

All meals served with fruits and vegetables



# BULLDOG SENIORS, CLASS OF 2025!!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNIES!



Abby Wickens  
Photo Provided by BHS



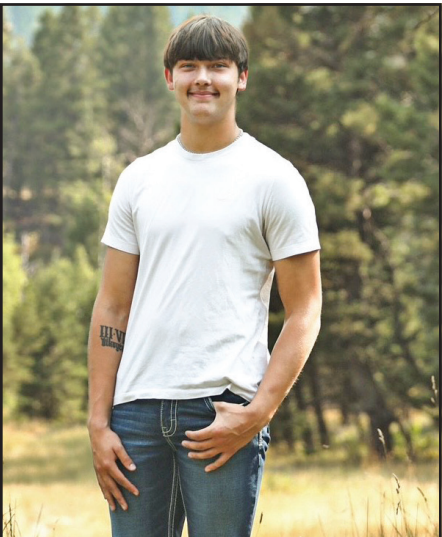
Addison Kraft  
Photo Provided by BHS



Amanda Pesicka  
Photo Provided by BHS



Anna Beatty  
Photo Provided by BHS



Cael Sell  
Photo Provided by BHS



Carsyn Odell  
Photo Provided by BHS



Cassidy Flynn  
Photo Provided by BHS



Deegan Mattson  
Photo Provided by BHS



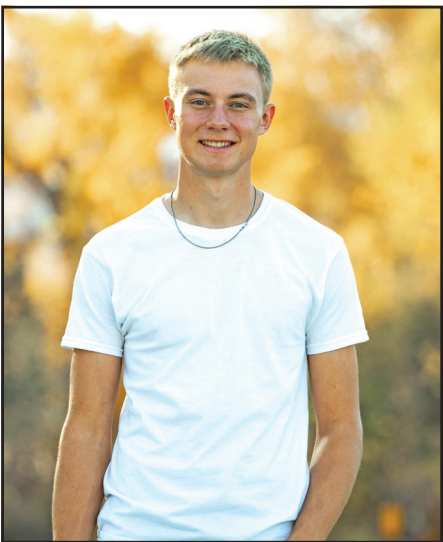
Dominic Campbell  
Photo Provided by BHS



Eric Humphreys  
Photo Provided by BHS



Grace Kroeger  
Photo Provided by BHS



Grady Erickson  
Photo Provided by BHS



Haylie Reinke  
Photo Provided by BHS



Hunter Borror  
Photo Provided by BHS



Hunter McCartney  
Photo Provided by BHS



James Tipton  
Photo Provided by BHS



Jazlyn Martin  
Photo Provided by BHS



John Summer  
Photo Provided by BHS



Kaden Bruins  
Photo Provided by BHS



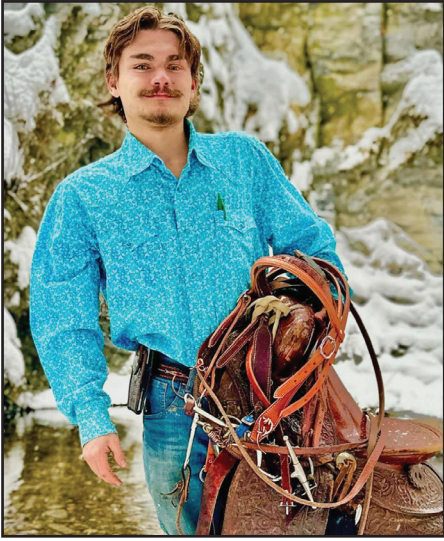
Kaelyn Sangray  
Photo Provided by BHS



Karsyn Sangray  
Photo Provided by BHS



Kaycee White  
Photo Provided by BHS



Lane Santi  
Photo Provided by BHS



Madelyn Schritz  
Photo Provided by BHS



# BULLDOG SENIORS, CLASS OF 2025!!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNIES!



Max Sellay  
Photo Provided by BHS



Maya Montoya  
Photo Provided by BHS



Memphys Meier  
Photo Provided by BHS



Nolan Flynn  
Photo Provided by BHS



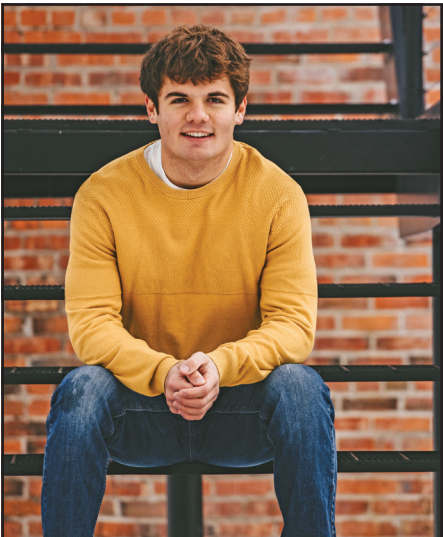
Rosemary Salgado  
Photo Provided by BHS



Ross MacDonald  
Photo Provided by BHS



Ryedan Reed  
Photo Provided by BHS



Sawyer Horne  
Photo Provided by BHS



Scarlett McDaniel  
Photo Provided by BHS



Tyzer Clark  
Photo Provided by BHS



William Baker  
Photo Provided by BHS

PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS  
HONOR YOUR GRADUATE!

Express your pride; send wishes for the future of your Graduate. Submit one picture and your words to our Office or MT43News@gmail.com by the deadline, noon on Friday, 5/23/25.

-Words only: \$25.00 (limit 50 words)  
-Ads with one picture start at \$55.00 for 3" wide x 3" tall.  
-Other size options are available.

We will print these family messages on May 30th.

Graduation in Townsend: June 1st  
East Helena: May 30th

## 4-H Scholarships Awarded to Local Youth

**Allison Kosto**  
MSU Broadwater County Extension Agent

Five local 4-H members recently received scholarships recognizing them for an outstanding 4-H career. The purpose of the Broadwater County 4-H Leadership Scholarship is to help 4-H youth further their education. It is awarded to active 4-H members who have exhibited strong leadership skills and successfully completed at least two 4-H projects each year of high school. This year, the recipients of the \$700 scholarship are Anna Beatty, Grady Erickson, Cassidy Flynn, Grace Kroeger and Ross MacDonald.

Anna Beatty is a nine-year member of the Toston Blue Ribbon 4-H Club. Her 4-H projects have included cooking, photography, cake decorating, citizenship and scrapbooking. She has held multiple officer positions in her 4-H Club, 4-H Interstate Exchange and 4-H Teen Club and served as chairman for many 4-H club committees. She has also been active on a state level by participating in 4-H Citizenship Seminar, Legislative Breakfast and Recreation Laboratory. She is the recipient of one of the highest achievements in the 4-H program, the 4-H Citizenship Award. On her scholarship application, Anna shares, “4-H also taught me how to be a leader. I’ve learned how to take charge, work with a team and communicate with different kinds of people.”

A ten-year member of the Rocky Mountain Rough Hands 4-H Club, Grady Erickson has been involved in a variety of 4-H projects including shooting sports, outdoor adventures, welding, swine, poultry and small engines. He has been involved with a variety of service projects with his club, including cleaning up public



spaces, Thanksgiving baskets and visiting Silver Springs Assisted Living. He has held leadership roles in his club and with 4-H Interstate Exchange. He’s known for working hard behind the scenes to get the job done, even if it means dressing up like the Grinch for the Christmas Parade. On his scholarship application, Grady shared, “4-H has taught me that critical thinking, confidence and good communication are key to being an effective leader.”



Cassidy Flynn  
Photo Provided

end there. She has been the president of her 4-H club for the last four years and received some of the top awards in the 4-H program, including the 4-H Leadership and Agriculture Awards. On her scholarship application, she shares, “4-H helped to build my confidence and understanding of people, both of which have helped me become a better leader today.”



Grace Kroeger  
Photo Provided

and helping younger members. She was awarded the 4-H Leadership and Achievement Awards due to her vast success in the 4-H Program. When asked how her 4-H experience

Cassidy Flynn has been a member of the Rocky Mountain Rough Hands 4-H Club for ten years. Her 4-H projects have included swine, sheep, beef, gardening and crop science. Through 4-H and growing up on her family’s ranch, she developed a passion for livestock, achieving many awards in the showing. She maintains her own herd of cattle, where she sells meat directly to consumers. It doesn’t

A nine-year member of the Old Baldy 4-H Club, Grace Kroeger has an impressive list of 4-H projects that include, but not limited to, poultry, gardening, horse, leadership, cake decorating, babysitting, dairy goat and cowboy poetry. She has held many officer positions in her club, including president for six years. Grace has been integral in helping grow the 4-H poultry project by leading workshops

and helping younger members. She was awarded the 4-H Leadership and Achievement Awards due to her vast success in the 4-H Program. When asked how her 4-H experience

will prepare her, Grace shares, “Goal setting, record keeping, teamwork, leadership, communication, livestock husbandry and so much more, will help me so much in the future, not only for college, but for the rest of my life.” In addition to the county 4-H scholarship, Grace was also awarded the Douglas & Nancy Dear Memorial Scholarship through the Montana 4-H Foundation.



Ross MacDonald  
Photo Provided

4-H and FFA, he found a passion in the agriculture industry, specifically in cropping systems where he plans to pursue a degree. On his scholarship application, Ross shares, “4-H has developed me as a person and allowed for many learning opportunities that I know will serve me well in the future.”

Congratulations to all! You are a testament to the power of 4-H. Good luck in your future endeavors and thank you to everything you contributed to Broadwater County 4-H.

To inquire about the 4-H program, contact MSU Extension in Broadwater County at 406-266-9242 or broadwater@montana.edu.

Congratulations Townsend  
Bulldog Class of 2025!

Graduation is only  
the beginning of  
your success!

Great work! ~MT43 News Team



East Helena Schools' Calendar

MAY

Saturday 17

Armed Forces Day

Monday 19

6:30 pm: Booster Club Meeting at East Helena High School  
7:00 pm: 5th/6th Grade Band Concert

EAST HELENA LIBRARY HOURS

Andrea Eckerson  
Branch Manager

HOURS:

Monday - Wednesday:  
10 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday and Friday:  
10 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.  
Saturdays: 10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Sundays: Closed

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

MAY

Saturday 17

11:00 am: Volunteer Appreciation Event.

Wednesday 21

10:30 am: Storytime

Saturday 24

10:00 am: Friends' 10¢ Book Sale at Car Show in the Park.  
Library CLOSED for event

Townsend School Calendar

MAY

Friday 16

NO SCHOOL

Sunday 18

5:00 pm: Senior Banquet at Elementary Commons

Tuesday 20

8:55 am: Pre-K PE in the 63 Gym  
6:00 pm: Stoke Pickleball in the Elementary Gym

Wednesday 21

8:55 am: Pre-K PE in the 63 Gym

Thu 22 - Sat 24

State Baseball at Hamilton  
State Tennis at Missoula

Fri 23 - Sat 24

State Track at Missoula

Monday 26

NO SCHOOL- MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday 27

4:00 pm: 8th Grade Holocaust Night - Community Room

LIBRARY HOURS

Three Forks Community Library

FALL HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday through Friday - 10:00am to 5:00pm  
Tuesdays - 10:00am - 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 the website: [threeforkslibrary.weebly.com](http://threeforkslibrary.weebly.com)

Broadwater School and Community Library

FALL HOURS:

Monday-Thursday -- 4:00 - 7:00pm  
Friday-Saturday -- 9:00am - 4:00pm  
Sunday -- 12:00 - 5:00pm  
Curbside also available please call: (406)441-3461

THREE FORKS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY

Friday 16

11:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - LEGO Club

Tuesday 20

1:00 pm: Three Forks Public Library - Mah Jongg  
6:00 pm: Three Forks Public Library - Book Club

Wednesday 21

5:30 pm: Bozeman Music Night with Leia Sky at ridger Brewing, Three Forks

Thursday 22

10:30 am: Three Forks Public Library - Storytime  
7:00 pm: Three Forks Music Night with Kevin Clarke at ridger Brewing Three Forks

Friday 23

11:00 am: Three Forks Public Library - LEGO Club

Honor Walk for Roland Heaton

Anne Hall

Saturday, May 17, leaving at the front of the American Legion @ 10 am. Walking to Veterans Park. Bugle and volley of rounds will be carried out. Walk back to the Hall. The walk will be followed by the Celebration of Life at Mountain Valley Church @ 11 am.

