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# PATHFINDER

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Vol XVII, No. 20

"Voices from the Valley"

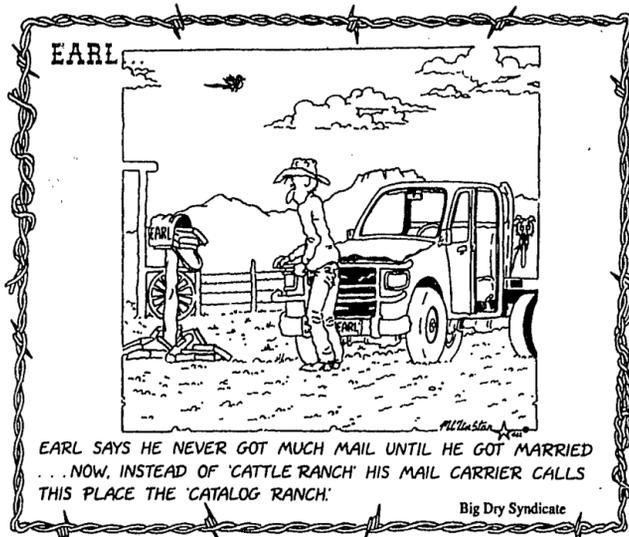
Thursday, September 12, 2002

## Watch out for bears...

Bears have become quite active as they begin feeding for the coming winter, and a bear famous for raiding refrigerators has been captured a second time. See story inside.

G. Soland photo

email: [pathfinder@montana.com](mailto:pathfinder@montana.com)



EARL SAYS HE NEVER GOT MUCH MAIL UNTIL HE GOT MARRIED  
... NOW, INSTEAD OF 'CATTLE RANCH' HIS MAIL CARRIER CALLS  
THIS PLACE THE 'CATALOG RANCH.'

Big Dry Syndicate

**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.

Editorial Comment

# Chips . . . bits & pieces

**Pause to ponder...**  
A year ago today (Tuesday), the World Trade Center twin towers were brought down by outside forces. The calendar anniversary of the attack is tomorrow, Wednesday, September 11. Words are just as hopeless today to express the emotions felt a year ago when we watched 3,000 Americans die on television, in a matter of seconds before our eyes, and we were brought face to face with an obscene disregard for human life. Many things are different now. We have a little less freedom than before. Many people have a little less wealth as the economy has struggled in the aftermath of 9-11 as well as a stock market crash brought on by speculation and greed. The important thing to note, on this tragic anniversary, is that we only have a "little less" of those things we cherish. As a country we are still wealthy beyond the imagination of history. And, as a people, we enjoy freedoms the world envies. And, we are stronger than even our worst enemies can calculate. On this anniversary we should pause to remember those who became martyrs for our beliefs. We should be aware of how quickly we can lose that which takes years to build. And, we should think about what is really important in life.

—Gary Noland

## Roger Johnson Receives Timberman Award

At its recent convention, the Montana Wood Products Association issued a Timberman award to Roger Johnson, of Pyramid Mountain Lumber in Seeley Lake. Johnson was given this award for his tenacity, courage and foresight in keeping his company in operation. His contributions not only have benefited the industry, but also his local community and the people who live there.



## An observation on Plum Creek land sales

Dear Editor:

Currently in the community of Condon are at least three groups of people and several individuals attempting to address some purchases of Plum Creek lands. Most efforts are doomed for failure for the very same reason; the community of Condon is not engaged in these discussions. Although some groups claim they are acting on behalf of, and for the betterment of, our community, they really are not. Most groups are self-electing and self-serving, and are not representative of the community as a whole. Only one group is enabled to speak on behalf of Condon, and it is strangely silent. I suspect it has not yet been approached concerning this matter, maybe even intentionally circumvented.

The Condon Comprehensive Plan specifies that only the Condon Community Club is empowered to act as the voice of our community, and this group has not been, and is not, engaged in public discussions concerning Plum Creek lands sales. At this point, the community of Condon is not engaged in any discussions concerning Plum Creek lands, despite what some groups would have us believe.

One group is espousing classic textbook Communism by suggesting we have a "community forest," paid for by other folks of course; an idea that won't sell in a representative democracy. Too many of us have offered our "pound of flesh" in opposition to Communism to allow such efforts to take root in our own yards. This effort is not only anti-community but also anti-American.

Granted, the Condon Community Club is not the most active organization hereabouts, but it is the only voice recognized by all community members and by all levels of government. This is all we have for a representative community organization, and

we are obligated to work within parameters that we, the community, have collectively written, voted on several times, adopted and installed, and had recognized by County government. The directors of the Community Club are elected by the community at large, the only such local organization structured thusly. Most other groups have self-electing directors, hence not a form of democracy at all. Membership in the Condon Community Club is granted to all residents of School District #33, Missoula County, and all citizens are encouraged to take part in community discussions as structured by the Condon Community Club.

Hence, if this community wants to have a voice in the matter of Plum Creek lands disposal, we have only one venue to express a community-based view. This is accomplished within guidelines and rules that we, the community, have established over the past twenty-five years. Such is democracy. Don't like it? Then, kindly move along. Me, I don't really care whether this community has a voice or not in this matter. And yes, like most members of this community, I have sat on my hands concerning our local voice. I am offering to get up off my hands if about a hundred other folks do also. You don't care to get involved? Then stop whining.

