

email: pathfinder@montana.com

GARY NOLAND, EDITOR

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Publisher's Notice

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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, 5 p.m.; call 677-2022

PUBLIC MEETINGS

S.L. Cemetery Bd, 1st thur, 7pm, fire hall AARP, 1st Mon, noon, Condon Comm. Hall Arthritis Support Group, 2nd Tues, 1:30pm, Sr. Ctr. S.L. Elem Bd, 2nd Tues,

Swan Valley School Bd. 2nd Tues, 7:30pm, school

WEEKLY MEET-

Alcoholics Anonymous: (help for those with a suspected drinking problem) -Condon: Faith Lutheran Church, every Sunday,

-Seeley Lake: Every Wed, 7pm, Living Water Catholic Church, on SOS Rd. For info: 677-3271 or

*Potomac: 406-244-

Alateen: (help for teenagers of alcoholic fami-Hotline 677-2753

mous: every Thursday, Church, Condon, 754- (emergency 677-2110)

every Wed, Courthouse Annex, Room 201, 2454 Missoula, 1:30 pm.

T.O.P.S. Mtg, every Thurs, LIBRARIES: Mission Bible Fellowship bldg., Seeley Lake, 10am.

MONTHLY SERVICES FAIM Outreach Specialist, 1st & 3rd Thur, 9:30-3. Sceley-Swan Med. Ctr. Pinochle, every 1st Sat, S.L. Comm. Hall, 7pm;

every 3rd Sat., Senior Citizens Center **DUMPSTER TRANS-** Family History Ctr.-LDS

(Oct-Apr) - Wed & Sat, 11am-3pm. Call 677-2642 10am-4pm, 677-3809 SSTEP Crisis Help Line: EMERGENCY: Dial 911

677-3177. Domestic vio- if you live in Seeley Lake, lence, sexual assault, child Condon, Greenough or abuse, community out- Ovando. reach & education

Food Bank: Tues, 12-4 pm, next to Multi-purpose Room, S.L. Elementary, 677-5025

Overeaters Anony- Loving Hearts Thrift Store: Open Wed, 12:00-7pm, Faith Lutheran 5:00, Sat, 11-3, 677-5683

Missoula County Com- Seeley Lake Community missioners Public Mtg, Hall: For hall rental, call Cheri Thompson, 677-

Seeley Lake Public Library (Seeley-Swan High School) Regular hours: Mon-Fri., 8-3pm (closed llam-noon for lunch); Wed., 3-8pm; Sat, 10am-3pm. Story Time-Saturdays at 11 a.m.

Swan Valley Library (Condon) Tues, 11am-4pm; Wed, 11am-7pm; Fri,

FERSITE: Winter hours Church: Open Wed, or 677-2575.-

Swan Lake Residents: 886-2324 (Fire, QRU or Search & Rescue) or 1-406-752-6161 for Sheriff, Highway Patrol.

Editorial Comment

Chips ... bits & pieces ... Best wishes for the New Year

2002 Big Game Hunting Seasons to be Discussed

Public meetings to discuss proposed changes in the hunting season regulations in Region Two for 2002 will be held in 11 communities in west central Montana.

Written comments may be sent to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) Attn: Season Comments, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula MT 59804 by January 25, 2002. Area meetings will be held in Ovando

at the Ovando Church on Monday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m.; in Seeley Lake at the Community Center on Tuesday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m.; in Missoula at the Double Tree Hotel on Friday, January 11 at 7:00 p.m.; in Helmville at the Community Club on Monday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m.; and in Lincoln at Lambkins Cafe on Tuesday, January 22 at

Ozone Pursuit Cross Country Race here Jan. 5-6

It's time to get ready for a slate of cross country ski races sponsored this winter by western Montana ski clubs and the Trial

On January 5 and 6, the Ozone Pursuit Cross Country Ski Race, sponsored by the Missoula Nordic Ski Club and the Trail Head, starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Seeley Lake

Cross Country Ski Trails. Distances are 10 and 15 kilometers. Call 406-542-2700 for more information

On January 26, the 20th Annual O.S.C.R., sponsored by the Seeley Lake Ski Club and the Trail Head, starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Seelev Lake Cross Country Ski Trails. Distances are 10, 25 and 50 kilometers. Call 677-2343 for more information.