Burial and military ceremony will take place at Ft Harrison, Helena, Monday, May 19. Meeting at the cemetery pavilion at 1:00 pm. Ceremony is promptly at 1:30 pm.



Roland Heaton  
Photo Provided

EGG SALE!!

FRESH CHICKEN EGGS IN TOSTON AREA  
\$4.00 A DOZEN

CALL SUSAN 406-980-0650, LEAVE MESSAGE

TOWNSEND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY

Now - June 15

Money Donated to Broadwater Food Bank matched by Townsend Rotary **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

Friday 16

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

Saturday 17

8:00 am: Yard Sale at Shepherd of the Valley, 301 N Cherry  
10:00 am: Honor Walk for Roland Heaton to Start at American Legion **READ DETAILS ABOVE**  
11:00 am: Townsend Cat Assistance Network Bake Sale **Fundraiser** at Reading Leaves Bookstore, 401 Broadway  
6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Sunday 18

1:00 pm: Celebration of Life **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE**  
2:00 pm: Museum Open House Program; "The Cowan Adventure in Yellowstone Park"

Monday 19

6:00 pm: FAITH NIGHT at Holy Cross Parish Center, 101 S Walnut **SEE AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**  
6:00 pm: Celebrate Recovery at Mountain Valley Church at 107 E St, 406-980-1805

Tuesday 20

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

Wednesday 21

1:00 pm: Townsend Pinochle Club at Broadwater County Senior Center, 516 2nd St  
7:00 pm: Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting **SEE CLASSIFIED AD ON THIS PAGE**

Thursday 22

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

Fri 23 - Sat 24

9:30 am: Estate Sale at 702 Broadway **SEE CLASSIFIED AD ON THIS PAGE FOR DETAILS**

Friday 23

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

Saturday 24

9:00 am: Memorial Day flag placements at Deep Creek and Radersburg Cemeteries- Contact Jen Dalrymple 406.949.3660 for more info  
6:00 pm: Fireside Alcoholics Anonymous at 102 N. Walnut, 406-439-3945

Friday 29

9:00 am: Memorial Day flag removal at Deep Creek and Radersburg Cemeteries- Contact Jen Dalrymple 406.949.3660 for more info  
7:00 pm: FREE Medicare Workshop at Lewis & Clark Library **SEE AD ON PAGE 11 FOR RSVP INFO**

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR ROXIE ANDERSON

Will be held on May 18th from 1:00 - 5:00 at the Radersburg Schoolhouse.

Mon. May 19th  
6:00-8:00 pm  
Holy Cross Parish Center  
101 S Walnut St.  
Free Event

FAITH NIGHT

Seeking Human Kindness

Homelessness  
What causes it?  
Who are they?  
What can we do?

BROADWATER COUNTY GOVERNMENT CALENDAR

MAY

Tuesday 20

7:00 pm Noxious Weed Board Meeting (CANCELED)

Wednesday 21

10:00 am Commission Meeting

CLASSIFIEDS

TURN TO PAGE 5 FOR LEGAL NOTICES!

Broadwater Rural Fire Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday each month.  
**Next meeting: May 21st, 7:00PM**  
At the Townsend Fire Station - 130 So Cedar St  
See Board Meeting Agenda at: <http://www.facebook.com/BroadwaterCountyVolunteerFireDepartment>

DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR MATCH

**Rotary**

Monetary Donations to the Broadwater Food Pantry will be matched by the Rotary Club of Townsend from Mother's Day, May 11th to Father's Day, June 15th!

Please send your donations to PO Box 164, Townsend, MT 59644, drop off at the Food Pantry (315 Broadway) on Friday, May 30th and June 6th, 9:00AM – 11:00AM or find the donation box at Bob's Supermarket!

Goose Bay Glass

Hand blown glass, night light covers, kitchen light shades, mugs, pitchers, vases, juice and wine glasses. We also carry stained glass ornaments and outdoor chimes.

See our custom gifts at 101 So. Front.  
(406) 266-4496

YARD SALE

Estate Sale – 60 Years of Memories. *Everything must go!*

Friday, May 23, 9:30 - 4:00 Saturday, May 24, 9:30 - 4:00  
Art, frames, desks, dressers with mirrors, assorted household/kitchen, table w/6 chairs, bookshelves, china cabinet, lamps, antique hutch, antique glassware, vintage teacups, furniture, books, ladders and more.  
*702 Broadway, Townsend, MT Cash and Venmo only.*

2025 COUNTY-WIDE YARD SALE!

Are you thinking about having a yard/garage sale or a rummage sale fundraiser this year?  
Consider joining the County Wide Yard Sale on July 19,2025.  
You hold the sale and keep all the profits – we will do the advertising.  
**NO FEE** to join the County Wide Yard Sale.  
Contact Vic at 406-422-9425 to be put on the map or for more information.



PLAYERS  
of the WEEK



**Baseball:**  
This week's Townsend Booster Club Athlete of the Week is senior Hunter McCartney. In his final game as a Bulldog, Hunter delivered a standout performance, going 2-for-2 at the plate and scoring the team's only run. On the mound, he pitched three solid innings, striking out three batters. Hunter has been a consistent leader throughout the season, setting an example with his work ethic, resilience, and commitment. His dedication has been instrumental in helping build the foundation of the baseball program. We thank him for his contributions and congratulate him on a strong finish. Townsend Booster Club Photo



**Boys Golf:**  
Caleb Swenson played very well at our divisional golf tournament. He shot a 91 and was only 3 shots out of going to State. Good job, Caleb! Townsend Booster Club Photo



**Girls Golf:**  
Tava Gioni is a senior golfer and played her last round as a golfer for her high school career last week. She always has a positive attitude and does her best. She will be missed on the 43-golf team. Thanks, Tava. Townsend Booster Club Photo



**Tennis:**  
The bulldog athlete of the week is JB3, also known as Jacey Brunette. Miss Brunette was undefeated on day one of the Best of the West tournament including a gutsy come from behind tiebreaker victory over a very handy Troy opponent. To JB3, "becoming bulldog athlete of the week has always been my dream!" Townsend Booster Club Photo



**Girls Golf:**  
Jaz Ragen finished in 12th place at divisionals last week and qualified for state. She showed great mental toughness, and we are very proud of her for making it to State. It is not an easy thing to do. Townsend Booster Club Photo



**Track:**  
Jim Tew earned himself a trip to state by state qualifying and a PR for triple jump with a jump of 41'7.25". He also placed first in hurdles with a time of 17.31, 3rd in long jump with a jump of 19'0.25, PR in high jump with a height of 5'8, and helping his 4x1 team to divisionals with a time of 46.54. Townsend Booster Club Photo



**Track:**  
Jazlyn Martin earned himself a trip to state by state qualifying and a PR for triple jump with a jump of 41'7.25". He also placed first in hurdles with a time of 17.31, 3rd in long jump with a jump of 19'0.25, PR in high jump with a height of 5'8, and helping his 4x1 team to divisionals with a time of 46.54. Townsend Booster Club Photo

NorthWestern<sup>®</sup>

Energy

Delivering a Bright Future

Sponsor of Townsend School Page

## District Track Meet



District runners-up: (back row) Sarah Morgan, Emily Taves, Holly Newman, Aspen Slyker, Elaine MacDonald, Kinsley Heggen, Tevyn Newman, Kyla Meissner, Mishayla Lambott, Kaitlyn Noyes, Cheyanne Douglas. (front row) Shalyn Sentinella, Abby Wickens, Memphis Meier, Kaelyn Sangray, Jazlyn Martin. MT43 News Sports Reporter Photo

### MT43 News Sports Reporter

District 5B held their district track meet in Belgrade last Thursday, May 8th at the Belgrade Event Center. The top six competitors from each of the 18 female and male events will advance to the divisional meet held in Laurel on May 15th. BHS is sending 21 athletes on, with six of them already qualified for state based on their times/distances.

The Broadwater Lady Bulldogs brought home the 2nd place team trophy by scoring 135 points. They accomplished this in large part due to five first place finishes, along with four runners-up. Congrats to Kaitlyn Noyes, Holly Newman, and Kyla Meissner for being individual district champions! Freshmen Kinsley Heggen, Tevyn Newman, Elaine MacDonald and Cheyanne Douglas, all at their first district meet, thrived in their respective events with almost universal PR establishing times/distances.

The Boy's Varsity team placed 4th with 86 points. Sophomores Jim Tew and Tavyn Anderson had banner days with multiple top five finishes and PRs, whether they were jumping for distance, height or speed. Junior Gavin Greene, despite missing a lot of the season, shown his grit by PR-ing in both the 800- and 1600-meter runs, notching the 6th spot in both races. Fellow junior Trace Giomi had a stand-out day throwing his PR in both throws, with his discus traveling more than 20 feet further than his previous best!

Girl's Varsity: 100-meter dash: 3 Kaitlyn Noyes 13.31, 5 Aspen Slyker 13.51 PR, 20 Cheyanne Douglas 16.61 PR. 200-meter dash: 2 Kaitlyn Noyes 27.06, 17 Cheyanne Douglas 34.40 PR. 400-meter dash: 4 Elaine MacDonald 1:04.77 PR. 800-meter run: 1 Kyla Meissner 2:25.48 PR, 3 Memphis Meier 2:32.47 SR. 1600-meter run: 1 Kyla Meissner 5:21.40, 17 Shalyn Sentinella 6:45.99 PR. 3200-meter run: 2 Kaelyn Sangray 12:58.07, 4 Abby Wickens 13:54.92, 7 Shalyn Sentinella 16:01.04.

110-meter hurdles: 1 Holly Newman 16.32 SR, 3 Aspen Slyker 17.87. 300-meter hurdles: 2 Aspen Slyker 49.32 PR, 3 Holly Newman 49.45 PR, 12 Cheyanne Douglas 1:10.47 PR. 4x100-meter relay: 2 E. MacDonald, A. Slyker, H. Newman, K. Heggen 51.93. 4x400-meter relay: 5 M. Meier, K. Sangray, A. Wickens, K. Meissner 4:39.66.

Shot Put: 9 Tevyn Newman 26'01 PR, 12 Jazlyn Martin 24'11.50", 16 Mishayla Lambott 24'2" PR, 17 Sophia Lamb 22'10", 18 Kinsley Heggen 22'3". Discus: 6 Jazlyn Martin 89'5", 8 Kinsley Heggen 78'2" PR, 9 Mishayla Lambott 76'10" PR, 13 Tevyn Newman 69'6", 18 Sophia Lamb 61'6". Javelin: 7 Jazlyn Martin 90'4" PR, 10 Kinsley Heggen 85'6" PR, 12 Tevyn Newman 81'11" PR, 13 Aspen Slyker 79'5", 15 Sophia Lamb 69'7".

High Jump: 3 Holly Newman 5', 4 Kaitlyn Noyes 5'. Long Jump: 1 Kaitlyn Noyes 16'3.5", 3 Holly Newman 15'7". Triple Jump: 1 Kaitlyn Noyes 35'.

Boy's Varsity: 100-meter dash: 4 Colt Barnard 11.62, 12 Cael Sell 12.06, 18 Bryce Lessley 12.45, 20 Logan Johnson 12.86, 22 Urijah Duede 13.72. 200-meter dash: 7 Colt Barnard 23.58, 15 Marek Easter 25.21, 16 Bryce Lessley 25.96, 20 Gavin Johnson 28.93. 400-meter dash: 9 Logan Johnson 59.60, 11 Cole Thompson 1:00.55 PR, 15 Gavin Johnson 1:05.32 PR. 800-meter run: 6 Gavin Greene 2:17.01 PR, 10 Keaton Cavasos 2:26.69 PR.



Senior ladies, all scoring points and moving on to divisionals in their last track season: Abby Wickens, Memphis Meier, Kaelyn Sangray and Jazlyn Martin. MT43 News Sports Reporter Photo

1600-meter run: 2 Nolan Flynn 4:40.53 SR, 6 Gavin Greene 4:59.06 PR.

110-meter hurdles: 1 Jim Tew 17.31, 3 Tavyn Anderson 17.67 PR, 8 Logan Johnson 20.20 PR. 300-meter hurdles: 3 Tavyn Anderson 44.35 PR. 4x100-meter relay: 3 B. Lessley, J. Tew, C. Barnard, C. Sell 46.54. 4x400-meter relay: 4 M. Easter, L. Johnson, G. Greene, B. Lessley 3:48.75.



