

*The Lewis and Clark*

# JOURNAL



**JULY 2014 • FREE**

**CHECKERED FLAG | RODEO TRADITIONS | NEW WATERS**

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Photo by Trisha Jones Photography

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Striving to bring you current news, we are greatly humbled by any mistakes published and welcome your feedback. Our goal is to provide the community with a quality publication. Mistakes will be corrected and may be viewed on our website.

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Cover Photo:  
 The Tocci Racing 2c car.  
 Photo by Trisha Jones.

# News Room

## HEADWATERS CAR SHOW TO BE HELD JULY 27TH

The Headwaters Car Club will hold it's annual Classic Auto Show in Three Forks on Sunday, July 27th at the historic Sacajawea Hotel. Registration will be from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Please note, the event had previously been held on Saturdays, but due to a conflict at the venue, organizers opted for the Sunday date. Day long activities include show and shine, merchant walk, food and an awards ceremony. A short parade will follow the event. Trophies will be given for each category of the show and shine at 3:00 pm. For more information, go to <http://headwaterscarclub.org>

## THREE FORKS YOUTH RECREATION JULY SCHEDULE

July's activities at Stevenson's Park for the Three Forks Youth Recreation Program are as follows:

July 7th through July 11th Swim Lessons Session 1.

**Field Trips:**

- July 16th Lewis & Clark Caverns Field Trip 9am to 2pm
- July 19th Rodeo Parade Participation
- July 23rd Spire Climbing Center 10am to 3pm
- July 30th Montana Mining Museum 9am to 2:30pm

For more information call 599-9491.

## THREE FORKS FARMER'S MARKET STARTS JULY 10TH

The first-annual Three Forks Farmer's Market will kick off Thursday, July 10th and will run every Thursday through October 2nd. Hours are 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The market will be held at Veteran's Memorial Park (East Neal St. and Main St). Local produce along with local artisan items will be available for purchase. There will be free kids events each week, sponsored by local organization. For event information and vendor registration visit [www.ThreeForksMontana.com](http://www.ThreeForksMontana.com)

## JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE SHOW IN PONY

A fundrasier for the Pony Homecoming Club will feature a Johnny Cash Tribute Show presented by CSteve Music, featuring Kenny K and Deanna as June. The show will be on Saturday, July 12th at teh Pony Gym. Tickets are \$10 and a cash bar will be provided by The Pony Bar. Tickets may be purchased in advance by mailing a check to PHC, PO Box 654, Pony, MT 59747 or call 406-685-3541 for futher information.

## THREE FORKS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

The Three Forks Area Historical Society will conduct the July business meeting on Thursday, July 10th at 7:00 pm in the United Methodist Church Annex. Please note the date change from July 3rd to July 10th. Following the business agenda; refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend.

## MCCALL PENS LETTER TO COMMUNITY

Dear Community of Three Forks,

I would like to thank all of you for your love and support these past months as I have prepared to return to South Africa. For those of you who aren't familiar with what I am doing, a friend and I have started a non-profit organization and are pioneering an afterschool program for teen girls at risk. We are more than excited to be partnering with the local church where I will be stationed in St. Francis Bay, SA. I can't tell you how appreciative I am of all my friends and family in Three Forks—you guys are great and have a beautiful community. I will miss your smiles at the market and around town. I would especially like to thank Rick and Val Lamb for employment at the Three Forks Market and the wonderful crew that I have had the privilege of working with. I love how Three Forks supports their local businesses and families; keep up the good work! I would also like to thank my home church, Three Forks Bible Church, for all their support and prayers that truly have meant so much. I would like to thank my family as well for putting up with my adventurous soul and I want you to know you will be missed greatly. And of course my church family—every person who serves Jesus as their Lord—press on and keep the faith my beautiful family in Christ. To those of my friends that don't know Jesus, I pray that you ask Him into your life, because He is the best decision you will ever make and that choice will echo on into eternity. You are all very special to me, and I feel your prayers and thoughts every day. I am honored to be a part of this community, and I will always have a piece of it in my heart! Thank you so much!

If you would like to learn more about my mission, please check out our website at [www.sonrisesouthafrica.com](http://www.sonrisesouthafrica.com), where you can sign up for a monthly newsletter and make donations to help our girls. We have a FB page as well called SONrise South Africa so be sure to "like" it and follow my journey! I also have a personal blog, which is [raeofson.blogspot.com](http://raeofson.blogspot.com), and our email address is [sonrisesa@gmail.com](mailto:sonrisesa@gmail.com). If you feel lead to donate to SONrise, you can also send a check to our U.S. address at P.O. Box 600608, St. Johns, FL 32260. Thank you again Three Forks Montana! You will be missed but you will all be in my thoughts and prayers!

Love,  
 Rachael McCall



Jordan Tocci claims a first place finish at the May 30th season opener at the Gallatin Motor Speedway in Belgrade.

