

**Grizzly bear experts here for meeting
Tuesday on bears tracked in our area.**



<http://www.seeleyswanpathfinder.com>

Seeley
Swan

PATHFINDER

Vol XVII, No. 1

"Voices from the Valley"

Thursday, May 2, 2002

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY
225 N. ROBERTS ST.
HELENA, MT 59601-4514

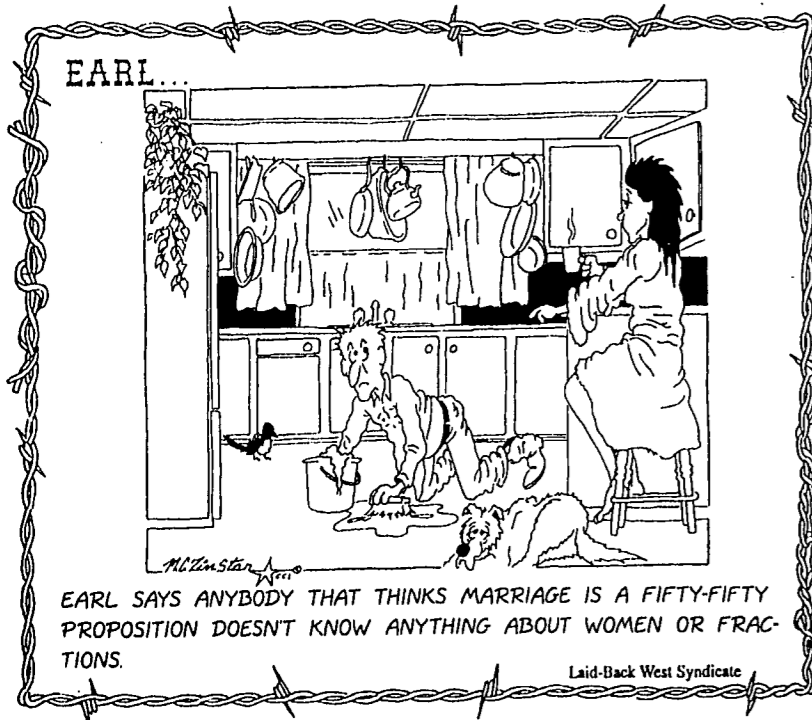
**Election Next Tuesday
Don't Forget to Vote**

*Snowmelt
begins filling
local streams*

Ice has disappeared in the past week from our lakes and snow only remains in shaded areas as we move into springtime temperatures at long last.

G. Natanael photo

email: pathfinder@montana.com



Editorial Comment

Chips . . . bits & pieces

Two SSSH athletes represented the school at the Russ Pilcher Western Montana Top 10 Track Meet last week where only the best are invited. Junior Abe Madinger set a new personal record, going 6-0, to win the high jump event. Beth Copenhaver finished fifth in the 300 hurdles in 50.7.

Bob Brown, director of the Missoula County Historical Museum was in town Monday setting up an exhibit at the new Library/Media Center at the high school. A history of weaving, from ancient times to the present, is depicted in photographs and will run through September for public viewing. Brown, who is working with the local historical society to help find grants for its museum project, hopes to have another exhibit later this year on forestry in the Seeley Swan and Blackfoot areas. The exhibits are part of a new thrust by the Missoula association to extend its reach outside of Missoula. It's a new program where we "take our show on the road," Brown said. So, stop in at the high school for a look-see.

There's only one contest in this school and special district elections, and that's in the trustee race for the health center, but there are several levy requests and your vote can make a difference...don't forget to vote in the election Tuesday, May 7.

—Gary Noland

Banners planned for downtown light poles

The Seeley Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is purchasing community banners to be placed on each of our 33 light poles along highway 83 through town. "Real Banners" are made of Sunbrella acrylic woven canvas fabric and are long lasting with fade resistant colors. They each feature pole hems and grommets on top and bottom to allow for mounting. The Chamber will also purchase mounting brackets to attach them to poles as well as a separate US flag that can be added to the banner mount on special occasions.

Chamber member businesses are encouraged to sponsor the attractiveness of our community by sponsoring a pole. The cost is \$275. It is the goal of the Chamber to have these installed by June 1. If you are interested in sponsoring a pole please remit payment to the Seeley Lake Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 516, Seeley Lake, MT. If you have additional questions you may contact Kevin Wetherell at 677-3000 or Cheri Thompson at 677-2454.

NOTICE OF POLLING PLACE FOR SCHOOL ELECTION May 7, 2002

The following are polling places and precincts for the Missoula County High School District D Election to be held in Missoula County, Montana, Tuesday, May 7, 2002:

PRECINCT #	POLLING PLACE	HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY DESIGNATION
23	Clinton School	Acc
25	Potomac/Greenough Comm Ctr	Acc
26	Sunset School	Acc
27	Seeley Lake Elementary School	Inacc
28	Swan Valley School	Inacc

The following are polling places and precincts for the Sunset School District #30 Election to be held in Missoula County, Montana, Tuesday, May 7, 2002:

PRECINCT #	POLLING PLACE	HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY DESIGNATION
26	Sunset School	Inacc

The following are polling places and precincts for the Greenough/Potomac School District #11 Election to be held in Missoula County, Montana, Tuesday, May 7, 2002:

PRECINCT #	POLLING PLACE	HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY DESIGNATION
25	Greenough/Potomac Community Center	Inacc

The following are polling places and precincts for the Swan Valley School District #33 Election to be held in Missoula County, Montana Tuesday, May 7, 2002:

PRECINCT #	POLLING PLACE	HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY DESIGNATION
28	Swan Valley School	Inacc

The following are polling places and precincts for the Seeley Lake School District #34 Election to be held in Missoula County, Montana Tuesday, May 7, 2002:

PRECINCT #	POLLING PLACE	HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY DESIGNATION
27	Seeley Lake Grade School	Inacc

Kids in Seat 'KISS' Belts

Dear Editor,

This year 44,000 Americans will DIE in automobile accidents. Many will be children! Hundreds of thousands more will be seriously injured. Proper use of child safety seats and use of seat belts by all older occupants saves lives and suffering every year! Unfortunately, child safety seat use is complex and, in our busy lives, often not given much thought. Consequently, over 80% of seats in use are installed incorrectly or are inappropriate for the child using them. The Seeley Lake KISS Program (Kids In Seatbelts and Safety Seats!) was created to help families in our community provide a safer transportation environment for their loved ones.

In the past, the KISS Program has been able to sponsor local Check-Up Events. Unfortunately, because of a lack of expertly trained volunteers and cut-backs in funding for paid professionals to assist in these programs, we are not able to offer a local event this year. However, if you need a safety seat or booster seat (for children up to 80 lbs.) we still have some available at the Fire Station. No installation advice or installation assistance is presently available, but the seats are still just \$15.00.

We are making Discount Coupons available for \$10.00 savings on purchase of seats at several Check-Up Events in Missoula. (Please see the ad in this edition of the Pathfinder.) These coupons will allow you to have professional assistance improperly installing your seat at the event. Your net price, with the coupon, will be \$15.00 (\$25.00 event seat price, less the \$10.00 coupon).

Coupons are available at the following locations or by calling Alan Jeans, D.C. (677-3368); Chiropractic Office of Dr. Doug Smithson, First Valley Bank and the Fire Station.

