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Seeley Swan

PATHFINDER



Vol. 1, No. 29

677-2022

"VOICE OF THE VALLEY"

754-2365

December 4, 1986



Rich Manos, Seeley Lake, and his trophy whitetail buck. Manos, an avid whitetail fan and horn collector, also has this buck's "shed" horns, which were found in a wintering area near Seeley Lake. (See story page 8)

Placid Lake

Champion sells lakefront property

Portions of the lakefront property surrounding Placid Lake, formerly owned by Champion International Corporation, were recently sold to a Missoula developer.

Champion Timberlands transferred this prime recreation property to Champion Realty, which in turn sold the land to Placid Lake Properties, a general partnership owned by R. A. Ainsworth and D. Lester Turnbull, Missoula.

Jim Poling, spokesman for Champion Timberlands in Missoula, explained last week that the acreage was sold partly because it was being taxed as recreational property.

Joseph Kennedy of Champion Realty in Houston, Texas, described the sale as a unique situation.

"It is the only (recreational) property we own near Seeley Lake," Kennedy said.

The new owners are both seasonal residents of Placid Lake. "We are certainly interested in protecting the lake," Ainsworth said last week. He explained that Champion had announced nearly two years ago that they intended to sell the property.

"It was obvious to us that somebody was going to buy it," Ainsworth said. "We didn't want just anybody doing it." (continued on Page 3)

MEC, Blackfoot Telephone and Missoula General Hospital

Race purse increases by \$1,600

Missoula General Hospital, Missoula Electric Cooperative, and Blackfoot Telephone have donated substantial sums to the Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race set for January 29-February 1.

Missoula General Hospital donated \$600 toward the race purse. Missoula Electric Cooperative and Blackfoot Telephone each donated \$500. Their generous contributions boost the total purse to \$2,800.

"We are real happy about the nice donations, but we are even more excited about the enthusiasm these people have

shown in supporting our community," said Elinor Beckman, Seeley Lake. Beckman, who is on the Wilderness Sportsman's Club race committee, explained that Earl Owens of Blackfoot Telephone and Kirk Flynn of Missoula Electric Cooperative both expressed enthusiastic support for the Seeley Lake community.

Missoula General Hospital, which offers short-term acute care and a fully staffed emergency room, not only donated money but offered medical support during the running of the race.

"We'd like to become a part of the Seeley Lake community," Karen Foster, hospital administrator, said Monday. "If you need some backup during the festivities, we'd be glad to work with you," she said. Foster indicated that the hospital staff sees several patients from the Seeley Lake area. "We don't want to limit our services to the Missoula Valley," she said.

Beckman explained that each of these sponsors will share professionally designed street banners announcing the race in Seeley Lake next month.

Remember our new location!

Pathfinder now has a new dropoff location in Seeley Lake. Classified ads and short news items or notices may be left at the 1-Stop convenience store. 1-Stop is open seven days a week. For other advertising information contact Michele Potter, 677-2022; for news items contact Suzanne Vernon, 754-2365.

OPINION

Our Condolences...

to the victims of the Pierce Lake marauders. We surely don't need to worry about the Libyans when we have our very own civil terrorists in the backyard. It is hard to imagine what the shock must have been for the victims of this senseless act. Not only are there the tangible effects of thousands of dollars of damages and the loss of valued personal items... but there is the sense of moral outrage, arising from the unwarranted invasion of a dwellingspace - sort of a "rape" of personal property.

The acts of a few tend to tarnish the reputation of the entire community. Word gets around that our Valley isn't a safe place for summer homes. The implication is that, collectively, we're an unsavory lot. A crime like this should be perceived for what it is - a crime against the entire community.

Presumably the culprits (or culprit) are in our midst, thinking "they've gotten away with it." We'll see. In the meantime, if any of us have chanced across a clue, no matter how tenuous, to the identity of these moral cretins, be sure to let Lloyd or Scott know.

Three Cheers for the Governor

The above words may be "eaten" at a future date, but the preliminary information on the Governor's budget proposal is heartening. To wit:

- No increase in taxes - Right on.
- The last thing a floundering economy needs is a tax boost. No doubt some of the legislators will get their hackles up, because the "trick" involved is to divert

new funds from the coal tax trust fund (as distinguished from actually "raiding" the fund). Desperate times call for desperate measures, Sports Fans.

- Elimination of 1,000 state jobs - Now we're talking. As has been pointed out here on several occasions, the starting point for solving a deficit problem is to reduce government spending.

- Impose a small "bed tax" on users of motel and hotel rooms - The proceeds will be used to provide sorely needed funding for the promotion of tourism. Reminder: tourism is the single best prospect we have for reviving the state's economy.

Other Reminders...

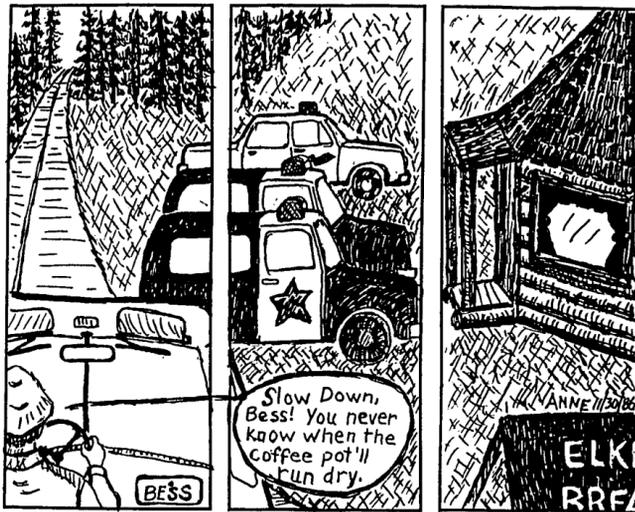
There is a town meeting coming up this weekend. The county commissioners will be here. Rare event, and important - don't miss it.

The Christmas shopping season is upon us. Our local merchants invest heavily to stock up on gift items. Check it out - you'll probably be pleased by the selection and the prices. Local shopping automatically assures avoiding the hassle of the Christmas throngs in Missoula - a concept that's worth serious consideration.

Also, don't overlook our local craftsmen. Great stuff, reasonably priced. On Saturday, there's a bazaar in Seeley Lake and a crafts show in Condon. Same day as the town meeting. Why not wire them all into your schedule? Build some Christmas Spirit and make it a "Day for the Valley."

- Dick Potter

Natty Bumpo



WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday-Saturday: Mostly dry with occasional valley fog and low clouds. Cool, with a chance of snow showers south Friday or Saturday. Highs, upper 20s to mid-30s. Lows, 10-20.

Seeley Lake DENTAL CLINIC COMPLETE DENTAL CARE

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Call for appointment
9am-6pm 677-2235

Hwy 83 at School Lane, Seeley Lake

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

Seeley Swan Pathfinder is published every Thursday by Pathfinder Press, Inc., P. O. Box 702, Seeley Lake, MT 59868 (telephone 406/677-2022 or 754-2365). Area served is Seeley Lake and neighboring communities. Distribution is by mail subscription and newsstand sales. Ad deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday prior to publication. News deadline is noon Monday prior to publication.