Phillip Clement

## Driver Gives Himself the Green Flag, Seeks Checkered

*Story by Trisha Jones*

A Passion for Racing.

Jordan Tocci has cars and racing in his blood. He grew up watching his dad, Bruce, race stock cars at Gallatin Speedway during the summers. He helped him work on and build his cars throughout the year. The family business of Tocci Welding and Repair went hand in hand with their love of cars.

After many years of experience Bruce had the knowledge and the desire to start building his own cars. What has been a hobby—racing and building their own cars—has turned into a business. TWR Chassis was created, where stock cars are built from the ground up with an emphasis on technology and safety. They have built and sold four cars in addition to cars they have built for Jordan's racing. Three of these can be seen racing on the Gallatin Speedway track every Friday evening.

Racing is an expensive hobby. Building and selling cars is one way to help offset these costs. "I've seen many people put it all on credit cards and they only last a year or two, even if they are good drivers," says Bruce. He has always funded his racing with side jobs; working on other's race equipment, selling scrap iron and now building cars.

"I don't take money out of our business or household accounts for racing," says Bruce. There are payouts for winning, or placing in the top five. First place can bring up to a \$400 payout, but the expense of just one race can whittle that down quickly. The high-octane gasoline needed for these cars runs ten dollars a gallon and each race takes six to seven gallons. On average the car gets one new tire a week, as they rotate them around the car and then out.

Despite the expense, there are many racers that stick to it. "It's an unreal adrenaline rush," says Bruce. "You can't be hyped up during the race, you have to stay in control to drive," adds Jordan "But when you win..."

This is Jordan's fifth year driving full time. After thirty years of racing, Bruce admits it just wasn't as much fun as it used to be. Jordan was ready to step in. As a kid, Jordan watched his dad race and he helped him with his cars. Although there are racing opportunities for children starting at fourteen, Jordan didn't race until he was older. Instead, he helped his dad on his cars and learned about racing from that angle. "We told him he could help us and work with the cars and then he could race" says Bruce.

Jordan races in the Superstock circuit. There are several different types of cars that are used in the racing circuit, but two of the main ones are the super stock and street stock. The Superstock cars have rules which mandate motor and chassis sizes and limitations. Although they have talked about switching to a different type of race car, most are more expensive and slower. Bruce adds, "Why change something that is working?"

*Continued on next page.*

“Our hope at the beginning of the year is to be competitive,” he says. “With the success we have seen early this season we hope to continue and stay ahead.” Their toughest competition are their own cars on the track. So far this season Jordan has won his first two races.

This is an important season for Jordan. Last year’s season was cut short because of a freak accident that left Jordan injured both physically and mentally. A piece of angle iron had fallen onto the track. Neither Jordan nor the officials had noticed it. As he drove over it, it came through the cockpit and went through his upper leg. They had to cut the metal piece down in order to get him out of the car.

“It affected him,” says Bruce, “but he was smart enough to not get back into the car until he was ready.”

Jordan didn’t return to racing last year, but felt he was ready for the 2014 season. Although he was a bit nervous, Jordan pulled out a win on his first day back. When asked how he prepared for his return, he replied, “You bury it a little. We have built the safest car we’ve ever had this year.”

Bruce adds, “he looks more aggressive as a driver than last year.” Bruce was nervous for the return as well, but he knew Jordan would make the right decision. “We are passionate about what we do,” he explains. “But it doesn’t mean we don’t get nervous. Either get over that and race, or if you don’t feel comfortable for whatever reason, then get out of the car.”

Bruce and Jordan focus heavily on safety when building their cars, even before the accident. Jordan is the only driver at Gallatin Speedway that uses a HANS neck restraint. It’s a big investment at about \$500.

“But it’s worth it,” says Bruce. “These young guys talk about safety, but by the time



Jordan Tocci (in car) and his father, Bruce Tocci outside their shop at Tocci Welding and Repair.

Trisha Jones

they get their cars to where they want them, they don’t have money left to spend on safety equipment. I wish they would buy their safety equipment first.”

Together, the father/son duo typically put in fifteen to twenty hours each week outside of the races preparing the car and getting ready. In Bruce’s days of racing he didn’t practice, he “just went out and raced.” Today there are simulators online and games that drivers can practice with. Technology today makes these simulators incredibly realistic. Every correction made while using the simulated racecar causes it to react just as if it were on a track. There are even full containment seats that drivers will sit in while on the simulator. Jordan, though, prefers his “comfy chair”.

Their plans for the future are to continue building and selling cars and of course, racing. For Jordan, a highlight would be running in the Wissota 100. During this annual event in Huron, South Dakota, hundreds of drivers from all across the upper midwest and southern Canada qualify to run. In addition to super stocks, the Wissota 100 also features street stocks, late models, modifieds, and others. The field is narrowed so that only 29 drivers were selected to run in super stocks last year. Belgrade’s Kevin Scott made the cut. Jordan would be thrilled with a spot in the qualifying run, but with his passion, persistence and talent, we may just see his name on the finishers list of an upcoming Wissota 100.



