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Protect!—p.2



Seniors Get Their
Golf on!—p.4



Din-din with
Att. Gen!—p.12

FWP’s Walleye Plan Disputed

Local fishermen against FWP regulation change in Missouri River



The Highway 287 bridge north of Townsend is the fishing regulations boundary line between Canyon Ferry Reservoir and the upper Missouri River.
Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

A proposed change in walleye fishing regulations on the Missouri River between Toston Dam and Canyon Ferry Reservoir ran into stiff opposition at a public meeting in Townsend. About 30 people attended the April 16 “scoping session.” Ron Spoon, fisheries biologist at the Townsend field office of the state Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP), presented the department’s proposal.

It calls for setting the daily harvest limit on that section of the river at five walleye of any size, which is the standard limit for the agency’s Central Fishing District. The current limit is 10, only one of which can be over 15 inches long. The official boundary line separating the river from the reservoir is the Highway 287 bridge just north of Townsend. The walleye limit on Canyon Ferry

Walleye **Plan Dispute**, 4

Solid Waste Board Examining Options to Meet Revenue Shortfalls, Prevent Future Deficits

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter

Broadwater County’s Solid Waste Advisory Board is seeking the county commission’s approval to recover two years of unbilled solid waste assessments and put in place new processes to prevent similar errors in the future. In total, nearly \$250,000 worth of assessments were not billed out.

During the commissioners’ regular April 17 meeting, Broadwater County Administrative Officer Bill Jarocki presented county commissioners with a set of preliminary recommendations from the Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB) to bring the county’s solid waste enterprise fund back into the black. Chief among those is the equitable assessment recovery program, which would establish a process for the board to attempt to collect unbilled assessments.

“The Solid Waste Advisory Board has been looking at issues of financial sustainability for the solid waste operation of the public works department, that enterprise,” Jarocki opened. The board tasked the subcommittee, nick-named a “Tiger Team”, to investigate the causes and possible solutions before the SWAB submits its 2024-25 budget recommendations to the commission in May.

What the team discovered, Jarocki explained, was that more than 10 percent of the county’s solid waste assessments had gone unbilled in fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 (See related story, page 6). The resulting budget shortfall for the most recent fiscal year was more than \$150,000. For 2021-22, Jarocki estimated a deficit of \$95,000.

“There’s an issue of people receiving service and not paying for it,” Jarocki told the commission. The SWAB recommended implementing the recovery program in the new budget year. The program would

authorize the county’s Public Works Department, rather than the county treasurer, to notify property owners of outstanding assessments and work with them to collect the unpaid balances.

“We’re looking to create a situation where people voluntarily pay their past due assessments,” Jarocki. Not paying, however, would not lead to penalties for those who were not billed correctly.

“Why collecting these funds is so important is because of how this fund is set up, which I think people forget, is not a county-funded department,” Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer said, asking Jarocki to explain how the enterprise fund works.

The county’s solid waste activities – maintaining collection and transfer sites and the related personnel, disposal and administrative costs – are paid for only by money from user fees. The county’s general fund does not contribute to those costs, Jarocki responded. While the department may not be able to recover all of the unbilled assessments, the county needs to demonstrate to its auditors that a plan is in place to keep that fund in the black.

“Now that we’ve acknowledged it, how do we make sure it doesn’t happen going forward?” Commissioner Debi Randolph asked.

“What you can expect is that, in the solid waste enterprise fund, there will be a change in the workflow for the information used for the assessments,” Jarocki said. In previous years, the Montana Department of Revenue would send the county information on new properties and assessments, but no one checked to make sure the number of solid waste assessments attached to each property was correct.

Going forward, Jarocki continued, “The solid waste department will review all the assessments before that information is passed on to the treasurer, who will then make the proper records for the upcoming tax year. That had not been done. We didn’t have that check and balance.”

The commission took no action on the presentation. However, the Solid Waste Advisory Board will meet again on April 30, to refine recommendations for solid waste assessment and fee collection for the upcoming fiscal year.

SWAB’s Tiger Team recommended the advisory board closely examine a “pay as you throw” model for solid waste fees, rather than assessments attached to properties. Pay as you throw would charge customers based on the tonnage of waste they send to the county’s collection sites.

“Up until this year, we knew we had a shortfall in the revenues, . . . but we didn’t know exactly why,” County Executive Administrator Bill Jarocki said at the April 17 Broadwater County Commission meeting.

READ MORE ABOUT SWAB BUDGET ON PAGE 6

Welcome to STROKE Corner!

Carla Amundson
STROKE Board Member

"STROKE Corner" is an article that will provide news and scheduled activities for our youth of Broadwater County. STROKE (Science, Technology, Outdoors, Knowledge, Entrepreneurship) offers an array of opportunities for our Broadwater County kids. All activities are FREE to participants, except for the 21% Century School Grant which requires a reasonable fee for clay supplies.



Terry Thomas
Photo Credits: Teddy Lewis

Today we introduce Terry Thomas, a retired Helena Art teacher. With over 30 years of teaching many artistic skills, Terry has maintained a profession in his retirement. He has stunning custom pottery and urns at the Helena Artist’s Guild and sells his work throughout Montana. Terry is known as a Master Ceramist. In 2023, Terry along with Teddy Lewis, Director of our Pottery Guild here in Townsend, spearheaded the “Empty Bowls Project” at the Broadwater County Fairgrounds. Four hundred beautiful bowls were made by volunteer ceramists for this event. Each person who paid a donation of \$20 could select a bowl followed by a chili-feed.

This STROKE fundraiser earned \$1,700 for the many youth programs and received a matching \$1700 from Town Pump for the Food Bank. This effort on Terry’s part demonstrates his generous giving to our community and specifically our youth.

Recently, Terry engaged in a workshop for advanced pottery students on how to make lids for their clay Projects. His kind and gentle spirit made for a comfortable learning environment for the kids.

We are announcing the upcoming second annual “Burgers and Bowls” event! The fun begins Saturday, April 27 from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm at The Pottery Guild, 108 North Spruce St in Townsend. Come join us! We look forward to seeing you there!

Pottery by STROKE

Photo Credits: Teddy Lewis



Senior Spotlight: Caleb Lelacheur

Mikayla Kraft

MT 43 News School Correspondent



He was born an academic whizz. To anyone, this would sound completely unappealing. This would sound like the ultimate nerd who never had any friends. But in Townsend, MT, we play our cards a little differently. This so-called nerd is not only - arguably - the smartest in the 2024 class, but he is one of the most outgoing, kind, sympathetic, and fun people to be around. Caleb Lelacheur has been in the Townsend School System ever since he was a Kindergartner and his exciting personality has followed him to his senior year of high school as one of the popular students.

Caleb was born into an average middle-class family, but his upbringing was filled with so much care that it was worth so much more. His father is a geologist and his mother works for Warren Transport.

His parents have constantly encouraged him to read new books and learn more things. For a specific example, his father chooses a book for him after every short period that Caleb spends time reading and overall furthering his knowledge. These books are usually filled with science or history and he has never withheld the knowledge from the 2024 class. He has used these books to show others what he has learned and fascinate others with the same fascination that was given to him.

Caleb has been involved in the National Honors Society, Youth Council, Student Council, Pep Band, ESports, Basketball, Speech and Drama, and additionally served as the manager for the Volleyball team. Within the Student Council, he was the class president for two years and organized much of what went on around the school. He also proudly exclaimed that he was an amazing bench player on the basketball team. His involvement in so many activities no matter

what positions he held has grown his personality and maturity and never disappoints.

He has always excelled in the music realm. Though he is talented in multiple aspects of music, his favorite has been putting poems into songs. He plans to eventually become a musician and continue his love for music within his career. Caleb has currently been starting to get his music out into the public world. He currently has two albums on Spotify including Day One and IceBreaker. His music is completely different from what you would expect, however, there is talent within his music no matter what genre it is. To get additional knowledge to prepare him for this endeavor, Caleb plans to go to MSU to get a degree in Music Technology. Caleb will miss the people and the school staff within the Townsend Community, but going to Bozeman to learn about the technology that continuously fuels our music entertainment will be incredibly rewarding for him.

Bulldog Track

added a couple more PRs in the shot put and discus, respectfully. Sophomore Aspen Slyker clocked her season’s best in the 200-meter dash, while Junior Amanda Pesicka marked her SR in the 400-meter dash.

The early morning start for the distance runners resulted in PR/SRs for the trio of freshman Kyla Meissner and juniors Kaelyn Sangray and Abby Wickens; all who finished in the top 9 of the 3200-meter run. Meissner finished 2nd in the 1600-meter run with junior Memphys Meier not far behind for 8th. Any times/distances marked with PR refer to personal record for the individual, while SR denotes a season’s record.

PRs for upperclassmen are impressive as they mark their best effort over their entire high school career.

100-meter dash: 2nd Kaitlyn Noyes 13.06 PR, Reese Wolfgram 14.17, Amanda Pesicka 14.66, Emmalin Fischer 14.95, and Sarah Morgan 16.03. 200-meter dash: 2nd Havyn Vandenacre 27.13 SR, Aspen Slyker 28.88 SR, Amanda Pesicka 30.71, and Sarah Morgan 36.15. 400-meter dash: Amanda Pesicka 1:10 SR and Sarah Morgan 1:24.

800-meter run: Kaelyn Sangray 2:48 PR, Jordyn Pittman 3:11, and Shalyn Sentinella 3:31. 1600-meter run: 2nd Kyla Meissner 5:45, 8th Memphys Meier 5:57, Abby Wickens 6:23, Jordyn Pittman 6:38 PR and Shalyn Sentinella 7:45 PR.

3200-meter run: 1st Kyla Meissner 12:05 PR, 8th Kaelyn Sangray 13:04 PR, 9th Abby Wickens 13:32 SR. 100-meter hurdles: 1st Havyn Vandenacre 15:84, Holly Newman 18.28, and Emmalin Fischer 19.97.

