

# PATHFINDER



Vol. 1, No. 32

677-2022

"VOICE OF THE VALLEY"

754-2365

December 24, 1986

## Skiers preparing for OSCAR

Area cross-country ski enthusiasts are busy organizing the Fifth Annual OSCAR 50-kilometer Nordic ski race set for February 7 in Seeley Lake. This year, the 50-kilometer course will begin at the Seeley Lake Airport and end at Seeley Swan High School. Participants will ski the Rice Ridge country near Seeley Lake according to Jim Jaimes, one of the OSCAR organizers.

The OSCAR course is not difficult, but racers must be in very good physical condition and be proficient skiers.

Last year, more than 60 skiers competed in the marathon race. Top men and women finishers in three age categories received prizes donated by area businesses. All race participants received T-shirts.

Entry fees for the marathon are \$20 before January 20; \$25 after January 20

until February 6; and \$30 the day of the race.

A Nordic ski clinic will also be held on February 7 at the Seeley Swan High School football field beginning at 11:30 a.m. Anne Dahl, experienced downhill and Nordic ski instructor, will help beginning skiers learn a few basics about cross-country skiing.

A 10-kilometer Nordic ski race will be held the same day beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the high school. Top finishers of this race will also receive prizes.

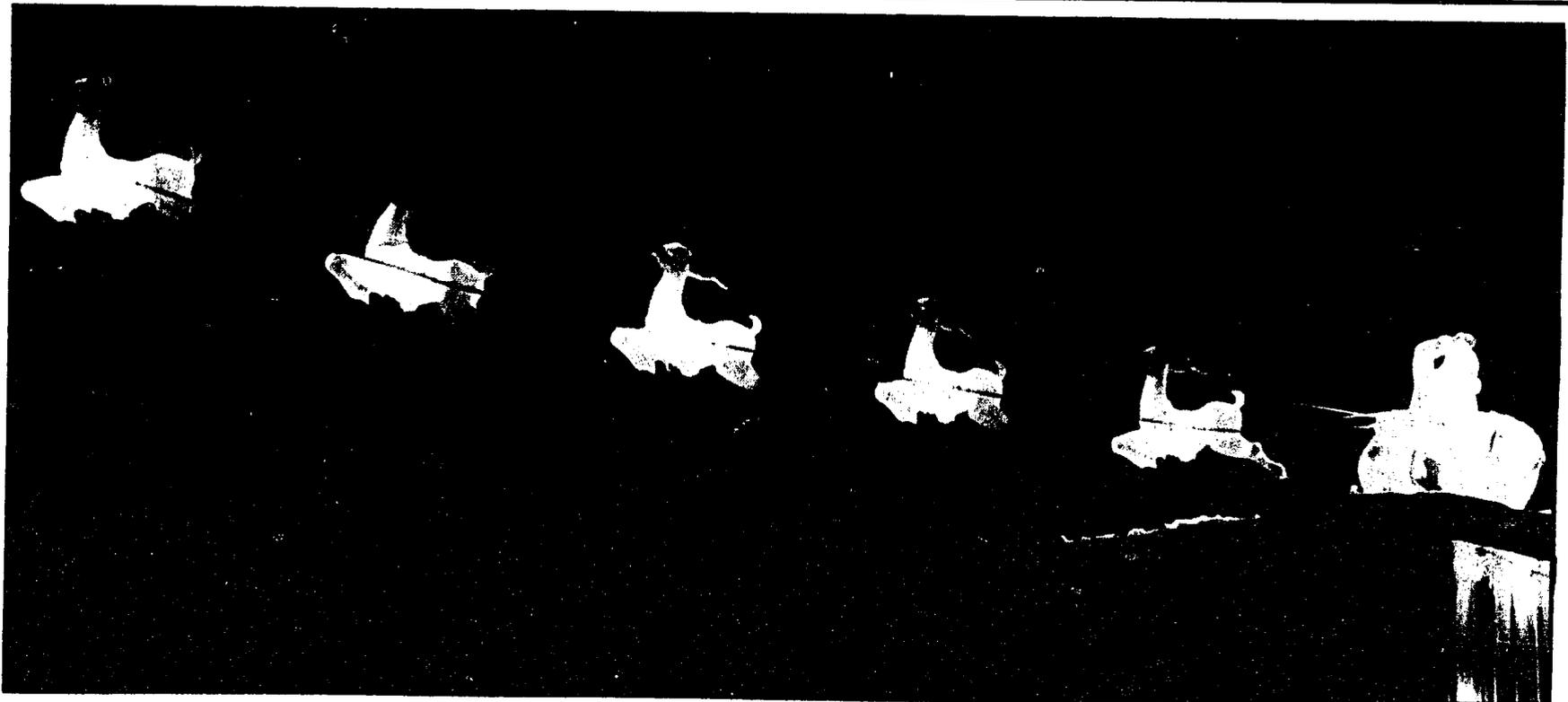
Pre-registration for the marathon and related events will be held the evening of February 6 at the Seeley Lake Community Hall. Pat Caffrey, Seeley Lake, will present a slide show "Ski Ascent of Mount Vinson: Antarctica's Highest Mountain."

An awards banquet will also be held during the evening of February 7 at the Community Hall.

For more information write OSCAR, Box 516, Seeley Lake, MT 59868 or call 677-2880.



Santa continued his moonlight habit of delivering fruit and candy to children in Seeley Lake. C.B. Rich has kept up the holiday tradition, which was begun in the late 1950s, and makes sure that Santa arrives in his horse-drawn sleigh each holiday season. The Chamber of Commerce sponsored the event at Dan's Discount last Wednesday night. Artistic Expressions was also presented with the award for Best Decorated Business on Wednesday night.