Non-denomination event for Ladies in Helmville

New Beginnings

"Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past, see I am doing a new thing!" (Isaiah 43:18-19a)

Do you ever wonder: Where do I go from here? Is this all there is? Where does God want me? Could I give anything to God? What does "putting on the new" mean

You're invited to a Ladies Retreat Day in Helmville on Saturday, January 12, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Helmville Community Hall. The speaker will be Phyllis Rowe from Colstrip, MT. Phyllis will be touching on these questions as she shares her testimony and offers teaching to help us identify possible new beginnings in each of our lives. She speaks for

Christian Women's Club and other groups throughout the country. Phyllis is a humorous, inspirational speaker with a "down

Join us for music, teaching and fellowship. Lunch and refreshments are provided by the retreat. There is no charge for the day. However, we will be pleased to accept any free-will offering to cover expenses. Please pre-register by January 8 so we will be ready for you!

To register by e-mail, send your name, address and phone number to htm5734@blackfoot.net. If you have any questions or choose to register by phone, please call Wilma Wortman at 406-793-5825 or Jean Pocha, 406-793-5734 with names, addresses and phone numbers. Teens are welcome - a non-denominational event.

NOTICE FOR COMMENT BY PRIVATE SECTOR ON TRANSPORTATION SER-VICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE SEELEY LAKE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

Notice is hereby given that the Seeley Lake Senior Citizens organization is requesting review and comment on the application for federal funds to purchase a handicapped-equipped van for providing transportation services to senior citizens, handicapped persons and other residents of the Seeley-Swan Valley living along highway 83 between Condon and Clearwater Junction.

The application will be on file at the

Seeley Lake Senior Citizens center on Locust Lane in Seeley Lake after January 10, 2002. If requested, a public hearing will be held and public notice indicating the location. date, and time of the hearing will be provided. For more information or for those who require accommodations for disabilities, contact Jim Haueter, PO Box 1183, phone 677-2532, or Janis Winston, Department of Transportation, Helena at 444-4210 (voice), or 444-7696 (TDD). An informal coordinating meeting will be held at the Senior Citizens Center at 12:45 PM, Wednesday, January 7, 2002, open to all interested parties.

The Seeley Lake Senior Citizens will be requesting financial assistance from the Montana Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration.

BEFORE THE DEPART-MENT OF REVENUE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA **REGISTRATION & LICENS-**ING

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF OWNER-SHIP FOR MONTANA ALL-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE NO. 04-999-5011-001

On November 2, 2001, James and Karen Loconte filed an application valid protest letters will be considfor the transfer of a license to be ered at hearing. An individual's used at UPPER DECK SPORTS BAR AND GRILL (former Upper Deck Sports Bar), 3027 Highway 83 - Lazy Pine Mall Units F, G & If the department receives a suffi-

Montana. Protests against an application must be (1) made in writing, (2) be scheduled in Helena, Montana. mailed to the Department of Rev- If the department receives a suffienue, Liquor Licensing, PO Box cient number of protests to trigger 1712, Helena, Montana 59624- a hearing pursuant to section 16-1712, and (3) received and date 4-207(4)(b), MCA, to determine stamped by the Department no later than the 13th day of January, 2002. Protests will be accepted in which the proposed premises is from creditors of the transferor or located. All qualified protestors from residents of the county from which the application originates and location of the hearing. Hearand of adjoining counties only. Each protestor is required to mail

a separate letter of protest. Each line. letter must be signed by the pro- If a sufficient number of protests testor. Protest petitions bearing the names and signatures of more than and all licensing criteria have been one protestor will not be consid- satisfied, the department may isered. Protest letters must provide sue the license without holding a the license number, trade name, or hearing. applicant name associated with the license being protested for identification purposes. Protest letters must contain a clear statement of the writer's intent to protest the application. The grounds for protest of an application for a transfer of location are limited to those set