Suzanne M. Vernon.....News Editor
Richard C. Potter..Business Manager
Michele S. Potter..Advertising Editor
Sheldon J. Vernon...Technical Editor

News items, classified ads, and subscription orders may be dropped off at 1-STOP, Monday-Sunday, next to 1st Valley Bank in Seeley Lake.

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These Seeley Lake Elementary students recently performed Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* after completing research on Elizabethan England. About 100 people turned out to watch the evening performance last Tuesday night.

The **CORN POPPER**

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728-CORN

COMMUNITY

15 homes vandalized

Vandalism and burglaries were discovered recently at fifteen summer-seasonal homes on the shores of Pierce Lake in the Swan Valley.

Skip Stratton, Missoula, was one of the victims in a crime spree that apparently took place in early November.

"They didn't miss a one," Stratton said. "They hit every cabin on the lake." Stratton is appalled by the destruction that he and other homeowners discovered.

"This is devastating," Skip said, feeling at a loss for words to describe what vandals did to the homes. Doors on all the cabins were forced open or broken down. Many windows were

broken. Inside, drawers were turned upside down and the contents spread wall-to-wall in several of the homes. Bird seed was scattered across the rooms. In one cabin, fire extinguishers were unleashed, and a dusty white substance now covers virtually everything in that home.

But the vandals didn't stop there. In one of the cabins, a television set was thrown across the room, smashing a heavy metal stovepipe. A dining room light was pulled from the ceiling in another. Other lights showed similar treatment, where ceiling materials hung from joists as if an earthquake had rattled the building.

Burglary may or may not have been the prime motive, according to one of the homeowners. Some valuable items were stolen, along with things such as a hatchet and shovel.

Many of the homeowners live in states surrounding Montana, but a few spend nearly every weekend here in the Swan Valley. As one homeowner said, "Maybe they (vandals) thought this would go undiscovered until spring."

Law enforcement officers are investigating the case.

Placid Lake

(continued from front page)

Ainsworth, who is also a surveyor, described the property as "about 200 acres, basically lake frontage" which includes 14 cabins on leased lots. He said that current leaseholders would be given the "option to buy" their properties.

Ainsworth is also in the early stages of working on a subdivision plat of the property. He pointed out that a plat had been drawn up sometime during the early sixties, but it had never been filed.

Wayne Linnell, Great Falls resident and president of the Placid Lake Homeowners Association, said that the Homeowners Association would be kept informed of any development activities. "Whether we have any input into that (subdivision) process will remain to be seen," he said, explaining that the Homeowners Association would be concerned about matters such as water quality.

As for the relationship between leaseholders and the new property owners, Linnell said, "We are a Homeowners Association. We generally wouldn't be taking a stand on those private leases."

When asked about the possibility of the new owners raising the lease fees, Linnell responded, "I would be hopeful that the new owners would come into that process with a cooperative attitude. That would be a private matter between the new owners and those who now hold leases."

CPR classes begin

CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) classes will begin next week in Seeley Lake. Residents interested in signing up for the December 13 and 14 sessions should contact either Chris Anders or Cindy Lewis, Seeley Lake.

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Community Council idea will be discussed

Town meeting Saturday

The Missoula Board of County Commissioners will be in Seeley Lake Saturday afternoon to discuss the idea of a community council with residents. The meeting has been arranged at the suggestion of members of the Ad Hoc Group, a loose-knit organization of Seeley Lake business people and concerned residents.

On December 6, at 1 p.m. in the Seeley Swan High School cafeteria, residents may discuss the council idea with the commissioners. This meeting is not a public hearing. It is intended to be a preliminary discussion about formation of a community council in Seeley Lake. Such a council would have no taxing authority and would serve primarily as a forum for providing the commissioners with a community consensus, particularly with respect to development issues.

County commissioners have recently encouraged rural communities within the county to plan for the future and address areas such as land use planning and economic development.

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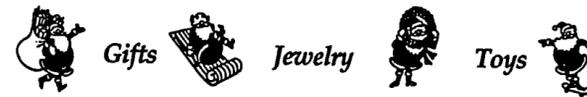
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677-2424 Monday-Friday 9:00-5:30 Saturday 9:00-5:00 Sunday Closed

Business of the Week

GAS HAUS



Cheri and Steve Thompson began operating The Gas Haus about three years ago, and now employ seven people in their bustling service station and convenience store.

Steve works as a speech therapist in area schools, and Cheri manages their business.

"I thought I needed to stretch my abilities," Cheri says of her decision to open the Gas Haus.

In addition to offering feed, grain and fuel, ready-to-eat hot dogs, groceries, pop, and hardware, the Gas Haus also has an auto mechanic on duty. The Gas Haus has a new Kar Kare program, where they will check fluid levels in your car and clean it for a minimal charge.

Steve and Cheri are involved in many community activities including the Mission Mountain Messengers, the Swan Valley Christian Singers, the Blackfoot Parish, QRU, Ski Patrol, First Aid Classes and the Chamber of Commerce. They have one son, Sean.



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COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community members are invited to submit dates, times and locations of events, meetings and other happenings. Submission deadline: Friday, 4 pm; call 677-2022 or 754-2365.

Events

Dec 6, Arts & Crafts Show & Sale, 10am-8pm, Comm Hall, Condon.
 Dec 6, Women's Club Christmas Bazaar, 9am-5pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 12, Puppet Show, 3:30pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 14, Arkansas Gems vs Seeley Lake All-Stars basketball game, 2pm, Seeley Swan High School Gym, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 16, An Old-Fashioned Christmas and Home for the Holidays musical Christmas program, 7:30pm, Seeley Swan High School, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 17, Santa Claus in Seeley Lake, evening.

Public Meetings

Dec 6, County Commissioner's Meeting: Town Council Discussion, 1pm, Seeley Swan High School Cafeteria, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 8, Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District Board mtg, 7:30pm, Double Arrow Ranch Landowners office, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 9, Missoula County High School Board mtg, 7:30pm, 915 South Ave W, Missoula.
 QRU (Condon), 1st & 3rd Mon every month.
 QRU (Seeley Lake), 1st and 3rd Fri every month, 7:30pm, REA bldg, Seeley Lake.
 Rural Fire District, 1st Tues, Regular Firefighters bus mtg, Plum Creek, 7pm; 2nd Tues, training mtg, Plum Creek, 7pm; 3rd Tues, Trustees mtg, 7:30pm, Seeley Lake.
 SOS Trustees mtg, 2nd Mon every month.
 Water District, 2nd Tues every month, 8pm, REA bldg, Seeley Lake.

Clubs & Organizations

Dec 6, Seeley Swan Wrestling Team mtg, 7pm, Elem School, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 10, Lions Club Christmas Party & Ladies Night, 6 pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 Dec 12, Swan Valley Post No. 63 Buffet/Potluck Christmas Dinner, 6pm, Comm Hall, Condon.