I would like to thank our local businesses for their generous support of the KISS Program: First Valley Bank, Smithson Chiropractic, Dick Lewis Enterprises, Glen's Automotive, The Lions Club, Missoula Electric Coop., Blackfoot Telephone, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Seeley Lake PTA and Rovero's.

Alan Jeans, D.C.
Seeley Lake, Montana

Hospital district trustee candidates

Dear Editor:

This is to remind all voters of the Seeley-Swan Hospital District that May 7, 2002 is the date to vote for two individuals to each serve three year terms on the Hospital District Board of Trustees. Candidates for this office are incumbents Tim Love and Marianne Judge and District resident Jeff Aresty.

This Board has responsibility for assuring quality health care for our communities by overseeing the Seeley-Swan Medical Center and

Second Pitchfork Fondue scheduled

Dear Editor:

Last Saturday night I had the best steak I had eaten in a very long time. We went to the Blackhawk Booster Club Pitchfork Fondue at the Hungry Bear Steak House. Mike and his crew did an excellent job cooking, and the side dishes everyone brought were wonderful.

If you missed this event, there will be another Pitchfork Fondue

coordinating with other local medical providers. Additional goals held by the Board include the consolidation of health care facilities onto the existing property and exploration of the possibilities of an assisted living facility in our community.

Please vote on May 7.

Martin J. Kux, Clerk
Board of Trustees
Seeley-Swan Hospital District

fund raiser at the Hungry Bear Steak House on July 20 to help raise money for the Blackhawk Booster Club. Thank to all who supported our Seeley-Swan High School students. Hope to see everyone at the July Pitchfork Fondue.

Patti Bartlett
Seeley Lake, Montana

Save \$10.00

SAVE A LIFE!

Pick up your coupon for a \$10.00 (ten dollar) savings on a Child Safety Seat valid at the Check-up Events listed below. Your net cost will be only \$15.00. These coupons are provided by the Seeley Lake KISS Program. Always "BUCKLE-UP" WITH A KISS!"

It's time for your Check-Up!



Look for the Mobile Car Seat Check Up Van coming to your community.

4 out of 5 car seats are used wrong. Could yours be one of them?



To learn more about the safety of your child(ren), check out one of the following Safety Seat Check-Up Events in your area

For more information call:
Lonie Hutchison, Coordinator Missoula County SAFE KIDS/SAFE COMMUNITIES at 406-523-2880

SAFETY SEAT CHECK-UP EVENTS -- clip and save!

Tues., April 9	1-4pm at Missoula City Fire Station #4 3011 Latimer St. (behind Western Door)
Sat., May 4	12-4pm at Community Medical Center Safe Kids Family Fun Day
Fri., May 24	1-4pm at University Motors
Sat., June 22	11-3pm at Lolo Fire Station

A limited number of child safety seats will be available at these events to replace unsafe seats. The seats will be purchased with grant funding from General Motors and the National SAFE KIDS Campaign.

Coupons available at these locations or call Alan Jeans at 677-3368:
Chiropractic Office of Dr Doug Smithson • First Valley Bank • Seeley Lake Fire Station
Coupon is valid only for safety seats installed in your vehicle at the check-up event.

GARY NOLAND, EDITOR PUBLISHER'S NOTICE MILLIE NOLAND, ADVERTISING

Seeley Swan Pathfinder (ISSN 0894-2994, USPS 000-919) is published weekly by Pathfinder Press, Inc., Box 702, Seeley Lake, MT 59868 (ph. 406/677-2022). Area served is Seeley Lake, Swan Valley and neighboring communities. Distribution is by mail subscription (\$20 per year in Missoula, Lake or Powell County; \$25 per year elsewhere in U.S.) and by newsstand sales. Periodicals postage paid at Seeley Lake, MT. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Seeley Swan Pathfinder, P.O. Box 702, Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0702.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community members are invited to submit dates, times and locations of events, meetings and other happenings. Submission deadline: Friday, 5 p.m.; call 677-2022

PUBLIC MEETINGS
S.L. Cemetery Bd, 1st Thur, 7pm, fire hall
AARP, 1st Mon, noon, Condon Comm. Hall
Salmon Prairie/Swan Lake Elem Bd, 1st Tues S.L. Fire Dept. 1st Tues, 7pm, fire hall
Senior All Night Party mtg., 5/8, 6pm, Seeley Lake Elementary

WEEKLY MEETINGS:
Alcoholics Anonymous: (help for those with a suspected drinking problem) -Condon: Faith Lutheran Church, every Sunday, 1pm
-Seeley Lake: Every Wed, 7pm, Living Water Catholic Church, on SOS Rd. For info: 677-3271 or 677-2892.
*Potomac: 406-244-5204
Alteen: (help for teenagers of alcoholic families) Holline 677-2753
Overeaters Anonymous: every Thursday, 7pm, Faith Lutheran Church, Condon, 754-2371

Missoula County Commissioners Public Mtg, every Wed, Courthouse Annex, Room 201, Missoula, 1:30 pm.
T.O.P.S. Mtg, every Thurs, Mission Bible Fellowship bldg., Seeley Lake, 10am.
MONTHLY SERVICES
FAIM Outreach Specialist, 1st & 3rd Thur, 9:30-3, Seeley-Swan Med. Ctr.
Pinocle, every 1st Sat, S.L. Comm. Hall, 7pm; every 3rd Sat., Senior Citizens Center
DUMPSTER TRANSFER SITE: Summer hours (May-Sept) - Wed, Sat & Sun, 9am-5pm, 677-3809
SSTEP Crisis Help Line: 677-3177. Domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, community outreach & education
Food Bank: Tues, 12-4 pm, next to Multi-purpose Room, S.L. Elementary, 677-5025
Loving Hearts Thrift Store: Open Wed, 12:00-5:00, Sat, 11-3, 677-5683 (emergency 677-2110)

Seeley Lake Community Hall: For hall rental, call Cheri Thompson, 677-2454
LIBRARIES:
Seeley Lake Public Library (Seeley-Swan High School) Regular hours: Mon-Fri., 8-3pm (closed 11am-noon for lunch); Wed., 3-8pm; Sat, 10am-3pm. Story Time-Saturdays at 11 a.m.
Swan Valley Library (Condon) Tues, 11am-4pm; Wed, 11am-7pm; Fri, 11am-4pm
Family History Ctr.-LDS Church: Open Wed, 11am-3pm. Call 677-2642 or 677-2575.
EMERGENCY: Dial 911 if you live in Seeley Lake, Condon, Greenough or Ovando.
Swan Lake Residents: 886-2324 (Fire, QRU or Search & Rescue) or 1-406-752-6161 for Sheriff, Highway Patrol.

Mission Creek Land Services

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Tree Planting • Tree Trimming • Trail Building
Fire Line Construction • Burning, Pump Truck
Fire Hazard Reduction • Landscaping
Fence Building • Post & Rail, Privacy
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Stone & Concrete Work • Exotic Walkbridges
Custom Iron Work
General Construction

Call
Terry 677-2671
Tripp 677-0081
Ward 677-2566

Hourly travels of local grizzly to be presented May 7

by Mike Thompson

If you've ever ventured out of your house in the Seeley-Swan, you've sometimes wondered whether a grizzly bear is close by in your neighborhood.

According to new information obtained by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), the answer has probably been "yes" more often than you might have imagined.

Northwest Connections, the Condon-based wildlife education and research center, has arranged to bring this very enlightening information to the public at a presentation planned for 7:00-9:00 P.M. on May 7th at the Seeley Lake Community Center. Everyone who has even a passing interest in the individual bears that live very closely among us is encouraged to attend.