"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night. . ." was what this Santa and his reindeer seemed to be saying as they were leaving the roof of the Overman residence. This beautifully lighted Christmas scene along with other Santas, a complete Nativity scene, snowmen and lots of Christmas lights are on display at the Overman residence south of Seeley Lake on River

View Drive. Gary Overman began decorating his place with elaborate Christmas displays about six years ago, and has added to the scenes each year. "I do it for the little guys," Gary explained, adding that he enjoys the happy faces of toddlers and children who come to appreciate his Christmas creations. The complete display will remain lighted until January 2.

# OPINION

## Dreaming of a White Christmas...

is one thing we of the Valley don't have to indulge in - we can count on a white Christmas. And our snow is the genuine white, fluffy stuff, not the gray mush that tends to fall in metropolitan areas nowadays.

We all know that the primary function of snow is as a lubricant for the running surfaces of skis, snow-mobiles, and sleds. There are a few well-meaning scientists who insist that there are loftier purposes for snow. Such as providing a critical reservoir of moisture during warm weather and providing insulation necessary to the survival of low shrubs during cold weather. Unfortunately, these guys don't know the difference between green wax and a skag bar. Moreover, after years of extensive study, they have transformed the fun subject of snow into a convoluted repository of technical trivia.

The interesting thing is that there doesn't seem to be a name for this arcane field of knowledge. Perhaps "snowology" would suffice. At any rate, the snowologists have discovered some interesting things about snow. Here are a few of them (translated from the Greek):

- The infinite variety of snowflake shapes can be grouped into just seven basic types, ranging from stars to needles to amorphous blobs.

- Without dust particles in the upper atmosphere there would be no snow. Dust particles serve as the core around which snow crystals grow.

- The next time you see a big thunderhead growing in July - think snow. What you're watching is a whale of a snowstorm up there. Ice and snow crystals ride the thermals upward in the cloud. As they rise into regions of lower temperature, they steadily grow bigger and heavier. Eventually, they become massive enough to fall to the earth (usually melting before they land). Along the way, they tend to drag water droplets with them. The exact point at which this happens in the cloud is seen as the flattened-out anvil shape on top. This general process accounts for most of the rainfall in temperate latitudes.

- The insulating capacity of snow is such that there can be a difference of thirty degrees Fahrenheit over a one-foot thickness of snow.

- Fifty percent of the planet's land area and ten percent of the sea area are permanently or temporarily snow covered.

- The level at which more snow is deposited than is removed is known as the "firn" line and is the level above which glaciers form. The firn line is at sea level at the South Pole and rises to 16,000 feet at the Equator.

Rest easy, Sports Fans, the firn line is still at a comfortable remove above the Valley floor - no need for glacier insurance yet. So, let's just enjoy our snow. It sure puts one in the right frame of mind for Christmas. A Happy Christmas to all.

- Dick Potter

Natty Bumpo



NATTY remembers life before the Christmas pot holder.

## The Governor's a Musher at Heart

(Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to Elinor Beckman in her capacity as a representative of the Wilderness Sportsman's Club, and is reprinted by permission of the club.)

Dear Ms. Beckman:  
I am pleased to learn of your club and race committee's promotional plans for the Seeley 200 Sled Dog Race. The support being shown by your community and its merchants is great.

The Governor's Cup 500 Sled Dog Race was a big success last year, giving a much-needed boost to the public's interest in the sport of sled dog racing in Montana. The adventure and drama of unpredictable Montana winter weather conditions, and rugged, mountainous terrain make sled dog races a sure winner in attracting national media coverage as well.

I am sure that your area's hard work on the Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race will be a credit to the entire state. Community spirit and the willingness to work together is a Montana heritage that is certainly alive and well in Seeley Lake.

I wish the greatest success for your race, and join you in urging everyone to "Mush for Montana."

Ted Schwinden  
Governor

## Christmas Tidings

(Editor's Note: Lennart Anderson has submitted this poem To The Editor as a Christmas greeting for Pathfinder readers.)

"Peaceful" is the word  
In the Valley of the Swan  
Snow reminding winter has begun  
Mountain peaks glisten in the sun  
Bright at night under moonlight  
The Big Dipper tilted  
Pouring future good wishes  
For Merry Christmas '86  
And Happy New Year '87

--Lennart B. Anderson  
Holland Lake  
December 9, 1986

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

### 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.

Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at Seeley Lake, MT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Pathfinder, P.O. Box 702, Seeley lake, MT 59868.

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## Dear Santa,

(Editor's note: Kathleen Thompson, Seeley Lake Elementary kindergarten teacher, and Kathy Manos, school clerk, provided the following letters.)

Dear Santa,  
I would like a walkie talkie for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Matt Wolfe

Dear Santa,  
I would like a pound furry for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Ryan Nemmers

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Poppo for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Robyn Lewis

Dear Santa,  
I would like a cornsilk doll for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Angela Marshall

Dear Santa,  
I would like My Pet Monster for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
B.J. Parker

Dear Santa,  
I would like a teddy bear for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Kristy Pohlman

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Mad Ball for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
David Boone

Dear Santa,  
I would like a kitten for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Janelle Kopke

Dear Santa,  
I would like a popple for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Brandy Lewis

Dear Santa,  
I would like a He-Man set for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Ben Cahoon

Dear Santa,  
I would like Masters of the Universe for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Lane Dellwo

Dear Santa,  
I would like a white pound puppy for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Adam Blekken

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Fievel for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Jamie Richards

Dear Santa,  
I would like a teddy bear for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Danny Phipps

Dear Santa,  
I would like ice skates for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Casie Landsberger

Dear Santa,  
I would like a four-wheeler for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Jeff Casano

