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Open House
Thanksgiving

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Claus
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Clearwater Resource Council
approves Blackfoot Challenge
plans for Horsehoe Hills lands

Seeley
Swan

50¢

Vol XVIII, No. 30

"Voices from the Valley"

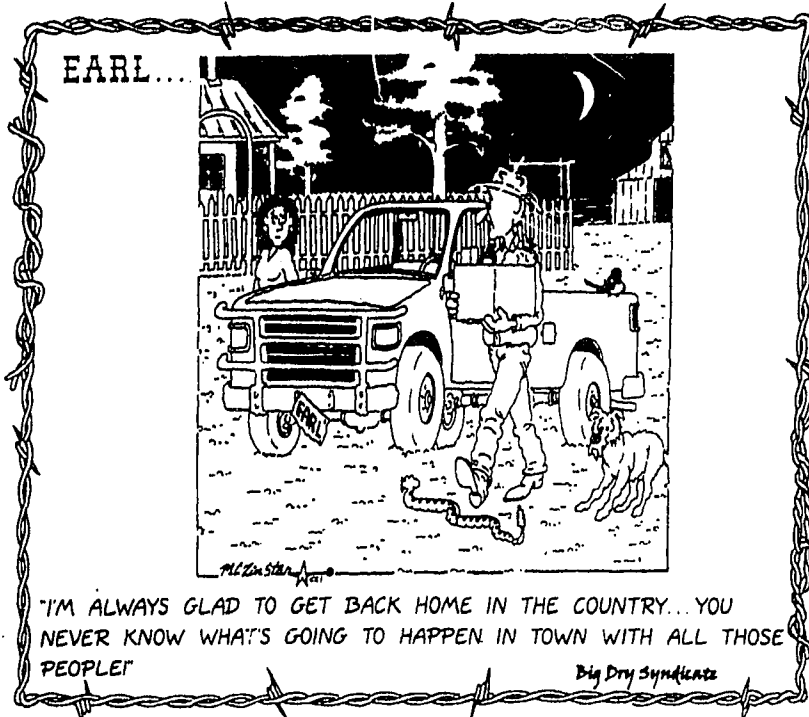
Thursday, November 27, 2003

*Wishing you
a Happy
Thanksgiving!*

G. Noland photo

email: pathfinder@montana.com

<http://www.seeleyswanpathfinder.com>



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

Seeley Swan Pathfinder (ISSN 0894-2994, USPS000-919) 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 (\$25 per year in Missoula, Lake or Powell County; \$35 per year elsewhere in U.S.) and by newstand 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
 Lions Club, 4th Wed, 6:30pm, S.L. Comm. 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

WEEKLY EVENTS
Alcoholics Anonymous: (help for those with a suspected drinking problem)
 -Condon: Faith Lutheran Church, every Sunday, 3pm
 -Seeley Lake: Every Wed, 7pm, Living Water Catholic Church, on SOS Rd. For info: 677-3271 or 677-2892.
 *Potomac: 406-244-5204
Alateen: (help for teenagers of alcoholic families) Hotline 677-2753
AI-Anon: Every Thurs, 7pm, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1655 Airport Rd., 677-0016
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 EVENTS
FAIM Outreach Specialist, 1st & 3rd Thur, 9:30-3, Seeley-Swan Med. Ctr.
WIC Clinic, 1st Tues., 9:20-3:30, Faith Chapel
Pinochle, every 1st & 3rd Sat., Senior Citizens Center, 7 pm
DUMPSTER TRANSFER SITE: Winter hours (Oct-Apr) - Wed & Sat, 10am-4pm, 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, 11:00-4:00, Sat, 11-3, 677-5683 (emergency 677-2110)

Seeley Lake Community Hall: For hall rental, call Cheri Thompson, 677-2454
Seeley Swan Stage: Local trips Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri. Missoula trip Tues. Please call 677-2018 Monday morning to schedule rides.
LIBRARIES:
Seeley Lake Public Library (Seeley-Swan High School) Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed 11 a.m.-noon), Wed, 3-8 p.m., Sat, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 677-2224 ext. 5741
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.

Editorial Comment

Chips . . . bits & pieces

The SSSH Student Government is working on a community service project by putting together a holiday dinner in order to raise funds for families in need in the Seeley, Condon and Ovando communities during this holiday season. Called a Holiday Feast-ival, there will be a Holiday Dinner, with all the trimmings, and a concert following. Sounds like fine entertainment and a worthwhile project. See details in an announcement in this issue.

Dear Gary, Please print the following as a correction to our Honor Roll for the First Quarter: High Honor Roll: Cassie Moors, Swan Valley School.

Thanksgiving is a very special time of the year when families come together. Spend time this year with your family and think just how precious that time really is. We wish you a good Thanksgiving.

—Gary Noland

No Need to Spend Thanksgiving Day Alone

If you are expecting to be alone on Thanksgiving Day, you are invited for potluck meal and fun at Faith Chapel Church.

"Hunting widows", couples and families are included. On Thursday, November 27th, we'll open the doors at noon and sit down to eat around 1:00PM. Turkey, bread, drinks and table service will be provided. Just bring your favorite food dish to share. Plan on sticking around for celebrating with games and laughter, we'll be there until 4:00 PM. Faith Chapel Church is located north of the Community Hall. Watch for "dinner signs". We'll be in the kitchen downstairs. For more information you can phone Cathy at 677-3409.

'Giving Tree' at Wold's VM

The "Giving Tree" has been set up at Wold's Valley Market in Seeley Lake to help some of the less fortunate children in our area.

Please visit the "Giving Tree" and help a child have a better Christmas. Parents of the children have indicated clothing items and toys that are needed and wanted.

There is a card on the tree for each child listing age, gender, and gift to purchase. All you need to do is select a card and sign it out at the check stand.

Morrison Deposits \$1 Million for CHIP

(HELENA) - State Auditor John Morrison asked today that \$1 million collected by the State Auditor's Office be used toward Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). "CHIP is good for the children, it's good for the Montana economy, and it helps control the cost of health insurance for all of us, it just makes sense," Morrison said.

The check comes to the state as part of the US Bancorp Piper Jaffray settlement. The \$1 million dollars, which is unanticipated monies, goes into the state's general fund. In a letter to Governor Martz, Morrison asked that the \$1 million collected by his agency for the general fund be invested in CHIP. "Investing the \$1 million of general funds in CHIP will bring \$4 million of federal matching funds already available to Montana, and will insure about 3,000 children," Morrison said. "Providing health coverage to Montana's children should be one of our top priorities."

Last month, Morrison asked the Martz Administration to allocate \$3 million in recently freed up Medicaid funds to the CHIP program. The Administration allocated \$609,000 in state funds to prevent program reductions and add all 1,334 wait-listed children to CHIP (effective November 1, 2003). "I applaud the Governor's efforts; adding 1,300 children is a step in the right direction, but there are still nearly 33,000 children who are uninsured in Montana."

"Reducing the number of uninsured Montanans is one of the most important things we can do to improve Montana's economy," Morrison said. "Providing health insurance coverage for more Montanans will reduce the cost of insurance for those already insured. The uninsured often delay medical care until a condition is more serious, and more costly. That is bad public policy and bad economic policy. Providing more CHIP coverage would reduce our cost-shifting problem."

More than \$25 million in federal match dollars are still available to Montana for CHIP. If the state doesn't use that money it can be reallocated to other states when they deplete their own federal allocation. The state is currently covering 11,000 children under the CHIP program.

County school board applauds Gerri Delwo for service at SSSH

By Donna Love

At the regular November Missoula County Public School Board meeting held Tuesday, November 11, at the Seeley-Swan High School, Gary Botcheck, Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Director led a round of applause for maintenance engineer, Gerri Delwo for her service to the school.

He said, "The Seeley-Swan High School facility is one of the best in the district." He also thanked the staff for their part in making the school a quality facility.

Superintendent, Dr. Jim Clark, echoed these words in his report. He also said that all the high schools, except Seeley-Swan High, continued to see an enrollment drop. However, he stated, there has been a rise in elementary and Jr. high school enrollment, so Missoula high schools may see a turn around soon.

During the Curriculum update, Cheryl Wilson, reported that Seeley-Swan High School scored low on last year's presidential No Child Left Behind program.

But her message was "not to worry." She explained that test scores are based on percentages so that in a small school such as Seeley-Swan even two children being absent during the Measured Progress Test can drop the scores to a non-passing grade.

The school also scored low on graduation rate, but this was also a case of a small high school being hurt by percentages. For instance, if only six out of the average Seeley-Swan graduating class size of 30 left high school during the four years, the school will score low.

This was the case last year, but the percentages don't take into ac-

count that some of these students made a life style choice that was right for them, some even choosing to speed up the graduation process by receiving a GED and going on to college.

She also explained that the numbers don't take into account that sometimes when a child changes schools parents don't always request that the student's records be forwarded to the new school. In this case, "on paper" the student looks like a drop out.

Preliminary reports for the upcoming year show that the school is expected to score very high. Wilson expressed that small schools will experience fluctuations such as these.

Pat Swan-Smith, during the public comment session, read a written statement about the progress Project Success, a drug and alcohol program, was having at Seeley-Swan High School and asked the board to not cut the program.