Such grizzlies are successful only as long as they remain out of sight and undetected by their human neighbors and visitors. So, it was a terrific stroke of good fortune that FWP researcher, Rick Mace, was in the field working on his black bear study in the Swan and upper Clearwater drainages when one such adult male made a rare misstep into one of Rick's snares last spring.

Although FWP's research is focused on black bears, Rick was

not unprepared for grizzlies. In cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and with funding provided by Plum Creek Timber Company, Rick was carrying a precious few radio collars equipped with GPS technology, just in case he captured a grizzly bear while trying to catch blacks. The GPS transmitters were programmed to record and store unusually accurate positioning data on an hourly basis, day and night, and eventually were placed on a total of two grizzlies during the summer and fall of 2001.

The only problem is, you have to retrieve the collar and transmitter from the bear before you can obtain the data. So, when this male shed his collar last fall, and researchers recovered it by tracking its VHS frequency, it provided a first glimpse into the travels of a local grizzly bear, in unprecedented detail.

Chris Servheen, grizzly bear recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will present data on the movements of this adult male and of an adult female that stayed in the Swan River drainage at the May 7th meeting in Seeley, complete with maps and interpretations. And, at the risk of giving away the ending, let me inform you that this male is not a bear that lives only in remote wilderness. No, this bear truly lives among us, at least some of the time.



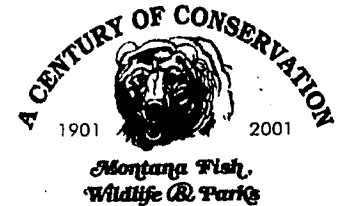
Game Range Ramblings
by Mike Thompson, Wildlife Biologist
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

And, it lives among so many of us, across such a long length of the Seeley-Swan, that humans might assume it is two, three or more bears, instead of a single marathoner.

Tom and Melanie Parker, from Northwest Connections, and James Jonkel, FWP's bear management specialist, will also take this opportunity on May 7th to briefly discuss ways that residents and recreationists of the Seeley-Swan can continue to get along with grizzly bears and avoid attracting them into trouble.

Imagine. It's as close as we've ever come to actually knowing every move that a grizzly bear makes. We're not simply connecting the dots between radio relocations that were obtained only once a week or so, in good flying weather, and making educated guesses about what the animal did in between. This time, the data were collected faithfully every hour, no matter the time of day or weather conditions. It's every wildlife biologist's dream.

It makes you want to do more of it. Unfortunately, GPS radio-



tracking technology doesn't come cheap, nowhere near as cheap as the standard radio transmitters we continue to use on elk. But, there is considerable interest in further applications of GPS technology in grizzly bear research, and Chris will give us a glimpse into that future.

I hope you'll take advantage of this unique opportunity to learn about a grizzly bear that probably already knows quite a bit about you. I look forward to seeing you there.



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Check out our new 50's and 60's memorabilia. Stop in and take a look at the photos found in the walls of Gene Barry's house to see if you can identify who these students are (1959-1962 grade school photos)

Weekly Specials

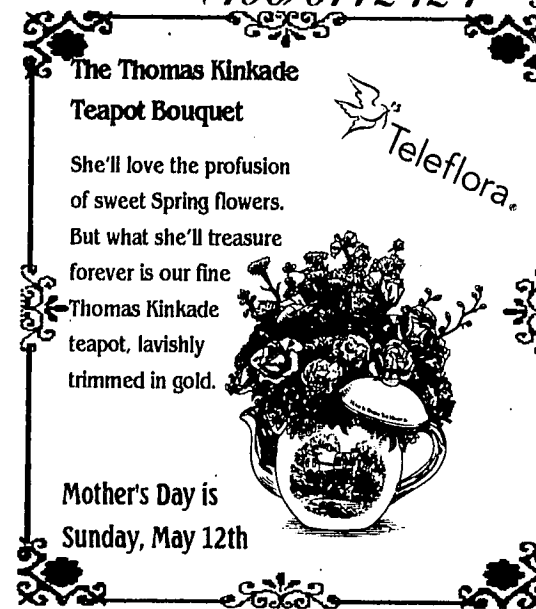
- Wednesday - Mexican Night - \$6.95
- Thursday - Rib Eye Steak - \$12.95
- Friday - Prime Rib, Baked Potato, Salad Bar - \$10.95 • Breaded Cod - \$6.95
- Saturday - 10 oz. Baby Back Ribs & 21 Shrimp - \$10.95
- Sunday - Hamburger Steak - \$8.95
- Monday - Liver & Onions - \$6.95
- Tuesday - Chicken Fried Steak - \$6.95

CHECK OUT OUR LUNCH SPECIALS - Senior citizens - 10% discount
Happy Hour EVERY DAY 4-6
2 for 1 domestic draft - \$1.50 • Well drinks - \$1.50 • Micro brew draft - \$2.00
Open Pool Table Wed & Thurs Nites • \$1 Domestic Draft Beer • \$2 Imported Draft Beer

Coupon Special
Buy 1 Dinner, Get 2nd at 1/2 Price
Show Coupon
Coupon Does Not Apply to Daily Specials

Seeley Lake Pharmacy & Floral, L.L.C.

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The Thomas Kinkadee Teapot Bouquet

She'll love the profusion of sweet Spring flowers. But what she'll treasure forever is our fine Thomas Kinkadee teapot, lavishly trimmed in gold.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th

Place your Mother's Day flower order by Monday, May 6th and receive a *free mylar balloon.

Deadline for Mother's Day wire orders is Friday, May 10th at 12:00 (noon).

visit our website: seeleylakefloral.com

Village Candle Scent of the Month: "Oranges & Cantaloupe"

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that registration for the Primary Election to be held on June 4, 2002 will close at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 6, 2002.

All qualified registered electors of the County of Missoula, Missoula, MT are entitled to vote at said election.

Persons who wish to register and who are not presently registered may do so by requesting a form for registration by mail or by appearing before the Election Administrator.

If moving has made a change of precinct, it is necessary to have your registration transferred to your new address. Dated this 2nd day of April, 2002.

Vickie Zeier
Election Administrator
Missoula County

LEGAL NOTICE

CLEARWATER MINI STORAGE, LLC (formerly Dry Dock Storage) HEREBY GIVES 30 DAY NOTICE to the following that it will sell the goods held in abandoned storage units due to non-payment of rent.

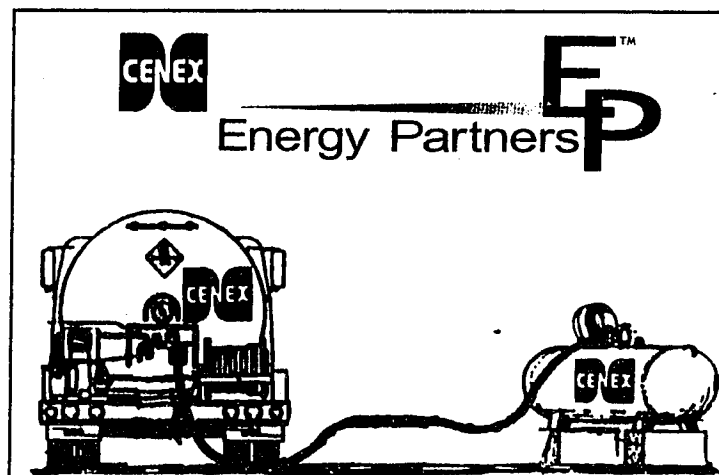
Unit	Amt. Owed
92	\$120.00

If all charges are not paid by May 27, 2002 the contents of your unit are forfeited per your contract. The contents will be sold to the highest sealed bidder at 12 p.m., Friday, May 31 at Clearwater Mini Storage, LLC, Hwy. 83 and Locust Lane, Seeley Lake MT. This dated April 26, 2002.

