

PATHFINDER

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Vol. I, No. 38

677-2022

"VOICE OF THE VALLEY"

754-2365

February 5, 1987

Site chosen for new Seeley P.O.

When the new Seeley Lake Post Office is built later this year, it will be located just south of the Seeley Lake Liquor Store on property owned by Don and Sandi Doucett and City Electric — if all of the government's plans go smoothly.

Postal Service operations seem to move rather slowly, and officials on Monday were reluctant to make any definitive statements regarding the final construction of the proposed new post office.

However, the first major hurdle has apparently been cleared. Officials mailed written notice of the site selection to Dennis Nemmers, Seeley Lake postmaster. Nemmers, in turn, posted the notice for public information.

It has been nearly a year since the Postal Service began reviewing possible sites to lease for the new post office. The locations of the other sites which were considered will not be released until those property owners are officially notified, according to Frank Webber, Support Service, Salt Lake City Regional Office.

Webber indicated that it will be at least 60 days before contractors will be invited to bid on construction of the new facility. After those bids are received, it will probably be several weeks, or longer, before a contractor could be chosen, Webber said.

Big Bear Trail, ski proposals discussed

A group of Seeley Swan businessmen, Forest Service representatives and Chamber of Commerce directors met last week to discuss the implications of the Trail of the Big Bear, a new idea in tourism proposed by Beth Russell, of Waterton, Canada.

Russell has been promoting the idea of international tourism with a group of Waterton-Glacier Park businessmen.

The Trail of the Big Bear is a destination-oriented travel opportunity to areas of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Glacier and Waterton parks, and all points in-between. The promotion is aimed at visitors from Japan and Australia, for example.



Sled dogs comin' at ya! The huskies, spectators and mushers were all in high spirits last weekend during the Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race and Winter Carnival. All of the events were reportedly a grand success. The Wilderness Sportsman's Club, Seeley Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations worked to organize the activities last week. Pictured here is Ron Ogden, Seeley Lake. Tim White, Minnesota, won the Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race and Doug Willett, Utah, placed second. Mushers in the Governor's Cup 500 Race, which begins Sunday in Helena, will also run through Seeley Lake to Holland Lake and return. See related articles and more photos on page 6.

"People are going to discover this valley," Warren Williamson, Swan Lake Ranger District resource manager said at the informal meeting held at Holland Lake Lodge last week. "Like it or not, it's going to happen."

Jeff Macon, chairman of the Seeley Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Task Force, agreed with Williamson.

"Instead of evolutionary changes—a nice easy curve—we are going to see revolutionary changes," Macon said, discussing the national growth in tourism.

The group discussed ways that the Seeley Swan communities could direct tourists to facilities, protect the environment and rural lifestyles, and yet benefit economically from tourism. Specifically, a cross-country ski trail system was discussed.

Warren Williamson, who used to work at the Powell Ranger District near Lolo Pass, sees some real possibilities in the Swan Valley for a network of groomed cross-country ski trails, and tour packages organized by private lodges. He stressed that trails would have to avoid areas of whitetail deer winter range.

Jim DeHerrera, Seeley Lake Ranger District resource manager, pointed out that for such a project to work, a private group would have to provide the driving force. "We just don't have the recreation budget to tackle this," he said.

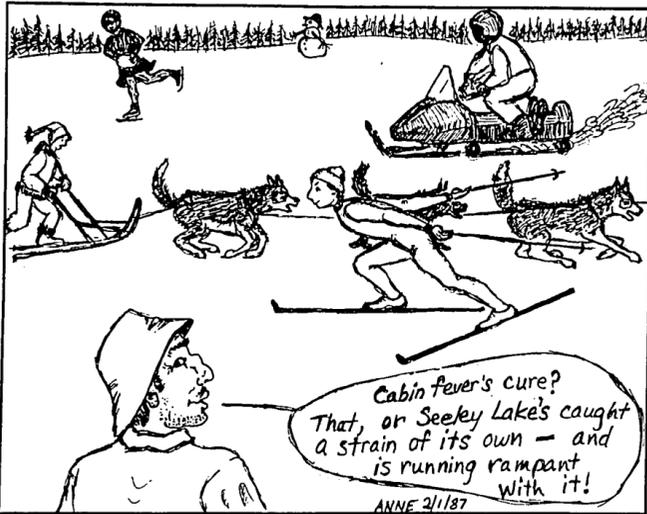
DeHerrera, who hails from Aspen, Colorado, pointed to the success of a developed cross-country ski network in the Aspen area, which has now gained national attention. He indicated that project had been accomplished through cooperative efforts of the Forest Service and private organizations.

Governor's Cup sled dog race begins Sunday

The 500-mile Governor's Cup Sled Dog Race begins in Helena on Sunday, according to assistant race marshal, Chuck Metzger.

Mushers will begin at Helena, travel to Camp Child on the Little Blackfoot, from there head to a check station at Lincoln, then north to the White Tail Ranch near Ovando (late Monday night or early Tuesday) and begin traveling through Seeley Lake before noon on Tuesday. Once mushers check in at Seeley, they head north along the Swan Range to Holland Lake Lodge, where there is another check station. Mushers will return to Seeley Lake late Tuesday night for a mandatory 8-hour layover.

OPINION



ANNE 2/1/87

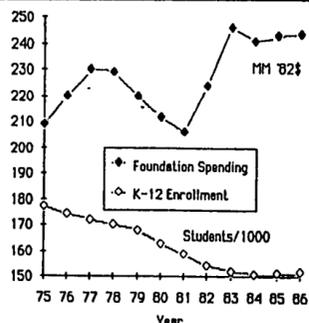
"If you think education is expensive. . ."

try ignorance." Those words were written by some perceptive soul many years ago and serve as a reminder of the critical importance which education has for the future of Montana. Given our bleak economic circumstances, though, the question has naturally arisen as to how much we should spend on education in Montana. That's the sort of knotty question which justifies the existence of a state legislature, and the 50th Legislature is struggling to find the answer. Certainly, no one at *Pathfinder* pretends to know the answer — although, there are some observations to be made.