Student Trustee, Jamie Adams, reported on school events including Red Ribbon Week, Girls Volleyball, who placed fourth in District, Football, Basketball, and the Student Government Food Drive. She also expressed her sympathies to John Fisher's family and said that 40 plus Seeley-Swan students and staff attended his memorial service.

Before the meeting the board met with staff, toured the school, and ate dinner with staff members and parents. A moment of silence to honor past teacher, and coach, John Fisher, who passed away in October after a long battle with cancer, was held at the beginning of the meeting.

The next regular Advisory Meeting will be held December 2 at Seeley-Swan High School at 7:00. Interested students, parents and community members are invited to attend.

Local artist turns wooden bowls into Christmas decor

by Patricia Swan Smith
For the Pathfinder

Cindy Torok Kopenhafer can take a plain old wooden bowl and turn it into an art piece that makes the perfect Christmas decor.

Her hand-painted bowls and spoons are just a couple examples of her painting. She paints with pastel, oil and watercolor, although she said she prefers oil.

Her "Collectibles", which portrays the old Coca Cola bottles and crates, the "Cougar" and her "Winter Wolf" paintings are among her most popular.

She's also handy with a chain saw and enjoys carving with it.

In addition to her Santa bowls, spoons and sleds, she makes chalk Christmas statues made with antique chocolate molds, which she also paints.

Cindy grew up near the Teton River in Montana. She's a graduate of Western Montana College, and has also studied in workshops with well-known artists.

She's been painting professionally for the past 16 years, and says she follows the standards set by her mother and grandmother who were both artists.

All of her pieces shows her research for accuracy, and her work often takes her into the forest and wilderness where she studies and photographs wildlife and scenery.



Cindy has won numerous awards for her art. She is a member of the Western Heritage Artist Association and Alpine Artists. She was selected as the Alpine Artists Benefactor in 2000. She also holds workshops for local artists. She opened an incredible antique shop and studio in December 1999. Don't miss her Christmas show at 110 Larch in Seeley on November 29th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Give thanks for the dog that doesn't bite

By Mike Thompson

I'm thankful for many things this Thanksgiving, whether great or small.

Like when I visited the Bandy Ranch last week, having worn my tall Sorrels purposely to deflect any surprise attacks from Joe's champion cow dog. But, old Belle didn't hear me or see me, either coming or going.

And, I was thankful.

Like when I was called upon last Friday to show land parcels on the Game Range to an appraiser for The Nature Conservancy. The parcels we viewed are Plum Creek inholdings that will eventually come into the ownership of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, if all goes according to plan. I was surely thankful for that.

And, when we drove up to the gate, unlocked it, and drove past the orange CLOSED signs by virtue of my job as the Game Range manager, I was thankful some more.

Then as we drove through the unmarked snow, watching first a white-tailed buck and does, then a group of mulies, then a ragnhorn bull, then several other groups of deer, their coats all heavy and full against the swirling wind and glistening frost, I was in the mood to write this article.

"Can't you read the signs?" the animals seemed to be asking

us, interrupting their activities only long enough to express their disapproval as we drove by. You can't tell me that elk and deer don't know when hunting season begins and ends on the Game Range. They weren't standing around like that the week before.

And, as I discussed things with the appraiser in the cab of my pickup, it was fun to point out the old railroad grade that used to transport logs out of the woods, the old irrigation flumes that the Boyd Ranch built and maintained, the landscape that burned on October 12, 1991, the remains of the old elk trap that Jamie scavenged to build a bigger one in Elk Basin, and the spot where you can flush a grouse every fall if you can spare five minutes.

For time and experience, I'm thankful.

And, for that moment while roaring up the highway the other day, my mind having stirred up a hearty stew of tasks unfinished—a PowerPoint presentation to the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission, an environmental assessment, a land management plan, two funding proposals to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, a scientific paper, a news release, meetings to attend, information to provide.

It was the moment when I exhaled and smiled. I surely am thankful to have earned these responsibilities, and to still see the



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



light at the end of the tunnel.

It reminded me of when I was working in the oil fields back home, in the summers between college semesters. And, how I was wrenching pipe as my Dad pulled it from 800 feet in the earth with an oak pole and the winch on the back of a bulldozer. The sun was hot, my rubber boots were stuck in mud like that from which Nicholas Cage's prison buddies emerged in "Raising Arizona," and my partner on the wrong side of the pole was a toothless, 60-year-old man who was tougher than I was.

It came to me after about the fourth summer that I needed more to think about in my work. So, now I remember to be grateful that I got my wish.

And, that I had those times with those people.

Our Game Range Citizens Advisory Council has an annual meeting coming up at the Game Range headquarters early next month. The present Council has been active since it was resuscitated in 1990, after having been dormant since about 1950, and is comprised of neighboring ranchers, hunters, outfitters, foresters,

and biologists.

I plan to purchase a bottle of champagne for that gathering of those who dreamed of the 50th Anniversary Project in late 1997, before there was really much reason to hope that we might someday transfer the Plum Creek inholdings into public ownership. There will be no cork-popping this year, however. But, we are close enough to our goal that we might put a bottle on ice—or in the refrigerator—for safekeeping 'til next year.

My gosh, I am thankful to see that.

And, with that I'm reminded

of Neil Crawford, the recently departed (to Oregon, I understand) Plum Creek forester who lived at Cozy Corner and managed Plum Creek lands on the Game Range.

"That's a pretty good looking logging job," the appraiser commented as we drove through the last of the Plum Creek inholdings last week.

"That's Neil Crawford's legacy," I informed him. Neil was a pleasure to work with, and always did what he could to meet the needs of his company and our wildlife. I wish him well.

And, Happy Thanksgiving.

Pop's

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the Christmas Season around town...

The 12th annual Christmas Bazaar, sponsored by the Seeley Lake Senior Citizens, will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Seeley Lake Elementary School.

Local craftsmen and artists will be selling a variety of gifts for you or loved ones. Baked "goodies" and soup and sandwiches will be available at a nominal fee. Santa Claus is expected to arrive about 10:00 a.m., so be sure to come and visit with him. There is no charge for this event.

Display tables are still available. Call 677-2748 or 677-2195 for further information.



Come join us for our Open House Sat. Nov 29

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Christmas Open House

SATURDAY, NOV. 29TH
Refreshments 10 am to 5 pm.

Come have a cup of Hot Mulled Cider.

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- Ornaments • Tree Skirts • Quilts

Happy Thanksgiving

to friends & clients.
Wishing everyone the Joy that Thanksgiving brings!

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Saturday, December 6

9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

at Seeley Lake Elementary


Xmas Gifts, Arts, Crafts, Baked Goodies and More. Lunch and Refreshments available.
Visit with Santa!

NO ADMISSION CHARGE

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The World's Gateway to the Seeley Swan

seeley-swain.com



Holiday Feast-ival

WHAT:

WHEN:

WHERE:

WHY:

HOW:

COST:

Holiday Dinner, including all the trimmings and dessert.

Tuesday, December 16, 2003
5pm to 6:30pm

Holiday Concert follows at 7pm
Seeley Swan High School
Small Gymnasium

To provide food baskets, phone/gas cards and holiday gifts for those in need in the Seeley, Condon and Ovando communities. This is in conjunction with the World's Valley Market Giving Tree, the Seeley Lake Lions Club, Condon Girl Scouts and the Condon AARP.

Tickets are available at the following locations:
Rovero's, Seeley Lake
World's Valley Market, Seeley Lake
Seeley Lake Senior Citizens Center (M-F, 7am to 1pm)
Seeley Lake Lions Club
Seeley-Swan High School Office
Seeley Lake Elementary School Office
Condon Elementary School Office
Trixie's Saloon, Ovando

\$5 for an individual pass
\$20 for a family pass
Donations will be gratefully accepted.
Gift passes also available.

Sponsored by the Seeley-Swan High School Student Government

(Public service announcement)

Open House this weekend in Seeley

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28 & 29

Holiday Sale

Buy \$20 (Twenty) dollars of beads & get \$5 More FREE!

- 20% OFF All Clothing**
- 20% OFF All Sheepskin Footwear**
- 20% OFF All Blankets**
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Christmas Open House

110 Larch, Seeley Lake, MT
Behind Deer Country Quilts

Saturday, Nov. 29, 2003
10:00 - 5:00
Refreshments Served

- Antique Christmas Ornaments
- Linens • Primitives
- Furniture • Santas by Cindy

Also available - custom framing, matting, shrinkwrap and glass.

CLOSED Dec 2nd - 7th Attending artshow in
Virgille, MT Dec 6th and 7th

Holiday Fun!

Please join us for
treats
Saturday,
Nov. 29 from
10 am to 5 pm



We will be sampling some of the foods and drinks we carry, such as: Black Bean & Olive Salsa, Meatballs with Huckleberry BBQ Sauce, Bella Cucina Pestos Pepper Jellies with Cream Cheese, Gourmet Hot Fudge Topping and Spicy mustards, and favorite beverages!