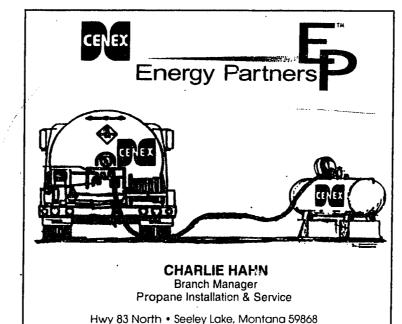
out in section 16-4-405, MCA, for a denial of a license, and public convenience and necessity as set out in section 16-4-204, MCA. If the protested application is for a transfer of ownership not involving a transfer of location, the grounds for protest are limited to those set out in section 16-4-405. MCA. Protest letters which do not provide the information described in this paragraph will not be considered valid protest letters. Only those grounds for protest raised in testimony will be limited to the grounds for protest raised in that individual's protest letter.

N, Seeley Lake, Missoula County, cient number of protests to trigger a hearing pursuant to section 16-4-207(4)(a), MCA, a hearing will public convenience and necessity, a hearing will be held in the county will be notified of the time, date ings are typically scheduled within 90 days following the protest dead-

to trigger a hearing are not received

DATED: December 18, 2001

Compliance Specialist



Office (406) 677-3656 • Cell (406) 677-4185 • Fax (406) 677-3657

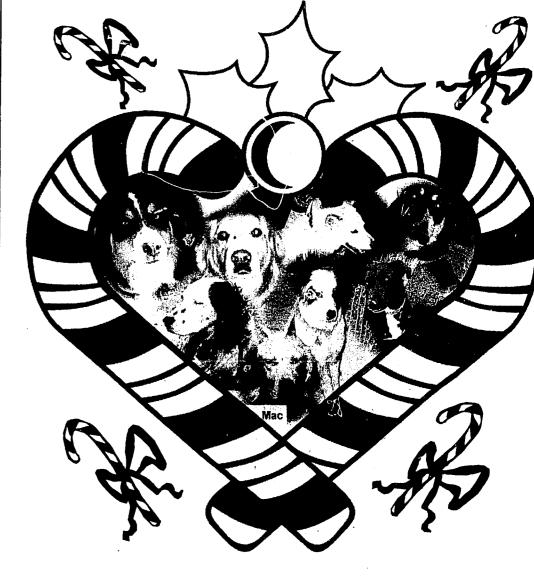
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406 677-2174









Thank you for your support. It is so needed and appreciated.

Blessings and love in the new year from the Paws Up Safe Home dogs, cats and crew.

Paws Up

to Mr. and Mrs. John Baumann for the nice donation in honor of Mr. Bill Quicks. Bill prefers to help the little animals instead of a present. How nice for us.

to Byrl and Lucille Thompson for a very nice donation. Deeply appreciated!!

Paws Up Sable Ann is still looking for the perfect home. Sable Ann is a delight



Cake, HIT 59868



Tentative Huntign Regulations to be Discussed on Jan. 8

by Mike Thompson

Before the first shots were fired in the general big-game hunting season last fall, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) biologists were preparing written justifications for tentative changes in the regulations for next hunting season.

And, although it could be argued that the biologists were working blind-folded without knowing what the hunting harvest would be, it is necessary to begin the season-setting process early. This allows the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission to review the justifications in November, recommend any changes they might deem appropriate, and approve a tentative regulations proposal in December for

regulations in February. As soon as the gavel falls to end the February Commission meeting, the race is on at FWP's Helena and regional headquarters to make sometimes massive changes in the tentative regulations booklets, proof them for errors, and have the regulations printed and available to the public in time for hunters to meet spring application deadlines for special permits.

January is your time in the season-setting process. It's when FWP takes its proposals out to you for your reactions and comments. And, it's a time when FWP biologists and managers get writer's cramp from bouts of feverish note-taking when the discussions at local public meetings get lively.