This week's little chart displays Foundation expenditures for grades K-12 between 1975 and 1986. To remove the "noise" factor of inflation, all dollar amounts are expressed in "constant" dollars (ie, millions of 1982-vintage dollars). Compared to the astounding excesses of last week's little chart, it can be seen (upper line, dark dots) that Foundation spending has been somewhat restrained, rising 17% over the period.

Now, for the bad news. The lower line (light dots) tracks enrollment (in thousands of students) over the same time period. Enrollment has dropped substantially, 14% or so. Mystifying, isn't it? — rising expenditures in the face of declining enrollment. Let us hope that there is a plausible explanation for the divergence between the two lines. Certainly, our legislators would do well to satisfy themselves on this question before doing something rash — such as imposing a retail sales tax upon the citizenry. In particular, they might want to explore what went "wrong" with Foundation spending in 1982 and 1983.

Based on the observation that none of our teachers in the Valley seem to be inordinately wealthy, one suspects that



there could be some administrative fat somewhere. As the governor noted in his recent State of the State address, "while Montana ranked 43rd in the nation in student enrollment, we were 10th in the number of school districts we support." There may be something to the notion of consolidation. Take note, legislators.

On the college side of the education coin, one can only marvel at the symphonically orchestrated howls of pain by administrators, professors, and students alike. We are told that the sky is falling — nonetheless, one is tempted to ask whether there just might be some marginal campuses in the system, and whether the host communities for those campuses are paying their fair share of costs.

One also notes that few souls are brave enough to testify in Helena against the university lobby. Consequently, the legislators may be developing a one-sided perspective on the matter, and this may account for assertions by various legislators that the tide is turning in favor of a sales tax. The university lobby, of course, stands ready to embrace a sales tax, or any other tax, which will preserve their *status quo*. The legislators may be in for a rude shock if they blindly presume such a sentiment prevails in the real world.

— Dick Potter

Goff's gaffe?

To the Editor:
This letter is written as a partial response to the venomous letter written by Charley Goff and printed in the pages of the *Pathfinder*, Thursday, January 29, 1987.

I would suspect that the "recent flap in the *Missoulian*" mentioned in this letter was not really caused by the cutting of a "few spindly trees" within the wilderness boundary. The "flap," if this is the proper term, resulted from the lack of responsibility shown by an agency charged with the management and the protection of an established wilderness area. If a boundary line had been marked either with colored tapes,

or by the spraying of paint, before the thinning crew was sent into the area this trouble would have been avoided. Had this been a routine timber sale, such a boundary would have been established easily and without question. But, as it was merely a "find work" exercise for an idle group of smokejumpers, no one bothered. So, what really is being criticized is the attitude of some of the people in the Forest Service employ — an attitude which is by no means either new or novel.

Yes, Charley, the trespass was a mistake, but it was a mistake that should not have happened in a well-run agency.

Ed Foss
Condon

Legislature '87

Variety of new taxes under consideration

by Gordon Gregory
Helena correspondent

The chief topic was taxes once again at the Capitol as House members gave preliminary approval to a three cent per gallon hike in gasoline and diesel fuel, and the Senate said "no" to another coal tax measure.

Condon Rep. Janet Moore was one of only five Democrats to vote against the gas tax, which would generate about \$15 million a year for highway repair work.

"I'm not going to vote to tax fundamentals until we tax luxuries," she said. "Gasoline, to me, is one of the most fundamental things we need today."

Last June, legislators added two cents to the tax on both fuels. That brought the total state tax on gasoline and diesel to 17 cents per gallon. Only five states have a larger fuel tax.

On a different tax matter, the Senate voted down a measure that would allow voters to decide if coal taxes should

continue flowing into the permanent trust fund. Capping the trust fund is seen by some as the first step to lowering the coal severance tax. Because half of the severance tax is spent by the state, lowering the rate without eliminating the half that flows into the trust would reduce state spending.

Sen. Jack Haffey, who voted against the bill, said Montana needs to keep building its trust fund. He said once the legislature begins using all the severance tax, it will become addicted to it and would never renew deposits into the trust fund. And that, he said, would be unfair for future Montanans.

The Anaconda Democrat said the purpose of the trust "is to retain for the future generations a share of the value of the coal." Haffey said he might support efforts to lower the severance tax to stimulate coal development, which has been declining for several years.

The House Taxation Committee heard three bills to do that last week.

While the bills differed on the size of the reduction and on other points, supporters of each held to the same theme: Montana's coal industry is no longer competitive and the severance tax must be lowered to stimulate production.

"We're losing our coal contracts at an alarming rate," Rep. Dennis Iverson, R-Whitefish, said. "We could be out of the coal business by 1991."

Iverson and others said Montana is fast losing its coal market to states like Wyoming, which charges roughly half the tax in Montana. "We are beating ourselves out of the market," he said.

Opponents of the bills, however, argued that the global slump in energy demand and increasing demands for the low-sulfur coal Wyoming produces are the chief reasons Montana's production has fallen. University of Montana Geology Professor Arnold Silverman, considered an expert on the coal industry, said lowering the severance tax will not make Montana coal more attractive.

"These are bills designed not to increase Montana coal production," he said. They "are meant to further line the pockets of a few companies."

Action on one or more of the measures is expected soon.

The House Taxation Committee also heard testimony on a pair of bills allowing local governments to adopt a variety of taxes.

House Bill 26 would let local governments adopt almost any tax if a majority of area voters passed a referendum. House Bill 182 limits the types of taxes that could be adopted, but it doesn't call for a vote.