Clean The Lake Week!!

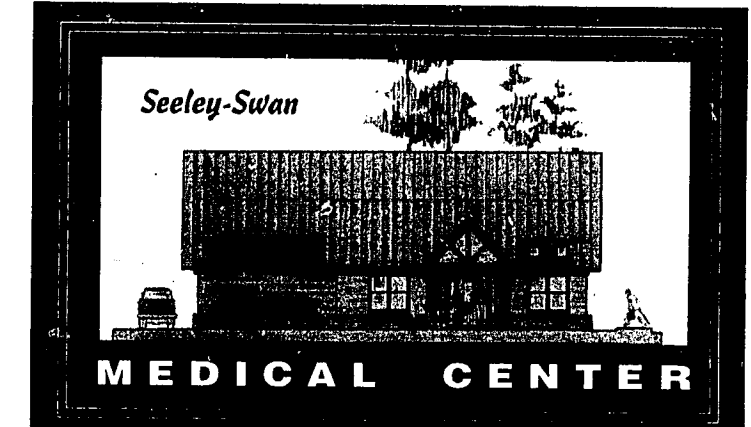
It's time to clean out those garages and yards! From May 11th through the 19th, the Refuse District will have dumpsters located in the empty lot next to DF Chicken for those who want to get those extra cleaning jobs taken care of without the drive to the transfer site. PLEASE NO REGULAR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE.

And, on May 11, 12, 15, 18 and 19, you can take all of your old appliances, including refrigerators, up to the transfer site on Woodworth Road for free!



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Seeley-Swan MEDICAL CENTER

The Seeley Swan Medical Center is staffed by **Cindy Gallea**, Family Nurse Practitioner, and **Brett Hollis**, Family Nurse Practitioner who will be seeing patients during the transition period. They are supported by the Family Practice Missoula physicians.

Lar K. Autio, M.D.
Donald R. Nevin, M.D.
Terence M. Calderwood, M.D.

Seeley Swan Medical Center
3050 HIGHWAY 83 — SEELEY LAKE
Appointments available Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Please call 677-2277

The World's Gateway to the Seeley Swan

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Seeley Lake Church Directory

Faith Chapel (Pentecostal Church of God)
Worship—10:30 a.m. Sunday School—9:30 a.m.
Hwy 83 North Phone—677-2220
Pastor—Gary Wayne

Seeley Lake Baptist Church
Worship—11:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
—Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m. —Wed. Bible Study & Prayer 6:30 p.m.
3116 Hwy 83 South Phone—677-2268 (Founded 1953)
Pastor—Bill Bogardus

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Sunday Worship—9:00 a.m.
Pastor — Rev. Robert Benson —1655 Airport Rd.
Phone—677-2281 or 677-7677

Living Water Catholic Church
Worship Mass: Sunday—11:30 a.m.
152 SOS Road
Ph: 677-2688 or 258-6815
Pastor—Father Ray Gilmore

Mountain Lakes Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Worship—10:00 a.m.
3292 Hwy 83 North Phone—677-3575
Pastor—Scott Anthony

Spirit of Christ Episcopal Fellowship
Worship—2nd Saturday of each month at the Senior Center—5:00 p.m.
Phone—677-2905

Mission Bible Fellowship (Non-Denominational)
Worship—10:30 a.m. Sunday School—9:15 a.m.
Hwy. 83 & School Lane
Phone 677-2110
Pastor Ken Wutzke

Bargains • Bargains • Bargains •

Spring Bazaar and Multi-Family Sale at Holy Cross Church grounds

Crafts, miscellaneous, new and used items for sale.

Lunch Available Saturday, May 4, 9-4

Turn east off Hwy 83 by Clearwater Realty (Locust St.); continue 1 1/4 mile to Church on right.

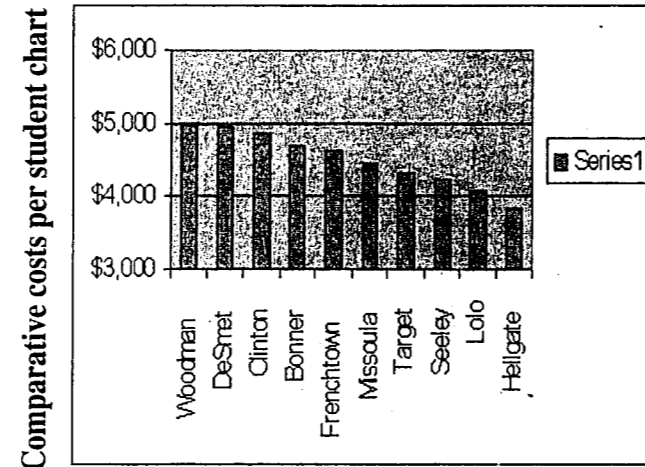
Elementary levy will have little impact if passed

NEWS RELEASE — from Seeley Lake Elementary School

On May 7 voters in Seeley Lake Elementary School District #34 will vote on two school board positions and a \$33,098 levy to operate the school in 2002-2003. Polls will open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Elementary School.

The levy impact on homes valued at \$100,000 will be \$16.21 annually. On homes valued at \$200,000, the impact will be \$32.42 annually. However, if the levy is approved a homeowner would spend about the same amount to operate the school as last year due to legislative changes in taxable property value formulas.

The proposed levy supports a \$1,000,389 budget that provides for current staffing levels, a 2% cost of living and increases in insurance and materials.



According to figures from the Missoula County Superintendent of Schools, Seeley Lake Elementary spends about \$275 per student below the county average of schools with more than 100 students and \$335 per student below the state average. See chart for

County Cost Per Student in 2002.

Two people, incumbents Pam Pitman and Vicki Jardine, have filed for the school board positions.

The school board will host a public meeting at the elementary school on May 6, from 7 to 8 p.m., to discuss the proposed budget.

Homeschoolers convention in Missoula

The Homeschoolers Convention, to be held in Missoula on June 6-8 at the UM Adams Center, will offer, among other things, a Vendor's Hall on Thursday, June 8 from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. Vendors will be on hand to explain various home school teaching aids and programs. Also offered throughout the

weekend will be several teen and workshop activities. All events are open to the public. A vacation door prize will be offered.

Registration and information brochures are available at Books, Yarn & More in Seeley Lake and at the Condon library.