300-meter hurdles: Emmalin Fischer 59.68. The ladies’ squad of Reese Wolfgram, Kaitlyn Noyes, Aspen Slyker & Havyn Vandenacre finished the 4 x 100-meter relay in 51.86 taking 3rd place. Joining Havyn Vandenacre for the long relay (4 x 400-meter)

were Amanda Pesicka, Abby Wickens and Kyla Meissner finishing 9th place with a time of 4:39.

Shot Put: Jazlyn Martin 26’2” PR, Karsyn Sangray 23’7.5”, and Berlin Korr 21’11”.

Discus: Jazlyn Martin 82’, Karsyn Sangray 70’5” PR and Berlin Korr 50’7”.

Javelin: 1st Havyn Vandenacre 123’4”, 6th Luci Horne 92’0.5”, Aspen Slyker 89’11”, Jazlyn Martin 76’1”, and Karsyn Sangray 65’6” SR.

High Jump: 4th Kaitlyn Noyes 4’6”.

Long Jump: 1st Kaitlyn Noyes 17’3.5” PR, 4th Holly Newman 15’6”, 9th Reese Wolfgram 15’1.25”, and Luci Horne 13’10.25” SR.

Triple Jump: 3rd Kaitlyn Noyes 34’10.5” PR, 5th Reese Wolfgram 32’9” SR, and Emmalin Fischer 26’8”.

There is a super strong group of sophomores on the men’s team and they were flexing at the Manhattan Christian meet.

Sophomore Marek Easter had a standout day for the men’s Bulldog team, establishing personal bests in the 400-meter run and javelin, taking 8th place in each event.

Fellow sophomore Trace Giomi increased his personal best distances from last weekend by increasing them again in both the shot put and discus, while sophomore Aidan Kitto increased his PR distance in the discus.

Another sophomore, Colt Barnard had his personal best time cracking the top ten in the 200-meter dash. The men’s team is nursing several injuries, which is a delicate balance in the middle of the season to ensure their continued fitness without inflaming said injuries; hence the shorter list of times/distances.

100-meter dash: Colt Bernard 12.36 12.37. 200-meter dash: 10th Colt Barnard 24.95 PR and Marek Easter 25.08.

400-meter run: 8th Marek Easter 54.77 PR.

800-meter run: Max Sellay 2:30 and Gavin Greene 2:39. 1600-meter run: 10th Nolan Flynn 5:00, Max Sellay 5:37 PR, and Gavin Greene 5:39 PR.

110-meter hurdles: Tavyn Anderson 19.65 PR. Long Jump: Jim Tew 17’8” and Tavyn Anderson 17’2” and Jim Tew 17’4”. Triple Jump: 9th Tavyn Anderson 37’2.5”.

Shot Put: Gavin Schmele 35’8.5”, Trace Giomi 32’9.5” PR, Pat Gossard 30’3.5”, Aidan Kitto 27’10.5”, and Cooper Hines 21’7”.

Discus: Gavin Schmele 90’5”, Trace Giomi 86’7” PR, Aidan Kitto 83’10” PR, and Cooper Hines 68’5”. Javelin: 8th Marek Easter 137’10” PR, Pat Gossard 116’1”, Gavin Schmele 96’10” PR, and Aidan Kitto 93’10”.

The Bulldogs are certainly ramping things up with three meets the last week of April. First up is the Top 10 event in Missoula Tuesday evening, followed by the Small Schools Meet at Vigilante Stadium on the Carroll College Campus on Thursday, April 25th, which will also serve as senior night.

Lastly is the East Helena Track Invite during the day on Saturday before the athletes hurry home for the prom Saturday night. Good luck Dogs and have fun!



Sophomore Gavin Schmele winds up for his toss in the shot put. MT43 News Correspondent Photo



Sophomore Marek Easter places 8th in the 400-meter dash. MT43 News Correspondent Photo

Schools Receive First Aid Duffle Bags

Tim Pool

A small group of concerned citizens were able to make a potentially life-saving contribution to the three Broadwater County Schools...six red duffle bags, each containing 40 Stop the Bleed packets and Tourniquets in case of a mass-casualty event, like an earthquake.

The group, Supporting Broadwater County’s 1st Responders Committee, is part of the Townsend American Legion Post 42, Auxiliary and SAL units. The committee received donations and a grant from the

Broadwater Community Foundation to purchase the duffle bags each containing 40 individual Stop the Bleed sterile packets of gauze, bandages, gloves, tape and Tourniquets allowing school staff, students, and others to administer 1st Aid. The Walmart Foundation donated the Tourniquets.

The Stop the Bleed duffle bags will be placed at strategic locations in the schools for quick response and treatment.

The 1st Responder Committee previously provided multiple LifeVac Anti-Choking Devices to the schools, Ambulances, ER and Fire Department.

The 1st Responder Committee wishes to THANK our community and Broadwater Community Foundation for its financial support allowing this Mission to be accomplished.



Christina Hartmann & Susie Hedalan
Broadwater School District Photo

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.

Next meeting: May 15th, 2024 7:00 PM

At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St

See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

Townsend School Calendar

APRIL

Fri 26 - Thu 2

Tennis @ Billings Invite

Fri 26

NO SCHOOL - Teacher PLC Day
JV Golf @ Home

Sat 27

10:00AM HS Track @ East Helena
7:30PM Prom-Doors Open
8:00PM Grand March (Prom)

Mon 29 - Tue 30

7:00PM HS Spring Play

Mon 29

7:30AM D/C College Writing at Community Room
12:00PM MS Golf @ Three Forks
5:30PM Master Gardener Class at Community Room
6:00PM Adult City League Volleyball at 1963 Gym

Tue 30

7:30AM D/C College Writing at Community Room
9:30AM HS Track Top 8 @ Cascade
V Golf @ Three Forks

MAY

Wed 1

7:30AM - D/C College Writing at Community Room
7:00PM - Old Baldy Adult Open Gym at BHS 63 Gym
7:00PM - Old Baldy Adult Pickleball at BHS Stage Gym

Thu 2

7:30AM - D/C College Writing at Community Room
HS Golf @ Anaconda/JV Golf @ Deer Lodge
MS Track @ Big Sky

Fri 3 - Sat 4

State Music Festival
Tennis- Dawg Bite Tournament @ Helena/Home-Senior Day on Friday

Fri 3

NO SCHOOL - Teacher PLC Day

Sat 4

10:00AM HS Track @ Missoula
MS Track @ Deer Lodge

Sun 5

Class of 2024 Senior Banquet at Elementary Commons/ Kitchen



NorthWestern Energy

Delivering a Bright Future

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Three Forks School Calendar

APRIL

Fri 26 - Sat 27

Varsity Tennis Invitational @ Billings

Fri 26

Golf JV @ Townsend
Softball vs Anaconda

Sat 27

HS Track Location TBD

Mon 29

Golf JH @ Three Forks
Golf Varsity @ Shelby Team Challenge
7:00pm NHS 2024 Induction Ceremony

Tue 30

Golf Varsity @ Three Forks
HS Track Western B/C Meet @ Anaconda
Softball @ Powell County

MAY

Wed 1

10:00AM JH Track Butte
MS FCCLA meeting @ Lunch

Thu 2

Golf JV @ Deer Lodge
Golf Varsity @ Old Works
JH Track 5B meet @ Big Sky
MS Book Club at Lunch

Fri 3 - Sat 4

Varsity Tennis @ Manhattan

Sat 4

HS Track A1 Walker Stillwater Meet @ Laurel



Want a Fun Summer Job?

Come Work at the Pool!

The City of Townsend is seeking Lifeguards and Swim Instructors for the 2024 Summer Season!

Lifeguard’s wage is \$10-\$22 per hour DOE; Swim Instructor’s wage is \$12.50-\$24.50 per hour DOE.

Applications may be picked up at City Hall, 110 Broadway. Open until filled!

Townsend Community Calendar

APRIL

Friday 26

10:00am Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library
12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Saturday 27

11:00am Burgers and Bowls at Pottery Guild, 108 N. Spruce
SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS
5:00PM Special Community Ham Dinner at American Legion Post 42 Club
6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

Monday 29

6:00pm Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church, 107 E St, 406-980-1805

Tuesday 30

5:00pm American Legion Post 42 Food and Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club
5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
6:00pm Bingo at American Legion Post 42 Club, 211 Broadway

MAY

Wednesday 1

1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Thursday 2

12:00PM National Day of Prayer Meeting at the Firehall, 130 S Cedar **SEE AD ON PAGE 4**
7:00pm Al-Anon at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry

Friday 3

10:00am Free Story Time and a Craft with Mrs. Latasha Wirtz at Broadwater Community Library
12:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 301 N Cherry
1:00pm Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Sr. Center, 516 2nd St

Saturday 4

12:00am 2024 Holy Cross Spring Bazaar at Holy Cross Parish, 101 S Walnut **SEE AD ON PAGE 4 FOR MORE**
6:00pm Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945
6:30pm Magic - The Gathering at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway

Sunday 5

5:45pm FREE Community Family Night at Holy Cross Parish, 101 S Walnut **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

Monday 6

1:00PM Auction at Wheatland Self Storage
SEE LEGAL AD ON PAGE 5



THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL

Sunday 28

4:00PM Kansas Street Closed - Three Forks Junior & High School Rodeo at City Hall

Tuesday 30

1:00PM Three Forks Library - Mah Jongg

MAY

Thursday 2

7:00PM Three Forks Music Night with Walcrick at Bridger Brewing Three Forks



LIBRARY HOURS

Three Forks Community Library

REGULAR HOURS:
Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesday - 9:00am - 7:00pm
1st Saturday of the month: 11:00am - 2:00pm
Contact the library for details on clubs and events for a variety of ages at (406) 285-3747, or visit their website: three-forkslibrary.weebly.com

Broadwater School and Community Library

REGULAR HOURS:
Monday through Thursday 4:00- 7:00PM
Friday through Saturday 9:00AM- 4:00PM
Sunday 12:00- 5:00PM
Curbside available. Please call (406)441-3461

Burgers and Bowls Event

Saturday, April 27 – 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
At the Pottery Guild 108 No. Spruce
\$20 per person donation
Enjoy burgers, bowls and music!
More Information: (406) 439-9345

CREATED GOOD

TOWNSEND COMMUNITY FAMILY NIGHT

Join us for **FREE DINNER** and **ACTIVITIES!**

Let's explore our humanity and rediscover our goodness together.