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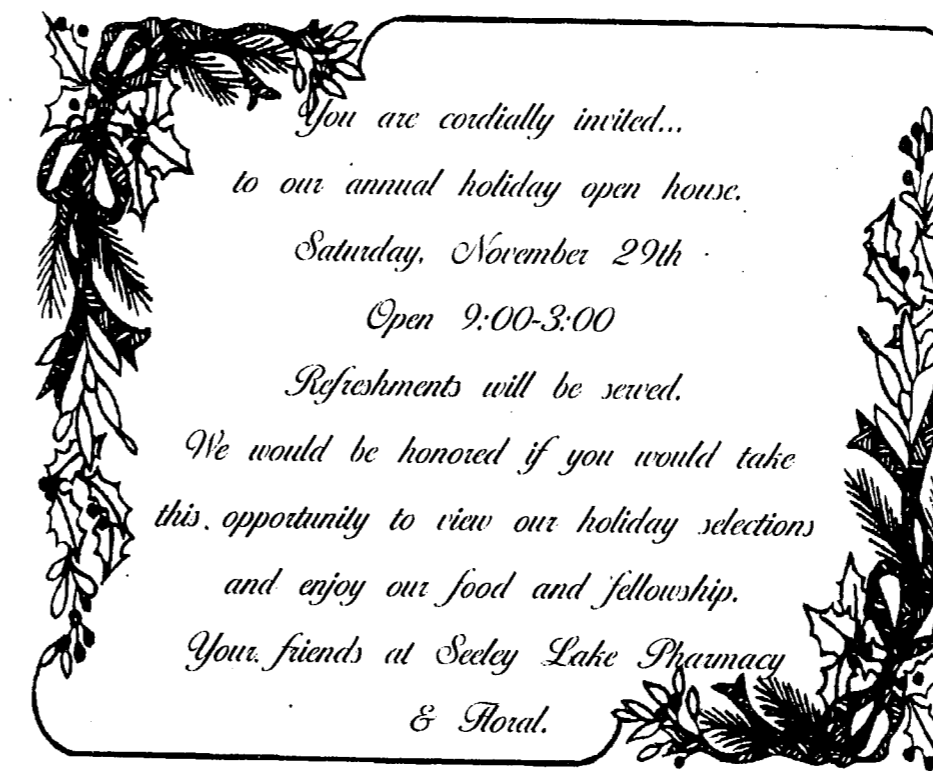


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Refreshments Served

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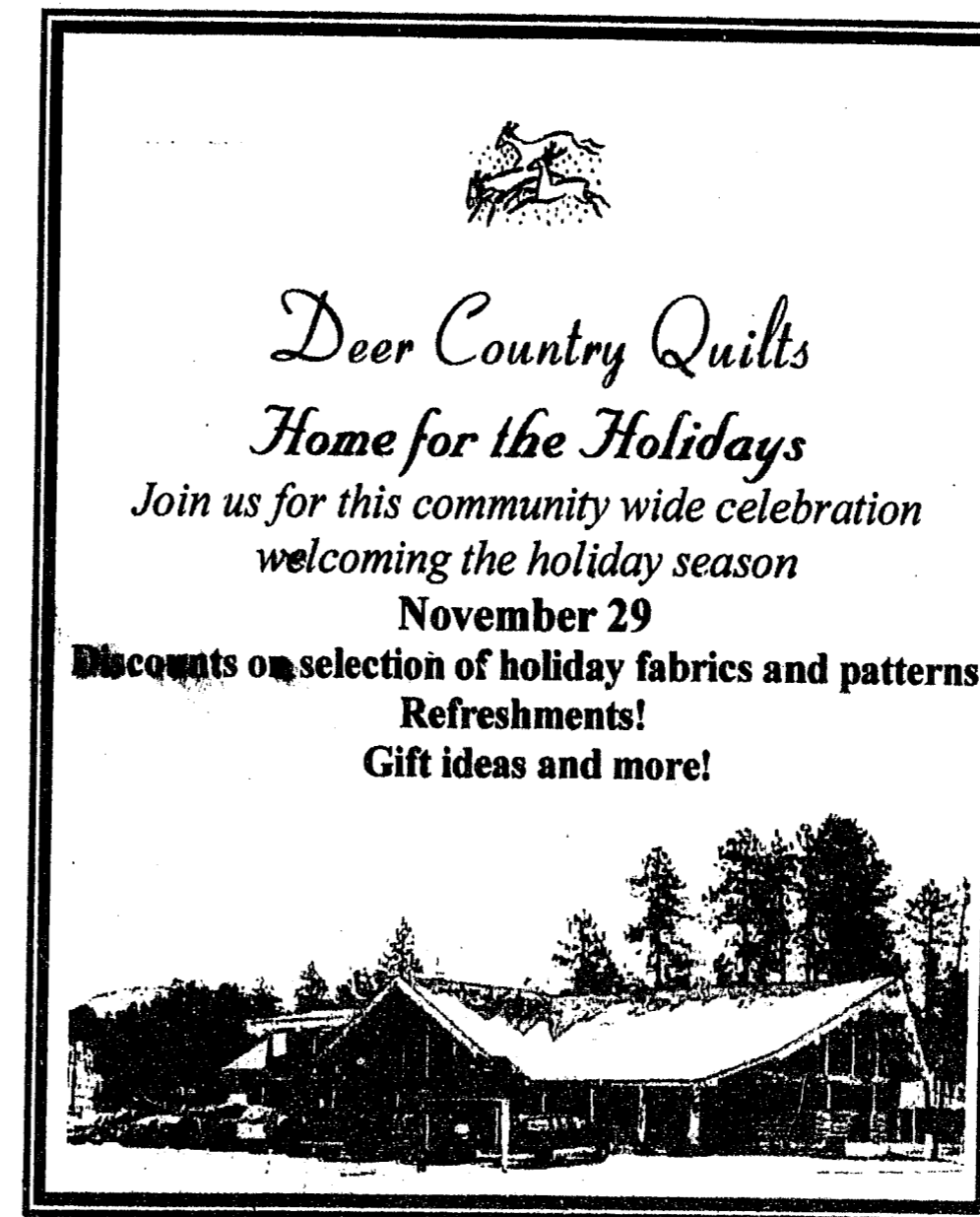
November 28th, 29th, & 30th
Fri. & Sat. 10 am—5:30 pm and Sun. 12-5:00pm
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- Columbia Sportswear merino wool socks Watch for a full line of Columbia Sportswear clothing this spring!
- Brighton — jewelry, sunglasses, & leather
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- Wildlife Photography by Conrad Rowe
- Zoppini — Italian modular charms & accessories
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The World's Gateway to the Seeley Swan

Clearwater Resource Council signs in on Blackfoot Challenge plans for lands in Horseshoe Hills area

By Ron Bohlman

Clearwater Resource Council okays Blackfoot Challenge plan

Twenty local residents met at the Clearwater Resource Council meeting held at the Senior Citizens' Center last Thursday evening to provide recommendations to the Blackfoot Challenge (BC) on future uses of Plum Creek Timber Company lands in the Horseshoe Hills area located south and east of the Double Arrow Ranch.

These lands are included in the recently announced plans for land acquisition and transfer by The Nature Conservancy and the BC. Hank Goetz of the BC indicated that there are 41,000 acres in the first phase of the purchase and approximately 47,000 acres in a second phase that should occur in about 2 years.

The Horseshoe Hills lands include some 9,000 acres that would be part of the second phase of the land acquisition. The BC is developing a plan for future ownership and use of all of the lands included in the acquisition, and is seeking input from the community of Seeley Lake specifically for this particular block of land. Goetz pointed out that the USFS has indicated an interest in acquiring and maintaining these lands.

The views expressed by the attendees identified the importance of Horseshoe Hills as an elk migration corridor. Some grizzly bear use, especially on the east side, was also reported. The area receives considerable recreational use, and supports a good trail network for snowmobiles, horseback riders, and hikers. Interest was stated in maintaining these values and uses. Public ownership of most or all of the area was thought to be appropriate, and the BC proposal of Federal ownership was generally supported. Concerns over needed future land management including road maintenance and weed control were noted.

Also discussed were concerns of some attendees about the need for both an assisted living facility and affordable housing in Seeley Lake. It was not thought that the Horseshoe Hills land would be a suitable location for either of these. However, there may be a possibility of using other land, such as a section of State land near the town of Seeley Lake for these purposes.

If this were done, a possibility might be to swap some of the Plum Creek Timber Company lands in Horseshoe Hills for the State owned section near town, transferring ownership to the State of some land in Horseshoe Hills and allowing affordable housing and/or assisted living to be developed on the existing state section. In this way, payment for purchase of the land for development in Seeley Lake could be used to offset costs of some Horseshoe Hills lands, with these lands going to DNRC for management. There were also some views expressed that with limited funds for purchase of Federal lands, that a small amount of the Horseshoe Hills, particularly near Route 83, might need to be sites for conservation buyers or development.

In conclusion, the attendees supported the Blackfoot Challenge disposition plan for the Horseshoe Hills lands that includes maintaining recreational use and access of the area, maintaining the area as a wildlife corridor, and converting all or much of the area to public ownership. The Clearwater Resources Council will continue to provide a forum for discussion of Plum Creek Timber Company land divestitures.