AARP, 1st Mon every month, Swan Valley Comm Hall, Condon.
 Alanon, Mon, 7pm, Lutheran Church, Seeley Lake.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (Condon), Thurs, 7:30pm, Swan Valley Elem School, Condon.
 Alcoholics Anonymous (Seeley Lake), Sun, 7pm, Mill basement, Seeley Lake; Weds, 7pm, REA Bldg, Seeley Lake.
 Booster Club, 4th Tues every month, 8pm, Seeley Swan High School Gym, Seeley Lake.
 Driftriders Snowmobile Club mtg, 2nd Mon every month, 7:30pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 SeLa SenCi mtg and potluck, 3rd Wed every month, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

Senior Nutrition Program, Mon-Tues-Weds, noon. Open to public. Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 Swan Valley Post No. 63 mtg, 2nd Fri every month; 7pm, Comm Hall, Condon.
 TOPS, Thurs, 10am, REA bldg, Seeley Lake.
 Veteran's Coffee Group, Sat, 11am, Swan Valley Centre, Condon.

Other

Dec 10 (Weds), Bookmobile, Potomac School, 10am-12pm; Sunset School, 12:30-1:30pm; Clearwater Junction, 2-3pm; Seeley Lake town, 3:30-5:30pm.
 Dec 11 (Thurs), Bookmobile, Seeley Lake Elem School, 9am-12pm; Seeley Lake town, 12:30-2:30pm.
 Adult Volleyball, Weds, 7-9:15pm, Elem School Gym, Seeley Lake.
 Men's Basketball League, Mon, 7-9pm, Elem School Gym, Seeley Lake.
 Refuse Disposal Site, Winter Hours (October 1 thru April 30): Wed & Sat, 10am-4pm.
 Swan Valley Community Library, Weds, 10am-6pm; Sat, 10am-3pm, Condon.
 EMERGENCY: 911 (Seeley Lake or Condon); 1-728-0911 (Greenough or Ovando).

Trustees discuss career guidance program

The career guidance program which was taught at Seeley Lake Elementary during the past three years will be reinstated as a result of a motion by the Seeley Lake Elementary school board Monday night.

"I move we go back to the curriculum that was taught last year," Roger Marshall, school trustee stated. New classroom books and materials which teachers began using this fall will no longer be used.

The motion followed two hours of discussion between school trustees, teachers and concerned parents. Incorporated into the motion was the formation of a committee to study the career guidance curriculum, and for the

committee to make a recommendation to the school board in January.

Concerns raised by both parents and board members regarding the career curriculum centered around the classroom discussion of social and moral values and emotions, or feelings. Roger Marshall and Mary Ann Morin both objected to the use of the new books in some areas.

At one point in the discussion Marshall said that the new books included more emphasis on discussion of social values, whereas the former program placed more emphasis on teaching students about career options and filling out job applications. "This (the new books) belongs in an interpersonal communications...or sociology curriculum, not career guidance," he said.

Marshall, and Joe Anders, trustees; Lisa Peña, teacher; and parents Carmel Healy and Bernard Abreo form the committee which will be reviewing the career guidance curriculum.

Lost hunter found

A hunter reported missing late one night last week in the Garnet area was found by Missoula County Search and Rescue crews after an all-night search.

"We spent the night up there," Lloyd Hallgren said. Hallgren is a Missoula County Deputy Sheriff and Search and Rescue coordinator.

The 21-year-old hunter, who was reported lost about 10 p.m., was found in good health about 8 a.m. the next morning.

Country Things hosts open house

Geri and Frank Netherton of Country Things in Seeley Lake will host an open house and autograph party for Pastor Rod Kvamme on December 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Missouri, has published Kvamme's latest book, *MIRACLES TODAY: Understanding How God Participates in Our Lives*.

SWAN SONG

Maude Marie Ruppert

Maude Marie Ruppert, 60, died of heart failure at her home near Seeley Lake last Thursday. Funeral services were held Wednesday in Missoula at Livingston-Malletta & Geraghty Funeral Home with the Rev. Ellis Kaster presiding. Burial followed at Sunset Memorial Park.

Mrs. Ruppert was a friend to many in the Seeley Swan area. She worked at the Elk Horn Café near Seeley Lake for many years. According to Norma James, Maude Ruppert's good friend and employer, "Maude was a big help in getting us started."

Maude Ruppert was known for her good cooking, and she loved to bake, especially pies. She had many hobbies, including needlework, gardening and canning or "putting up" her garden produce.

Mrs. Ruppert was born November 30, 1925, in Continental, Ohio, to Puchall and Norah Morris. She grew up in Brighton, Colorado, and attended

schools there. She married Dave Grubb in August 1943. He preceded her in death.

She married George Ruppert February 26, 1960, in Roseburg, Oregon. They lived in Roseburg for a short time, moving then to Los Angeles. They moved to Seeley Lake in 1973.

Survivors include her husband, George Ruppert of Seeley Lake; two sons, Gerald Grubb, Thornton, Colorado, and George Michael Ruppert, Norwalk, California; six daughters: Ruth Humphrey, Priest River, Florida; Barbara Bigger and Helen Lewis, both of Norwalk, California; Gale Girl, Joshua Tree, California; Bonnie Rooker, Midland, Michigan; and Sandra Everett, Long Beach, California; five brothers: Robert Harris, Culver, Minnesota; Clayton Harris, Fort Morgan, Colorado; Tom Harris, Big Lake, Minnesota; Charles Harris, Gillette, Wyoming; and Howard Harris, Bennett, Colorado; a sister, Charlotte Smithey, Rangeley, Colorado; 13 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.



Margaret Malmberg, Seeley Lake, poses with one of her Victorian dollhouses, and some wooden toys and Christmas gift items. She will be displaying her wares at the Seeley Lake Women's Club Christmas Bazaar Saturday at the Community Hall in Seeley Lake.

Treasures abound at the Women's Club Bazaar

The Seeley Lake Women's Club Christmas Bazaar is a little like walking into Santa's workshop for the holidays. This Saturday at the Seeley Lake Community Hall you'll find intricately painted elk horn jewelry, calligraphy gifts, wooden toys, ceramics and, of course, the beautiful hand-embroidered pillows, quilts, and "huggable" toys made by members of the Club.

Seeley Lake women have been hosting this bazaar for years and, recently, it has become the most popular Christmas display of crafts and artwork in the Valley.

Traditionally, the Women's Club holds this bazaar as a fundraiser to support their numerous community projects.

Familiar items such as stuffed animals, needlework, crocheted and knit - ted crafts, and even stick horses will be sold.

This Saturday, several area artists and craftspeople will also be displaying their work.

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 Gifts from the Heart of the Valley

CORNUCOPIA by Michele Potter

Hunting season is over and many freezers are filled with wild game meat. Here's a recipe from the October 18, 1963 *By-Line* - Barbecue Sauce for Venison (recipe from Midge Walters, Seeley Lake):

Barbecue Sauce for Venison
 by Midge Walters

2 or 3 cloves of garlic, pressed	1 cup wine vinegar
1/3 cup honey	1/2 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup soy sauce	1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 cup orange juice	1 teaspoon paprika
2/3 cup catsup	1/2 teaspoon hot sauce

Blend all ingredients. Trim all fat off venison. Use any cut meat (chops, roast, etc.). Marinate meat in barbecue sauce. Bake in moderate oven until done.