May 5th

How do we make strong relationships?



5:45-7:00 pm Holy Cross Parish Center
101 S. Walnut

The 8th Annual Broadwater County- Wide Yard Sale will be held on July 20, 2024.

If you are planning to hold a yard/garage sale this year, consider joining the County-Wide Yard Sale. We will do all the advertising across our region including Helena, Butte and Bozeman - You keep all the profits! Three Forks area residents welcome!

Call Pam at (406) 422-7028 for more information or to be included in our yard sale map.

Townsend Seventh Grader to Participate in FBC 8k Shooting Challenge

Mike Schmidt
Social Studies Teacher Fairfield High School

Seventh Grader Anders Bakken will compete in the regional Fairfield Basketball Club (FBC) Shooting Challenge to begin May 1st. He is among nearly 50 students signed up to be involved in the program offered through Fairfield High School teacher and Athletic Director Mike Schmidt. Schmidt said in a press release he is trying to encourage more students from all over the state to participate in the challenge.

The challenge, started 21 years ago by Coach Schmidt, as a way to get both boys and girls in local communities to play basketball at an early age. He said his goal was to develop a foundation of consistent basketball skills which would carry into their high school sports activities, according to the FBC website information. Students now enrolled are from Shelby, Fairfield, Greenfield, Frenchtown, Belt, and Superior. The challenge is open to anyone in grades 1-8 and prizes are handed out for different levels of accomplishment. Sign-up ends May 15, 2024.

Townsend Elementary students may sign up to see how the program works at <https://www.fairfieldeagles.com/page/show/8406619-shooting?subseason=918882>.

A Tree City USA

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter

Townsend was named a 2023 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to effective forest management.

“It’s thanks to the work of Pat Plantenberg and the Tree Board,” said Mayor Vickie Rauser.

Townsend achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program’s four requirements: maintaining a tree board or department, having a tree care ordinance, dedicating an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and hosting an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

“Tree City USA communities see the positive effects of an urban forest firsthand,” said Dan Lambe, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “The trees being planted and cared for by Townsend are ensuring that generations to come will enjoy a better quality of life. Additionally, participation in this program brings residents together and creates a sense of civic pride, whether it’s through volunteer engagement or public education.”

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

APRIL

Monday 29

11:00am Commission Working Meeting
2:00pm Planning Board Public Hearing & Regular Meeting
6:00pm Parks and Recreation

Tuesday 30

3:00pm Commission Working Meeting (in the Commissioners' Office)

MAY

Wednesday 1

10:00am Commission Meeting



National Day of Prayer Meeting

12:00pm, May 2nd

at the Firehall, 130 S Cedar St



LIFT UP THE WORD
LIGHT UP THE WORLD

2 SAMUEL 22:29-31

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Holy Cross Parish
101 S Walnut
Townsend, MT

Sprng BAZAAR



Saturday, May 4th 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Ham dinner with scalloped potatoes and green beans, relish tray and peach cobbler for dessert!

**Cost: \$30.00 for Immediate Family
\$15.00 for Single Adult
\$10.00 for Students
Under 4 is Free**

Silent Auction, Raffle, Bake Sale, Craft Sale

Outdoor activities include free throw competition, cornhole and cake walk.



Walleye Plan Dispute, 1

Reservoir would remain unchanged at 10 daily, only one over 15 inches.

Comments at the meeting indicated fear among anglers that by allowing a catch of five walleye without a size limit on the river reach will result in too many big fish getting caught. And since walleye migrate back and forth between the river and reservoir, they believe a higher catch of big walleye on the river will deplete the stock of big ones on the reservoir. On the other hand, Spoon says the change would reduce walleye predation on juvenile brown and rainbow trout in the river. He says FWP staff do not believe harvest of walleye in the river will significantly affect the reservoir fishery. The change in regulations, according to Spoon, would enhance trout spawning.

Chris McFadden, owner of Townsend Marine, referred to the Chamber of Commerce annual

Walleye festival which brings many fishermen from out of town. He said the number of teams at the festival has been down and is just starting to increase. “We are starting to see gain and progress in the number of people coming to fish at Canyon Ferry. I would like to see more time with the current regulations,” he said.

Avid fisherman Matt Zeadow commented after the meeting that he and others had fought changes in the regulation twice before. “This is the third time we’ve confronted FWP about changing these regulations.”

FWP recently moved from a four-year fishing regulation cycle to a two-year cycle. The process for setting the 2025-2026 fishing regulations begins with public input on changes the department is considering. It also allows the public to propose regulations for FWP to consider. The department will use public input to develop regulation proposals

to present to the Fish and Wildlife Commission. An additional comment period, expected in late August, will occur before the final proposals are presented to the commission.



FWP Region 3 Fisheries' manager Mike Duncan leads a discussion about fishing regulations proposal last week at the Library Community Room. Nancy Marks, MT43News Photographer

Bulldog Golf Seniors

The Bulldogs hosted a Golf Meet on May 19.



Senior Mikayla Kraft watches the results of her fairway shot during last Friday's Home Meet at Old Baldy Golf Course. Kelly Morris Photography



Senior Peyton Toney chipping onto the green during last Friday's Home Meet at Old Baldy Golf Course. Kelly Morris Photography



Senior Alice Brummer hitting a fairway shot during last Friday's Home Meet at Old Baldy Golf Course." Kelly Morris Photography

Mikayla Kraft
School Correspondent

Senior Night is always an exciting night for football players, volleyball players, basketball players, and wrestlers. However, the other sports have seemed to be left out. Maybe it is because of the awkwardness of the sports timings or maybe it is because of the simple fact that the sport already takes all day. Either way, these spring sports are finally getting put in the ring.

On Friday, April 19th, golfers from across the district

gathered at the Old Baldy Golf Course to play 18 holes and compete against each other. It was extremely windy and cold for a golf game, but after much deliberation, we decided to go forth with the tournament. Before the tournament started, however, it was finally important to recognize the seniors, for the first time, in Old Baldy’s golf tournament.

This year, the golf team had three seniors. Peyton Toney, Alice Brummer, and Mikayla Kraft. Each of these players has been playing for all of their high school careers and has been on the varsity golf team for

all four years of high school. For future years, Peyton Toney plans to continue playing golf at Montana State University - Billings and Alice has been considering playing golf for her college of choice, Montana Tech. Competitive golf is not in sight for Mikayla, but she plans to spend as much time as she can on the golf course.

These seniors have already been fighting hard to place in each tournament and gear up for the Divisional tournament in the upcoming weeks in early May. As these seniors round up their final year of high school golf the spirits are high and the pride of the Bulldog Blue is even more prominent.

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- MT 43 News embraces our freedom to speak freely and freedom of the press, but we reserve the right to refuse publication of any letter. We will make a reasonable effort to resolve any issues we may have with the submitter.
- Letters may discuss any subject, but are expected to deal with only one subject per-letter and be 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and length. We further reserve the right to require documentation or evidence when discussing the behavior, motivation, or lives of other people.
- Letters to the Editor may not be used as a thank-you, sales pitch, or any type of solicitation. These must apply to paid space.
- Letters should be submitted via

email (MT43News@MT43News.com) in plain text. Please do not attach any files.

- Headlines and bylines will be determined by the Editor at the editor's sole discretion.

Political Letters and Editorials
Political candidates are allowed to submit one biographical article during an election year. Additional articles must be paid for or they will be considered only as space allows.

- Any letter that calls into question another person's character will be held until the other party can respond to the allegations. Rebuttals must be submitted within one week of our request. If no rebuttal is received, the letter will not be printed.

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ISSN 2833-2571

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.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Townsend Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 9, 2024, at City Hall, 110 Broadway, Townsend, Montana.

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider a request for three Conditional Use Permits to allow a manufactured home within the R-2, Medium Density Residential District.

Pursuant to Section 13.13.030 “Conditional Use Permits Review” of the Townsend Zoning Ordinance the Zoning Commission shall hold a public hearing on the proposals.

CUP #1: For a manufactured home located at 408 South Cedar within the R-2, Medium Density Residential District. The property is legally described as Lot 11, Block 37 Townsend Original Townsite.

CUP #2: For a manufactured home located at 408 South Cedar within the R-2, Medium Density Residential District. The property is legally described as Lot 12, Block 37 Townsend Original Townsite.

CUP #3: For a manufactured home located at 403 North Cedar within the R-2, Medium Density Residential District. The property is legally described as Lot 16 and S ½ of Lot 15, Block 30 Townsend Original Townsite.

Maps and related data regarding this application may be reviewed by contacting Jeremy Fadness, WWC Engineering, 1275 Maple Street, Suite F, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-3962. Written comments may be directed to the Deputy City Clerk, 110 Broadway, Townsend, Montana 59644. Written comments must be received by May 9, 2024, by 4:00 p.m. Interested parties are invited to attend the Public Hearing and make known their views and concerns on the proposed Variance application.

UPON REASONABLE NOTICE, THE CITY OF TOWNSEND WILL PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE PERSONS WITH SENSORY IMPAIRMENTS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK.