Swan Valley School awards

March 2002 Citizenship Awards
 Kindergarten - KeAnna Conley
 First Grade - Hunter Wall
 Second Grade - Justin Hood
 Third Grade - Cascade Parcell
 Fourth Grade - Jonah Rosen
 Fifth Grade - Derek Bergstrom
 Sixth Grade - Tyler Everson, Ayla Johnson
 Seventh Grade - Len Kobylenski
 Eighth Grade - Mariah Childs
Third Quarter Perfect Attendance
 First Grade - Jacob Casebolt, Jordan Everson, Jake Janssen, Hailey Towe
 Second Grade - Sophie Hainline, Justine Janssen
 Third Grade - Jacob Smith
 Fourth Grade - Nicole Everson, Meghan Janssen
 Fifth Grade - Jon Hainline
 Sixth Grade - Tyler Everson
 Eighth Grade - Mariah Childs, Andrew Matthew

Third Quarter Honor Roll
 Third Grade - Timmy Siloti, David Knodel, Jessy Stevenson, Cascade Parcell, Rachael Burke
 Fourth Grade - Meghan Janssen, Nicole Everson, Jonah Rosen
 Fifth Grade - Gwen Roseon, Catalina Parcell, Jon Hainline
 Sixth Grade - Andrew Everson, Tyler Everson, Alya Johnson, Canyon Parcell
 Seventh Grade - Steven Bergstrom, Adam Gereg, Jenny Trice
 Eighth Grade - Matt Schnabl, Andrew Matthew

Third Quarter High Honor Roll
 Third Grade - Jacob Smith
 Fourth Grade - Megan Christensen, Sami Hulett, Cassie Moors, Callie Trice
 Sixth Grade - Caitlin Stone, Nathan Stone
 Seventh Grade - Jesse Kessler, Len Kobylenski
 Eighth Grade - Sammi Dome, Mariah Childs, Rincon Parcell

INVITATION TO BID

The Seeley Lake - Missoula County Water District is accepting bids for excavating, dirt work, and related services for the period of May 1, 2002 through April 30, 2005. □

Bid sheet specifications and requirements may be obtained at the Water District office or by calling (406)677-2559 between 8:00AM & 3:00PM. □

Sealed bids shall be accepted until 5:00 PM, May 20, 2002. □ Bids will be opened and reviewed on May 21, 2002, and will be awarded at the the board meeting of □ May 22, 2002.

The Seasons of the Swan



Pathfinder file photo by G. Noland

Send some pleasant news to Someone!

...with a Pathfinder subscription. Weekly photos of people, wildlife, and happenings are regular features. Keep yourself, your friends and relatives informed of winter and summer events such as the Seeley-Monture Sled Dog Race, O.S.C.R. cross-country ski race, Winterfest, the Fourth of July and others.



Subscribe and stay in touch weekly!

Send payment with coupon to P.O. Box 702, Seeley Lake, MT. 59868

1 Year (52 issues)	6 Months (26 issues)
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The World's Gateway to Seeley Lake

Voles

Studying the "little critters..."

By Suzanne Vernon
Swan Ecosystem Center

It was a hot August night, somewhere in a remote section of the Swan Valley's deep woods. Under the cover of darkness, four women were slowly making their way through the forest, carefully crawling over downed logs and through thickets of small trees and shrubs. With blacklights in hand, these intruders pointed their light boxes at the forest floor, and searched for trails of mysterious forest dwellers.

Seemingly oblivious to the grizzlies, lions and wolves that also roam these woods at night, these women continued their diligent work through the wee hours of the morning, trying to track the movements of small, furry, red-backed voles.

"It's like being a kid again," researcher Dalit Ucitel laughed. "It's a great adventure!"

Ucitel, a native of Israel currently completing her graduate studies at the University of Montana, headed up the vole research crew that included several other UM students and one local teacher, Sue Ibsen from Swan Valley Elementary School.

A typical day of vole studies last summer started with maps. Ucitel, in cooperation with other local wildlife researchers, looked for forested, moist habitats—which voles prefer—areas that include mature trees and some canopy cover. Locating a study area was a time-consuming task in the Swan Valley, where forests have been extensively managed since the 1950s. Large areas of young trees are common; mature forest areas are getting harder to find.

After finding a good study

area, vole crew members gathered dozens of small "live" traps (small versions of common box traps), HEPA masks (to protect against hantavirus from deer mice), and other assorted gear, and headed to the woods to lay out their traplines. After setting the traps, which were baited with small amounts of whole oats and sunflower seeds, these researchers left the woods for several hours, hoping to catch their prey.

Upon return, the women once again donned HEPA masks and checked their traps. Although their goal was to catch voles, the live traps sometimes catch deer mice, shrews, chipmunks and, occasionally, squirrels.

Sometimes bears, lions and other critters disturb the traps. The shiny aluminum boxes intrigue a number of larger animals. But in many cases, the traplines produce a bounty of voles.

"Trapping is SO much fun," Dalit exclaimed. "Just the feeling when you get to the trap. You can see it from afar, so if the trap is closed you think, well, did the wind close it? Or is it an animal? And then when you pick it up and something inside moves, you think, 'Is it a vole or a mouse? Chipmunk or squirrel?' 'Every day you get a present. Every day you get a surprise. I love it.'"

Unlike big game researchers, Ucitel and her crew enjoy an almost daily opportunity to get up close and personal with their research subjects.

With big game animal studies, Ucitel explains, you see mainly the animals' tracks, their scat, and hair snags. "You don't see the animals very often. You maybe capture one, put a tag or a radio collar on it, then you don't see it anymore," she said, adding, "With small animal research, it is different. I catch these animals every day. I hold them. Every day. Isn't that awesome?"

You can't do that with big animals."

Red-backed voles are relatively short-lived animals that reproduce abundantly in favored habitat. They are a staple food source for most forest predators, including owls and marten. "We all realize that voles are super important," Ucitel said.

One of the most frequently asked questions that vole researchers encounter is, "What's the difference between deer mice and voles?"

Ucitel explained the differences at a campfire program sponsored by Swan Ecosystem Center last summer at the Condon Work Center.

Deer mice are much less selective in their habitat, compared to voles, and can survive almost anywhere outdoors. Deer mice look different than voles, and they act different. A deer mouse has a skinny neck, long tail and big ears. Deer mice are fast. They are climbers and diggers. Because they are quick, they are not easily caught by the likes of coyotes, bears and other predators.

Voles, on the other hand, are "sort of dumb", Ucitel reluctantly explained. A vole is a "chubby ball of fur with little eyes, small ears, no neck and a short tail," Ucitel said, adding, "Voles just hang out. They are not really fast. They are not aggressive. That's why they are a staple prey, they are so easy to catch, for predators."

However, the voles need fairly specific types of habitat in order to thrive. "There are two things that are important to voles," Ucitel said. "Foraging, and protection. They need cover and they need wet places." Voles eat almost anything, including seeds, fruits and mycorrhizal fungi. And they favor areas with downed logs. In forests that have been intensively managed, where logs have been cleared from



Voles are very different from deer mice, as Dalit Ucitel explained to local residents during a campfire program in Condon last summer.

the ground, voles disappear.

"I'm not interested in seeing if they are in logged places or not. This is already known. They are gone when a place is logged," Ucitel explained. However, what scientists don't understand is the extent to which voles use logs and the importance of log spatial distribution on the ground in the areas where the small animals live.

Ucitel believes that the research conducted in the Seeley Swan region will help land managers determine the amount of downed woody material that should be left in the forest after a stand has been logged, or as part of forest restoration efforts following floods or fire.

Fire managers and wildlife biologists are all interested in the studies.

Ucitel and her researchers worked in the Upper Swan Valley most of the past summer and were successful in capturing hundreds of voles. They marked and sexed the animals, then released them back

to the wild where they tracked their movements through the woods with a process known informally among researchers by the highly non-technical term, "shake and bake."

Before releasing the voles, researchers shake the small critters in a plastic bag filled with a non-toxic fluorescent powder. When the voles are released back into the woods, the fluorescent powder floats off of the animals, onto the ground, making the voles' movements and trails visible (under a blacklight) across the forest floor.

The fluorescent powder—and the blacklights that bring the powder's brilliant colors to life at night—were crucial tools in this research.

