

**Rocky Mountain
Snowcross Races
Here this weekend!**



**Jim Gallea will
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for a second tin**

Seeley
Swan

PATHFINDER

<http://www.seeleyswanpathfinder.com>

Vol XVI, No. 44

"Voices from the Valley"

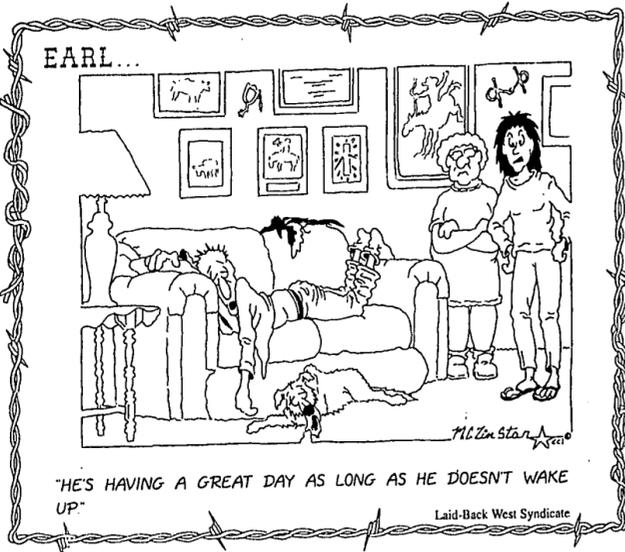
Thursday, February 28, 2002

MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY
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Hello!

How many more days of winter are left?

G. Noland photo
email: pathfinder@montana.com



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

Seeley Swan Pathfinder (ISSN 0894-2994, USPS 000-919) is published weekly by Pathfinder Press, Inc., Box 702, Seeley Lake, MT 59868 (ph. 406/677-2022). Area served is Seeley Lake, Swan Valley and neighboring communities. Distribution is by mail subscription (\$20 per year in Missoula, Lake or Powell County; \$25 per year elsewhere in U.S.) and by newsstand sales. Periodicals postage paid at Seeley Lake, MT. Postmaster: Send address changes to: Seeley Swan Pathfinder, P.O. Box 702, Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0702.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community members are invited to submit dates, times and locations of events, meetings and other happenings. Submission deadline: Friday, 5 p.m.; call 677-2022

- PUBLIC MEETINGS**
S.L. Water Bd., 4th Wed, 5pm, Glen's Auto
Lions Club, 4th Wed., 6:30pm, S.L. Comm. Hall
Blackhawk Booster Club, 1st Mon, 6pm, HS cafeteria
AARP, 1st Mon, noon, Condon Comm. Hall
Salmon Prairie/Swan Lake Elem Bd., 1st Tues, S.L. Fire Dept., 1st Tues, 7pm, fire hall
- WEEKLY MEETINGS:**
Alcoholics Anonymous: (help for those with a suspected drinking problem)
-Condon: Faith Lutheran Church, every Sunday, 1pm
-Seeley Lake: Every Wed, 7pm, Living Water Catholic Church, on SOS Rd. For info: 677-3271 or 677-2892.
*Potomac: 406-244-5204
- Alteen:** (help for teenagers of alcoholic families)
Hotline 677-2753
- Overeaters Anonymous:** every Thursday, 7pm, Faith Lutheran Church, Condon, 754-2371
Missoula County Commissioners Public Mtg, every Wed, Courthouse Annex, Room 201, Missoula, 1:30 pm.
T.O.P.S. Mtg, every Thurs, Mission Bible Fellowship bldg., Seeley Lake, 10am.
- MONTHLY SERVICES**
FAIM Outreach Specialist, 1st & 3rd Thur, 9:30-3, Seeley-Swan Med. Ctr.
Pinochle, every 1st Sat, S.L. Comm. Hall, 7pm; every 3rd Sat., Senior Citizens Center
- DUMPSTER TRANSFER SITE:** Winter hours (Oct-Apr) - Wed & Sat, 10am-4pm, 677-3809
SSTEP Crisis Help Line: 677-3177. Domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, community outreach & education
- Food Bank:** Tues, 12-4 pm, next to Multi-purpose Room, S.L. Elementary, 677-5025
- Loving Hearts Thrift Store:** Open Wed, 12:00-5:00, Sat, 11-3, 677-5683 (emergency 677-2110)
- Seeley Lake Community Hall:** For hall rental, call Cheri Thompson, 677-2454
- LIBRARIES:**
Seeley Lake Public Library (Seeley-Swan High School) Regular hours: Mon-Fri., 8-3pm (closed 11am-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, 11am-4pm
Family History Ctr.-LDS Church: Open Wed, 11am-3pm. Call 677-2642 or 677-2575.
- EMERGENCY:** Dial 911 if you live in Seeley Lake, Condon, Greengough or Ovando.
Swan Lake Residents: 886-2324 (Fire, QRU or Search & Rescue) or 1-406-752-6161 for Sheriff, Highway Patrol.

Editorial Comment

Chips . . . bits & pieces

There were some tough teams in the District 5-B basketball tournament last week. One of the toughest was the Seeley-Swan Blackhawks. In the opening game of the tournament, they made a series of comebacks against a hot-shooting Darby team that kept fans spell-bound. Zach Nelson capped off a tremendous team effort with the winning basket (80-78) with two seconds left. The next night they took Frenchtown, the number one seed, down to the final 30 seconds before it was decided. Then, they had a bad night. Pretty tough to play two games like they drew in the first two rounds and still have it all intact for a third match. You guys should know that the fans here are mighty proud.

A story in last week's Pathfinder indicated work was underway on a putting green for the high school. Actually, no work has started, and Debra Stack who has written a grant request for \$26,000 to the United State Golf Association for the project is awaiting approval, which she hopes is not too far away. There are several facets to the grant and the money covers more than just the cost of the putting green.

Winter returned with a vengeance this past week, making a "cool" run on Saturday for 189 runners in the annual Snow Joke Race. But, we wanted one more week of winter (and we got it) for the final event of the season -- the Rocky Mountain SnowCross Snowmobile Races here this weekend. If you haven't seen this, don't miss it. The course will be along Highway 83 at the south edge of town, and snowmobiles will literally "fly" around the course. Snow and course should be good for the Saturday and Sunday races. Then, winter, you may leave us!

—Gary Noland

Rural utilities companies donate learning tools

Electronic Educational Equipment (EEE) donated \$24,000 worth of equipment to rural public schools throughout western Montana.

EEE, a joint program sponsored by Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Clark Fork Telecommunications, Inc., Missoula Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Energy Partners, LLC, was formed in 1989 with the goal of the program to focus on purchasing equipment for students' use in rural schools.

Since its inception, the EEE Program has donated computers, televisions, digital cameras and other types of educational equipment to schools in areas the four sponsoring companies serve.

This year the program expanded to have sixty-four schools participating in the annual event. Total donations to date exceeded more than \$192,000. On January 17, 2002, EEE awarded 47 schools equipment. 362 pieces

of equipment have gone out to eligible schools over the past 13 years.

"Many of these are small schools with funding allocated according to the number of students enrolled. By receiving the equipment from EEE, the schools are able to provide their students educational opportunities using technologies they would not otherwise be able to afford," Harry LaFriniere, Chairman of the EEE Committee. "We view the students attending these schools as the future of our companies. We feel that it is important for young people to experience the value of cooperative based principles to demonstrate the value of people pulling together to accomplish more than they can as individuals."