The Annual Wild Game Dinner held recently at the Double Arrow featured Sweet and Sour Elk Meatballs, Elk Polish Sausage, Roast Moose and Venison, Baked Salmon, Elk Heart and Dressing and Bear Stew. Mary Jane Gustin (Seeley Lake) remarked, "The most often heard word was 'delicious'; many people who had never eaten all the kinds of meat we had tried at least a taste of everything...and many asked for the recipes of the different dishes which made all the cooks proud and feel the effort was worthwhile." Helen Rich's Elk Heart and Dressing and Mary Jane's Bear Stew were my favorites.

Bear Stew
 by Mary Jane Gustin

3 pounds bear meat	6 medium potatoes, quartered
Vegetable oil	6 carrots, chopped
Water	4 stalks celery, chopped
1 package beef stew mix	1 large onion, chopped
1 large onion, chopped	Water (salt lightly, if desired)
2 stalks celery, finely chopped	Seasoned Salt (recipe below)

Trim all fat from bear meat; cut into 1-1/2 inch pieces. Brown in hot vegetable oil. Drain off oil. Add enough water to cover meat. Stir beef stew mix, 1 onion and 2 stalks celery into water and bear meat. Simmer mixture until meat is fork-tender.

Parboil potatoes, carrots, 4 stalks celery and 1 large onion in water for 15 minutes. Add water and vegetables to fork-tender meat (additional water may be needed to cover meat and vegetables). Simmer all ingredients about 30 minutes to allow flavors to blend. Add seasoned salt to taste.

Seasoned Salt - mix 2 tablespoons each of the following ingredients: salt, garlic salt, onion salt, celery salt, black pepper, Lawry's Seasoning Salt.

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SEELEY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 MENU - WEEK OF DECEMBER 8

Monday, December 8	Weiner Wraps
Tuesday, December 9	Chicken Patties on Bun
Wednesday, December 10	Pork with Gravy & Mashed Potatoes
Thursday, December 11	Submarine Sandwiches
Friday, December 12	Beef Stew

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 Grade School
 PTA MEETING
 December 8, 7:00 pm
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The African baobob tree has a trunk up to 30 feet in diameter, but grows to a height of only 75 feet. The trunks of baobobs are often excavated as houses.

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Women's Club Christmas Bazaar
 December 6 * 9 am - 5 pm
 Community Hall, Seeley Lake
 (677-2390 or 677-2311 for more info)

Swan Valley

In Our Churches

December Hours
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Daily
New: Carved Moose Antler Clocks, Carved Desk Sets
MOOSE FEATHERS STUDIO

First Annual
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Saturday, December 6 * 10 am - 8 pm
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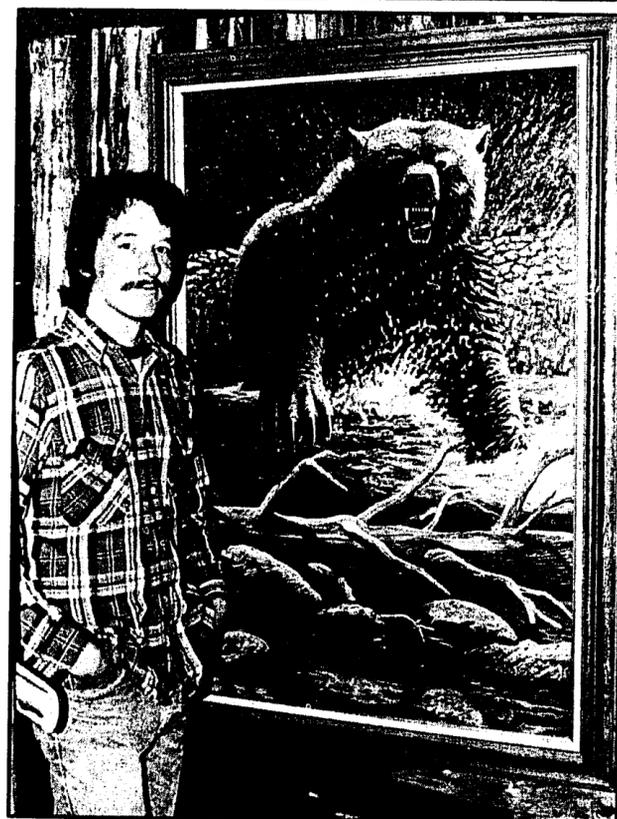
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Artist Roger Thomas, Swan Valley, stands next to his powerful painting of an enraged grizzly.

Local artists to display paintings, crafts

The Swan Valley Community Hall in Condon will be bustling with artists and craftspeople this Saturday. Everything from wildlife paintings, elk horn carvings, and silver jewelry to hand-crafted teddy bears, cuddly toys and Christmas ornaments will be displayed for sale.

The Swan Valley Community Club is hosting its First Annual Arts and Crafts Show, and an impressive mix of artists have signed up to participate.

Roger Thomas recently moved to the Swan Valley with his wife, Penny. He may be a newcomer to the Swan, but he is far from being a newcomer to the world of painting.

Thomas has displayed his work at prestigious shows around the Northwest, including the Museum of Native American Culture, Spokane, Washington; the National Western Art Show and Auction, also held in Washington; and the Blackfoot Valley Art Auction in Lincoln. He has won several awards in Montana.

Roger's acrylic paintings of wildlife and mountain scenes reflect a strong sense of realism. He will also display cottonwood bark carvings and smaller paintings at Saturday's art and craft show.

Ken Wolff, Swan Valley carver, will be displaying his detailed elk horn carvings and handcrafted knives. Ken is also working on a large, handcarved elk horn cribbage board. The earrings, necklaces and elktooth jewelry which Ken displays at his Moose Feathers Studio near Kraft Creek will be displayed at Saturday's show.

Swan Valley silversmiths, Kathy Burkhardt and Linda Ensign have also signed up to attend the show. Each has been making her own, uniquely designed jewelry for many years.

Several other craftspeople will be displaying a nice variety of wooden toys, handcarved ducks, beaded tree ornaments, plastic canvas, handmade teddy bears, animals and toys, crocheted and knitted sweaters for children, adults and, yes, even dolls.

The Community Club will serve coffee, sponsor a Bake Sale and silent auction and, also, award door prizes throughout the day. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Gift wrapping will be available.

SWAN SONG

Dan "Duff" Diener

Dan "Duff" Diener, Swan Valley, died of apparent heart failure in a Salt Lake City hospital late Monday night. Mr. Diener had a severe heart attack here two weeks ago and was later taken to the Salt Lake City hospital for treatment.

Mr. Diener moved with his wife, Joy, to their home near the Summit about three years ago.

Family and friends were with him in Salt Lake City. Funeral arrangements are pending.

PASSAGES

Pastor D. Paul Hickman
Fundamental Baptist Church,
Seeley Lake

May I offer a Christmas passage to you for your consideration?

"And they (Shepherds) came with haste, and found...the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad...concerning the child." (Lk. 2:16,17)

There are three things the Shepherds did that are mentioned in this passage. 1) They came with haste. 2) They saw the babe. 3) They made known about the child.

