

A herd of cattle is walking along a dirt road that stretches into the distance. In the foreground, the head and neck of a brown horse are visible, looking towards the herd. The scene is set in a rural, open landscape with green grass on the sides of the road. The overall atmosphere is calm and pastoral.

Keeping You **CONNECTED**

NOV/DEC 2022

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The logo for Triangle Communications features a stylized white triangle shape to the left of the company name. The word "TRIANGLE" is in a large, bold, sans-serif font, and "COMMUNICATIONS" is in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font below it.

TRIANGLE
COMMUNICATIONS

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OUR COVER

Jon Sheehy of Big Sandy captured this foggy morning moving cows about 15 miles east of Big Sandy in the Bear Paw Mountains. This photo claimed 6th place in Triangle's 2021 Photo Contest.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

THANKSGIVING DAY
NOVEMBER 24TH

DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING
NOVEMBER 25TH

DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 26TH

PLEASE CALL 1-800-332-1201
24/7 TO REPORT ANY PHONE
OR INTERNET ISSUES.



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Featuring Geraldine, MT

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CONTACT US

Call 406.394.7807 or 611 or 1.800.332.1201

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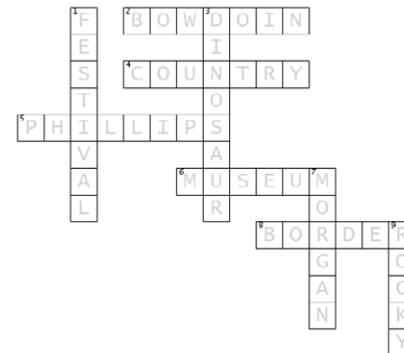
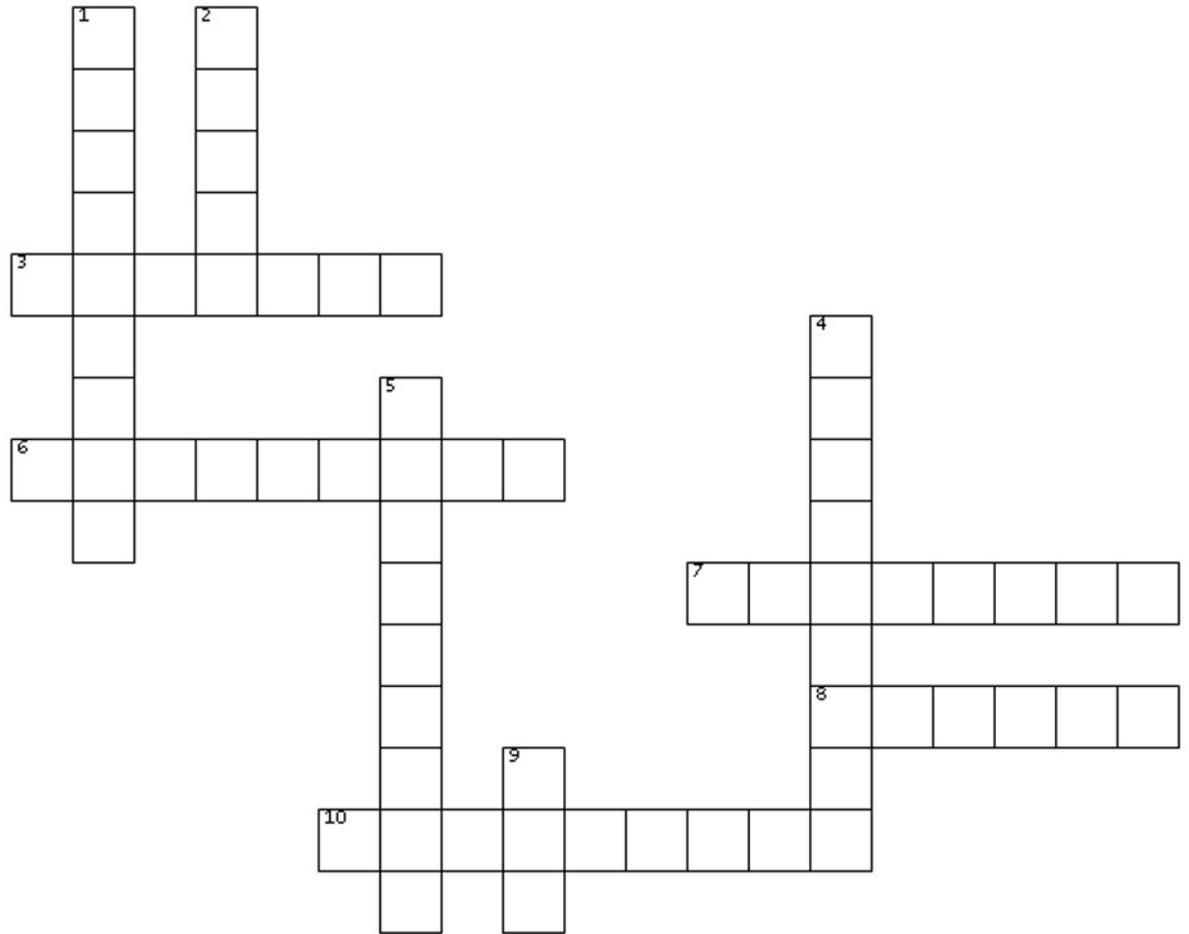
GERALDINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

