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Vol. 4, Issue 24 February 4th, 2026

Governor Gianforte Discusses Support for Montana Agriculture

City By Kaitlin Timken: February 3, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt



Gov. Gianforte (left) speaking with MABA President Tanner Hoversland (right) during the MABA annual convention in Great Falls. Photo credit Office of the Governor

Governor Gianforte recently addressed members of the Montana Agricultural Business Association (MABA) and Montana Grain Elevator Association at their annual convention, discussing his support for Montana's agriculture industry and understanding of the challenges it faces.

"In Montana, agriculture drives our economy and sustains our rural communities," Gov. Gianforte said. "By cutting taxes, creating more job opportunities, and opening new markets, we are building a stronger future for our producers, workers, and families."

During the annual convention held in Great Falls, the governor joined MABA President Tanner Hoversland to discuss his priorities for continuing to reduce taxes in Montana, including raising the exemption on the Business Equipment Tax, which applies to equipment such as

(Continued on page 2)

Great Falls Police Department Welcomes New Officer

City By Karen Anderson: February 3, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt

Great Falls' newest police officer, Calvin Greiff, was sworn in on February 3rd as GFPD Badge #404 by the Honorable Mark Dunn and Chief of Police Jeff Newton.

Officer Greiff is eager to serve and protect the Great Falls community, with the goal of making an immediate and lasting contribution to the police department.

Calvin Greiff was born in Billings, Montana, and graduated from high school in Bozeman. He is a U.S. Army veteran and attended Montana State University in Billings, where he earned a degree in Criminal Justice from Liberty University. Before joining the Great Falls Police Department, he was employed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Havre Police Department.



Photo credit Great Falls Police Department

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is located on page 3

City

Montana Agriculture (Continued from page 1)

tractors, combines, and machinery used by farms, ranches, and other Montana businesses.

Since taking office, Gov. Gianforte has raised the exemption threshold from \$100,000 to \$300,000, and again in 2023 to \$1 million, providing relief to thousands of Montana businesses and producers. In 2025, the governor proposed raising the exemption to \$3 million to provide additional relief, and ultimately, the legislature did not advance the proposal.

"Montana producers and small businesses work hard to grow their operations and create jobs," Gov. Gianforte said. "Raising the Business Equipment Tax exemption helps them reinvest in their equipment, expand their businesses, and strengthen our rural communities. I look forward to making progress on this in the upcoming session."

The fireside chat also highlighted the 406 Jobs Initiative, Gov. Gianforte's plan to address workforce shortages and connect Montanans with in-demand jobs across industries, including agriculture. The initiative is focused on increasing work-based learning and apprenticeships to grow a skilled workforce.

"The 406 Jobs Initiative helps ensure Montana has the skilled workforce our farmers and ranchers need," the governor said. "From field operations to processing and logistics, this program connects Montanans with good-paying jobs while supporting the backbone of our rural communities."

Gov. Gianforte also discussed Montana's trade priorities, including highlighting recent strategic missions to South Korea and Japan. He emphasized the importance of ports and infrastructure improvements in moving Montana products to global markets and highlighted examples of producers already accessing new customers overseas.

"Connecting Montana products to global markets is critical for our farmers and ranchers," the governor said. "By improving infrastructure and strengthening trade partnerships, we can grow Montana agriculture and create more opportunities for workers right here at home."

The annual convention brought together agricultural retailers, grain elevator operators, and other industry professionals from across Montana for education, policy discussions, and networking.



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Celebrations



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 or call 406 952-3021, and we'll get the positive word out.



Happy heavenly birthday to my baby Carmello Ray. Thank for being my forever angel, I think of you every day. You may be gone but you're forever in my heart. Love always and forever Mama



Happy birthday to my daughter Sunny Ray. I hope your day is fabulous. I love you! love always Mom

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(406) 952-3021

1601 2nd Ave North, Suite 342
Great Falls, MT 59401



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!

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 or mail to 1601 2nd Ave N, #345, Great Falls, MT 59401

In The Morning

By Mike Foster

You rise up in the morning
Like a rose that has nine lives
Turn into a carnation
When the rose inside you dies

You don't need to be a beauty
Or a dresser who brings out sighs
What you want is sweet tenderness
A man whose poems make you cry

I'm here to sing you poetry
To hold you through your darkest nights
To make you laugh when all seems lost
And give you hope that you're alright

Try to hold on til the morning
As I write this out with your tears
You have always been most worthy
Of a life with love all these years



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News, Events, and stories focused on
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Gazette is committed to our home!



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Living

Fur-Ever Love - Biscuit

By Joseph Parchen, City of Great Falls Animal Shelter: January 26, 2026 - Great Falls, Mt

A Quiet Beginning, a Forever Love:
Meet Biscuit

Biscuit is the kind of cat who reminds you that the best moments often begin quietly. When you first meet her, she watches from a safe distance, taking everything in with soft, bashful eyes. But give her a little time and a gentle touch, and something wonderful happens. The purrs start. Her body relaxes. And suddenly, Biscuit is leaning in, eager to share her affection with the person who made her feel secure.

Just over a year old, this beautiful black cat has a tender, hopeful spirit. She's chatty in the sweetest way, responding to kindness with gentle conversation and an unmistakable desire to be close. Biscuit doesn't

demand attention; instead, she offers it sincerely once she knows she's safe, creating a bond that feels meaningful and earned.

Biscuit is ready to trade shelter days for cozy nights, warm cuddles, and a home where patience and love are freely given. She's looking for someone who will choose her, understanding that her shy beginning leads to a deeply affectionate heart. For the person who gives her that chance, Biscuit promises a lifetime of quiet companionship and soft, steady love.