Junior Trace Giomi throws the shot put more than forty feet for the first time to finish 8th. MT43 News Sports Reporter Photo

Shot Put: 7 Gavin Schmele 41'8", 8 Trace Giomi 40'3.25" PR, 18 Isaiah Cassidy 33'7.5 PR, 19 Pat Gossard 33'5.5", 20 Tanner Bird 33'2.25". Discus: 2 Trace Giomi 135' PR, 5 Gavin Schmele 123'5" PR, 14 Tanner Bird 92'4", 15 Isaiah Cassidy 90', 20 Braylon Rice 61'6". Javelin: 4 Marek Easter 145'10", 15 Pat Gossard 109'2", 17 Tanner Bird 101'2", 20 Gavin Schmele 91'6", 21 Isaiah Cassidy 87'3".

High Jump: 8 Jim Tew 5'8" PR, 12 Cael Sell 5'2". Long Jump: 2 Tavyn Anderson 19'2" PR, 3 Jim Tew 19'0.25", 12 Logan Johnson 16'7.5", 18 Simon Bain 15'0.50, 20 Max Wickens 14'7.5" PR. Triple Jump: 2 Jim Tew 41'7.25" PR, 4 Tavyn Anderson 38'11.50", 7 Cael Sell 36'7.75", 10 Max Wickens 31'7" PR.

READ & ROLL!

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND ENJOY:  
A VARIETY OF BOARD GAMES AND CARD GAMES FOR ALL AGES!

\* OPTIONAL\* PIZZA NIGHT! CHIP IN FOR A DELICIOUS PIZZA FROM A LOCAL FAVORITE.

IMPORTANT INFO:  
FREE TO JOIN!  
KIDS UNDER 12 MUST BE SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT.

FRIDAYS BEGINNING JUNE 6TH

SEE YOU THERE!

## Weather Info Contributed by Jeff Ross

Fri 5/16	Sat 5/17	Sun 5/18	Mon 5/19	Tue 5/20
Very Light Rain Showers	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Light Rain Showers	Light Rain Showers
59°   44°	63°   46°	58°   43°	54°   42°	60°   41°
49%	55%	91%	83%	51%
4   12 mph	4   12 mph	8   21 mph	10   21 mph	7   26 mph

Precipitation:

December: 0.000" January: 0.04" February: 0.05" 2024: 10.903"

March: 0.40" April: 0.44" May: 0.80" 2025: 1.73"



## BJ Blahnik and His Leader Dog, Jackson



Mr. BJ Blahnik, standing with his Leader Dog Jackson, is talking to the Broadwater County Elementary Students, grades K-5.  
Photo Credits: Matt Nelson

### Matt Nelson



On May 1st, Lions Club Member BJ Blahnik, from Wisconsin, gave presentations to the Broadwater County Elementary and Middle School students about his Leader Dog Jackson, a guide dog, and what he has experienced in life, being blind.

Lion Richard Heida, a Townsend representative of the Lions Club, accompanied BJ and Jackson. Mr. Steven Cook, the Principal of the Elementary School and Mr. Brad Racht, the Principal of the Middle School, who were also present during their respective sessions, helped gather the students and had them ready to listen and learn.

BJ began his presentation, “Hello. This is my 1st time ever coming to Montana. I am here and I am really enjoying myself. I am going to talk to you a bit about how Leader Dog Jackson helps me around. You may not realize it, but I can’t see very well. I don’t really look like I am having a vision problem. It may not look like I can’t see. But I can’t see any one of you. I can’t see the color of your clothes. But that’s OK because I can hear that all of you are ready to learn.”[

After visiting several eye doctors, about the age of 12, BJ was informed that he is visually impaired from a condition called Retinitis Pigmentosa or RP for short. In his early 20’s, he heard about Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Hills, Michigan. They train dogs for people who are blind and/or visually impaired. Their training helps someone navigate through life safely and independently. That’s the key word: Safely. The total cost of training for Leader Dog Jackson was \$100,000. He did not need to pay anything because of organizations like Lions Clubs International, who helped cover those costs.

"How does it work? I hold Jackson’s harness with my left hand. I give him commands like Forward, Left, Right, and find the curb. When he is walking, I can feel

him going up and down, like when going up and down stairs. I can feel him turning left or right. At all times, I walk around absolutely assured that I am safe, because the dog is looking at the ground, the branches in the trees and the signs that may stick over the sidewalk. When crossing an intersection, Jackson will determine if it is safe to cross based on the traffic around him.”

To help ensure Leader Dog Jackson is always watching for hand commands, as well as listening to other commands, BJ plays a game called touch. BJ use his hand and asked Jackson to touch his hand in many different spots. This helps the dog to always be looking for hand commands just in case he cannot hear BJ. Throughout all the trainings and techniques, BJ always rewarded Jackson with praise and treats.

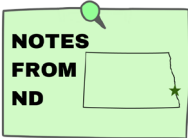
The duo of BJ and Jackson then began to discuss the rules when being around a guide dog or even any service animal. BJ stated it is never ok to pet the dog, especially when he is holding the harness handle. He even said, “You should not look at the dog’s eyes because it may cause him to be distracted." He stated "dogs are either working or playing and when he is using Jackson, it is very important he stays focused on helping guide me safely."

After the demonstration was completed and the questions were asked, BJ presented a small stuffed yellow dog to Mr. Cook and suggested the school create a way on how to name the dog. “This will help all of you remember my visit and what to do when you meet a service dog,” BJ stated. All of the children were very enthused and excited on what they thought the dog should be named.

On behalf of Leader Dogs for the Blind, BJ closed his visit with thanking the school and the Lions Clubs of Montana for allowing him to speak with the school. It was such a delight listening to BJ and seeing his presentation to the K- 5 students at the Townsend Elementary School, as well as seeing the very happy faces and hearing the loud cheers of the kids.

## Notes from ND

Mikayla Kraft  
MT43 News Correspondent



As I am writing this, I am sitting at my desk, which was once clean and welcoming, but is now piled up with books, boxes, and more. My room surrounding me is cluttered, with various things lying everywhere. All of my decorations are off my walls, and this room is one step closer to not being mine anymore and instead just being a plain old dorm room. I move out in four days, and it is honestly bittersweet.

I remember every Monday night, my friend group would come over for Bible Study. We would sit in a big circle on my bed, share snacks, study scripture, and get side-tracked way too much. My future roommate and current study buddy would always knock on my dorm door throughout the week, asking to study or just rant about what was going on. My best friend, Megan, would come over so much, too. After a long day of class, we would lie sprawled out on my bed to take a breather or talk about the deep stuff that we wouldn’t talk about elsewhere.



Last Bible Study with the Girls.  
Photo Credit: Mikayla Kraft

I’ll be back at NDSU next year, of course, but the memories outside of my dorm room will also be missed. You just never get that freshman experience again. For example, I will never forget the late-night runs to Walmart or Culver’s, just because my friends and I wanted to. I will never forget the first-ever silent disco dance I attended. I will never forget the first time I led worship for Chi Alpha or the times that I got to encourage and pray over my non-Christian friends I work with at Starbucks.

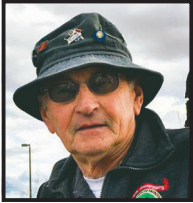
I move out in four days, but I will be back, and now I have my roots dug in Fargo, North Dakota. Moving here, I knew I would never get attached to the flat lands, but I didn’t expect to see all the friendships and unforgettable memories that would sprout from my time here. From my first year of college, I can confidently say that the freshman year of college or trade school will be one of the best years of your life. There is no need for the stereotypical college life because the wholesome moments that are within reach are too sweet to pass up.

If you are going to college next fall, I need you to know that partying every night for socialization, hanging out with friends while neglecting homework, obsessing over any person that could potentially be a future spouse, or becoming a learning robot is not the way to live the college life. The best moments you will have are those created in a wholesome environment, with all intentions of growing as an individual and growing as a good friend.

Soon you will be in the same position I am in. Will you look at the past year knowing it was the best, or not knowing what you could have had instead?

## BCHS Horticulture Class Students Plant Trees on Campus

Patrick Plantenberg  
Tree Board Chair

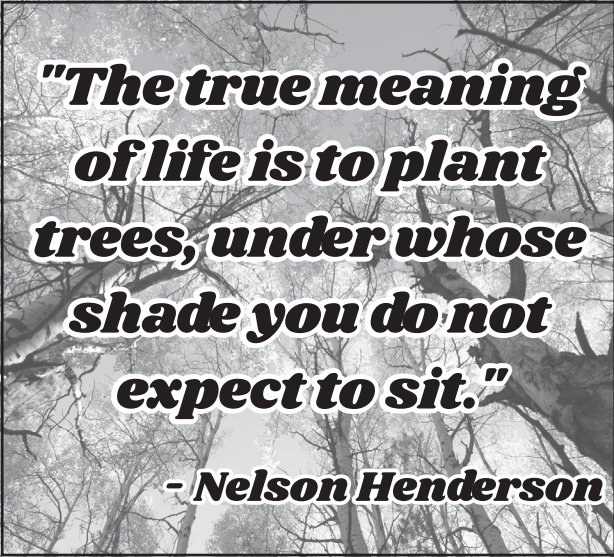


The Broadwater County High School (BCHS) Horticulture Class planted two new trees on the school campus last week.

The horticulture class is being taught by Jemma Loughery. Patrick Plantenberg, Chair of the Townsend Tree Board; owner of Plants, Etc., a local landscaping company; and Chair of the Montana Urban and Community Forestry Association is helping teach the students about potential green industry jobs.

The students have been taught how to prune trees properly and how to plant trees properly. Plantenberg has observed in his travels across the state that 75% of the trees planted are planted too deep. The first root must be on the soil surface. Roots need oxygen. Many times, the plants are planted too deep in the pots or in the root ball of ball and burlap trees.

The trees being planted are replacing the many memorial trees that were lost when the new elementary school was constructed.



Memorial Park on Broadwater received a new water system valve and fire hydrant this week. The work, being done by CK May Contractors, is part of the city's much larger project to replace water system valves all over town, according to Public Works Director Eric Crusch. He said work, which began in January, is right on schedule despite the delays during bad weather that held up the crew for 3 weeks.  
Nancy Marks, MT43 News Photographer


Bristlecone pines, known for their long life spans, live in harsh conditions high in the mountains of California, Nevada and Colorado. The oldest one known is nicknamed Methuselah (after the longest-lived person in the Bible), and is located in a remote area of the Inyo National Forest in California. Known as “extremophiles,” these trees grow very slowly; their wood is very dense and resinous, and resistant to insects. Often only a strip of living tissue connects the roots to a handful of live branches. – Brenda Weaver

Sources: [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov), [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)



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.



A+ storage does hereby give notice to the following customers renting storage units containing household goods and miscellaneous items that this property will be sold to satisfy rent past due, fees and costs.

Chet Campbell.

G15

Jessica Perales.

G10

Sarah Peck.

Durango

Gehrig Sweat.

C4

The public sale will be held on May 24th, 2025, at 12-1 PM at A+ storage located at 21 Cemetery Ln. and also 76 Jack Farm Road, Townsend, MT 59644.

*Published May 9 and 16, 2025*

MNAXLP

*NOTICE TO BROADWATER COUNTY*

TAXPAYERS FOR MOBILE HOME PROPERTY TAXES

Due to delays caused by waiting on legislative matters concerning property taxes, MOBILE HOME taxes will be late in being processed this year. The first half of the 2025 bill will be due 30 days after they are processed. The second half will still be due November 30th, 2025. Sorry for any confusion this causes.

There will be notifications at the end of May 2025 in the paper when the mobile home tax bills go out and when the first half will be due.

Melissa Franks, Treasurer Broadwater County

*Published MAY 9, 16 and 23, 2025*

MNAXLP

*MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY*

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF HUDSON LEE JAMES, A Minor Child.

By HEIDI L. EIDE and JUSTIN A. COX, Co-Petitioners.