Dear Santa,  
I would like ice skates for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Jenna Mantei

Dear Santa,  
I would like a doll for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Mandy Miller

Dear Santa,  
I would like a TV for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Crystal Curran

Dear Santa,  
I would like a race car for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Ricky Morris

Dear Santa,  
I would like a Bigfoot for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Matthew Castonguay

Dear Santa,  
I would like a GI Joe for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Matt Brown

Dear Santa,  
I would like a shaggy dog for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Heather Salomon

Dear Santa,  
I would like a walkie talkie for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Deno Swerman

Dear Santa,  
I would like a glass Nativity Set for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Sarah Buehler

Dear Santa,  
I would like My Little Pony for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Hannah Sheets

Dear Santa,  
I would like a real horse for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Annaliese Peña



**A** Christmas wish for each and every one of you. May the joy and peace of this most blessed holiday fill your hearts and your homes. God bless you all with a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year from your friends at the

**Swan Valley Centre**  
Condon, 754-2397

**FRESHNESS**  
  
**MONTANA QUALITY!**

**TODD'S**   
**Custom Leatherwork**  
406/677-2168

A very Merry Christmas!  
Wishing you and your loved ones an abiding peace, love and serenity now and in the coming new year. Thank you for making this year a successful one for us.  
Richards Family

**ROVERO'S**  
Seeley Lake, Montana  
677-2445



**SPA SALE 30% OFF**

100% portable  
Completely self-contained  
Fully insulated for outdoor use

Model 202, 3 seater tub	\$2,995.00
Model 404, 4 seater tub	\$2,995.00
Model 707, 5 seater tub	\$3,495.00
Model 505, 8 seater tub	\$5,995.00

MODEL 303, 6 SEATER TUB - SPECIAL \$2,595.00 (was \$3,495.00)

**SNOW COUNTRY CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
(next to Mission Mountain Mercantile in Condon)  
**754-2700**

**SEELEY LAKE PHARMACY**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
Merle, Pat and David Gunsch  
- We will be closed Christmas Day -  
Monday-Friday 9:00-5:30  
Saturday 9:00-5:00  
Sunday Closed  
677-2424

## Business of the Week

### DOUBLE ARROW OUTFITTERS

The Double Arrow Outfitters located in Seeley Lake was started by C.B. and Helen Rich and their five children. Although Jack Rich is the sole owner now, he proudly remarked, "It remains a family business." When asked about the success of the business, C.B. said, "We'll be entering our thirtieth year in operation in 1987."



The Bob Marshall is home to the Double Arrow Outfitters during the fall. "We're partially booked for 1987 and 1988," Jack said about the wilderness hunting and fishing pack trips. Now, "with winter season upon us, we're busy with our teams and sleighs," commented Jack. Sleigh rides and barbecues are available to individuals or groups December through March.

In addition to the above, the outfitting operation is open to the public for such other activities as summer youth camp for boys and girls, float trips on the Blackfoot River, and summer and fall daily trail rides in and around the Clearwater Valley.

**A FULL SERVICE BANK**  
**FDIC**

WE WISH YOU THE VERY MERRIEST OF CHRISTMASSES  
Closing 3 p.m. Christmas Eve

**1st Valley Bank**  
Seeley Lake, Montana 677-2464

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White Fir,  
Lodgepole Pine

**Pyramid Mountain Lumber, Inc.**  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868  
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**Barney's**  
and all the Staff  
Wish everyone  
The Happiest of  
Holiday Seasons!  
*Watch for Holiday Specials in the Bar*

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PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL**  
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Dave Gustin, Master Plumber  
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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 25, Christmas Potluck, 4pm, Holland Lake Lodge, Condon.  
Dec 28, An Old Fashioned Christmas and Home for the Holidays Concert Broadcast, 6pm, KALS-FM radio (98.3).

**Public Meetings**  
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**  
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.  
Drifters Snowmobile Club mtg, 2nd Mon every month, 7:30pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.

Seeley Lake Women's Club, Tues, 1pm, 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.  
T.O.P.S., Thurs, 10am, REA bldg, Seeley Lake.  
Veteran's Coffee Group, Sat, 11am, Swan Valley Centre, Condon.

**Other**  
Dec 24 (Wed), 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 Oyando).

**Merry Christmas**

**PYRAMID MOUNTAIN LUMBER INC.** Seeley Lake, Montana  
Equal Employment Opportunity Employer (406) 677-2201



The Seeley Swan High School Mixed Choir.

**January 22 application deadline for SOS board**

Area residents have from January 2 to January 22 to submit petitions to the County Clerk and Recorder for nomination to the SOS Health Center board of trustees. Nominations will be placed on the April 7 election ballot. Nominations are open for two 3-year positions.

Trustees whose terms expire in 1987 are Kim Haines and Reuben Kauffman.

For more information contact Billie McDonald, secretary, S.O.S. Health Center, Box 367, Seeley Lake.

**Refuse board applications due January 9**

The Missoula County Commissioners are currently seeking applicants for the Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District board of directors. Four vacancies exist on the board due to a resignation and expiring terms. One of these positions must be filled by a summer resident.

Any permanent or summer resident living within the boundaries of the Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District, 18 years or older and interested in applying for these non-salaried positions may do so by completing and submitting an application to the Board of County Commissioners by Friday, January 9, 1987 at 5 p.m.

Applications are available at the commissioners' office in the Missoula County Courthouse annex, or they may be requested by mail. Additional information may be obtained by calling the commissioners' office at 721-5700, ext. 200, or Kent Brown, chairman of the board of directors, at 793-5595.

**No giardia in recent water tests**

Recent tests performed by Montana Environmental Laboratory, Kalispell, found no evidence of giardia cysts in Seeley Lake's district water supply. Also, recent tests conducted by the state health department in Helena showed no bacterial contamination, according to information obtained from Bud Anderson, district manager.