Lest we forget the absolute "bottom line," if you want something done with Plum Creek lands, then all you need do is cut a check.

And in all fairness to the folks at Plum Creek, you are not hearing the voice of this community. You are hearing from self-serving individuals and groups that may not really have the best interests of our community at heart. *Caveat Emptor*, sort of - for all of us.

**Ken Wolff**  
Condon, Montana

## Blackfoot River will take more than a year to recover

Dear Blackfoot Valley Irrigators, Outfitters, Business Owners, Floaters, Anglers and other interested water users:

Fortunately for all of us, 2002 has not been as hot and dry as it has been for the past three summers.

This year, Blackfoot River flows at Bonner did not go below 7000 cfs until the 24th of August. Flows have now dropped to 634 cfs. (See USGS web site to track Blackfoot flows: [http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mt/nwis/w/kmtr-gf-pnd-6&site\\_no=1234550](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mt/nwis/w/kmtr-gf-pnd-6&site_no=1234550)). We certainly anticipated flows below 700 cfs, but are grateful they occurred later than expected, primarily due to mid-summer rains and recent cooler temperatures.

Because of cooler water temperatures, the relatively slow decline in river flows, and a decreasing use of water by almost all users, the Blackfoot Drought Committee will NOT be initiating an Emergency Drought Response Plan at this time. The Committee will also recommend that Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) NOT issue a Murphy Right call on junior water users in the Blackfoot. We anticipate that this recommendation will be accepted by the Department, but will contact you if future water conditions indicate a need for action.

We are, however, encouraging water conservation practices wherever possible. Many of the basin's ground water systems have not yet fully recovered from past drought years, and we are anticipating lower fall and winter stream flow conditions. While we expect these flows to continue to fluctuate somewhat with intermittent rain showers passing over the valley, the general trend is predicted to be a gradual decline as we head into the coming winter.

The bottom line is that the Blackfoot River basin will not recover from drought in a single year. This past season the increased snow pack at higher elevations sustained stream flows through most of the summer. That is what higher elevation snows normally do for our stream hydrograph - melting late and extending flows. However, ground water recharge systems typically depend on a combination of high stream flows, the flooding and saturation of flood plains, and good snow on the mid and lower elevation uplands. Groundwater recharge and flow into these systems is usually slow, and therefore they are slow to recover. The GWIC monitoring well system; which includes five wells in our basin, show that the near-stream ground water units appear to have recharged fairly well. Others are lagging behind on their recovery. We will see low flows

again this winter; likely not as low as last year, but lower than normal. We are also very fortunate in that it has been cooler than normal throughout the month of August, and we have had some summer moisture...or we would now be in serious trouble.

Thank you for your continued support of water conservation in

the Blackfoot to promote equitable water savings and maintain instream flows in the Blackfoot River and its tributaries.

**Harry Poett, Chairman**  
**Land Lindbergh, Co-Vice Chair**  
**Jim Stone, Co-Vice Chair**  
**Blackfoot Drought Committee**  
**Ovando, Montana**

## Blackhawks stump Troy 34-0

The Seeley-Swan Blackhawks thrilled local fans last Friday with a home-game win over District 6-B Troy, a 34-0 shutout sparked by junior running back Riley Devins.

Devins racked up 186 yards on the ground, including a 40-yard touchdown run. He scored a second time on a 9 yard run.

Quarterback Abe Madinger confounded the Troy defense as he ran 54 yards for a touchdown and had a 48-yard touchdown pass to Cody Hard. Madinger finished with a total of 149 yards rushing, 61 yards passing, and kicked two extra points.

The Hawks journey to Plains for another matchup with a 6-B conference school Friday in a night game beginning at 7:30 p.m.

## Ladyhawks find win at Darby

The Seeley-Swan Ladyhawks rolled for three games at Darby last weekend.

Lindsay Evans had 18 kills and nine aces to lead her team to three straight wins over Darby, 25-33, 25-22, and 25-15.

Sarah Madinger came through with 10 digs and Jane Eustance had 18 assists. Tatum Hoehn had three blocks.

The ladies had just come off a Friday loss to Deer Lodge in three games, 25-18, 25-21, and 25-20.

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## Are you concerned about...CANCER? HEART DISEASE? OSTEOPOROSIS? DIABETES? ARTHRITIS? ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE? MIGRAINES? PMS? YOUR CHILDREN'S HEALTH?

The Journal of the American Medical Association, in its June 2002 issue, recommended Americans increase their vitamin intake because, "Inadequate intake of several vitamins has been linked to chronic diseases, including coronary heart disease, cancer and osteoporosis!"