Special thanks to the late Bill Nelson, co-chairman of the EEE luncheon committee, for his commitment to this project. Bill will be missed by us all.

Record number in Snow Joke

A record 189 entrants in the 23rd Snow Joke Half Marathon completed this annual 13.1 mile footrace around Seeley Lake held Saturday, February 23rd in a snowstorm. The previous record number of finishers was 156 in 1998.

Brandon Fuller of Missoula was the overall winner in a time of 77 minutes 51 seconds, closely followed by Calamity Seeley of Polson in 78:30. First woman was Mariann Foster of Lodgegrass in 89:38.

In the 40 and older division, Jeff Foster of Lodgegrass was the leader in 78:37. Eliza-

beth McGoff of Bozeman, who also won her division last year, posted the leading time of 98:08.

In the Youth Division for women under 16 years old, Whitney Wilson of Missoula won in a Division Record time of 102:45.

The sponsoring Cheetah Herders Athletic Club also allows dogs accompanied by their owners to enter the event. "Seamus" Shomion of Missoula led the canines in 93:20 and was awarded a soup bone for his efforts.

The Cheetah Herders expresses its appreciation for Matt Banks providing police protection for the event on short notice.

\$30,000 available for park grants

The Missoula County Park Board will award up to \$30,000 to improve Missoula County parks and community recreation areas. Half of the funds were awarded last fall, and the other half will be available in the spring of 2002. Organizations wishing to improve a local park (outside the City of Missoula) can apply for up to \$3,000 per

park. The organization must match any funds granted with cash, labor, or donated materials. It must also agree to maintain the improvements it makes.

Applications are due by April 15th and are available from the Missoula County Parks Office (200 West Broadway). Contact Lisa Moisey at 523-4716 for more information.

Promoters envision winter trail from Bigfork to Seeley

Recently, a small group of business owners and service providers from Bigfork and Swan Lake met with a goal to build a winter economy for the area based upon the growing recreations of XC skiing and snow shoeing.

Spearheaded by Ed Nolde of Snyder Law Offices, Mary Knoll of O'Duachain Country Inn, and Richard Dubois and myself representing Laughing Horse Lodge and the Swan Lake Nordic Club, the idea has become the newly incorporated Glacier Country Recreational Trail Association.

This grassroots association, currently filing for 501C3 non-profit status, has one objective - to create a contiguous non-motorized winter recreation trail from Bigfork to Seeley Lake, with a long-term goal of expanding the trail from West Glacier to Yellowstone. The trail would connect as many businesses and communities as possible down the west flank of the Swan Range. As a benchmark for this long-range project, the group is following the efforts of the Catamount Trail in Vermont. This 300 mile trail is in its 10th year of development and is 60%+ complete running the length of Vermont allowing winter enthusiasts the opportunity to ski or shoe from lodge to lodge or warming huts in single or multi-day outings.

The creation of the trail would be managed and funded by the areas through which the trail passes with support from GCRTA and both federal and state grants for recreational trail development which GCRTA will be responsible for obtaining. As such, Bigfork and Swan area members would be focusing on creation of the trail system connecting the village of Bigfork with Ferndale and continuing south connecting with the Swan Lake trail system, on to Condon and eventually merging with Seeley Lake's Nordic trail system. Other groups would develop the trail further north and south.

In our initial efforts we have appointed a temporary board, approved bylaws and established membership parameters. Our next actions will be to start the grant application for 2002 through the Montana Recreational Trails Program and have a general meeting on February 25th where a permanent board and map and grant committees will be selected.

To insure that GCRTA is successful in its efforts, it is vital that we have community involvement and support, and to gain this, we will be showing local businesses the economic power of XC skiing

and shoeing, as well as gaining involvement from area special interest groups.

To accomplish this initial business community education, we are currently raising funds to bring in one of the nation's top XC ski area consultant, Jonathan Wiesel of Nordic Group International. Jonathan has had great success around the country and in Montana, helping communities and private businesses develop winter economies with skiing and snow shoeing. Our plan is to have Jonathan speak to business owners and winter enthusiasts on:

- the economics of winter recreation
- trail system development
- XC skier and snowshoer demographics and motives
- benefits of winter operations (income, staff retention, increased resale value, real estate sales, etc)
- benefits and complexities of machine-groomed trails and associated services
- examples of service-oriented approaches in similar communities
- discussion of Catamount Trail situation (backcountry emphasis)

- potential concerns, including landowners, organization funding, recreation conflicts, environmental issues, competition

- value of site assessment

- importance of marketing

Preliminary discussions with Mr. Wiesel have highlighted the fact that as a summer destination, the eastern side of Flathead Valley and Swan Valley already has much of the infrastructure in place that is necessary for successful winter operations. This infrastructure includes a great deal of surrounding public land, good snow conditions and tourist supporting businesses. In addition, with Glacier Country and Travel Montana, our primary marketing tool is already well established.

Once funds are raised, we will notify the community of the date and time of Mr. Wiesel's presentation.

For more information contact Kathleen Moon, c/o Laughing Horse Lodge at 886-2080.

Temporary Board of GCRTA:
Kathleen J. Moon, Acting President
Ted Habarth, Acting Vice President

Beth Morgenstern, Secretary

Ed Nolde, Treasurer

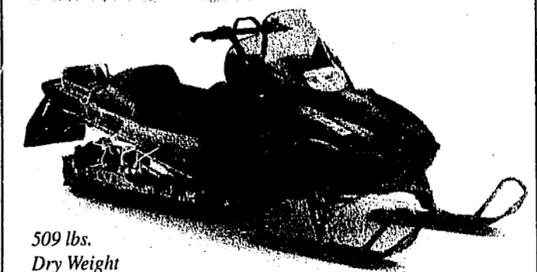
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Blackhawk Booster Club

meetings will be held the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Seeley-Swan High School cafeteria.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

Thanks, Landowners, for Garnets Elk Capture Success

by Mike Thompson

It was *Apocalypse Now* and *The Birds* and a *Far Side* cartoon, all rolled into one.

First came the helicopter, swooping low to airlift us into what turned out to be a battle. We set down deep into elk habitat, far behind the perimeter fences of the E-Bar-L Ranch, beside a netted cow elk that the helicopter crew had captured only minutes before they had captured us.

As the three of us began untagging the net, and confronted the challenge of making a 500-pound wild animal do something that it doesn't want to do, Ken Hamlin's parting words of wisdom rang loud and clear. On the previous evening, I had asked Ken what he could teach me from having captured 39 elk over the previous two days by the same method, near Yellowstone Park.

"Well, about halfway through the first elk, we were ready to go home to Mama," he said. "But, you just have to keep plugging along and don't get overly excited. The worst part is taking the nets off the elk, if you're not used to that. We told the helicopter crew to take the nets off for you guys (leaving the elk's legs humanely bound together with soft belts). You'll be O.K."

So, as I was saying, here we were untagging the net from the first elk, with every bit of the difficulty that Ken had assured us we would be spared.

There wasn't enough time to complain. Suddenly, more elk were falling from the sky around us. The New Zealanders had net-

ted a second cow in the time we were still struggling with the first and were now depositing it gently in the snow beside us, about 50 yards away. It too was bundled in a bright orange net. The rules of the engagement had been made perfectly clear. Then, as quickly as it had materialized, the helicopter was gone hunting again, leaving the three humans and two elk to continue working on the hilltop in silence.