3. _____ Montana Rail runs a tourist train between Lewistown to Geraldine in the summer and passengers tour the restore depot.
6. The town of _____ was named for Geraldine Rockefeller, the wife of the railroad owner.
7. The town of Geraldine is located in _____ County.
6. The Geraldine school teams are known as the _____.
10. Geraldine's town founders traveled by Model T Ford from _____ to lay out the townsite in 1913.

DOWN

1. _____ service ended in 1955 and after the Milwaukee Road's demise in 1980, salvage companies removed the rails between Great Falls and Geraldine.
2. The Geraldine _____ now displays the history of the area and is a Montana Historic Sit.
4. The Milwaukee Road built a branch line between _____ and Great Falls in 1916.
5. Geraldine originated as a depot stop on the _____ Road.
9. Geraldine is near two lakes, Kingsbury Lake and _____ Lake.



ANSWERS
 For the Sept/Oct Community
 Malta/Turner/Loring Point Crossword

COOK'S CONNECTION

DISHING UP MONTANA'S BEST RECIPES

Thank you to everyone who has shared their recipes, keep them coming! If you have a favorite recipe of any kind that you would like to share, we would love to have it.



EARN A FREE GIFT JUST FOR SHARING!

Photocopy, print or type your favorite recipe and send it in one of the following ways:

Mail to Newsletter, PO Box 1220,
Havre, MT 59501

E-mail newsletter@itsTriangle.net

RECIPE

Crockpot Meatballs

From HCE/Triangle Cooking for a Cure Cookbook

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (10 ¾ oz) can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (10 ¾ oz) can cream of celery soup
- 1 (10 ¾ oz) can of French onion soup
- 1 pkg frozen meatballs
- 1 pkg egg noodles

DIRECTIONS

Combine soup in crockpot and add frozen meatballs. Cook on low all day. Cook noodles according to package directions. Serve meatballs over noodles.

RECIPE

Easy Potato Casserole (Serves 12)

Submitted by Nancy Bruce of Big Timber

INGREDIENTS

- 28 oz frozen potatoes O'Brien, thawed
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- ½ cup milk
- ½ cup sour cream
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 1 cup shredded muenster cheese
- ¼ cup dry Panko breadcrumbs
- 2 Tbsp melted butter

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients (except crumbs and butter) in large bowl until well mixed. Spray a 2-quart casserole dish with oil. Spoon mixture into dish. Mix breadcrumbs with butter and sprinkle over the potatoes. Bake 350 oven for 50 – 60 minutes until bubbly and potatoes are done.

Note: For brunch, put ¾ cup of potato mixture in oiled individual casserole dishes and baked for 20 minutes. Then, crack an egg into the center of each dish, sprinkle Panko on top and bake for 20 minutes longer (yolks will be firm).

RECIPE

Strawberry Pretzel Dessert

From HCE/Triangle Cooking for a Cure Cookbook

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups pretzels, crushed
- 1 cup Cool Whip
- ⅓ cup sugar
- 2 cups boiling water
- ¾ cup butter
- 1 pkg strawberry Jello
- 12 oz cream cheese
- 1 ½ cups cold water
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 pints strawberries, sliced
- 2 Tbsp milk

DIRECTIONS

Mix pretzels, 1/3 cup sugar and butter. Press into 13x9 inch baking dish. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes. Let cool. Beat cream cheese, ¼ cup sugar and milk until smooth. Stir in Cool Whip. Spread over crust and refrigerate. Stir boiling water and Jello until dissolved. Stir in cold water. Refrigerate 1 to 1 ½ hours until it starts to set. Stir in strawberries. Spoon over cream cheese mixture and refrigerate.