I. They Ran with their Feet.

Christmas is a time for running. If you don't believe that, just sit in a mall as people are shopping. But people don't run to the Lord at Christmas. People get wrapped up in singing, sleigh-rides, snowmen, and santa clauses, but they forget Jesus Christ. Come to church

(that's where you'll hear about Him) and worship Him on His birthday. Run!!

II. They Saw with their Eyes.
Christmas is a time for seeing. Brightly colored lights on beautifully decorated trees. Gaily wrapped packages that are fun to open. The food at Christmas has extra appeal for some reason. It's great. But, are your eyes blinded by all this "tinsel and glitter," so that you don't see the Christ child. You can see Him better at church (away from the lights and bulbs). He's looking for you. See!!

III. They Spoke with their Mouths.
Christmas is a time for talking. Kids home from colleges, family get-togethers, and just plain "shoot'n the breeze." Phone calls are made to forgotten parents. Cards are sent with message for friends, relatives, and others. What message do you have for the Lord? Will you tell Him to "get lost" this Christmas? Will you come to church and breathe His holy name in prayer and thanksgiving? He came down to earth in the first place for you! Say it with reverence this Christmas. Jesus!!

Swan Valley Elementary

Honor Roll

The first quarter honor roll for the 1986-87 school year at Swan Valley Elementary is as follows:

- High Honor Roll**
Stacy Holmes, sixth grade
- Honor Roll**
Third grade: Aaron Himes, Brooke Mason, Wendi White
Fifth grade: Natalie Anderson, Angie Himes, Scotty McDonald; Lisa Parker
Sixth grade: Andre Anderson, Lisa Cox
Seventh Grade: Amy Gourde, Steven Nauman, Matt Raible, Rosie Terrillion, Tracy Ann Thompson
Eighth grade: Kalin Raible, Kaylee Mahaffey

4-H News

Snow Country 4-H

Tracy Kearney,
Reporter

The Snow Country 4-H Club recently held a bake sale and raised \$73.39. At the last meeting, Lucy Praast and Tonya Squillante gave a pizza-making demonstration. It was also reported that Snow Country 4-H had placed third in the poster contest.

The Club has scheduled a sledding party at the Guest Ranch Hill on December 6, and is also planning a Christmas party and gift exchange at the December 15 meeting.

Newly elected officers are: Lucy Praast, president; Jason Squillante, vice president; Tracey Terrillion, secretary; Rosie Terrillion, treasurer; Tracy Kearney, reporter; Stacy Holmes, game person and Tonya Squillante, song person.



Vets coffee group moves to new location

The Swan Valley area veterans coffee group will now meet at the Swan Centre at 11 a.m. each Saturday. According to organizer, Ken Wolff, there are two reasons for the new location. Bill Mahaffey, Swan Centre proprietor, is a veteran and Legion member. The Swan Centre also provides a central location for veterans to meet for coffee and conversation.

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Seeley Lake

A Special Thanks



Seeley Lake QRU volunteers recently restocked the Seeley Lake Ambulance. Pictured from left to right: Gerry Connell, Cheri Thompson, Chris Anders, Marion Kincaid, Steve Thompson and Joe Anders. Volunteers not pictured are Cindy Lewis, Jack Thomas, Bonnie Connell, John Anders and Mary Lou Ellinghouse.

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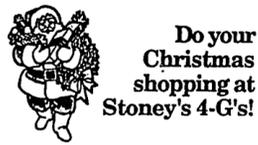
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Bowhunter sets new record for whitetail

Todd Jensen, Choteau, bagged his trophy whitetail deer in Teton County September 10 and established a new Pope and Young Club record for the state.

Jensen shot the trophy buck with a bow. The buck shattered the former state Pope and Young Club record (for non-typical racks) of 193 7/8 set five years ago by Gene Wensel. Jensen's buck scored 210 7/8 on the Pope and Young scale, the archery standard.



Rich Manos, Seeley Lake, and Len Aupperlee, New Jersey, pose with their trophy-class whitetail bucks which they recently shot near Seeley Lake.

More big bucks

Trophy whitetails reported

by Suzanne Vernon

The Seeley Swan area is fast becoming popular for trophy whitetail hunting, and the reasons are clear. There are some big bucks hiding in our woods.

Duane Dugre shot a buck near Kozy Korner with a 7 x 8-point, non-typical rack. Roger Selner, Seeley Lake, measured the rack and the green score (for non-typical racks) missed the Boone and Crockett record book by only 1/8 of an inch.

Selner was certified to measure racks in Michigan, and has applied for certification nationally. Because of his knowledge of Boone and Crockett standards, he has been busy this past week measuring several large whitetail deer.

Duane Dugre's rack tallied a gross score of 205 and 2/8 inches. The net score for the non-typical rack was 194 and 7/8 inches. The minimum is 195 to get into the record book, according to Selner.

Gerry Wood, Swan Valley, shot a trophy whitetail that was pictured in last week's *Pathfinder*. For comparison, Wood's deer measured 168 and 7/8 inches for the gross score and 156 and 7/8 inches net (after deductions for a typical rack). That buck also missed the record books. A minimum score of 170 is required for typical racks.

Rich Manos, Seeley Lake, also shot a huge, trophy-class whitetail this season. That rack measured 177 and 7/8

inches, gross, but only 158 inches net (after deductions for typical class). It measured 23 inches for the inside spread, compared to Dugre's and Wood's, which both measured 18 inches inside width.

Many trophy whitetail deer have been taken in the Seeley Swan area in the past few years, and at least three have made the record books. Tom Dellwo, Seeley Lake, holds the state record in the typical class. Jack Greenwood and Harold Salomon, Seeley Lake, also recently shot whitetail bucks that were Boone and Crockett records.

Rich Manos' hunting stories tell of the romance of whitetail deer hunting.

"I never dreamed of getting a buck like that. Now, I've got one. That's incredible," he said. Last week he was hunting with his friend from New Jersey, Len Aupperlee. They split up and hunted two separate ridges. They both shot trophy-class bucks.

Len Aupperlee said, "That's the biggest deer I ever shot in my life, and Rich told me I would (shoot a trophy) if I came out here." Aupperlee's 4-point buck measured 20-1/4 inches inside width, 23 inches outside, and weighed 192 pounds. (No green score available.)

Many of the hunters interviewed this year said they had passed up small whitetail bucks early in the season. Rich Manos summed up the feelings of many of these sportsmen.

"I know these woods, and the trophies that are out there. A big buck becomes a different animal. . . he's a loner. You won't see him from the road. You have to stalk him. I like being in the woods. . . just being out there. I want to take my time and enjoy the hunt."

OUTDOORS

Montana Outdoors

Big is in the beholder's eye

by Kay Ellerhoff and Dave Books
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

If you hunt, you've heard it a hundred times—and maybe even said it once or twice: "There aren't as many big ones out there as there used to be."

In 1985, the Fish and Game Commission directed the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Wildlife Division to evaluate the status of "big bucks and bulls" available to hunters. The resulting report brims with interesting information, but we'll have room to mention only a few high points here.