Columbia Falls City Councilman Robert Waltmire said property taxes are no longer sufficient to maintain needed city services.

"There just isn't enough money to run our cities," he said. "Let us have the chance to run the city properly."

No action was taken on either measure.

Other highlights of the week and a preview of coming bills include:

- The House will hear the first major sales tax bill this week. The measure, sponsored by Billings Republican Jack Ramirez, would create a 4 percent retail sales tax. Seventy-five percent of the money would be used to offset property taxes and 25 percent would go into the general fund.
- While a long-awaited workers' compensation bill still has not been introduced, the House will hold a hearing this week on a bill intended to speed up the processing of workers' compensation claims.

- House Bill 373 sponsored by Rep. Paula Darko, D-Libby, would require claims to be processed within two weeks, and it would add about five additional workers' compensation employees.
- The Senate decided not to abolish the state Political Practices office on a 31-19 vote.
- The Senate approved and sent to the House a bill specifying that the Montana High School Association is subject to the state's open meeting law.
- The Senate approved a bill to continue the state agricultural loan-linked deposit program.

To keep track of bills, the legislature has a toll-free number: 1-800-237-5079. Copies of the bills are sent to all county courthouses as they are printed.

Roger Wade Photography
754-2793

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Business of the Week

TERRY SHEPPARD, CPA



Terry Sheppard has been in business in Ovando as a Certified Public Accountant since 1979. She says her business is steadily increasing, with the majority of it being in the Blackfoot and Seeley Swan Valleys.

Terry specializes in tax work. She purchased a computer last year. "It's so much faster . . . I do tax returns on the computer now," she says. With the new equipment, she's eager to take on more bookkeeping accounts. Terry also does financial statements, payroll

reports, client write-ups, management consulting, and she is a notary. To maintain her CPA, Terry is required to take 40 credit hours a year in the accounting field. And to keep current, she subscribes to a service that provides updated information about new laws and other tax and accounting information.

Terry is a native Montanan; she grew up on a farm north of Great Falls. Her husband, Robert, is self-employed as a farrier and a trapper. Terry and Robert and their son, Ryan, live in Ovando.

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677-2004

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
 Feb 6, OSCR Pre-Registration and Slide Show, 6 pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 Feb 7, OSCR Cross-Country Ski Race, Seeley Lake.
 Feb 8, Governor's Cup 500 Sled Dog Race, Helena-Seeley Lake-Holland Lake-Helena.
 Feb 8, 2nd & 4th Thurs every month, open to public, 7pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
Public Meetings
 Feb 5, Tentative Big Game Hunting Regulations for 1987 Season, mtg, open to public, 7pm, Comm Hall, Seeley Lake.
 Feb 10, Missoula Co High School Board mtg, 7:30pm, Sentinel High School, 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, Meetings at Fire Hall, Seeley Lake. 1st Tues, Regular Firefighters bus mtg, 7pm; 2nd Tues, training mtg, 7pm; 3rd Tues, Trustees mtg, 7:30pm.
Clubs & Organizations
 Feb 19, Wilderness Sportsman's Club, gen mtg, 7pm, Leisure Lodge, Seeley Lake.
 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, 8 pm, Seeley Swan High School Gym, 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.
 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
 Feb 5 (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).

WELCOME TO THE
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 (50 km cross-country ski race)
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Town meeting covers survey questions

The most important thing to come out of the Community Attitude Survey conducted last summer in the Seeley Swan is that it identified a potential agenda "if the community leaders choose to address it," according to survey consultant, Ken Weaver, from Montana State University.

Weaver attended a meeting last Thursday night in Seeley Lake where several of the "agenda" items were discussed.

One factor that overshadowed all of the questions was the age of the survey respondents.

"You have a significant retirement age community within your community," Weaver pointed out.

According to Marge Smith, SOS Health Board representative, that factor could explain the satisfaction shown for the SOS by the respondents.

"Older people are probably satisfied with a general practitioner... they perhaps don't need the services of specialists as much as younger people do," she commented.

Other areas addressed were:
 • The garbage dump near Seeley Lake. Jerry Ding, representative for that

board, pointed out that the contract for the refuse disposal site "is up" this year.

"It'll probably get to be a pretty heavy subject," Ding commented, adding that the site is receiving five times the amount of garbage originally projected.

• Fire district issues. Leonard Sorenson, board representative, was pleased with the number of respondents who volunteered to train for firefighting in Seeley Lake and, also, that 36% of the respondents would like courtesy fire inspections.

• Community park facilities. Most people don't realize the community park exists, Weaver said. "They don't see your community park as a community facility."

• Town council. The favorable response here prompted Weaver to ask, "Are you ready to move on to some other (local government) condition?"

• Natural Resources. In the Swan Valley, it appears that a majority of residents recognize the value of natural resources and are anxious to protect those resources.

The meeting was followed by informal discussions and refreshments provided by the Missoula Electric Cooperative and Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative.

Citizen of the Year contest continues

The deadline for making nominations for the Citizen of the Year award, sponsored by the Seeley Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, has been extended to February 28. For more information about the contest call Gail Dykstra at 677-2039 or the Chamber office at 677-2880.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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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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OSCR ski race this weekend

Organizers of this year's OSCR cross-country ski race will begin grooming the 50-kilometer trail on Cottonwood Lakes, West Morrell, and Rice Ridge roads this Thursday. About 75 skiers are expected to participate in the Fifth Annual OSCR race, which begins promptly at 10 a.m. at the Seeley Lake Airport on February 7.

Area residents can help support the event by keeping motorized vehicles off of the groomed trails when possible. The race route, including portions of the Cottonwood Lakes, West Morrell and Rice Ridge roads, will be officially closed to motor vehicles from Friday evening until Saturday evening.