To capture an elk, the passenger door of the agile Hughes 500 helicopter is removed and a gunner leans outside the ship, straining against his safety belt to discharge a net from a customized firearm. The net has been folded into an open-ended container that is snapped onto the firearm, then spreads out over the animal as the attached projectiles force it through the air. Typically, the capture is made at extremely close range, and the gunner seldom misses. Finally, a mugger bails out of the back of the helicopter and immediately subdues and stabilizes the animal, and the gunner helps bind the legs. Within a minute or so, they're off to terrorize the biologists again.

By the time they brought the third elk to us, we had worked the open end of the net over the body of the first elk. Neil Anderson, a biologist from FWP's Wildlife Laboratory in Bozeman, had collected blood and fecal samples, from which it may be discovered whether the elk was pregnant and what diseases it had been exposed to. Jamie Jonkel, a wildlife management specialist in Region 2 (Missoula), had bolted a radio-col-



Game Range Ramblings

by Mike Thompson, Wildlife Biologist
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks



lar around her neck and snapped one metal tag in each ear for permanent identification. I had contributed my considerable bulk to help keep the elk from struggling against the hobbles, and inspected the teeth to estimate its age. We all worked to burrow a measuring tape through the severely crusted snow beneath the elk to obtain the chest girth, which along with the length of the hind leg can be used to estimate weight and condition.

We waited for the helicopter to roar off again before attempting to release the elk. Here's where Larson, the warped cartoonist, would have had a field day. Yes, there was the temporary illusion of human control for the brief time that the elk was bound and blindfolded. But, once the hobbles were released and blindfold removed, the tables would be turned in favor of the wild animal. And, only the elk would be moving at any speed in the knee-deep, crusted snow.

"On three," Neil instructed as he fumbled for the buckle on the last hobble and we all prepared to jump clear. "One, two, THREE!"

Thankfully, this first elk never saw a *Far Side* cartoon, and trotted off peacefully. However, one of the next elk ran over the top of Jamie as it made its escape, which turned out to be pretty humorous once it became clear that Jamie had survived unscathed.

However, the one that ran over me made a greater impression in my mind. I had rolled off one side of the elk as usual, only to find that everyone else had rolled off the other side. So, the animal escaped along the path of least resistance. That would be me.

I was on my back and raised my head in time to see the big cow running full speed directly at me. I can still see the bottoms of all four hooves driving sequentially into the snow in front of me. The next one would be on me, so I covered my head with my arms and braced for the impact. I felt a hoof on one of my forearms, and Jamie later showed me a mark on the waist of my coveralls. It was all over in a split second.

Larson would have had me hog-tied, ear-tagged and radio-collared, with the elk on top of me, smoking a cigarette. Fortunately, Larson wasn't with us, and I escaped undecorated and unharmed.

However, we were successful in capturing, collaring and releasing 28 cow elk in this manner on February 19-20. All told, we placed radios on 6 elk near the E-Bar-L Ranch (south of Clearwater Junction), 4 elk on top of Blacktail Mountain (near Chamberlain Creek), and 18 elk on private ranches on both sides of McElwain Creek, along the east slope of the Garnets.

Our purpose for this is to track the survival rates of calf elk from the womb through their first year of life. From last week's blood samples, we will know the pregnancy rates of the cows. Then in May, ground crews will follow the pregnant cows to calving grounds and place expandable radio collars on newborn calves. Then a graduate student will be responsible for monitoring each calf radio for a distinct change in the signal that indicates a death. Upon receiving such a signal, the student must then immediately find the dead calf in hopes of determining the cause of

death. This work is being conducted in the Garnets Lion Study Area so that we might compare causes and rates of elk calf mortality with known numbers and locations of radioed mountain lions.

Although this important new study is barely out of the chute, we are already indebted to many people. First of all, FWP would like to thank the local landowners in the Garnets study area who were willing to have us conduct this work on their property. This project would not be possible without the cooperation of private landowners, Plum Creek Timber Company, the Bureau of Land Management and Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Please accept a sincere thank you.

And, equally important are the project's funding sources. Last week's capture operation was funded almost entirely with a grant of \$20,000 from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Much of this spring's calf capturing will be funded by a \$10,000 matching grant from the Bureau of Land Management. FWP will provide an annual graduate student stipend of \$12,500, as well as incidental costs of travel, supplies and labor. Dr. Daniel Pletscher, Director of the Wildlife Biology Program at the University of Montana, Missoula, will direct the graduate study and has already contributed significant amounts of his time, labor, funds and expertise. Special thanks go to Nick DeCesare, whose help building radio collars saved our bacon.

We'll keep you posted as the results come in.

Washington woman sentenced in Good family tragedy

Michelle Lee Herd, 27, received a 40-year suspended sentence for four counts of negligent homicide in the deaths of four members of a Lindbergh Lake family in an vehicle accident three days after Christmas on Dec 28, 2000.

Herd, who had pleaded guilty to the charges in January, was sentenced Monday by District Judge John Larson who required Herd to complete a prerelease center program of from six to nine months,

according to a *Missoulian* story by Gary Jahrig. Herd also will not be able to have a driver's license for 40 years.

Herd, from Seattle, Washington, was driving a Dodge pickup truck in the wrong lane on Highway 200 near Potomac that holiday season day when she collided head on on a curve with a Volkswagon Beetle carrying four member of the Good family of Lindbergh Lake on their way to a ski outing near Missoula.

Herd told authorities she thought she was on a four-lane highway and had had little sleep in driving from Seattle enroute to Great Falls where her mother was seriously ill.

Killed immediately from the impact were Stacy Good, 53, her daughters Kilty 22, Arundel 18, and son Tully 13.

Stacy Good's surviving husband, Kerry, and sons Kayl, 27, Bo, 25, Davy, 21, and Hugh, 17, all attended the hearing.

Swan Valley Players on stage in March

The answer to your cabin fever blues can be found at the Hungry Bear Steak House in March. A dinner theatre for the benefit of the Swan Valley QRU and Fire Department will be presented by the Swan Valley Community Players on March 15, 16, 22 and 23.

This year's presentation is a small comedy about the problems of a young couple in modern day Swan Valley. A dinner theatre, which includes a delicious roast pork dinner, will open with dinner from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m.

On Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 p.m., children between the ages of eight and 15 are invited to attend the dress rehearsal for the price of \$2.00.

All other tickets are \$20.00 for the play and dinner. Tickets and reservations may be had by calling the Hungry Bear Steak House at 754-2240, or Gloria Busch at 754-2818. All tickets must be paid for before the performance.

Please note that Friday night, March 15, will be smoke free.

Raffle winners

A raffle was held by the Seeley Lake eighth grade class recently to fund their class trip and graduation. Winners were: Rich Booth, Donna Love, Ron Ogden, Teresa Friede, Janelle Esparza, Doug Waldron, Penny Carter, Charmin Bernstrauch, Angie Kelly, Rochelle Elliot, Earl Troutwine, Jaylund Rammell, Jane Fisher, Shauna Varner, Barb Cebulski, Kay McGregor, and Zella Erickson. The eighth grade class would like to thank all those who donated items for the raffle.



MISSOULA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.
District 5 & 6
DISTRICT MEETINGS
Wednesday, March 6, 2002
7 p.m. Seeley Lake Elementary School

The Cooperative will hold a Members' Informational meeting at the Seeley Lake Elementary School on Wednesday, March 6, 2002.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will conclude at 9:00 p.m.

