

# Keeping You **CONNECTED**

MAY/JUNE 2026

**CEO Message, pg. 6**

**4th Annual Opportunities in Trades Day, pg. 5**

**Teacher Appreciation Winners, pg. 7**



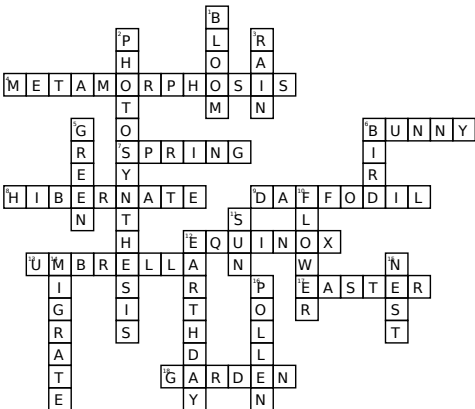
# CONTENTS



## OUR COVER

Photo by Ablazah Stump

Previous Issue Cross Word Answer Key



## FEATURES

- 3 Triangle Fill-In Crossword**
- 4 Cook's Connection**  
Dishing up our Readers' Best Recipes
- 5 4th Annual Trades Day**
- 6 CEO's Message**
- 7 Teacher Appreciation Winners**
- 8 Youth Technology Grant Winners**
- 9 Montana Telecommunications Access Program**
- 10 Swap & Shop**
- 11 Mystery Photo & Quiz Winners**

## TRIANGLE'S 2026 PHOTO CONTEST





Open to Triangle members and member dependents of all ages.

**Photo Qualifications:**

- Must depict the scenic or abstract beauty of the Triangle service area.
- Trademarks, commercial names and advertisements must not appear in the photo.
- Photos considered portraits of people are not eligible.
- Must be previously unpublished.
- Cell phone shots are allowed, but must be high resolution in JPG format.

\$200

GRAND PRIZE

RUNNER-UP PRIZES

\$150-\$50

Entries must be submitted by **June 12th.**  
Limit two entries per person.

SUBMIT PHOTOS AT  
[www.itstriangle.com/  
photocontest](http://www.itstriangle.com/photocontest)