Pre-registration for this popular annual event will begin Friday night at the Seeley Lake Community Hall. Other events include a 10-kilometer race and a beginner's ski clinic which will be held on the Seeley Swan High School football field.

Beginning at 6 p.m., Friday night, Pat Caffrey, local ski enthusiast, will show a slide presentation titled "Ski Ascent of Mt. Vinson, Antarctica's Highest Peak."

An awards banquet, free to participants and \$3.50 each for the public, will be held Saturday night at the Seeley Lake Community Hall.

For more information call 677-2880.

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Matt Aamot, Seeley Lake Elementary fifth grader, recently won an essay contest sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Matt Aamot wins essay contest

Matt Aamot, 10, of Seeley Lake, recently won an essay contest sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The essay subject was the American Constitution. Matt had to write a "letter to the editor" (about the new form of government being proposed) as if he were a signer of the Constitution.

"I acted like I was Jonathan Dayton," Matt said last week.

Matt competed with fifth through eighth graders from 63 schools in the Missoula division of the DAR. His essay now goes on to state competition. Aamot studied for several weeks before he wrote the final two-page essay. Matt's grandmother had given him a set of World Book encyclopedias for Christmas and he used them extensively for his research.

Matt is the son of Mark and Julie Aamot, Seeley Lake.

Stork Report

Congratulations to Ralph and Peggy Cahoon, Seeley Lake, parents of a new baby boy born January 28 in Missoula. Ralph Cody, unofficially the first baby born in Seeley Lake in 1987, weighed in at 9 pounds, and measured 21-1/2 inches long. Grandparents are C.B. and Helen Rich, Seeley Lake, and Mrs. Ralph (Theresa) Cahoon, Placid Lake. Ralph Cody joins one brother and three sisters in his family.

Congratulations also go out this week to Patrick and Leslie Shea, parents of a new baby boy born January 31. Benjamin weighed in at 9 pounds and measured 21-1/4 inches long. Susan Shea, Seeley Lake, is the proud new grandmother of Benjamin, who is the second baby to arrive here in 1987.

Beginning
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Greenough Notes

Ruby Nelson of Greenough was honored for her 75th birthday, January 29th. Her children, Mrs. Rodney (Patty) Vannoy, Mrs. Lester (Donna) Zimmerman, and Bill Nelson (and his wife Irene) hosted the party.

Relatives and friends enjoyed the special occasion.

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, February 9 — Baked Cod Fillet
- Tuesday, February 11 — Pork Chops
- Wednesday, February 12 — Oven Chicken

Menus are subject to change. Local residents are invited to come and enjoy the home-cooked meals. Donations toward the cost of the meals, which are sponsored in part through the Area Council on Aging, are appreciated. For more information call Hazel Ford, 677-2008.

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CORNUCOPIA by Michele Potter

With all of the outdoor activities going on in the Valley, a cup of hot chocolate really hits the spot after spending a few hours in the winter cold. Two of these drinks have the adult appeal of coffee flavor along with chocolate. The third dissolves crushed peppermint candy in the hot chocolate milk for a taste like chocolate mints. Recipes courtesy of American Dairy Association.

Chocolate Milk Mocha

1 quart chocolate milk
 1-1/2 tablespoons instant coffee
 Combine chocolate milk and coffee; heat just to boiling, stirring occasionally. Whip until frothy. Pour into serving cups. Top each serving with whipped cream and sprinkle with cinnamon. Yield: 4 cups.

Coffee Cream Chocolate Milk

1/3 to 1/2 cup sugar
 1/2 cup water
 1/4 cup ground coffee
 1 pint vanilla ice cream, softened
 1 quart cold chocolate milk
 Combine sugar, water and coffee in saucepan. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly, until sugar dissolves. Simmer 5 minutes over low heat. Strain through several layers of cheesecloth and cool. Combine ice cream and coffee syrup; beat until smooth. Add chocolate milk; mix well. Serve cold or heat milk mixture to serve hot. Yield 5-1/2 cups.

Peppermint Chocolate Milk

1 quart chocolate milk
 1/2 cup crushed peppermint candy
 1/2 cup whipping cream, whipped
 Combine chocolate milk and crushed candy; heat just to simmering stage, stirring occasionally until candy dissolves. Pour into serving cups. Top with whipped cream and garnish with additional crushed candy or use peppermint sticks as stirrers. Yield: approx. 4 cups.

Hint: When you have extra whipped cream on hand, plan ahead for easy garnishes. Drop whipped cream by the spoonful onto waxed paper and freeze. These frozen garnishes will thaw quickly when placed on a hot drink.

Correction Note: Sourdough English Muffins - an incorrect measurement for flour was printed in the January 22 *Cornucopia*. Misty Sarvis contributed the recipe; she called to say the recipe should read 3 to 4 cups flour. Ella Goodbread (Seeley Lake) said the muffins were very good (Misty had given her a bit of starter). She said to be sure and knead the dough for the full 5 minutes for a good texture. Lastly, Ella said her husband "liked the muffins hot off the griddle."

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SEELEY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MENU - WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9

Monday, February 9	Pizza
Tuesday, February 10	Chicken Patties
Wednesday, February 11	Nacho Chips with Cheese & Hamburger
Thursday, February 12	Submarine Sandwiches with Baked Beans
Friday, February 13	No School

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NO SCHOOL
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 Monday, February 16



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Joe Cocquyt, general manager for Eagle Products, Inc., major sponsor of the Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race, is pictured here in Seeley Lake with "Wildfire"—registered Siberian husky owned by Chuck Metzger, assistant race marshal for the Governor's Cup 500 Race which begins Sunday.



Local mushers offered sled dog rides to spectators last weekend as part of the Winter Carnival events.