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# Rodeo Traditions

By Patrick Finnegan

Certainly the rodeo and parade tradition in Three Forks goes back a bit further than the 68 years of its current incarnation. Perhaps as far back as the first horse race between Native Americans passing through our area, during which it is possible that a few equines went astray. This may be why the Lewis and Clark expedition had gathered up four or five stray horses before they arrived at the Headwaters of the Missouri River.

According to one writer for the Library of Congress in a blurb about Montana, “the horse has played an important part in the state’s history, economy, and romantic image.” There was indeed an economic need for skilled riders necessitated by all the rangeland, livestock and ranching in Montana, but perhaps the “romantic image” contributed too. And with so many skilled riders, it’s just human nature to have an occasional friendly competition. While the Three Forks area has had its share of fairs and other events that featured rodeo events, there is little mention of a rodeo as a main event in the Three Forks Herald until the August 7, 1930 edition.

## Six Hundred People Attend Rodeo Sunday

*About six hundred people attended the Rodeo at the Francis Lane place last Sunday, when some of the best riding talent of the state was present. Those who know horses concede that the thirty-five or so broncos that were mounted Sunday showed some of the finest action to be seen at any rodeo. This was attested by the fact that only three or four were ridden to a finish, the others not giving up.*

The article goes on to list the management of the rodeo as Bill Kelly, Francis Lane, Johnnie Murray, Ted Lane and Albert Whitney of Manhattan. These gentlemen, who had completed their corrals in July of 1930, made further improvements to “Lane Brothers Corral” after this inaugural event and put on two



A steer wrestler makes his catch with help from his hazer during the 2013 Three Forks Rodeo.

more rodeos that year. The Francis Lane mentioned in the article is presumed to be Michael Francis Lane, father of Opal, Earl, Inez, Eugene, and Leo Lane. The next year on the July Fourth weekend, the Lane Rodeo Corrals hosted a rodeo that was the main event of the “Pageant of the Old West,” which included a convention of the Vigilante Mining Association, a parade, a baseball game, a western show and comedy at the Ruby Theatre, and a dance at the Henslee Auditorium. According to the Herald article of June 25th, “Fox News Film service will have a movie photographer here to take films of the Pageant of the Old West and Rodeo...” Wouldn’t that be an interesting film?

*Over fifteen hundred people attended the parade and two thousand were at the two day rodeo, with crowds dwindling the second day due to “a disagreeable day with high winds blowing.”* Sound familiar?

There were only the two “floats” in the parade. Mrs. Bates, who owned and operated a beauty salon, “transformed her car into a large yellow rose, from which appeared a number of beautiful ladies in the fashion styles.” The other float represented a Milwaukee

steam engine and carried a large number of the Lady Firemen (an auxiliary organization of the local railroad workers brotherhood). Other entries in the parade commemorated Sacajawea (portrayed by Miss Ruth Young), the gold rush of the 1860s, Pat Lane’s arrival in the area in 1866, Spring Time in the Rockies (portrayed by Ruth Evans who played the tune on an accordion), and Calamity Jane (portrayed by Gail Colegrove). The Vigilante Miners participated in the parade as well as a number of rodeo riders, an “orchestra,” and the local Girl Scout troop.

The Lane Corral rodeos continued for a few years, but were eventually discontinued, most likely due to the onset of World War II. After the war, there was revival of rodeo and riding events and clubs and the Three Forks Rodeo was reborn in 1946.

Not much has changed between the rodeo events of the thirties and the now annual rodeo and parade. This year’s rodeo parade theme of “Happy Trails” could just as well refer to the long local record of fun-filled, once a year gatherings to celebrate our local history, our agricultural legacy and our Montana traditions. Happy trails indeed!

The descendants of Granny Yates will celebrate the 150th anniversary of her wagon train trip to Montana in 1864. The gathering will take place at the Community Center

by the Pass Creek School in Gallatin County. Relatives are invited to arrive any time after 11 a.m. on August 3rd. Lunch is picnic-style potluck and will be at 1 p.m.

## Granny Yates

### Directions from Manhattan:

Leave Manhattan on N. Broadway. Cross Railroad. Turn right on RR Ave - 1 block. Turn left on 346 - approx. 8 miles to Dry Creek Church. Left on Dry Creek Road about 7 miles. Right on Pass Creek Road. 3.7 miles to Community Center.

### Directions from Belgrade:

Leave Belgrade on Broadway (which becomes Dry Creek Road - approx. 9 miles to Dry Creek Church. Turn right on Dry Creek Road 7 miles, then right on Pass Creek Road. 3.7 miles to Community Center. There will be signs along the way.