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Game Range Ramblings by Mike Thompson, Wildlife Biolog



Because our primary purpose is to carry your comments and concerns back for the Commission to consider

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

n their final decisions in February. This year, the Seeley Lake meeting is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday evening, January 8, at the Community Center. If you can't make the Seeley meeting, you'll have another chance at Ovando (January 7, Ovando Church, 7:00 P.M.), Missoula (January 11, Double Tree Hotel, 7:00 P.M.) lelmville (January 14, Community Club, 7:00 P.M.), or any of the others that you'll find listed on FWP's Internet home page (www.fwp.state.mt.us).

Sometimes, I hear people say that it doesn't matter what they think-FWP will just do what it wants anyway. For most people, I think what they really mean to say is, "I work all day (or night) and I've got a lot of things to do at home, or I just want to relax in the evening, so I really don't need another meeting to fill my time." It's a point that rings true to me. So, what you need to know is, "How bad can FWP mess up my life if I'm not at the meet-

ing to defend it?" You be the judge. This year, FWP's proposal for a brow-tined bull regulation in elk Hunting District 285 (Clearwater drainage) is back on the table, after being withdrawn in February last year. Also, FWP proposes to increase antlerless A-7 elk licenses from 50 to 100 in HD 285. For whitetailed deer, FWP proposes to issue 100 B-tags for antierless deer in HD 285, and 50 in HD 292 (up from zero in both districts last year). Otherwise, we propose no further tinkering with hunting regulations in the Seeley Lake

And, the way things are looking (weather permitting), we may come to the meeting in Seeley Lake with fresh data from the 2002 helicopter survey of elk and deer on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range. I hope it works out that way.

Now, there may be a few of you who feel that the public is paying pro-fessional wildlife managers to make good recommendations based on sound scientific data, so why should the public attempt to influence these recommendations? There are several answers to that hypothetical question. but one is that wildlife biology is not the only factor that must be considered in setting hunting regulations. Often, wildlife populations can tolerate a fairly wide array of hunting regulation types, and there is no single correct biological answer. So, the decision often boils down to public input about the kinds of hunting experiences they desire, or the amount of game damage they can tolerate on their private lands, or other social considerations. We especially need your help with these issues.

It is also true that FWP benefits from hearing your impressions of wildlife abundance (or lack thereof). For example, the high calf:cow ratios that Jack Rich obtained in the Bob Marshall last fall, and that I reported here a few weeks later, have led us to develop

some theories about where and when elk caives are most vulnerable to predators, and how our management might affect this. For some species. such as moose for example, FWP has poor survey data of its own, and such data is very expensive to collect. So. your personal observations of moose help us evaluate whether our very cautious and conservative harvest quotas for moose are still allowable.

One thing is for sure. If you don't lend your voice to the public comment process, you are in effect giving your voice to those who do. One year, not long ago, five people at Seeley Lake provided all the local input we received to set seasons across half-a-million acres in the Clearwater drainage for thousands of hunters!

And, what changes have FWP made in response to public input lately? Last year, the big one was the proposed brow-tined bull (BTB) elk regulation for HDs 283 (Gold Creek), 285 (Seeley), and 292 (Garnet/Chamberlain). We came to the local meetings with this recommendation in hand. based on low bull:cow ratios in HD 283 and the western 2/3 of 292, and on a need for consistency with surrounding BTB districts in HD 285. Folks at Seeley have a history of interest in a BTB regulation, but were divided on the issue last January. By the end of the meeting, however, it seemed there was a consensus in favor of the change to BTB.
The Helmville meeting was a dif-

Lazy Pine Mall

ferent matter entirely. Landowners pointed out that there was no problem with low bull:cow ratios on the east slope of the Garnets, and that saving spikes from harvest would just in crease the already intolerably high game damage on their lands. Based on this input, FWP withdrew its BTB recommendation for 2001. This year, we propose to more fully address the public input we heard last year by recommending BTB for all of HDs 283 and 285, but only for the west half of 292 west of the Garnet Range Road). Elk biology will support either a BTB or any-bull regulation in these hunting districts. The decision will be made on the basis of public desires, and public

I'm pushing my space limitations as I hasten to add that black bear hunters in the Seeley Lake area have not received what they've been asking for. The May 15 closure of the spring black bear season is based on harvest data and limited other clues that make us worry a bit about black bear populations. These data need to be tested, and that's exactly what is happening with FWP's black bear study in the Swan Valley. In a couple of years when results start coming in, we hope to have a better understanding of the status of local black bear populations, and at that time we may be in a better position to recommend changes in spring bear hunting.