The next meeting of the Council will be at 6:30 pm on December 16th at the Senior Citizen's Center.

Pathfinder Classifieds

Young hunter gets a 'Mulie' buck



There's only one week left of hunting season, and Jesse Minjares Swigert can kick back because his 4-point mule deer is hanging in the garage. This is his first deer, and to say the least he's as proud as a 13-year-old can be, especially after the comment his 8-year-old brother David made, "Good job Jesse. I don't think I could have done much better myself!"

Cancer claims a young victim

Swan Song

Daniel Jason Schmidt
January 26, 1982 to
November 23, 2003

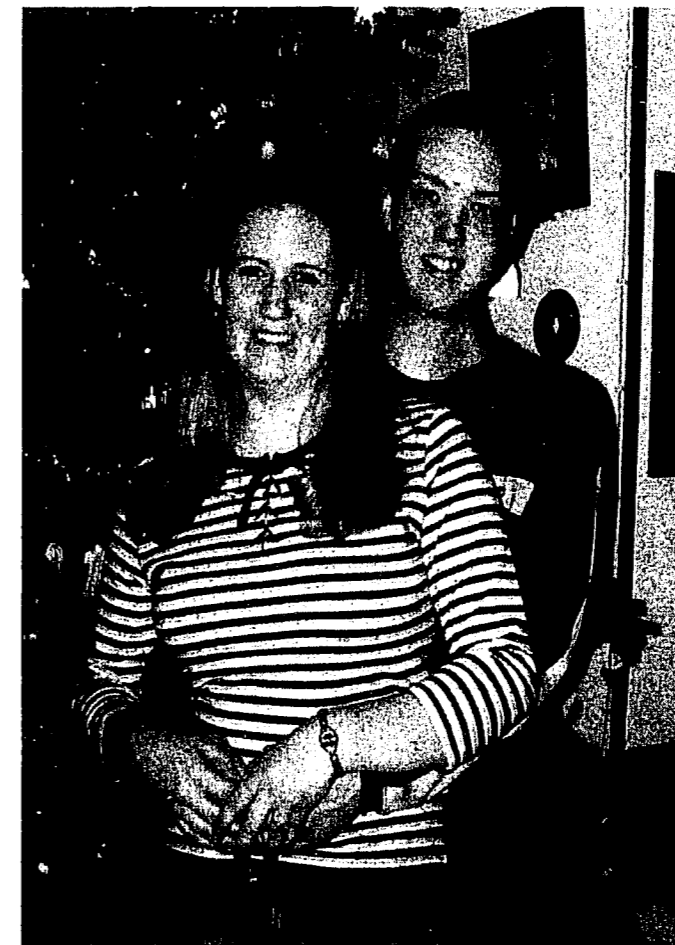
Life can be full of surprises and unexpected turns. This year has been one of those years for our family. Today God called home Dan, and we say good-bye to a young man who was to have been our son-in-law. Daniel Schmidt came into our lives a year ago in July. He and our daughter Jamie were to be married in August. Shortly after they began dating, Dan was diagnosed with cancer. At several points throughout his treatment, we were hopeful he was going to beat it. Throughout his brave battle, we came to know a very special young man. Soft spoken with a gentle smile and warm blue eyes, he became a very big part of our lives. We will miss you Dan and never forget what you came to mean to us. We wish you peace in a place with the Lord where you will no longer be in pain. Although the cancer overcame your body, your memory will always live on in the hearts of those who loved you. Thank you for loving our daughter and bringing a special happiness into her life. We will never forget you.

You are survived by your family in Bozeman, and your extended family here in Seeley Lake, Ralph and Peggy Cahoon and family, your loving fiancée, Jamie Richards, and all of your friends at the Rich Ranch. Go rest in peace and love.

Services will be held in Bozeman, Montana on Wednesday, November 26 at 11:00 a.m.

Pathfinder Classifieds
677-2022

Pathfinder Classifieds



Travel by Train...on the
Canyon Falls & Western Railway
Seeley Lake, Montana

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Wed-Sun.
9 a.m.
to 6 p.m.

Call 677-RAIL for info

Train Rides, Gift Shop with Snacks, Novelty Items, Local Crafts, and Railroad Antiques on display.
Located on North Canyon Drive, just 1-1/4 miles from town.

Please Pause For Pets and Paws

Thank You For Your Patience!

Our artists proofs and prints have been promised for the first week in December. Hopefully we will have a signing by Cindy and Melody from the 10th on. We will be mailing out the proofs so that you will receive them by the week before Christmas. We are at the mercy of the people who are doing the proofs, and we have worked very hard to bring this great picture to all. We so appreciate your support and patience. So much work has gone into this whole project and your artist proof will hopefully be a great asset to all of you. I thank Cindy of the Rockinghorse for her patience and hard work.

Please, we cannot find the phone number for Bob and Mary Tromly and Sheila Townsend. If anyone knows how to contact these people, please call me so we can get their print to them.

Paws Up

to Vicki Scalise for the donation of her original by Cindy Torok of a blue heron which High Basin Art Gallery sold for us. It helped our dwindling Paws Up fund. We thank Jerry Belrose also for donating his commission on the sale.

Paws Up

to Bill and Jackie Buitenhuis for dog sitting at Paws Up while Renee made a dash to Missoula. We cannot thank Bill and Jackie enough for all they do!

Paws Up

and deep thanks to Sandy Mills for her wonderful donation. We are so in need of help. Our spay and neuter fund is depleted. The demand is greater each year, and we thank all of you who continue to spay and neuter and provide vet care to your pets.

Deepest Sympathy

to the Mike Lindemer family and special thoughts to Jenny on the loss of their beloved Bailey. Bailey was a very loved dog. Thank you for the memorial in Bailey's name. Bailey is safe and warm and very welcomed at The Rainbow Bridge.

Paws Up

to Helen and Maryanna Rich on becoming monthly sponsors. We so appreciate you.

Please Protect Your Pet

from the cold by making sure it has a warm dog house with fresh water and food, if your pet must stay outside. Be sure to take your pet in if the temperature dips below freezing. Remember, your pet gets just as cold as you do. If you must leave your dog out, be sure to give it constant companionship by walking it or taking it in the evening. Your pet is a loving companion. Please respect that love by returning it with food, water and love. If you must chain your dog, please no more than six hours, and then off the chain for attention and love.

Paws Up

to those who search the animal shelters for a dog for Christmas. PLEASE DO NOT GET A PUPPY FOR CHRISTMAS ONLY TO CHAIN IT OUTSIDE TO LANGUISH AWAY BY THE NEXT CHRISTMAS. YOUR CHILDREN LEARN RESPONSIBILITY FOR A PET FROM YOU!

How About Us?

Winston, a neutered Yellow Lab, is very loving, loves children, needs a dog run, love and attention, but would make a very loving family pet.

Molly, a sweet and loving timid Yellow Lab, 6-9 months old, great potential, would need a very loving family.

Sadie, a purebred 6 year old Collie with three legs, very sweet and loving and desperately needs a loving home. Sadie came to Paws Up in terrible shape, but is getting better. Sadie lost her front leg early in life, and does not do stairs very well.

A quiet loving home and Sadie would return your love over and over. PLEASE REMEMBER THESE DOGS WILL ONLY GO TO PROVEN LOVING PEOPLE AND HOMES!

YOU BE THE JUDGE!

A dog was recently spotted with a note on its collar which stated, "If found do not take to Paws Up Safe Home," with the owner's phone number on a tag. Apparently, this dog had been brought to Paws Up because it had been found with no ID on it, and the owner had to pay the pick-up fee and was not happy, even though the dog's life could well have been saved because it was brought to Paws Up Safe Home. As a pet owner, if my dog was lost or running with or without ID I would be thrilled to get my dog back, pay the fee and thank the person who found her and Renee for keeping her safe. So now with this message around this dog's neck, and I am glad to see the owner had smarts enough to put the phone number on the tag, but what happens when the dog gets loose again? The owner is not by the phone; the dog is standing out at 20 below or has been hit by a car or shot for running deer. The person who is trying to save the dog is not to take it to Paws Up Safe Home where it would receive any kind of care it would need to save its life, plus lay on a pillow where it would be fed and cared for. What would the person who found the dog do? For \$35.00 the owner would rather have the person leave the dog to freeze or die of injuries? YOU BE THE JUDGE! WHAT WOULD YOU DO AND HOW SMART IS THE OWNER OF THIS DOG? IN MY OPINION, I WILL BET NOT AS SMART AS HIS DOG, WHO WOULD WANT TO GO TO PAWS UP AGAIN TO A WARM PILLOW, GOOD FOOD AND LOVING CARE. IN MY OPINION, THIS OWNER, WITH SUCH A NOTE ON THE DOG'S COLLAR, IS PUTTING HIS DOG'S LIFE IN JEOPARDY AND PLACING BLAME ON PAWS UP SAFE HOME FOR HIS IRRESPONSIBILITY.

Note

Please keep ID on your dog. If found we can call you ASAP. It will save you hours of worry and looking for your pet.