For more information, contact Terry Murphy - 406/285-6510 or e-mail: [murphter5@yahoo.com](mailto:murphter5@yahoo.com)

# Watering Wisely to Help Generations Take Grass for Granted

Water is a hot commodity lately and has become the hotbed issue around the water cooler at work. Rates have increased and for those of us on city water we are really feeling it. As a wee little sprite, I lived for those days when I would spy a lush, green sea of grass so I could practice my tumbling routines - the wide expanse of lawn around the hospital in Livingston was one of my favorite haunts when visiting my Grandma Murphy; and I remember some of the staff would come out and watch me perform and congratulate me on my elegant moves and straight cartwheels. Lawns were playgrounds back then and totally taken for granted. Now I see them and cringe as an adult because I know to keep it weed free and perfectly manicured takes time, effort and if you do not have your own well, more money than most of us think. As a new Grandma, (why yes, I am old enough to be a Grandma but thank you kindly for the compliment!) I envision my sweet Skyla Grace practicing her own gymnastic feats and worry about the ground beneath her feet. With the increase in water rates around the state I thought it would be nice to give you some guidelines on how to water more efficiently and economically.

“Lose the lawn” is a phrase being bandied about in the landscaping industry and even I have touted it, feeling oh-so-smug. Well, then I look at little Skyla’s face and wonder about that - is that really necessary? I do believe in having less lawn, giving way to more food and flower gardens which not only looks better but can give you food and flowers for the table; yet

my heartstrings are being pulled back into reality. We love our lawns. They epitomize the American Way and give our children a place to play. That being said, we must do our part to cut down on the wasting of water - which especially happens with our lawns.

Lawns require about 1” of water a week and many of us overwater due to underground sprinklers or misplaced sprinklers. Keep your eye on the weather report, if the forecast calls for rain go ahead and adjust your sprinkler system and delay it a day or two. Make sure that your hose end sprinklers are not watering the sidewalk or driveway - figure out how to adjust the knobs so the spray is directed only where it needs to be. (This is frustrating for me as I am so not mechanically inclined and after about ten minutes of trying to get it right I am wet and ready for a cocktail in air-conditioned splendor). Capture rainwater and use it instead of turning on the hose.

To shade the roots and prevent water loss from evaporation, keep your lawn longer. By raising your mower height to 3” you’ll increase your savings and



Stock photo

have more time for those cocktails I was talking about. Less work and more money, who wouldn’t want that?

The right type of grass really makes a difference. Cashman Nursery and good garden centers stock drought tolerant mixes of grass seed,

so when you need to reseed your lawn or even plant a new one, be sure to consider those options, which generally use up to 20% less water than our beloved bluegrass.

Practice “hydrozoning” which groups plants of the same water requirements together. Near the house (closest to the downspouts and roof runoff) plant thirstier plants like Siberian Iris, Ostrich Fern, Bee Balm, Asclepias, Dogwoods, European Cranberry Bush and various Willow shrubs. Next outer layer should be plants that thrive with regular watering and the outer most layer should be drought tolerant natives and other tough-as-nails plants even when the sun is scorching like Salvias and Sedums and many silver or gray leaved plants.

Mulch is your best bet when trying to save water. Organic mulch is best as gravel and lava rocks can

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## Three Forks Video

NEW RELEASES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

<p><b>July 1st</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scavenger Killers</li> <li>Afflicted</li> <li>Helix Season 1</li> <li>Young Doctors Notebook Mini Series</li> </ul> <p><b>July 8th</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bad Words</li> <li>Kid Cannabis</li> <li>10 Rules for Sleeping Around</li> </ul>	<p><b>July 15th</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rio 2</li> <li>Under the Skin</li> <li>Face of Love</li> <li>Hell of Wheels Season 3</li> </ul> <p><b>July 22nd</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heaven is for Real</li> <li>Transcendence</li> <li>Single Moms Club</li> <li>Sabotage</li> </ul> <p><b>July 29th</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noah</li> </ul>
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heat up the roots of plants faster which can cause you to have to water even more. Mulching also cuts down on weeds that rob your landscape plants of the water they need.

Water in the cool morning as there will be less evaporation meaning more water goes where it is needed. Many people water at night too, which is better than midday for sure, but be careful of having wet foliage which encourages fungus and mildew. Drip irrigation is where it's at, and by watering more deeply you'll have to water less often.

I have been very grateful for our wet Spring as my little rental house has more lawn than I need and my water bill has not been overly astronomical. But, I know the heat of the summer is coming and I will be cringing at the Post Office upon opening my mail. Lawns are costly, especially when cared for correctly. You would think it would cost more to have berms of blooms and vegetable beds but it doesn't, at least not in the long run. The Long Run. That phrase takes me back. The long run was what I did on that spongy hospital grass before I'd leap in the air with no thought as to where my feet would land, only that they would. I took the ground beneath me for granted. I hope Skyla Grace will do so too.



