

"We like it local!"

Just **\$1.00**

# Great Falls Gazette

**Mon**

Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sun

Super Sun

**Proudly made in Great Falls, MT**

Vol. 4, Issue 22 February 2nd, 2026



## Retired K9 Mika Receives Nine-year Service Crystal

**State** By Karen Anderson: February 1, 2026 - Boulder, Mt



Left to right Sergeant Kilpela, Mika, Lieutenant Colonel Kyle Hayter.  
Photo credit Montana Highway Patrol

Retired K9 Mika from the Montana Highway Patrol received her nine-year service crystal on January 29th. She received the award from Lieutenant Colonel Kyle Hayter. Sergeant Kilpela accepted the award on her behalf and took the crystal home for Mika. K9 Mika retired from the Montana Highway Patrol last September and is now enjoying retirement with Sergeant Kilpela and his family.

## Great Falls Police Department Conducts Alcohol Compliance Operation

**City** By Karen Anderson: February 1, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt

On January 29th, the Great Falls Police Department conducted a compliance check of 58 businesses that sell alcohol within the city limits of Great Falls. The purpose of the operation is to ensure liquor license holders are working to prevent the sale of alcohol to purchasers under the age of 21.

The establishments are chosen randomly by the State of Montana, with checks supported by STOP (Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking) Act funds provided by Alliance for

Youth Substance Abuse Prevention stakeholders. Since the inception of mandatory alcohol server training in the State of Montana, there has been a dramatic decrease in illegal sales of alcohol to persons under 21 years of age.

During the compliance operation, volunteers were 19 or 20 years old and possessed a valid legal identification card or driver's license. The volunteers showed their identification cards to every server or seller who asked to see them.

*(Continued on page 2)*



**Your source for local news and information**

Table of Contents on page 2

**Alcohol Compliance Checks**

GREAT FALLS POLICE

Helping deter the sale of alcohol to community members under 21 years of age

# Great Falls Gazette®

A Foxys Publishing Co Paper  
1601 2nd Ave N  
Great Falls, MT 59401-3288

Email: [info@gfgazette.com](mailto:info@gfgazette.com)  
General Phone  
(406) 952-3021  
Fax  
(406) 604-0423  
<https://gfgazette.com>

Great Falls Gazette  
(Print ISSN: 2993-6950, Online ISSN: 2993-6969) is publishing semi-weekly by Foxys Publishing Co, 1601 2nd Ave N, Suite 345, Great Falls, MT 59401. Application to Mail at Periodicals Prices is Pending at Great Falls, MT. POSTMASTER Send address changes to Great Falls Gazette, 1601 2nd Ave N, Suite 345, Great Falls, MT 59401-3288



Unless otherwise noted all stories are copyright of Foxys Publishing Co ©2023,2024, all rights reserved. Great Falls Gazette is registered trademark of Foxys Publishing Co, All rights reserved

Editor: Karen Anderson  
Publisher: Andy Anderson

Subscription coupon is located on page 3

## City

### Alcohol Compliance Operation (Continued from page 1)

Of the 58 establishments, all were open, and an attempt to purchase alcohol was made. Fifty of the businesses passed, while eight failed, resulting in a success rate of 82%. This success rate is consistent with that of the previous compliance check conducted on January 22, 2025, where 82% also passed.

The businesses and employees who successfully passed deserve well-earned congratulations for their diligence in preventing alcohol sales to underage purchasers. The employees who sold alcohol to the underage buyers were issued a citation for violating MCA 16-3-301 (Unlawful Sales/Transfer to a Person under 21 years of age), a misdemeanor. See the list of businesses below.

#### Establishments in Violation

Pizza Hut #201 - 1518 10th Ave S  
Stadium Sports Bar - 1121 5th St S  
La Cocina - 1709 Alder Dr  
Jaker's Steak - 1500 10th Ave S  
Joe's Place - 1220 9th St S  
Tasty Hot Pot - 215 3rd St NW  
Hideout Lounge & Casino - 2401 12th Ave S  
Kellergeist - 111 Central Ave