**DO YOU KNOW...?** Which 4 vitamins (it's not just calcium!) help to prevent osteoporosis? Which vitamins and minerals help prevent cancer (of the breast, prostate and colon)? Which vitamins and minerals help prevent heart attacks and heart failure? Which supplements can help lower your cholesterol? Which supplements help prevent high blood pressure (hypertension)? Do you know why medical researchers at Harvard Medical School say the traditional 'Food Pyramid' is wrong? Do you know which mineral helps prevent migraine headaches, heart disease, kidney stones and strokes? **DO YOU KNOW...?** Which form of Magnesium, commonly found in supplements, is least absorbed? Which form of Calcium is most absorbed? The difference between 'natural' and synthetic Vitamin E? (Hint: There are 8 forms of natural Vitamin E.) That zinc supplements can impair Iron, Vitamin A and Copper function in your body? Which vitamins can be dangerous in doses only slightly above the RDA? The RDAs do not apply to people with health problems? Why the major research journal *Lancet* recommends 10 times the RDA for Folic Acid? Do you know why the diets of most Teenage Girls will give them osteoporosis as adults? Would you like to know more about vitamins, minerals, supplements and the best foods to eat to help you prevent many of the above mentioned diseases? If your answer is yes, then please join me as I share with you the **critically important research** I have been reviewing on vitamins, minerals, foods and supplements in my efforts to help my own chronic health problems! I will be presenting a 5 Part Program to answer all the above questions and much more:

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Thursday Nights from 7:30 - 9:00  
at the Senior Center  
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Just \$29.00 for all 5 programs if registered by Sept. 19th!  
Just \$39.00 for all 5 programs if registered by Sept. 26th!  
Just \$10.00 for individual programs  
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Please call me for more information or to register!  
Alan R. Jeans, D.C.  
Retired Chiropractor  
Diplomate, American Chiropractic Board of Nutrition  
(you may know me as the 'Toy Man!')

406-677-3368

(\$10.00 from each paid participant will be donated to the Senior's Bus Fund!)  
(P.S. Some people have asked me "What are you selling?" This is an educational program - I am 'selling' very important health information! I am not promoting any product, company or service!) If you care about the health of yourself and your loved ones, you will not want to miss this program!

Charlee Parker, Broker  
Elinor Williamson      Ellie Greenough  
Kim Koppen

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# New Game Range sign honors wildlife heritage

by Mike Thompson

When I first pulled off from Highway 83 on Thanksgiving weekend of 1974, and read the big Game Range sign at the 2-mile marker, I never dreamed I'd be in a position to help replace that landmark, and to move and preserve those huge, gnarly, supporting posts someday.

That day came nearly 28 years later, or about 2 weeks ago to those of you who honked when you drove by. And, I'll tell you, I was sweating it as Bart Peterson skillfully and precisely began removing the soil around the bases of those heavy, weathered, monarch posts, and then gingerly rocked them with the bucket of his backhoe.

Everybody knows Bart. He's always ready to lend a hand, and has been a friend of wildlife and the Game Range for the many years he's lived in Seeley Lake. On this occasion his employer, Missoula Electric Cooperative, graciously loaned us Bart and a line

truck and backhoe for the heavy work of moving and replacing the old sign.

We knew we were playing with fire. It hadn't taken me long after accepting my current job in 1987 to understand that the big Game Range sign was sacred to the people of Seeley Lake. It didn't matter that the grizzly's nose was worn flat, giving it more the appearance of a "crazed marmot," as Dave Dickson used to say. Nor did it seem to matter that the elk had been mortally wounded by vandals long ago. It had become a local landmark.

So, I knew that when the sign itself finally deteriorated to the point of destruction, I would at least preserve and reuse those very unique and aged posts if at all possible. None of us knew what Bart would uncover beneath the sod. Would the posts be rotten and unusable? Would they snap as he attempted to mechanically muscle them from the earth? Would one of them be salvaged, only to have a mishap with the other?



What a relief when the truth was revealed. When the posts were originally set in the ground, someone had the wisdom to encase the butts in cement and 55-gallon drums. Most importantly, the bottoms had been removed from the drums so that water could drain away from the posts, rather than pool and accelerate rot. The butts seemed to be as solid as the day they were set in the ground, which was sometime around 1970 as far as I can tell.

Bart moved to the line truck and reset the posts 25 feet back from their previous positions. One might wonder why, but not one who has ever driven up beside the old sign and tried to read it from inside his or her vehicle. The only way to do so was to roll down the window and stick your head clear outside, contorting your neck in ways that mine won't tolerate any longer. That's because the posts and sign were taller than most any passenger vehicle, and were set so close to the parking area that the sign lettering was obscured by the roof of your vehicle.

By setting the sign back a short distance from the parking area, it is now possible to have a refreshed landmark that people can actually read when they pull off the highway to appreciate it.

Bart, Jamie Jonkel, Eric Graham and I almost had the posts set when FWP's Interpretation Supervisor, Dan Stinson, and our contracted sign craftsman, Christie Brander, arrived with the "piece de resistance." None of us had seen more than a small computer image of the sign before it arrived, and none of us were adequately pre-

pared for what we observed when the protective covering was slowly removed from the product of Dan's design and Christie's artistry.

Tell me if that isn't one of the most beautiful and appropriate signs you've seen standing anywhere.

If I had known then what I know now, I might not have been quite so surprised. Although Christie lives and works in Avon now, it turns out that she went to high school in Seeley Lake. Only a labor of love could explain the quality of work that will commemorate the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range for many years to come.