BUSINESS PROFILE: GERALDINE



Geraldine is a small town with a rich history. Originating as a depot on the Milwaukee Railroad, the town was named for the mother and daughter of Milwaukee Road financier William G. Rockefeller. Geraldine was to be the “show place of the new line” from Harlowton to Great Falls in the early 1900s. The historic Geraldine Depot was christened in 1914. The depot served two daily passenger trains and freight crews until passenger service ended in 1965. It remains as the town’s proud centerpiece.



The family-owned, community Stockman Bank in Geraldine is one of 35 branches across the state of Montana. Built in 1914, the brick building is one of the most historic buildings in town and was placed on the National Register of Historical Places. It has housed many banks since 1914 and became Stockman Bank in 2014. Aside from its commitment to its customers, Stockman Bank sponsors many events and organizations in the areas it serves. Next time you’re passing through Geraldine, stop in to meet the friendly staff and see the beautiful, historic building.

Operating in the center of town is a staple of the community – the Fresh Start Geraldine Grocery Cooperative. Its grand opening was in July of 2017. As the only place in town to buy groceries, the co-op serves a crucial role in the community. The cooperative is committed to its member owners and to reinvesting in the community to make Geraldine thrive.

Speaking of cooperatives, CHS Big Sky has a large footprint and impact in Montana, including in the community of Geraldine. Geraldine is surrounded by rich agricultural land, and CHS helps to strengthen the agriculture community through its supplies and services as well as local stewardship efforts.



Since 1916, family-owned Joyce Fuel & Feeds has been supporting parts of rural Montana with all its agricultural needs. With locations in Geraldine, Fort Benton and Geyser, Joyce Fuel and Feeds supplies the agriculture community with feed and fuel, outerwear, and ranching supplies.

Geraldine welcomed M&M Tire to the business community in January of 2021. This family-owned tire shop has been a great addition to the community and helps to fill a need. Stop in for a friendly visit and a new set of treads.

Diamond D Bar Processing is a family-owned, custom butcher shop in Geraldine offering domestic and wild game processing. Last year, the company made significant facility modifications to increase storage and processing capacity. The butcher shop fills a great void for the community, as the next closest meat processor is nearly 75 miles away. Diamond D Bar also participates in the Montana Food Bank Network program, Hunters Against Hunger, and can process donated wild game to be given to local food banks in the surrounding area.

With a classic, small-town Montana ambience, Rusty’s Bar and Grill is friendly and welcoming. The business is housed in a building built in 1914. On occasion you can enjoy live music at Rusty’s. The restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and is known for its one-pound burger, homemade fries and chicken fried steak. Be sure to put Rusty’s on your list for your next road trip in Central Montana.



CEO MESSAGE

I would like to start this message with a huge thank you to everyone who attended the Dual Triangle Telephone Cooperative Annual Meetings in Havre and Big Timber. You, the members, are the reason we exist. Participating in the business side of your cooperative is very important and we appreciate all members who took time out of their weekends to join us.

The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for our members to voice any concerns they may have so we can address those issues or concerns. This year was our first year utilizing mail-in ballots. Mail-in ballots increased our member participation from one percent to nearly ten percent. We enjoyed meeting our members who attended in person to put a face to the voice we hear on the phone and it was great to see many familiar faces.

I recently joined Tom Schultz on the Voices of Montana to discuss fiber broadband and how we are bringing fiber to all our Triangle members. Triangle began plowing fiber to our members in 2008 and now in 2022 we are 90% done. We talked about the size of Triangle's serving territory which covers Chester to Malta and from the Canadian border to the Wyoming border, which is 24,000 square miles with less than one member per mile. Co-ops have proven we can get the fiber in the ground to serve our members in our service territory.

We are proud to support our communities, businesses, and area youth. Triangle is a member of every Chamber of Commerce in our communities, and we enjoy volunteering within those communities. Additionally, we provide up to 37 high school scholarships and up to six college scholarships in our service area, as well as a Teacher Appreciation Program scholarship to help recruit and retain high quality educators in rural Montana. We also provide Technology Grants for K-12 schools served by Triangle and much more.