Cause No: DA-25-01

NOTICE OF HEARING ON JOINT PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND FOR ADOPTION

Pursuant to §42-2-605, MCA, notice is hereby given that the Co-Petitioners hereto, Heidi Eide and Justin Cox, have petitioned this Court to terminate the parental rights of Cody Lee James as to Hudson Lee James, the minor child at issue in this action. A hearing on the Co-Petitioners’ Joint Petition for Termination of Parental Rights and for Adoption will be held on the 23rd day of May 2025, at 10:30 A.M. in the Courtroom of the Broadwater County Courthouse, Broadwater County, Townsend, Montana. A copy of the Order Setting Hearing is attached to this Notice. DATED this 24th day of April 2025.

KATHRYN KEISER FAMILY LAW, PLLC

*Published May 2, 9 and 16, 2025*

MNAXLP

*MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, BROADWATER COUNTY*

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY LOUISE DEBELAK, Deceased.

Probate No. BDP-25-10

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Morgan L. Michalski has been appointed Personal Representative of this estate. Claims against the decedent must be presented within four months after the first publication of this notice or be forever barred. Claims must be either mailed to the Personal Representative via her Attorney, Peter T. Simon (303 Broadway St, Townsend, MT 59644) return receipt requested, or filed with the Clerk of the above-titled Court.

Dated May 2, 2025.

/s/ Peter T. Simon

GALLATIN ELDER LAW & ESTATE PLANNING PLLC

Attorney for Personal Representative

*Published May 9, 16 and 23, 2025*

MNAXLP

*NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING*

In accordance with 7-6-4021 and 7-6-4024 MCA, a public hearing on Broadwater County’s 2025/2026 Preliminary Budget is set for Wednesday May 28, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room located at Flynn Building, 401 Broadway Street, Townsend MT 59644.

The Preliminary Budget is on file and is open to inspection at the Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder’s Office at 515 Broadway Street, Townsend MT 59644 OR on the County Website [www.broadwatercountymt.gov](http://www.broadwatercountymt.gov). Residents and other governing body members may appear at the meeting and be heard for or against any part of the proposed budget.

*Published May 16 and 23, 2025*

MNAXLP

*NOTICE TO BROADWATER COUNTY TAXPAYERS FOR REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAXES*

The 2024 REAL ESTATE PROPERTY 2ND Half taxes are due by 5:00 p.m. on May 30, 2025. After that date the 2nd half becomes delinquent with interest accruing at the rate of 5/6 of 1% per month and penalty of 2% of the tax. \*\*Please Include Tax ID or Payment Stub with your check.

ALL PROPERTY TAXES MAY BE PAID ONLINE. SEE OUR WEBSITE [Broadwatercountymt.gov](http://Broadwatercountymt.gov) FOR DETAILS.

Melissa Franks, Treasurer Broadwater County

*Published May 16 and 23, 2025*

MNAXLP

Justice of the Peace Report

Kelsi Anderson

Justice Court Clerk

*MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FORFEITURES*

Gabriel Mcauliffe, Belgrade: day speed \$70.00

Jefferson Langford, Three Forks: careless driving \$85.00

Jake Barrow, Big Sky: MT resident operate w/foreign DL \$85.00, Reckless endangerment of emergency personnel \$285.00

*MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELTS*

2

*MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL FINES*

Guadalupe Hernandez Jr- Powell, WY- driving without a valid driver’s license, plead guilty, \$285.00 fines and fees.

Shawn Bivens – Helena – day speed, plead guilty, \$120.00 fine.

Alyssa Evarts – Helena – day speed, plead guilty, \$120.00 fine; driving a motor vehicle while privilege to do so is suspended or revoked-1st offense, plead guilty, \$135.00 fines and fees.

*DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME*

Wyatt Roberts – Helena – failure to obtain landowner permission for hunting-1st offense, plead guilty, deferred imposition of sentence for a period of six months, \$170.00 fines and fees.

*BROADWATER COUNTY FINES*

Kirsten Forsey – Helena – day speed, plead guilty, \$200 fine, credit given for jail time served.

Harrison Ramos- Helena – day speed, plead guilty, \$120.00 fine.

*BROADWATER COUNTY FORFEITURES*

Travis Salter, Billings: day speed \$20.00

David Madison, Wolf Point: night speed \$70.00

Austin Brown, Bozeman: day speed \$20.00

Paul Adkins, Galveston, TX: day speed \$20.00

Tyler Almquist, Helena: night speed \$70.00

Michael Shell, Helena: day speed \$120.00

Mosquito Season is Upon Us

Jessica Bushnell

Mosquito Board

April showers bring May flowers, but they also signal the start of mosquito season. It can seem like mosquitoes appear out of nowhere, and sometimes they do! When overnight temperatures consistently stay above 50 degrees, mosquitoes begin to come back for the season.

In Broadwater County, this warm-up typically occurs closer to mid-June. Mosquitoes can survive the winter in different forms: as adults, eggs, or larvae. When adult female mosquitoes emerge from their winter hibernation (known as diapause), they seek a blood meal to complete their life cycle. While their ability to transmit viruses is limited, they are still very hungry. Female mosquitoes require the proteins found in blood to produce eggs. The small amount of blood they draw from humans, mammals, birds, and even reptiles fuels their reproductive cycle.

Once the mosquito season begins, the next challenge for them is finding stagnant or flooded water, as fast-moving water is unsuitable for laying eggs. Many mosquito species only need a tiny amount of water to lay their eggs, meaning even a pond, a birdbath, an overwatered garden, or the folds of a tarp can serve as breeding grounds. To help control the mosquito population, start by removing standing water around your property.

*Here are some steps you can take:*

1. Fill in low-lying areas where puddles and mud form to keep your property dry.

2. Turn over or remove objects that can collect water.

3. Cover boats to prevent water accumulation.

4. Dispose of old tires or drill holes to allow drainage.

5. Smooth out any creases in tarps and coverings.

6. Clear clogs in downspouts to ensure they drain properly.

7. Adjust rain gutters so that water drains quickly from them.

8. Circulate water in ponds and horse troughs.

9. Chlorinate swimming pools regularly.

10. Trim overgrown grass and thick vegetation where adult mosquitoes may hide.

By taking these steps, you can help reduce mosquito breeding sites and enjoy a more pleasant outdoor experience.

Old Town Bridge Project Update

Broadwater County Commissioners

The Old Town Bridge Replacement project has made progress in recent months. This project is to replace Old Town Bridge East (Gallatin County) and Old Town Bridge West (Broadwater County), both of which span the Jefferson River on Old Town Road near Three Forks.

The bridges have been closed since June of 2022 after significant structural safety issues were discovered. This closure resulted in a 10-mile detour for residents and forced emergency services to reroute, causing a significant delay in response times.

Broadwater County and Gallatin County partnered to find funding for the replacement of the bridges. Both counties received grants from the Montana Coal Endowment Program (MCEP) along with matching funds from the Montana Department of Transportation.

One of the major hurdles delaying the project was the approval process from the Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) since both bridges are considered historic by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). The approval process began in October of 2023 and was finalized in March of this year when the Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the SHPO was signed. Since then, progress is moving at a much steadier pace.

*Below is an update of the process so far:*

The project was advertised on April 5, 12, and 19.

A preconstruction meeting was held on site on April 17th for interested contractors.

Sealed bids were opened at the Gallatin County Commission meeting on April 29th.

The Notice of Award granting the contract to the lowest bidder (Battle Ridge Builders) was signed by Broadwater County and returned to Stahly Engineering on May 6th.

We are very excited to finally break ground on the physical bridge work. Construction is expected to begin as soon as next month, with a target completion date of June 15th, 2026.

We realize how difficult this has been for the residents affected by the bridge closures and truly appreciate their patience during this lengthy process.

For more information or to view the project timeline and history, visit the Old Town Bridge project website at <https://seaeng.wixsite.com/oldtown/project-schedule>.

*Sincerely,*

*Broadwater County Commissioners*

St. Peter’s Health Foundation Board Approves \$25,000

Jacque Tescher

St. Peter’s Health, Public Relations

*St. Peter’s Health Foundation Board Approves \$25,000 to Support New Cancer Support Community Montana Chapter in Helena*

Helena, Mont. - St. Peter’s Health Foundation has approved a \$25,000 grant to support the establishment of a new Cancer Support Community Montana (CSCMT) chapter in Helena, expanding access to support for local cancer patients and their families. The grant was unanimously approved by the Foundation’s Board of Directors on September 17, 2024 and will be funded through the William and Pauline Allen Cancer Endowment Fund.

A ceremonial check presentation was recently held with representatives from both organizations. Pictured are Nate McCarthy, Chair of the St. Peter’s Health Foundation Board; Dr. Shelly Harkins, President of the Regional Medical Center and Chief Medical Officer; Kari Koehler, Chief Nursing Officer; Stephen Mason, Executive Vice President of the St. Peter’s Health Foundation; and Katie Barbee, Cancer Care Manager alongside CSCMT’s Development Manager Kashia Herring and several community advocates - Jena Sabatini, Theresa Vonada, Erin Karlin.

CSCMT leaders met with St. Peter’s Health executives and Cancer Care providers earlier this year to outline their plans for launching a Helena chapter, with the goal of expanding no-cost emotional and social support services such as support groups, counseling and health and wellness programs. The \$25,000 in annual operating support from the St. Peter’s Health Foundation will help lay the groundwork for this new presence in Helena.

This gift was made possible through the William and Pauline Allen Cancer Endowment Fund, established to support the excellence of cancer treatment services at St. Peter’s Health. It was Pauline Allen’s wish that her Trust be used to strengthen and sustain exceptional cancer care for the Helena community.

St. Peter’s Health Foundation – Mission Statement: St. Peter’s Health Foundation – inspiring a culture of giving that supports exceptional and compassionate care for our community’s health and well-being.

Cancer Support Community Montana – Mission Statement: To uplift and strengthen people impacted by cancer by providing support, fostering compassionate communities, and breaking down barriers to care.




Nominations Now Open for 2026 Montana Teacher of the Year

McKenna Gregg

Communications Director

HELENA -The Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is pleased to announce that nominations are now open for the 2026 Montana Teacher of the Year. This prestigious honor recognizes excellence in teaching and celebrates educators who are making a lasting difference in the lives of students across the state.

Each year, the Montana Teacher of the Year program honors a classroom teacher who embodies innovation, leadership, and dedication to student success. The selected teacher will serve as an ambassador for all Montana educators and will be considered for the National Teacher of the Year award.



OPI Superintendent  
Suzie Hedalen  
Photo Provided by Office  
of Public Instruction

"Montana’s teachers work hard for our students, and this is our opportunity to highlight and celebrate those who go above and beyond every day," said Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction. "We encourage students, parents, colleagues, and community members to nominate a deserving teacher who inspires and empowers others."

*Eligibility and Nomination*

Nominees must be currently certified and employed in a Montana school (public or accredited non-public) as a PreK–12 classroom teacher. Nominations can be submitted by anyone, including fellow educators, school leaders, parents, and students.

Nomination Deadline: June 13, 2025

Submit Nominations Online: [https://montanaopi.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2IWT9Qc5OW4QtzU](https://montanaopi.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2IWT9Qc5OW4QtzU)

The Montana Teacher of the Year will be announced this fall and will go on to represent the state in national events and professional development opportunities throughout 2026.

For more information about the program and to submit a nomination, visit <https://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Teacher-of-the-Year>.

Superintendent Susie Hedalen Applauds Signing of Hb 357

McKenna Gregg

Communications Director

*Superintendent Susie Hedalen Applauds Signing of HB 357, Expanding Career and Technical Education for Montana’s Middle Schools*

Helena, MT — Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction Susie Hedalen is celebrating the signing of House Bill 357 today as a significant step toward strengthening career and technical education (CTE) opportunities for middle school students across the state.

HB 357, sponsored by Representative Eric Tilleman, ensures dedicated funding for CTE programs in middle schools, empowering students with early exposure to career pathways in agriculture, business, health occupations, industrial technology, and family and consumer sciences. This investment helps Montana students build technical knowledge and hands on experience, laying the foundation for future success in high demand fields.


“I want to thank Representative Tilleman for his leadership in bringing this bill forward and the Montana Legislature for recognizing the importance of career and technical education at the middle school level,” said Superintendent Hedalen. “Montana faces a growing demand for skilled workers, and employers across the state are looking for professionals with both technical expertise and practical experience. HB 357 responds to this challenge by providing the resources necessary for schools to foster career exploration, reduce dropout rates, and connect classroom learning to real-world applications."