The parking area site remains a work in progress. The next step will be to construct a short, wheelchair accessible path leading from the parking area to two new signs that will be installed in the foreground, between the parking area and Christie's sign. These signs will be much smaller, and will sit nearly flat on pedestals, about waist high. Designed and donated by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, these will describe the purpose of the Game Range in more detail, and recognize the numerous Habitat Partners who made such important contributions to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project and Phase 1 habitat purchase in 1999 and 2000. Everything should be completed in a very few weeks.

And, what about the original sign, the one that was part of our outdoor home for so many years? Well, I guess we're just a bunch of packrats around here. Christie hauled it back to her shop and agreed to restore it over the



winter. When completed, we plan to resurrect the "new" old sign near what's left standing of the old Boyd Ranch headquarters—now the Game Range headquarters—along Cottonwood Creek.

I hope you can agree that we made good choices with our care and handling of the Game Range sign(s). Because whether we succeeded or not, you were never far from our minds while we proceeded.

Finally, I promise never again to post any of my paper litter—"WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA CLOSED" or "ELK AND DEER HUNTING BY PERMIT ONLY" or even "GRIZZLY BEARS IN THIS AREA"—on these beautiful signs or their posts. At least there's one injustice in the world that I can correct.

## Senior Nutrition Program Menu

The following meals will be served next week promptly at noon at the Seeley Lake Senior Citizens Center. Reservations please - 677-2008. Call before 10:00 a.m.

- Monday, September 16 Turkey Roll
- Tuesday, September 17 Hungarian Goulash
- Wednesday, September 18 Birthday Dinner - Pork Cutlets
- Thursday, September 19 Mexican Cornbread
- Friday, September 20 Chicken Pot Pies

# Swan Valley Lutheran churches announce fall schedule

The community is cordially invited to join the Lutheran Churches of the Swan Valley (Holy Cross Lutheran at Seeley Lake and Faith Lutheran at Condon) as they begin their Fall Schedule on Sunday, September 15. At the Divine Service, Pastor Benson will begin a series of sermons on The Lord's Prayer, centered this Sunday on the Biblical teaching of the "holiness and meaning" of God's name. Used throughout the world, the Lord's Prayer is the greatest prayer that has ever been written; authored by Jesus Christ and given by Him to His Church, and His people, on how we are to pray; He has taught us both the manner in which and the words with which to pray.

Sunday School for students from pre-kindergarten through high school classes are centered in a solid foundation on the teachings of the Bible, using the time-tested curriculum, "Our Life in Christ." This outstanding course includes selected stories age-appropriate, based both on Old Testament and New Testament texts. In addition, classes will include craft projects; the "Primary Class" students will have the option of learning to play hymns of the Church using a Suzuki Recorder, which will be given to each student.

The Adult Bible Class at Holy Cross will begin with a three-session mini course on "How God Builds His Church" taught by Rev.

Schiefelbein. Following the three week "mini course," the Adult Class will begin a nine-session series on "End Times." This course will include the following teachings of the Bible: facing death, signs of the end of time (Antichrist); the return of Christ, the Millennial Reign (amillennialism, postmillennialism, premillennialism, rapture, tribulation), judgment day, the resurrection of the dead, the final judgment, and heaven and hell. The Adult Bible Class at Faith will include the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed, one of the great confessions of the Church which dates to the First Century.

The Divine Service at HOLY CROSS begins at 9:00 a.m., followed by a reception for all members. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class are held from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. The Divine Service at FAITH (Condon) begins at 11:00 a.m., followed by a reception for all members and preceded by Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. The Adult Bible Class will begin at 12:10 p.m. Pastor Benson stated that "It is a great joy to begin another fall season of worship and Bible study in our Swan Valley communities. We preach Christ crucified, risen, and coming again, to judge the living and the dead. The Church is here to offer the pure Word and the true Sacraments as God's people live out their life of faith, trusting in Jesus Christ alone for their sal-

vation, and remaining "faithful unto death" as we prepare for the return of Christ and the end of the world, which time is known only to God." Pastor Benson further stated that, "We cordially invite any in our community and area to come, where the primary purpose of the Church is to convey the forgiveness of sins to sinners, which Christ earned for all on the cross and distributes to you through His Word and Sacraments. We preach and teach the same Word the disciples preached and taught; and, we administer the same Sacraments our Lord Jesus Christ instituted while on earth, and gave to His Church."

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is located on Airport Road in Seeley Lake. Faith Lutheran Church is located in Condon on Highway 83. For further information please 677-7677.



Amber Ekstedt & Peter Blair

## Wedding Announcement

Carl and Lois Ekstedt along with Dan and Joyce Larson are proud to finally announce the engagement of their children, Amber Ekstedt and Peter Blair. The wedding will take place on October 5, 2002 at the Western Montana Fair Grounds.

Watch for this Date!  
**Oct. 18th**  
A "Gala" Evening Planned.