Visit our website, www.itstriangle.com for more information on the programs, support and services we offer.



Craig Gates
General Manager/CEO



MONTANA-SIZED BEEF!

A graphic of a cow where its body is composed of various beef cuts: CHEEK, TONGUE, NECK, CHUCK, RIB, BRISKET, SHANK, TENDERLOIN, SHORT, TOP, BOTTOM, FLANK, and SHANK.

A Chance to win a Free quarter 4-H beef!
Open to non-profit organizations in our service area.

Apply online at
itstriangle.com/beefgrant by April 1st!

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RICH STUKER RECEIVES 2022 DISTINGUISHED LEADER AWARD

Rich Stuker, Board President for Triangle Communications, was presented the 2022 Distinguished Leader Award at this year's Broadband Montana conference.

“Rich is a true servant leader. He is not one to sit back and observe from afar without taking action. When his cooperative or his community are in need, he is willing to step up and be part of the solution,” said Craig Gates, CEO of Triangle Communications.

Rich was first elected to the Triangle Communications Board in 1986. He has been the President of the Board for about a total

of seven years and previously served as the Board's President from 1996-1998.

Outside of Triangle, Rich is an active member of his community. He represented District 3 on the Fish Wildlife and Parks Board from 2012-2021. Additionally, Rich served on the Chinook School Board for 21 years. He has also been an active supporter of the Chinook Swim team for many years, as both his children participated in the program. Today, he continues to provide support to the local swimming pool and works hard to make sure the community thrives.



Pokorny Receives Service Award from MTA

Rick Pokorny, Secretary/Treasurer for the Triangle Board, received an award for his 40 years of dedicated service to Triangle Communications. Thank you, Rick.

TRIANGLE COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL MEETINGS WRAP UP



Thank you to all our members and guests for taking time out of your busy weekend to attend the 68th Annual Meeting of Members of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association held on Saturday, October 8, 2022 in Havre and October 15, 2022 in Big Timber. By holding two meetings, Triangle was able to conduct the business portion of the cooperative at each location.

Triangle held mail-in balloting this year for the first time and in-person voting at the meetings for those that did not vote via mail-in ballot. Voting on the Bylaw changes also took place on the mail-in ballot and in-person voting. Over 1,300 votes were cast by mail and at each meeting. This was an all-time high in voting in the last 20 years.

During the business portion of the meeting, the Board of Trustees discussed the progress Triangle is making in the Fiber to the Home process. At this point in time, Triangle is on track to complete the Fiber to the Home builds in 2024. Capital Credits were also discussed during the meeting. Triangle was able to give back a general retirement of capital credits from 1993-2001 in addition to a discounting option from 2002-2021. Estates were also paid out for a rough total of



15 million in capital credits back to the members.

After the votes were counted at the Big Timber meeting for the Trustee elections, the members below were elected:

- Doug Lowry was re-elected to represent District 1 (Judith Gap, White Sulphur Springs, Martinsdale, Harlowton, Melville, Big Timber, Reed Point, Rapelje, Molt and Broadview).
- Liz Werk was re-elected to represent District 2 (Box Elder, South Havre, Harlem, Hays and Dodson).
- Dave Schwarzbach was re-elected to represent District 6 (At Large District).

Following the business portion of the meetings, a delicious lunch was provided, and prizes were drawn for members



in attendance. Member gifts for those attending included Made in Montana gifts from around our service area. Prizes also included \$25 cash drawings for children in attendance, plus prizes from local businesses and vendors doing business with Triangle throughout the year. Beef and pork purchased by Triangle at local 4-H livestock auctions were also part of the prize drawings plus a Grand Prize at each meeting of a Blackstone Griddle Bundle.

Members attending the Havre or Big Timber Annual Meeting voted on their favorite photo in our annual photo contest. Congratulations to the photo contest winners:

- Grand Prize - Corrie Knerr
- Second Place - Todd Donoven
- Third Place - Bridger Cunningham
- Fourth Place - Ashley Nordboe
- Fifth Place (tie) - Rod Schaff and Jill Conover

Thank you again to all the members who took time out of their busy schedules to join us at YOUR Cooperative's Annual Meeting of Members.