With the passage of this bill, the Office of Public Instruction will work to develop and implement guidelines for distributing funds to ensure schools can effectively expand their CTE offerings. Superintendent Hedalen emphasized the importance of this investment:

"The OPI team and educators across Montana are ready to build the bridge between education and industry. Sparking students’ interest and beginning the career exploration journey in middle school will help our students be engaged in their education and see their incredible opportunities for years to come! By supporting career and technical education in our middle schools, we are not only equipping students with the skills they need, but we are also strengthening Montana’s workforce, economy, and communities."

Broadwater County Commissioner's 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. Mail and items for discussion and/or signature may occur as time allows during the meeting. Issues and times are subject to change. Working meetings will be posted on the agenda and will not be recorded.

OFFICIAL agendas are posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting in the Courthouse (1st-floor bulletin board), on our website at [www.broadwatercountymt.gov](https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov), in the window of the Flynn Building, and in the local MT43 Newspaper when possible to meet the publishing deadline.

*Monday, May 19, 2025*

**10:00 AM** Working meeting with Bill Jarocki, County Administrative Officer, regarding projects and deadlines

*Wednesday, May 21, 2025*

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

**10:00 AM** Tracie Kiesel Broadwater County DUI Task Force Budget Presentation

**10:05AM** Discussion Bill Jarocki CAO, Budget 2026 process

**10:15 AM** Discussion, TJ Graveley, Public Works Director, Solid Waste Business Assessments

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 / Action / Review / Signature – Consent Agenda*

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

Debi Randolph, Vice Chair

(406) 266-9270 or (406) 980-2050

[drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:drandolph@broadwatercountymt.gov)

Jesse Swenson

(406) 266-9272 or (406) 980-1213

[jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:jswenson@broadwatercountymt.gov)

Lindsey Richtmyer, Chair

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

[lrlichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:lrlichtmyer@broadwatercountymt.gov)

E-mail: [commissioners@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto: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 May 19th at 3:00 PM
- County Parks and Recreation Meeting on May 19th at 6:00 PM
- Noxious Weed Board Meeting on May 20th at 7:00 PM
- Airport Board Meeting on May 21st at 6:00 PM

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

Sign up to receive county text message notifications! Text BCNOTIFY to 91896 or visit [broadwatercountymt.gov](https://www.broadwatercountymt.gov) and click on the TextMyGov icon on the home page

LETTERS to the EDITOR



Dear Editor:

Concise version: “I intended to write about a different topic, but recent events changed my mind.

President Trump posted a picture of himself as Pope on his social media during a mourning period for Pope Francis, highlighting the stark contrast between them. Pope Francis is known for his compassion toward immigrants and the poor. He lived modestly with seminarians, unlike the luxurious Vatican rooms.

I am concerned about a president who seems uncertain about upholding the constitution, despite taking an oath to do so. In an interview with NBC’s Meet the Press, Trump expressed uncertainty about the constitution, which has 23 amendments, though some focus only on the second one.

Sharon Obrigewitch

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QUEST EDITORIAL

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

More Democrats Means More Wins for Everyday Montanans

For the past four months, I’ve had the honor of serving as the Democratic Leader of 42 Democratic Representatives in the state Legislature. We’ve had some big wins, tough challenges, and opportunities to lay the groundwork for a more affordable Montana.



Rep. Katie Sullivan, House Minority Leader  
Photo Credit: Katie Sullivan

Faster than any session before, we passed legislation to renew our Medicaid program, and protect healthcare for tens of thousands of Montanans. House Bill 245 passed with bipartisan support, but without all forty-two Democrats voting “yes,” that bill would have failed. Now law, the Medicaid renewal bill will protect our rural health care centers, nursing homes, and hospitals, and ensure working families can continue to access health care. Democrats were proud to stand with our neighbors across the state to achieve this.

Democrats heard frequently from our constituents that the GOP’s rising property taxes have wreaked havoc on their livelihoods. The band-aid rebates that Republicans okayed in 2023 were a gimmick that failed to make a real dent in rising costs. Unfortunately, Republicans again spent much of our limited time this session on nonsense, highly partisan, conspiracy theory-driven bills. More divisive politics and more control over our lives is what Republicans dedicated the majority of their time to, not making life affordable.

At the 11th hour, thanks to the tireless work of Democratic lawmakers, we were able to deliver property tax relief. Senate Bill 542 and House Bill 231 together are a bipartisan package that will reduce property tax rates for primary homes and long-term rentals, with an initial first-year rebate of \$400 for all property owners.

Unfortunately, this relief package is not perfect. It requires an application, which could leave tens of thousands of Montanans out in the cold. It also relies on the goodwill of landlords to pass this relief onto renters, who make up a third of our state’s population. Over the next 18 months, Democrats will be holding the Governor accountable to make sure everyone who qualifies for property tax relief gets money back in their pocket.

Even though renters weren’t directly addressed in the property tax package, Democrats successfully passed a bill (HB 311) to make renting cheaper by requiring landlords to refund hundreds and sometimes thousands of dollars in unused rental application fees. We also pushed through real support for students, families, and teachers with bills that feed hungry kids (HB 551), recruit Native and rural educators from their local communities (HB 499), and keep good teachers in the classroom (HB 340). Now it’s up to the Governor to sign these bills.

Rep. Katie Sullivan, House Minority Leader  
Missoula



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Bernadette Swenson, PLS  
64 Jack Farm Road, Townsend, MT 59644  
406-266-4602 schaubersurvey@gmail.com

YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE

LOCAL EATS IN AND AROUND BROADWATER COUNTY

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

<b>American Legion Hall</b> 211 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-3611 Dining Hours: Tuesday Bingo/ Bowl & a Roll 5:00PM SPECIAL Event with Food: 3/22: 5PM Chili Cook-off!! Bar hours may vary	<b>Bunkhouse Bar &amp; Grill</b> 8846 US-287, Toston (406) 266-5302 SPECIAL: N/A Dining Hours: 10:00AM – Close Grill off at 10:00PM	<b>Commercial Bar</b> 101 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-9956 Dining Hours: 10:00AM - 2:00AM Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Menu available on Facebook	<b>Fishtale Tavern</b> 209 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-5582 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 11:00PM Daily Specials: Facebook Bar hours may vary	<b>Mountie Moose Bakery</b> 109 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-5800 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM - 4:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Online Ordering: Mountie-moose-bakery.square.site	<b>Peking China</b> 10 N Main St, Three Forks (406) 285-3225 Dining Hours: Mon - Sun 11:30AM - 8:30PM Menu: Google
<b>The Betsy Sports Zone</b> 217 Broadway, Townsend (406) 266-0001 Dining Hours: Tue-Sun 11:00AM-Close Closed Monday Takeout placed only in person. Menu: www.betsysportszone.com	<b>Canyon Ferry Brewing &amp; Taproom</b> 300 Broadway, Townsend (406) 694-5687 Hours: Wed - Fri. 4:00PM - Close Sat and Sun 2:00PM - Close	<b>Copy Cup</b> 303 N Front St, Townsend (406) 980-8400 Please call on business hours Drinks and Pastry Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 8:30AM - 2:00PM Closed Sunday	<b>Kick Start Nutrition</b> 500 N Front St, Townsend (406) 266-0033 Dining Hours: Tue - Fri 7:00AM - 3:00PM Sat 9:00AM - 3:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Daily Specials: Facebook & Instagram	<b>The Nook Coffeehouse</b> 401 Broadway, Townsend (406) 490-8238 Dining Hours: Mon 7:00AM - 5:00PM Tue - Thu 8:00AM - 5:00PM Fri - Sun 9:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: FB @thenookcoffeehouse & readingleaves.net/thenookcoffeehouse	<b>Rocky Mountain Supply Deli</b> 7847 US Hwy 287, Townsend (406) 266-3456 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
<b>Bread and Butter Cafe</b> 205 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3025 Dining Hours: Tue - Sat 7:00AM- 2:00PM Closed Sunday & Monday Menu available on Facebook	<b>C Hangin” C Mercantile &amp; Creamery</b> 310 S Front St, Townsend (406) 266-9087 Dining Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30AM - 7:00PM Sat 8:00AM - 7:00PM Sun 8:00AM - 5:00PM Menu: Facebook changinmerc.square.site	<b>Deep Creek Pizza Co.</b> 415 Broadway Ste 2, Townsend (406) 266-0002 Dining Hours: 11:00AM - 8:00 PM Closed Sunday Menu: deepcreekpizzaco.com Accepting Orders Online	<b>Mint Cafe</b> 305 Broadway St, Townsend (406) 266-3867 Dining Hours: Mon - Wed 8:00AM - 2:00 PM, Thur - Fri 8:00AM - 8:00PM Sat - Sun 7:00AM - 8:00PM SPECIAL: N/A	<div>YOUR BUSINESS LISTING HERE</div>	<b>TB’s Diner</b> 316 N Front St, Townsend, (406) 266-0099 Dining Hours: Mon- Sat 7:00AM - 8:00PM Sunday 7:00AM - 7:00PM Specials: Facebook

“Oh, boy, \_\_\_\_\_ !”

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!

Resolve  
MOALER  
Exile  
PETDRO  
Tempt  
TEENCI  
Bother  
PREEST

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: F equals B

SLWY IXCYS AT L BYKKQJTSY  
UYOCXBY BTOQTOLAXTS  
KTBLAYG XS FXOWXSIJLW’U  
UALAY: WTFXKY LKLFLWL.

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KNIGHT MOVES

E	M	O
N		C
I	C	O

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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Super Crossword

ROUGH JOURNEY AHEAD

ACROSS

1 Neighbor of Croatia  
7 Pakistan's largest city  
14 Rajiv or Indira  
20 For only the price of production  
21 Rarely used golf club  
22 Alevé rival  
23 Spectators' loud cheers  
25 Sizable sofas  
26 Angled  
27 Southeast Kansas city  
28 River islet  
30 Beginner's painting class  
31 Sousaphone, e.g.  
33 Loaf flavored with a certain fragrant herb  
39 Incorporates gradually  
43 Hitler Griffey  
44 Having a basic knowledge of arithmetic  
45 "The Wild Wild West" actor  
47 São — (largest of the Cape Verdes)

48 Actress Jessica  
49 — parmigiana  
50 Hi — image  
51 Golfer's peg  
54 Vote in favor  
55 Clarinetist Shaw  
58 Wander  
62 Temporary, as a committee  
63 Creator of Oz  
65 Neighbor of Croatia  
66 Acquiesce, figuratively  
71 Virgil epic  
72 Noted Deco master  
73 Paper opinion pieces  
74 Many a song by Journey or Chicago  
77 Eight x five  
78 Knight's title  
81 Suffix with journal  
82 Alley- —  
83 Flatware item  
85 Ho-hum thing  
86 Hurl  
89 Site-to-site transfer of data  
93 "Glass half full" attitude

96 JFK posting  
97 Deprived of parental care  
98 It's east of Croatan Sound  
101 "The devil — the details"  
102 Cure- — (panaceas)  
103 Alabama-to-Illinois dir.  
104 Per unit  
106 Pound pen  
110 Popular video-sharing service  
113 Apt thing to drive on while pondering this puzzle's theme?  
118 Villa  
119 Fine-food fan  
120 Turn to ice  
121 "Get —" (John Travolta film)  
122 Chooses  
123 Hurlled

DOWN

1 Fishhook part  
2 Siouan tribe member  
3 Read hastily  
4 The Rhine flows into it  
5 Thermal or lateral lead-in  
6 Initially  
7 Germany's Helmut  
8 Lend — (pay attention)  
9 — center (community facility)  
10 Make public  
11 —Magnon  
12 —I  
13 Darjeeling or pekoe  
14 Gallivant  
15 Darth Vader, in boyhood  
16 CNN political commentator Ana  
17 U.S. capital's vicinity  
18 Allude to  
19 Not al fresco  
24 Drink mixer  
29 Fact  
32 Atop, to poets  
34 Gumbo vegetable  
35 Fasten shut  
36 Terminus  
37 Vocalist Sumac  
38 Ask earnestly  
39 Ask earnestly  
40 Golf target