## 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-9:00 a.m.  
Pastor - Rev. Robert Benson - 1655 Airport Rd.  
Phone-677-2281 or 677-7677
- Living Water Catholic Church**  
Worship Mass: Saturdays-6:00 p.m.  
152 SCS Road  
Ph: 677-2688 or 793-5697  
Pastor-Father Jozef Perekubka
- Mountain Lakes Presbyterian Church**  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Worship-10:00 a.m.  
3292 Hwy 83 North Phone-677-3575  
Pastor-Scott Anthony
- Spirit of Christ Episcopal Fellowship**  
Worship-2nd & 4th Saturday of each month  
at the Senior Center-5:00 p.m.  
Phone-677-2905
- Mission Bible Fellowship (Non-Denominational)**  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School Worship-10:30 a.m.  
Hwy. 83 & School Lane  
Phone 677-2110  
Pastor Ken Wutzke

Open at 8:00 a.m. Serving Breakfast to 11 a.m!  
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Wednesday - Chicken Quesadillas - \$7.95  
Thursday - 14 oz. "Cowboy Cut" New York Steak - \$14.95  
Friday - Prime Rib - \$10.95 or Beer Batter Cod - \$6.95  
Saturday - BBQ Ribs - \$9.95 or 8 oz. Sirloin w/Shrimp - \$10.95  
Sunday - 12 oz. Rib Steak - \$12.95  
Monday - BBQ Chicken Breast - \$8.95  
Tuesday - Chicken Fried Steak - \$6.95  
CHECK OUT OUR LUNCH SPECIALS - Senior citizens - 10% discount  
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2 for 1 domestic draft - \$1.50 • Well drinks - \$1.50 • Micro brew draft - \$2.00  
Open Pool Table Wed & Thurs Nites • \$1 Domestic Draft Beer • \$2 Imported Draft Beer

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**NOTICE**  
Seeley Swan Chiropractic  
will be closed September 3 -13  
for vacation.

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Our "kitchen & Lounge" will be closed for remodeling Sept. 16, 17, 18, and 19.

Sorry for any inconvenience

We will Re-Open Friday, Sept. 20

# 'Wanted' bear in trouble second time

By Donna Love

The big black bear, tag number 0033, made famous by the Wanted Poster designed by Seeley Lake resident, Mary Lynne Jones, earlier this summer, was captured a second time on August 25 in Seeley Lake on North Canyon Road. The bear's capture came after a four day marauding spree, that ended when it broke into a freezer on the front porch of an area residence and ate an estimated \$350 worth of food including frozen pizza and ice cream. Two nights before it raided a bag of dog food, and two nights before that, garbage.

The first time the bear was in trouble, Game Warden Bill Koppen moved it to Elk Creek in the Garnet Mountain Range, but the bear returned. "That's not uncommon," Koppen said, "because bears have an incredible homing devise in the brain and know the way to good garbage."

"Bears easily range up to 100 miles," he added, explaining that even if he took a bear to the other side of the Chinese Wall in the Bob Marshall Wilderness it would only be 60 miles away.

Usually he can't take a bear much further than 50 miles away before hitting Condon, Ovando or the Rattlesnakes. "They don't want our problem bears," Koppen said, "just as the community of Seeley Lake wouldn't want other communities to bring their problem bears here."

This summer eleven different bears have been trapped around Seeley Lake, including a 22 year-old radio collared grizzly trapped for research. The ten black bears have been moved, but according to Koppen, moving bears isn't the

answer, bear-proofing homes is. Bear proofing includes double bagging garbage and storing it in a closed shed or garage where bears can't get at it until pick-up or delivery to the dump.

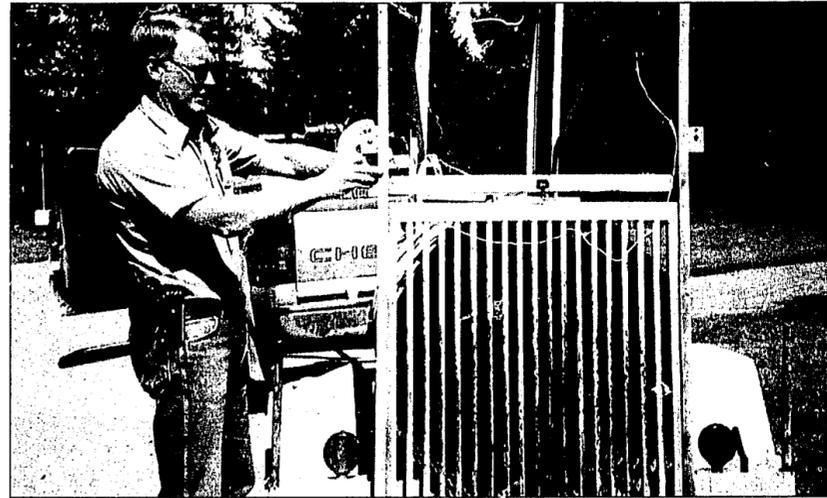
The first question he asks a homeowner when called about a bear problem is "Did it get garbage?" The answer is almost always yes. Bungy cords on the top of garbage cans or tarps over back of pickups is not bear-proofing. "A bear can turn over a truck if they're hungry," Koppen said.