## CONTACT US

**Call** 406.394.7807 or 611 or 1.800.332.1201

**Pay by Phone** 1.855.940.3815

**E-mail** [www.itstriangle.com/contact-us](http://www.itstriangle.com/contact-us)

**Write** PO Box 1220, Havre, MT 59501

**Visit** Havre: 2121 Hwy 2 NW

Big Timber: 300 McLeod St

**24/7 Internet Tech Support** 1.877.730.8215

**Call Before You Dig** 811 or [CallBeforeYouDig.com](http://CallBeforeYouDig.com)

**Website** [www.itstriangle.com](http://www.itstriangle.com)



# Triangle Fill-In Crossword

## 4 LETTERS

WIFI

## 5 LETTERS

FIBER  
LOCAL

## 6 LETTERS

ROUTER

## 7 LETTERS

CAMERAS  
MONTANA  
SERVICE  
SUPPORT  
TRUSTED

## 8 LETTERS

BUSINESS  
FRIENDLY  
INTERNET  
LANDLINE  
TRIANGLE

## 9 LETTERS

BROADBAND  
COMMUNITY  
DEDICATED  
EDUCATION  
SOLUTIONS

## 10 LETTERS

CONNECTION

## 11 LETTERS

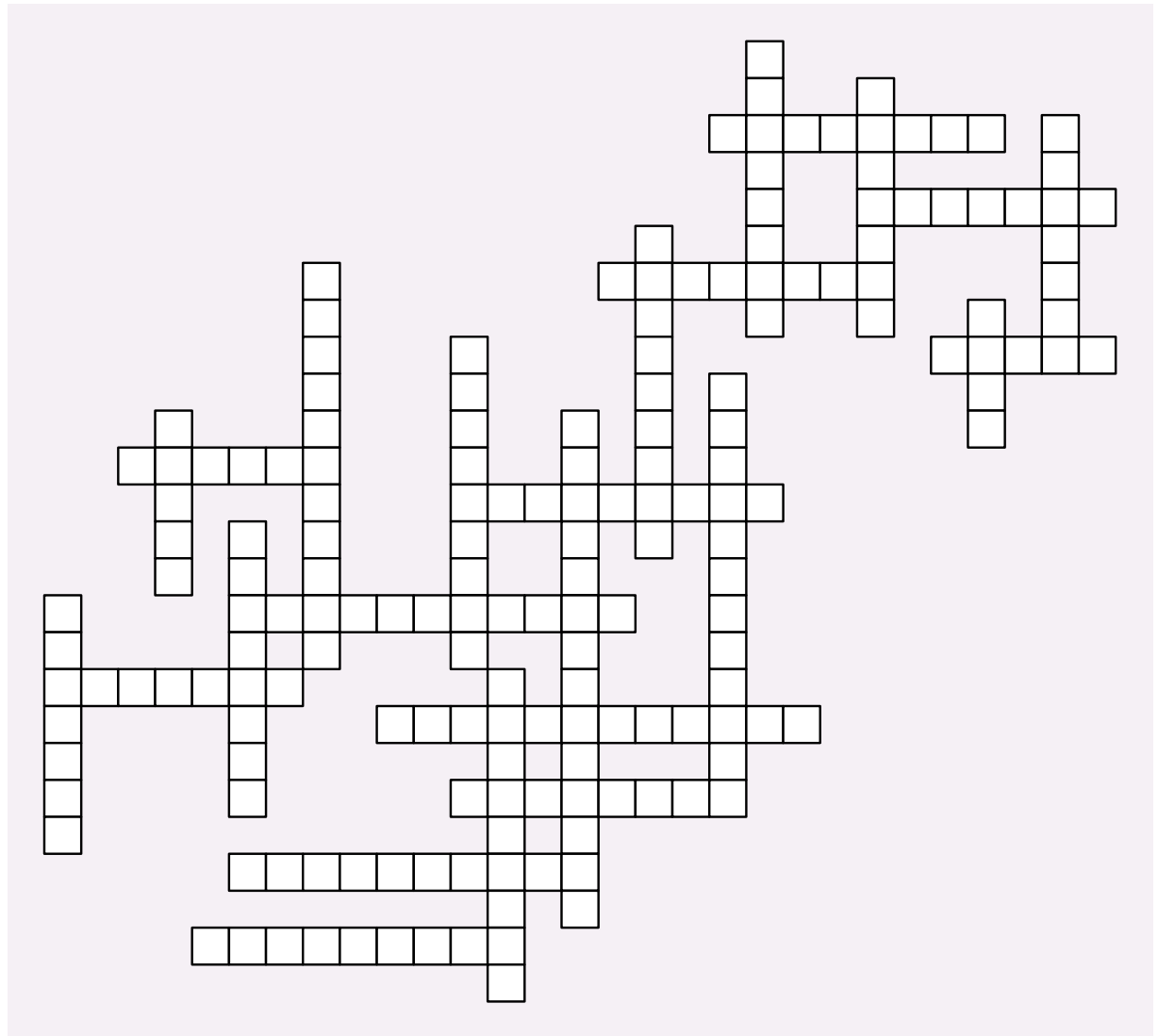
COOPERATIVE  
INVOLVEMENT

## 12 LETTERS

PARTNERSHIPS  
SCHOLARSHIPS

## 14 LETTERS

COMMUNICATIONS



### HOW TO PLAY: FILL-IN CROSSWORD

Instead of clues, you're given a list of words. Your job is to fit all the words into the grid.

- Each word fits into a space that matches its length.
- Words can go across or down.
- Every word will be used once. No extras!
- Start with the longest words to help fill in the grid.
- Use intersecting letters to guide you as you go.

Tip: If you get stuck, try a different word—sometimes one placement can make everything else fall into place!



# COOK'S CONNECTION

## TRIED-AND-TRUE RECIPES SHARED BY OUR READERS

If you have a favorite recipe of any kind that you would like to share, we would love to have it! Submit it to: [newsletter@itstriangle.net](mailto:newsletter@itstriangle.net)

### RECIPE

### OREO ICEBOX CAKE

#### INGREDIENTS

1- (8 ounce) package cream cheese, at room temperature

1 - cup powdered sugar  
1 - Tablespoon vanilla  
3 - cups heavy cream, divided  
50 - chocolate sandwich cookies,

such as Oreos, plus more for topping (from a 25.5-ounce package)  
3 - (6-ounce containers raspberries, divided