To some hunters, a big buck deer is one whose antlers are enshrined in the pages of the latest edition of the Boone and Crockett (B&C) Club record book. To others, a big buck may simply be one bigger than any they previously took. The largest typical Montana mule deer ever recorded ranks 87th in the B&C records, and the largest non-typical muley ranks 35th. The largest white-tailed deer rank 6th and 13th, for typical and non-typical heads, respectively.

For our purposes, let's say the minimum requirement for a mule deer to be called a big buck is that it is at least 3-1/2 years old, with at least four antler points on each side.

Among the factors influencing antler size is nutritional status; high-quality forage during the summer and early fall is necessary if a buck is to have the added nourishment needed to grow a large set of antlers.

Hunting is frequently cited as the overriding factor controlling the number of mature bucks in deer populations. While hunting certainly has an effect, that effect is not the same in all situations. At least five other factors can affect the numbers and availability of big bucks in Montana deer populations: buck mortality patterns, fawn survival patterns, buck age structure, weather, and buck habitat.

There are as many big bucks in Montana now as at any time in the past. In 1983 and 1984, more bucks were harvested than in any other year, except 1957. Why, then, do hunters perceive a lack of big bucks? Because there are more hunters, and the probability that any given hunter will find a big buck is reduced.

Since 1950, the number of deer hunters in Montana has almost doubled. To give today's hunters the same opportunity they had 36 years ago, the number of big bucks would have had to almost double. Since most deer herds are at or near the habitat's carrying capacity, attempting to double the number of big bucks is infeasible. The only sure way to maintain the same big buck/hunter



Duane Dugre, Kozy Korner, shot this nice whitetail buck recently.

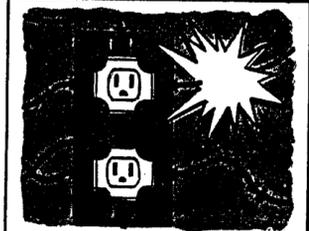
ratio earlier hunters enjoyed would be to limit hunter numbers.

The second part of the Wildlife Division's study focused on bull elk. A discussion of Montana's rich elk hunting tradition is incomplete without including the phrase: "big bull elk." Montana is still a pretty good bet as a location for harvesting a big bull—of the 73 Montana elk listed by B&C, 15 were taken between 1975 and 1984. This has happened even though most elk management in Montana has been for general elk hunting rather than for mature bulls.

Since the 1960s, the average elk harvest has increased about 20 percent, while the number of hunters has increased over 30 percent. Elk seasons have become more restrictive because of increased vehicle access, reduced habitat security, and more hunters. In 1963, 67 percent of the huntable elk habitat in Montana was open to season-long, either-sex hunting. Today, less than 1 percent is in this category. Today we have branch-antlered bull requirements in 15 of our hunting districts, a regulation unheard of during the general elk season in 1963.

How has Montana's bull harvest changed over the past 15 to 20 years? At two game checking stations in the Bitterroot and Blackfoot drainages near Missoula, the number of 3-1/2 year-old and older bulls checked has remained relatively stable since the late 1960s, although the number of hunters has increased dramatically. During the late 1960s, 41 hunters were checked for every 3 1/2 year-old and older bull checked. During the early 1980s, an average of 168 hunters was checked for every bull in the same class. Although these results come from one region of the state, they are representative of the situation in Montana as a whole.

It boils down to a choice between a larger, relatively unrestricted harvest (by an unlimited number of hunters) with reduced odds of taking a big bull, or a smaller, more restricted harvest (by a



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UPCOMING GAMES

(School Sports)

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Girls Basketball
Dec 4-6 Divisional
Dec 11-13 State

Seeley Swan High School
Boys Basketball
Dec 5 Seeley-Swan at Darby
Dec 6 Darby at Seeley-Swan
Dec 12 Seeley-Swan at Arlee
Dec 13 Hot Springs at Seeley-Swan

Swan Elementary School
Basketball
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Dec 11 Seeley #2 at Swan

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Members of the Seeley Lake Elementary Girls Basketball team are, left to right: Melita Cahoon, Marva McNeil, Shari Morin, Kelly Christian, Laura Leonard, Jenny Combs, Theresa Cahoon. The girls finished their season earlier this month.

Football

All-Star selections

Frank DeLeo, senior at Seeley Swan High School, has been selected to play in the Class C All-Star Football Game next spring.

District 7-C All-Conference Defense selections made last week included Mike Hallgren, also a senior at Seeley Swan High School.

Frank DeLeo was selected as an All-Conference player.

Kenny Cadena, senior at Seeley Swan, received Honorable Mention in the All-Conference selections.

In All-Conference Offense selections, Frank DeLeo was selected. Kenny Cadena and Jeff Jette, Seeley Swan High School, received Honorable Mention.



Members of the Seeley Lake Elementary Girls Basketball team are, left to right, back row: Renn Anders, Trina Stevenson, Janet Williams, Sherri Bowers, Sandi Cebulski, Karry Betson. Front row: Kelly Malone, Sarah Cooper, Miss Kuch (coach), Sharon Mackie, Cindy Baker. The girls finished their season earlier this month.

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White Fir,
Lodgepole Pine

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FRESHNESS



MONTANA QUALITY!

Big fish planted in Seeley Lake

One hundred and thirty six rainbow trout averaging 10.1 pounds each were planted in Seeley Lake near the boat launch of the Big Larch campground last week. The four-year-old retired female trout averaged about 27 inches long.

The broodstock came from the Arlee hatchery after they had been "spawned out." The large fish are too

big to handle for hatchery purposes, according to hatchery manager Jim Crepeau, so they are "retired" and planted in lakes around western Montana.

Last month more than 100 of the large rainbows were planted in Harper's Lake near Clearwater Junction.

Last week, Sib Malee, acting assistant manager of the Arlee hatchery, was aided by Dan Cainan, Seeley Lake, and Wayne Lowe, Placid Lake, when Seeley Lake was stocked. Several residents and a few visitors were on hand to witness the fish plant.



Dan Cainan, Seeley Lake, helped to plant some nice rainbow trout in Seeley Lake last week.

Sib Malee, Acting Assistant Manager of the Arlee Hatchery, releases a large rainbow into Seeley Lake.



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FRESHNESS



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Wayne Lowe, Placid Lake, assisted with the fish plant.

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Recreation Guide

Fishing Report

Ice fishermen—ready your tackle boxes! It appears that ice is finally forming on the larger lakes in the Valley, though it will take some cold weather to get a nice thick, safe, layer of ice to fish through.

People are already fishing through the ice on one or two of the small lakes in the Swan Valley. The ice has formed there in two layers, each about three inches thick.

Whitefishing is good. When the slush ice starts running again, old-timers in the Valley recommend fishing from the Scotty Brown Bridge (Black-foot River), or at the outlet of Seeley Lake.

Snow Report

Snowmobiling and skiing are both good at the higher elevations. There is just enough powder on top of a packed base to make skiing fast on area trails. The base is hard-packed enough to hold up snowmobiles now, too.