At this time of year bears should be eating huckleberries not garbage, but Koppen looks at it from the bear's perspective: get lots of good garbage in the community, or eat huckleberries. "Bears will take the garbage any day," he said.

In addition, he's also sure some residents feed bears, which, according to him "has to stop." That's been proven time and again. Koppen cited the black bear attack that killed a 5-month-old girl in the Catskills near Albany, New York this summer. The attack took place two weeks ago on Sunday, August 18 at 2:40 in the afternoon when a 155-pound black bear knocked over the baby's stroller sitting on the porch of the vacationing family's cabin and carried the baby into the woods.

Witnesses said they heard someone shout, "Bear, bear, bear," and the mother pushed her two older children inside. When she turned back, the infant was gone. Other witnesses said the young bear carried the baby in its mouth into the woods 20 feet from the cabin. Several people came to the rescue, and the bear dropped the infant, but she died from injuries to her head and neck.

## Watch for scavaging bears as winter approaches



Game Warden Bill Koppen secures the trap containing the notorious black bear, shown below, that has broken into homes and raided freezers and refrigerators. This is the second time this summer that the bear has been trapped here and he will be released farther away from Seeley Lake this time. —Donna Love photo

The bear was tracked and killed the next day. It tested negative for diseases, such as rabies, that might cause unusual behavior. Officials feel the bear was in its first year of being on its own and may have seen the infant as food since it happened at this time of year when bears go on a "feeding spree" before hibernation.

It was well known that several of New York's 5000 bears lived in the area of the attack, as it was second only to the Adirondacks for the number of nuisance bear calls received by the state. It was also known that some folks "put garbage out for the bears."

Koppen doesn't want that to happen here, but he's afraid "somebody is going to get hurt or killed by a black bear in Seeley if the bear-garbage problem isn't addressed." He warns that grizzlies are in the area, too, so that adds extra concern.

In contrast, he said a few proactive ordinances would greatly reduce Seeley's nuisance bear incidents. "First," he said, "it should be illegal to have garbage out where a bear can get at it." In addition, garbage should only be put outside on pick-up day with pick-up twice a week in the summer instead of just once.

Secondly, all food should be put inside every night at home as well as campgrounds. Koppen said the mountain community of West Yellowstone solved its nuisance bear problem, including grizzly bears, by making it illegal to leave any food items out at night, includ-



A close-up of Bear Number 0033 in happier times when he avoided the "Wanted" posters by eating only snowmobile seat covers at the Noland home. —G. Noland photo

ing garbage, cat food, dog food, horse feed, and items associated with food such as barbecue grills and coolers. He said, "If West Yellowstone can do it, we can."

Koppen has seen some success in our area. The residents of Big Sky Lake, and Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and Forest Service campgrounds have greatly reduced their bear problems simply by bear proofing garbage. He would like to see more success stories.

Most bears are destroyed the second time they are in trouble. Bear #0033 got lucky, maybe in

part because it was famous and maybe because it was a big, healthy bear. This time he was moved 150 miles away. Koppen said he could still find his way home. It won't be so lucky for him next time.

So far, Koppen said, the citizens of Seeley Lake have been lucky, too.

\*Writers note: Some details of this incident taken from an article written by Dina Cappiello in the Albany, N.Y., Times Union newspaper.

## Dixiland Band fills in for 1st 2 Valley Concert

by Rolly Meinholtz

Watch out for Friday the 13th!!! Due to an unexpected medical emergency, 2 Valleys Stage has canceled Friday The Thirteenth due to bad luck.

Actually this is a Bad luck/ Good luck story. 2 Valleys Stage had to postpone school workshops for Friday the 13th and their Premier Season Opener scheduled for Saturday the 14: Bad Luck!

But, organizers were able to book The Last Chance Dixie Land Band for the new opening date of Saturday, September 28, and now become an added attraction of Seeley's Tamarack Festival! Good Luck!

The Last Chance Dixie Land Band will also present workshops at the Swan Valley and Seeley Lake grade schools on Friday, September 27th, and on Saturday, the 28th, a master class workshop for advanced students throughout our school system, beginning at 10:00AM at Seeley Swan High School.

The medical emergency that canceled Friday the 3th concert featuring The Missoula Symphony Brass Quintet, hit when Bob Green was rushed to Community Hospital for an appendectomy.

He is recovering but would not have been sufficiently healed in time to perform on Friday the 13th or 14th or anytime in the near future. As well as being an irreplaceable horn player for Missoula

Symphony Brass Quintet, Bob is one of the 2 Valleys organizers and teacher at Swan Valley School and Seeley Swan High School.

2 Valleys Stage does have other good news too. Seventy six season tickets went out in the mail at the end of August. For those who would still like to purchase them, Season tickets are now available in Condon at the Swan Ecosystems Center located at the Forest Service Work Center mile marker 43, Highway 83. Season Tickets are also still available a Books Yarn and More in Seeley.

Fund raising efforts for the series apart from Season Ticket sales have also been going very well.

The Plum Creek foundation has joined local Seeley/Swan businesses, patrons, and schools and MPAC in funding to the 2 Valleys Stage school workshops and public performances.