Adoption Application: <https://gfmt.link/gfasapp>

Available dogs and cats: <https://gfmt.link/gfasadopt>



Obituaries

Obituary of Vickie Greenwood

In Loving Memory of Vickie Greenwood

November 7, 1952 - January 23, 2026



Vickie Greenwood, 73, of Great Falls, Montana, passed away on January 23, 2026.

Vickie was a devoted and loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend whose warmth, kindness, and generosity left a lasting impression on everyone she met. She deeply loved her family and friends and was always quick to help those in need. A true social butterfly, she thrived on connection and took great joy in making others smile.

She found peace and happiness outdoors and especially loved hummingbirds, camping, hunting, and fishing. Vickie was also incredibly creative and crafty, always crocheting, making diamond art cards and pictures, and enthusiastically planning her next project or crafting get-together. Her creativity was just one of the many ways she shared her love with those around her. Vickie will forever be remembered

for her generous heart, joyful spirit, and the love she gave so freely. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Vickie is survived by her daughters, granddaughters, great-grandchildren, and many loving family members. A private family service will be held at a later date. Condolences for the family may be shared online at www.OConnorFuneralHome.com.

A message from the family:

We are incredibly grateful for the love, prayers, and memories shared in remembrance of Vickie. Knowing how deeply she was loved and the joy she brought to others brings our family comfort. We ask that she be remembered for the love she gave so freely.


O'Connor

Obituary of Ann Elizabeth Charleboix

Ann Elizabeth Charleboix, age 74, of Eubank, KY, passed away on Sunday, February 1, 2026, at Cumberland Nursing and Rehab.

Ann was born on May 13, 1951, in Spokane, WA, to the late Gerald Gough and Bonnie Jean Kromm Gough. She worked at Benefis Hospital in Great Falls, Montana, for 35 years. Ann enjoyed hunting and fishing and had moved to Kentucky with her husband four years ago.

She is survived by her husband, Howard Frederick Charleboix, whom she married on April 30, 2014, in Springfield, MO; one brother, Mike Gough of Washington State; two sisters, Hilary (Bill)

Searels of Arvada, CO, and Pamela Gough (Mike Smith) of Washington State.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

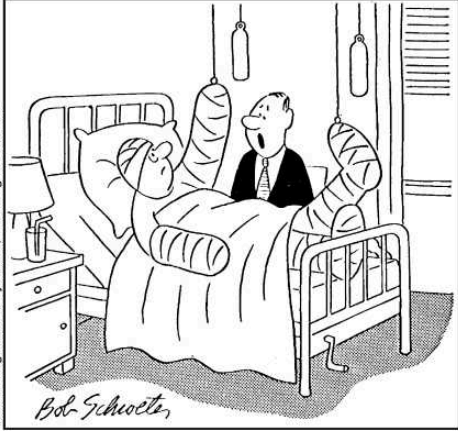
A graveside service will be held on Friday, February 6, 2026, at Mill Springs National Cemetery.

You are welcome to view the obituary and send condolences to the family at our website: www.LakeCumberlandFuneralService.com

Lake Cumberland Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements for Ann Charleboix.



Obituary and death notices are a difficult fact of life. They are a reminder of those we have loved and lost. To submit an obituary or death notice, email them to info@gfgazette.com or call us at (406) 952-3021



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!

Plan
DANAGE

Cache
RHOAD

Glow
LEGAM

Brisk
DRAIP

TODAY'S WORD



STICKELLERS ^(sic)

by Terry Stickels

What is the last number in this logical number sequence?

45 99 198 1089 10890 20691 ?

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAXR
 is **LONGFELLOW**

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

GSJ ZBCZWFJ WH YPHJ PF
 GW OPFMWAJC XWBC EPHG.
 GSJ NJDQPQE WH YPHJ PF
 GW EPAJ PG DUDX.

— ODAPO APFMWGG

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Puzzle answers can be found on page 9.

Foxys Market

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80's Dodge Pickup hood, \$50.00
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Whitehall Montana

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

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Local Weather For Great Falls

NWS Forecast for: Cascade County below 5000ft
Issued by: National Weather Service Great Falls, MT
Last Update: [9:48 am MST Feb 3, 2026]

Wednesday Mostly sunny, with a high near 65. Southwest wind 10 to 18 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Wednesday Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 40. Southwest wind 9 to 11 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Sunny, with a high near 71. Southwest wind around 11 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday Night Mostly clear, with a low around 31. South southwest wind 3 to 7 mph.

Friday Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. Light south southwest wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph in the morning.

Friday Night Mostly clear, with a low around 33. Southwest wind 7 to 10 mph.

Saturday Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.

Saturday Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 38.

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!

Stickelers Answer

The answer is 40293. Take each number, reverse it and add it to itself to get the next number: $45 + 54 = 99$. $99 + 99 = 198$. $198 + 891 = 1089$. $1089 + 9801 = 10890$. Repeat these steps and you will arrive at 40293.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Agenda; 2. Hoard;
3. Gleam; 4. Rapid

Today's Word

LADDER

CryptoQuote

answer

The purpose of life is to discover your gift. The meaning of life is to give it away.
— David Viscott

The Great Falls Gazette strives to recycle. If you would like to help reduce waste, you can save your newspaper bags when you receive your paper, and place them on your door to be picked up at your next delivery.



CrimeStoppers Most Wanted



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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 (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.



Bearhill, Michael James Jr: 34 yoa, Native American male, 6'0", 180#, brown eyes, brown hair, wanted on: 2 warrants, violation of bail conditions on theft - 1st offense, felony, attempted deceptive practices - 1st offense, misdemeanor, and failure to give notice of change of address by sexual or violent offender, felony. Total bond \$20,000.

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

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- 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!