Last week there were three inches of snow on the ground at the Seeley Lake Ranger Station.

Date	Precip	New Snow
Nov. 24	---	---
Nov. 25	.03	T
Nov. 26	---	---
Nov. 27	.35	---
Nov. 28	.10	---
Nov. 29	---	---
Nov. 30	---	---

No permit required for trees

Christmas tree cutters in the Seeley Swan area do not need a Christmas tree permit to cut a tree for personal use. Residents are reminded of the following guidelines:

- Respect private land and consult maps to be sure of your location
- Don't cut the top from a large tree. Cut trees with trunks less than 5 inches in diameter and not taller than 15 feet.
- Do not cut trees in plantations, campgrounds, or picnic areas.
- Leave a low stump (less than 6 inches) and trim all live limbs from the stump.
- Take your tree from a crowded stand of trees.
- Do not cut your tree near heavily traveled roads.

Swan Valley Weather

Weather statistics recorded by Marty Kux at the Lindbergh Lake weather station in November indicated normal temperatures for this time of year.

"I'd say we're back to normal temperatures for November," Kux explained, pointing out that November 1985 was unusually cold. "Although, this year we did have more precipitation than normal for November," he said.

Total precipitation for the month was 3.59 inches. There was 35.9 inches of cumulative snowfall, compared to the average cumulative snowfall of 22 inches. The highest cumulative snowfall for November was recorded in 1961 at 52.1 inches.

Snow on the ground at the end of the month measured 5 inches. The maximum snow on the ground during November was 19 inches, recorded on November 11. That light, fluffy snow settled quickly to about 13 inches, Kux said.

The average high temperature for the month was 33.9 degrees Fahrenheit, with the highest temperature, 47 degrees, occurring on two days: the 20th and 24th.

The average low temperature for the month was 21.7 degrees, with the lowest temperature occurring on November 10, with nine degrees below zero.

Seeley Lake Weather

A total of 2.27 inches of precipitation was recorded for November at the Seeley Lake Ranger Station. High for the month was 54 degrees Fahrenheit recorded on November 6. Low for the month was twelve below zero on November 10. First snow of the season recorded at the Ranger Station was 1 inch on November 5.

Game Counts

At the Swan Valley check station last weekend, 770 hunters were checked through. Thirty-two whitetail deer, five mule deer, and six elk were counted.

At the Bonner check station last weekend, 2037 hunters stopped. Fifty-five whitetail, 48 mule deer, and 44 elk were counted.



Matthew Aamot recently won this 23-pound bronze-breasted turkey. Matthew is a fifth grader at Seeley Lake Elementary.

Matthew Aamot's prize A turkey for the taking

Matthew Aamot, a fifth-grader at Seeley Lake Elementary, was excited when he was told he had won a 23-pound tom turkey from a Missoula Cenex store. But he and his family now have mixed feelings about the bird.

"We thought we could butcher him," Julie Aamot, Matthew's mother, said last weekend. But the family discovered that Mr. T, the bronze-breasted tom turkey, had been raised as a pet.

"They (the employees at Cenex) begged us not to butcher him," she said. Now she agrees that Mr. T should be kept as a pet if at all possible. "He is a very calm bird, for a tom," she said,

describing how Matthew took Mr. T to school last Wednesday, in honor of Thanksgiving. "The children loved him," she said. Mr. T likes people, and will sit in your lap and cuddle, if you don't mind "turkey kisses," she explained.

Matthew won his beautifully-feathered friend by guessing the bird's weight. Mr. T was kept in a cage at the Missoula Cenex where customers were encouraged to guess his weight. Matthew guessed 23 pounds, 13 ounces. That was the closest guess. Mr. T weighed 23 pounds, 8 ounces on November 24.

Matthew would like to keep Mr. T as a 4-H project, but the Aamot family is planning to move to the Midwest early next summer, and Matthew wouldn't be able to display Mr. T or his possible offspring at the county fair.

Country Journal

by Suzanne Vernon

The past few weeks have had some dark, dreary days but the old-timers say we're going to get hit with a lot of snow soon. Good! With this "base" we have now, the skiing will be great. Sunshine helps, but snow will be even better.

David and Nanci Marx, Seeley Lake, noticed that a pigeon had taken up residence in their chicken coop last week. Since they know a lot about their domestic flock of ducks, turkeys and geese, but not much about pigeons, we transported the pigeon to Ken Wolff's house in the Swan Valley. Nancy thought the pigeon may have been sick, but it turns out the bird was just "really hungry" according to Ken. "Pete" the pigeon ate about six tablespoons of food the first evening at the Wolff place.

Pigeons are common in Missoula and Bonner, and this bird apparently wandered a little too far north, Wolff said.

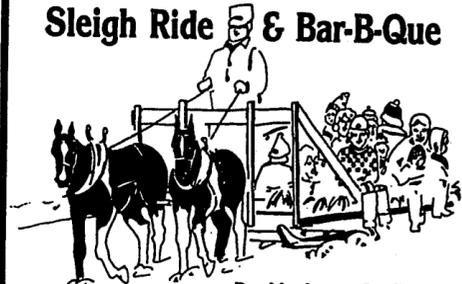
By the way, Ken could use any "cage" materials, or ready-made cages, for that matter, if folks have any to spare. Ken has been caring for many birds this year, as he is licensed and certified to do so. He will also accept donations of grain, especially corn, which the wild geese prefer.

Saw an eagle on the ice at Salmon Lake last week. He was apparently interested in a muskrat. There is a thin layer of ice on Salmon, Inez, Alva and Rainy lakes this week.

Our neighbors at Pierce Lake have a Clark's Nutcracker already this winter. A pair of the birds visited two years ago, skipped last year, and now this one has arrived. They have also recently seen Pine grosbeaks, Downy and Hairy woodpeckers, chickadees and nuthatches, and Steller's jays.

The squirrels have made their winter "tunnels" in the snow. They pop up from underneath the white crust, scamp - er to their nearest stash of cones, and disappear again beneath the snow.

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TWO BEDROOM HOUSE, Seeley Lake, \$250.00 per month. Contact Cindy Lewis, Seeley Condon Realty, 677-2484.

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GENERAL

DISCOVERY TOYS - See the exciting display at the Women's Club Bazaar Saturday! Gift ideas for birth through adult, from \$2.98.

HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM? Maybe Alcoholics Anonymous can help you. Call 677-2795.

NOTICES

1987 PTA COMMUNITY CALEN-DARS are ready. Pick yours up at the Grade School, December 8 or 9.

SEELEY SWAN WRESTLING TEAM meeting, December 6, 7 p.m., Seeley Lake Elementary.

SERVICE

PLANNING A CHRISTMAS PARTY? Barney's Bar & Cafe would like to provide you and your business, organization, or family with a "private" Holiday occasion. We can provide full Banquet facilities for up to 50 people with a Banquet Menu to suit your desires and your pocketbook. Hay Rides, Video Programs, Music & Dancing can also be provided to fill out your Christmas Gala. Call us right away and book your date for the 1986-1987 Holiday Season!

You'll be surprised at what we can do! Call 677-9244 and ask for Bruce or Vickie for details.