Applications are available at the commissioners' office in the Missoula County Courthouse annex, or they may be requested by mail. Additional information may be obtained by calling the commissioners' office at 721-5700, ext. 200, or Kent Brown, chairman of the board of directors, at 793-5595.



These Seeley Lake Elementary first and second graders practiced for their part in the Christmas program last Thursday night.

**Warmest Wishes for the Holiday Season**

Terrie Sonju  
**Sonju's Hair Design**



Marge Smith greeted visitors before the Christmas concert last week.

**Huge turnout for Christmas concert**

The combined Christmas concert featuring both the Swan Valley Christian Singers and the Seeley Swan High School Mixed Choir was a huge success judging by the large turnout for the event and the enthusiastic conversation following the performance. Nearly 500 people attended the concert, which was held in the Seeley Swan High School gymnasium.

The high school choir performed "Home for the Holidays" and featured Mike Hallgren as soloist.

The Swan Valley Christian Singers performed "An Old Fashioned Christmas" featuring soloists Julie Cahoon and Ella Goodbread, along with quartet members Robyn Williams, Rob Morris, Steven Thompson and Pam Rose.

The Seeley Lake Elementary sixth graders even joined in the fun and performed with the choirs.

For the grand finale, 65 singers serenaded the audience with "An Old Fashioned Christmas."

The concert will be broadcast Sunday night on KALS-FM (98.3) at 6 p.m.

**Computer course offered**

Local residents are encouraged to sign up soon for the Adult Computer Literacy course to be held at Seeley Swan High School beginning January 6 and continuing for 10 consecutive weeks. For more information, or to pre-register, contact Art Sikkink, 677-2848, or the high school, 677-2224.

At Christmas, may these gifts be yours  
*The Gladness of Hope  
The Spirit of Peace  
The Warmth of Love*  
Joan Cowan, Broker  
Joan Cowan Realty  
677-2355  
P.O. Box 369  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

**THE ELK HORN CAFE & CREW**  
wish our friends and customers  
Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year

We will be closed  
December 24 at 6:00 p.m.  
December 25 all day

**CORNUCOPIA** by Michele Potter

If your family traditionally opens presents Christmas Eve, then you're probably saving something special to do for Christmas Day. Bernice Buehler says, "Our Apple Puffed Pancake is a great holiday morning breakfast. We pour maple syrup over it for a special treat."

**Apple Puffed Pancake**  
by Bernice Buehler

6 eggs	1/2 teaspoon salt
1-1/2 cups milk	1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup flour	1/4 pound margarine or butter
3 tablespoons sugar	2 apples thinly sliced
1 teaspoon vanilla	2-3 tablespoons brown sugar

Preheat oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit. In a blender, mix eggs, milk, flour, sugar, vanilla, salt and cinnamon; batter will be slightly lumpy. In the oven, melt butter in a 12" fluted porcelain quiche dish or a 9 x 13 baking dish. Do not let butter brown. Add apple slices. Return to oven until butter sizzles. Do not let brown. Remove dish from oven and immediately pour batter over apples. Sprinkle with brown sugar. Bake in middle of oven for 20 minutes or until puffed and golden brown. Serve hot. Makes 6-8 servings.

Bernice says, "For more people, the one recipe is still adequate, just serve with sausage or bacon."

The comments are coming in on Don Sylvester's Rock Salt Prime Rib Roast. Mary Jane Gustin (Seeley Lake) said that's the method she has always used for roasting her prime rib, though she has a slight twist to her recipe. Instead of simply rinsing the roast in water and covering with salt, Mary Jane bastes the entire roast with Worcestershire sauce, seasons it, and then covers it with salt. Then she pours the Worcestershire sauce that was used as the baste over the salt. "Ohhhh, is it ever good that way!" And, she emphasizes that a meat thermometer must be used during the roasting period - roast to medium rare. Do not trust the standard time charts for this rock salt roasting method. Thanks, Mary Jane, I'll take your advice.

A last word on the rock salt roasting method - Don says any cut of meat can be used, not just prime rib.

A special thanks to Mary West (Ft. Collins, Colorado) for the bread dough basket information. After spending some time at her local library, Mary says the Lee Craft books provided the best recipe and information available. The 15-page packet Mary sent covers dough art rather extensively, from making a basket of dough to baker's clay ornaments and much more.

How about some new recipe ideas for January and February? Call them in to me (677-2022) or send them to me (c/o Cornucopia, Box 702, Seeley Lake, 59868) to share with readers.

**VALLEY MARKET FOOD FARM**  
677-2121 or 677-2122  
*Merry Christmas*

*Wishing all a Happy New Year*  
Dave & Nanci Marx  
**YELLOW ROSE ENTERPRISES**

**Hungry Bear Chalet**

Winter Hours  
Dining Room 5 pm - 10 pm • Bar 5 pm - Midnight  
Open Wed thru Sun • Closed Mon & Tues  
Join us for Ribs on Wednesday Nights

Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day  
(open Friday, Saturday & Sunday)

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Ask about  
CHRISTMAS GIFT CERTIFICATES from the Hungry Bear Chalet

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# OUTDOORS

## VALLEY LODGING

**DUCK INN MOTEL** Conveniently located on scenic Highway 83 in downtown Seeley Lake. Close to restaurant, laundromat and lake. Nice clean rooms (seven rooms - two with two queen size beds), cable television, reasonable rates. Open year 'round, with winter plug-ins. Orié Brown, Manager. Box 458, Seeley Lake 59868. 406/677-2335.