Puppy love. These two three-month old malamute pups belong to George Vanness, Hot Springs.

West Missoula wins Snow Softball Tourney

The snow softball tournament held on Saturday in Seeley Lake provided exciting entertainment for spectators, as players scrambled for lost softballs in ten inches of wet, heavy snow.

West Side Missoula won the tournament and received \$100 cash. The Swan Valley team placed second, receiving \$50.



Dave Armstrong (left), from Helena, accepts his Seeley Lake 200 Sled Dog Race certificate at the Musher's Awards Banquet held Sunday evening at The Saloon. Armstrong, the oldest musher of the 15 who competed, has trained and worked with sled dogs for many years. He worked with Admiral Byrd and his sled dog team before they were loaded onto the Great North Star ship and sent to Antarctica to transport expedition supplies.

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White wins "200"

Fifteen mushers and much of Seeley Lake converged on The Saloon Sunday night to wrap up the Seeley Lake 200. Conviviality and enthusiasm overflowed at the Musher's Banquet and the ensuing awards ceremony.

The mushers, some of them clearly tired after the grueling four-day event, had nothing but praise for the support and friendliness of the community during the race. Musher Jerry Scdloris said that "as far as I'm concerned, this is the national mid-distance championship race."

First place and a \$1300 check went to Tim White of Grand Marais, Minnesota, who completed the four 50-mile circuits in just over 15 hours. Final standings were as follows:

- 1) Tim White (\$1300), 15:09:44
- 2) Doug Willet (\$750), 15:44:31
- 3) John Patten (\$550), 17:38:41
- 4) Laurie Beckstrom (\$400), 17:38:47
- 5) Jerry Scdloris (\$350), 17:47:53

- 6) Bruce Graham (\$300), 17:57:55
- 7) Terry Atkins (\$250), 17:59:16
- 8) Brad Pozarnsky (\$200), 18:11:34
- 9) Pat Shane (\$200), 18:39:18
- 10) Mark Nordman (\$200), 18:48:18
- 11) Shane Sturmer, 19:24:57
- 12) Greg Swingley, 23:37:51
- 13) Larry Brunzlick, 24:17:15
- 14) Ron Ogden, 24:31:39
- 15) Dave Armstrong, 24:45:59



Dr. Paul Overland, Missoula, enjoyed the Winter Carnival and ice skating with his family last week in Seeley Lake. His sons are (left) Peter, and Brian (right).



These youngsters enjoyed sliding down this pile of snow in Seeley Lake last weekend.

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Hungry Bear

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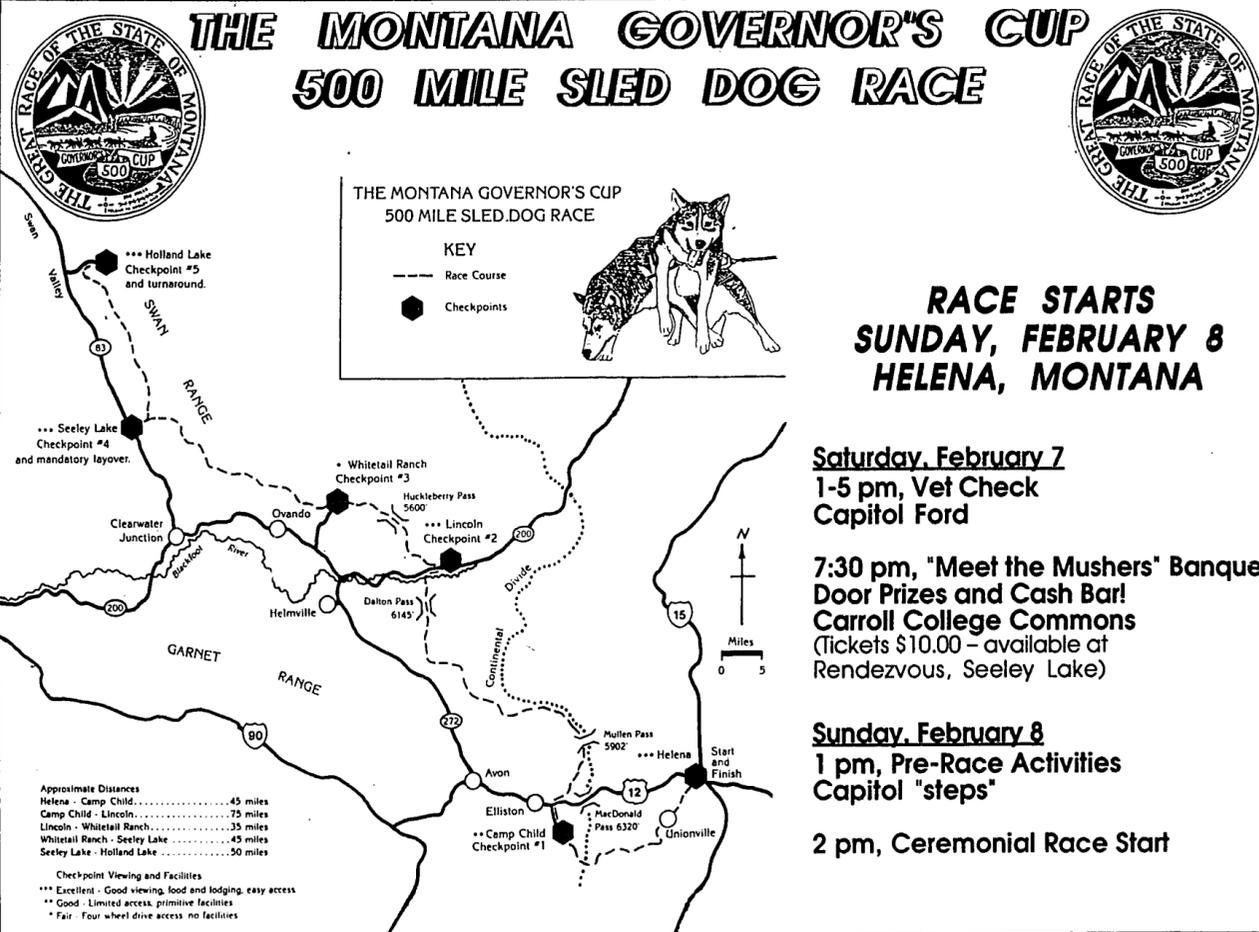