#### Directions

1. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat the cream cheese on medium speed until smooth, 1 to 2 minutes. Add the powdered sugar and vanilla and beat at a low speed until combined, about 30 seconds. Scrape the sides and bottom of the bowl with a rubber spatula. Increase the speed to medium and beat until smooth, 1 minute more. 2. Scrape the sides and bottom of the bowl. Add 1 cup of heavy cream and beat at low speed until smooth. Add the remaining 2 cups of heavy cream, increase the speed to medium high and beat until soft peaks form, 1 to 2 minutes. 3. Spoon ¼ cup of the cream mixture into the bottom of a 9-inch baking dish, smoothing into a thin even layer. 4. Top the cream mixture with a single layer of cookies, breaking some as needed to fit. Spread about 1 ½ cups of the cream mixture over the cookies, smoothing into an even layer with a spoon or spatula. Top with an even layer of raspberries. Add another 1 ½ cups of the cream mixture, smoothing into an even layer. Top with a final layer of cookies, then add the remaining cream mixture on top smoothing into an even layer. 5. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 4 hours or up to 12 hours. 6. Decorate the cake as desired with crumbled cookies and remaining raspberries. Use a serrated knife to slice and serve.

### RECIPE

### SLOW COOKER TEXAS PULLED PORK

#### INGREDIENTS

1- Teaspoon vegetable oil  
1 (4 pound) pork shoulder roast  
1 - Cup barbecue sauce  
½ - Cup apple cider vinegar  
½ - Cup chicken broth  
¼ - Cup brown sugar  
1 - Tablespoon yellow mustard  
1 - Tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

1 - Tablespoon chili powder  
1 - Extra large onion, chopped  
2 - Large cloves garlic, crushed  
1 ½ - Teaspoons dried thyme  
8 - Hamburger buns, split  
2 - Tablespoons butter, or as needed

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Pour vegetable oil into the bottom of a slow cooker. Place pork roast into the slow cooker; pour in barbecue sauce, vinegar, and chicken broth. Stir in brown sugar, yellow mustard, Worcestershire sauce, chili powder, onion, garlic, and thyme. Cover and cook on Low for 10 to 12 hours or on High for 5 to 6 hours until pork shreds easily with a fork. 2. Remove pork from the slow cooker and shred the meat using two forks. Return shredded pork into the slow cooker and stir to combine with juices. 3. Spread the inside of both halves of hamburger buns with butter. Toast buns, butter-side down in a skillet over medium heat until golden brown. Spoon pulled pork into toasted buns 4. Serve and enjoy!

### RECIPE

### SWEET MACARONI SALAD

#### INGREDIENTS

1 - package (16 ounces) elbow macaroni  
4 - medium carrots - shredded  
1 - large green pepper, chopped  
1 - medium red onion, chopped  
2 - cups mayonnaise

1 - can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk  
1 - cup apple cider vinegar  
½ - cup sugar  
1 - teaspoon salt  
½ - teaspoon pepper

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Cook macaroni according to package directions. Drain and rinse in cold water; drain well. 2. In a large bowl, combine macaroni and vegetables. Whisk together remaining ingredients until smooth and sugar is dissolved; stir into macaroni mixture. Refrigerate covered overnight.

### Oreo Icebox Cake



# 4TH ANNUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN TRADES DAY

Triangle Communications and Hill County Electric recently held the 4th Annual Trades Day, providing high school students with hands-on exposure to various skilled trades. The cooperatives partnered with MSU-Northern, CHR Solutions, Vermeer, and VEC to offer nine different learning tracks in the morning.

During lunch, students attended presentations highlighting career opportunities in the trades, including job availability, wages, training programs, and educational pathways. In the afternoon, they selected a trade track of interest and participated in hands-on activities.

Students had the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities, including:

- Building and testing network cables
- Using SQL queries as a Digital Crime Scene Investigator to uncover clues
- Operating a bore machine through a virtual simulator provided by Vermeer and an actual bore machine
- Conducting a Geo Caching exercise using GPS coordinates
- Splicing fiber
- Wiring a meter loop
- Constructing a marshmallow shooter with plumbing materials
- Accessing the computers on a Vermeer plow and a digger truck for repair diagnostics
- Hands on welding exercises

Over 200 students from 9 area high schools attended the event. MSU-Northern also brought students from its Plumbing, Welding, Diesel Technology, and Global Positioning courses, allowing high school participants to interact with college students already pursuing careers in the trades.

Trades Day continues to be an invaluable experience for students, offering realworld exposure to in-demand careers and the skills needed to succeed in them.