Published April 26 and May 3, 2024

MNAXLP

BROADWATER COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER OFFICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC TESTING OF VOTING SYSTEM TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTION

NOTICE is hereby given that a public test for Broadwater County DS200 Digital Precinct Scanner and Express Vote Ballot Marking System will be conducted on April 30, 2024, at 8:30 A.M. in the Clerk and Recorder’s Office located at 515 Broadway in Townsend, MT.

The test shall be conducted by processing a pre-audited group of ballots. The test will be observed by an Observation Board and is open to representatives of the Political Parties, the Press, and the general public.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2024.

/s/ ANGIE PAULSEN Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder

Published April 26, 2024

MNAXLP

Wheatland Self Storage will sell at public auction

Contents of a 10' x 20' storage unit #D31 said by tenant originally to contain mostly dog cages.

Monday, May 6, 2024 at 1:00 pm unit will be sold as a whole unit to the highest bidder. Lock will be sawed off at time of auction. Potential buyers may look from door at contents but will not be allowed to go inside the unit.

Payment required by cash, Mastercard or Visa to be paid at time of sale. Buyer has 72 hours to remove all contents and clean unit after purchase. (Call Sunday May 5 after 5:00 pm to verify tenant has not paid her bill which would cancel the auction.)

Auction location: 5 Wheatland Meadows Drive, Three Forks, MT Phone: 406-600-1848

Published April 26, 2024

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE UPDATE TO THE CITY OF TOWNSEND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The City of Townsend Planning Board has prepared a draft update to the City of Townsend Subdivision Regulations and has recommended approval of the regulations to the City Council. The subdivision regulation updates consist of revisions to the regulations based on changes in Montana State Law regarding subdivisions.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on April 30, 2024 at 6:30 pm at Townsend City Hall, 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644 to take public comment on the draft updates to the Townsend Subdivision Regulations.

For additional information, contact Jeremy Fadness, WWC Engineering, 1275 Maple Street Suite F, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-3962.

Written comments may be directed to the City of Townsend, 110 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644. The public comment period ends on April 30, 2024.

Hard copies of the draft Subdivision Regulation Updates can be viewed at Townsend City Hall. Further, an electronic copy can be requested by contacting Jeremy Fadness, WWC Engineering, 1275 Maple Street Suite F, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-3962.

Published April 19 and 26, 2024

MNAXLP

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

NOTICE is hereby given that regular registration for the FEDERAL PRIMARY ELECTION to be held on JUNE 4, 2024, will close at 5:00 PM on MAY 6, 2024.

*NOTE: If you miss this regular registration deadline, you may still register for the election by showing up at the county election office up to and including on Election Day. Between noon and the close of business on the day before Election Day, you can complete and submit a voter registration application, but you will need to return to the local election office on Election Day to pick up and vote a ballot.

Inactive electors may reactivate by appearing at the polling place in order to vote, by requesting an absentee ballot in any election, or by notifying the County Election Administrator in writing of the elector’s current residence in the county.

Persons who wish to register and who are not presently registered may do so by submitting a form for registration by mail or by appearing before the County Election Administrator.

If you have moved, it is necessary to have your registration transferred to your present address.

DATED this 16th day of April, 2024

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

Published online April 19 and in Print April 26 and May 3, 2024

MNAXLP


TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION NOTICE OF VOTING SYSTEM AND SAMPLE BALLOT, MAY 7, 2024

COURT BEAT

April 19

Dee Gannon

MT43 News Correspondent



The criminal docket in Judge Kathy Seeley’s courtroom on Friday, April 19 is as follows:

John Hansson appeared for a Petition to Revoke. The Petition to Revoke is continued until May 31.

John Hansson had an Initial Appearance on a charge of Petition to Revoke. The Arraignment will be heard on April 26.

Adam Laverne Brannon had an Evidentiary Hearing, with admissions to 1.) criminal possession of dangerous drugs 2.) driving without a driver’s license 3.) Ashley Collins had a Change of Plea on a charge of failing to have vehicle equipped with license plate light that could be seen at 50 feet.4.) criminal possession of drug paraphernalia. He was re-deferred with three years, with all previous conditions in place. Defendant must comply with mental health evaluation; must see a psychiatrist and follow all recommendations.

Ashley Collins had a Change of Plea; pleading guilty to a charge of endangering children. She plead guilty to putting her children at risk for her behavior. Sentencing is set for May 24.

Bert Ginsberg had an Initial Appearance on charges of theft of a light vehicle and two counts of fabricating or tampering with evidence. The defendant will be released on his own recognizance. He is to follow all conditions of his release, complying with conditions of no contact; except for his girlfriend. His Arraignment will be May 31.

Paul Douglas Creason had a Status Hearing; where he was Sentenced to four years D.O.C. with none suspended, recommending he be screened for chemical dependency evaluation, following all recommendations and to apply for Pre-Release.

School Board Candidates’ Forum Focuses on Communication, Priorities and Future

Linda Kent

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Candidates for two, three-year terms on the Townsend Schools District Board of Trustees responded to questions on a number of issues April 18 at a candidate forum hosted by the Townsend Education Association (TEA). Incumbent board member Vanessa Flynn and current board chairman Jason Noyes were joined by candidate Audrey Martin of Winston.

Moderator Angela Giono, TEA’s secretary/treasurer, asked the candidates questions, drawn from local teachers’ union members in a round-robin format, touching on their experience and purpose for running for the board, teacher compensation, priorities, and community-school relations. Community members contributed their own questions at the end of the session.

Since candidates answered questions about their background in the April 22 MT43 News, their answers to the remaining forum questions follow.

How important is it to you that the Townsend Schools staff is paid a fair and livable wage?

School **Board Forum**, 6

TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION NOTICE OF VOTING SYSTEM AND SAMPLE BALLOT, MAY 7, 2024

BROADWATER COUNTY SAMPLE BALLOT TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 ELECTION: MAY 7, 2024

NOTICE OF VOTING SYSTEM EXHIBITION AND BALLOT LAYOUT

Please note that the county's voting systems are on public exhibition at THE BROADWATER COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE at 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT, from April 22, 2024 through May 6, 2024. Please see diagrams of the voting system(s), ballot arrangement and instructions on voting below.

DS200 Precinct Scanner & Tabulator



Touch - Screen Display

Provides voters with instructions and immediate feedback.

Ballot/Card Slot

Voters cast both ballots and vote summary cards here.

The DS200 is a precinct level tabulator that will be available to tabulate your ballots at your polling location. The DS200 will notify you if you have overvoted or undervoted on any races on the ballot.

1. To vote, fill in the oval completely.

2. Vote both sides and all sheets.

3. Use only black or blue ink to mark your ballot. An optical or digital tabulator will count your ballot. If you use any other type of marking instrument, it may not be detected by the tabulator.

4. When marking your ballot you should NOT make an X or a check mark. You should NOT cross out, erase, or use correction fluid on the ballot and if you make an error, you should request a new ballot.

5. READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY! If you mark more candidates than you are allowed to mark for that position, it is considered an overvote. You may request a new ballot if you overvote in any race. If you do not correct your ballot, that race will not count because of the overvote; however, the remainder of your ballot will be counted.

6. After you mark the ballot, you will be directed to insert the ballot in the DS-200 precinct tabulator, which will alert you to overvotes or undervotes. If any, and after you verify your selections, the DS-200 will tabulate your choices and deposit the ballot in the ballot box.

HOW TO VOTE ON AN EXPRESSVOTE VOTING SYSTEM



Touchscreen

Ballot Entry Slot

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

1. Inform the election official that you wish to vote using ExpressVote.

2. You will be issued a ballot card.

3. Insert the ballot card into the ballot feed tray on the front of the machine.

4. The screen will display instructions and the ballot choices.

5. The following helpful options are available:

a. Change contrast and font size for readability

b. Audio headphones

c. Braille keypad

d. Connection for Sip-n-Puff personal device

6. Make your selections by using the touch-screen capability, or by using the keypad.

7. After you have completed your selections, the ExpressVote will confirm your selections on the screen, and by audio if you select the audio option.

8. After verifying your selections, the ExpressVote will mark and print out your ballot card.

DEMO COUNTY/GENO STATE DEMONSTRATION ELECTION 11/09/2020 PRECINCT 1, PRECINCT 1



Election Information



Barcodes of election information and votes

PRESIDENT-----ANDY ANDREWS

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 1-----DAN DAVES

GOVERNOR-----GERALDINE GEORGE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS-----JUSTINE JUTICE KOREY KEVI

VOTING DAY QUESTION-----YES

9. Confirm your choices on the printed and marked ballot card.

10. Return the marked ballot card to the election official.

11. You can request help anytime during the process.

OFFICIAL SCHOOL ELECTION BALLOT BROADWATER COUNTY, MONTANA - MAY 07, 2024

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

1. TO VOTE, COMPLETELY FILL IN (●) THE OVAL USING A BLUE OR BLACK PEN.

2. To write in a name, completely fill in the oval to the left of the line provided, and on the line provided print the name of the write-in candidate for whom you wish to vote.

3. DO NOT MAKE AN IDENTIFYING MARK, CROSS OUT, ERASE, OR USE CORRECTION FLUID. If you make a mistake or change your mind, exchange your ballot for a new one.

TOWNSEND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE VOTE FOR TWO

☐ JASON NOYES

☐ AUDREY MARTIN

☐ VANESSA FLYNN

☐

☐

END OF BALLOT

TOWNSEND SCHOOL, DISTRICT NO. 1

Typ01 Sep2001 Sp0 01

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Published April 26, 2024

MNAXLP

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson

Justice Court Clerk

MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES

Brandon Role – Bozeman- reckless driving- 1st offense, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of one year, \$385.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete Alive @25.

Edwin Curry -Three Forks – seatbelt violation, plead guilty, \$20.00 fine; operating without liability insurance in effect- 1st offense, plead guilty, \$385.00 fines and fees; driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs- 1st offense, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all but one day suspended on conditions, \$675.00 fines and fees, enroll and complete ACT program.