#### Establishments in Compliance

5 Cent Casino - 211 NW Bypass  
Emerald City Casino - 528 Smelter Ave NE  
On Your Way Conoco - 3601 10th Ave S  
Albertson's - 2250 10th Ave S  
Fat Tuesdays' - 817 10th Ave S  
Players Casino - 4305 10th Ave S  
Benchmark State Liquor Store - 1100 20th St S  
Flamingo - 3028 10th Ave S  
Poppy's Mini Mart - 606 15th St S  
Big John's Casino - 2323 11th Ave S

Gold's West Tavern - 1819 3rd St NW  
Snits - 619 Central Ave  
Big Sky Supermarket - 701 1st Ave M  
Holiday - 1428 3rd St NW  
The Do Bar - 1800 3rd St NW  
Bobo's Casino - 5603 9th Ave S  
Holiday West Casino - 1520 3rd St NW  
The Palace Casino - 626 10th Ave S  
Buffalo Nickel Casino - 41 Division Rd  
Johnny's Bar and Casino - 1400 10th Ave N  
Town Pump - 1400 10th Ave S  
Buffalo Wild Wings - 117 NW Bypass  
Keith's Country Store - 1621 10th Ave S  
Town Pump - 1411 10th Ave S  
Circle K - 1601 Fox Farm Rd  
Kernaghan's Pik&Pump - 1507 8th Ave N  
Town Pump - 3715 31st St SW  
Classic 50's Casino - 1802 14th St SW  
Kobe Seafood and Steakhouse - 115 3rd St NW  
Town Pump - 401 10th Ave S  
Conoco Noon's - 5600 3rd Ave S  
Little's Lanes - 517 1st Ave N  
Town Pump - 501 NW Bypass  
Crown Lounge - 1820 10th Ave S  
Lucky Charm Casino - 4810 2nd Ave N  
Town Pump - 700 10th Ave S  
Crystal Casino - 1200 10th Ave S  
Lucky Lil's Casino - 3715 31st St SW  
Vintage Sellers - 105 Smelter Ave NW  
Crystal Casino - 906 14th St S  
Mighty Mo Brew Pub - 412 Central Ave  
Walgreens - 2301 10th Ave S  
CVS Pharmacy - 201 10th Ave S  
MT 41 Casino - 1020 17th St S  
Walmart Supercenter - 5230 10th Ave S  
Double Down Casino - 605 2nd Ave NW  
Noon's Sinclair - 1300 12th Ave S  
Whiskey Falls - 721 6th St SW  
Emerald City Casino - 2517 10th Ave S  
Noon's Sinclair Dinomart - 3200 10th Ave S

<b>Celebrations</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Living</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>City</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Market</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>CrimeStoppers</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Obituaries</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Fun-E-Pages</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Sports</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Legal</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Weather</b>	<b>10</b>

# Sports

## GF Americans News Update: Hannesson and Clouse selected to play for Team White at the 2026 Top Prospects Tournament in February

By Kevin Scott: January 30, 2026 - Dallas, Tx



The North American 3 Hockey League (NA3HL) has announced the rosters and tournament schedule for the 2026 Top Prospects Tournament that will be held on Monday and Tuesday, February 16-17, 2026, at the USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, Michigan.

The two-day annual Top Prospects Tournament (TPT) in conjunction with the North American Hockey League (NAHL) Top Prospects Tournament returns to Michigan's USA Hockey Arena and features the best uncommitted 80 players (four

teams with 20 players each) in the NA3HL. Each team is represented by all six divisions (Central, East, Frontier, South, Southeast, West) and features 12 forwards, 6 defensemen, and two goaltenders on each of the four teams. The four TPT teams (Team Red, Team Gold, Team Black, and Team White) will play one game each day. The selected players must have been nominated by their respective head coaches.

The NA3HL standings were frozen on Sunday, January 18th, with teams seeded within their divisions based on win percentage. The number of players that each NA3HL squad will send to the tournament is determined by their winning percentage within their respective division.

The NA3HL Top Prospects Tournament, one of the most highly scouted events with many junior and college scouts in attendance, is another great example of the

cooperative relationship and ladder of development between the NA3HL and NAHL. The fact remains that when it comes to Tier III junior leagues, no other league has had more movement and advanced more players onto play in the NAHL than the NA3HL. Through the NAHL's vast resources for development and exposure, like the annual Top Prospects Tournament, the NA3HL provides a worthy path for players to grow on and off the ice, while being highlighted in front of the entire junior, college, and professional scouting community.