Minimum fee for dogs recovered at Paws Up Safe Home - \$35.00

Elinor Williamson, 408 677-2174 PO Box 522 Seeley Lake, MT 59868
Paws Up Safe Home Renee Stowe 406 677-3435 PO Box 323 Seeley Lake, MT 59868
Non-profit #368168 Federal ID number 11016 • www.pawsupsafehome.org

Young 'cooks' fancy Thanksgiving Dinners...and other thoughts

New Cooks For Thanksgiving Moms stock up on Tacos, Crawdads and Snake Tail

If you ever need a lift, turn to a child. Following you'll find lots of Thanksgiving sunshine from some of the Seeley students.

First Grade: What is your favorite part of Thanksgiving?

Courtney George: "When you get to see all of your cousins and family and have a big get together and have a big feast."

Margaret Henrekin: "When you get to have turkey and squash and you get to see your cousins and aunts and uncles and some dogs."

Mackenzie Richards: "Having turkey. Going to Bozeman to visit my grandma."

Alan Cutler: "Seeing all your family across the states like Hawaii and California and Washington DC. I like having Thanksgiving in Washington DC."

Lance Drinnen: "When you get to have turkey and get to see your whole family."

Hayley Snobar: "When we get to see our grandma and grandpa. We get to have a big feast and we get to have turkey."

Nick Mariani: "Eating and once upon a time I had Thanksgiving in Lancaster, California. This is the first time I'm gonna have a feast in Seeley Lake. I love Seeley Lake."

Cole Jungers: "Eating pumpkin pie."

Skylar Hoelstad: "When you get to see your dad and family and eat turkey and be nice and use your manners."

Zachary Lewis: "Playing with your friends and cousins

and eating and having so much fun."

Steven Vernarsky: "You get to see all your cousins great aunts and get a lot of good food."

Amber Fitzgerald: "Eating pumpkin pie and spending time with my family eating squash."

Kyle Weisenburger: "Eating the squash that tastes like candy. Eating pumpkin pie and squash that tastes like sugar."

At this gesture, all of the kids make a big "yum" sound.

Chelsea Adams: "Having turkey and eating apple pie and eating sugar squash and being with your whole family, grandpa and grandma in Washington."

Second Grade: What are you thankful for?

Megan Lindemer: "My family because we're all together."

Samantha Kittrell: "For my family because they treat me nice."

Hope Jacobs: "My family because most of us aren't together but I still love my whole family. I'm thankful for the job you let me have." (Hope works for me in the summer pulling weeds, painting and raking pine needles. She's a great employee!)

Sidney Johnson: "I'm thankful for family and friend because they play with me."

Cole Henrekin: "My family because my dad lets me use old stuff of his and my mom lets me help her cook supper."

David Minjares: "My family. They buy me a lot of nice stuff and they love me."

Taylor Friede: "The Air Force because it protects us. My family."

Colby Evenson: "That my dad lets me ride dirt bikes and he's always there if I wreck."

Savannah Davis: "My family and friends. They help me out a lot and we play games with each other."

Elaina Novak: "For my family, my animals. My mom buys me chips and my pets they're nice to me and they keep me company."

Tami Chappell: "Good question. For this school because we can learn and read."

Stefani McAnally: "God because he made me who I am and I love him. He's practically my father and I really, really love him."

Kymerlyn McCracken: "God because he is my father and he's nice and I really, really love him."



First Grade told us what their favorite part of Thanksgiving was all about.
Front Row: Right to Left: Courtney George, Margaret Henrekin, Mackenzie Richards, Alan Cutler, Lance Drinnen, Hayley Snobar and Nick Mariani. Middle row right to left: Cole Jungers, Skylar Hoelstad, Zachary Lewis, Steven Vernarsky, Amber Fitzgerald, Kyle Weisenburger, Chelsea Adams. Back row: Mrs. Zelda Haines, 1st grade teacher, and student teacher Katrina Stout from the University of Montana.

T.J. Freyholtz: "Love and forgiveness. Friends and family. God, and all those who died in the army."

Now it's time for the third grade cooks. Take the day off mom, and start saving your money. The following seems to bring the word "dentist to mind.

If you were the cook for Thanksgiving, and you could serve anything you wanted, what would Thanksgiving dinner look like?

Jacob Galiher: "I would serve turkey with candy for the main course and for desert."

Jack Miller: "I would serve pizza and hot dogs and mashed potatoes and pop and potato chips, popcorn, ice cream, Butterfingers, candy corn, pop corn balls, jelly beans, Hershey bars, shrimp, caramel apples, tacos, nachos, salad, hot pockets, pizza bites, candy bars and turkey." (Gary, better get a loan now for the dentist!)

Conor Marlatt: "I would serve pizza, yams with melted marshmallows on top, turkey, chips, Kool-aid, candy, eggnog, ice cream, caramel corn, chocolate cake, Pepsi, Jell-O, jelly beans, deviled eggs, brownies, caramel apples, French fries and hot wings. I would like to have my dinner in Phenix, Arizona." (Wouldn't we all spend it there!)



Ryan Jorgensen: "I would serve turkey, melted marshmallows on yams, blueberry pie, Pepsi and deviled eggs, scrambled eggs, dog food, cat food, pumpkin pie, salami, grapes, peanut butter and crackers."

Briana Novak: "I would serve turkey and pumpkin pie. I would serve corn and marshmallows. I would serve mashed potatoes and popcorn. I would serve candy and peaches. I would serve jelly beans and meat. I would serve Jell-O and pop."

Laramie Westcott: "I would serve turkey, grass, candy, pizza, jelly beans, trees, pop, marshmallows, Gatorade, cheesecake, eggs, nachos, pepper, junk, hot dogs."

Brian Snobar: "I would serve pizza and ice cream and candy turkey and a bag full of jelly beans and pops and lolly pops and gum."

Brandon Simon: "I would serve pizza, cheesecake, turkey, corn, mashed potatoes, lemonade, cake, grapes, sundaes, candy, corn balls, ice cream, jelly beans, Jell-O, pop, steak, macaroni and

cheese, tacos, apples, Kool-aid, eggnog, pumpkin chocolate cake.

Kieran Collans: "I would serve turkey and I would serve Gatorade and hot fudge Sundays, chocolate pie, stuffing, brownies, popcorn, candy, turkey, Jell-O with marshmallows, deviled eggs, shrimp, crawdads with butter."

Alex Contreras: "I would serve pizza, turkey, cheesecake, marshmallows, corn, pumpkin pie, mashed potatoes, Gatorade, candy, caramel apples."

Ericka Jeannette Brechbill: "I'd serve turkey, tatter tot casserole, tomato soup, grapes, clam chowder, candy, Gatorade, mashed potatoes, chocolate cake, popcorn, caramel apples, fudge, ice cream, whip cream, cheese, pizza, frosting, cookies, Jell-O, marshmallows, deviled eggs, macaroni and cheese and hamburger."

Avery Troutwine: "I would serve lemonade and lots of candy and lots and lots of jerky and Jell-O with marshmallow on top and crawdads with butter."

LeAnna Miller: "I would serve chocolate pie for the main course. I would serve jerky for the third course. I would serve chocolate covered apples for the fourth course. And lolly pops for the fifth course. All at Hawaii. (Better than Arizona, oh yea)

Taylor Lukasik: "I would serve turkey with marshmallows and chocolate milk. Loony popcorn and pop with ice cream with money bears and then steak with ants on it and salt. Have a good day."

Zach Blackburn: "I would serve Kool-aid, candy, chocolate cake, chips, my mom's chocolate balls and junk food."

Mercedes Richards: "I would serve turkey, cheesecake, candy, jelly beans, caramel, butter, eggs, cheese, pop, tacos. I would eat at home."

Kelsey Linford: "I would serve turkey with cake with candy turkeys, mashed potatoes, stuffing, jelly beans, pumpkin pie, tacos with cheese shrimp, crabs with butter."

Tiffany Wendel: "I would serve turkey, mashed potatoes with lots and lots of gravy, fudge Sundays, popcorn balls, candy stuffing, rice crispy bars, pop, shrimp and junk foot that's what I would serve."

Miranda Dupree: "I would

serve turkey, chocolate cake with ice cream, Loony jelly beans, fruit punch, popcorn, pop, crab, potatoes with gravy."

Poor Mitchel Contreas was absent the day of the interviews so Mrs. Davis filled out one for him: "He would want New York steak smothered in mushrooms, with lobster and crab legs. For desert he would have large dishes of \$100 bills smothered in pre-paid travel vouchers, and Mrs. Davis is the only one he would invite."

And don't you worry Mrs. Davis, if Mitchel Contreas doesn't invite you, you have another dinner partner—Sierra Jenkins: "I would serve fish, pop, fried insects, cat tails, prairie dog stew, sand, shells, turkey, snake tale pie and apple pie and I would eat it with Mrs. Davis."



Second Grade told us what they are thankful for.
First row right to left—Megan Lindemer, Colby Evenson, Savannah Davis, Elaina Novak, Tami Chappell, Stefani McAnally, Kymerlyn McCracken, and T.J. Freyholtz. Second row right to left—Samantha Kittrell, Sidney Johnson, Hope Jacobs, Shelby Holmes, Cole Henrekin, David Minjares and Taylor Friede. Mrs. Kathleen Thompson was home ill.



