

Fire Season

- Karen McIlwain



Photo Courtesy of Foxy's Photography 7-26-2016 Great Falls Vineyard Fire

Four new large fires were reported as of July 17th, one each in Arizona, California, New Mexico and Oregon. Nationally, 24 large fires have burned 136,061 acres in seven states. Since January, 27,303 wildfires have burned 777,732 acres across the United States. These numbers are below the 10-year average of 31,079 wildfires and 3,108,771 acres burned.

The United States continues to support fire suppression efforts in Canada. As of Friday, July 14, the U.S. has mobilized a total of 1,898 personnel to Canada including fire suppression crews (1,366 personnel), 184 individual overhead, 119 smokejumpers and 11 smokejumper spotters, and 14 incident management teams (218 personnel).

The National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC), which tracks federal wildland firefighting efforts across the United States, reported that there have been no significant wildfires in Montana through July 18. Other areas of the U.S. including Arizona and New Mexico have already had fires exceeding 50,000 acres.

Wildfire conditions across Montana have been fortunate so far, but heat waves can change that rapidly. This spring, the heavy moisture has led to green, tall grasses. But the flip side is that when those tall grasses dry out from excessive heat, there are more fuels for a wildfire to burn.

With very hot temperatures

reported across many states, it is important for everyone to do their part to prevent wildfires. The national average of human-caused wildfires comprises 87 percent of all wildfire occurrences every year.

Dragging trailer safety chains can create sparks and start wildfires. Ensure the chains are attached correctly. The chains should be crossed under the hitch to form an x. There should be at least 5 inches between the chains and the pavement. If the chains are too long, you can twist them a few times to shorten them.

Low moisture, windy days combined with debris burning is a great recipe for wild fires. Burning is a great way to clear dead vegetation

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Rocking K9 Companions

- Karen McIlwain



Prairie Krause grew up on Meadows Ranch, outside of Choteau, MT. She learned early on the importance of border collies to their cattle operation.

Prairie took her border collie, Mesa, to Bozeman in 2007 and they began puppy classes as soon as possible. Mesa and Prairie were educated in puppy and adolescent foundation, agility, freestyle, and many more classes. Prairie assisted in some of these classes including CGC classes and hiking classes. She then pursued the opportunity to continue to train on her own, believing

all dog owners should be given humane instruction on training their companions.

Prairie successfully completed her CPDT Certification, is a Member of the APDT Association, is an AKC CGC Certifier and S.T.A.R Puppy Evaluator. "Teaching your dog to do what you like and want is similar to teaching English as a Second Language," she explained, "Having a dog is a

big responsibility and can be so much fun and rewarding if you begin socializing your partner as soon as you can. Our classes are geared to give you tools to train your puppy or older dog to live successfully and safely with you in our human world. We believe that training is something you should do with your dog in order to build a successful, lifelong partnership."

Continued on page 2

The Augusta Breeze

K9 Companions *(Continued from page 1)*

Rocking Canine Companions offers group classes and private lessons, which are offered at their facility or can be done in your own home.

Classes include:
Puppy and Intermediate Foundation
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Horn Hunting

C.G.C.
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If you would like more information, visit www.RockingK9.com,

contact Prairie at pkrause@rockingk9.com or 406-570-8559.

Augusta Pool Hours

July 17th - July 31st
Monday - Sunday 12:30 - 5:00
Night Swim: Monday - Thursday 6:00 - 8:00
Water Aerobics: Wednesday 6:00 pm



Latigo & Lace Artist Showcase

- Karen McIlwain



Photos courtesy of Christi Levine

This issue's artist is Vonnie Gardner. Vonnie was born and raised in Kalispell, and lives just outside of Kalispell in Creston, Montana.

Vonnie is known for painted vases she did years ago which some of them can still be found today. These were glass vases that she painted the interior of, but quit

making those and moved on to oil painting.