The NA3HL is in its 16th season in 2025-26 and serves as one of the top training grounds in the country by providing the best coaching, exposure, and developmental vehicles available for student-athletes in Tier III junior hockey. It is one of only two USA Hockey-sanctioned Tier III junior leagues.

*(Continued on page 4)*

### Subscribe to the best little paper in Montana today!

Delivery

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this order form and your check to:  
The Great Falls Gazette  
1601 2nd Ave North, Ste 345  
Great Falls, MT 59401

Monthly Subscriptions (pick 1):

- Full Week (Sun - Fri) \$26
- SuperSunday \$7
- Digital \$5

Yearly Subscriptions (pick 1):

- Full Week (Sun - Fri) \$290
- SuperSunday \$80
- Digital \$60

Need help? Call (406) 604-0323  
and we will help get you setup!

We offer many term lengths, product combinations and alternate delivery methods.

# Living

## Pet Paw-See Animal Spotlight - Spyder

By Lisa Hudecek, Pet Paw-See: February 1, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt

Spyder's story began when she was found on someone's porch, unable to see the world around her because her eyes were matted shut. Even then, she never lost her curiosity, so she reached out with tiny paws, trusting that help would come.

Now safe and thriving in a foster home, Spyder is proving just how strong and sweet she is. Her personality is shining, and she's discovering all the joys she missed, from soft blankets to gentle chin scratches.

Spyder will thrive with a family who can give her love and care. Because she is still young and learning about the world, we are asking for no adopters with children under the age of six for the safety of both Spyder and little ones.

If you're ready to cheer on a fighter and watch her blossom into the confident, playful cat she's meant to be, Spyder is waiting to meet you!



Photo credit Pet Paw-See





## Happy Groundhog Day

## GF Americans News Update (Continued from page 3)

No other league of its kind has had more movement and advanced more players onto play in the North American Hockey League (NAHL) than the NA3HL. Thanks to additional and enhanced initiatives in cooperation with the NAHL put in place several years ago, more players from the NA3HL play, practice, and earn NCAA Division I scholarships with the NAHL than any other league.

The Great Falls Americans will be represented by defenseman Fisher Hannesson and forward Cooper Clouse playing on Team White with other Frontier Division members and three players from the East Division's Binghamton (NY) Buzz. Hannesson and Clouse are both from Fargo, North Dakota, and are

in their second season with Great Falls.

"We are excited that Cooper and Fisher will be representing us at our Top Prospect event," said Great Falls Americans Head Coach Greg Sears. "Both guys are having excellent seasons and have had a huge impact in our success the last two seasons."

The Frontier Division will have a total of 17 players (and three from the East Division's Binghamton (NY) Buzz) representing Team White competing in the "all-star-like" event. In addition to Hannesson and Clouse from the Americans, the Sheridan (WY) Hawks (Dante Hunziker, Vincent Leaf, and Deagan Watson) and the

Helena Bighorns (Chase Berg, Austin Uecker, and Cade Feinstein) each had three selections each. The Bozeman Ice Dogs (Devin Bruns and Andrew Kaunas), Yellowstone (WY) Quake (Shayne Smith and Tagen Stout), Gillette (WY) Wild (Riley Schmidt, Andrew Knox), and Badlands (SD) Sabres (Dayton Niedert and Gaven Marx) each had two selections, while the Butte Irish had one selection in Jack Whitelaw.

The Binghamton (NY) Buzz players will be playing with the Team White, and they include Theo Fritz, Keegan, and Dalton Elliott.

The coaches for the TPT teams will be announced at a later date.



**Pick up your issue of  
The Great Falls  
Gazette  
in Great Falls at:**

**- The Great Falls Gazette  
Office**

(1601 2nd Ave N)

\* **Public Drug Co**

(324 Central Ave)

\* **Schulte's 38th Street  
Store and Coffee House**

(3800 3rd Ave S)

\* **Everyday IGA**

(2505 6th Ave N)

- **Keith's Country Store**

(1621 10th Ave S)

- **Sinclair**

(3200 10th Ave S)

\* **Sinclair**

(1300 12th Ave S)

\*\* **Conoco**

(5600 3rd Ave S)

\*\* **Conoco**

(1608 Fox Farm Rd)