Important Information Regarding Montana Relay

Montana Relay:

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

How Montana Relay works:

Dial 711 or the toll-free number listed below to connect with Montana Relay. A qualified Communication Assistant (CA) will ask for the area code and the number of the person you wish to call and will begin relaying the conversation. Generally, the CA will voice the typed message from the text telephone (TTY) user to the person on the other end. The CA then relays the spoken words by typing them 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 on hand to assist in these types of calls by dialing the associated number provided on this page. Since Montana Relay offers a variety of services please refer to the website listed or call Montana Relay Customer Care for more detailed instruction on how a particular call is processed.

Captioned Telephone:

Captioned Telephone is ideal for any individual that has a loss of hearing but are still able to speak for themselves. A captioned telephone works like any other telephone with one essential difference: it allows users to listen to their phone conversations while reading word-for-word captions of what's said to them.

Access to Services:

Both 711 and the 800 numbers are toll free calls and provide access to the same relay services. If you are experiencing trouble dialing 711 when trying to reach Montana Relay, please call Montana Relay Customer Care.

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.

To place a call using Montana Relay, dial 711 or one of the toll-free numbers below:

TTY: 800-253-4091

Voice: 866-253-4090

VCO: 877-826-7161

Spanish: 866-225-1866

Speech-to-Speech: 877-253-4613

Customer Care Information:

800-833-8503 V/TTY

1006 12th Street

Aurora, NE 68818

relay@mt.gov

www.dphhs.mt.gov/detd/mtap

Captioned Telephone

Customer Service: 888-269-7477

To call a Captioned Telephone user, dial:

711 or 877-243-2823

Special points of interest:

Equipment Distribution Program

If you want to learn about the Montana Telecommunications Access Program, please call 800-833-8503. You may also visit <http://dphhs.mt.gov/detd/mtap/mtapequipment>.

Emergency Calls

Please note that 711 can only be used to reach Montana Relay. In an EMERGENCY you should continue to use 911. For emergencies, call 911 or your local emergency service TTY number directly. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that all 911 centers have a TTY and are prepared to handle emergency calls placed in this manner. Montana Relay will make every effort to assist you in an emergency. However, it is important to understand that relay centers are **not** 911 centers and do not assume responsibility for emergency calls.

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SWAP AND SHOP

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

Check out the current version online at www.itstriangle.com/swap-and-shop! Ads submitted online are usually added within **2 to 3 business days**. Due to print deadlines and space available, some ads may appear in the next magazine. *indicates photo available to view on the website version.

11th Annual Holiday Fair at Rapelje School

The Rapelje Community Scholarship Committee is sponsoring the 11th Annual Holiday Fair in the Rapelje School Gymnasium on Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the town of Rapelje. Surrounding community members are welcome to participate in the Holiday Fair. \$1 admission fee plus raffles and door prizes throughout the day plus wonder food. The goal is to raise enough money to provide scholarships for Rapelje students.

RYOBI Miter Saw*

10" RYOBI Compound Miter saw in excellent shape. Call 406.759.5551.

Exhaust System

Unused and complete exhaust system. Stainless steel, fits 1994 Chevy Duramax 2500 Crew Cab long box. Like new and one continuous piece. Please call to make appointment to see and ask questions, 406.390.3522. Offers desired.

Boat and Motors for Sale

11-foot aluminum boat with 2 outboard motors, a 6hp two-stroke outboard motor, and a 2 hp two-stroke outboard motor. Includes fuel tank and oars. Best offer, call 406.669.3333 (no texts, landline only please).

Gas Dryer and Snow Blower

Gas dryer, \$100 and a large snow blower, \$700. Call 406.395.4581.

Wanting to Buy

410 Shotguns and Remington BDL rifles. Call 406.326.2287.

Goodyear Wrangler Tires For Sale

Goodyear Wrangler light truck tires, size 265/65R 18 with low mileage, set of four. Call 406.398.5330.

Smoker Craft Jon Boat

12-foot aluminum Smoker Craft Jon Boat with 9/9 Mercury motor. Also includes 2 swivel seats, a depth and fish finder, oars, and a trailer with a cover. Asking \$2,400, call 406.622.3945 or view at 3945 Liscum Bottom Rd, Fort Benton.

Concrete Tools

Clipper Power Trowel, 36ft, \$300; Rebar Cutter and Bender, \$195; Milwaukee Roto Hammer heavy duty with bits, \$225. Call or text 406.561.6314.