During last summer's campfire program, local residents grinned with excitement as they were able to watch the "powdered" voles being released. Curiosity turned to awe as they saw fluorescent vole trails come to life under the blacklights. As the vole crew

members walked slowly, swinging the blacklight boxes above the ground, trails in colors of orange, yellow and pink, leaped up from the forest floor like a highlighted sentence on a textbook page.

But this is hardly textbook research. Collecting the data is time consuming, tedious work. The fluorescent trails are all flagged, measured, mapped, and graphed. Size of logs in the stand, number and movement of voles, locations, and many other variables must be recorded over time for the research to be meaningful.

Ucitel is certain that the vole research will provide valuable information for land managers, even though vole studies will never get the publicity that grizzly, lynx or wolf studies generate.

"It's been said that little critters rule the world," she pointed out at last summer's campfire program in Condon.

"In the Swan Valley, the red-backed voles rule the old growth forest," she laughed.

Little critters in the forest are staple in predator diets



The Vole Research Crew worked in the Swan Valley last summer and hosted a campfire program sponsored by Swan Ecosystem Center. Left to right, UM students Erin Bohman and Heather Davis; project leader, Dalit Ucitel (UM grad student); Swan Valley Elementary School teacher, Sue Ibsen, and UM student, Tova Woyciechowicz.



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Two Ad Hoc meetings this month

The public is invited to participate in the Swan Citizens' ad hoc meeting on May 9, 2002, 7-9pm, at the Swan Valley Community Hall in Condon. Major topic: SMALL DIAMETER TIMBER, BIG OPPORTUNITIES. Hear/discuss how National Fire Plan direction, forest conditions, and changing technology are creating new opportunities for landowners, loggers, wood products manufacturers, and others. Learn how all of these can benefit from new approaches to problems facing rural communities. Second topic: UPDÆ ON CONSERVATION STRATEGIES FOR CORPORATE LANDS IN THE SWAN VALLEY. Speakers are Tom Parker and Melanie Parker, respectively, both of Northwest Connections.

The public is also invited to participate in a subsequent Swan Citizens' ad hoc meeting, to be held on May 14, also at the Swan Valley Community Hall, 7-8pm. Major topic is UPDÆ ON POSSIBILITIES FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEM FOR THE UPPER SWAN VALLEY. Featured speaker is Pat Swan Smith of the Seeley Lake Refuse District.

Pesticide Applicator Training available

A training session for those interested in obtaining a Farm Applicator Special Use Permit (Private Applicator Pesticide License) will be held this Saturday, May 4, 2002, at the Swan EcoCenter/Forest Service Office in Condon.

The session runs from 10 a.m. in the morning until 5 p.m.

You do not have to apply for a license, but if you do, successful completion of the training with a \$20 licensing fee will grant you a permit that enables you to purchase and apply certain restricted-use pesticides on your property.

The permit is valid through December 31, 2003.

You must notify the Weed District Office if you are going to attend the training session. To sign up, or for more information, contact Marijka Haverhals, Weed Education Specialist, at 406-829-4219, or email:

weedwoman1@hotmail.com
You are encouraged to attend if you are interested in learning about herbicides, application, weeds and control methods, safety and environmental concerns. Training manuals will be available.

Sheriff's Report

(911 calls compiled with the cooperation and assistance of the Sheriff's Department and Deputy Sheriff Scott Newell)

April 15 - 20, 2002
4/15, 8:13 a.m. - Attempted forcible entry - Seeley Lake
4/15, 2:27 p.m. - Vehicle inspection - Seeley Lake
4/15, 6:20 p.m. - Harassment - Seeley Lake
4/18, 10:05 a.m. - Fish & Game - Injured deer - Seeley Lake
4/19, 6:23 p.m. - Domestic disturbance - Seeley Lake
4/19, 11:43 p.m. - Building check - Seeley Lake
4/20, 9:13 a.m. - Restraining order violation - Seeley Lake - 1 arrested
4/20, 1:43 p.m. - Vehicle inspection - Seeley Lake
4/20, 7:18 p.m. - Assault - Seeley Lake
4/22, 11:30 a.m. - Disturbance - Seeley Lake
4/25, 3:30 p.m. - Criminal mischief - Seeley Lake
4/25, 11:20 p.m. - Court warrant served - Seeley Lake - 1 arrested
4/26, 2:00 a.m. - Vicous dog at large - Seeley Lake
4/26, 10:20 a.m. - Trespassing - Seeley Lake
4/26, 11:00 p.m. - Building check - Seeley Lake
4/26, 11:00 p.m. - Court papers served - Seeley Lake
4/26, 11:11 p.m. - Follow-up investigation - Seeley Lake
4/27, 5:30 p.m. - Kegger - Potomac
4/27, 9:15 p.m. - Building check - Potomac
4/28, 4:20 p.m. - Unlawful entry - Seeley Lake



Deputy Heath Hanson on temporary assignment here.

New deputy in town

by Patricia Swan Smith

When Deputy Bob Parcell was called to active duty after September 11, the area has much of the time had only one deputy, Deputy Scott Newell, to cover the entire district.

Recently, Deputy Heath Hanson joined Newell to work in our area until Parcell returns.

Hanson, his wife and son live in the area, and he is working full time in the Seeley Swan valleys.

He was born and raised in Choteau. He was with the U.S. Marine Corps from 1989 to 1995.

He started with the Missoula County Sheriff's Department as a Jailer from 1995 to 1997. He took

the position of Deputy in Missoula in 1997.

His additional duties include Field Training Officer, Special Response Team Sniper/Observer and Assistant Search and Rescue Coordinator.

He is also involved with the Special Olympics, the Missoula County Law Enforcement Camp held here in Seeley and the marine Corps Toys-4-Tots program.

He said his hobbies include hunting, fishing, mountain biking, snowshoeing and shooting sports.

"I'm from a rural community," he said. "And I like working in the small communities. I enjoy being here."

Swan Valley Seniors elect officers

The Board of Directors of Swan Valley Senior Services held an election of officers at the annual meeting.

The new officers are: President Jan Mielke, Vice-president Nan Nelson, Secretary Dixie Meyer, and Treasurer Debbie Moors.

Other board members are out-going president Don Erickson, Boyd Kessler, and new member Candace Hummel. The SVSS sponsors the Condon area Meals on Wheels and Senior Lunch programs.

The home deliveries are five days a week for the homebound, and the Senior Lunch is served Monday and Thursday at the Hungry Bear. Lunch is 1 p.m. and reservations must be made by 5 p.m. the day before. For more information, ask any SVSS board member or call 754-2373 or 754-2684.

Meeting on grizzly bears in our area Tuesday, May 7

Tuesday, May 7th — 7pm at the Seeley Lake Community Hall

Join:

Tom and Melanie Parker, Northwest Connections
James Jonkel and Mike Thompson, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Geology, land navigation classes offered at Swan Ecosystem Center

May 7-18 Mike Lake, Condon, U.S. Army, retired, will instruct classes on map reading and land navigation. The course, to be held in the conference room of the Condon Work Center, will be taught from 6:30 to 9:30 each weeknight with a field exercise on May 18. Two undergraduate credits are available through the University of Montana, School of Forestry. The class costs \$40 with-out credits and \$155 with credits. Registration will take place during the first class.