\* **Conoco**

(3601 10th Ave S)

- **Circle K**

(601 NW Bypass)

- **The Little Store**

(5435 Lower River Road)

- **Foot of the Cross  
Christian Store**

(1200 10th Ave S. Suite  
30F)

\*\***Circle K**

(1020 15th St N)

\* **Location carries  
Super Sunday**

\*\* **Location carries  
Sunday only**

**You can start your  
digital or print  
subscription today by  
visiting us online at  
<https://gfgazette.com>  
or call (406) 604-0323.**

## Trouble finding a pet-friendly apartment? You're not alone



**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I've been struggling to find an apartment that will accept pets. I have a parakeet named "Bert" and a big mutt of a dog named "Georgie," and while some landlords are OK with a bird, they all draw the line at dogs. My current lease is not being renewed, and I only have a few weeks left to find a place. Why do so many landlords not allow pets? I'm so frustrated. -- Cary in Waltham, Massachusetts

**DEAR CARY:** Trying to find a rental property in or near a major city that accepts pets is a tough slog. Why has it become so? A number of factors are at play, but they all add up to the same thing: Landlords don't want the liability and maintenance issues that they assume pets cause in rental properties.

This attitude caused pet deposits to skyrocket -- \$300 to \$500 per pet in some cases -- and "pet rent" (additional fees each month from \$35 to over \$100) to become a thing at many properties. Other landlords simply banned pets altogether, making an exception only for service animals. For renters who aren't able to come up with the extra fees, the choices they have are stark: Either try to find another place, or give up their pets in order to find housing. This has hit elderly renters especially hard, and their beloved pets frequently end up in shelters.

What solutions are there? Short term, not many. There are still some deluded folks who ask, "Why don't pet owners just buy their own house?" But most of us know the answer to that. In Massachusetts, the MSPCA (Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) is supporting two pet-friendly housing bills, but any change will be slow to arrive.

Send your tips, comments or questions to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com).

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



**Do you have a story you  
would like to tell?  
Email us at [info@gfgazette.com](mailto:info@gfgazette.com)  
or call us at (406) 952-3021  
and we will help you get the word out.**

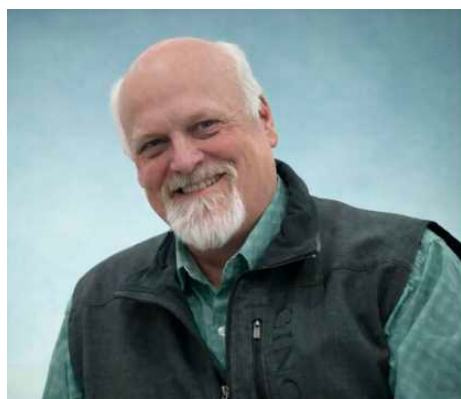
**DIAMOND PAINTING**  
Interior & Exterior Painting  
Residential & Commercial Painting  
Licensed & Insured  
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE  
**406-799-6755**

# Obituaries

## Obituary of Gary Deschenes

Gary Steven Deschenes, of Ulm, Montana, passed away unexpectedly on January 10, 2026, a loss felt deeply by all who knew him.

Gary was born April 10, 1962, in New Britain, Connecticut, and was the son of Hank and Barbara (Taber) Deschenes. Although the family had been living in Cascade, Montana since 1960, Barbara returned to her hometown of New Britain for Gary's arrival, then returned to Cascade, Montana where Gary was raised with his brother, Brett Deschenes. In 1964, the family settled in Missoula, Montana.



Gary graduated from Sentinel High School in Missoula in 1980. He received a full-tuition livestock judging scholarship to Casper Community College in Wyoming, where he earned an associate degree in Agricultural Business in 1982. While at Casper College, he earned numerous awards as a member of the livestock judging team. It was there that he met the

love of his life, Therasa, whom he married in 1981.

Gary continued his education at Montana State University in Bozeman, graduating in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business and a minor in Economics. With his wife and young daughter, Bryanna (born in 1983), Gary returned to Missoula to attend the University of Montana School of Law, graduating in 1987 with his Juris Doctor Degree.