41 "SOS" band  
42 Tyro  
46 Born, on a society page  
50 Lively frolic  
51 Sousaphone, e.g.  
52 Oklahoma city  
53 Self-help writer LeShan  
55 Go off script  
56 Old Valerie Harper role  
57 "Mazel —!"  
58 Ill-mannered  
59 Up until now  
60 "I Am Woman" singer Helen  
61 Mined metals  
62 Supermodel Wek  
63 Minstrel poet  
64 Social insect  
66 Some antique autos  
67 In time past  
68 Gather in  
69 Depend on  
70 Mo. in spring  
71 Exist  
75 Unlace, e.g.  
76 Having vulgar interests  
77 To and —  
78 Imminently  
79 "Dies —" (hymn)

80 Comic Foxx  
83 Salty Greek cheese  
84 Neighbor of Yemen  
85 Boils a little  
86 Wild West sheriff's badge  
87 Med. plan  
88 Comic actor Mayall  
89 Minister's study: Abbr.  
90 "Love Story" novelist Segal  
91 Switch to second gear, maybe  
92 Chi preceder  
93 Speechifies  
94 Buff up  
95 Chat with  
100 John of lawn tractors  
105 Fruit drinks  
107 Vows  
108 Stare  
109 Stared at  
111 Ex-Giant Mel  
112 Lock go-with  
114 Crooner Damone  
115 Here, in Arles  
116 Fizzling thing  
117 Miracle- —

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Kids' Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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SENIOR CENTER



Sr. Center Meals:  
MAY 19 - MAY 23

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

Monday, May 19

Montana Pasties  
Broccoli and  
Cauliflower  
Tossed Salad with  
Beans  
Apricots

Tuesday, May 20

Birthday Dinner  
BBQ Pork Ribs  
Macaroni Salad  
Sweet Corn  
Pickled Beets

Baked Apples  
Birthday Cake

Wednesday, May 21

Hamburger on a Bun  
Carrot Coins  
Pea Salad  
Mandarin Oranges

Thursday, May 22

Turkey ALA King  
Steamed Potatoes  
Key Largo Vegetables  
Whole Grain Bread  
Golden Pears

Friday, May 23

Chicken Fried Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Whole Grain Bread  
Sweet Peaches

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



Common Sense

BY BILL GARWOOD

## Don’t Sweat the Small Stuff, and it’s All Small Stuff!

No more talk about weather, or lawns I promise.

We all try to talk down, anyone who looks “STRESSED”! Telling them it’s ok, to calm down and things will get better. And most times they will. Regular, daily life has its triggers (Geez, I hate saying "trigger" with all the drama nowadays). There are things in everyday life that are so SMALL, but they set us off at a moment’s notice. We call these things "Pet peeves" or just "annoyances".

At times this “small stuff” seems to gang up on us and, even though they are not important, it seems like life is saying, “Hey slow down, enjoy your life”. I am a definite carrier of momentary anger, and stress.

As I get older (this has lot to do with it) I drop things. Then in the middle of picking things up, I drop others. Then I growl, and scream! (No wonder the neighbors are always calling to find out if everything if ok or calling the cops.)

I am so much better than I used to be, now sometimes I just laugh and go one with my day. These things can upset us, and I know sometimes I feel like life is doing these things on purpose. My main failing is I move around too fast! (I’m sure the folks around town have noticed this.) I am learning to slow down. But at my advanced age (don’t say it) I don’t feel like I want to slow down that much. Hurrying can cause us to miss so much, cause us to stumble and cause ourselves trouble. The roses are out now, stop and snort a bunch.

Many folks I have known (I am one) are self-stressors, we cause ourselves stress. Try to find a hobby or relax more after work. I love sitting out on my front porch and watching the squirrels. (I never said I wouldn’t talk about squirrels.) Life is way too short to be stressed over the little things, even when we THINK they are not so small.

The Doctor’s and Pharmacy people want you to stress a bit; they have pills for that. Nature has all kinds of “anti-stress” medicine, taking care of your home, garden etc, reading, whatever it takes.

For the most part around here, you can sit outside and listen to the “quiet”. This is a beautiful thing. So many folks in cities would love to have our quiet town.

So go enjoy, relax and relieve your stress. When I get REALLY angry, I go chop wood. I had to stop for a bit, as I have filled my barn to the rafters! Tis the time of spring/summer. That means LAKE time. Fishing, drifting, tubing down the river. Drinking Beer...uh, I mean, having a beverage, as you watch nature go through her dance of spring.

Enjoy our area and relax!

OUR WALK IN FAITH



Elkhorn Community Fellowship

126 N Cedar St. Townsend

Pastor Eric Crusch (406) 949-0183

Sunday: 11:00am- Services

Wednesday: 4:00 - 5:30pm Team KID for K - 5th Grades | 6:00 - 7:30pm Youth Group for 6 - 12th Grades

Faith Baptist Church

5 Jack Farm Rd. Townsend

Pastor Mike 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) 465-5895

MountainValleyChurch.org

Sunday: 10:00am Services with Nursery, Kids and Youth Ministry

Last Thursday of the month: 6:30- 8:00pm The Rock Youth Ministry: K-3rd Grades and 4th-Senior High | Parent Bible Study

Livestream: Facebook.com/mountainValleyChurch406

Life groups meet weekly. Call for more information.

Radersburg Baptist Church

7 Main St. Radersburg

Special Service Pastors

Sunday: 9:45am Sunday School | 11:00am Worship

Set Free Christian Fellowship

318 Broadway St. 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

Pastor Ney Khut (269)-362-5768

Saturday: 9:30 Service | 10:30am 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: 8:30am Choir Practice | 9:30am Sacrament Meeting | 10:40am Sunday School

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

## Homelessness - is There a Solution

Father Cody Williams

Holy Cross Parish



Does homelessness have a solution?

The images of seas of tents stationed under a bridge or people with cardboard signs begging for food or money on an off-ramp dominate our image of homelessness. Too often we characterize homelessness, poverty, and lack of advantage as the person who is begging on the street corner.

Yet, homelessness is a rather complicated social issue with many underlying issues that create, sustain, and complicate efforts to limit or end homelessness. Often the way we understand the homeless is wrong.

Myth 1: The homeless are not willing to find a job. The National Institute for the Homeless estimates that around 53% of people living in shelters and 40% living without a shelter have employment. These employed people are homeless because their jobs do not provide sufficient income to afford housing.

Myth 2: The homeless are mentally ill and violent Yes, some of those who are homeless are mentally ill. Roughly 30-40% of those on the street are mentally ill because they do not want to be around people or are not mentally capable of caring for themselves but not ill enough for a hospital. Out of those who are mentally ill, few are violent since any form of violence would cause hospitalization or incarceration.



Where Good Enough Just Isn't Good Enough!

406-266-3110

7685 US Hwy 287, Townsend MT

topgunt3110@gmail.com

topgunautobodytownsend.com

Americanisms



“Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush.”

— Doug Larson

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

I JUST MET OUR NEW NEIGHBORS. THEY WANTED TO THANK US FOR MAKING THEIR PURCHASE PRICE SO AFFORDABLE.



**GRIN and BEAR IT**

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“The magic is gone? Well, let’s see if we can pull something out of the hat.”

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

PEOPLE FUZZY ON THE CONCEPT

I’VE HAD IT WITH THIS PLACE... I’M PUTTING IN MY TWO WEEKS NOTICE.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HEY GRANDPA, WHAT’S IT LIKE BEING SO OLD?

I GUESS I DON’T THINK OF MYSELF AS “OLD.” I STILL FEEL YOUNG AT HEART!

BUT DON’T YOU HAVE A PACEMAKER THINGY HELPING YOUR HEART?

OK, MAYBE THAT’S WHY.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

DO YOU LIKE “EYE” JOKES?

YES, I LOVE EYE JOKES...

...IN FACT, THE “CORNEA” THE BETTER.

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS **POPEYE**

BY RANDY MILHOLLAND

I FOUND SOMEONE TO TRAIN ME. EVER HEAR OF A GUY CALLED BATTLIN’ M’GNAT?

I KNOWS M’GNAT! HE’S A SWELL FELLA.

IS HE A GOOD TRAINER?

HE SURE IS A SWELL FELLA.

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS **"BUMMER SLAM"** PART 4

SO HIS NEPHEW HARDTACK WILL HAVE A HERO AGAIN. BRUTUS HAS PROMISED TO BE THE "VILLAIN" WRESTLER MACCHI MACHISMO DEFEATS TO REVIVE HIS CAREER. BRUTUS BEGINS HIS TRAINING TODAY...

BRUTUS, THIS IS BATTLIN’ M’GNAT, GENRAL COMBAK TRAINER!

HMM.

YA GOT AN UGLY, PUNCHABLE FACE.

MY MOM SAYS I’M HANDSOME.

WE AIN’T HERE T’ DISCUSS YER MA’S LYIN’. WE’RE HERE T’ MAKE YAS A PRO WRESTLER.

NOW, I CAN WORK WIT’ UGLY. FOLKS LOVE HATIN’ AN UGLY BRUTE. BUT WHAT ELSE YA GOT?

IS YA A TRAINED BOXER? KNOW MARTIAL ARTS? DO YOU ENFORCE FOR A LOAN SHARK WHO TARGETS POOR PUPPIES?

NOPE.

HAVE YA EVER WON A FIGHT?

YES, ONCE. BY ACCIDENT.

JEEZ, I DUNNO. IS THERE ANYTHING BOUT YA THAT SEZ YA GOT ANY BUSINESS IN A RING?

I’M THE YOUNGEST OF FOUR BROTHERS.

SO YER USED T’ TAKIN’ A BEATIN’! I CAN WORK WIT’ DAT!

**TIGER**

by BUD BLAKE

TAG!

YOU'RE IT, PUNKINHEAD!

TAG. YOU'RE IT!

**Medicare 101**

FREE: Educational Seminar

May 29th, 6pm -7pm

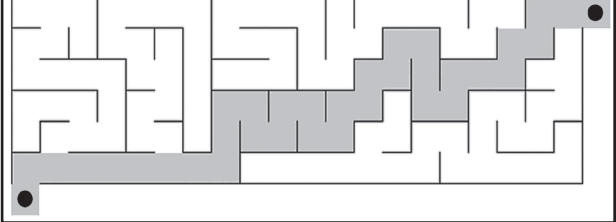
Lewis & Clark Library  
1205 Last Chance Gulch  
Helena, MT

RSVP  
406-438-7315 or  
mtleyland@yahoo.com

Turning 65? Get your Medicare Questions Answered!

Hospital Insurance  
Medical Insurance  
Medicare  
Prescription Drug Plans  
Medicare Advantage Plans

**Kids' Maze Solution**



We now offer Sponsorship Advertising!

Local Individuals and Businesses are invited to sponsor a local cause for a month!

**ONLY \$50!**

- Broadwater Senior Center: Service Available
- Townsend Cat Network: Cat of the Month

Call us at 406.266.0086  
Or stop in at 408 Broadway  
between 10-2 Mon-Fri

**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

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

**TIZER MEATS**

We're Here for All Your Slaughter Needs.

Call to Schedule 406-422-4822

2805 York Rd, Helena MT  
tizermeats.com

**Super Crossword**

Answers

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

**CryptoQuip**

answer

Name given to a cellphone service corporation located in Birmingham's state: Mobile Alabama.

**KNIGHT MOVES**

Answer

E	M	O
1		3
N		C
4		8
I	C	O
7	2	5
ECONOMIC		

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& HELENA OBITUARIES

Elmer Melton Jr

Family of Elmer Melton Jr

Elmer Franklin “Frank” Melton Jr. passed away from natural causes, surrounded by loved ones.



Elmer Melton Jr  
Photo Credits: Family of Elmer Melton Jr

He was born May 4, 1945, to Elmer Franklin “Bud” Melton and Shirley Hewitt in Portland, Oregon. That union produced three children Shirley, Frank, and Iola. When Frank was 6 years old, Bud married the love of his life, Rose Thrailkill. They became a family of five with Rose’s two children, Gary and Sharon.

Frank married Dixie Williams in 1966. The union produced three daughters, Tina, Michell (Ted), and Shannon (Richard). He then married the love of his life, Diana Ireland, in 1979. They had a combined family of eight children: Theresa, Deborah, Michael (Maria), Scott (Amber) and Heather (Danni), as well as Frank’s daughters. They had quite a houseful.

Frank enjoyed motorcycles and classic cars and took pride in his yard. He never turned down camping.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sister Iola, brother Gary, sister Sharon, and two grandsons.