On May 11, the Swan Ecosystem Center will host their second Geology Workshop featuring Lex Blood, of the Glacier Institute, Kalispell. Lex has been a petroleum engineer and a geology professor at Flathead Valley Community College. He presents a dynamic and well organized presentation in the morning that discusses the formation of the mountains and geology in this area, including Glacial Lake Missouls. In the afternoon he leads a geology tour in the Swan Valley.

Parks

Chris Servheen, US Fish and Wildlife Service

To learn more about the following:

Northwest Connections has been conducting community based grizzly bear monitoring efforts in the Swan Valley for five years. Hear about the results of that monitoring and about their plans to expand this effort, as well as their 'welcome wagon' for new residents into the Seeley/Ovando areas.

US Fish and Wildlife Service, in cooperation with Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Plum Creek Timber Co. marked two grizzly bears with GPS satellite collars last year. The collars recorded the bears' movements every hour for several months. Chris Servheen will give an interactive computer presentation on the movements of those two bears.

Fish, Wildlife and Parks has been working to improve sanitation in the Seeley Lake area in an effort to reduce human/bear conflicts. James Jonkel will report on these efforts and on FWP's bear management strategy for 2002.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about bears in our community!

Stork Report — Elizabeth Pearl Banks

Matt and Susan Banks of Seeley Lake are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Pearl Banks, born on April 11, at 19 1/4" and 7.4 ounces. Elizabeth joins a sister, Emily and two brothers, Ethan and Will.

Maternal grandparents are Mike and Robert Stewart of Caldwell, ID. Paternal grandparents are Bob and Nancy Banks of Santa Fe, NM.

Making the decision to have a child - it's momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body. Elizabeth Stone

Celebrate a very special Mother's Day Brunch at the Double Arrow Resort Sunday, May 12 10:00-3:00 677-2777 1-800-468-0777

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Friday, May 3, 2002 11 a.m.

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3.43 acre well treed lot w/outrageous mtn. views of both Swan and Mission ranges right in the heart of town. In community water system area, on the snowmobile trailhead and horses are welcomed. Asking \$52,900 w/seller financing but discount given for cash. 4.13 acre lot in same area also available - \$51,900

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ALERT! PLEASE HELP FIND MOOSE!

Large German Shepherd, black and tan, lost in the Owl Creek area. Name is Moose and is friendly. Please, if you see this dog, call 754-0088, and try to keep him until the owner arrives!

WHERE ARE THE OWNERS???

We have a light yellow medium sized dog, looks to have Heeler in him. This dog was left at Video Vision and was brought to us. This neutered male is in good shape and is a sweet, sweet dog!

We also have a 10 week old female Dachshund cross. NO COLLAR. NO TAGS.

Large black Lab, female, with a small white patch on the chest. A typical loving Lab in great shape. No collar or tags. HOW CAN PEOPLE LOSE THESE SWEET GREAT DOGS AND NOT INQUIRE OR RUN ADS????

Paws Up

to Margaret Sanders for the old bedspread, which we can surely use for dog blankets. THANK YOU FOR THINKING OF US!

Paws Up

to Dutch and Bonnie Schweikl for the dog food, cat food and toys. So appreciate and needed. Bless you both!

Paws Up

to John Richards of Terra Industries! John called me and said his secretary was gone and I should write out the certificate for the load of gravel to be delivered locally for our upcoming raffle and drawing on May 21. I will do that! My husband also wanted a certificate for 10 loads of gravel for our long driveway, so I wrote him out one for 10 loads! I hope that is OK John! If anyone reads this who knows John, perhaps you should mention he needs to read Paws Up to know what is really happening to his gravel! THANKS JOHN!

www.hawaii humane.org

Having read about the little Terrier which had remained on an abandoned 256' tanker in the Pacific ocean for 24 days, I was relieved to know it was finally rescued on Friday. The tanker caught fire and burned, leaving the crew and little dog drifting for days before a Norwegian cruise ship rescued the men. There was a miscommunication between the Indonesian captain and the Norwegians as neither spoke the other's language. The captain did not want to leave his little dog, but thought he must. The captain then left large amounts of dog food and water out in hopes somehow someone would get to the tanker and his dog. The Norwegians say they did not know about the dog. The Honolulu Humane Society then made the decision to ask for a grant from the United States Humane Society for the \$48,000 it would take to rescue the little dog. The ocean is huge and the tanker drifted. Finding it took days. I called the Honolulu Humane Society and talked to KT, who is in charge of the Forgea effort. Forgea is the little dog's name. The little dog is on its way to Honolulu and to KT states the captain shipped out again, and is not aware his dog is safe. A friend of the captain's will adopt the dog and whether it will go back to the captain will be decided when he is found. KT stated the Humane Society received several negative calls about spending so much money for a dog. Well, I am sending her a donation at the Honolulu Humane Society, 2700 Waiialae Ave., Honolulu HI 96826. To update yourself on the net, use the web site above and type in Forgea. If you send a donation, tell them it's from Montana or wherever, and we care. Perhaps if 48,000 people sent one dollar it won't tax anyone too much. I think it's wonderful that KT and her fellow workers had the courage to make the decision to save a little dog. Let's not judge! In my opinion it makes more sense than spending \$20 million to go into space or spending \$160,000 for a scooter. Forgea will be a symbol of humanity for all of us to enjoy, and these days we need signs of humanity. The space ride and the scooter will be enjoyed by just one! HOORAY KT AND CREW, AND BLESS FORGEA!

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The "WOW" of the Resurrection

Passages

by Rod Kvamme
Seeley Lake

Suppose there is an egg that is about to hatch. Let's also suppose that the little chick inside the egg can talk. I rap on the egg and say, "Are you anxious to get out of there and into the world?"

The chick replies, "What do you mean? I am in the world. This is the world, but it sure is small... and it seems to be getting smaller and more cramped every day. I'm also running out of food, and another thing, the light is bad in here. It's dim and hard to see. Of course there isn't too much to see in the world anyway"

Then I say, "But the world is out here!" "Out where", says the chick. "Out here", I say, "outside of the egg you are in."

Just then there is a rattle within the egg and part of the shell begins to crack. The hole becomes a little larger until the eyes of the little chick can be seen. It is squinting in the bright light that has entered the egg. "Wow!" says the little chick. I turn the egg so the

chick gets another view. "Wow!" "Wow!" is all it can say as the egg rotates and the chick gets its first 360 degree panoramic view of the world. It is just a peek, but mighty impressive. In fact, even if that chick lives to be an old hen or rooster, it is only going to have had a small glimpse of this world and will never know many of its wonders.

We think we know our world pretty well. The knowledge we possess is quite vast and astounding. But it is still only a peek into the unknown when compared to the mind of the Creator. The space age has helped us become more educated regarding the size of our planet in relation to the whole universe. Astronauts have had the best

chance to put things into proper perspective when they have seen little planet earth take on the appearance of a small egg suspended among all the other planets.

We have taken a peek in the other direction too and discovered in the tiny atom enough power to devastate the earth. Humans have actually gotten into mysteries too great for them to limit or control. Yet amid all the potential both for good and for destruction, there is an awesomeness about having had only a small glimpse of things in this world. However, even this little peek will do for now. God must have limited himself severely when he created the earth. He must have had to hold back and re-design as he remembered that the world would be inhabited by finite beings so it must be tailored for them. He could not let his creation loose to the dimensions that would more properly match and serve HIS infinite nature. So, when we peer around at things on the earth, we are like that chick first peering out of the egg... and we should never get over the "Wow!" of it all.