While in law school, Gary worked for the Missoula County Attorney's Office supervising legal interns, and during his senior year served as a legal intern with the law firm of Harrison & Torgenrud. Upon graduation, he accepted a position with Alexander & Baucus in Great Falls, Montana, where he practiced primarily bankruptcy and commercial law. In 1988, he welcomed his second daughter, Nichole.

Gary was appointed a Bankruptcy Panel Trustee in 1989, a role he held for 20 years until 2009. In 1990, he opened his own practice, Deschenes Law Office, becoming one of the youngest attorneys in Great Falls to achieve such professional success. In 1993, he welcomed his son, Colt, completing his family.

From 2003 to 2013, Gary partnered with Joseph Sullivan to form Deschenes & Sullivan Law Office. Following the conclusion of that partnership, Gary continued his independent practice, known now as Deschenes & Associates Law

Office. Under this firm, Gary carried forward his long-standing commitment to serving clients throughout Montana with integrity, dedication, and compassion. In 2023, Zach Duhon joined the firm—an addition Gary was immensely proud of—as Gary took great pride in mentoring the next generation of attorneys.

Over the course of his 39-year legal career, Gary filed well over 800 bankruptcy petitions with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Montana—recognizing that digital records reflect only the last 30 years of his practice—along with countless state court matters. Gary had numerous Chapter 11 and Chapter 12 cases that were successfully filed and confirmed. Gary dedicated his professional life to helping others, always striving to provide compassionate legal assistance to those in need with an emphasis on helping Montana's Farmers and Ranchers.

Outside of his law practice, Gary was an avid outdoorsman, hunter, and traveler. He enjoyed memorable hunts in Montana, Colorado, Alaska, Texas and Michigan, with his most notable international hunts taking place in Canada, Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, and numerous trips to Africa. His most treasured adventures were those shared with his wife and children. Gary also enjoyed shooting skeet and trap, riding his Harley, and exploring Montana's backcountry in his side-by-side with a wide circle of friends. Wherever he went, Gary

*(Continued on page 7)*

**Obituary and death notices are a difficult fact of life.**

**They are a reminder of those we have loved and lost.**

**The Great Falls Gazette does not require payment for submission of local obituaries or death notices, however, you are welcome to donate to our many programs to help people in our community to receive newspapers that they can enjoy. To submit an obituary or death notice, email them to [info@gfgazette.com](mailto:info@gfgazette.com) or call us at (406) 952-3021**

## Obituary of Gary Deschenes

*(Continued from page 6)*

made lasting friendships and was known as the life of the party—bringing laughter, warmth, and unforgettable stories.

Gary maintained a small cattle operation that provided his children with a meaningful upbringing rooted in responsibility, hard work, and a love of animals. His affection for animals was unmistakable, especially in the devotion he showed to his dogs.

Above all else, Gary was an amazing father, an exceptional grandfather, and a devoted husband. He was immensely proud of his children and the remarkable adults they have become.

Gary was preceded in death by his brother, Brett Deschenes, and his

parents, Hank and Barbara (Taber) Deschenes. He is survived by his loving wife, Therasa Deschenes; his children, Bryanna Richards (Robert), Nichole Hruska (Lee), and Colt Deschenes (Emily); his cherished grandchildren, Lyrach Hruska, Elliot Deschenes and Raylee Deschenes; and his loyal Aussie, R.I.P. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, and cousins, as well as his cherished Aunt Shirley Deschenes.

Gary's dedication, generosity, and zest for life live on through the countless memories shared with his family, friends, colleagues, and clients—many of whom he considered family. His warmth, wisdom, and genuine care for others will be deeply missed and forever remembered. It is difficult to sum up a life so full and so well lived in just a few short paragraphs. Gary was truly larger

than life, and his legacy continues in the family, friendships, and countless lives he touched every single day.

A memorial service to celebrate Gary's life will be held on February 28, 2026, at Schnider Funeral Home at 11:00 a.m., with a private reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made in Gary's name to the Cascade County 4-H extension office to establish a scholarship assisting young, up-and-coming 4-H/FFA agricultural enthusiasts – an opportunity Gary deeply valued. Condolences for the family may be submitted at [www.SchniderFuneralHome.com](http://www.SchniderFuneralHome.com).



## Obituary of Gloria Jean Johnson

In Loving Memory of Gloria Jean Johnson January 4, 1942- January 27, 2026

Gloria Jean Johnson passed away peacefully on January 27, 2026, at the age of 84, in Great Falls, MT, surrounded by family.