He is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Diana, daughters Tina, Michell (Ted), and Shannon (Richard), stepchildren Theresa, Deborah, Michael (Maria), Scott (Amber), and Heather (Danni) and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

& HELENA AREA DEATHS

Linda Margaret Kralevich

Big Sky Cremations & Twitchell Funeral Service

1942 - 2025

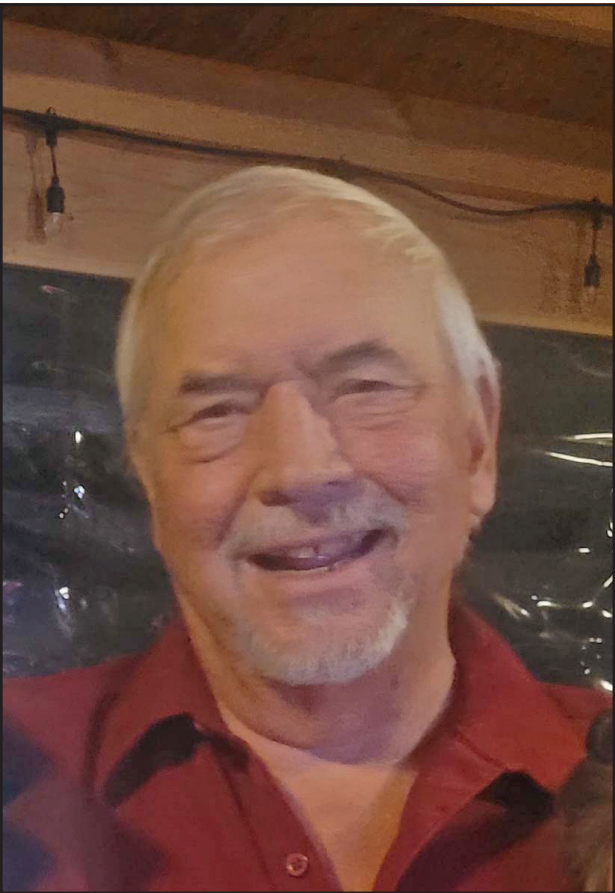
Linda Margaret Kralevich passed away on Wednesday, April 30, 2025.



Johnny J. “John” Siewert

Family of Johnny J. “John” Siewert

Johnny J. “John” Siewert, age 72, of East Helena August 8, 1952 – May 7, 2025



Johnny J. “John” Siewert  
Family of Johnny J. “John” Siewert

Johnny Junior “John” Siewert, age 72, of East Helena, passed away at his home in East Helena Wednesday, May 7, 2025. A memorial service celebrating John’s life is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Saturday, May 31, 2025, at Anderson Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home, 3750 N. Montana Avenue in Helena.

OBITUARIES

Carl Leo Sherwood

Family of Carl Leo Sherwood

April 3, 1952 - April 17, 2025

Carlton Leo Sherwood came into this earthly world on April 3, 1952. He was born to Edward "Cactus" and Anita Sherwood at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena, Montana.

He attended school in Townsend. As a youngster he had a few close friends that he hung out with doing fun stuff that boys do. He was a member of Cub Scouts where his mom was a Den Mother and a tough Taskmaster. He also played little league and was of course on the Yankees team and in their last year they won the league and were undefeated.

In 1960 the Sherwood family took a journey to upstate New York to visit grandparents and other extended relatives. While in New York Carl was able to attend a Yankees game at Yankee Stadium. This trip was also very notable as the family rode in their pink "Cactus Customized Hearse." It was quite the story around Townsend.

In Junior High he took up the sports of basketball and skiing. Carl was gifted at both and, following in the steps of his dad, he was a natural on the slopes. There were many family trips and days spent with friends skiing at Grassy Mountain.

During High school, he excelled at both academics and basketball. He earned very good grades and lettered twice in sports. He made many more friends and also developed a love for cars. Carl graduated from Broadwater County High School in 1970. He was notoriously known to his Classmates as "Woody". He was very proud to be a part of that group, many of whom are still very good friends.

After High School, Carl, along with others, attended UM in Missoula. College wasn't a fit for him and after a few quarters, he returned to Townsend. He and a few buddies then decided to give Idaho a try but they quickly returned to Montana. Then he went to work for Barry White Construction. He supervised the building of many Butler Steel structures around Broadwater County.

He also continued to spend summers playing Softball for the Mint Team and in winters enjoyed skiing trips to various slopes around Montana and Idaho. He and his friend Dan were roomies and lived out at the White Beaver Bar in Toston. It was THE place to be and now remains a historical landmark. Carl and Dan were there when the first fire destroyed the building and several other structures. They helped the then-owners (Marge and Jim Olsen and their children) get out of the burning house.

He moved back to Townsend and roomed with his friend Mike. In May of 1978 he married Pattijo Sayer in Townsend. Shortly after the newlyweds moved to Spokane and lived with Carl's brother Skip and his wife Chris. They were able to get established and purchased their first home with guidance from Skip who was a realtor at the time. Carl then went to work for Burlington Northern as a Linesman. During his tenure with the RR he and Pattijo were expecting their first child.

The railroad transferred the expecting family to Portland, Oregon where they stayed with Carl's Mom and sister, Marnie. Their son Joshua arrived on 11/5/1980. He also made a dear friend in Mike Soule and they routinely got together for haircuts until Mike's passing in 2024. After returning to Spokane the RR made cuts so Carl went to work for Cox Cable. While still enjoying the occasional ski trip he had a most unfortunate accident that kept him casted and laid up for nearly a year. During that time their daughter, Jessica, arrived on 6/25/1985.

Carl's work with Cox continued and he and Pattijo divorced in 1986. Eventually he was able to open his own Business, Customized Cable Services. For many years the business thrived but it was tough competing with the big corporations who monopolized the market. Carl eventually took a break from the thrill of skiing for the (supposedly) safer hobby of fishing. While fewer bones were at risk, some of Carl’s fishing tales suggest otherwise. He loved the sport and was again gifted for catching many salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and trout. He quickly recruited another friend, Eddie, to join in his reel-breaking expeditions. Together, they had numerous legendary fishing trips.

He also made several visits to Alaska to deep-sea fish with his friend Greg. In December of 1990, Carl married Tracy Allen. He continued to persevere with the business and they were able to build a beautiful home on 5 acres in Chattaroy, Washington. The two turned the place into a gardener's paradise. He enjoyed landscaping and anyone lucky enough to visit when the yard was in full bloom got a glimpse of Carl’s quiet artistry. The home became a place of many family gatherings, reunions, celebrations and Sherwood escapades, which aren't over just yet. In 2003, Carl and Tracy went their separate ways, but things moved forward with the business and life.

In 2004, Carl pulled one of his epic stunts when he arrived in a politically decorated car for his first date



Carl Leo Sherwood  
Photo Provided by Family of Carl Leo Sherwood

with Nancy Fike. Thankfully, she agreed to get in and they drove around Spokane, making several fun stops and collecting a full range of colorful gestures from fellow drivers. That night was the start of something special. Over the next 20+ years, the two shared many wonderful adventures and good times.

They enjoyed golfing in Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington and Mesquite, Nevada. Carl also rekindled his love of skiing and they spent many hours on the slopes at Big Sky, Montana, Big Mountain in Whitefish and 49 Degree North in Chewelah, WA. They shared a love of travel and visited Canada several times, Mexico, Bryce Canyon National Park, Disneyland, Washington DC, Boston and more.

One of their favorite adventures (especially Carl’s) was to Australia. They flew into Sydney and toured the city for several days and then drove up the coast to Brisbane stopping at several small fishing villages. Carl drove, which was a challenge because you drive on the other side of the road and needless to say roundabouts were a white knuckle.

A few years ago, they purchased a motorhome, which elevated their love for camping, especially on the Snake River. They fished, but Carl also built traps to catch crayfish and he once pulled out 50 crawdaddies in one swoop!

Somewhere in the middle (2018) Carl sold his business and officially retired, a milestone that brought him genuine joy and well-earned freedom.

There were many treasured trips to/from Montana with his kids, Josh and Jessica. They had special names for their favorite places and always visited The Silver Dollar Bar. Carl also had a deep love for his canine companions: Streaker, Clancy, Romeo and Jeter were his 4-legged soulmates. Music was also a big part of his life. He had a deep love for classic rock, tunes with soul and grit that included some twang.

His sense of humor, kind heart, integrity and fun-loving nature were contagious. If you were fortunate enough to call him a friend, no doubt you carry with you countless memories and stories — the kind that don’t fade, even with time. In those moments, Carl lives on; in the laughter he sparked and the adventures he inspired. Though Carl’s earthly time was unexpectedly cut short, the life he lived was full of love, laughter, family and friendships and unforgettable moments that will continue to echo in the hearts of those who loved him.

Carl was preceded in death by his father, Ed "Cactus" Sherwood, Mother, Anita Sherwood, Stepmother, Marjorie Sherwood and Stepfather, Ross Hood.

Carl is survived by his son Josh Sherwood, Coeur d' Alene, daughter Jessica Sherwood, Missoula, Sister Sydney Webb (Jim), Arizona, Brother Skip Sherwood of Spokane, Sister Leslie Skinner (Bernie) Pahrump Nevada, Sister Marnie Sherwood, Beaverton Oregon. As well as grandchildren Kelcee and Kingsley, nieces, nephews and a loyal circle of cherished friends.

*When the Yankees win and spirits rise,*

*Raise your glass up to the skies.*

*For Carl, who cheered with heart and grin,*

*Is watching still — and loves the win.*

A memorial service is planned for Sunday May 25th at noon in Spokane Valley at Center Place Regional Event Center located at 2426 N Discovery Pl.

There will be a celebration of life to follow, held at Carl's home, which he proudly built and retired in. To view and sign Carl's online guestbook, please visit [www.lauerfuneral.com](http://www.lauerfuneral.com).

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OBITUARIES

Frank O. Peters

Family of Frank O. Peters

November 14, 1956 — May 4, 2025

Franklin Oliver Peters Jr., 68, of Inverness, passed on May 4, 2025, at Logan Health Center in Chester, due to complications from an acute lung condition.



Frank O. Peters  
Photo Provided by Family of Frank O. Peters

Frank was born on November 14, 1956, in Townsend, Montana to Franklin Oliver Peters Sr. and Velma Ruth Campbell Peters. He joined his two siblings, Judith Ruth Peters and Lyle Gary Peters.

He grew up on Indian Creek in Townsend, where his childhood was full of adventure and deep roots—memories he cherished his whole life. He was especially close to his Grandma Campbell, Aunt Goldie, and many Campbell cousins.

Frank graduated from Broadwater County High School in 1975 and worked for several local farmers before finding steady work at the sawmill.

He later drove for Transystems and then spent over 25 years with Dick Irvin Inc. in Shelby. Frank made friends everywhere he went but the people he met through Dick Irvin became some of his favorites.

In 1977, Frank married Jody Pierce. Together, they welcomed two children, Julie Anne Peters and Damon Franklin Peters. From the day Julie was born, Frank’s greatest mission in life was to care for his children. He made sure they knew, without a doubt, that they were loved beyond measure, just because they were his.

In 1989, Frank married Shila Moog. They lived in East Helena until 2020, when they moved to Shila’s hometown of Inverness. Frank continued to summer on his place on Indian Creek, where he loved watching deer, rabbits, and whatever else wandered by.

Frank is survived by his wife, Shila; his daughter, Julie; his son, Damon; Damon’s fiancée, Vanessa Chance, along with their children, Abby, Amy, Jacob, and Cassie. He leaves behind his brother, Gary (Doreen) Peters, brother-in-law, Hardy Pottinger; former mother-in-law, Harriett Pierce; and his many beloved Moog in-laws, Rob (Mary Jane), Gary (Sherry), Daren, Mick (Janez), Sandra, Marlin (Solange), Grady, and Deanne (Brian); numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins, all whom he treasured.

He is preceded in death by his dad, Franklin Sr “Pete”, his mom, Ruth; sister, Judy Peters Pottinger; his former father-in-law, Leroy Pierce; his in-laws, Robert and Una Moog; brother-in-law, Bruce Moog; many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Memorial services will be held Monday, May 12, 2025 at 11:00 am at Trailhead Christian Fellowship Church in Townsend.