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THE MONTANA GOVERNOR'S CUP 500 MILE SLED DOG RACE



RACE STARTS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 HELENA, MONTANA

Saturday, February 7
1-5 pm, Vet Check
Capitol Ford

7:30 pm, "Meet the Musher's" Banquet
Door Prizes and Cash Bar!
Carroll College Commons
(Tickets \$10.00 - available at Rendezvous, Seeley Lake)

Sunday, February 8
1 pm, Pre-Race Activities
Capitol "steps"

2 pm, Ceremonial Race Start

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.



There's plenty of snow in the Seeley Swan!

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.

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TUESDAY NITE Poker Run starts February 1
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Seeley Lake, Montana
15th Year!

Norman Maclean greeted by fans; accepts award for literature

In spite of being temporarily snowed in at a Chicago airport last Thursday, Norman Maclean managed to arrive safely in Helena Friday afternoon to accept the 1987 Governor's Award for the Arts in Literature.

"Did you ever try to operate with the elements and . . . (the) airline both working against you?" he asked, frustrated with his mid-winter trip to Montana.

But Maclean's spirits were undoubt- edly brightened by the fact that many of his friends from the Seeley Swan area greeted him in Helena and enjoyed watching him accept his award at an elaborate ceremony held Friday evening at the Helena Civic Center.

Maclean accepted the 1987 Gov- ernor's Award for the Arts for his book, *A River Runs Through It*, a collection of three stories about life and love, and fly fishing in Western Montana during Maclean's youth.

Maclean described the awards ceremony, where Governor Ted Schwin- den presented awards to six Montana artists, as "excellent."

"He (Schwinden) is kind of a wonderful governor. . . being so con- cerned about the arts in these dark times," Maclean commented.

Maclean's fans enjoyed the ceremony, the other artists and, of course, Norman himself.

"It was a spectacular affair, and very well organized," according to Wilma Nicholson, Seeley Lake. And, as for Norman's acceptance speech, "It was very, very good. . . very Norman," she chuckled.

Bud Moore, Swan Valley, said that Maclean nearly "brought down the house" with a humorous passage from his award-winning book, *A River Runs Through It*.

Moore was impressed with Maclean, and Dana Boussard, Arlee artist who accepted her award for visual art. (Boussard has created large-scale fabric "paintings" for state and local art programs, including a work titled "Save a Piece of the Sky" for the Justice Building in Helena, and a series of fourteen six-foot by twelve-foot works in the Anchorage, Alaska International Airport.)



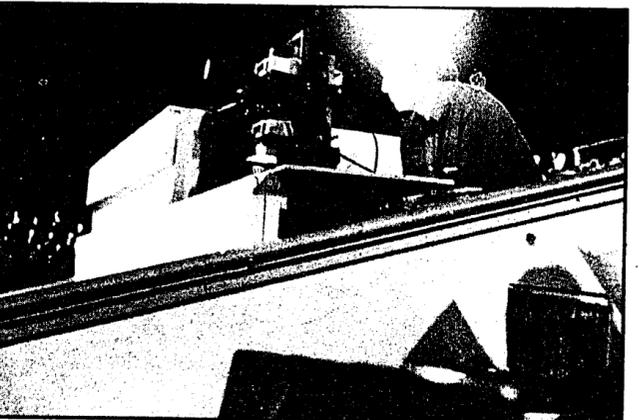
Photo by Roger Wade.

Norman Maclean enjoyed visiting with friends last Friday night at the gala reception after the Governor's Awards for the Arts at the Helena Civic Center.

"They both spoke of the earth, and the connection between the land and people. . . That old feeling of the land comes through in Norman's writing, and Dana's art. A lot of people in Montana have that feeling," Moore said.

A slide presentation by Roger Wade, Swan Valley photographer, was viewed by nearly 250 people during the awards ceremony. Wade's study of Norman Maclean included scenes of the Blackfoot River, Seeley Lake, Maclean's log cabin on the lake, and a wonderful three-picture series of Monte Dolack's Blackfoot River poster, which commemorates the river corridor conserv- ation project.

Other artists and organizations honored at the ceremony include: Ray Campeau, Bozeman, service to the arts; Kevin Shannon, Butte, folk arts; Missoula Children's Theatre, theatre; and Christopher Parkening, Bozeman, music. Parkening, who is now known as America's leading virtuoso guitarist, was the only artist unable to attend the ceremony.



Roger Wade, Swan Valley, was recently photographed during his two-projector slide presentation depicting the lives and works of the six artists honored at the Governor's Awards for the Arts ceremony held Friday night at the Helena Civic Center.

In Our Churches

PASSAGES

Dale Terrillion
Montana Christian Logger

Cabin Fever

About this time of the Winter, just before the March hare starts acting strange, people's personalities might be a bit odd.

It's likened to a virus, the remedies most commonly applied may help a little: cross-country skiing, snowmobil- ing, working on crafts and hobbies and reading. If one has the financial means, going to town overnight might also be of some help. Man is always searching for sure-cures to relieve the miseries that plague us. Where could we look for those best suited for advice? Ah—the old trappers! Now, there were men who could handle the winter cabin life.

