seen associations with dementia, among many other things,” Byron said.

To keep those molecular threats out of your airways, Byron recommends a well-fitted N95 respirator.

Some wildland firefighters have even started wearing N95 masks after a recent U.S. Forest Service announcement authorizing their use.

But while they offer top-tier protection, N95s can make recreating outside difficult. As with all wildfire smoke precautions, Byron said, it’s important to exercise common sense.

“It doesn’t help if you pass out from heat stroke because you can’t breathe through the mask,” Byron said.

Like Byron, Carrie Nyssen, with the American Lung Association, emphasized that protecting yourself from wildfire smoke needn’t be an excessive imposition on your day-to-day life.

“If we can just get ourselves to think ahead and plan a little bit, that can go a long way,” Nyssen said.

Memoirs of My Life

Sharon Obrigewitch

Next week, I will turn 90 years old. I remember thinking my mother was old when she was thirty-five. I must have been around twelve or so. Now I wonder what my own children think, especially since I can hardly believe they are sixty or older.

Years ago, one of my sons asked, “Did you have bicycles when you were young?” Yes, Wade, we had bicycles—and even a car, though only one. We still fed the cows with horses, and my grandfather had a horse-drawn buggy. I do not remember him ever owning a car, though he may have.

I was born on July 17, 1936. My mother said it was the hottest day of the year, so I looked it up. In North Dakota that day, the temperature reached 114 degrees. The highest temperature recorded that July was 121 degrees. It was the year of the drought.

We lived on a farm in the middle of North Dakota in a house with three bedrooms upstairs. We had chickens, pigs, cows, hay, and everything we needed to keep going. We did not need to go to the store often. A root cellar kept our vegetables and canned goods through the winter. Since there were no refrigerators or freezers, meat was canned or hung in the shed during the winter to stay frozen. Our well served as our refrigerator.

Grandma and Grandpa lived just half a mile away, which was normal then. Families had parents living close by and they would babysit. Mom did not work outside the home, but she worked hard on the farm. She helped my dad with harvesting and milking the cows. In the country, we had no electricity or running water. Water had to be pumped into a bucket, brought into the house, and shared. We all drank from the same dipper, with no separate cups.

In North Dakota, we used coal stoves because there was little wood. The stove had a water reservoir that heated water for baths and dishes. There were no daily showers. Saturday night was bath night, using a large tin tub in front of the stove so we would be clean for church on Sunday morning. Sunday was truly a day of rest, although the cows still had to be milked and fed. Our family was Polish, so we attended a separate church nearby. The German families drove past it to their own church. When our aunts and uncles came for Mass, they came to our house for dinner afterward.

I have no idea whether it was a potluck or whether my mother cooked it all, though I hope my aunts helped. The women served the men first, then the children, and finally themselves. It was still very much like the old country. In church, the men and women sat separately, with the women sitting with the children. When the boys got older, they sat with the men.

Of course, we cannot forget the outhouse, set away from the house and the well. It usually had two seats, and the toilet paper was the Montgomery Ward catalog. In winter, we may have used a chamber pot. I think of that when I hear my grandchildren complain about toilet paper today.

Years later, my father built a pump house and put a windmill on top. Batteries were charged, and we went from kerosene lamps to a single bare light bulb that turned on by pulling a string.

There are many people in this town who are older than ninety and they would like to add their remembrance. Later, I may reflect on how our world has changed.

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