Here's hoping I see you on Janu-

Seeley Elementary students told a story of "Simple Gifts" in Music & Dance at Christmas Concert



Kymberlyn McCracken and Samantha Pollard in the performance by young ballerina's.



Tanner Stevens, displaying a talent worthy of Missoula Children's Theater, sang and led the kids of Small Town as they prepared their own Christmas. Behind him are Marcia Sheets and Genevie Newell.

Photos by G. Noland



A group of very young ballerinas were as excited as their parents when they took the center stage. The group was instructed by Kim Bezanson, shown in photo at right, sharing some laughter with Kathleen Thompson (in Santa Cap) before the performance.

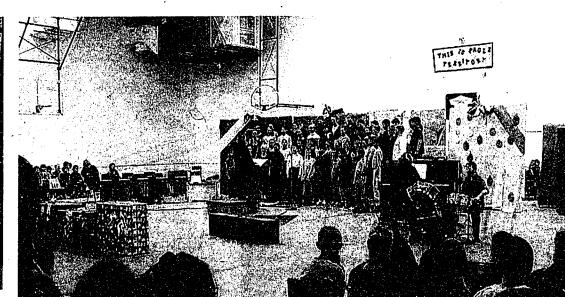


Band members from left are Lindsey Hipkins, Steven Maciag, and Heathe





Band members from left: Gina Clark, Alyssa Teafoe, Catheryne Leonard, and Jessica Baier.



Permormers filled the grade school gym floor as the entire school began its annual Christmas Concert.

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Music Instructor Bev Evans directing one of several class choirs.



Toby Kittrell played a Santa Claus reluctant to bring gifts to Small Town this year.



Heather Halls playing flute.



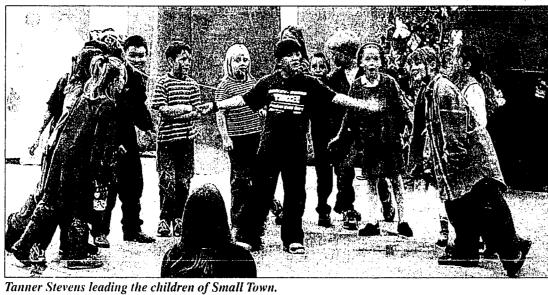
Raina Hodgson and Ashley Stout.



Adam Troutwine and Marissa Sheets with their gifts.



Katie Williams sang a popular Christmas solo, and the audience applause meter was pegged on the high mark when she finished.



Seeley Lake Elementary Christmas

Concert 2001



The Kindergarten Choir showing some strong emotions.















Music director Bev Evans directs one of the class choir .. Accompanist on piano is Pam Rose.

Young voices in song.



The children of Small Town bring their gifts.

Photos by

G. Noland



Showing lots of spirit in the rythmn section.



REQUEST FOR BID

The Montana Department of Transportation will accept sealed bids up until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, January 17, 2002 for Demolition of Property located at US Hwy 2, Milepost 139.0, Columbia

A copy of the bid package may be obtained by contacting Joyce Yager at (406) 444-6033 or TDD (406) 444-7696 in Helena and requesting Bid Package #HWY. 306481-JY. Bids will be publicly opened at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, January 17, 2002, in Room 173 of the Montana Department of Transportation complex, 2701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana.

Heights-Hungry Horse, MT.

The Montana Department of Transportation attempts to provide reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program or activity of the Department. Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request. For further information, call at (406) 444-6033 Voice or (406) 444-7696 TTY.

Homemade Religion leads nowhere

word 'homemade' we always think it's better because it's homemade. Homemade cooking is always better then anything in a box. Homemade soup is better than soup in a can. Homemade bread is better than store bought.

Let's think for a moment about homemade religion. The idea is becoming increasingly popular for people to think they can believe in Jesus while accepting unbiblical teaching. Although professing to have a relationship with Jesus Christ, some feel it's okay to also follow the teaching of Buddha or Krishna. They feel that having an additional belief is simply another step toward spiritual fulfillment

Chuck Colson says, "instead of adhering to a specific set of doctrines, they feel free to pick and choose from various belief systems.