**HOLLAND LAKE LODGE** In the heart of Montana's scenic Rocky Mountains. Warm and cozy log lodge offering fine dining, lounge, winterized cabins and sleeping rooms. Groomed XC ski trails, XC ski rentals, gas and oil. Turn at Holland Lake Road from Highway 83 (between mile markers 35-36), Box 2083, Condon 59826. 406/754-2282. Located in Flathead National Forest



Morning frost recently flocked trees in the Valley.

**TAMARACKS RESORT** Spectacular mountain retreat and family resort located in the beautiful Lolo National Forest. Located on the quiet north end of Seeley Lake on 16 acres. Rustic lakefront cabins - kitchens and queen beds. Close to snowmobile and cross country ski trails and ice fishing. Highway 83, Mile Marker 17, Box 337, Seeley Lake 59868. 406/677-2433.

**WILDERNESS GATEWAY INN** 2nd season open for this new 19-unit motel! Hot tub, telephone, cable television, free coffee and very spacious rooms. XC ski and snowmobile from your doorstep. AAA approved (the only one in the Valley) and reasonable rates. One mile south of Seeley Lake on scenic Highway 83, Box 585, Seeley Lake 59868. 406/677-2095.



This was one happy ice fisherman last weekend on Seeley Lake. The fish and game planted large rainbow trout in the lake on Thursday.

## More big fish planted in Seeley

About 145 large, female rainbow trout found a new home in Seeley Lake last week as Arlee Hatchery acting assistant manager Sib Malee planted the retired broodstock at Big Larch Camp-ground.

Local residents cut a three-foot hole in the ice and the large trout were netted and placed in the lake one or two at a time. The fish averaged slightly over 27 inches in length and weighed about 10.8 pounds each.

Malee was assisted by Dan Cainan, George Wright, Wayne Lowe, Alan Castonguay and Jim DeHerrera, Seeley Lake.

This is the second planting of retired broodstock in Seeley Lake since early November. Harper's Lake was also planted with the large rainbow trout this fall.

## Country Journal

by Suzanne Vernon

Officially, winter began on Sunday, December 21st, but I think it's been winter here since early November! Seeley Lake froze over last week. Holland Lake froze on December 15. Time to haul out the ice skates (or the ice-fishing tackle!).

The elk have now moved to their winter range near Boyd Mountain. We counted more than 100 head near the highway last week. We needed binoculars to see them - but what a sight!

I want to say a "special thanks" to our friends and neighbors who have shared so much of their country journals over the past seven months. May the good Lord bless you this holiday season, and may you continue to find joy in nature and share friendship with your neighbors. Merry Christmas!

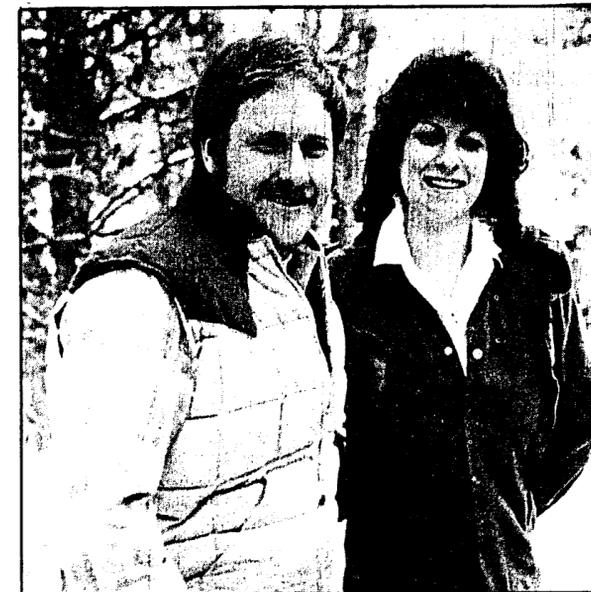
## Rich-Nelson engaged

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Nelson, Whitefish, announce the engagement of their daughter, Belinda Nelson, Seeley Lake, to Jack Rich, son of C.B. and Helen Rich, also of Seeley Lake.

Belinda Nelson is a 1979 graduate of Whitefish High School. She attended Flathead Valley Community College majoring in secretarial courses. Belinda has worked with youth groups in Seeley Lake during the summer months and has cooked for Double Arrow Outfitters during fall hunting trips into the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Jack Rich is a 1974 graduate of Seeley Swan High School. He grew up working in the outfitting business with his father, and has owned Double Arrow Outfitters since 1984.

Jack and Belinda have set their wedding date for March 21, 1987.



Jack Rich and Belinda Nelson.

## Study shows outfitting adds millions to economy

Montana's licensed outfitters directly contributed over \$34 million to Montana's economy in 1985, according to an economic study done by Drs. Shannon Taylor and Michael Reilly of Montana State University. Reporting the results of the study to the convention of the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association in Great Falls this weekend, Reilly stated that the total statewide impact of the outfitting industry is in excess of \$86 million. This includes all outfitting services, as well as other goods and services purchased by outfitter clients while visiting the state.

Reilly stated that these figures were conservative, but clearly show that the outfitting industry is a major positive economic force in Montana's economy. Drawing a contrast between outfitted and non-outfitted recreationists' spending in Montana, the study found that outfitted recreationists spent twice as much per person as non-outfitted recreationists on the same kind of Montana trip. Non-resident hunters harvested 7% of the big game taken in Montana in 1985, while their license fees funded two-thirds of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks wildlife budget. Of the approximately six hundred outfitters licensed in Montana, most are involved in more than one type of recreation service. Approximately one-third of the licensed outfitters cater exclusively to fishermen.

## Snowmobile Report

Snowmobiling conditions are good at the higher elevations, although we need another good snowstorm to cover the ruts in the logging roads. Heavy snow areas now are the Marshall Lake area, Rice Ridge and Clearwater Lake.