Dorothy Meyer has been a contributing writer for the Lewis and Clark Journal for over nine years. Her life adventures have taken her to Fort Benton, Montana where she serves as Manager of the Historic Grand Union Hotel. Last month she became a grandma, welcoming little Skyla Grace on May 20th.

# The Link Between Oral and Overall Health

*Sponsored by Railway Drug*

Here's a great sound bite for you: The health of your mouth may mirror your overall health. What's the link? For one, good dental care helps prevent a buildup of bacteria and inflammation from gum disease. And that may help protect other parts of your body.

Researchers need to conduct more studies to confirm the possible links, but evidence is growing.

Heart and blood vessels. Research suggests that heart disease and stroke may be linked to bacteria in your mouth.<sup>1</sup> For example, a recent worldwide trial of nearly 16,000 people showed a strong link between oral health and heart health risk factors in people with chronic heart disease. Gum bleeding was linked with higher levels of "bad" cholesterol and high blood pressure. Other studies show that heart attacks are more common in people who have dental disease.

Diabetes. Research also shows a connection between diabetes and gum disease. But which leads to which? It actually goes both ways. Gum disease may get worse if you have diabetes. Some even call it the "sixth complication of diabetes." People with diabetes who have gum disease also have trouble controlling their blood sugar levels. And this may make it harder to manage their disease.

Other possible links. There appears to be a link between gum disease and premature birth and low birth weight. Affecting the other end of the lifespan, early tooth loss may be a risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. There's also a bit of evidence pointing to a link between bone and tooth loss and weak and brittle bones (osteoporosis).

Overall well being. Taking good care of your teeth and gums can also affect your general quality of life. If you're in pain or have missing teeth or infections, that can affect how you speak, eat, and interact with other people. As you can see, good dental health isn't just about staying cavity free.

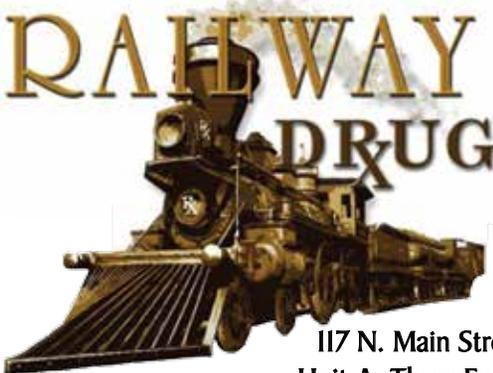
How can you know whether or not you have gum disease? After all, millions of people don't know they have this serious infection. The obvious step is to see your dentist. Also, check for signs and symptoms of gum disease such as:

- Red, swollen, or tender gums
- Bleeding when you brush or floss
- Loose teeth
- Bad breath
- Sores or pus in your mouth
- A change in your bite or the way your partial dentures fit

Here's another important thing to know about oral health. Certain medications, such as antihistamines and diuretics, can have side effects that affect your mouth. Consult with your local pharmacist on your medications and find out how to minimize or manage any side effects that may occur.

Stock up on the products you need to maintain good oral health: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss for daily brushing and flossing. Don't forget to replace your toothbrush every three to four months—sooner if the bristles become worn. Combine these daily practices with regular dental checkups and a healthy diet. And, you'll be well on your way to good oral health—and a healthier body, too.

*Nothing herein constitutes medical advice, diagnosis or treatment, or is a substitute for professional advice. You should always seek the advice of your physician or other medical professional if you have questions or concerns about a medical condition.*



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# For the Run of It

*"The obsession with running is really an obsession with the potential for more and more life."*  
 —George Sheehan

For so many, running is more than just running. It's therapy, it's their time, it's a way to challenge themselves, it's their drug. In our crazy busy lives, running is a way to decompress and "slow down". Whether its three miles or ten miles, whether a casual run or sprint training on the track, more and more people are getting out there.

Many runners also love to run races and focus their running on training. Running races has become increasingly popular over the last few years. According to RunningUSA.com "The number of US race finishers has increased 80% since the year 2000, and female representation has increased from only 42% to an all time high of 56% in 2012."

With the popularity of runs, organizations see this as an opportunity to raise awareness and money for their cause. Most road races are set up with proceeds going to a particular organization or cause. Non-traditional races are popping up all over as well. These runs incorporate obstacle courses or other challenges. These runs are geared more towards the fitness enthusiast than the more competitive runner. There are also a number of trail races, which offer challenging terrain. Today, there are races which cater to every type and level of runner. Any level of runner can find a race that suits them.

Just here in Three Forks and the surrounding area, a number of different races are

held each year. The Kiwanis Group held their second annual 5k and 10k run in April, while Three Forks Schools held their first annual "Running for the Future" 5k on May 3rd. Upcoming area races include the Headwaters Bank Run, The Pony Trot and The John Colter run.