Timothy Engebretson – Helena – day speed, plead guilty, \$70.00 fine.

BROADWATER COUNTY FINES

Jayden Adams – Townsend- operating with liability insurance in effect-3rd offense, plead guilty, \$535.00 fines and fees, license plates and registration for vehicle driven at the time of the offense are suspended until proof of compliance provided to MVD.

Andrea Odell – Bozeman - operating with liability insurance in effect-3rd offense, plead guilty, \$535.00 fines and fees, license plates and registration for vehicle driven at the time of the offense are suspended until proof of compliance provided to MVD; expired registration, plead guilty, \$35.00 fines and fees.

Michael Jackson – Laurel – careless driving, plead guilty, \$135.00 fines and fees.

Jody Giles – Townsend – disorderly conduct, plead guilty, \$185.00 fines and fees.

Jody Giles – Townsend – criminal trespass to property, plead guilty, sentenced to six months in jail with all time suspended on conditions, \$585.00 fines and fees.

INITIAL APPEARANCE - OTHER JURISDICTION

Mikala Taylor – Park Co. Justice Court, \$955.00 bond

Family Transfer Exemptions Again Center Stage at Commission Meeting

Linda Kent

MT43 News Staff Reporter

Broadwater County’s Board of Commissioners adopted a new procedure and application for family land transfer exemption requests, including feedback from area residents. The procedures follow heightened scrutiny of the commission’s decision-making processes around allowing exemptions and plot-boundaries as well as three contentious reviews of family transfers in March.

Deputy County Attorney Kaylan Minor initially presented the procedure and revised application at the commissioners’ March 20 meeting. At that time, community members raised concerns that the procedures and applications led with the presumption that applicants were using the exemption to circumvent typical subdivision oversight. Commenters at that meeting, along with Commissioner Debi Randolph, expressed significant concerns about the personal financial nature of some of the questions.

Minor presented the revisions, which primarily included removing some questions and adding a notary block.

In public comment, Realtor Jeannie Steele argued that the procedure and application felt to her “like a restriction on growth” in an already tight housing market.

“We’re not saying no,” Commission Chair Darrel Folkvord responded. “The exemption is there for them to use.”

Steele then asked, “How many voters are asking for this?”

“That’s not the point,” Folkvord responded. “They elect us to try to solve these problems, any potential problems we see coming up. It’s our job to address them.”

Folkvord declined to go into specifics, despite Steele’s request.

Bernadette Swenson of Schauber Surveying offered a handful of amendments to the procedure, including the requirement that the landowner attend a pre-application meeting, clarification that questions raised by reviewers prior to the commission be brought to the landowner before the application is presented to the commission, and a clarification that the planning department will not provide legal advice to applicants.

Those amendments were included in the final procedure documents adopted by the commission.

During comment on the new application, Jeff Schritz requested that all questions of a yes or no nature be removed, since an error on the applicant’s part could create the appearance of attempting to evade subdivision.

Schritz also raised concerns about questions within the application intended to provide the commission with contextual information that would not necessarily lead to the approval or denial of an exemption. “I don’t see anything that should be in here, with the beginning sworn oath and the ramifications of that oath, that could be construed as a gray area,” Schritz said.

“It doesn’t really matter if he says yes or no anyway, so why ask the question,” Randolph said, asking for the removal of questions Schritz identified as intrusive.

Commissioners also approved the application with minor amendments.

Inaccurate Billing Led to Solid Waste Shortfall

Linda Kent

MT43 News Staff Reporter

A Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB) subcommittee report dated April 9, found that between fiscal years 2021 and 2022, the number of assessments billed to county property owners declined by more than 10 percent – from 3,168 assessments billed in fiscal 2021 to 2,713 assessments in fiscal 2022. The total number of assessments in fiscal 2023 remained flat.

“Up until this year, we knew we had a shortfall in the revenues, . . . but we didn’t know exactly why,” County Executive Administrator Bill Jarocki said at the April 17 Broadwater County Commission meeting.

In March, SWAB set a subcommittee, called the Tiger Team, to dig into the issue.

“Our work showed that there were several factors that led to information not being updated in our accounting software,” Jarocki said. “We have to transfer information from one year to the next. Assessment information for 2021 was not transferred as the base information for fiscal 2022.”

The software then defaulted to one assessment per property, creating a problem because businesses may have 20 or more assessments tied to their property tax bills. The

School Board Forum, 5

Jason Noyes (JN): “I think we’ve failed as a nation and a society” to compensate teachers to the level they should be. He noted that, currently, 85 percent of the district’s budget is allocated to salaries, adding that trustees need to do everything they can to ensure the district has and retains the best staff possible

Audrey Martin (AM): “Teachers have lives outside of school. We need to support them in the best ways possible.” She noted that the district doesn’t always have all of the resources it needs to meet all of the needs of its staff. She said her experience with mediation could help in finding workable solutions.

Vanessa Flynn (VF): Flynn agreed that staff compensation is very important, noting that meeting those needs can be “very hard.”

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

AM: “As a trustee, you are a representative of the school in the community and the community in the school.” She emphasized the need for collaborative conversations between the two.

VF: “Definitely the community.”

JN: Noyes said it was important that trustees be representative of the community, but not a representative for it. “As a trustee, my loyalty is to the district and to the students.”

What are your priorities for the district in the coming year? Why and how did you select these issues?

VF: “Teacher pay. High School baseball,” she said. “It’s hard to say no to a team sitting there looking for a place.”

JN: “Building trust within the district and the community. . . . Getting the strategic plan in place is a big goal.”

AM: Martin focused on the potential impacts of HB203, the school choice bill, which would allow parents to enroll their children in any school district without going through the current application process. She said Townsend could find itself with declining enrollments – and, therefore, budgets – as parents working in Helena or Bozeman use the measure to place their children in districts closer to their work.


Through your observation of Townsend School and/or participating in activities: What does our school do well? What does Townsend School need to improve?

JN: “We have a tremendous amount of extracurricular activities” for a district our size. “Do better? We’ve got to

Deadline for State Property Tax Assistance Programs Now June 1

Eric Dietrich

Montana Free Press



This article, written by Eric Dietrich, was originally published in the Montana Free Press on March 17, 2024. It is republished here courtesy of the Montana Free Press.

Link to the original article: https://montanafreepress.org/2024/04/16/applications-montana-property-tax-assistance-programs-now-due-june-1/?utm_medium=email

The revised deadline is the last day Montanans can apply for property tax relief programs available to lower-income residents.

Low-income Montanans seeking help paying their property tax bills now have until June 1 to apply for aid through two state relief programs administered by the Montana Department of Revenue — including the flagship Property Tax Assistance Program intended to keep property tax bills from forcing low-income homeowners out of their homes.

This year’s application deadline, previously set for April 15, was extended in an effort to give Montanans facing substantial tax hardship more time to apply, Gov. Greg Gianforte and the Montana Department of Revenue announced this week.

The Property Tax Assistance Program offers aid to resident homeowners who meet income requirements and, as of this year, offers a tax break on the first \$350,000 of value for a primary residence.

Additionally, the Montana Disabled Veteran Assistance Program offers relief to disabled veterans and their surviving spouses.

The state Legislature amended both programs last year to adjust the income requirements for inflation. The Property Tax Assistance Program’s value cap was also increased from \$200,000 to the new

\$350,000 threshold to account for the dramatic growth in home values that Montana has experienced in recent years.

Under the new income thresholds, Montana resident homeowners with incomes of up to \$27,621 if they’re single

majority of the decline came from business assessments, which dropped from 470 to 233 for fiscal year 2022, then to 232 for the fiscal year that ended in June 2023.

The result was a shortfall of approximately \$150,000 for 2022-23 against a budget of \$647,500. For the previous fiscal year, the enterprise fund’s operating deficit was around \$95,000.

The report identified several causes for the failure to correctly transfer assessment information from 2021 to 2022, including the impacts of COVID on the workplace, and the requirements of the county’s billing software.

The report emphasized that current treasurer’s department staff was not involved in the events that caused the problem. Jarocki also told commissioners that a new process will be in place for solid waste to review property assessments provided to the county before they are entered into the accounting software.

Jarocki asked county commissioners on SWAB’s behalf for permission to attempt to recover some of the missing assessment money through a voluntary program. The board is also working on several models for collecting solid waste revenue in future years. Those models will be discussed at an April 30 public meeting of the board.

bring together our focus, mission, and vision.” Noyes also mentioned that hiring and keeping coaches has become a challenge for the district, commenting that the district and community should see activities as an extension of the classroom.

AM: “We have an array of activities, but we see the same kids participating over and over again.” She said there needs to be an effort to reduce the obstacles for those students who are not able to participate. “We need to be meeting those students where we are.”

VF: “We need to see better engagement between the board and staff.”

Do you think running an operating mill levy election is necessary to meet future general funds needs here at Townsend Schools?

AM: “It’s way too premature” to determine if an operating levy will be needed. She noted the district needed to explore alternative means of funding before considering asking taxpayers for additional property tax funding.

VF: “It’s hard to say.” She noted that the board has been able to avert a request for additional operating funds, but may have to “at some point.”

JN: Noting the impact and difficulty of passing the recent elementary school building bond, Noyes said the board “has worked to do everything we can not to do that.” He added, “In the future? Probably. But I don’t think we’d be successful right now.”

How would you rate the transparency and communication here at Townsend Schools? Do you see a need for improvement?

VF: “We try very hard to be transparent and communicate. I would say an eight.”

JN: “We do a satisfactory job. . . It’s tough to get the right information in the manner people want to receive it.” He added that getting stakeholder participation and feedback from the community has been a point of frustration for him, citing the lack of community participation in the district’s strategic planning process.