Jean was born in Havre, Montana to George Lambott and Melissa Grigsby on January 4, 1942. She attended school in Rudyard, Montana and graduated in 1960. While in high school Jean was a cheerleader, head of the twirling squad, water frolics court at Tiber Dam, Rainbow girl, among many other positions in her class. Jean married Duane Johnson in Bonner's Ferry, Idaho in 1960. She and Duane lived on the Johnson farm until purchasing a house in Joplin, MT. Jean and Duane owned the Joplin Café for many years. She was a member of the Lutheran Church in Joplin where she was part of a quilting group. Jean was a fabulous cook, seamstress and mother.

Jean and Duane had three children, Bret Andrew, Cari Jo, and Dana Rae; 5 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Jean had two sisters, Ginger (Barry) Morrison, Crystle (Vernon) Patrick and three brothers, Louis (Wilma) Lambott, Ronnie Lambott, and Gary Lambott.

She has preceded in death by her dad, George Lambott; mom, Melissa Grigsby Lambott; brothers, Louie, Ronnie, and Gary and her husband and love of her life, Duane Johnson.

She is survived by her children, Bret (Trish) Johnson of Great Falls, Cari (Fred) Fenger of Sweet Grass Hills, and Dana (John) Knudsen of Minnesota; sisters, Ginger Morrison of Yuma, AZ and Crystle (Vernon) Patrick of Chico, CA; grandchildren, Dylan Johnson, Darwyn Johnson, Brad Fenger, Erin Fenger and James Knudsen; and great-grandchildren, Kason, and Holden Johnson, Cody Johnson, Hunter and Addisyn Fenger; and several nieces and nephews.

Condolences for the family can be submitted to [www.SchniderFuneralHome.com](http://www.SchniderFuneralHome.com).



## Wishing Well®

8	7	8	3	4	6	2	6	2	7	4	2	6
H	L	A	S	I	V	S	A	P	O	N	E	R
7	8	3	5	4	6	5	6	4	3	4	6	5
V	V	T	U	C	I	S	E	O	R	M	T	E
7	8	4	5	8	3	6	5	2	4	5	8	3
E	E	E	C	F	E	Y	O	C	A	M	I	S
6	4	5	3	2	5	4	2	4	5	6	4	5
I	U	M	S	I	O	G	A	M	N	S	E	S
2	5	8	4	2	5	6	8	7	3	4	2	8
L	E	R	N	E	N	Y	M	E	R	T	V	W
4	7	6	7	8	3	6	2	7	5	7	8	5
E	N	O	D	I	E	U	E	U	S	R	L	E
3	7	8	6	3	4	2	7	6	3	2	3	3
D	E	L	R	U	D	N	S	S	C	T	E	D

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

©2026 King Features Syndicate

## MAGIC MAZE ● SEA SHELL TYPES

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: **Angelic Musical Instrument**

- |         |        |        |           |
|---------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Abalone | Conch  | Fig    | Melongina |
| Auger   | Cone   | Frog   | Nautilus  |
| Babylon | Cowrie | Helmet | Umbonium  |
| Bonnet  | Drupe  | Limpet |           |

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Puzzle answers can be found on page 11.

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

OK, SON, JUST PICK OUT YOUR FAVORITE LURE AND WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN GET A BITE TODAY.

ALRIGHT, HERE WE GO. DROP IT DOWN THE HOLE.

NOW WE WAIT. THOSE FISH SHOULD COME ALONG AND SNATCH IT UP!

SERIOUSLY? PAINTED PLASTIC, FULL OF HOOKS, AND YOUR ISSUE IS IF IT HAS GLUTEN?

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

# Foxys Market

## Vehicles

Parts for sale

### Hoods for sale

80's Dodge Pickup hood, \$50.00  
80's Mustang hood, \$100.00  
Call 406-452-1121

## For Sale

Events

### Whitehall Gun Show

Whitehall Community Center  
11 North Division  
Whitehall Montana

Friday, February 13th 1p - 6p  
Saturday, February 14th 9a - 6p  
Sunday, February 16th 9a - 3p

\$5 for the weekend, kids under 15 free  
with adults.  
Mark (406) 868-9185  
Jan (406) 788-6104

Place your ad in Foxys Market! The first 30 words are only \$7.50, and 15¢ per word thereafter for a limited time!  
Include a picture for just \$1.50 each (some limitations apply)  
Ads run all week long in Foxys Publishing Papers.  
One price for six days of publication!  
Clean out the closets and get some money for it!  
Call (406) 604-8929 and ask for Ad Sales for more information!