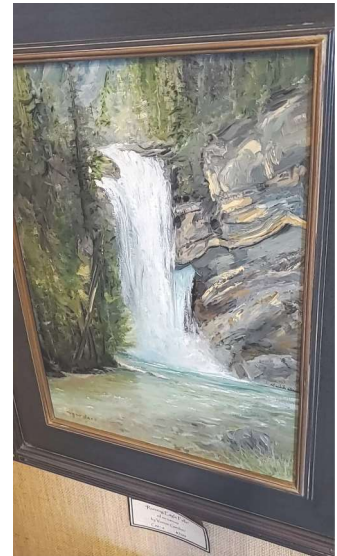
Vonnie has been painting with oil paints for seven years now. "I always wanted to paint and so I picked it up and I started doing it," she explained. "I took One set of lessons from a woman up at Whitefish. It was every Saturday for a month, and that was the only lessons I ever took."

Vonnie loves painting with oil paints, with Glacier park being her favorite subject. "I Love the outdoors, I think God's creation is awesome. I used to do some photography and I think maybe that helps somewhat with colors and hues and values and that sort of thing because I see More than just one-dimensional."

"It's been very challenging, but it's been a delight to be able to put on canvas the

things that I see in creation. I never considered myself an artist, I don't know quite how it came together, but it did. It was always hard work for me, and I'm still painting but it's more of a wintertime thing for me, when I have time to just enjoy the quiet and not much else going on," concluded Vonnie.

To see her work and many others, stop by Latigo & Lace and mention you saw them in The Augusta Breeze.



Artist Showcase proudly sponsored by **Latigo & Lace**



Fire Season

- Karen McIlwain

and clean up. Before you burn, however, take the necessary precautions to ensure your burn does not become the next wildfire.

Whether in the backyard or back-country, campfires are an essential form of outdoor recreation. However, they are also one of the leading causes of wildfire. Use an established fire ring, and clear away all combustible

material from outside the ring. Never leave a fire unattended. When you are finished, drown your campfire with water and feel to make sure it is cold to the touch. A fire is not considered to be out until you can safely touch it with your hand.

Lawn and farm equipment-caused wildfires are common during dry seasons,

just one small spark can ignite dry grass. For example, a lawnmower blade that strikes a rock can send a shower of sparks into dry vegetation.

Get an early start! Start clearing grass and vegetation before 10:00 a.m. After 10:00 a.m., temperatures rise, humidity drops and winds increase.

Prior to mowing or disking, walk the area and remove rocks and debris. A rock or large debris hidden in tall grass could ignite a fire if struck by a metal blade.

Keep a cell phone, plenty of water, a shovel and a fire extinguisher with you in the event a fire starts.

If a fire starts, call 9-1-1 immediately!

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FWP - Bear Awareness

RECENT GRIZZLY BEAR SIGHTINGS HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF BEAR AWARENESS

HELENA – This year Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has confirmed grizzly bear sightings in several places where grizzlies haven't been seen in recent years, and in some cases more than a century.

Grizzly bear numbers and range continue to expand, particularly in areas between the Northern Continental Divide and the Great Yellowstone ecosystems.

Over the last couple of months, FWP staff have confirmed grizzly bear sightings in the North Hills and Grizzly Gulch areas near Helena, the Elkhorn Mountains near Clancy, near Ulm, in the Pryor Mountains southeast of Billings, the Shields Valley, Little Belt Mountains, near the Judith

River east of Denton, and on the lower Dearborn River.

“Vigilance is important for those who live and recreate in the outdoors,” said Quentin Kujala, chief of conservation policy for FWP. “This is a busy time of year for bears and our field staff are responding to calls in these particular areas and across the state.”

As the grizzly bear population continues to expand across Montana, residents can take the following steps to help protect their property and be safe while recreating.

How to avoid attracting bears to your property

Store garbage in an IGBC-certified bear resistant bin or other similarly resistant building or container at all times until the day of disposal.

Avoid leaving food or smell attractants next to windows, doors or outside walls.