Trustee Ray Cebulski, District 5, and Trustee Sharon Jacobsen, District 6, along with Manager Jack Hunt and other Missoula Electric Cooperative staff will be present to answer questions.

The proposed By-law changes will be discussed. There will also be time allotted to answer District specific questions.

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Saturday - 10 oz. Sirloin - \$9.95
Sunday - Meat loaf, mashed potatoes, salad bar - \$6.95
Monday - Chicken Parmesan - \$6.95
Tuesday - Liver & onions, mashed potatoes, roll - \$6.95

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Please Pause For Pets and Paws

Paws Up

To all of you who inquired about the pathetic little dog which was found. He remained with the vet for 5 days, where he was cleaned again, and three teeth which protruded against his lip and tongue were pulled. The little guy was adopted by a very loving lady. His new name is Buddy. The lady reports he is walking all over, with his tail wagging all the time. He even smiles. Although he is blind, she reports he is so happy and is now so loved and taken care of. Oh, what a happy ending, and blessings to all who did so much to save this special little dog! To Dr. Cross and staff, once again, what would we do without your wonderful caring!

Deepest Sympathy

to Bud and Kris Johnson, who lost their beloved Nikki. Nikki was many years old, and Bud and Kris helped Nikki to The Rainbow Bridge last week, surrounded by the love Nikki had always had. Nikki was their "what's it" dog and the boss. Not only will Nikki be missed by Kris and Bud, I am sure the other dogs will miss Nikki too. Thank you Karen and Charlie Cobb, for the memorial, nice note, and your loving remembrance of Nikki, who you also loved.

Paws Up

to Polar, the Yellow Lab we had for adoption. A wonderful man adopted Polar and reports how much he loves Polar already, and what a wonderful dog he is. Polar goes everywhere with him. Polar's new owner has grandchildren, so Polar is a very lucky dog and a happy dog.

Paws Up

to the Tim Eide family for the nice donation in one of our tins at the Valley Market. To whoever left the great dog bed and all the collars on the porch, thank you so much!

To Jan of the Happy Husky Trading Post for the sack of cat food!

Paws Up and Get Ready

Our annual spay and neuter clinic will be coming in April or early May. Be sure one thinks about shots and rabies shots also. Hopefully we will have many nice rabble prizes again this year!

Paws Down

to the people who come from other communities with free puppies to give away. We have too many free puppies in our own community. In talking to one person sitting in a pickup with ten large breed puppies to give away, he stated he wanted his dog to have one set of puppies before he had her spayed. Well excuse me, what happens to these unwanted puppies because of such human ignorance? We do not need them running and abused in our communities. Yes, I chatted with him!

Paws Up

and deepest sympathy to the Dementerles who helped Shamrock to The Rainbow Bridge last week. There is no way anyone could improve on this beautiful tribute to Shamrock, which was written by Rick Dementer.

There was once a very little girl who was given the most precious of gifts. A smile to look upon, as all puppies are, he was named as a symbol to her and her heritage. She was counseled to be gentle with her precious gift, for he was even more a baby than she. A lifetime bond was born. The puppy grew quickly, partly from a shared diet of Gerber teething pretzels, and was soon bigger than the little girl. But he didn't misuse his size, never stealing ice cream cones, but only sharing in their delights, and being satisfied with the hot dog bun while his girl kept the best part. Time passed and the girl's companion became her protector, somehow sensing that he had matured, but not yet she. He tolerated her tantrums, licked her tears, romped with her playmates, and fretted when the yellow bus came to take her away. It seemed that the girl and the dog were the same size for a while, and she blamed many of her misdeeds on him. But as best friends do, he always forgave her and never held a grudge. He was there to comfort her when the cursed bicycle made her skin her knees and on the day her grandfather died. As the girl grew taller, he changed too. His face grew slowly white, but it only made his eyes shine more brightly. The girl recognized his wisdom and shared all her secrets, the good and the bad. The two traveled across the country together, playing ball in states too windy for Frisbee and criticizing all rest stops with inadequate pet areas. Though the girl was only beginning to mature, her best friend was aging, slowing a bit and it worried her. But they discovered new adventures together. There were deer trails to follow, forests to explore and lakes to swim. The dog had newfound vigor for a time, and his girl was happy in a new home. But time eventually did catch up with him. His old body could sustain him no more and it was time to say good-bye to his girl. He had been her precious gift and she returned it by filling his lifetime with laughter, hugs, playtime, good tasting things, and boundless love. The lifetime they shared instilled in his girl a passion for dogs so great that he will live on in each pat she gives, each walk she takes, each bath she gives, each treat she shares, and most of all, each time she coaxes "Wag your tail for me." It is special dogs who make special people. Thank you, Shamy.

Paws Up

Thank you Lori Micken, for the memorial to Pepper the Poodle, and your caring. Bless you and yours.
to Katie and Mike McGrew, your donation and note meant so much. It is so good to hear from the Condon people!

Elinor Williamson

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Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Non-profit #368168

Paws Up Safe Home

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Hawks shine in first two District games, then stumble to Florence

The Seeley-Swan Blackhawks played two of the finest games in the District 5-B tournament last week, then stumbled in third round action against Florence who dashed their hopes of securing a trip to the divisional tournament this week.

The tournament featured upsets and near upsets with the Hawks falling to the eventual winner, Frenchtown, in the final minutes of play in second round action. Last seeded Florence ended the Hawk's season in third round action, 64-59, and went on to upset Darby 76-66 for third place in the tournament. Darby upset second-seeded Deer Lodge 53-52 after Darby's loss to the Blackhawks. Deer Lodge had been thrown into the consolation part of the bracket when they lost to Loyola 75-58 in second round play.

Frenchtown, after squeaking by Seeley-Swan, earned their number one seed with a 65-60 win over Loyola in the championship game. The top four places advance to divisional this week in Polson.

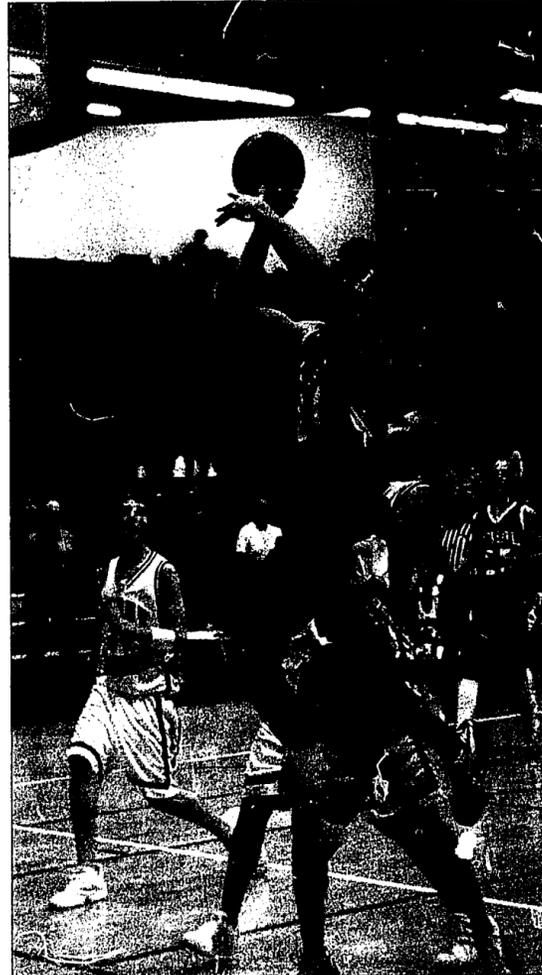
The Hawks had everyone talking following a spectacular first round win over Darby.