Several years ago I stumbled across one of Fred Messer's trapping cabins high above Beaver Lake. The moss chinking had long since departed. The old timers would have said, "You could throw a cat between the logs most anywhere." It was sagging pitifully, and was only a few years from soil.

To the untrained eye, claustro- phobia was written all over it. My few years of higher learning would not allow me to calculate the floor space. I did make a quick observation, though, of it's outside dimensions. Offhand, it was about seven feet by nine feet. You could lay in bed and put wood into the stove. Sure helped keep warm before goose down bags became popular.

Most everything a trapper did had a purpose. He was always busy setting traps, skinning fur, preparing his meager meals. There was no time in his life for cabin fever. These men were tough, rugged individuals who never needed anyone: or did they?

Most of them that I knew could have used a few lessons in humility, myself included. Few admitted it, but it was a lonely life.

Cabin fever. Just another name for loneliness — and it's unhealthy. May I prescribe some medicine?

Kind people who care, who are aware of others; folks who give of themselves to stop and visit; folks who offer you a ride to town before you have to ask; Christian brothers lonely for fellowship who stop by to encourage and admonish us.

Let's hope we don't reject those the Lord sends our way to help keep us from becoming strange. I think about the wise old trapper I saw years ago near Garden Valley, Idaho. The symptoms of loneliness brought out some humility as he realized he was getting worse. His little sign, in desperation, near the road told it all:

MOUNTAIN MAN: STOP!
CHAT!

SWAN SONG

Evelyn Ann Smith

My Wife, their Mother,
Someone's Sister
by Jim Smith

This ode will take us back afar, when times were slower and still on par, to a place in the country, a quiet little farm, where one young lady will be my life's charm.

As we grow into one, there now is another, a very precious bond 'tween father and mother. The bond has been sealed to only these three, the happiness years belong only to me.

Along life's road shines two other lights, whose beams helped brighten the struggles and flights.

She drank from and sweetened life's cruel and cold lister, my Wife, their Mother, and Someone's Sister.

Evelyn was born in Niles, Michigan, November 18, 1930, to Ivan and Icle Shively.

Her childhood was spent at various locations in this area, finally settling on a farm several miles away.

I met Evelyn in 1945 and it was love at first sight (at least for me). We courted during our highschool years. Later I joined the Air Force and ended up in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

We were married while I was on furlough and she returned to Wyo- ming with me. The next year, our daughter joined us and married life finally was here for real.

After being discharged, we returned to Michigan. Here our son

was born. After a few years, work became scarce, we moved to Boulder, Colorado.

Being country folks we couldn't live in the city. The foothills of the Rockies became our new home along with a brand new son.

This was the troubled sixties and things were booming in the West.

In the early 70's my brother moved away from us to Washington State. In route there, the family bought prop- erty in Seeley Lake. Later there was a summer cabin built and vacations were spent here.

In 1979 I decided I wanted to live in this beautiful valley. We moved in June.

Leaving Colorado was hard. Our oldest son and his wife were left alone, and the memories of the beautiful mountains were all we had.

Since living in Seeley Lake we have gained three grandchildren whom we love and miss very much.

Evelyn's prolonged cancer finally began to take its toll. After a few trips to the surgeon and several radiation sessions we learned nothing could be done.

Her pain was kept bearable by drugs, but her smile and spirit were strong, as always.

Evelyn gave up her fight at 3 a.m. Friday January 30, 1987, in her home at Seeley Lake.

She will be remembered by all her friends in their own way.

I appreciate all the friends who have spent time with and for Evelyn. Your rewards are yet to come in a better place. God Bless all of you.

Moore is one of several legislators who have volunteered to give the opening prayers throughout this session.

Legislators say their own prayers

Janet Moore, House District 65 Representative from Condon, spoke the opening prayer as the legislature went into session last Thursday.

"We decided to save money by saying our own prayers," Moore said.

Traditionally, the state has hired a chaplain to give the prayer each day that the legislature is in session.

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Hungry Bear

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Seeley Lake 677-2633



UPCOMING GAMES

(School Sports)

Seeley Swan High School
Boy's Basketball
Feb 6 Alberton at Seeley Swan
Feb 7 Seeley Swan at Phillipsburg
Feb 14 Victor at Seeley Swan

Seeley Swan High School
Volleyball
Feb 6 St. Regis at Seeley Swan
Feb 7 Seeley Swan at Victor
Feb 10 Seeley Swan at Big Sky
Feb 13 Arlee at Seeley Swan
Feb 14 Charlo at Seeley Swan
Feb 14 Sentinel at Seeley Swan

Swan Valley Elementary School
Basketball
Feb 3 Seeley #2 at Seeley

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THE FINDER

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'58 JEEP 4X4, steel cab, Myer's snowplow mounted. \$1495.00. See at Glen's Automotive or call 677-2141.

Seeley residents compete in ski-jouring

The one-mile ski-jouring track laid out on Seeley Lake last Saturday proved to be fun for man and beast. Seven skiers put their dogs to work in the dog ski-pull.

Jenni Todd, Seeley Lake, and her golden retriever, Gandalf, won the event with a time of four minutes, 12 seconds.

Jim DeHerrera, Seeley Lake, and his golden retriever, Cimmaron, came in second with a time of four minutes, 27 seconds.

Each of these winners received a 40-pound bag of Eagle Stress Pack dog food from the Rendezvous.

Paul Johnson, Seeley Lake, and his golden retriever, Sunny, received a blue ribbon for the Junior division of the ski-pull.

Area outfitter to be featured on TV

Smoke Elser, well-known outfitter and guide in the Bob Marshall Complex, will be featured in the television program "Fishing in the West," Sunday afternoon, February 8, beginning at 5:30 p.m. on KECI-TV in Missoula. Elser and guide Robin Pfau will demonstrate fly fishing in the Bob Marshall.