Plum Creek Foundation awarded 2 Valleys Stage a grant of \$2500 for their 2002-2003 series. Clearwater Reality is sponsoring the Young Artist series scheduled for May. Bob Stefczak of Seeley Lake Pharmacy is the sponsor of the school instrumental workshops this fall. Great Bear Properties, Roveros, Paws Up Cattle Ranch, The Emily A Bed and Breakfast, and Seeley Lake Motor Lodge have also contributed materially to 2 Valleys Stage's fund raising efforts.

The Last Chance Dixieland Band is justly well known all across the State of Montana, having performed widely throughout the Treasure state to great acclaim. Based largely in Helena, the group has also performed on cruise ships and just recently did a benefit at the Myrna Loy in that city. Dixieland, the happiest music on earth, is certain to bring rollicking joy to the Seeley Swan Valleys.

## Antique Show during the Tamarack Festival

The Seeley Lake Historical Society will be sponsoring an antique show and sale during the Tamaracks Festival this year. It will be held Saturday, September 28 only, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Seeley Lake Elementary School. An added feature to the show will be an appraiser who, for a fee of \$5.00 per item, will appraise your antiques. The proceeds from the appraiser and the rentals of the show space will go to the Seeley Lake Historical Society, who will then use the money for preservation of collections and display in the old barn being restored as the Seeley Lake Visitor Center and Museum. Along with other scheduled events in Seeley Lake that weekend, make sure you stop by for the show and sale and have your antique appraised.

## Want to Dance!

Line dancing classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 17, and run through December 17 at the Seeley Community Hall.

Beginners class: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
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## Homeschool group plans organizational meeting Sept. 19

Montana home school families continue to enjoy unparalleled liberty in exercising their rights and responsibilities to choose and to guide the course of their children's education. While the reasons to home school are varied and numerous, likewise the benefits are expansive and deep in scope. Many veteran home school families cannot imagine raising their children any other way, while many first year home school parents wonder what on earth they got themselves into! From such perceptual extremes comes a movement that continues to gain momentum yearly; during the period 1994 to

1998 nationwide enrollment of home school students tripled. It continues to grow. Many folks are surprised to learn that the Montana Legislature in 1895, and again in 1903, acknowledged homeschools. The 1991 Montana Legislature finalized the liberties homeschooling families enjoy today. People are, also, surprised to learn that a Montana County Superintendent of Schools facilitated a workshop at the 2002 Montana State Home School Convention, hosted in Missoula in June of this year. Homeschooling has attracted supporters from a broad spectrum.

While Montana provides many legal freedoms not shared by homeschoolers in some other states, the safeguards to these freedoms continue to require constant vigilance.

Both in and out of the homeschool movement, questions arise regarding academic achievement and excellence, curriculums, standardized testing, socialization and emotional adjustment of children, how far to homeschool (through high school?), special needs of children, team sports, and a host of other related topics. Substantial research supports home schooling as a viable educational experience in all areas. For example, as reported in the 02/11/00 Wall Street Journal, homeschoolers' average SAT scores were 67 points above the national average. Scores on social adjustment, motivation, and responsibility reflect the same kinds of achievement.

The fall organizational meeting of the Seeley-Swan Homeschool Support Group will be held Thursday, September 19, 2002 from 7-9 P.M. at the Faith Chapel, Highway 83 North, Seeley Lake, MT. Meeting topics include: general information and laws pertaining to home education, group activities including field trips and downhill skiing, book clubs, geography and spelling bees, feasibility of participating in the Two Valleys Stage educational component, mentoring needs and opportunities, assessing interest in reactivating the Co-Op, legislative update, and the role of fathers in home schooling, etc. The 2002 publication of "The Montana Guide to Home Education" will be available. Whether you are a veteran homeschool family, parents just getting started, or individuals curious about home education, please plan to attend this meeting. Please call Mark or Ruthie Mizner-Welch @ 677-2520 for information.



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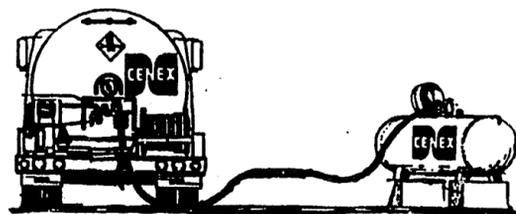
Thursday, Sept. 12  
 Arlee at Seeley 4:15 ABC  
 Friday, Sept. 13  
 Loyola at Seeley 4:15 ABC  
 Tuesday, Sept. 17  
 Seeley at Florence 4:15 ABC

### SEELEY-SWAN HIGH SCHOOL BLACKHAWKS VARSITY FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 13  
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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

Mountain Lakes Presbyterian Church Bible Club for girls & boys starting Sept. 17-18: 1st -3rd grades on Wednesdays, 4th-6th grades on Tuesdays (no class meetings on early dismissal days from school & holidays) from 3:15-4:30 p.m. Children ride the school bus to the church. For more information call Sandy, 677-2851 or Pastor Scott, 677-2994.

Antique Show & Sale sponsored by the Seeley Lake Historical Society, Sat., Sept. 28, Elementary School. Space to rent-\$15. Entry forms can be picked up at the Rockinghorse, 110 Larch, or call 677-0244.