**J&L FOOD MARKET**  
Seeley Lake 677-9249  
Open Every Day, 7 am - 9 pm

**Best Wishes for the Holiday Season**

## UPCOMING GAMES

(School Sports)

- Seeley Swan High School Boy's Basketball
- Jan 2 Valley Christian at Seeley Swan
- Jan 3 Seeley Swan at Lincoln
- Seeley Swan High School Volleyball
- Jan 3 Drummond at Seeley Swan
- Jan 3 Philipsburg at Seeley Swan
- Swan Valley Elementary School Basketball
- Jan 8 Swan Valley at Helmville

**MEC** A non-profit consumer-owned Cooperative  
Missoula Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
1700 West Broadway  
Missoula, Montana 59802  
406/721-4433 or 1-800/352-5210

## Residential and Commercial Construction

- Remodeling
- Custom
- Frame
- Metal
- Log



**matthew brothers construction**

RON MATTHEW  
754-2430

ROLLIE MATTHEW  
754-2401

(Box 2301, Condon, Montana 59826)

# MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**Merry Christmas**  
Coupon - Holiday Video Special  
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NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE FILLING STATION  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS WINTER '86-'87

TUES, DEC 23	CHOCOLATE LOVERS PARTY	LIVE MUSIC
WEDS, DEC 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY	GIANT FOOD TABLE
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MAKE PLANS NOW TO JOIN US AND RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH YOUR FRIENDS  
WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

**COUNTRY THINGS** Country Things will be open by appointment only December 26 through May 1 Call 677-2296

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**LIQUID LOUIE'S BAR** wishes all their friends Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
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*May the quiet peace of Christmas fill your heart and home.*  
 Norm, Rose, Bill & Bob Baier  
 We will be open Christmas Day  
 Seeley Lake 1-Stop Store  
 677-2004

# Swan Valley

## Vets sponsor discussion of Vietnam War

Philip Burgess, Missoula Vet Center Counselor, will be the guest speaker at Vietnam Night, which is being sponsored by Swan Valley Post No. 63 of the American Legion. The event will be held on January 9 at 8:00 p.m. at the Swan Valley Community Hall near Condon. The open-to-the-public discussion will follow the regular meeting of the Swan Valley Post at 7 p.m.

Burgess, an Army officer in Vietnam, has been actively involved with Vietnam veterans since the 1970s. He has been with the Vet Center since it was established.

Vet centers throughout the nation were established by Congress to provide "storefront" counseling services to Vietnam era veterans. The Veterans Administration estimates that more than 900,000 Vietnam era veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome, more commonly called "delayed stress." It is similar to what was called battle fatigue and shell-shock in earlier wars. The primary difference is that delayed stress may not surface until five, ten or fifteen years after the trauma. Symptoms include anger, bitterness, guilt, alcoholism, insomnia, flashbacks, nightmares, drug abuse, divorce, employment instability and suicide.

Ken Wolff, Swan Valley Post commander, will speak on the history of American involvement in Vietnam from 1954 to 1975. Wolff will also discuss "ecocide" and defoliants, including the various agents—Orange, Orange II, Blue and White.

Wolff is well-read on the Vietnam War and will display several books on the subject, including a 19-volume Time-Life series entitled *The Vietnam Experience*.

Seeley Lake DENTAL CLINIC COMPLETE DENTAL CARE  
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 Call for appointment  
 9am-6pm 677-2235  
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*May all your Christmas wishes come true!*  
 Merry Christmas  
**WILLY-BILL SPORTS**  
 Seeley Lake, 677-2213



Kilty Good, dressed as Santa for the Swan Valley Elementary Christmas program, sits on the real Santa's lap. Santa was busy last week in the Seeley Swan Valley.

*A very special thank you to all our customers and friends for your patronage.*  
 We sincerely wish all of you a very happy holiday!  
**SNOW COUNTRY CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
 Condon, Montana

## In Our Churches

### PASSAGES

Pastor Jeff Crippen  
 Condon Community Church

#### Paying the Fiddler

Have you ever noticed how many cliches we use which relate to the truth that our actions result in consequences? "If you're going to dance, you have to pay the fiddler," and "you reap what you sow," or "what goes around, comes around." All say, in a figurative way, that along with our actions come certain consequences—good or bad.

Let's talk briefly about the fact that sin (an unpopular word) has consequences (an unpopular fact). That is, if a person chooses to sin, he or she is going to have to pay the fiddler. This is what the Bible means when it says: "the

wages of sin is death" and "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap." Sin has consequences, both in this life and in the life to come. That is an absolute truth which God has established and which you and I can never do away with.

Nevertheless, we see examples all around us of people trying to remove or, at least, soften the consequences of sin. For instance, in response to the epidemic of teenage pregnancies and the grief associated with unwanted children, we take steps to teach our children how to sin without suffering the consequences. "If you are going to be 'sexually active,'" we say (notice, we do not say "immoral") "then here's how to do it intelligently," and we hand them a fistful of contraceptives so they can, supposedly, escape the results of their sin. Or, in light of the AIDS threat, we educate ourselves and our children in

methods of avoiding infection while still practicing sin. How neat, how tidy, how wrong!

God states His position many times in the Bible, and that position is that you can never escape the tragedies which result from sin. Sooner or later, the fiddler must be paid. In the case of sexual sin, Scripture says:

Can a man take fire in his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? Or can a man walk on hot coals, And his feet not be scorched? (Proverbs 6:27-28)

God gives us all a choice. Obey Him and be blessed, enjoying the peace and joy that a life of obedience to God brings, or disobey Him and suffer the certain consequences. Nowhere does God give us the fictitious third choice of learning how to sin "wisely" so as to escape the consequences. And neither should we offer that third choice to our children.