The Headwaters Bank Run will hold it's tenth run on Saturday, July 26th this year. This run offers a 5k, 10k and for the third year a half marathon. Originally started by the Lions Club, a percentage of proceeds were given to the Headwaters Trail System. A few years in, the race was taken over by the Headwaters Trail Group with Gene Townsend at the helm. All proceeds benefit the trail system with the intent of improving current trails and building more.

The run begins at the Veterans Park with the signature canon shot start. Routes for all distances take the school track to the beginning of the Headwaters Trail System and head out over the bridge crossing the Madison River. The newer half marathon utilizes the trail all the way to the Headwaters State Park and some of the trails in the park. A flat and mostly paved terrain can give those serious runners a chance at a personal record (PR).

"We welcome walkers and runners, strollers and dogs. It's a family friendly event," says Townsend. "We want everyone who utilizes the trail system to partake in this event."

With last year's numbers down by about a third, Townsend says, "We hope for about 100 participants each year. But it's tough because there are a lot of things going on

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that same weekend - other runs and the Broadwater County Fair.”

The majority of participants in this run are generally locals, but there are several regulars from Butte and Bozeman. Many years races have included visitors in the area who heard about it and participated. “Last year, guests from New York who were staying at the Sacajawea decided to join in,” Townsend says proudly.

Race organizers would like to see runners stick around and benefit Three Forks businesses after the race. This year the Train Depot will be open for a model train show and free milk shakes. Registration is available at [www.racemontana.com](http://www.racemontana.com) or by visiting [www.threeforksmontana.us](http://www.threeforksmontana.us) to download and print

On Saturday, September 20th the thirty seventh John Colter Race will be held beginning at the Headwaters State Park. This is a 7.5 mile rugged trail race re-enacting John Colter’s infamous escape from the Blackfoot Indians. According to legend, Colter was stripped naked and told if he could outrun the Indians they would let him free. Luckily this race does not require you to run naked!

The race was created to have a fun, challenging, cross country race. Two years ago the race’s future was uncertain due to liability issues crossing the railroad tracks. Bozeman running group, The Wind Drinkers, did not want to see this race go, so they were able to work with track owners Montana Rail Link and, with a few course changes, the race is back!

Known to most as “The Colter” the race is “on paved and gravel roads and rugged trails. The course is relatively rough but suited for cross-country running. The last ¼ mile of the course encompasses two river crossings,” according to the Wind Drinkers website. Race director, Kurt Buchl, says that they are working to put a

little more fun into the race, with prizes for the first male and female runner to grab bandannas off “John Colter”. Food donated by Clark’s Fork, beer donated by Bozeman Brewing Company and sports drinks, pop and water donated by Coca Cola will be available at the races end.

The Colter Run is a favorite of many area runners. Local runner, Tara Forsberg, will be participating in her eighth Colter run this year. “It was the first trail race I ran and I remember the guy on the microphone asking who was running this for the first time. I, and several others raised our hands, everyone else laughed. Now I can laugh!”

The race is capped at 300 runners and there is no race day registration. You can register online at [www.racemontana.com](http://www.racemontana.com).

Another little known area run is the Pony Trot 5k and 10k held this year on Saturday, July 19th. The race begins and ends at the Pony Park. Both the 5k and 10k head toward Hollowtop up to the North Willow Creek Bridge. The 10k continues towards Cataract lake. Race directors describe it as “a steep and hilly course, not likely to be a PR race.” The views are phenomenal on the 10k route, one of the reasons its a personal favorite for this writer! Proceeds from this race benefit the Pony Homecoming Club. Registration for the race is available at [www.racemontana.com](http://www.racemontana.com).

From April to September, one can find a race of their level close to home. If you are just starting to run, don’t let a race intimidate you. Participants are supportive of every runner. Remember, no matter how slow you are running, you are still lapping the person sitting on the couch!

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## New Waters for Fishing Guide Service

*By Christina Kamps  
Photos courtesy Territory Anglers*

When Tracy Blashill first visited Montana, it was 1990 and his long-time friend, Drew Thate, had invited him to see his place. Blashill and Thate shared a love for the outdoors and had become friends years earlier when they both guided whitewater raft trips in Texas and the Western U.S. More recently, Blashill had been guiding seasonal fishing and floating trips down the Middle Fork of Central Idaho's Salmon River. He hadn't yet experienced Montana when Thate's invitation brought him to the Tom Miner Basin south of Livingston. The scenery was so breathtaking that the Texas-born Blashill says, "I nearly didn't go back because I was so taken by the Paradise Valley."

While Blashill did go back, it wasn't for long. He and his wife Alice made Montana a part-time home,

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landing in the Four Corners area. Before long, they decided that they wanted to be year-round residents, so they sold their winter home in West Texas in favor of a place just outside of Three Forks.

Blashill says that Alice tells people, “We couldn’t afford to live like the Roosevelts, we had to pick one place.”