Craig Gates  
General Manager/CEO

# CEO MESSAGE

## Annual Meeting Nominations

It may seem early to talk about the Annual Meeting and upcoming Trustee elections, but our team is already preparing for the 2026 Annual Meeting. This fall, we have two districts up for election to join the Triangle Telephone Cooperative Board of Trustees.

- **District 1** – White Sulphur Springs, Martinsdale, Judith Gap, Harlowton, Melville, Big Timber, Reed Point, Rapelje, Broadview, and Molt.
- **District 3** – Chester, South Chester, Joplin, Rudyard, Hingham, Gildford, Kremlin, Simpson, and North Havre

Joplin, Rudyard, Hingham, Gildford, Kremlin, Simpson, and North Havre

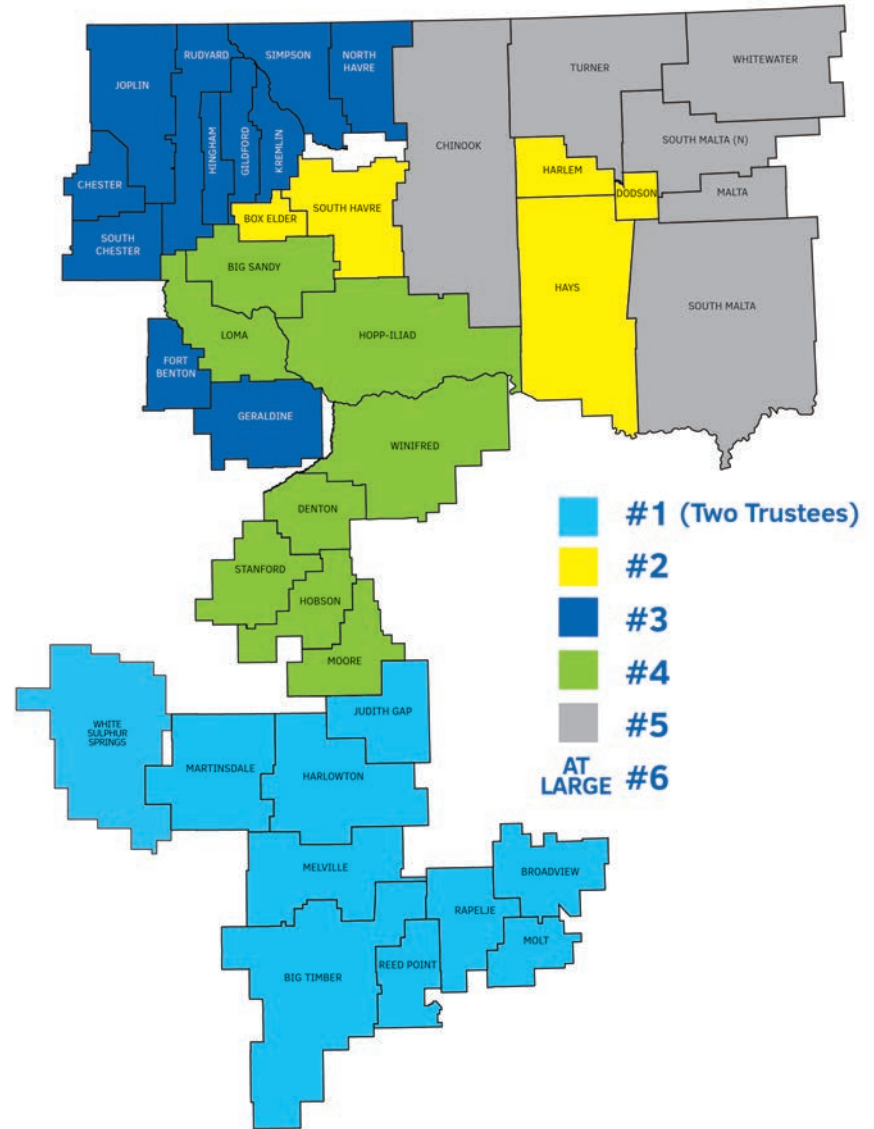
To run for an open position in Districts 1 or 3, you must reside within the district.

To be eligible, candidates must have an active account in good standing with the Cooperative. Each Trustee serves a three-year term. Members can be nominated in two ways:

1. Submit your name to the nominating committee for review at [nominations@itstriangle.net](mailto:nominations@itstriangle.net).
2. Run by petition, with nominations due by July 15, 2026. Additional details can be found in our by-laws.