Wishing all our friends and neighbors a very Merry Christmas.

May your New Year be filled with Peace, Hope and His Love.

\*\*\*  
**MARX CONSTRUCTION**  
 Larry & Addrien Marx

**Double Front Chicken**  
 543-6264  
 When going to Missoula, call ahead. Tell us what time you want your dinner ready.



D. Paul Hickman  
 Fundamental Baptist Church

I would like to give you something for the new year. It's a principle from the Bible that has helped me a lot and can do the same for you.

In the New Testament it says, "Forgetting those things which are behind, I press toward..."; and then Paul lists the things he is pressing toward in his life. The same thing ought to be true of us.

First, we must forget the past. There are memories on which we must not dwell, people we must forgive (no matter how hard it is to do so!), debts to us we must forget, victories that we have gained, achievements we have made, and so on. Good and evil alike we must forget. The new year can hold many new and rich experiences for us IF we can put the old ones behind us.

Second, we must be pressing forward. Sometimes we just give up on something or someone—even ourselves. A person who aims at nothing usually hits it. Set some goals for yourself for the days ahead.

The greatest thing you can do for yourself is to bring Jesus Christ into your life. Let Him be your Saviour and Lord.

Come to the Fundamental Baptist Church this Sunday. We're not just building a church; we're building lives. Bring yours to Christ this week. "Discover the Difference"



The Swan Valley Christian Singers.

**Film to be shown New Year's Eve**

The film, *The Pilgrim's Progress*, based on the book of the same name authored by John Bunyan, Baptist minister in England in the 17th century, will be shown New Year's Eve at Swan Valley Baptist Church beginning at 8 p.m. New Year's Eve.

Bunyan was imprisoned for his non-conformist views and, while in prison, he wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress*, which is an allegory, giving a vivid account of a Christian's trials on his way to the Celestial City.

The film will be followed by refreshments, fellowship, and table games for all ages. "We will close out the old year and bring in the new year with a devotional time and prayer," according to Pastor Jim Patterson. For more information call Pastor Patterson at 754-2509.

**New Year's party at Community Church**

The Community Bible Church in Seeley Lake will host a New Year's Party, show a movie, and provide table games for all ages. People are encouraged to bring snacks for the evening. For more information contact Rob Morris, 677-2837.

**Abreo's Home Care Service**  
 • Electrical  
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 Seeley Lake

**Old Fashioned Western Sleigh Ride & Bar-B-Que**  
 Double Arrow Outfitters in Seeley Lake now offer old fashioned sleigh rides with matched team of horses, complete with sleigh bells. Enjoy a fun, romantic ride to the old Homestead cabin and a tasty genuine Western-Style bar-b-que. Available for individuals & groups.  
 For information contact:  
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off at Seeley  
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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 give-  
aways.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Message:

Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Repeat Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**THE  
FINDER**

**FOR SALE**

ELECTRIC DRYER (good condition),  
\$50.00. Cordless telephone (new,  
\$125.00), now \$50.00. Set of World  
Book Encyclopedias, \$60.00. Call 677-  
2018.

SVCS HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS-  
Old Fashioned Christmas concert tape  
(quality cassette tape). \$5.00 - send  
money with name & telephone number  
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152, Seeley Lake. For additional  
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TWO '80-'81 SKIDOO CITATION  
snowmobiles. \$1200/offer. Two desks:  
one 4-drawer, one 6-drawer. China  
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3-BEDROOM MOBILE HOME, \$150  
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**NOTICES**

A Director is needed for a vacancy on  
the SEELEY LAKE WATER DIS-  
TRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.  
This person must be an owner or lessee  
of real property within the Seeley Lake  
Water District. Term to expire at the  
next regular election of the Board of  
Directors, Sept. 1987, at which time a  
director for a two-year unexpired term  
will be voted upon.

Persons interested in filling this  
vacancy should contact the Seeley Lake  
Water District office, weekdays between  
8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. (677-2559) or  
Don Larson, Chairman.

SUMMIT SHARPENING SERVICE is  
closed for the winter! Thanks for your  
patronage. S. Vernon

**PERSONALS**

THE ANDERSON FAMILY would like  
to extend their deepest appreciation to  
everyone in the community for their  
concern and interest regarding Ivan  
Kirkpatrick's recent accident. He is  
doing well, sends his regards, and looks  
forward to returning sometime in  
January. Erick & Jan Anderson

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS: Warmest  
Wishes/Old-Fashioned Good Cheer -  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.  
Roy & Sâdie Marcussen

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL. Gas  
Haus Gang

**Merry  
CHRISTMAS**  
**GOOD TIMES GENERAL STORE**  
Located in the Seeley Lake Maul Seeley Lake, Montana

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**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!**