Hamilton Stand-up Piano

Includes bench and sheet music, sounds great. Asking \$250, text questions to 406.561.6314.

Misc Items For Sale

Bullfrog hot tub, needs repair \$200; older piano-refinished with bench; weight bench with weights, \$300; variety size new bolts by the number; 1985 Versatile 5000 series blade 35.5 ft, \$2500. Call 406.378.3212.

Wanting to Buy

Looking to buy 1955 to 1959 Chevy car or pickup to restore or drivable, cash. Call 406.326.2287.

King Kutter Rotary Mower

3-point 6 ft wide King Kutter rotary mower. Like new, asking \$2,000. Call 406.355.4936.

Property for Sale

Located in a historic town where Lewis & Clark camped (Decision Point). Small home/original Great Northern Depot and 1 room schoolhouse all housing antiques, collectibles, and as-is items for sale. All merchandise and display equipment goes with the property. Priced to sell at a reasonable offer. Call 406.739.4361 or 406.781.4245 for more information. .

Wanting to Buy

Antique wood cookstove and horse drawn wagon. Call 406.707.0244.

Sleigh Bed, Dresser and Antique Organ

Sleigh bed and matching dresser. Asking \$350 for set. Old antique pump organ, needs work. Asking \$50 for organ. Call 406.674.5520 .

Delta AI Cream Separator

Cream separator for sale, call for pricing 406.780.1572.

Wanting to Buy

Wanting to buy a 360 or 390 Ford engine, call 406.301.4035.

2001 Chevrolet Silverado

1500 extended cab, 132,000 miles. Very good condition. Call 406.398.5330 for pricing.

Dutchmen 5th Wheel Toy Hauler

Two slides, generator, microwave, roof air, 10-foot walled-off garage with tie-down rails and awning. Turn key with dishes, silverware, pots and pans and blankets. Stored inside, non-smoking and very clean older owners. Or without any extras. Asking \$28,900 offers or will consider trades. Call 406.265.0990.

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 customers and communities 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 within two business days and if approved, the ad will then appear. It will stay online for 60 days unless you notify us to remove or change it. It will also appear in any of the newsletters printed during that 60 day window. Triangle reserves the right to abbreviate ads and if the section is full, we will display ads on a first come, first-served basis. If you're unable to enter your ad online you may mail or e-mail it to us using the contact info inside the front cover of this magazine. Happy swapping and shopping!



Bobbi Sweeney, Dispatch/
Tech Support

WHO'S WHO: BOBBI SWEENEY

Bobbi Sweeney joined the Triangle Communications family seven months ago, and she is a great addition to the Dispatch/Tech Support. Previously she has been a loan officer, farmer, and volunteer coordinator.

Bobbi said the people she works with and the customers she talks to each day are what she likes best about her job. She added, "I always enjoy a great conversation." Bobbi is definitely a people person.

In her spare time, Bobbi enjoys traveling, trying new restaurants, fishing, hiking (if there are no snakes) and going to the movies.

She is currently not involved in any volunteer activities, but can't say no when asked to help!

The dish she is most well-known for is Philly Cheese Steaks and homemade fries. Hawaii was her favorite vacation probably because she and her husband were married there. She has been lucky enough to travel back there several times.

Thank you for a fun interview, Bobbi!

MYSTERY PHOTO AND TELCO QUIZ

TWO LUCKY SUBSCRIBERS PER ISSUE WILL WIN \$25!

We received 61 entries that the Triangle Annual Meetings will take place in Havre on Oct. 8th and Big Timber on Oct. 15th and the mystery photo as the 811 graphic.



Congratulations to Andrea Keller and Glenda Hanson who were randomly drawn to receive a \$25 credit on their next Triangle bill. Try your luck with this issue's quiz and mystery photo shown on the right.

TWO CHANCES TO WIN!



1. What does MTAP stand for??

2. Mystery Photo (right):



My Name: _____

My Triangle Phone Number: _____

Yes! I want to receive e-mail notifications about special events or deals in my area.

My e-mail address is: _____



Entries must be received by October 1, 2022 to be eligible for the drawing. Please return this slip with your payment or mail to: Newsletter, Triangle Communications, PO Box 1220, Havre MT 59501. You can also submit your answers at www.itstriangle.com/telco-quiz.



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