AM: “The attempt is there.” She added that the district and community need to work toward a more symbiotic relationship.

Ballots for the election were mailed April 22 and must be returned to the Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder’s office no later than 8 p.m., May 7. Registered voters who did not receive a ballot should contact the clerk’s office.

and \$37,019 if they’re part of a family can qualify for a 30% reduction on their property taxes on the first \$350,000 of their home’s assessed value. Homeowners who meet lower income thresholds can qualify for higher reductions, with their property taxes reduced by as much as 80%.

Disabled veterans and their surviving spouses can qualify for that assistance program at higher income thresholds. Single disabled veterans with incomes up to \$45,803 can qualify to have property taxes on their primary residence reduced to zero.

In 2022, about 21,500 taxpayers participated in the low-income property tax assistance program, saving \$843 on average, according to the department’s 2022 biennial report. Combined, participants saved about \$18 million on their property tax bills. According to the department, about \$15 million of that amount was in effect shifted to other taxpayers.

Also in 2022, about 3,000 taxpayers participated in the disabled veterans’ program, saving \$1,963 on average.

The state also offers an Elderly Homeowner/Renter income tax credit, generally available to Montana residents 62 years and older with annual household incomes below \$45,000. That credit, as much as \$1,150, offsets property tax payments through a formula based on a taxpayer’s income, rent payments and property tax bills. It can be obtained through annual income tax filings, which are also due April 15.

According to the Revenue Department, about 13,000 taxpayers obtained the elderly homeowner/renter tax credit in 2021, costing the state about \$7 million.

All three assistance programs are distinct from the two-time \$675 property tax rebates that the Legislature has made available to homeowners of all income levels this year and last. The application window for the first round of rebates closed last year and the revenue department says it plans to accept applications for the second round of rebates, which will apply to 2023 tax bills, starting in mid-August.

More information about the programs, including application forms for the property tax aid programs, is available on the Montana Department of Revenue website.

SUPPORT LOCAL

BUSINESS

DINE LOCAL BROADWATER

Dates and times may vary due to events, seasons or holidays.

Call the restaurant with any questions. Happy Dining!

<div>American Legion Hall</div> <div>211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>Tuesday Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM</div> <div>Special Event with Food: Sat. April 27 @ 5:00PM: Community Ham Dinner</div> <div>Bar hours may vary</div>	<div>The Betsy Sports Zone</div> <div>217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>Wed - Sat 3:00PM - 12:00AM</div> <div>Closed Sun, Mon & Tues</div> <div>Takeout placed only in person.</div> <div>Menu: www.betsysportszone.com</div>	<div>Commercial Bar</div> <div>101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>10:00AM - 2:00AM</div> <div>Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas</div> <div>Menu available onFacebook</div>	<div>Deep Creek Pizza</div> <div>415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>11:00AM - 8:00 PM</div> <div>Menu: www.deepcreekpizzaco.com,</div> <div>Facebook and Instagram</div> <div>Closed Sunday</div>	<div>Full Belli Deli</div> <div>209 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-5459</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>7:30AM - 8:00PM Every Day</div> <div>Menu: fullbellidelimt.com</div>	<div>TB's Diner</div> <div>316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>7:00AM - 8:00PM</div> <div>Specials:</div> <div>Facebook</div>
<div>Bread and Butter Cafe</div> <div>205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>7:00AM- 2:00PM</div> <div>Menu available on Facebook</div> <div>Closed Sunday and Monday</div>	<div>Bunkhouse Bar & Grill</div> <div>8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>10:00AM – Close</div> <div>Grill off at 10:00PM</div>	<div>Copy Cup</div> <div>303 N Front St, Townsend (406) 980-8400</div> <div>Please call on business hours</div> <div>Drinks and Pastry Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM</div> <div>Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM</div> <div>Closed Sunday</div>	<div>Fishtale Tavern</div> <div>209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>11:00AM - 11:00PM</div> <div>Daily Specials:</div> <div>Facebook</div> <div>Bar hours may vary</div>	<div>Mint Cafe</div> <div>305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867</div> <div>Dining Hours:</div> <div>Tue & Wed 8:00AM - 2:00 PM,</div> <div>Mon & Thur 8:00AM - 8:00PM</div> <div>Fri 8:00AM - 9:00PM</div> <div>Sat 7:00AM - 9:00PM</div> <div>Sun 7:00AM - 8:00PM</div> <div>Menu: themintbarandgrill.com/menu</div>	<div>Broadwater Area Restaurants</div> <div>Contact MT 43 News, Monday- Friday 10AM - 2PM, if you would like to talk about how to add your dining location and open hours to our paper! 406.266.0086</div>

KNIGHT MOVES

N	O	G
E		E
F	O	R

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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"Everyone knows the _____ families are the ones that do things together."

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!

Junk
CARPS
Divide
HEARS
Lure
PARENT
Rant
ATIRED

TODAY'S WORD

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: P equals W

QNQDOVC PXM CXGXCRKX

PNCZ GYOXF PYLT VCLYKOW

VMNDL LTX PNCOF'W SVCYNDW

XSYOW: PYKZXF-QXFYV.

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John Nelson 406-949-4296

LEYLAND INSURANCE

MARK LEYLAND

406-438-7315

LEYLANDMT.COM

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BRANDON BAKKEN

SHANE TEW

P - (406)266-3172

C - (406)980-1100

Tri County Disposal

406-227-6300

Super Crossword

SOLVING DA PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Theater district

7 Butcher's cleaver

14 Winter melon variety

20 Replacing, with "of"

21 Privy person

22 Ill-willed sorts

23 Arranged cheddar

25 Arctic jacket

26 Capitol fig.

27 Collectible cartoon frame

28 Per each unit

29 Set to move forward, as a car

30 Boldly

37 Nevertheless

38 "— daisy!"

39 Paleolithic period

41 Letter-shaped track in metalworking

43 Attach, as to a lapel

48 Pre-TiVo machine

49 — Lanka

50 Comparable in humility to one particular sorority member?

53 Quick glance

55 Not durable

57 Groups of four

58 Underscore

61 Law school beginner

62 Think up

64 Big Steinway played by your father's father?

69 Condo

70 Dime, e.g.

71 Passover feasts

73 Canonized seventh-cen. pope

76 Hotel bar

78 Tug sharply

79 Wrapping a wound on the noggin?

82 Sit-up targets

85 Chou En- —

86 2003 #1 hit for OutKast

87 Artist's stand

88 Raconteur's offering

90 "... and — it all over again!"

91 Young boy

93 Complained petulantly

94 Lion's hunting recollections?

102 River in central Jersey

103 Certain shade

104 Certain shade

105 Chinese chairman

108 More asinine

109 Reversible fabric used during operations?

113 Rich, filled pastry

114 Daughter on "Bewitched"

115 And others, to Caesar

116 Rages

117 — & Gamble

118 Confirm officially

DOWN

1 Large trucks

2 Apropos of

3 Ladd or Alda

4 Pot cover

5 Petit four and Sally Lunn

6 Piercing spot, often

7 Prefix with air

8 Coop up

9 Fireplace receptacle

10 Secure with string, say

11 Skilled

12 Ballot marks

13 Afore

14 Lon of old horror films

15 Classic root beer brand

16 Raconteur's offering

17 Eagle's nest

18 Cry to a prima donna

19 Interrogator

24 Part of REO

29 Put into office

30 Ex-veep

31 "Science Guy" Bill

32 Island dance

33 Heroic poetry

34 Answers an evite, e.g.

35 "And so on and so on": Abbr.

36 Bullfight hero

40 PC image file

41 High-voltage transformer

42 Cloudland

43 Peppermint — (York treat)

44 "Bring it on!"

45 Nuggets' org.

46 Unusual

47 "Stillmatic" rapper

50 Prized Chinese vases

51 The "E" of FEMA: Abbr.

52 Big jumps

54 Eisenhower's successor

56 Politico Trent

59 Floor-scrubbing robot brand

60 Old photo tint

62 Carding at a club, e.g.

63 "Well, shoot!"

65 Held back

66 Adjective follower, often

67 Comedian Kevin

68 Very fancy

72 Did the slopes

73 "Quit talking!"

74 No-frills shirt

75 Set (down)

76 Bigger than med.

77 Suffix with Ecuador

80 Groove for receiving the end of a board

81 Not worth — (valueless)

83 Perplex

84 Structured frameworks

88 Big fuss

89 Belittle, informally

90 Ill-fated flier of myth

91 Actor Joseph Gordon- —

92 "Cocoon" co-star Don

94 Bluenoses

95 Charged toward

96 Poet's Muse

97 Casual eatery

98 Best players

99 — Croatian

100 Sorcery

101 Family mem.

105 African nation

106 "Not likely!"

107 Thumbs-up

109 Motor oil additive brand

110 Nasser's fed.

111 River of Bern

112 Yoga surface

Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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~MT 43 News Team

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

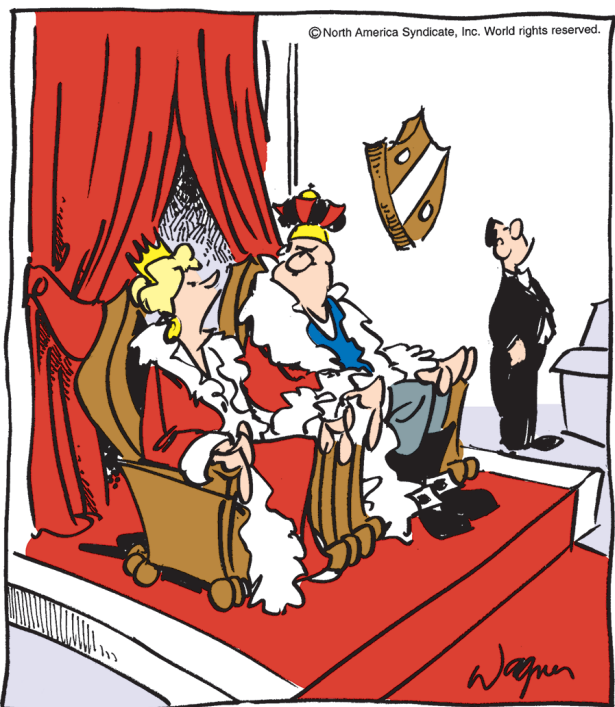
by Dave T. Phipps

OK, MY FRONT IS BURNT AND I'M STUFFED FROM THE BUFFET. I TIPPED THE STAFF TO COME FLIP ME IN ANOTHER TEN MINUTES.