***You have a voice! Is something happening around town, the county, the state, or maybe something you read in this paper make you want to speak up? There is a way! Send in a letter to the editor! Tell us how you feel, include your name and either email or phone number (we only print your initials unless you're an elected official, and we never print your contact info!) and we'll get how you feel out there. Email to [letters@gfgazette.com](mailto:letters@gfgazette.com) or mail to 1601 2nd Ave N, #345, Great Falls, MT 59401***



***Subscribe to the Great Falls Gazette today by calling us at (406) 604-0323.***

\* "Keep cats indoors during very cold weather. They are particularly vulnerable to freezing. If you can leave the curtains drawn on a window where Kitty can look outside and sunbathe, she probably will be happy." -- M.R. in Washington

the overnight temperature dips, cats know to find someplace that is wind-shielded and off the ground, and sometimes, that means they will climb up into your engine area to hunker down. If your car starts, they can be hurt or even killed. Give the hood a knock to let a cat know to get out quick.

\* If you keep birds, a reminder: Never preheat pans on high heat, especially nonstick pans. They can let off a chemical that you or I cannot even detect, but can be a health hazard for your bird friend that is in the kitchen area. Don't keep birds in the kitchen when cooking.



\* This is some good advice given to me by my grandmother if you have lots of outdoor or feral cats in your area: Start your car with a bang -- on the hood, that is. When

\* Pet paws need extra care in the cold months, especially dogs that must be walked in icy and snowy conditions. Here's a great tip from Y.L. in New York: "I keep a small towel with me on my daily dog walks, but I also wash off my dog's paws with a warm washcloth when we return. Another thing I do is to rub petroleum jelly into her pads once a day. They really take a beating having to go out three times a day in salty, muddy, cold conditions. She won't wear doggie booties, so this works best for us."

\* Spread a teaspoon of peanut butter thinly on a paper plate, then when the dog is busy with his treat, you can trim his nails. Or sometimes just having it nearby as a promised treat can do the trick to distract your pet. Good luck!  
Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 1800 Pembroke Dr., Suite 300, Orlando, FL 32810.

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

# Local Weather For Great Falls

NWS Forecast for: Cascade County below 5000ft  
Issued by: National Weather Service Great Falls, MT  
Last Update: [1:12 pm MST Feb 1, 2026]

**Monday** Sunny, with a high near 54. West wind 14 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Monday Night** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. Southwest wind 10 to 14 mph, with gusts as high as 22 mph.

**Tuesday** Mostly sunny, with a high near 55. West northwest wind 8 to 10 mph.

**Tuesday Night** Partly cloudy, with a low around 34. West northwest wind 5 to 7 mph becoming south southwest in the evening.

**Wednesday** Partly sunny, with a high near 65. Southwest wind 9 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph.

**Wednesday Night** Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. Southwest wind 8 to 13 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

**Thursday** Sunny, with a high near 68.

**Thursday Night** Mostly clear, with a low around 32.

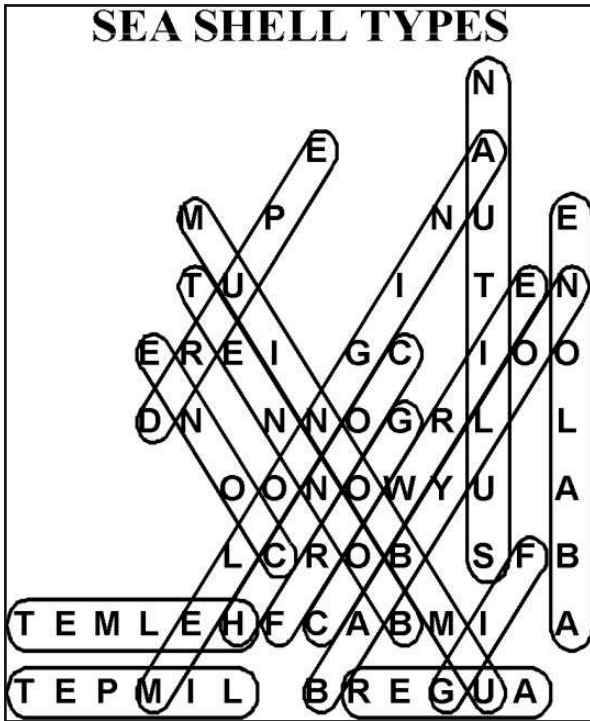
**Keep an eye on the weather all week long, you can get a monthly subscription to Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday of the Gazette for about the price of three large lattes!**