The third graders will give mom a break by preparing the menu for Thanksgiving.
First row, right to left—Alex Contreras, Jack Miller, Avery Troutwine, and LeAnna Miller. Second row, right to left—Conor Marlatt, Tiffany Wendel, Erica Brechbill, Sierra Jenkins, Jacob Galiher, Kelsey Linford, Kieran Collans, and Mercedes Richards. Back Row—Mrs. Kathy Davis, Ryan Jorgensen, Brandon Simon, Briana Novak, Laramie Westcott, Brian Snobar, Miranda Dupree, Zach Blackburn and Taylor Lukasik. Mitchel Contreras was home ill.



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.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Mon. 5 p.m. Jr-Sr High Confirmation-Bible Class; Tues 7:30 pm. Adult Bible Study Wed. 7 pm Adult Bible Study
Pastor — Rev. Robert Benson — 1655 Airport Rd.
Phone — 677-7677

Living Water Catholic Church
Worship Mass: Sunday—2:00 p.m.
152 SOS Road
Ph: 677-2688 or 793-5697
Pastor—Father Jozef Perekhubka

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)
Sunday School — 9:15 a.m. Worship—10:30 a.m.
Summer Hours from Memorial Day to Labor Day
Hwy. 83 & School Lane
Phone 677-2110
Pastor Ken Wutzke

BJ Parker in Australia on study abroad program

Bach J. (B.J.) Parker, son of William and Charlee Parker of Seeley Lake, is studying in Australia during fall semester through the Center for International Education at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN. Parker is a senior at SJU.

Chris Freeman, CSB/SJU associate professor in English, is the director of the Australian program for the semester. Jane Roberts, a writer and entrepreneur, is assisting Freeman on the program.

The Australian program is located in Fremantle in Western Australia, at the foot of the Swan River near the Indian Ocean, approximately 32 miles from the capital city of Perth. Students enroll at the University of Notre Dame Australia, which is Australia's first private Catholic university. While enrolled, students study Australian history and society, among other courses of their

choice. The participants are housed in student residences near the university campus.

The Center for International Education at CSB/SJU provides 12 intercultural education experiences for undergraduate students each year. In their latest poll, the Institute of International Education rated CSB/SJU first in an annual ranking of the top 15 undergraduate institutions with the largest number of students studying abroad.

The College of Saint Benedict for women and Saint John's University for men are partners in liberal arts education, providing students the opportunity to benefit from the distinctions of not one, but two nationally recognized Catholic, Benedictine, residential undergraduate colleges. Together, the colleges challenge students to live balanced lives of learning, work, leadership and service in a coeducational environment.

Location changed for book signing

There has been a change in location for the December book signing and crafts sale in Condon. Please note that this event will take place at the **Swan Valley Elementary School Library** instead of the Swan Valley Community Hall.

But rest assured nothing else has changed. 7/8 grade students are busy sewing fleece scarves, hats and stadium cushions. Dan Frye is instructing the middle school students on the fine art of leather tooling. In addition, the upper grades have a beautiful collection of hand painted flower pots. The final products will be sold at the library. All profits from this sale will go to the Swan Valley P.T.A.

Also as mentioned in the

original article about the December 6 event, Donna Love will be in the valley to sign her new book *Loons: Diving Birds of the North*. Donna will donate a portion of the proceeds from books sold on the 6th to the P.T.A.

While at the Swan Valley School library for the book signing, she will present a slide show on this fascinating bird. Members of the Swan Ecosystem Center's education committee will serve refreshments and a light lunch.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this enjoyable Swan Valley community event: December 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Donna will be with us from 11:00-1:00) at the **Swan Valley Elementary School Library**



Montana Department of REVENUE Property Visits

Property valuation staff may be visiting your property during the upcoming tax year to conduct an on-site review for property tax purposes. You or your agent may want to be present.

For an appointment, contact the local Department of Revenue office.

~ Honor Roll ~

Seeley Lake Elementary School First Quarter Honors

First Quarter Honor Roll

4th Grade - Locke Hassett, Emma Hipkins, Jessica Morgan, Riley Sturm, Jackie Teague, Madeline Williams

5th Grade - Leif Barstad, Jessica Bohler, Andrea Esparza, Travis Hals, Leland Hatten, Katelyn Lewis, Alexandra McBroom, Ashley McCracken, Shelby Murer, Genevieve Newell, Elizabeth Sheets, Zach Stoeger, Ashley Stout, Dallas Teague, Adam Troutwine, Kail Twedt

6th Grade - Robert Baier, Levi Cahoon, Michael Caroline, Connor Collins, Kenny Freshour, Amanda Hard, Will Harlock, Ashley Holmes, Samantha Jackson, Jacob Morgan, Aaron Morse, Bobbie Pierson, Emilea Siloti, Todd Skelton, Callie Trice, Kendra Vernarsky

7th Grade - Zach Balcom, Heather Bezanson, Gina Clark, Joey Clemens, Heather Friede, Lindsey Hipkins, Kevin Jones, Ryan Nelson, Elora Peterson, Jeremiah Rittel, Jesse Swigert, Jodi Woods
8th Grade - Jessica Baier, Brittany Bohler, Cassie Chappell, Jessica Hals, Courtney Stout, Nicholas Casano, Eric Ferdinand, Jaylee Haveman, Jimmy Dee Murphy, Paige Neubauer, Ryan Richards, Chance Twedt

First Quarter Perfect Attendance - Chelsea Adams, Courtney George, Margaret Henrekin, Skylar Hoelstad, Steven Vernarsky, Kyle Weisenburger, Alex Contreras, Cole Henrekin, Sidny Johnson, Megan Lindemer, Stefanie McAnally, Zach Blackburn, Ericka Brechbill, Miranda Dupree, Jack Miller, Avery Troutwine, Laramie Westcott, Maverick Losey, Alexia Matheny, Jessica Morgan, Matthew Morgan, Riley Sturm, Brad Varner, Andrea Esparza, Alex McBroom, Adam Troutwine, Amanda Hard, Jacob Morgan, Heather Friede, Jessica Hals, Ty Heaton, Courtney Stout, Eric Ferdinand, Kayla Troutwine

November 28 & 29

Ovando plans 4th Annual Old West Christmas Fest

Once upon a time, a long time ago, during a particularly blustery cold winter day, Santa Claus got spooked by a grizzly while traveling Northern Montana. That memory forever haunted him. He just plain got nervous whenever he had to visit the ranch kids; always looking over his shoulder for that, or any bear.

Then four years ago, Santa decided that he was getting tired of all that, and would recruit his cousin to handle the Rocky Mountain regions of the United States. After all, Santa was getting along in years, and — well — his cousin Cowboy Claus was actually from Montana, and he liked them bears and wildlife, and that cold, and those mountains, and would be far happier working that region than Santa ever could.

From that point forward it became Cowboy Claus' joyful duty to visit all the ranch kids in remote regions of Montana, to see what they would like for Christmas and then he would report directly back to Santa Claus.

Or so the legend goes.

Once again, on November 28th and 29th, Cowboy Claus returns to Ovando Montana atop his faithful horse Smooth, to visit with all the kids that come to town to

place their Christmas wishes. Dressed in his traditional weathered chaps, red plaid flannel shirt, black cowboy hat and boots, and bearing the family resemblance of long white beard and hair, Cowboy Claus will arrive every day at noon during Ovando's 4th Annual Old West Christmas Fest on Thanksgiving weekend.

He says he comes for the Kid's, but stays for the fun. And the fun just keeps getting better every year!

Returning to this year's Fest is the Town Square Gunslingers for their daily afternoon shoot-out and gun flight. All for fun of course. New this year is the Prairie Creek Old Time Photos who will be happy to dress you up like the locals and take your family pictures, just in time for those Christmas cards. Also joining into the Ovando Fun is Montana Kettle Corn, cooking up their fragrant brand of hefty, sweetened popcorn. As always, free wagon rides will be available for the short town tour with stops along the way at each craft and food outlet.

The usual arts and crafts from the local talent will be available; from Adele's much sought after crocheted pot scrubbers, to Lorna's

stunning wreaths. Included will be woodwork, furniture, ceramics, Judy Johnson animal portraits, baskets, quilts, afghans, Howard Copenhaver and his books, Swanwood bowls, gift baskets and ironworks.

If that doesn't get you enthused to drive into Ovando after Thanksgiving, think about your stomach and its fine food withdrawal! The newly remodeled Stray Bullet opens its doors to soups, sandwiches and sweets; Packer's Roost returns with Cowboy coffee and Fry Bread, Blackfoot Inn serves up homemade tamales, and the Blackfoot Angler brings back it's Chutney and BBQ sauce. Something delectable and edible can be found around every corner with cookies, cheesecakes, espressos, sticky and cinnamon buns, ciders, chocolates and espressos.

The Old West Christmas Fest is Friday and Saturday, November 28th and 29th in the quaint little jewel of a town called Ovando, located on Highway 200 centrally punched between Missoula and Great Falls. Lodging is available and questions are cheerfully answered. Call Kathy at 406-793-0018 or Peggy at 793-5555.