GRIN and BEAR IT



"You were more fun when you were a prince!"

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY RANDY MILHOLLAND

THERE'S A FIGHT TOURNAMENT IN TOWN! YOU COULD WIN MONEY!

JUST 'CUZ I AM GOOD AT SOMETHING DOESN'T MEAN I GOTTA SULLY IT WITH MONEY, BRUTUS.

I'M NOT TALKIN' ABOUT THINGS YOU'RE GOOD AT, BLUTO. I'M TALKIN' ABOUT FIGHTING.

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

"ENUFFS FISTICUFFS!"

PART 6

NOW THAT HE'S MADE COMBAT ILLEGAL IN SWEETHAVEN, PROF. KILPH IS SECRETLY RUNNING A FIGHTING TOURNAMENT IN HOPES OF TRAPPING POPEYE AND ARRESTING HIM.

IT LOOKS LIKE HALF OF THE TOWN SHOWED UP TO FIGHT!

TOTALLY ABANDONED FACTORY

POPEYE HAS TO BE AMONGST THEM!

SIR, IF I MAY SPEAK FREELY, THIS OBSESSION IS GOING TO BLOW UP IN YOUR FACE. YOU NEED TO STOP IT NOW.

I APPRECIATE YOUR CANDOR. ALSO, I'LL BE CUTTING YOUR SALARY IN HALF.

SPEAKING FREELY CERTAINLY IS EXPENSIVE.

MEANWHILE....

POPEYE?!

I'M AFRAID YOU'RE MISTAKEN, PAPPY. THIS IS EL PUÑO VERDE, THE MASKED PUMMELER OF PUDDLEBURG.

ME BOY'S GOTSK A DISTINK JAWLINE! HOWD' YE GIT HIM INTO THIS MESS, WIMPY?

YOU IMPUGN MY CHARACTER, SIR. I SHALL EXPECT AN APOLOGY HAMBURGER.

POPEYE'S A GOODY-GOODY. HE DON'TSK BREAK NO LAW, SO YE MUSTA TRICKED 'EM!

FIFTY ON TH' GEEK IN GREEN.

BETS

YE LEAVES ME NO CHOICE BUT TTAKE DECISIVE ACTION!

Amber Waves

OK, BESSY, MILKING TIME AGAIN...

GULP!

GEEZ, AT LEAST BUY ME DINNER FIRST.

The Spats

IF LAZINESS WAS MUSIC...

...YOU'D BE AN ORCHESTRA!!

TIGER

NERD! AIRHEAD!

I'VE DECIDED NOT TO BE A COP WHEN I GROW UP

Out on a Limb

JAM ON IT... HEE HEE

BUZZ BERNICKY IS THE FIRST MAN TO MOONWALK ON THE MOON

National Day of Prayer Meeting



LIFT UP THE WORD
LIGHT UP THE WORLD

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

12:00pm, May 2nd
at the Firehall, 130 S Cedar St
Main Speaker: Chuck Blair

Barnes Jewelry

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

CryptoQuip

answer

Popular web reference work filled with articles about the world's various evils: Wicked-pedia.

KNIGHT MOVES

Answer

N	O	G
E		E
F	O	R

FOREGONE

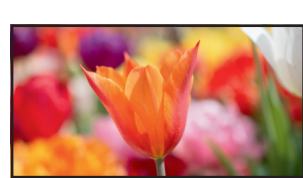
SCRAMBLERS

solution

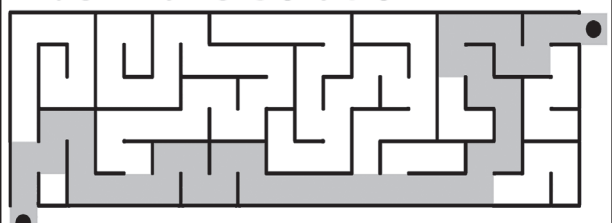
1. Scrag; 2. Share; 3. Entrap; 4. Tirade

Today's Word

HAPPIEST



Kids' Maze Solution



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

HI-CALIBER GUNS



Buying Used and Unused Firearms
Purchasing Rates are Based on Current
Bluebook of Gun Values
Contact Darrell Spidell
406 521-5169, hicaliber@olypen.com

Super Crossword

Answers

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



miles for mason

TAG your miles with
#milesformason to keep his legacy going

v42

Run/walk or just move yourself forward for a total of 43.8 miles in the month of May in memory of Mason Moore.

Additional Items from April 3 County Commission

Linda Kent
MT43 News Staff Reporter

- Sheriff Nick Rauser informed commissioners with a recommendation from the county’s compensation board for a 2.5 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) pay increase for the county’s elected officials. Folkvord commented that the increase was set by state statute.
- The commission accepted the recommendation of the county’s insurance committee to absorb a 2 percent (\$29 per month, per employee) increase in the cost of health insurance through the end of the fiscal year in June. County finance officer and committee representative Debbie Kelley told the commission that the price for the county’s current premium plan was difficult to match, in her research, among both similar and high-deductible plans. During public comment, Jeff Schritz asked whether employees could take on the additional cost, without amending the existing collective bargaining agreements with unionized county workers.
- County Noxious Weed and Mosquito Board Coordinator Jessica Bushnell presented the commissioners with requests to purchase larvicide and spray equipment for the upcoming mosquito season and a second to purchase a used truck for the noxious weed board’s use. Both requests came from the boards’ existing budgets.
- Bushnell explained that the larvicide and tank purchases for the mosquito district board would be used to spray in Townsend and the county within the district’s boundaries.
- When questioned by commissioners about where larvicide can be applied, Bushnell responded that the board can only spray within district boundaries, which does not include the Silos area or U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) or Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) land. She also mentioned that she has been working with residents in the Silos area to explore the possibility of extending the district.
- The Mosquito District’s charge is to protect public health by reducing mosquitoes that may carry West Nile Virus as well as to reduce nuisance mosquito populations that interfere with residents’ ability to spend time outdoors, Bushnell said. She also added that the larvicides being used are water-soluble and specifically targeted to kill mosquitoes before they emerge.
- The new weed board vehicle would be an addition to the board’s existing fleet, allowing Bushnell to make site visits and conduct other work-related travel without conflicting with the needs of the weed board crew.
- Commissioners approved both requests.
- The commission deferred action on a request by Townsend Rotary to place an additional shed on county property located at 701 N. Cedar Street in Townsend. Commissioners Darrel Folkvord and Lindsay Richtmyer raised concerns about what would happen should the county need the land at a future date. Commissioner Debi Randolph also asked for clarity about insurance coverage for the current and proposed sheds and their contents. Rotarian Jeanine Stone said she would bring those questions to the local Rotary’s board. The proposal will be returned to the commission agenda once those questions can be addressed.
- Brittney Willis, Broadwater County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator, informed the board that Townsend School District plans to end broadcast of KDGZ, a local radio station managed by the school and instituted in cooperation with the county. Willis said DES could meet its obligation for disaster and emergency notification without an operating radio station. The commissioners approved terminating the interlocal agreement.
- Jessica Erickson, Broadwater County Fair Board Manager, presented the commission with the fair board’s updated bylaws. The county approved the document without revisions or comment.

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Broadwater County Commissioners' Agenda

Commissioner Lindsey Richtmyer

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.com>.

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. 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 in the Courthouse (1st-floor bulletin board), on our website at www.broadwatercountymt.com, in the window of the Flynn Building at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, and in the local MT43 Newspaper.

Monday, April 29, 2024

11:00 AM Working Meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, regarding projects and deadlines. This will be in the Commission Office

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

10:00 AM Working Meeting with Onyx in the Flynn Building regarding the Telecom Assessment

3:00 PM Working Meeting with Kay Minor, Deputy County Attorney, regarding projects and deadlines. This will be in the Commission Office

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

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

10:00 AM Discussion/Decision, Broadwater County Growth Policy Addendum

10:10 AM Discussion/Decision, Nichole Brown, Community Development and Planning Director, Kinzler Boundary Relocation (Section 26, Township 7 North, Range 3 East)

10:15 AM Discussion/Decision, Revize Website Design Contract and Payment Plan Options

10:20 AM Discussion/Decision, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grant for Broadwater County Airport, \$143,488.00

10:25 AM Rural Fire District Board of Trustees, Board Appointments

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Commissioners will be attending the Senior Officials Workshop for All-Hazards Preparedness on Thursday, May 2 at the Bozeman Public Safety Center

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

- Certificate of Survey review
- Management – on-going advisory board appointments
- Claims/Payroll/minutes
- County Audit / Budget
- Mail – ongoing grants
- Correspondence – support letters

Debi Randolph, Vice Chairman
(406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050

Darrel Folkvord, Chairman
(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213

Lindsey Richtmyer
(406) 266-9271 or (406) 521-0834

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

- Planning Board Public Hearing on April 29th at 2 PM
- Parks and Recreation Board Meeting on April 29th at 6 PM
- Solid Waste Board Special Meeting on April 30th at 6 PM
- Mental Health LAC Meeting on May 8th at 2 PM
- Fair Board Meeting on May 9th at 5:30 PM
- Trust Board Meeting on May 14th at 11:30 AM
- Planning Board Meeting on May 14th at 1 PM
- Solid Waste Board Meeting on May 14th at 6 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on May 15th at 6 PM
- LEPC Meeting on May 16th at 1 PM
- Board of Health Meeting on May 20th at 2 PM
- Parks and Recreation Board Meeting on May 20th at 6 PM
- Townsend & Three Forks Mosquito Board Meeting on May 21st at 4 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on May 21st at 7 PM
- The Commissioners may be attending these board meetings (except the Planning Board)

Senator Daines Endorses Susie Hedalen for Montana Office of Public Instruction

Contributed by
Susie Hedalen, Townsend Schools Superintendent

Today, Senator Steve Daines announced his endorsement for Susie Hedalen as Montana's next Superintendent at the Office of Public Instruction.