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<p><b>"Happy Holidays" Larson Disposal</b> Dan, Joyce &amp; Family Seeley Lake, Montana 677-2252</p>	<p><b>Mechanic • TIRE REPAIR</b> <b>GAS HAUS</b> ALL MOTOR FUELS CAR WASH MISCELLANEOUS "STUFF" Mon-Fri 6-10 Sat-Sun 8-9</p>	<p><b>SPLIT RAILS LARGE POLES ROUND RAILS ROUGH LUMBER JACKLEG POSTS TREATED POSTS FENCING MATERIALS</b> <b>ALPINE PRODUCTS OF CONDON</b> ALAN CHILDS 754-2725 (MILE MARKER 44)</p>
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<p><b>SEELEY SWAN REALTY</b> Box 501 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 406/677-2828 Your Full-Service Office</p>	<p><b>5 WOODED ACRES</b> near airport, mountain views, horses okay. \$15,500 with easy terms. Seeley Swan Realty, 677-2828. <b>3-BEDROOM HOUSE SOUTH OF SEELEY LAKE</b> - comfortable, cozy, woodstove, garage. \$25,500 low down - trade for anything. Seeley Swan Realty, 677-2828. <b>DELUX 28 X 60 MOBILE HOME</b> w/large garage/shop on 6.5 ac. Close to Seeley Lake. \$79,900.00 Joan Cowan Realty, 677-2355. <b>NEWER SPLIT LEVEL</b> 3 bedroom home on 9+ acres, overlooking a pond. Just out of Seeley Lake. \$61,900.00 Joan Cowan Realty, 677-2355. <b>RECREATIONAL LAND.</b> 2 to 10 acres. Great selection - mountain views, creek or river frontage, secluded or close to town. <b>END OF YEAR SPECIAL:</b> Two bedroom log home with large deck, city water and close to town. \$64,000.00 - Double Arrow Realty 677-2204 or 1-800-821-3709.</p>	<p><b>1983 WOODLAKE</b> 2 bdrm mobile home on Seeley Lake Homesite lot. Close to town/schools. Easy terms for complete package, w/25% down. Rich Real Estate, 677-2467. <b>SEELEY LAKE HOMESITE LOT</b> w/city water, septic tank &amp; drainfield. Hook-up for mobile home. Rich Real Estate, 677-2467. <b>5-ACRE PARCELS.</b> Level ground with trees and meadow. \$10,000.00 to \$18,000.00 - Call Cindy or Cheryl. Seeley Condon Realty, 677-2484. <b>CHALET-STYLE CABIN</b> on 8 acres, bordering Forest Service property. Call Bud. Seeley Condon Realty, 677-2484. <b>2 BDRM LOG HOME</b> on two plus acres. New oak kitchen, new bath, attached garage, large deck, spectacular views. \$55,000 terms. Seeley Swan Realty, 754-2233. <b>10 ACRES.</b> Views of both Mission &amp; Swan, county road, utilities nearby. \$25,000 terms. Seeley Swan Realty, 754-2233.</p>	<p><b>RICH REAL ESTATE</b> Box 505 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 406/677-2467 Your Oldest Real Estate Firm</p>
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# O.S.C.R.

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**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 7, 1987**

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Seeley-Condon Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 516  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868  
406/677-2880



# Recreation

## C.B. Rich named best in Montana

At their annual convention in Great Falls last week, the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association honored C.B. Rich of Double Arrow Outfitters in Seeley Lake as the outstanding outfitter in Montana for his work over the past decade or more on industry problems. Rich has been active in the Outfitters and Guides Association, North American Outfitters and the National Forest Recreation Association.

In recognition of this honor, the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, through their representative Diane Storti, presented C. B. with an engraved Model 70 Winchester rifle.

## Residents to groom trails

Area snowmobile trails will be groomed by local residents this year. In the past, the fish and game has been in charge of trail grooming, but this year, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks turned over nearly \$6,000 to the Drifriders Snowmobile Club of Seeley Lake to maintain popular trails.

"We'll get more miles of trail groomed for our money," according to Jerry Ding, Driftrider president. The money originates from a portion of the snowmobile license fee collected annually by the state. Officials with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks have, in the past, carried out grooming amidst a large variety of other required winter projects.

Members of the Drifriders Snowmobile Club have agreed to begin grooming trails after the next major snowstorm, according to Ray Schmidt, club member.

Priority trails include the road to Lake Elsinore north of Seeley Lake, and the trail to Holland Lake (Clearwater Loop). Trails closer to town will be groomed first, according to Schmidt.

Money from the fish and game has so far gone toward insurance (\$850.00) and will be used for groomer maintenance and wages for the groomer operator throughout the winter.

Schmidt said that the Drifriders are looking for "a big year" for snowmobiling. Conditions are now reportedly good at the higher elevations. People are encouraged to become members of the Drifriders, which often sponsors guided trail rides and "get-togethers" in the Seeley Swan area. Contact Ray or Vera Schmidt, Seeley Lake, for more information.

## Fishing Report

Ice fishing is in full swing now that the cold weather has frozen area waters. There are some springs and inlet/outlet areas where anglers should continue to use extreme caution due to thin ice. Seeley Lake is reported fair to good for trout near Big Larch Campground. The fish and game recently planted retired broodstock (rainbow trout) there.

Anglers will get good response using maggots and bright-colored hooks and lures.

Other area lakes are reported fair for cutthroat and rainbow trout. Fishing should improve next week when the moon enters its next phase.

## Ski Report

The Seeley Creek Nordic Ski Trail system has well-packed trails and is reported good for beginner through advanced skiers. Beginners are advised to use the trailhead north of the Elk Horn Café, where parking is available. Maps and information are also posted there on a Forest Service bulletin board.

Skiing is fair to good at the lower elevations, and reportedly excellent in the West Morrell-Rice Ridge area.

## SEELEY LAKE AUTO PARTS

4 WHEEL DRIVES • FOREIGN • DOMESTIC

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
Open December 24, 9am-12pm  
Closed Christmas Day  
Open December 26, 9am-12pm



**677-2112**



MONDAY - FRIDAY, 9:00 am - 5:30 pm  
SATURDAY, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Hwy 83 South - Seeley Lake - Randy Lynn

OUR  
HOLIDAY  
WISH  
FOR  
YOU



May the blessed peace of the Christmas season fill your hearts and your homes, so each new day of the coming year will be filled with special joy and contentment.

We have valued all our friends over the past years. May we continue to serve you in the future.

We will  
be closed  
December 25, 26,  
27 & 28

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Snacks  
Sodas  
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