Do not leave out pet food, bird feeders and bird seed or BBQ's.

Bears are attracted to fruit-bearing trees and bushes, gardens and compost piles. Electric fencing can be effective at deterring bears as well as routinely picking fallen and ripe fruit.

Secure vulnerable livestock (chickens, goats, sheep) with an electric fence whenever possible.

Tips for recreating in bear country

Carry bear spray close at hand and know how to use it.

Travel in groups whenever possible and plan to be back to your vehicle in the daylight hours.

Avoid carcass sites and concentrations of ravens and other scavengers.

Watch for signs of bears such as bear scat, diggings, torn-up logs and turned over rocks, and partly consumed animal carcasses.

Make noise, especially near streams or in thick forest where hearing and visibility is limited. This can be the key to avoiding encounters. Most bears will avoid humans when they know humans are present.

Don't approach a bear.

-fwp-



Post your event or special day announcement. Call, write, email or connect via our web site and we'll help you get the word out!

Great Falls Gazette

- Karen McIlwain

Foxy's Publishing Co (Foxy's) is branching out once again. We are proud to announce we are starting a new paper for the Great Falls area called The Great Falls Gazette which will mean an even larger audience.

Foxy's produces 2

newspapers, The Augusta Breeze and The Great Falls Gazette, which are community based papers, with the belief that news and information should be readily available and free for the reader. We are locally owned with roots in Lewis and Clark, Teton, and Cascade counties.

Foxy's believes in viral distribution which means you are welcome to forward your copy of The Augusta Breeze and The Great Falls Gazette to family and friends. Our papers are advertising supported, which means we don't charge our readers. Of course because of this we do ask that you

visit our advertisers and let them know that you saw their ad in our publication.

The Augusta Breeze is distributed on Tuesdays and our new Great Falls Gazette will be delivered on Fridays with its first issue coming out August 4th.