The nominating committee will convene July 14, 2026 at 11:30 AM at the Havre Office and by video conference.

Mark your calendars! The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at the Triangle Communications headquarters in Havre. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months. Stay safe and stay healthy!



# TEACHER APPRECIATION WINNERS

At Triangle Communications, we recognize the challenges rural schools face in recruiting and retaining exceptional educators. Our Teacher Appreciation Program was created to celebrate and support the dedicated individuals who go above and beyond for their students and communities. Each year, we award funds to outstanding teachers to help meet their classroom or professional needs - whatever matters most to them. We're honored to highlight this year's inspiring recipients.

This year's Teacher Appreciation Program honored four outstanding educators who exemplify the dedication and heart it takes to teach in rural Montana. Each of these educators is a powerful example of the difference teachers make in rural communities across our service area.

- Heidi Gunderson of Rapelje High School
- Anthony Carroccia of Melville School
- Anne Adams of Hays Lodgepole High School
- Christopher Linhart of Hobson Public Schools
- Marcel Whitney Top Sky of Box Elder Schools
- Tracey Zuhoski of Sweet Grass County High School
- Dawn Perkins of Winifred Public Schools



**HEIDI GUNDERSON**  
RAPELJE



**ANTHONY CARROCCIA**  
MELVILLE



**ANNE ADAMS**  
HAYS-LODGEPOLE



**CHRISTOPHER LINHART**  
HOBSON



**MARCEL WHITNEY TOP SKY**  
BOX ELDER



**TRACEY ZUHOSKI**  
SWEET GRASS COUNTY



**DAWN PERKINS**  
WINIFRED

# YOUTH TECHNOLOGY GRANT WINNERS!

We are proud to announce this year's recipients of our Youth Technology Grants. We would like to congratulate all of the following clubs and organizations that were selected. Good luck with all of your projects!

Visit [itstriangle.com/youth-support](http://itstriangle.com/youth-support) to learn more.

BROADVIEW BPA  
BLAINE COUNTY 4-H  
HAVRE GIRL SCOUTS  
HAVRE HIGH CULTURE CLUB  
HELP COMMITTEE AND BOYS  
& GIRLS CLUB OF HAVRE  
JUDITH GAP FFA  
NORTHERN LIGHTS 4-H CLUB  
WHEATLAND FFA



# Lower your monthly bill with **LIFELINE** Government Assistance Program

**If your household is eligible, you can receive:**

Up to a \$9.25/  
month discount  
on your internet  
service

Up to a \$34.25/  
month discount if  
your household is  
on qualifying  
Tribal lands

**If you or someone in your household participates in  
one of the following programs apply today!**

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Income is 135% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines

### **Additional options for Tribal Lands**

- Any of the federal assistance programs listed above
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Head Start (only households meeting the income qualifying standard)
- Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

**Apply online at [www.lifelinesupport.org](http://www.lifelinesupport.org). Upon approval, you'll receive a Qualifying ID number. Call us with your Qualifying ID to enroll!**

# MONTANA TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS PROGRAM

If you or someone you love has difficulty using a standard telephone, connect with the Montana Accessible Communications (MTAC) and Montana Relay, a service of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.

## About Montana Relay

Montana Relay is a public service that guarantees all citizens have access to prompt, professional, and accurate communication via telephone. Consumers of these specialized services – specifically individuals who are deaf, DeafBlind, hard of hearing, or have difficulty speaking – can communicate through Traditional Relay Service (TTY), Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), Spanish Relay, and Captioned Telephone. This helps ensure they can connect with family, friends, and businesses with ease.

## How Montana Relay works

Dial 711 to connect with Montana Relay. A qualified Communication Assistant (CA) will ask for the area code and number of the person you wish to call and begin relaying the conversation. Typically, the CA voices the typed message from the TTY user to the person on the other end, then types the spoken response back to the TTY user.

## Specialized Services

Montana Relay offers specialized services for individuals who have difficulty speaking, including Spanish-speaking residents. Specially trained CAs are available to assist with these types of calls by dialing the numbers provided on this page. Since Montana Relay offers a variety of services, please refer to the website or contact Montana Relay for detailed instructions on how a particular call is processed.

## Captioned Telephone

Captioned Telephone is ideal for individuals who have hearing loss but are still able to speak. A captioned telephone works like any other phone, with one key difference: it allows users to listen to conversations while reading captions of what is being said to them.