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Outfitter bill to be heard Thursday

Hearings will be held February 5 in Helena on a bill recommending that sportsmen who hire outfitters get first crack at half of the non-resident licenses sold in Montana.

The bill, introduced by Orval Ellison, R-McLeod, is backed by the Montana Association of Outfitters and Guides.

The bill would also set aside a 30-day period when Montana residents, along with outfitters, could buy non-resident licenses on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seeley Lake Elementary News

The boys basketball team at Seeley Lake Elementary is doing well this season. They recently placed second in a Bonner tournament. Fans and team members were awarded the Sportsman-ship trophy for their attitude and effort throughout the day.

The Seeley Lake Eagles, Seeley Lake JV Eagles, Swan Valley Warhawks, and Potomac Pioneers (Western Division) will compete this Saturday, February 7, in the Seeley Swan High School gym. The top two teams will meet the Eastern Division Champion and runner-up, in Lincoln, on Saturday, February 14.

Fishing Report

Ice fishing has provided some pretty fair recreation this past week. Fishermen are catching a few of the smaller rainbows and cutthroat in the less popular lakes.

A few lucky folks caught some five-pounders, and better, last weekend on Seeley Lake. Early morning fishing is best. Recent wet, heavy snow has made conditions less than favorable in the afternoons.

Valentine Dance scheduled

Hold onto your hearts, kids. On February 7, the Seeley Lake PTA is sponsoring a Valentine's Day Dance for students in grades fifth through eighth.

For more information about this adult-supervised social event, contact Kaye Aumaugher at the Seeley Lake Elementary school.

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543-6264
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Need to Sell or Buy?
Time for a Garage Sale?
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Mail form to:
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Box 702
Seeley Lake, MT 59868

(or use our handy drop-off at Seeley Lake 1-STOP)

Message: _____

Start Date: _____ Repeat Dates: _____

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. _____
Street or P.O. Box _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

<p>SEELEY VETERINARY SERVICE Next to Barney's Seeley Lake Seeley Lake Hours Wednesday (only), 9am - 4pm 677-2550 <i>*Other weekdays & emergencies, calls forwarded to Missoula Veterinary Clinic</i></p>	<p>Regular Gas Unleaded Gas 2-Stroke Fan Cooled 2-Stroke Liquid Cooled TK7 LEAD SUBSTITUTE 543-4196 677-2511 Derek & Mary Lou Ellinghouse</p>	<p>SEELEY LAKE BUILDERS General Building Contractors Box 59 Seeley Lake, Montana 59868 Quality • Integrity • Honesty Custom Homes Ted Linford 677-2891 Additions & Remodels Log Homes Mark Williams 677-2896 Decks & Docks Custom Cabinets</p>
<p>SMA Toni Hale Grace LeFebvre 677-2010 Service Management Associates "The Dependable Professionals" Can't find the right words for that special letter? Put our writing & typing skills to work for you! 406/677-9244 Seeley Lake, Montana</p>	<p>Barney's Bar & Cafe Fine Family Dining FEATURING STEAKS & SEAFOOD 406/677-9244 Seeley Lake, Montana</p>	<p>Jean's PERMANENT SOLUTION Family Hair Salon 754-2727 Tuesday - Saturday * Winter Special - Hair Cuts \$5.00 * Next to Mission Mountains Mercantile, Condon</p>
<p>SWAN VALLEY REFRIGERATION & APPLIANCE Winter Hours Tuesday thru Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm Closed Sunday & Monday P.O. Box 690 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 Leroy Vick/Rodney Vick 677-2766 or 677-2137</p>	<p>on the level carpentry FRAMED HOMES LOG CABINS CONCRETE REMODELING & REPAIRS John Ward 677-2597 BOX 140 SEELEY LAKE MT 59868 677-2566</p>	<p>SEELEY LAKE AUTO PARTS 4 WHEEL DRIVES FOREIGN • DOMESTIC 677-2112 MON - FRI 9-5:30, SAT 9-Noon RANDY LYNN HWY 83 SOUTH, SEELEY LAKE</p>
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Country Journal

by Suzanne Vernon

The elk are down low on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range nearly every night now. We saw them near Clearwater Junction last Friday morning just before daylight. I wish we had taken the binoculars—it would have been fun to sit and watch them as they filed from the meadow on up into the timber.

Dolly Hill at the Seeley Lake Ranger Station has just received some of the new Mount Lolo Natural History Society calendars, which provide great inspiration for keeping a journal. The natural history group (Missoula and Bitterroot valleys—we should start one here!) is now three years old, and this is by far their best calendar. It's expensive, but worth it. Here are a few of the notes for last month:

January 10—black midges emerge along the Rattlesnake and in Florence, 1986.

January 16—mountain lion tracks observed in O'Brien Creek

January 29—Grizzly bear and black bear cubs are born.

All of the photographs in the calendar were taken by K.D. Swan, who worked for the Forest Service for 37 years here and elsewhere in Western Montana.

Snowmobile trails groomed; trail rides offered

About 350 miles of snowmobile trails from Seeley Lake north to the Summit, west to the Jocko and east to Monture Guard Station have now been groomed.

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has allocated money from snowmobile licenses and gas taxes to the Ronan, Ovando and Seeley Lake snowmobile clubs. These private clubs will continue to groom area trails throughout the winter.

Caryl Brown, Linda Weaver, and Judy Haveman are also offering guided snowmobile trail rides each Monday morning, leaving at 9 a.m. from Dan's Discount in Seeley Lake. For more information call 677-2485.



VALLEY MARKET

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MUSHROOMS
(stems & pieces)



Buy a 6-pak of Pepsi, Diet Pepsi or Pepsi Free and Pepsi Cola Company of Missoula will donate 25¢ to the Governor's Cup 500 Mile Sled Dog Race