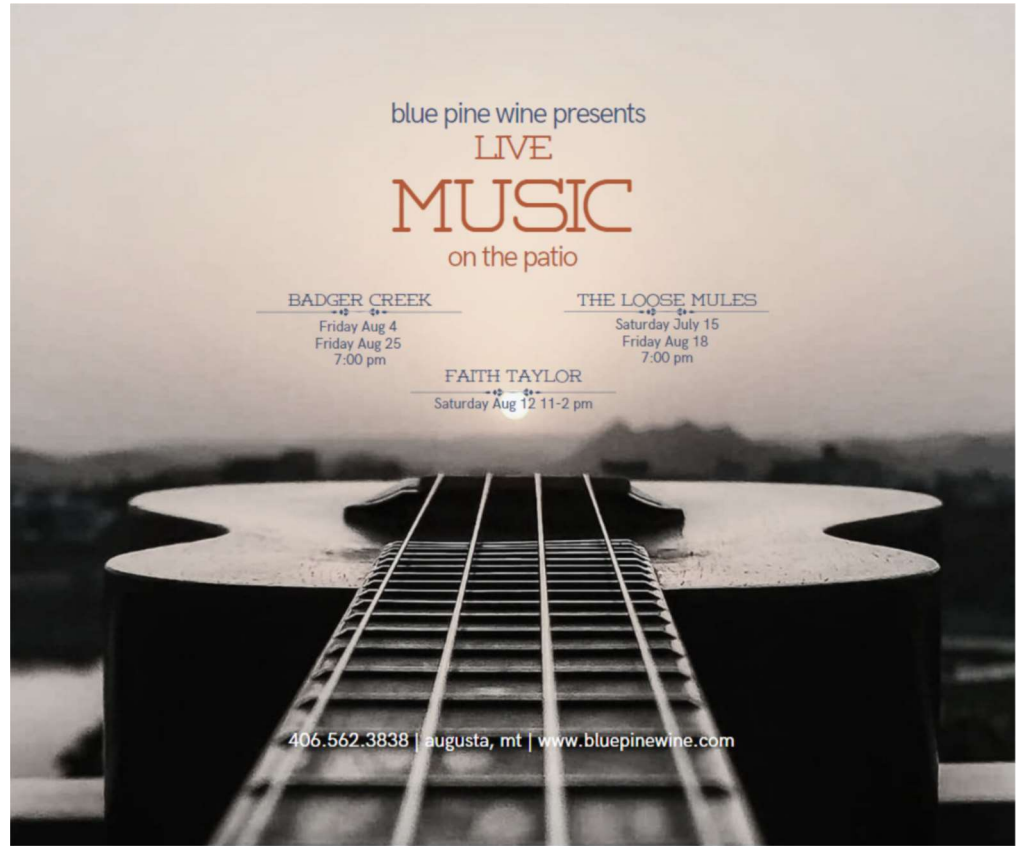
Augusta Peddlers on Main

The Augusta Annual Peddlers on Main event is scheduled for Saturday August 12th 10:00 to dusk.

Shop Montana made items, fine art, crafts, antiques, vintage and more. Plus, community wide garage sale, and Main Street business sidewalk sales.

Vender spots are free of charge and assigned on a first come basis. Spaces are approximately 10' long and set up will be available on the morning of the event. Vendors must provide their own tables and displays, etc. Application can be downloaded at <https://augustamontana.com/applications>

Please contact Brenda Fenner at (406) 665-6086 for further information.



24th Annual Sun River Valley Fun Day

- Karen McIlwain

Come out and enjoy the 24th Annual Sun River Valley Fun Day in Simms on August 12. On the docket is a fun run, breakfast, parade, vendors, food trucks, music, auction, cornhole and horseshoe tournaments along with kid friendly activities. See the Fun Day poster for specific activities

and times. Check <https://www.facebook.com/SunRiverValleyFunDay> for the latest updates.

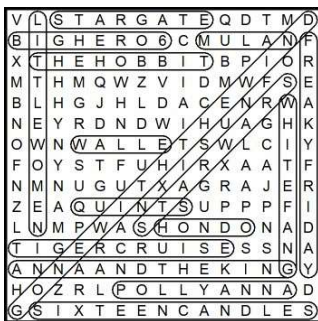
Proceeds from Fun Day are donated to first responders, youth and senior programs in the valley and surrounding communities. Many thanks to the sponsors who provide

Fun Day support and businesses in Augusta, Cascade, Choteau, Fairfield, Great Falls, and the Sun River Valley who donate items to the Fun Day auction.

Fun Day Theme for 2023 is "Aloha from the Valley"

Vendor Fair - Contact Lynn Rohrer 970-290-7452

All ages event. For more information please contact: Ruth Mortag (406)264-5648 DeeDee Rains (406)264-5501 or Dave Yarger (406)264-5423.



Answers to issue 89 puzzles

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

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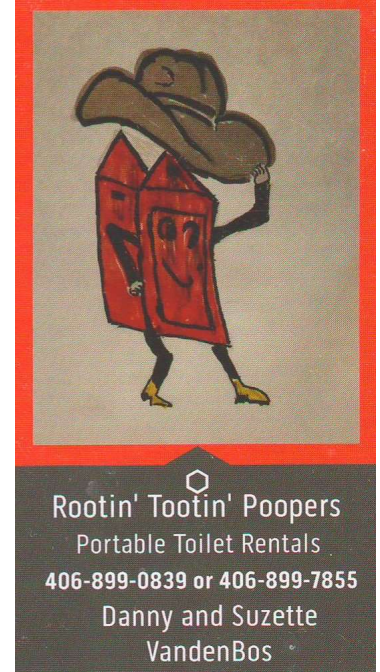
Puzzle Page