The Hawks repeatedly fought back—once from a third quarter 15-point deficit—against a hot shooting Darby team in the opening round last week and in a breathtaking, see-saw finish, with the game tied at 78-78 after a Darby basket. Zach Nelson drove for the baseline and then under the basket coming out with a lay-up flip on the backside for the winning basket with only two seconds left.

The 80-78 win over Darby stood as the highest points scored by any team in the tournament.

Darby led at every quarter mark and always seemed to up by four or five, even after the Hawks closed on them a couple times.

Abe Madinger led the Hawks with 23 points, many of those in the first half when the rest of the Hawks had trouble finding the range. In the second half and final quarter, Zach Nelson scored most of his 21 points and the Hawks closed on Darby in the final minutes with strong input from Riley Devins on defense and 10 points, and Spencer Balcom also reaching double figures with 10 points. Brian Gallea added 5 crucial points, as did Cody Hard with 7, Rich Copenhaver and Tanner Marlatt with two apiece.



Abe Madinger gets the jump and another two points here against Darby in first round action. Madinger had a game high 23 points, many of those in the first half to keep the cold shooting first half Hawks within range of hot shooting Darby.
—G. Noland photo

In contrast to the Darby game, where Darby controlled most of the way, the Hawks surprised most observers by controlling the game for three quarters against the number one seeded Frenchtown Broncs in second round action. The Hawks jumped to a 14-18 first quarter lead, gave that up and one point to trail 34-33 at halftime, then resumed control to begin the final quarter 52-48.

Only in the final three minutes did Frenchtown seem to have the edge, and then the Hawks trailed by only 3 points following two Frenchtown free throws with 30 seconds left. The game was still in question until Frenchtown blocked a 3-point attempt by Tanner Marlatt which gave them possession and control in the final waning seconds, forcing the Hawks to foul.

Abe Madinger and Zach Nelson paced the Hawk effort with 21 and 18 points respectively. Cody Hard added 13, Rich Copenhaver 4, and Ariah Baker 2.

Appearing tired from two grueling games the previous two evenings, the Hawks met a determined Florence team in loser out action last Friday that took advantage of costly turn-overs and cold shooting by the Hawks.

Even at that, Florence had to scramble in the end, even after Abe Madinger fouled out with five minutes left, to secure a 61-53 win.

Madinger and Zach Nelson each scored 16 points, Rich Copenhaver had 8, Cody Hard 5, Spencer Balcom 4, and Tanner Marlatt 2.

The Hawks ended the season 9-12.

Board looks for new superintendent

for the *Pathfinder*
by Karen Lyncoln

"The Board of Trustees of the Seeley Lake Elementary School District #34 seeks qualified applicants with strong leadership skills to lead the school system in its continuing pursuit of academic excellence. Candidates must meet the legal requirements to serve as a superintendent in Montana. The successful applicant will be expected to assume duties on July 1, 2002."

Bill Hyde resigned his position as superintendent and half-time principal of the Seeley Lake Elementary School on Tuesday, February 12th at the regular meeting of the School Board.

"I move that we accept this resignation, with regrets," said Mark Williams, Board Member. The Board agreed and then discussed their strategy for finding a new superintendent and a half-time principal. Hyde had assumed the principal's duties after Tom Larson resigned last year.

The above ad, and one for a principal, has been posted with the Montana School Board Association; in Idaho, North Dakota, and South Dakota; and at placement centers at Montana universities and the state Office of Public Instruction. Hyde will chair two focus groups—one for community members and the other for school staff—to determine what interests and traits people want in a new superintendent. Hyde will also do the initial screening of applications to eliminate those candidates who do not meet the minimum qualifications. The Board will review the

remaining applications and choose whom to interview. That process should occur in April and May.

In other business before the Board, Hyde reported that the current eligibility procedure was inconsistent with the Board's discipline policy and requested that the procedure be revised. He suggested that the procedure be revised to include all extra curricular activities, not just sports, and that academics and behavior both be reviewed to determine eligibility.

"Lack of consistency sends a bad message to the kids," said Pam Blendermann protesting the existing procedure that allows some kids to play sports while under a disciplinary action and restricts others. Blendermann said that coaches need written policies, parents need written policies, and there needs to be consistent pun-

ishment between grades. The Board agreed to review the procedure and to clarify discipline and eligibility standards.

In another matter, Loren Rose, Board Member, suggested that the Board draft a policy to restrict people from coming onto school property and being verbally abusive. He noted that this is a safety issue for students, teachers, and staff, and that state statute gives schools the right to have violators arrested for disturbing the peace. He suggested that the staff discuss this issue in the context of the Safe Schools Program and make a recommendation to the Board.

Board members attending the February meeting include Vicki Jardine, Bart Peterson, Pam Pittman, Loren Rose, and Mark Williams. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 pm.

Seeley-Swan

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Please call 677-2277

The Seeley Swan Medical Center is staffed by **Cindy Gallea**, Family Nurse Practitioner, and **Brett Hollis**, Family Nurse Practitioner who will be seeing patients during the transition period. They are supported by the Family Practice Missoula physicians.

Lar K. Autio, M.D.
Donald R. Nevin, M.D.
Terence M. Calderwood, M.D.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Hear.

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) invites you to a public meeting to discuss a proposed project to replace a bridge over the Blackfoot River, in Powell County, Montana.

The public meeting will be held at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Tuesday, March 5, 2002 at the Helmville Community Hall in Helmville, Montana and will include a presentation by MDT and the engineering consultant, and provide an opportunity for questions, comments, and concerns.

The proposed project includes replacing the existing bridge that is located on State Highway 141, approximately 7.5 miles northeast of Helmville and immediately south of the intersection with State Highway 200. The structure is functionally obsolete and eligible for replacement.

The purpose of the project is to replace the existing bridge with a new, wider structure, and to reconstruct the approach roadway with wider shoulders and flatter side-slopes. The project will begin less than a mile south of the existing bridge and will extend north to the intersection with Highway 200. The new alignment and structure will be offset slightly from the existing alignment. Traffic will be maintained on the existing roadway and bridge throughout reconstruction.

MDT has retained the consultant URS/BRW to assist in the evaluation of impacts and the development of the design for the project. This will include preparation of an environmental document reporting the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the project.

Be Heard.

Your comments and concerns are a very important part of the process. We invite you to attend to voice suggestions and present pertinent information about the project. For more information or to arrange special accommodations for persons with disabilities please call MDT at (406) 454-5880 or TTY (800) 335-7592.

6 pm, Tuesday, March 5, 2002

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MCT's "Sleeping Beauty" at Swan Valley School

The Swan Valley PTA provided funding for the Missoula Children's Theatre production of "Sleeping Beauty" at Swan Valley School last week. Photos of kids by Kitty Logan.



Ayla Johnson



Bryan Thompson



Caitlin Stone



Rincon Parcell and Andrew Emerson



Chase Hulett



Gwen Rosen



Sami Jo Hulett



Jon Hainline



Jesse Nash



Jessy Stevenson



Sophie Hainline and Sam Yates



Nicole Everson and Cat Parcell



Daniell Anderson and Mariah Childs



Mariah Childs



Cassie Moors and Cascade Parcell

Tackling the Iditarod — Again!