*The Johnson Brothers*  
*Winter Gospel Concert*  
February 15th, 2026  
Potluck Dinner 5pm  
Concert 6pm  
St John's 9th Ave South  
Great Falls, Montana  
*Free Family Event!*



*Celebrations is a great way to say "Happy Birthday", "Happy Anniversary", "Congratulations", or other positive messages to share with the whole city. It's a great way to be positive in a challenging world; it's fun, and it's FREE! You can even include a small (tastefully fun) photo! Just email [info@gfgazette.com](mailto:info@gfgazette.com) or call 406 952-3021, and we'll get the positive word out.*



**Civilized letters to the editor may be sent to [letters@gfgazette.com](mailto:letters@gfgazette.com) or mailed to Letter To The Editor, 1601 2nd Ave N, Suite 345, Great Falls, MT 59401. Letters must include name (we print first name, last initial), hometown, and either a phone number or email address. Letters that attack others, are patently untrue, or are of a harmful nature WILL be rejected!**



# CrimeStoppers Most Wanted



Donate to CrimeStoppers here

Great Falls/Cascade County Crimestoppers, the Great Falls Police Department, and the Cascade County Sheriff's Office make every effort to keep the Most Wanted list current. We cannot guarantee the currency of the information. If you have reason to believe that any of the information contained on the list is inaccurate, call the Cascade County Sheriff's Office at (406) 454-6820 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

If you have any information to report, please call (406) 727-8477 (TIPS) or go to [P3TIPS.COM](http://P3TIPS.COM) (For a situation in progress, call 911). All callers remain anonymous and a reward can be paid for tips leading to an arrest. Help keep our community safe by sharing this information.



**Rainingbird, Joshua David:** 43 yoa, Native American male, 6'0", 160#, brown eyes, black hair, wanted on: failure to register as a violent offender, felony. Total bond \$10,000.

## The Gazette is Looking for Freelance Writers

Excellent opportunity to make extra money on the side.

Help your community by reporting news and events!

Work at your own pace.

Earn \$5-\$100 per week, working at home!

Contact us for more information (406) 952-3021

# Careers @ Great Falls Gazette

## **Drivers:**

**The Gazette has openings for Gig (1099 contract) delivery drivers.**

- Pick your own schedule and routes.
- Able to try a few routes without long term commitment. At will drivers have more limited route options but may resign with only 3 days notice. You can make sure it will work before agreeing to a longer term commitment! You can pick anywhere from 1 to 6 days every week!
- Flexible pay, options to get paid every other week, every week, or even every day, let us know how you need to be paid! Get paid by company check or cash. Note payout affects per item fee!
- Pick routes you would enjoy. Both in town and rural routes available.
- All you need is a legal vehicle, drivers license and be over the age of 18.
- Gig workers have first option at other jobs at the Gazette.
- We respect seniority as well as understanding that for most, this is a side hustle. We work with you to get routes that let you make extra cash and still keep your "day job"

## **Office assistant(Hire):**

**The Gazette has openings for regular hire Office assistant**

- Must be proficient with computers. We will train on specialized, software, and help the right candidate to become a notary public!
- Candidate should be able to run most office software as well and use a computer properly. Will work with computerized order systems, business phone system, filing, story copywriting/reporting, customer service, light inside sales, and product ordering and fulfillment.
- Minimum of 15 hours per week. At times you may be offered additional hours. Our office opens at 8am, Generally we prefer people who work in the afternoon.
- Gig workers have first option at other jobs at the Gazette.
- Successful candidate must have a positive personality.

**Call (406) 952-3021 for more info about these jobs!**