PERSONAL

SWAN VALLEY CHRISTIAN SINGERS look forward to singing with the Seeley Swan High School Choir! Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., High School gym.

Take Out A Classified Ad In The Finder!

Need to Sell or Buy? Time for a Garage Sale? Lost? Found? Mail form to: **PATHFINDER** Box 702 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 (or use our handy drop-off at Seeley Lake 1-STOP)

Rates (per week): \$1.25 for ten words or less, 10¢ each additional word. Payment must accompany this form. No charge for lost & founds or giveaways.

Name _____ Tel. No. _____
Street or P.O. Box _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Message: _____
Start Date: _____ Repeat Dates: _____

Classified Ad Deadline: 4:00 p.m. Friday

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<p>SEELEY SWAN REALTY Box 501 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 406/677-2828 Your Full-Service Office</p>	<p>150 FEET DEEDED FRONTAGE on Clearwater River with good building site, power, phone, central water and year round road. Seeley Swan Realty, 677-2828. 10 ACRES next to Forest Service with meadow, trees, view, creek, road, power and phone. Seeley Swan Realty, 677-2828. LEVEL LOT ON DOUBLE ARROW with water assessment already paid. \$11,900.00 Joan Cowan Realty, 677-2355. THREE BEDROOM, TWO BATH DELUXE MOBILE HOME ON 6.5 ACRES with large garage and shop. \$79,900.00 Joan Cowan Realty, 677-2355. HUNTER'S DELIGHT. 5 acres bordering timberland. Excellent for deer & elk hunting. \$5,000.00 with 10% down. Double Arrow Realty 677-2204 or 1-800-821-3709. COMFY-COZY Log Home, one wooded ac - 2 bdrms/lrg porch. \$64,000 Double Arrow Realty, 677-2204 or 1-800-821-3709.</p>	<p>NICE VIEW LOT on Morrell Creek. Attractive neighborhood. Easy access. Near town and schools. Rich Real Estate, 677-2467. 2-BEDROOM LOG HOME. Quiet and secluded setting. Fireplace with forced air circulation, cathedral ceiling and large front deck. Rich Real Estate, 677-2467. OVER 100 FEET RIVER FRONTAGE with this 4-bedroom home on the Clearwater. Spacious and comfortable. Call Cheryl. Seeley Condon Realty, 677-2484. LAND HO! City lots, 2.9, 5, 20, and 80 acre parcels. Call Bud or Cindy. Seeley Condon Realty, 677-2484. 2 BDRM LOG HOME on two plus acres. New oak kitchen, new bath, attached garage, large deck, spectacular views. \$55,000 terms. Seeley Swan Realty, 754-2233. 10 ACRES. Views of both Mission & Swan, county road, utilities nearby. \$25,000 terms. Seeley Swan Realty, 754-2233.</p>	<p>RICH REAL ESTATE Box 505 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 406/677-2467 Your Oldest Real Estate Firm</p>	<p>SEELEY CONDON REALTY Box 417 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 406/677-2484 Six Salespeople to Serve You</p>	<p>SEELEY SWAN REALTY Box 1111 Condon, MT 59826 406/754-2233 Specializing in Swan Valley</p>
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A Musical Revue

HOME for the HOLIDAYS

DECEMBER 16TH 7:30 IN THE HIGH SCHOOL GYM

DONATIONS ONLY



The Arkansas Gems

Happy Holiday

All-stars prepare for the "Big Game" against Arkansas Gems

Members of the Seeley Lake All-Stars men's basketball team are preparing to compete against the "Arkansas Gems," girls basketball clown team on Sunday, December 14 at 2 p.m. in the Seeley Swan High School gym.

The "Gems," with their razzle-dazzle basketball, will provide fun and laughter for people of all ages, in addition to providing a fundraising opportunity for the Seeley Condon Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber will "split the proceeds" from the event four ways, according to committee member Don Larson, Seeley Lake. Proceeds will be distributed among area elementary schools, including Seeley Lake, Swan Valley and Ovando, and to the Chamber.

The Blackhawk Booster Club will reportedly donate proceeds from concessions sold during the event to Seeley Swan High School.

According to a news release describing the Arkansas Gems, "If you want to see basketball like it has never been played before, you definitely will not want to miss this laugh-provoking exhibition which the Arkansas Gems will present." Comedy, it appears, is their specialty. They are also excellent basketball players, losing only two games out of the last 163 games played.

The "Gems" will present a special half-time show, including a "glow-ball" performance.

The Chamber is adding a new twist to the fundraiser with an all-male cheerleading squad (composed of Chamber members).

For more information contact area schools or the Seeley Condon Chamber of Commerce.

GAME PARLOR FOR KIDS

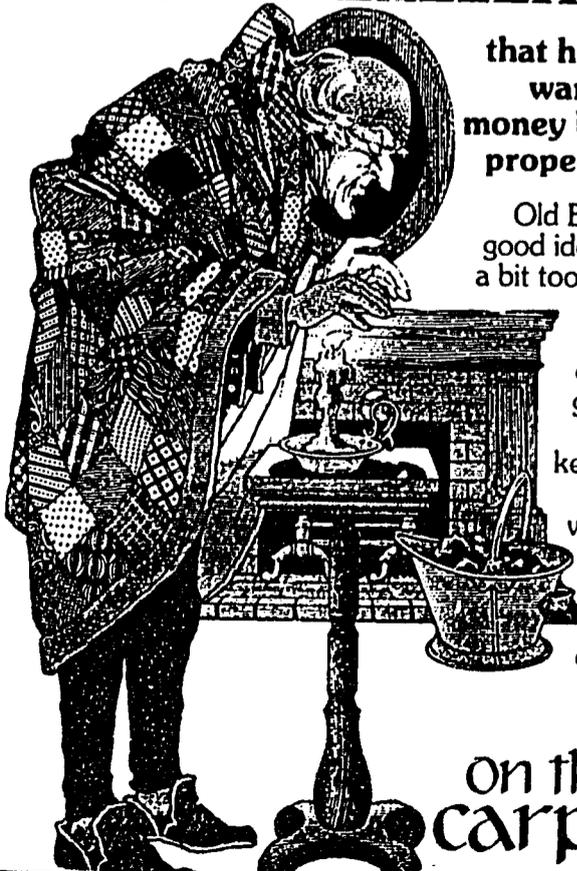
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PTA meeting Dec. 8

The Seeley Lake PTA will hold its monthly meeting on December 8 at 7 p.m. at the Seeley Lake Elementary School. Since this is a "social" meeting rather than a business meeting, PTA officers encourage members to bring snacks and refreshments to the meeting.

Senior Nutrition Program

The following noon meals, which are open to the public, will be served next week promptly at noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Seeley Lake Community Hall:
Monday, December 8--Fish
Tuesday, December 9--Sausage quiche
Wednesday, December 10--Hot meat loaf sandwich

Community calendars available

Seeley Lake PTA Community Calendars will be available for pickup December 8 and 9 at the Seeley Lake Elementary School from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SEELEY-SWAN SPORTS
Seeley Lake 677-2833



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