When asked, “why not the Paradise Valley”, he responded “too windy.” Of course, he concedes that Three Forks has its share of wind as well, “but when we got serious about it, Three Forks fit all the criteria we were looking for.”

In 2002, Thate and Blashill teamed up to form a fly fishing guide service they named Territory Anglers. Together, the pair can boast over a half century of guiding experience and have since guided more trips than they can count on rivers in Montana and Idaho. They even helped a friend get a good program going in Mongolia.

“We taught him how to do multi-day wilderness fishing trips and it’s turned into a nice business. We’re still a sister company with them, so we sell some trips for those guys as well,” explains Blashill.

Recently, the National Park system opened up guide permits within Yellowstone National Park, something that Blashill says had not been offered in eighteen



Tracy Blashill with Territory Anglers shows off a nice brown trout.

years. Now holding a permit to guide within YNP, Territory Anglers recently began offering walk/wade trips on some of Yellowstone’s most legendary trout streams; Slough Creek, Soda Butte Creek, the Lamar River, the Yellowstone, the Firehole, and the Gardiner River.

“We’re excited,” Blashill reports. “There’s such unique wildlife viewing and great fishing.”

Locally, Territory Anglers has built a relationship with the Sacajawea

Hotel to offer guests a package trip that also includes lodging and meals. “That has worked out really well,” he says.

When booking a trip, some guests may have their hearts set on a specific river or river section, and Territory Anglers is happy to accommodate, but Blashill says, “most folks leave it up to us. We’ll go where the best fishing is.”

Knowing where to fish isn’t as easy as one might think.

Blashill explains, “To pick one section, say of twelve sections of the Yellowstone, maybe one or two will fish well and the others will be slower. Same goes for the Jefferson, Madison and Big Hole.

“I kind of joke that ideally we’d have a crystal ball to

know what river to fish. I think that maybe part of fishing that keeps us on our toes is trying to figure that out.”

For more information on fishing the rivers in Southwest Montana, Central Idaho or even Mongolia, you can visit [www.territoryanglers.com](http://www.territoryanglers.com).



Opposite Page: The Lamar River in Yellowstone National Park. Top: An underwater shot of a Yellowstone cutthroat trout. Bottom: One of Mongolia’s Taimen fish.

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# Sidewalk Talk

Photos by Trisha Jones

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**Michelle Amundson**

*"Oh What a Night. It's the summer I brought my oldest back to Montana and Jeanie Bjorndal took our kids camping at Potosi and my daughter caught 3 brook trout and they had to ride in the front seat all the way home."*



**Jake Sebena**

*"1909 by Pheonix because it reminds me of the summer we all hung out at Old Town Bridge and jumping off the bridge and listening to this song."*



**Signey Welter**

*"Heart Don't Fail Me because it reminds me of the Princess Festival where I got to meet a lot of my favorite princesses."*



**Connie Hussung**

*"Fishing In the Dark because my boys and I used to go fishing and we would go in the evenings."*



**Karlee Brown**

*"Born In USA. I was 13 and my brother and I sang that song all summer long!"*

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<h1>J</h1> <p>SC: Senior Citizens Center TFYTF: Three Forks Youth Recreation Task Force Summer Rec Program: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</p>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	<p>TFYTF Swim Lessons</p> <p>Wolves Volleyball Camp</p> <p>SC Menu: Roast Beef TF Fire Business Meeting</p> <p>1</p>	2	<p>SC Menu: Hamburgers &amp; Hotdogs</p> <p>Sacajawea Porch Music 5pm: Grangers</p> <p>TF Historical Society Meeting 7pm Methodist Annex</p> <p>3</p>	4	<p>-Headwaters State Park Speaker Series 7pm: David Peck "The State of Science &amp; Medicine at the Time of Lewis &amp; Clark"</p> <p>5</p>
<p>Breakaway Youth Ranch Father's Day Event 2 pm - 6 pm</p> <p>13</p>	<p>TFYTF: Building Forts</p> <p>Kiwanis Meeting at Sacajawea Hotel 7 p.m.</p> <p>14</p>	<p>TFYTF: Creating Fun</p> <p>SC Menu: Reuben Sandwiches</p> <p>TF Fire Dept Training City Council Mtg 7 pm</p> <p>15</p>	<p>TFYTF: TF Lewis &amp; Clark Caverns Field Trip 9am - 2pm</p> <p>16</p>	<p>TFYTF: Light up your life SC Menu: Spaghetti Farmer's Market 4pm - 7pm Sacajawea Porch Music 5pm: Chad Ball</p> <p>17</p>	<p>TF Library Summer Reading Event "The Incredible Mr 'E'" 11am</p> <p>18</p>	<p>TF Rodeo Parade 10am Missouri Headwaters State Park Speaker Series 7pm: Michael Neeley "The Great Technological Leap: Flintknapping Throughout Human History"</p> <p>19</p>
20	<p>Future Wolves Football Camp 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.</p> <p>TFYTF: Sundials</p> <p>21</p>	<p>TFYTF: Kites &amp; Clay</p> <p>SC Menu: Tuna Casserole</p> <p>TF Fire Dept Training City Council Mtg 7 pm</p> <p>22</p>	<p>TFYTF: Spire Climbing Center Field Trip 10am - 3:30pm</p> <p>23</p>	<p>TFYTF: Cooking &amp; Clay</p> <p>SC Menu: Polish Sausage</p> <p>Farmer's Market 4pm - 7pm Sacajawea Porch Music 5pm: Beau Houston</p> <p>24</p>	25	<p>Headwaters Trail Run 5k, 10k &amp; Half Marathon Missouri Headwaters State Park Speakers Series 7pm: Stephen Sylvester "The Corps of Discover: Tomahawks, Rifles &amp; Food for Thought"</p> <p>26</p>
<p>Headwaters Car Show Sacajawea Hotel</p> <p>27</p>	<p>TFYTF: Chocolate Chip Cookie Mining</p> <p>Kiwanis Meeting at Sacajawea Hotel 7 p.m.</p> <p>28</p>	<p>TFYTF: Straw &amp; Clay Mining</p> <p>SC Menu: Hamburger Pie</p> <p>29</p>	<p>TFYTF: Mining Museum Field Trip 9am - 2:30pm</p> <p>30</p>	<p>TFYTF: Salt Painting SC Menu: BBQ Ribs Farmer's Market 4pm-7pm Sacajawea Porch Music 5pm: Jane Freeburg</p> <p>31</p>		