By Donna Love

On March 2, Jim Gallea (pronounced Gally), a 21 year-old musher from Seeley Lake, will begin his trek across the interior of Alaska to run the Alaskan Iditarod. He will drive his 16 brave Alaskan Huskies the two million dog strides it takes to run from Anchorage to Nome. They will join the approximately 1000 dogs and 63 mushers also making the 1100-mile journey.

Gallea, of course, doesn't have any illusions he will win, but he has lofty goals. He hopes to finish in the top 20.

His goals are not unreasonable. This is his second time to run the race. In 1999, the year after he graduated from Seeley-Swan High, he came in 43rd out of 48. In addition to being one of the youngest mushers to complete the course, he has the distinction of being the youngest musher from the lower 48 states to complete the course.

He comes to the sport naturally. Gallea's family owns and operates Snowcrest Kennels of Seeley Lake. His father, Bill, an emergency room physician, ran the Iditarod in 1996, coming in 41 with a time of 13 days, 7 hours and 14 minutes.

His mother, a nurse practitioner at the Seeley Swan Medical Clinic, raced in 1998 coming in 48th in a 63-member field with a time of 14 days and 48 minutes. She tried again in 2000, but had to scratch do to problems with her dogs. In 2001 on her third attempt she finished with a time of 12 days, 21 hours and 31 minutes.

(The fastest the course has ever been run is 9 days and 48 minutes; a time set last year by Doug Swingley of Lincoln, Montana.)

With father, mother and son all completing the Iditarod the Gallea's have the distinction of being Montana's "First Family of the Iditarod" putting Seeley Lake on the mushing map.

Gallea was too young to clearly remember the first time he rode in a dog sled. He has vague memories of riding in the sled when his father was introduced to the sport in 1986 when the family lived in Minnesota. Gallea was then five years old.

Gallea does remember the first time he drove a sled. His family moved to Libby in 1990. In 1991 his mother was running in the

"Seeley Lake 200" and they were staying in Seeley Lake for the race. Young Gallea, then 10 years old, hooked one of their dogs up to a broken sled that didn't have a brake and took out across the lake.

It was a wild, fateful ride. He has been mushing ever since.

The family moved to Seeley Lake later in 1991 and brought their kennel with them. Since then, the family has competed in many races in Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Montana.

In 1997, at age 16 Gallea ran his first 160 mile long Jr. Iditarod, which Gallea admits is "one big camping trip." At the end, he received the "Sportsmanship Award."

He participated in the Jr. Iditarod again in 1998 and received the "Humanitarian Award" for being the musher who demonstrated the best care of his dogs.

He enjoyed the Jr. event because the children of mushers "grow up with dog mushers, but don't have a bunch of friends that are mushers."

When Gallea ran the "big" Iditarod for the first time, at age 18, he didn't really consider himself racing. He was training a "puppy team" for a musher in Alaska that he worked for during his first 16 months out of high school.

In the winter he helped with the dogs and in the summer he helped with the tourists. His job in the Iditarod was to show the young dogs a "good time."

For the past three years he has been a student at the University of Montana studying human biology. He plans to be a doctor in a rural area, possibly in the Alaskan Bush because he likes "the way small communities work."

When Gallea completes his senior year next year he hopes to attend the University of Washington in Seattle that has a program geared to helping train rural doctors and he could take his first year of schooling in Bozeman.

However, he doesn't know if they'd have him. A short time back he was there to meet with admissions and he "dressed up," but when he went into the office one of the employees said, "You must be here to fix the toilet."

For now he is putting his formal education on hold and with the U of M's approval has taken the spring semester off to train for and run in the Iditarod.



Jim Gallea helps with the dogs during preparations for the start of the Seeley Lake 100.

His training has gone well. There wasn't "much snow," but the trails were in "good shape" and he regularly broke kennel records.

His parents also helped. In January he and his father ran in the Atta Boy 300 World Cup in Oregon. Gallea said that was interesting since his family usually only has one team of dogs to care for. This year they had two teams, which means twice as much equipment to pack and travel with.

A week after the Atta Boy 300 they loaded a semi truck with 7 tons of frozen meat for the dogs for shipment to the Iditarod. The meat order will be shared with other local Iditarod mushers including Doug Swingley, Jason and John Barron, and Harmony Kanavel.

At the end of January the Gallea's participated in the Seeley Lake 100. It was Gallea's sixth time to run the race. He recalls that the first time he ran it he said, "I could never do that 11 times" so he thought he could never do the Iditarod.

This year he had his best time, but more importantly, it was special because his father and mother also participated. It was the first time all three of them had competed in the same race. (The disadvantage was that they had to prepare for the race in triplicate.)

Gallea placed 7th, his dad 10th (continued on next page)

Photos by Donna Love



Jim's mother Cindy Gallea in a recent photo. Cindy finished sixth in the recent 350-mile Race to the Sky.

Off to the Iditarod...

(continued from page 10)

and his mom, 12th. Following the race Gallea rested about 10 hours and immediately took his team out on the trail for another 200 mile training run.

Sleep deprivation is one of mushing's greatest obstacles. Jim sleeps with his alarm clock in his hat so "when it goes off it really wakes him up."

The training is over now and Gallea left for Alaska on February 18. He is particularly excited because the dogs he is using are his own. His team is made up the best from the teams that he and his father and mother trained.

Gallea's dad's motto is "If we are relaxed, we must be forgetting

something" so they checked and rechecked everything when they packed. His 18-year-old younger brother, Brian, helped by preparing all the meals that Gallea would need along the trail. The meals were packed in individual vacuum-sealed bags.

This year Gallea is traveling with his "handler," a mushing friend from Minnesota who has run the Iditarod before. Handlers are the "pit crew" in the mushing world. They help at the start and finish lines and help take care of the dogs when not racing.

However, once on the trail, the handlers can only sit and watch — even when the team is resting, but that's one of the things Gallea likes

about the Iditarod. He has to do it all on his own.

He also loves working with the dogs and he loves the outdoors. He thinks that people who mush are "down to earth people who don't lose sight of what's important in life." To Gallea every musher, from the champion to the Red Lantern Award, is a winner.

To follow Gallea as his mushes across the Alaskan frontier, visit his web site, theultimateiditarod.com. It will be a fun site to visit. His father is going to snowmobile the Iditarod along with the racers. However, Bill won't be traveling just with his son. He will cover the whole race from front to back as well as give updates on Gallea.

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Condon Area Senior Lunch

The Hungry Bear Steak House is serving lunch to Condon area seniors (60 years & older) on Mondays and Thursdays at 1 PM. Please call the Hungry Bear at 754-2240 for reservations prior to 5:00 PM the day before. This program is sponsored by Swan Valley Senior Services.

Thursday, Feb.28
Orange Juice, Cranberry Chicken, Rice, Broccoli & Cauliflower, Vanilla Pudding
Monday, Jan.28
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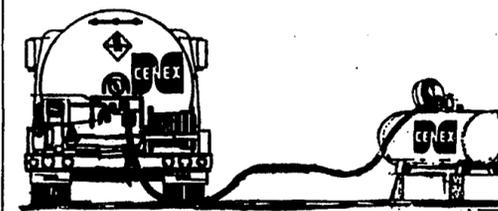
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Plum Creek plans Swan Valley land sales

Plum Creek Timber Company announced last week plans to sell 20,000 acres of their land holdings in the Swan Valley.