Passages

by Pastor Ken Wutzke Mission Bible Fellowship

or to create their own tailormade religion." He cites studies where Christian's, who claimed to be followers of Jesus Christ, have embraced reincarnation, astrology and communication with the dead. It is their own homemade religion.

This, my friend is what separates Christianity from all the religions of the world. Every religion is trying to work its way to God. Where Christianity is God reaching down to man by sending His Son Jesus Christ to provide a way to heaven.

The true believer knows that there is only one way to God through Jesus Christ. In John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the

Father except through me." The true believer also knows that the Bible is God's inspired word and the true source of instruction. 2 Timothy 3:16,17 says, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

The problem is that we live in a 'feel good' society. If it feels good people want it. If it is appealing they are drawn to it. All beliefs and practices must be based on biblical

Don't trust homemade religion that contains a little of this and a little of that. Come to the word of God, the Bible. Put your faith in Jesus Christ revealed in God's Holy Word, the Bible. Then you'll have a God made religion not a homemade religion which leads you nowhere!



Thursday, Jan. 3
Flathead Christian at 4:30 BC Friday, Jan. 4 4:15 ABC Saturday, Jan. 5 Frenchtown at Seeley

SEELEY-SWAN HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

> Friday, Jan. 4 4:15 V/JV/FR



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Attend the Church of Your Choice! Seeley Lake Church Directory

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

Seeley Lake Baptist Church

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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship~6:00 p.m. Vacancy Pastor~Dave Renfro 1655 Airport Rd. Phone~677-2281, 677-2143, or 1-406-549-3311

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

Mountain Lakes Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.
3292 Hwy 83 North
Pastor ~ Scott Anthony

Spirit of Christ Episcopal Fellowship

Worship~2nd Saturday of each month at the Senior Center~5:00 p.m. Phone~677-2905

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



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AARP Meeting Monday, Jan. 7

A potluck meal, memories and pictures of interesting trips will be shared by members and guests at the January meeting of the Swan Valley Chapter of AARP to be held on Monday, January 7 at the Swan Valley Community Hall in Various chapter members will

briefly describe and show pictures or slides of memorable trips they have taken in or out of Montana. Members will gather at noon

and the potluck will start at 12:30. A short business meeting and program will follow lunch. The hosts for the gathering are

Karen and Don Erickson and Jan and Bill Mielke.

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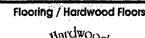
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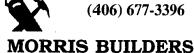
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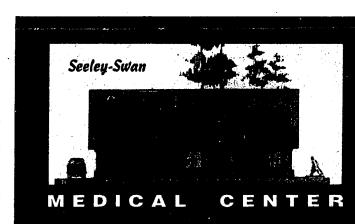
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Soup's on

Lunch Menu for this week...1/03 to 1/09

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Sunday: "Yes, we have no soup....." Monday: "New Year's Eve" no soup

Tuesday: "Iron Kettle" Chicken & Dumpling Soup Wednesday: "Mr. Potato Head's" Cream of Potato Soup

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

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YMCA News Update on Activities

Are You Ready to Get in Shape?

Adult Fitness Classes are in progress. Walk fit classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. in the Seeley Lake Elementary School gym. Participants will have the option of walk fit or step class, warm up and stretch together, walk or step class followed by weights and

Evening classes are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. in the new gym at Seeley Lake Elementary School. Monday-Step, Wednesday-Kick boxing, and Thursday-cardio toning. Registration fee is \$15.00 per month for Walk-Fit and \$25.00 a month for Step, Kick and Cardio toning.

Y Basketball will begin in January. Anyone interested in coaching please contact the Seeley-Swan YMCA Outreach office, 677-3330. Teams will be 1st/2nd grades and 3rd/4th grades. Paid and/ or volunteer positions are available. Basic knowledge of basketball skills and rules is helpful, but not necessary. Times and days to be determined.

Please call the Seeley Swan YMCA Outreach for more information at 677-3330.





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