## Access to Services

Dialing 711 provides toll-free access to relay services. If you experience trouble dialing 711, please contact Montana Relay.

## Emergency Calls

Please note: 711 can only be used to reach Montana Relay. In an emergency, always dial 911.

If you use a TTY, call 911 or your local emergency service TTY number directly. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires all 911 centers to have a TTY and be prepared to handle emergency calls in this format.

Montana Relay will make every effort to assist in an emergency; however, relay centers are not 911 centers and do not assume responsibility for emergency calls.

---

## Contact Information

If you want to learn about the Montana Telecommunications Access Program, please contact them directly.

**Phone:** 800-833-8503    **Email:** [relay@mt.gov](mailto:relay@mt.gov)    **Website:** [www.dphhs.mt.gov/detd/mtac](http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/detd/mtac)

*All TRS and English Captioned Telephone services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Spanish Captioned Telephone is available daily from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. MST. Consumers may place relay calls to English-speaking and Spanish-speaking people within Montana, across the United States and even internationally. Each conversation is handled with strict confidentiality.*

# Swap and Shop

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members!

Visit [www.itstriangle.com/swap-and-shop](http://www.itstriangle.com/swap-and-shop) to view all listings or to submit/remove your own. \*Denotes photo available on website

## ISO IHC Cub Cadets & Low-Boys

Running or not. Also any attachments. (406) 262-3969.

## 1997 Chevy 350 Engine

Complete, \$1,500. (406) 547-2184.

## Picture Window

Old wooden frame picture window. 82"x42" for 2x4 walls. Free. (406) 395-4531.

## German Shepard Puppies

Black, born early March. (406) 326-2287.

## Missing: B.M. BOWER books

Taken from Big Sandy Cultural Center. Please return them. \$100 reward.

## 2011 CASE IH (STEIGER)\*

450 HD 3822/2568 HRS, power shift, Pro 700, 372 receiver, 57 gpm hydraulic pump, 800/70R38 tires. \$172,000. (406) 899-2202.

## Deluxe Auger Drill and Cart\*

2018 CASE IH Precision Disk 500, 60", 10", single shoot, intelligent ag 2012 CASE IH Precision Air 4430, tow between three tank cart with new stainless steel double shoot manifold & new tires. \$134,500. (406) 899-2202.

## 2013 CASE PATRIOT 4430\*

5630 HRS, 120 ft boom, 1200 gal. \$67,000. (406) 899-2202.

## 2013 Frontier Grain Trailer

47 ft long, 96" W x 66" H. Like new, stored inside. \$35,000. (406) 262-4466.

## Counter height table and four chairs

Sold as a set, butterfly leaf. Table 54Lx36wx36h. Good solid set. (406) 868-2471.

## 2013 Kawasaki Mule 4010 4x4\*

New enclosure, new battery in 2024, new plow 2024, new tires and rims, 4-seater, power steering, blinkers, cab enclosure in 2024, winch with remote control. Please use text or email. Would be good for farm and ranch use. \$6,700. clips3@yahoo.com (406) 390-3780.

## ISO Used 4-wheeler

250-300cc, with rack to mount sprayer, 4-wheel drive not necessary. (406) 899-9279.

## Anatolian Shepherd Karakachan Livestock Guardian Puppies\*

Working lines. Males and females. Located in Columbus. (406) 290-3127

## Side & front windows from a 1979 8ft topper

Windows slide. Make an offer. (406) 390-4493

## Wanted: Hunting lease for elk and deer

Personal use, not a outfitter. Prefer annual lease but will consider options for shorter duration. (406) 932-5296.

## New Aluminum Stall Horse Door + Hardware Kit System

Five horse door hardware kits with everything you need. \$2000 OBO. (406) 932-4391.

## BOSCH 3-1/4" Planer Kit\*

Barely used \$75. (406) 750-7894.

## Two Horse Buggy Parts

Free. (406) 439-5456.

## 2022 Chevy G3500 Passenger Bus

Comes with a chair lift, seats 14, or 12 with 2 wheel chairs. \$20,000. (406) 932-5455.

## Whole & Half Pork

Processing dates of July, August, and September 2026. Raised in Havre, MT processed at the Pay-N- Save in Saco. (406) 230-2281.