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# Bugged Buggy

## A STORY WORTH THE TELLING

*Story by Art Kehler*

Recently, I listened as two old friends of mine recounted an experience they had shared during their young adult years. As I listened to the uproarious account, it occurred to me that their narrative deserved a wider audience. So, with their encouragement, following is the story as told to me.

One day in May of 1975, Buck and his friend Moe (the names have been altered to protect the perpetrators) were inspecting some recently retired vehicles at Buck's ranch. To most folks the 1960-era Dodge sedan would have looked like any of a thousand old cars languishing beside a barn. Yet, within that weathered hulk, the bright-eyed young men saw the makings of a first-class dune buggy.

Over the next month, in their spare time, the intrepid pair worked feverishly. The engine was fitted with a new battery, spark plugs and other needed accessories. Body parts were stripped from the chassis. A buggy frame and roll bars were installed. Finally, with Buck at the wheel, the daring duo went for a test drive down the Old Yellowstone Trail between Harrison and Willow Creek.

To this day, Buck swears he never saw that fresh cow

pie lying on the road. Nonetheless, when ran over, its juicy contents surged upward through an opening in the recently altered floorboards. In less than a heartbeat, a stream of bovine manure was sprayed from Moe's belt buckle to the tip of his straw cowboy hat. Much to his credit, Buck restrained the guffaws racking his body well enough to bring the vehicle to a stop.

Despite his cohort's discomfort, Buck was mesmerized by the aesthetic properties of the trail mix stream. Bold and broad at the bottom, it tapered to a delicate pinnacle at the crown of Moe's hat. Further, the rich mahogany-brown droppings contrasted flawlessly with the light-tan of the straw Stetson. Then, a burst of obscenities startled Buck back to the moment.

Clearly, a major bug had been revealed in their buggy that cried out for modification. During the drive home, at his amigo's barked commands, Buck diligently avoided anything remotely resembling a cow patty. At the shop, Buck welded extra plating on the chassis floor while, in the nearby restroom, Moe gargled furiously. Nevertheless, youth does not abide despair for long. Soon, the buggy masters were cruising down the same road.

Shortly, Moe noticed an uncomfortable constriction. As luck would have it, the loose end of his old-style, waist-strap seat belt had dangled outside the frame, where it had been drawn around the front axle. Unaware of the crises next to him, Buck abruptly found himself being violently flailed about the head.

Looking to his right, he saw the purple-faced, bug-eyed passenger frantically pointing at his mid-section. Buck quickly deduced that his amigo was in distress and stopped the buggy. Then, with Moe frantically motioning to the rear, he backed up. A loud sucking sound ensued.

Gamely, Buck suggested yet another design alteration. However, by then, Moe's mood had turned grim. He reckoned he was getting all the worst of it. So, with his sidekick holding his seat belt at arm's length, Buck drove dejectedly back to the ranch, where the ill-fated vehicle was parked beside the barn. Though their friendship survived, the two men never shared another trip in the bugged-buggy.

Ultimately, both men went on to successful business careers. To this day, both agree the entrepreneurial spirit that inspired their future accomplishments, was blown to flame that spring day amidst the billowing dust and spewing compost of the Old Yellowstone Trail.

*Art lives in Harrison, Montana. His essays, stories and poetry, have been published in regional newspapers, literary magazines and on-line magazines.*

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