Half of the land may be sold to the Flathead National Forest to preserve "linkage zones" for wildlife, but the rest will be offered for sale to individuals in 160-acre or larger parcels, according to a *Missoulian* story by John Stromnes.

Plum Creek, which for some time now has focused on the increasing residential development

potential of some of its holdings, made the announcement in Condon where 30 people attended a land-use workshop sponsored by the Swan Ecosystem Center and Northwest Connections.

Plum Creek spokesman Jerry Sorenson said some 1,200 acres consisting of parcels along Rumble Creek, Sweeny Creek, Kraft Creek and Metcal Lake will be offered for

sale shortly.

Sorenson said land in Swan Valley brings the highest prices of any land in Montana and may bring \$5,000 to \$10,000 an acre even in 160-acre parcels.

Sorenson said the parcels most likely will be purchased by wealthy individuals who plan to build "trophy" homes.

AARP showcases Travels in New Zealand

Travels in New Zealand will be the topic at the Monday, March 4 meeting of the Swan Valley Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons.

The program will be presented by Chapter members Joann and Vernon Guyer, Sue and Bob Cushman and Petie Luckman. The presenters have traveled extensively at different times in the island nation.

The program, to be given at the Swan Valley Community Hall in Condon, will be preceded by a potluck luncheon and a brief business meeting. Members are asked to gather at noon, and lunch will commence at 12:30 p.m. The program will start at approximately 1:30 p.m.

The hosts for the meeting are Dolores Burch, Mary Phillips and Alan Taylor.

SEELEY-SWAN HIGH SCHOOL LADY BLACKHAWKS VOLLEYBALL

Feb. 28-Mar. 2
 District Tournament
 Frenchtown
 March 7-9
 Divisional Tournament
 Deer Lodge

Senator and Under Secretary talk about timber and economy

by Patricia Swan Smith
 For the Pathfinder

Montana U.S. Senator Max Baucus attended a social at the Seeley Lake Community Hall after his ribbon-cutting ceremony last Tuesday at Pyramid Mountain Lumber.

In the Community Hall parking lot sat a truck with a load of burned logs from the Bitterroot sale with a sign that read "Working together works."

Approximately 60 residents listened to Baucus, Under Secretary of Commerce David Samson, Pyramid's President Roger Johnson and Tim Love from the Seeley Lake USFS. County Commissioner Barbara Evans attended the tour at the mill and the social.

Baucus praised the Seeley residents for their determination to make things work for their community emphasizing the successes of the new health care center and Pyramid Mountain Lumber fighting the battle to stay open.

Both Love and Johnson thanked Baucus for all of his support to this community. Johnson added, "(Baucus) walked the talk for us. Senator, it's an honor to have you here today not only for my company, but for our community."

Johnson went on to say that part of the Bitterroot sale had been cleared and that we would see more burned logs from the Bitterroot fires coming in since they were able to start working that sale.

He said that only about 5 percent of the sale was approved and that if something doesn't happen 95 percent of the burnt timber will go to waste.

Baucus also said he was relieved that the timber sale in the Bitterroot went forward. He stressed how important it is for people to communicate, work together and be willing to compromise. He said he believes that 5 percent is too little and hopes that additional burned timber will be released.

"It's going to take some work

to get this accomplished," he said. "But it's possible if we work together."

A member of the audience asked how the environmental groups are able to stop projects as effectively as they do?

Baucus said that they are well organized and they spend a lot of time on their work, while many of those in the timber industry spend most of their time working and don't have enough time and energy left over to work on issues.

The discussion turned from the Bitterroot sale to the economy in Montana. Under Secretary Samson said, "I am honored to be in your state. He said that Senator Baucus has worked with President Bush and they are trying to change the mind of the EDA to not just process grants but to focus on true economic development."

"What this administration is committed to is helping towns make healthy growth," he said.

Baucus went on to say that when it comes to jobs, party lines mean nothing. He said he would

continue to work with Bush for more jobs with good income in Montana.

He told the audience "I'm really proud of the effort in this

room." County Commissioner Evans, Baucus and Samson visited a few minutes before heading off to the next visit site.

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<p>Accountant • CPA</p> <p>TERRY S. SHEPPARD Certified Public Accountant</p> <p>P.O. Box 129 Ovando, Montana 59854 • 0129 (406) 793-5718</p>	<p>House Painting</p> <p>Kurt Dally Painting</p> <p>Interior and Exterior Quality House Painting</p> <p>PO Box 1197 Seeley Lake, MT 59868 (405) 677-3647</p>	<p>Veterinarian Services</p> <p>Swan Valley Equine Service</p> <p>Leslie L. Strop, DVM 24-hour Mobile Veterinary Care Reproductive Ultrasound, Lameness, Dental, X-ray.</p> <p>406 677-4130 406 837-1168</p>	<p>Electrical Contractor</p> <p>Seeley Electric LLC William J. "Bill" Ylengst Master Electrician</p> <p>Office Ph: (406) 677-3020 Cell Ph: (406) 239-3279 Email: SeeleyElectric@TheElectriciansGuild. P.O. Box 306 Seeley Lake, MT 59868</p>

Mark Those Calendars!!

March 2nd

2002 Fireman's Ball & Auction

March 2nd at the Community Hall in Seeley from 6 p.m. to whenever!!

Live Auction starts promptly at 7:30 p.m.
 Tons of fun for the whole family!

ENTERTAINMENT**50-50
 CASH RAFFLE**DOOR PRIZES**
 Chat, Dance & Enjoy A Great Evening

Free admission; Spaghetti Feed
 and the sauce cooked by firefighters will be Officially JUDGED!

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Since 1989
We provide:
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25 years of Building in the Valley
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The BACK DOOR LOUNGE & 24 Hour 1-STOP
Call in orders for the following can be ready in 10 minutes.
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Any item below \$2.75. Fries only \$2.50
Teasers • Deep Fried Vegetables • Onion Rings
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677-2004

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3800 gallon water tender
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FAX 677-2965
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Don't get down in the dumps, let
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Reasonable Rates

Notices

Is someone hurting you? Call for help and confidential support. YWCA Missoula Pathways, 24 hour Crisis Line, 1-800-483-7858 or your local SSTEP program, 677-3177

Ongoing yoga - in Seeley Lake, Tuesdays, 9 am, Sr. Cit. Ctr; Swan Valley-Thursdays, 9:30, Abolt's home. Info, call Eileen, 677-2350

Blackhawk Booster Club meetings will be held the first Monday of the month, 6 pm, High School cafeteria

Spring bazaar and multi-family yard sale. Rent a table for \$10. Sell your items at Holy Cross grounds on May 4, 9-? Lots of crafts, new and used items, baked goods. Call 677-2346 or 677-2143

Help Wanted

Montana DNRC, Southwestern Land Office is accepting applications for seasonal firefighting po-

CLASSIFIEDS

sitions at the following locations: Anaconda Unit, Clearwater Unit, Garrison Initial Attack Station, Lincoln Initial Attack Station, Missoula Unit, Southwestern Land Office. Applicants will be asked to provide preference of work location(s). These positions include: Firefighter, Engine Boss, Radio Operator, Lookout/Relief Lookout, Helicopter Crew Member. Application period begins **February 24, 2002 and closes March 29, 2002. Applications must be mailed to:** Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Southwestern Land Office C/o Janie Kurth 1401 27th Avenue Missoula, Montana 59804-3199 **And, must be postmarked not later than 5:00 p.m. on March 29th, 2002.** Entry-level salaries range approximately from \$8.623/hour (for Grade 7) to \$11.141/hour (for Grade 10). Contact Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation, PO Box 201601, Helena MT 59620 or the local Job Service for application materials. Application materials can also be obtained through the employee website address:

www.dnrc.state.mt.us/ employee/index
Application materials include the State of Montana Employment Application form (PD-25[Rev.05/01]) and supplemental questions for specific positions. Completed applications must contain an original signatures and include answers to the supplemental questions. EEO/AA Agency.