## Free Dogs

1 English bulldog and 2 tea cup yorkies. (854) 737-3737.

## Hundreds of free books and records

Big Sandy Cultural Center. 79200 U.S. Highway 87, Big Sandy. (406) 378-2514.

## FlexCoil 2320 45' Airdrill

12" single shoot. Lots of new parts. (406) 390-3185.

## Professional Chicken Cages

Accommodates 550 Hens. \$800 each. (406) 945-2027.

## 1 year old Border Collie

Started on sheep, too much energy. No fear. Will be great on cows. Has had 2 weeks professional training. Great with children and other dogs. \$950. (406) 374-2406.

## 2015 Polaris 1000XP

3,945 miles, 468 hrs. Handle bar & hand warmer, hard case lockable front rack, winch, 3/4 tread left, rear receiver, medium size trunk. \$7200. (406) 390-4077.

## 1993 Safari Motorhome For Sale

3430 Cummins, 8.3 turbo-charged, intercooled. Allison World transmission with 6 speed and 2 overdrive gears. 98,600 miles. \$15,000. (406) 547-2184.

## 1993 Ford Explorer

Needs transmission, runs good, \$400. (406) 547-2184.

## Targhee Registered Rams

Over 75+ years of genetics. Great longevity and will do their best for you and your flock! (406) 799-2379.

## Small Square Wheat Straw Bales

30lb average - \$3 each. Located in Havre. Call (406) 230-2281. 8/25

## Mini Washing Machine

Mini washing machine, capacity 1KA, B-Quick Bubbleator, portable, great for RV's or apartments. \$35.00. (406) 547-2184. 4/25

## Water Tank

Estimated 350-500 Gallons. (717) 994-5076. 8/25

## 6 Lots with two buildings in Harlowton

Corner Lots on Central Ave, Harlowton, For Sale By Owner. (24,150 sq ft) with two buildings. Building #1 is a store front, shop and warehouse equaling 4,348 sq ft. and building #2 is 1,246 sq ft. Lots of space in a great location. \$350,000. (406) 350-1408. 7/25

## Diamond Laser 3000 Glass Bandsaw

Asking \$220. Call 406-547-2437. 7/25

## Round bale wool sacker gas motor

\$275 OBO. (406) 326-2287. 7/25

*Swap & Shop is a classified advertising section of the Triangle Communications and Hill County Electric websites and newsletters. It is maintained as a service to members wanting to buy, sell and announce non-commercial items. To have an ad included, simply enter all the pertinent information on the online form. An administrator will review the information and if approved, the ad will be published. It will stay online for 1 year unless you notify us to remove or change it. Ads will also appear in our newsletters (space permitting). Due to print deadlines and space available, some ads may appear in the next month's issue. We reserve the right to abbreviate ads. Happy swapping and shopping!*



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**KELLY!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**20 YEARS**  
OF SERVICE!



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**KIRK!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**20 YEARS**  
OF SERVICE!



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**JACK!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**25 YEARS**  
OF SERVICE!



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**ALINA!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**15 YEARS**  
OF SERVICE!



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**PAMELA!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**20 YEARS**  
OF SERVICE!



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**SHARLYN!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
**30 YEARS**  
OF SERVICE!



## MYSTERY PHOTO AND TELCO QUIZ

Two Lucky Subscribers Per Issue Will Win \$25!

#1. What date is the Triangle Annual Meeting this year?

My name is:

---

---

#2. What is the mystery photo from in this issue?:

My Triangle phone number is:

---

---



Mystery Photo

**Congrats to the previous issue's winners:**

**Todd Hansen  
and  
Shawna & Jose Yates**

Submit answers online at [www.itstriangle.com/telco-quiz](http://www.itstriangle.com/telco-quiz) or return this slip with your payment, or mail it to: Newsletter, Triangle Communications, PO Box 1220, Havre, MT 59501.

\*Submit answers before the next newsletter comes out to be entered into the current drawing.



PO BOX 1140  
2121 US HWY 2 NW  
HAVRE, MT 59501-1140

1.800.332.1201 | Itstriangle.com

**Serving friends and  
neighbors for over 70 years**

# SMART CAMERA SYSTEMS FOR YOUR PROPERTY

**CAMERA SYSTEMS CAN  
BE USED TO MONITOR:**



PROPERTY



BARN



LIVESTOCK



HOME



BUSINESS



SHOP

AND MORE...

**SECURE • RELIABLE • CUSTOMIZABLE**

Contact us today for a free consultation!