Solutions to this issues puzzles will be in issue # 91

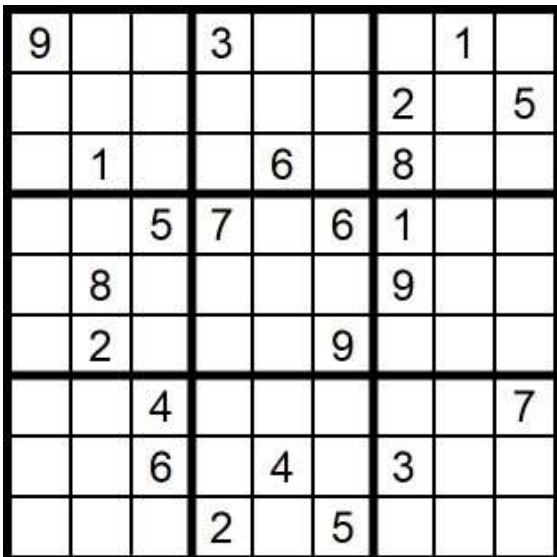


Word Search

- Civilian
- Complicated
- Concur
- Confirm
- Digress
- Fragile
- Galore
- Genuine
- Hostile
- Impatient
- Interred
- Mitigate
- Novice
- Original
- Rarity
- Resume
- Shrink
- Sober
- Suffice
- Vacant



Do you have a comment about The Augusta Breeze? Feel free to call us at 406-604-0632 or email us at info@augustabreeze.com



Why 4 year olds don't write the menu's



THERESA'S 60TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

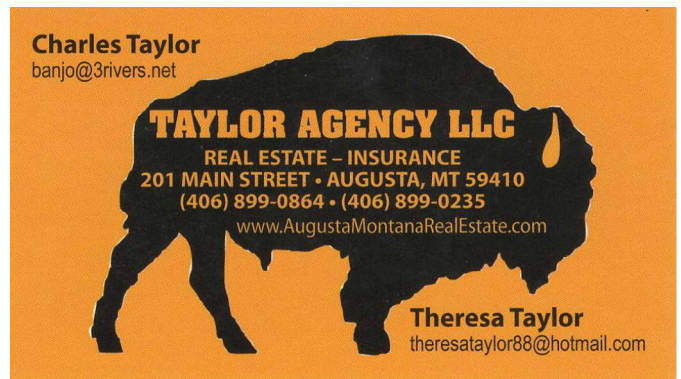
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The Augusta Breeze is focused on people in our community. Subscriptions are available online, and we can be found in many local business for free!

We welcome reader submissions, and love to hear what you think. Feel free to contact us at the address or phone numbers on the left.

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Augusta Community Church

219 Laura St, Augusta, MT 59410

<https://www.augustaccmt.com>

Church Office Phone (406) 562-3435

Pastor John @ 406-899-6838

pastorjohn@3rivers.net

Sunday Morning Service - 10:00 a.m.



503 3rd Ave S

Fairfield, Mt 59436

www.NewLifeFairfield.com

406-467-2713

Service Sunday 10 am

Choteau United Methodist Church



12 First Ave NW

PO Box 108

Choteau, MT 59422

Church Phone: (406) 466-2641

Church Email: umc@3rivers.net

Website: www.umchoteau.net

[Facebook.com/Choteau UMC](https://www.facebook.com/ChoteauUMC)

Sunday Worship – 11:00 a.m.

Communion traditionally on the first Sunday of each month.

Simms Community Church

120 Floweree

PO Box 177

Simms, MT 59477

(406) 264-5118

Sunday School children & adults: 9:45a.m.

Sunday Worship: 11:00a.m.

<http://www.simmscommunitychurch.com>

Email simmschurch@gmail.com

Fort Shaw Bible Church

80 Ahern Street

Fort Shaw, MT 59443

Pastor Josh Bidlack: 406-836-2409

<http://fortshawbiblechurch.com/>

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Sunday Service 10:30 am

United Church of Christ

605 1st Ave N

Fairfield, MT 59436

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Sunday Service: 11a.m.

uccffmt@3rivers.net

Motto: God is still speaking

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