Experienced carpenters, carpenter's helpers, 677-2891

12-20 hours per week in a fun work place. Apply at Rovero's deli.

For Sale

OWNER WILL FINANCE WITH SMALL DOWN PAYMENT: 4 BDRM home with 2 car garage, 2 baths, 1969 sq. ft., 2 car garage, carport, nice yard, basketball court, on 3 lots, close to schools, \$129,000, 677-2857

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

Firewood, \$80/cord split & delivered, 677-3564

Twin over double bunk beds w/ white metal frame, mattresses incl. -\$120; twin bed, frame, box & mattress -\$60; 6x10 chimney brush w/extensions -\$40; 4 tires-175/70R13-\$40, 677-2857

8 acres available in the heart of Seeley Lake, 2 adjacent lots at 2.72 & 5.18 acres located near snowmobile & ski trailheads & schools. Amazingly private! Access Morrell Creek. \$50,500 & \$51,500, 677-0203, sale by owner.

Firewood, fir & larch, split & delivered, \$90/cord, 677-3789

1340 s.f. house, 2 BR/1 bath, 2 car garage, 3+ acres, backing to common ground. 640 Grayling, Double Arrow Ranch. \$115,000. 677-0203

Lodgepole firewood, rounds, \$65/cord delivered, 677-3618

8x16 trailer, 8' ramp, used for snowmobiles, rafts, ATVs, golf carts, small car or equipment, \$1450, 677-2040

Log home, guest cottages, 14 acres, 1/4 mile Swan River frontage, views, \$599,000, 406-239-7249

Year-round weekly vacation rental on Seeley Lake. Rent now for summer vacations, 677-3011

2 BR cozy home, Swan Valley, views of Swans & Missions, \$400/mo, available weekly, 677-2350

Efficiency apartment, all utilities paid, \$285/mo + \$300 deposit, 677-3314

Cozy 1 BR cabin, completely furnished, satellite, HBO, all utilities paid, \$550/mo, lease, 677-2024

Trailer space, \$160/mo, 677-2200

Office space, may take secretarial services for partial payment. Call Dick at Rent All, 677-2200, 8-5, Monday-Friday.

Trailer on private lot, 2 BR, 1 bath, washer/dryer, dishwasher, propane or electric heat, \$425/mo + \$250 deposit, no pets, avail. April 1, 406-543-6685

Furnished apartment, all utilities paid, \$350/mo + \$200 cleaning deposit, at Clearwater Junction, 406-244-9535

Services

Will pawn, buy or auction most anything. Give me a call, Riley, 677-2997.

Auto Body & Paint & Glass
Approved by insurance companies. Call Sam Bolton, 677-2969 for estimates & information.

Horse boarding. No trainer, new ownership. Pasture or indoor stalls, heated indoor barn & arena. Horse-shoe Hills, 677-BARN

B & B Construction: New construction, remodeling & repairs, 677-3564

For Rent

Mini storage units available. 98 units to serve your needs. 1/2 off 1st month rent! Clearwater Mini Storage, LLC, 677-3000

Lone Larch Mini-Storage-located on Spruce Drive. Easy access in Seeley Lake, 677-2889

The Pathfinder office is located in the Lazy Pine Mall, Highway 83, Suite E-2. Open Monday & Friday, 12-5, Tuesday, 12-4. NOTE: Latest deadline for ads, articles, etc. is 4:00 p.m. on Mondays.

677-9229 NOW OPEN YEAR 'ROUND
Lindley's
"THE PLACE FOR STEAK"
"OPEN 5 DAYS A WEEK"
Thursday • Friday • Saturday • Sunday • Monday

Double Arrow Landowners
Why Haul, When We Haul?
Larson Disposal now serves all the
Double Arrow Ranch with
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Carts will be furnished with the service.
Weekly or bi-weekly schedules available.
CALL FOR RATES & SCHEDULES
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**Locally owned
& operated**

One Mile South of Seeley Lake
on Scenic 83

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SEELEY LAKE, MONTANA



Open 7 Days A Week!

Sunday — Thursday — 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday — 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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SEE INSERT SPECIALS

Effective February 27, 2002 - March 5, 2002 • POSTAGE STAMPS • ATM MACHINE

The ESPRESSO BOOTH

Easy Access from Whitetail Drive
NOTE HOURS

Mon. thru Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday - 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Soup's on ...

Lunch Menu for this week...2/28 to 3/6

- Thursday: "Cousin Poly's" Broccoli & Cheese Soup
- Friday: "Iron Kettle" Chicken-n-Dumplings
- Saturday & Sunday: "Yes, we have no Soup...."
- Monday: "Texas Lone Star" Chicken Tortilla Soup
- Tuesday: "Esperanza's Blue Ribbon" Chili Beans & Red Beans
- Wednesday: "Cheddar is Better" Baked Potato Soup

**Weight Watcher points available for all soups in the booth!*

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

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 have the option of walk fit or step class, warm up and stretch together, walk or step class followed by weights and stretch together.

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: Thanks to 3rd and 4th grade coaches Joeff Stoeger and Sandy Cahoon for doing an excellent job!

Thanks to Chase Stoeger for helping coach and for refereeing the game!

Thanks to J.C. Clark for helping coach!

Thanks to all the parents who brought treats and came to support the kids during the game!

Thanks to the Seeley-Swan High School for letting us use the gym!

Bitty Ball: 1st and 2nd grade basketball began on Saturday, February 2, 2002. We meet at the Seeley Lake Elementary School Gym from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. each Saturday through March 23, 2002. The registration fee is \$15.00 (family discounts are available).

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

Special of the Week

"Short Track Latte"

We combine Coffee Royale & Vanilla Flavors with Steamed Milk & Espresso for a unique coffee experience!

**Weight Watcher points available for coffee drinks in the booth!*

Save .25 cents on any size this week!

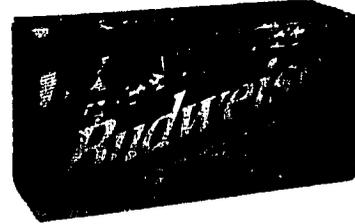
"FYI"

When coffee supplies became scarce during the American Civil War, soldiers desperate for a cup of coffee used roasted sweet potato & Indian corn as a substitute.



12 Pack 12 Oz. Cans
Coke Products

\$3¹⁹



18 Pack 12 Oz. Cans
Bud or Bud Light

\$10⁹⁹



12 Pack 12 Oz. Bottles
Corona

\$9⁹⁹

Welcome all SnoCross Racers & Fans! Enjoy!

Clip & Mail Membership Application

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

PHONE#EMAIL: _____



ANNUAL DUES: [11/1 thru 10/31]
(Check one)

Business-----\$ 35.00

Family-----\$15.00

Individual----\$10.00

(Circle one): NEW or RENEWAL

NUMBER of ACTUAL RIDERS: _____

Please mail to Driftriders, PO Box 174, Seeley Lake, MT 59868. Thank You!