Cowboy Claus makes his way into Ovando for the Festival.



Gift selection at the Outfitter's Camp.



Cowboys take time to visit at the Outfitter's Camp.



Cowboy Claus listens to special Christmas requests.

BLACKFOOT
Proud Sponsor of this Week's School Lunch Menu

Offering a Full Menu of Telecommunication Services

Week of December 1, 2003

Monday, December 1: Chicken Nuggets
Tuesday, December 2: Pizza
Wednesday, December 3: Mac & Cheese
Thursday, December 4: French Dip
Friday, December 5: Burritos

There will be no school on Thursday and Friday, November 27-28 for Thanksgiving.

1-800-649-4108 www.blackfoot.net

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America's Top 100 including: CNN, History, ESPN, Lifetime, AMC, Weather, TLC, TNT, MSNBC, Disney, Cartoon Network, Comedy, MTV, Nickelodeon, Sci-Fi, TBS Superstation, Animal Planet, HGTV, WE, Fox News, Speed Channel and many more.

HBO 8 Channels

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Installing FREE from Darby to Whitefish to Deer Lodge to Libby. Serving Montana for over 23 years.
2347 South Ave. W., Missoula
(406) 721-3662 or (888) 565-6064

Offer ends 1/31/04 and is available in the continental United States. Must be a new, first-time DISH Network residential customer. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Local and state sales taxes may apply. All DISH Network programming, and any other services that are provided, are subject to the terms and conditions of the promotional agreement and Residential Customer Agreement, available at www.dishnetwork.com or upon request. Hardware and programming sold separately. Additional receivers must be activated in conjunction with a primary receiver. Local channels packages by satellite are only available to customers who reside in the specified local Designated Market Area (DMA). Certain local channels may require an additional dish antenna from DISH Network, installed free of any charges. Programming times may vary. Service is discontinued, a cancellation fee equal to the monthly charge of local programming times the number of months remaining will apply. Significant restrictions apply to DISH Network hardware and programming availability, and for all offers. Social Security Numbers are used to obtain credit scores and will not be released to third parties except for verification and collections purposes only. See your DISH Network Retailer, DISH Network product literature or the DISH Network website at www.dishnetwork.com for complete details and restrictions. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners.

**Scoping Notice
Request for Comment
Seeley Lake Ranger District
Small Project**

The Seeley Lake Ranger District is proposing to salvage dead and dying timber under the recently authorized Categorical Exclusions authorities, and is requesting public input on this project. The project is being considered under Category 13 - Salvage of Dead and Dying Trees.

Boles Meadow Fire Salvage - This project is located in Sections 30 and 32, T16N, R17W, and in Section 8, T15N, R17W in the Boles Creek drainage.

The Boles Meadow Fire Salvage project would include what was previously identified as the Boles Meadow Right of Way (ROW) Salvage, because that project as originally scoped was not feasible to implement. The ROW salvage was originally proposed for eight miles of road, 100 feet on each side, for a total of 180 acres. Ground verification determined that the actual area affected would be less than 10 acres because the trees identified for harvest were scattered infrequently along the sides of the road and were not continuous as originally anticipated.

Therefore, the only salvage of the identified ROW project would occur inside the proposed harvest units and along the haul routes used for this project. Roads to be used for hauling includes roads 16000, 4341, 16342 and 17640.

The proposed project would salvage dead and dying timber from seven (7) units, totaling approximately 240 acres. All harvest would be accomplished using ground based equipment. Access to all harvest units would be from existing roads; no road construction would occur.

A legal ad was published in the *Missoulian* on Tuesday 11/25/03. Site-specific comments on this proposed project are encouraged, and should be submitted by December 29th to ensure consideration.

Comments can be submitted to: Timothy G. Love, District Ranger, Seeley Lake Ranger District, 3583 Highway 83, Seeley Lake MT 59868.

For additional information regarding this project, contact Bruce Higgins at Missoula Ranger District, Building 24A, Fort Missoula, Missoula MT 59804, or call 406-329-3995.

Swan Song
Roland E. DeSmidt

SEELEY LAKE - Roland E. DeSmidt, 73, of Seeley Lake, passed away Friday, Nov. 21, 2003, of natural causes at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.

He was born May 8, 1930, in Milwaukee, Wis., the son of Robert H. and Ruth (Hammond) DeSmidt.

Roland was raised and educated in Sheboygan, Wis., until the age of 12, when his family moved to Redondo Beach, Calif. He graduated from Redondo Union High School in 1948. Roland enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve while in high school. After high school, he was activated to serve during the Korean War for 2 1/2 years overseas.

After his honorable discharge, Roland married Patricia Schleibaum on Sept. 6, 1952, in Compton, Calif.

He began working for Shell Oil in 1952 and remained with the company until he retired as a drilling foreman in 1983. Roland and Pat moved to Seeley Lake in 1997.

Roland enjoyed racing pigeons, golfing and especially fishing. He always got along with everyone and had no enemies.

Roland was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife Pat of Seeley Lake; five children, Deborah Krieger and husband Larry of Turah, Donna Buss and husband Terry of Missoula, Randall DeSmidt and wife Donna of Oak View, Calif., Robert DeSmidt and wife Bonnie of Abita Springs, La., and Diane Sutton and husband Rick of Bakersfield, Calif.; twin brother Ronald DeSmidt and wife Janet of Mira Loma, Calif.; sister Janice Ashley and husband Don of Carson City, Nev.; 10 grandchildren, Heather, Jessica, Brian, Wade, Glenn, Kayla, Suzanne, Megan, Korey and Jayden; two great-grandchildren, Cameron and Kellen; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Services will be held at a later date.

The family suggests that memorials be made in Roland's name to the charity of the donor's choice. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Garden City Funeral Home and Crematory in Missoula.

**Special Thanksgiving
Worship Services**

**National Day of Thanksgiving
Community Worship Service**

The "National Day of Thanksgiving" will be observed in the Seeley-Swan Mission Mountain Range at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Seeley Lake on Thanksgiving Eve, November 26, at 7:00 p.m., and at Faith Lutheran Church in Condon on Thanksgiving Day, November 27 at 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Robert Lee Benson, parish pastor, stated that, "The community is cordially invited to observe this special day as we remember God's countless blessings to us as a nation. Daily we are to give thanks to God for His goodness to all, and His tender mercies over all His works." The Service will include prayers for our community and our nation, for the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces of our country; prayers for faith and hope in these overshadowing days of war; prayers for mercy and peace; appropriate Scripture readings, and hymns. The Meditation will be based on Psalm 145:15: "The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O Lord; and Thou givest them their meat in due season."

For further information, call 677-7677. Come and be welcome!

**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, November 27
Closed for the holiday
Monday, Dec. 1

Cranberry Juice, Shepherd's Pie, Green Salad, Roll, Chocolate Pudding

Thursday, Dec. 4
Orange Juice, Roast Pork, Potatoes and Gravy, Carrots, Cake, Peaches

**Golden Bough Trio is
solid hit in the Seeley Swan**

By Colleen Nicholson

The prediction proved true, and the Golden Bough Celtic Trio did indeed fill the Clearwater and Swan valleys with their beautiful music from Celtic nations on November 17 and 18th. The crowd at the Seeley Swan High School Old Gym was very enthusiastic, and joined in with hand clapping and foot stomping and whoops and hollers to the trio's lively tunes.

Paul Espinoza played the accordion, guitar, and oversized mandolin. His wife, Margie Butler, took center stage playing a beautiful Celtic harp, bodhran (drum), and a penny whistle, with which she produced an amazing amount of music. Kathy Sierra "commanded" the fiddle - from very fast bouncing tunes to my favorite, a lyrical waltz she composed herself. All three musicians have lovely voices, and their songs included lyrics from all the traditional Celtic lands of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Spain, and the little tiny Isle of Man.

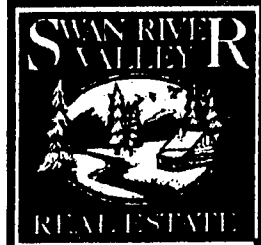
Photos of the Western Ireland landscape, taken by myself, Colleen Nicholson, taken while on a trip to Ireland Stan and I made, were on the stage and in the lobby, giving a bit of background atmosphere to the music.

An evening's first-rate entertainment would be cause enough for praise, but the amazing part of each of these 2 Valleys Stage programs is the time the artists spend in our three local schools. The trio was at Seeley Elementary school Monday morning, performing for the student body - with a special visit to the pre kindergarten class where each child had a chance to strum Margie's harp; Swan Valley Elementary school Monday afternoon (including students from Salmon Prairie); and an all school performance Tuesday morning at Seeley Swan High School. We may be an hour away from the cultural events of Missoula, but this concert series brings talented performers directly to our K through 12 student population, and exposes them to a variety of musical talents.

The next concert in the 2 Valleys Stage series will be Jazz/Pop singer Eden Atwood & The Last Chance Band, Sunday, January 25th at 3 p.m. in the Old Gym. Individual tickets will be available at the door, or you may purchase a Gift Pack of six tickets to be used at any of the remaining three concerts at Books, Yarn & More or the Swan Ecocenter. These Gift Packs can be hung on a Christmas tree, making them an ideal gift idea.