Ronald Irvin Mosness

Family of Ronald Irvin Mosness

Ronald Irvin Mosness was born November 25, 1947, in Livingston, Montana, to Rudolf and Alice (Clouse) Mosness.



Ronald Irvin Mosness  
Photo Provided by Family of Ronald Irvin Mosness

Ron and Linda, with their 5 children, lived in Bozeman for 21 years, where they spent time camping, hunting, fishing, and with resounding enthusiasm enjoyed many Bobcat football and basketball games. Ron also loved attending his children’s many different sporting events and school activities: football, basketball, baseball, bowling, soccer, tennis, horseshoe pitching, wrestling, band, and piano.

After Ron’s retirement in 2003, they moved to Helena, where Ron designed, and with help from their four sons at various times, built their dream home near Canyon Ferry Lake, where they lived for 16 years. In 2019, they moved to Townsend, where they still enjoyed a beautiful view of Canyon Ferry Lake.

Ron was diagnosed with progressive dementia, and on April 25th, he suffered a hemorrhagic stroke. He passed away 11 days later.

Ron is survived by Linda, his wife of 47 years; his 5 children & 8 grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Ray (Cindy); his sister, Pam (Steve); his mother-in-law, Roberta; his sisters-in-law, Sandy, Susan, Sally, JoLynn, their families, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Preceding Ron in death were his parents, his brother, Randy, and his brother-in-law, Jim.

His service will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 11:00, at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Helena. Memorials may be sent to St. Jude’s Hospital or Shriners Hospital.

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Featuring Rocky's Senior Companion Program!

RMDC

Rocky’s Senior Companion Program connects volunteers age 55+ with older adults who need a little extra support with day-to-day tasks. From sharing stories to lending a helping hand, these companions make it possible for folks to continue living independently in the comfort of their own homes.

Right now, 36 amazing volunteers are serving across seven counties—building friendships, brightening days, and making a real difference in our communities.

Catching up with our Senior Companions!  
At Rocky’s recent Volunteer Appreciation Party, three incredible Senior Companions shared what volunteering means to them—and reminded us just how powerful connection can be.

Shelli told us, “This program has been so rewarding! I feel happiest when I know my companions feel heard. On my days off, I miss it and look forward to going back.

Patricia shared how the program has changed her routine and her spirit: “Without this program, I probably wouldn’t leave my apartment. It gets me out into the sunshine.”

Rita, who has been with the program for eight years, said volunteering gave her purpose again after a health diagnosis forced her to retire. “I couldn’t handle just sitting at home. Now, I help one client get to church every Sunday, another to the library each week, and some I simply visit and spend time with.”

Their stories are a wonderful reminder that while our volunteers give their time, they receive just as much in return—friendship, fulfillment, and purpose.



Picture from left: Patricia, Shell, Senior Companion Program Director Kelley Moody, and Rita.  
Photo Provided by RMDC

**Senior Companion Volunteer Testimonial**  
“My name is Betty, and I’ve been a Senior Companion volunteer for nine years. I love being a lifeline for seniors facing loneliness. Over the years, I’ve seen amazing changes—clients who were once isolated now have routines, outings, and joy again. I help with rides to the store or doctor, or we just get ice cream and enjoy the park. Most of all, they want someone to talk to and laugh with. I’ve made lifelong friends through this work. Our seniors are our teachers, and it’s my duty to do what I can.” – Betty

*Interested in becoming a Senior Companion?*  
If you’re 55 or older and looking to make a difference, we’d love to hear from you. Call Kelley at 406-457-7325!

Learn more about volunteering with the Senior Companion Program by visiting us at: <https://mt-43news-business-services.com/mt43newsRouter/RMDCSeniorCompanion>

MAYO CLINIC  
CARE NETWORK

Member



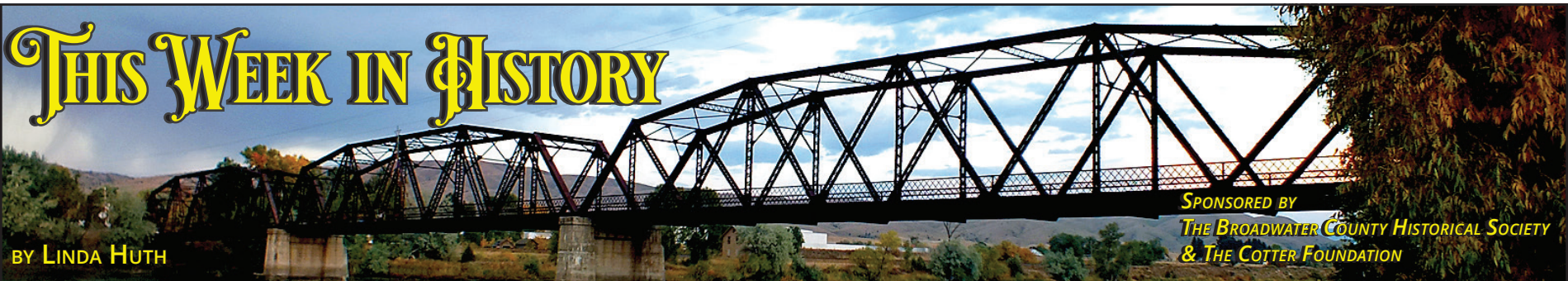
Community  
Health Fair & Bike Rodeo  
Saturday, May 31  
9 am - 12 pm  
Heritage Park

Please join us for  
health screenings,  
activities, vendors,  
food, and much more.

In collaboration with Broadwater County Public Health  
and the Rotary Club of Townsend

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May 15

1941

*Radersburg News*  
Mr. and Mrs. James Sitton of Helena motored to Radersburg Wednesday and were over night visitors at the home of his folks. Mr. and Mrs. John Sitton and with other relatives and friends here.  
Mrs. Jack Ralls of Radersburg, in company with her mother Mrs. Sam Aker of Townsend, motored to Helena on business Monday.  
Harold Casey and Eddie Burns of Helena were business visitors in Radersburg Sunday.  
The school picnic was held on Monday at the Ben Webb groves and a jolly good time was enjoyed by everyone who attended.

1958

*Dr. Frank Nash Honored at Dinner*  
Dr. Frank P. Nash was honored at a dinner Sunday evening given by his brothers, Don Nash, Murray Nash and Jack Nash, of Bozeman. Bob Branton acted as master of ceremonies. The Senior Ensemble under the direction of Mrs. James Ragen sang “Dry Bones” and “The Bells of St. Mary”. After the program, Dr. Nash was presented with a Charles Russel picture – the “Wagon Boss”.  
Guests were Governor J. Hugo Aronson and Mrs. Aronson of Helena, Dr. and Mrs. Wm. McElwee, Dr. and Mrs. W.E. Bertagnolli, Three Forks; Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Holland, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Branton, Dr. and Mrs. D.J. McKillican, Mrs. Elizabeth Nash, Miss

Joan Nash, Mr. and Mrs. James Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Don Nash and daughters, Sarah and Nancy, Mr. and Mrs. James Kearns and son, Bill, Mrs. Joe Davey, Mrs. James Ragen, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ragen, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Sautter, Dr. Frank Campbell, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Donahue of White Sulphur Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Sherwood and daughter, Sidney, Mrs. Frank P. Nash, Peter Nash, Dick Nash and Jack Nash.

1975

*Townsend News*  
Airman Brent Helmick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Troy C. Helmick has graduated at Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, from the U.S. Air Force Technical training course for autopilot repair specialists. Brent is being assigned to McChord AFB. He is a 1974 graduate of the Buckhannon-Upshur High School in Buckhannon, West Virginia.  
Jerry Kitto, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kitto of Toston, has received the American Veterinary Medical Association Women’s Auxiliary Award given by the Women’s Auxiliary to a student who has contributed the most to the prestige of the college of Veterinary Medicine on the Washington State University campus. He was chosen by the College of Veterinary Medicine faculty.  
Doris L. Arentt completed basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas on May 5, 1975, with outstanding achievement and recognition as honor graduate of her flight wing. Doris has been assigned to Chanute AFB, Illinois for specialized training in missile mechanics.  
Airman Matthew Meyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Meyer, has been selected for technical training in the

U.S. Air Force aircraft equipment maintenance field at Chanute A.F.B., Illinois. Matt recently completed training at Lackland A.F.B., Texas where he studied the Air Force Mission, organization and customs and received special instruction in human relations. Matt is a 1974 graduate of Broadwater County High School as is his wife, Arliss.

1997

*Around Town News*  
Sunday Pearl Barraugh and her daughters, Barbara Wogamon of Townsend and Norma Smith of Helena, traveled to Choteau to attend a party honoring Pearl’s sister-in-law, Virginia Vinatte, for her 80th birthday and Mother’s Day. Pearl’s son and daughter-in-law, Ron and Judy Barraugh of Helena also attended.  
Enjoying Mother’s Day dinner with Myrtle Geisser were her son and his family, Fred and Kristi Geisser, Scott, Sean, Sammi, Shad, Hannah and Skylar and her daughter, Susan Geisser.  
Chuck and Eleanor Holling took her mother, Alta Townsley, to the Fireside for the Mother’s Day buffet on Sunday.  
Sunday, Dick and Jean Buckingham were dinner guests at the home of their daughter and her family, Betsy Riley, Jessie and Josh.  
Weekend visitors with Mildred Neild were her daughters and sons-in-law Barbara and George O’Dore, and Phyllis and Bert English of Helena, Edwina and Monte Hankinson of Dillon and Marsha Iverson of Winnett. During their stay, they took advantage of the dry lakebed to look around their old homestead, submerged beneath Canyon Ferry Lake for more than 40 years.

**We saw this lovely fella’s hungry corporate representative just a few days ago. Just remember, you can use Sevin products against their eggs, Hi-Yield 38 Plus when they’re growing — but once they’ve donned the Armor of Evil, you need to use Tempo SC Ultra. And we carry all of them.**



Let’s Brand, Ya Reckon?

Denise Thompson  
MT43 News AG  
Correspondent



Spring Has Sprung! Farms and ranches are all a bustle! Locals are planting potatoes and grains, fertilizing crops, harnessing that precious water for the fields, finishing up calving, and working on miles and miles of fence in preparation for turning pairs out on that beautiful, priceless range grass.  
Before cattle can go to their mountain pastures, this year’s calf crop must be branded. Branding provides an important identification and proof of ownership. This permanent form of ID helps deter and identify stolen cattle, and serves as legal evidence of ownership, which is especially helpful on large operations and where

multiple owners share grazing lands.  
Brands assist with tracing lineage, health, and vaccination history and overall record keeping. Furthermore, there is a rich culture and long-standing tradition with branding in the American West. I venture to say, branding is one of the highlights of ranch life, ya reckon?!!  
A solid percentage of ranchers use a branding table or chute to brand their calves, as it generally requires less help, can be easier on the calf, and the owner can better regulate the care of each critter. One calf at a time is moved into the chute and secured by a head catch and squeeze. Then the chute/table is rolled, allowing the calf to lay on its side, so it can be branded in the appropriate location. Calves are then branded, frequently vaccinated, given an overall health check, and the boys (or bull calves) may be castrated at this time, as well. These bull calves now become steer calves, and will be

unable to reproduce, but will serve as a solid means of revenue for the rancher when he sells them and most of the heifer calves in the fall, or perhaps, decides to finish growing those steers to an ideal weight to butcher and sell to you, his faithful customer.  
There are still a number of ranchers, especially those on larger operations, who hold on tight to tradition and speed and savvy cowboys and cowgirls! They have ropers, mounted horseback, rope and drag calves to be branded, vaccinated and castrated. Castration can be done a number of ways, but the traditionalists generally cut the testicles out of the bull calves and serve these cuisine delicacies to their help once the work is done. If you have never eaten Rocky Mountain Oysters or ‘calf fries’ or ‘calf balls’ .... well, you are missing out, I reckon!  
*For the Love of Ag, From the Heart of a Western Woman, Denise Thompson*



Jyler Thompson dragging a calf to the fire, Spring 2025, on Cimmy's (4 year old draft cross) branding debut  
Photo Credits: Denise Thompson



Ranch Manager, Conway Bandy, branding a calf, Spring 2025, in SW Montana  
Photo Credits: Denise Thompson



Top Notch Branding Help, Circa 2020 (Cousins, Rosin, Myla, Cinch and Stetson)  
Photo Credits: Denise Thompson