"Susie Hedalen is the leader Montana needs for our next State Superintendent," Daines said. "Susie is an experienced educator, superintendent, and state leader who has been a champion for Montana families, students, and teachers. With Susie running the Office of Public Instruction, parents and students will be put first, and expanded educational opportunities will be created. She will also fight back against federal overreach into our local schools."

Hedalen is the Townsend School District Superintendent

and the Montana Board of Public Education Vice-Chair. She previously served as Deputy Superintendent at the Montana Office of Public Instruction. Her extensive experience at all levels of K-20 school systems makes Hedalen the most qualified candidate in decades for Montana's top education position.

"I am honored to have the support of Montana's U.S. Senator, Steve Daines," said Hedalen. "Like Senator Daines, I am committed to preventing federal overreach into Montana's schools, putting parents and students first, and ensuring that our state has safe, high-quality schools."

Hedalen graduated from Montana State University with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education, a Master's in Educational Leadership, and a Certificate in Native American Studies. She lives with her husband, Derrick, in Townsend.

Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 4/26	Sat 4/27	Sun 4/28	Mon 4/29	Tue 4/30
Light Rain	Light Rain	Light Rain	Thunderstorms	Light Rain
54° 41°	51° 38°	58° 40°	58° 37°	57° 39°
81%	81%	45%	43%	39%
6 19 mph	10 15 mph	6 17 mph	8 26 mph	7 19 mph

Precipitation:

November: 0.398"	December: 0.08"
January: 0.047"	February: 0.291"
March: 0.209"	April: 0.83"
2023: 13.669"	2024: 1.53"

Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!
406-266-3110
7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT
topgunt3110@gmail.com
topgunautobodytownsend.com

Dustin Gillaspie
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Broadwater, Manhattan, Three Forks

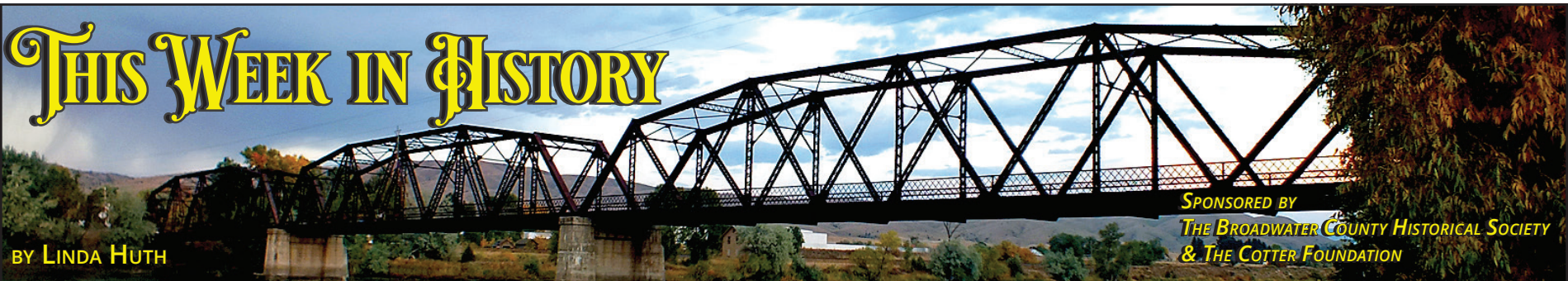
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April 25

1912

Note: There is not “The Broadwater Opinion” newspaper for this date in 1912. The following article is from the paper of April 11, 1912.

Doings of a Week

Four people came into the Opinion office this week and wanted to hire livery rigs. Their mistake that this gospel print shop also posed as a livery stable was perfectly natural for the very good reason that Fick McCormick utilizes all the street in front of the Opinion office as a cold storage plant for his wagons, buggies and carts. He hasn’t brought the hearse over yet, but he probably will and then we will be up against it explaining to friends of deceased people that McCormick does the burying and we do the lying about their good qualities after they are dead. If Mac doesn’t keep his blasted old vehicles off the streets the city council ought to give him a gentle nudge that he is maintaining a nuisance.

1940

Social Doings

Donald Clare was eight years old on Wednesday and to properly observe such an important occasion his mother and sisters helped him be host at a part at his home. The table was decorated in pink and white and the little friends played games until time to eat. Those present were:

Donnie, Larry and Theodore Kieckbusch, Gene

Hardgrove, Dickie Bayles, Joey Williams, Dave Olsen, Jackie Sautter, Mary Kieckbusch, Eleanor Olsen, Florence Williams, Marjorie and Phyllis Kieckbusch, Hope Clare, Billy Hrouda and the host, Donald Clare.

“Canton Valley” News

W.G. Kirscher marketed a load of hogs in Helena this week.

Beet growers in this valley have started to sow their beet seed this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Mayer and son, Stanley Peter, motored over from Wilborn and spent Sunday at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mannix and family. Mr. Mayer returned on Sunday evening, while Mrs. Mayer and son stayed over for a few days’ visit and to attend the shower for Miss Evelyn Weiferich.

1968

Local News

Mr. and Mrs. George Harrigfeld of Ashton, Idaho, were weekend guests with their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Mauna Harrigfeld and family. Mike Harrigfeld accompanied his grandparents back to Rexburg where he is a student at Ricks College.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Francisco Thursday evening were Lt. Bradley White, Mr. and Mrs. H.G. White and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Valentine.

Mr. and Mrs. John Standley returned last weekend from Phoenix, Ariz., where they enjoyed the winter months.

Among those attending the M.S.U. Rodeo at the Fieldhouse in Bozeman Saturday evening were Pete

Cartwright, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cartwright, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Doig and Mr. and Mrs. Ira Richardson.

Mr. and Mrs. William Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Brisbin and Lori of Bozeman visited friends in town Sunday.

1996

“Random Acts of Typing” by Jeff Stoffer

The Commercial Bar deserves a big thanks for a big contribution of recyclable cans and bottles at last Saturday’s Recycling Day function at the North Cedar Street dumpsters.

Also, each year I am more and more impressed by the community’s response to telephone book recycling. The Townsend Star, for the past couple of years, has been the designated station to drop off obsolete directories. We had another banner of collections this year.

The local recycling committee Claud Smith and the Townsend Garden Club all deserve credit for their ongoing efforts to promote better waste management. By taking recyclable material out of the waste stream, community members reduce tipping-fee costs at landfills and help keep us from burying ourselves in garbage.

For more information about the committee and recycling, I suggest contacting people like Jodie Canfield, Nancy Marks Wiederholt, Beth Ihle, Claud Smith or Mary Debelak. Not only do they know what’s recyclable and what’s not, they can share many clever ideas about how to re-use old trash in clever home landscaping projects and as helpful household goods.



After one look at our amazing selection of shrubs, trees and plants Mr. Feldman was stunned silly...

Trees & Shrubs
Next Week!



Knudsen Keynotes Local GOP Dinner

MT 43 News Staff Reporter

Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen fired up a gathering of about 120 people who attended the 35th annual Broadwater County Republican Lincoln Day fundraising dinner Saturday evening. Knudsen, running for election to a second term in office, was keynote speaker at the event held at the Watson Center.

He was introduced by Broadwater Republican Central Committee chair Ed Regan, who touted Knudsen’s work on public safety issues and for fighting efforts by Planned Parenthood to put a constitutional initiative on this year’s election ballot to ensure legalization of abortion in Montana.

Knudsen was raised on a ranch near Culbertson in northeastern Montana. He began his legal career

as County Attorney in Roosevelt County as a fighter against drug trafficking. He described a major part of his job as combatting the synthetic drug fentanyl. What began in 2023 as a small amount of fentanyl smuggled into the state from Mexican cartels has become a huge danger to public safety.

Knudsen reasoned the huge rise in fentanyl crossing the U.S. southern border is our No. 1 public safety issue. As such, he has worked to get bills passed in the legislature that give local sheriffs more tools to conduct searches and arrest drug traffickers. New laws also give county attorneys better ways to prosecute them.

Knudsen touched on the right of girls to compete in sports without competition from transgender persons. He pointed out laws passed by the 2023 legislature which protect those rights.

Asked to comment on the abortion rights

amendment, Knudsen was forceful in pointing out that the Montana Supreme Court overrode his legal filing by ruling that Planned Parenthood’s initiative is sufficient to collect signatures to get on the ballot in November. He called the Supreme Court’s judgement “flagrantly wrong and biased.”

Knudsen encouraged voters to take care in electing Supreme Court candidates and he endorsed Broadwater County Attorney Cory Swanson who is running for Supreme Court chief justice. He also endorsed Dan Wilson, Kalispell, who is one of three candidates for associate justice.

Various political candidates were present, including Jane Gillette and Kyle McMurray, competing for GOP nomination to the House District 77 seat in the legislature. Broadwater County is in that district.



Broadwater Republican Central Committee Chairman Ed Regan with State Attorney General Austin Knudsen
MT 43 News Photographer



House District 77 candidate Jane Gillette visits with Missy Cox, Linda Davis and Cliff Cox at the Lincoln-Ragen Day Dinner.
MT 43 News Photographer