Likewise, just a peek into things beyond this earth and even into eternity will also suffice. This peek comes through what Jesus did when he broke out of that tomb on the first Easter and released new hope in the world. Light broke into the darkness...life invaded death's domain... Satan lost his stranglehold...what seemed doomed to be only past now became the glorious prospect of future...end became beginning. The scoreboard was changed...losers became winners...the book that had been slammed shut when Jesus died was now opened to a brand new page and chapter. Jesus, who gave meaning to living, now gave hope to dying, for as he has risen, so shall we also rise. So all of you little ones, sitting peeking out into the unknown during this continuing Easter season of the church year, raise your Hallelujahs to God. A hallelujah is, after all, just a holy way of saying "Wow!"

Senior Nutrition Program Menu

The following meals will be served next week promptly at noon at the Seeley Lake Senior Citizens Center. Reservations please - 677-2008. Call before 10:00 a.m.

- Monday, May 6
Chicken & Noodles
- Tuesday, May 7
Baked Meat Loaf
- Wednesday, May 8
Turkey Enchiladas
- Thursday, May 9
Pork Cutlets
- Friday, May 10
Beef Pasties

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Meat n' Eggs ----- 4.50
(ham, bacon, sausage, 2 eggs with hashbrowns & toast)
2 Eggs, Hash Browns, Toast ----- 3.00
3 Egg Omelet ----- 5.00
(ham, cheese, onions, hash browns & toast)
Biscuits & Country Gravy with hash browns 4.00

Lunch & Dinner

Soup Daily ----- Cup 1.50/Bowl 2.00
Hamburger ----- 3.00
Cheeseburger ----- 3.50
Chicken Sandwich ----- 4.25
Ham & Cheese ----- 3.25
Grilled Cheese ----- 2.25
French Fries ----- 1.50
Salad or Cole Slaw ----- 1.50
Garlic Toast ----- .75
Jalapeno Poppers ----- 4.00
Beef Finger Steaks ----- 4.25
Gizzard Dinner with Fries ----- 5.50

Chicken Dinner ----- 6.00
complete half of 2 1/4 lb. chicken includes a leg,
thigh, wing, half breast and half back with french fries
Prawn Dinner ----- 9.00
Six prawns per order, served with tartar sauce
and french fries
Oyster Dinner ----- 6.50
Nine oysters per order, choice of sauce, with french fries

Blood drive goes well

Blood Drive A Success
by Donna Chery

The Spring American Red Cross Community Blood Drive was again a success. Gary Noland must take credit for the publicity in the Pathfinder. Thanks Gary.

There were six "chairs" to receive donors as they came in. Thus everyone was taken promptly without waiting. This included some walk-ins without appointments. 39 units of blood were obtained!

Thanks to all of you for your commitment to donate blood, "The Gift of Life." Each unit helps save the lives of as many as three people. We also appreciate those who came but were unable to donate for one reason or another.

Joan Burt, co-chair, and I, would also like to thank those who helped make this drive the success it was. These include Bruce Wold of the Valley Market, who donated the beverages, and Norma Keland, who made the soup which received so many good comments. The delicious cookies were baked by Bessie Perhay, Helen Rose, Marie Bergan, Bonnie Miller and Laro Hensley. Of the above, Bessie,

Helen and Bonnie, as well as Laro Hensley, served refreshments. Marie gave Joan a break at the registration desk. The winner of the dried flower arrangement was Georgia Mullenax. We all helped put the Senior Center back in order, including the men who helped with the heavy work. Lucky we who live in Seeley Lake!

Condon Area Senior Lunch

The Hungry Bear Steak House is serving lunch to Condon area seniors (60 and older) on Mondays and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. Please call the Hungry Bear at 754-2240 for reservations prior to 5:00 p.m. the day before. This program is sponsored by Swan Valley Senior Services.

Thursday, May 2
Orange Juice, Chicken & Dumpling, Mashed Potatoes, Pickled Beets, Peaches, Cake
Monday, May 6
Cranberry Juice, Turkey, Dressing & Gravy, Green Beans, Cranberries, Pumpkin Pie
Thursday, May 9
Cranberry Juice, Chicken Cacciatore, Spaghetti w/Butter, Carrots, Jello/Fruit

INVITATION TO BID
The Seeley Lake-Missoula County Water District is accepting bids for excavating, dirt work, and related services for the period of May 1, 2002 through April 30, 2005. Bid sheet specifications and requirements may be obtained at the Water District office or by calling (406) 677-2559 between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Sealed bids shall be accepted until 5:00 p.m., May 20, 2002. Bids will be opened and reviewed on May 21, 2002, and will be awarded at the board meeting of May 22, 2002.

Public Notice
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Timber Sale The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Clearwater Unit, is in the preliminary stages of preparing the Headquarters Timber Sale located in portions of the W 1/2 of section 2, N 1/2 NE 1/4 of section 10, T14N R14W, and section 36, T15N R14W. The Department would like public input regarding the proposal to harvest between an estimated 2-4 million board feet of timber, construct approximately 1-3 miles of new road and recondition up to 10 miles of existing road to access these areas. Those interested should address written comments to: Dave Marsh, Montana DNRC, Clearwater State Forest, 48455 Sperry Grade Rd., Greenough MT 59823-9635, Phone: (406) 244-5857. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 17, 2002.

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SEELEY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU

Week of May 6, 2002

Monday, May 6	Hamburgers
Tuesday, May 7	Tacos
Wednesday, May 8	Macaroni & Cheese
Thursday, May 9	Peanut Butter or Chicken Sandwiches
Friday, May 10	Sloppy Joes

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Soup's on ...

Lunch Menu for this week...5/2 to 5/8

- Thursday: "Texas Lone Star" Chicken Tortilla
- Friday: "No Where Near New England" Clam Chowder
- Saturday & Sunday: "Yes, we have *no* Soup...."
- Monday: "Cheddar is Better" Baked Potato
- Tuesday: "Iron Kettle" Chicken-n-Dumplings
- Wednesday: "Mary Catherine's" Cream of Tomato

***Weight Watcher points available for soups
and coffee drinks in the booth!**

~ 11 a.m. until gone, 12 oz. bowl with roll - \$2.50

YMCA News Update on Activities

Adult Fitness Classes end May 1 for the Walk Fit program, and May 2 for the Step program. Thanks to Terryl Bartlett and Janice George for their energetic and enthusiastic instruction. Both have done an excellent job and they will be back in the Fall.

Summer Youth Programs: The YMCA Outreach will be offering several programs this summer: Gymnastics Camp, Outdoor Fun Camp, Volleyball Camp, Lake Swimming lessons and Tennis Camp. Please watch for updates on times and places.

For more information please stop by the Seeley-Swan Outreach office in the Lazy Pine Mall or call 677-3330. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday from 8:00 to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Special of the Week "Snickerdoodle Latte"

Smooth with a kick describes Vanilla & Cinnamon flavors combined with freshly steamed milk & sweet espresso.

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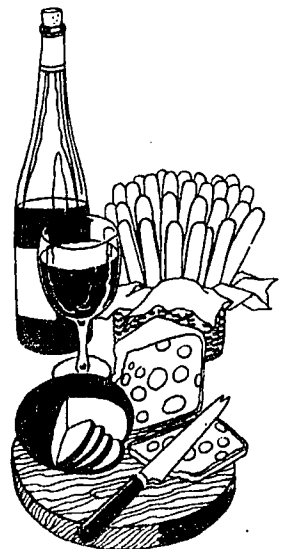
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