Golden Bough Trio, internationally known, performing at Seeley-Swan High School. P. Swan Smith photo



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SSHS Students of the Week



DaYe Jung — DaYe is a wonderful addition to our student body this year. She traveled from Korea to rural Montana to spend the year with the Hoffmans. She is very pleasant and courteous to fellow students and staff members, and has a ready smile. DaYe is working very hard to assimilate into our culture and is willing to share information about her native culture. Her diligence earned her a spot on the honor roll for first quarter.



Patrick Jones — Pat is thoroughly enjoying his senior year at SSSHS. He is working diligently on his senior project, which includes a PowerPoint presentation entitled "The Timeline of my Life." Pat always has a smile ready to share and has a wonderful sense of humor. Pat takes pride in his work. It shows, as he is on the honor roll for first quarter.

Students of the Week submitted by staff at SSSHS

Noland awarded Loon Society Volunteer of Year Award for 2003

By Donna Love

At the 2003 Annual Meeting of the Montana Loon Society held in Polson in September, society president, Lynn Kelly, announced that this year's Volunteer of the Year Award went to Gary Noland, Owner/Editor of the Seeley-Swan Pathfinder.

Kelly said, "The success of any management program is dependent on how well the public understands what is happening. Gary has been covering loon news since 1986. Because of his consistent coverage, he's helping people understand and appreciate the valuable resources that make Seeley Lake a special place."

Kelly also stated that Gary has also been a force in the background for other vital educational projects for the Montana Loon Society.

"We are thankful for his constant help with loon education for all these years and the Montana Loon Society is awarding him with our Volunteer of the Year Award for 2003. We thank him and wish him a quick recovery and the best of health," she said.

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Lions Club needs help with food baskets

At this time of the year when we have so much to be thankful for, please take time to think of those less fortunate. The Seeley Lake Lions Club will be giving out

Thanksgiving baskets. If you would like to be part of this project by donating either non-perishable food items or cash, please call Lion Monty at 677-3574 or Lion Cheryl

at 677-2464. Checks can be mailed to Lions Club, PO Box 215, Seeley Lake. Thank you for your help in making this project a success.

*Have a safe,
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Business Solutions

Tammie Westcott
Independent Accountant
WESTCOTT ENTERPRISES BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
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Seeley Lake, MT 59868
Phone/Fax 406-677-0168
Cell: 406-370-6799
Email: websinseeley@blackfoot.net

Resort Lodging

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Rhonda Malecha
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Reasonable Rates
Weddings, Graduation, Family, Special Events, Studio & Outdoor Settings
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For Sale

Firewood, solid Doug fir, split & delivered, \$95/cord, 677-3142

Good clean topsoil, will deliver, 677-3221

King bed set, firm pillowtop, brand new in plastic, full warranty, retail \$1099, sell \$299, 406-253-2975, 206-239-2239 or 406-239-4171

Bedroom set, European cherrywood w/inlay design sleigh bed, large 15 drawer chest, armoire, 2 night stands, lovely, cost \$9000, sacrifice \$2800, 406-239-4171, 406-239-2239 or 406-253-2975

Cherry dining set, solid wood,

STATEWIDE Classified Ad Network

The Pathfinder now offers you a one-step, inexpensive way to place advertising messages in 55 participating weekly and semi-weekly and 7 daily newspapers in Montana. The service offers you a circulation of 206,000 households (#94,400 readers) for a low price of \$119 for a 25-word ad. Call 677-2022 for details.

EDUCATION/INSTRUCTION

TRUCK DRIVER TRAINING. Complete programs and refresher courses, rent equipment for CDL, Job Placement Assistance. Financial assistance for qualified students. SAGE Technical Services, Billings, 1-800-545-4546. #741

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CASH FOR THE PURCHASE OF MORTGAGES, contracts, notes, settlements, annuities, escrows. Fast, professional service. Compare our prices! Creative Finance, Missoula, Montana's oldest! 1-800-999-4809, www.creative-finance.com #742

FOR SALE - MISCELLANEOUS
FREE 3-ROOM DIRECTV SYSTEM INCLUDING INSTALLATION! FREE 3 months HBO movie package w/subscription. Access 225+channels. Digital-quality picture/sound. Conditions apply. Limited time offer. Call 1-800-311-8973. #743

HELP WANTED

READY FOR AN EXPERIENCE? Montana Conservation Corps is hiring crewleaders. Receive leadership training while preparing to supervise

crews on natural resource and community service projects. ADA/EOE \$990 per month, health, plus ed bonus of \$4725 for AmeriCorps term from Feb 16 to Nov 19. 1-866-JOIN-MCC. www.mtccorps.org #744

SHOP HELP WANTED IN AVIATION FACILITY. Certificate not required, if willing to learn. Pay based on experience. Resume to Charles Trayner Aviation, Box 530, Scobey, MT 59263. Fax 406-487-2734. #745

CALIBOUND. Now hiring sharp outgoing people to travel entire US representing top sport, fashion & news publications. Expense paid training with base guarantee. Daily-weekly-monthly bonuses. Trans & hotel provided with return trip guaranteed. Call 800-282-0381. Call today-start tomorrow. #746

ACCESS TO A COMPUTER? Put it to work! \$1500+PT/\$3-\$5000+FT. Call 1-868-228-1475. www.youarepriceless.com #747

DRIVERS - Experienced/Inexperienced fleets to fit your needs & experience level. \$500 exp'd driver sign-on bonus! CDL Training available. Tuition reimbursement. 1-866-222-6646.

www.swilltrans.com #748
EXTRA INCOME \$12-\$17/hour. Track and File US Government HUD/FHA Mortgage Refunds. Training provided. Call Tracker Resource at 1-800-301-2368. #749

MORTGAGES

MONEY TO LOAN. Land development • Multi-family • Office • Warehouse • Construction • Fees built-in • Poor credit • Bank turn downs. • Fast closing. Questa Mortgage 406-837-7011, 800-887-5288. #750

NOTICES

VIRGELLE MERC. ANTIQUES presents a "Real Country Christmas" at a "Real Country Store" Saturday & Sunday, December 6th and 7th, 9am to 5pm. Antiques-Art Collectibles. Phone 1-800-426-2926 or (406)378-3110. Celebrate the Season at Virgelle, Montana. #751

STEEL BUILDINGS

STEEL BUILDINGS SALE!!! No obligation, free quote. www.sentinelbuildings.com. All Steel...All the Time! Sentinel Buildings, 800-327-0790, Extension 79. #752

WOLD'S VALLEY MARKET

**Locally owned
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One Mile South of Seeley Lake
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SEELEY LAKE, MONTANA



Open 7 Days A Week!

Sun thru Thurs: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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406/677-2121

WE ARE MEMBERS OF



SEE INSERT SPECIALS

Effective November 26, 2003 - December 2, 2003 • POSTAGE STAMPS • ATM MACHINE

ESPRESSO Booth

Easy Access from Whitetail Drive

Fall / Winter Hours

Mon - Fri 7 am to 2 pm

Sat & Sun 7 am to 1 pm



Special of the Week

"Albino Rhino Latte"

Freshly steamed milk and espresso are combined with thick, rich, White Chocolate syrup and Butterscotch flavoring for a taste as big as the animal it is named for! This one is a favorite!

Save .25 cents on any size this week!

"FYI"

Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have,
or sleep all you want

Happy Thanksgiving!

We have

Egg Nog Lattes

Rich, thick & oh so creamy Egg Nog is steamed to perfection, added to fresh espresso & then topped off with a hint of nutmeg. This is a holiday favorite! Too rich or too many calories? We can make it skinny! Try one today.

We are closed on Thanksgiving Day

to give our employees time with their families. Wishing you a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday from all of us at the Valley Market!

YMCA News Update on Activities

Adult Aerobics

Adult aerobics classes have begun. Join aerobics instructor Terry Bartlett for morning walk fit and step classes. Participants have the option of walk fit or step class, warm up and stretch together, walk or step class followed by weights and stretch together. The walk fit can be outdoors walking the bike path, as long as weather permits.

- Session: September - May
- When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.
- Fee: \$25.00 per month Step Class; \$15.00 per month Walk Fit Class

Evening Aerobics

Evening Aerobics class will begin January 6, 2004. Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Seeley Lake Elementary School Multipurpose room. The fee is \$16.00 per month. Classes will be led by participants trained by Terry Bartlett, certified aerobic instructor.

Please contact the YMCA Outreach office for information: Phone 677-3330 and/or e-mail: ssymca@blackfoot.net. The Seeley-Swan YMCA Outreach Office is located in the Lazy Pine Mall. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Lunch is Ready...

Lunch Menu for this week...11/20 - 11/26

Thursday & Friday - Thanksgiving Week, no soup!

Saturday & Sunday: No soup but we have sandwiches

Monday: Chicken Tortilla Soup - for those burned out on turkey!

Tuesday: "Tacos" - choose from hard or soft shells

Wednesday: Veggie Salad,

help for those who indulged last week!

Thanksgiving week no soup or lunch specials
except sandwiches

~ 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.,

12 oz. Bowl Soup with crackers \$2.50, or cup \$1.25