**For Sale**

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

Land for Sale: 2 lots, side by side, in the heart of Seeley Lake. 5.18 ac. \$51,500 & 2.72 ac. with city water-\$50,500. Amazing privacy and beautiful views, 677-0203

Firewood, split & delivered, \$85/cord, 677-3564

'86 Bayliner, inboard/outboard, \$2000, 677-2245

BMX Diamondback Assault bicycle w/new rear triple wall rim-48 spokes, rear pegs, good condition-\$195; Mail Station, e-mail without the PC-great for college student, used only 2 months-\$40, 677-3033

Whirlpool washer & dryer, excellent condition; decorative headboard w/night stands, 677-3334

'94 Mazda pickup, 4WD, runs perfectly, radio/tape player-\$6000, 677-0244, leave message

**Help Wanted**

Experienced carpenters, carpenter's helpers, 677-2891

Experienced bartender. Apply at Elk Range Lounge & Casino, Clearwater Junction.

Weekend Warrior: Paws Up Horse Ranch is seeking a person to work weekends. Duties will include feeding & grooming horses, grounds upkeep, stall cleaning.

**Business Opportunity**

A+ M&M MARS/NESTLE VENDING ROUTE. Unique machine. Great opportunity! Prime locations available now! Excellent profit potential. Investment required \$10K & under. Toll-Free: 1-800-637-7444. #635

SMART MOMS AND DADS work from home. Up to \$500-\$5000 a month PT/FT. Free information and training provided. 800-213-6425. www.tennmill.com. #636

CERTIFIED programs in Diesel, Automotive, Autobody, Turf Equipment, Irrigation, Machining, Engineering Technology, Walla Walla Community College: The Intermountain Northwest's Workforce Education and Training Center. 1(509)527-4354. #637

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 CASH QUICK!! Receiving payments from property you've sold, injury settlement or annuity? We'll buy your payments for cash! Good prices, service. Creative Finance, Missoula. 1-800-999-4809. #639

DEBT RESOLUTION LEGAL CENTERS. will get you immediate relief!!! Reduce your bills by up to 50%. Pre-qualify. www.DebtCenters.com or call 1-866-467-2487. #640

NO DOWN PAYMENT? Problem credit? Own a new home without the big down payment. If you're motivated w/\$35K+income call American Home Partners at 1-800-830-2006. www.americanhomepartners.net. #641

FOR SALE  
 FOR SALE: Established business location, Downtown Great Falls, Pristine condition, Parking, exposure, work area, 1800' main floor, 1800' basement, \$145,000. Brochure, Montana West Brokerage, 1-800-962-2427. #642

FOR SALE - EQUIPMENT  
 SAWMILL \$3895. NEWSUPERLUMBERMATE

snowplowing, etc. Job may work into full time employment in the spring. Sat. & Sun, 7 am to quitting time will vary. Fax resume to (406) 244-5336.

Heavy equipment & laborer. Call John, 677-2600

Child care in my home or yours, 677-8888

3 beautiful male Black Lab puppies, approx. 10 weeks old, \$100 each, both parents pedigreed & on premises, first shots included, 677-8888

Maytag stacking washer/dryer-\$300; 20" Magic Chef gas stove-\$100, 677-0075

'99 700RMK snowmobile, only 70 miles, includes: cover, rear basket, mountain bar, reverse, belly pan, elect. start, extra belt, radiator-expanded/upgraded cooling system, \$5000, 677-3561 or 677-4052

**Wanted**

Looking for someone to carpool with to Missoula, 406-210-1914

HOUSE SITTING: Couple building on Double Arrow seek housesitting assignment during Sept., Oct., Nov. Experienced & reliable, 406-543-6745

**For Rent**

Mini storage units available. 98 units to serve your needs. Clearwater Mini Storage, LLC, 677-3000

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

Office space/store, \$350/mo, at the Filling Station Mall, 677-3152 or 406-210-1344, leave message

**State Wide Classified Ad Network**

The Pathfinder now offers you a one-step, inexpensive way to place advertising messages in 55 participating weekly and semi-weekly and 7 daily newspapers in Montana. The service offers you a circulation of 206,000 households (494,400 readers) for a low price of \$119 for a 25-word ad. Call 677-2022 for details.

**national Systems, LTD., Missoula, Montana.**

#648 BOZEMAN MRI Lead & Staff MRI Technologists. Join our team developing a new independent state-of-the-art medical imaging facility. Excellent career opportunities for individuals with demonstrated MRI experience & ability. Reply to: Bozeman MRI, 2150 Analysis Dr., Bozeman, MT 59718, 406-582-0005. #649

CHOOSE SUCCESS. Financial freedom, realize your dreams! Because only you can change your life. Work at home. 1-800-301-9036. www.terminaleboss.com. #650

DRIVERS... SWIFT TRANSPORTATION is hiring experienced and inexperienced drivers and O/Q. CDL Training is available. We offer great pay, benefits, tuition reimbursement 1-866-222-6646 (see-m/v) #651

MANAGER/CARETAKER TEAM Mini-storage facility. Office & maintenance, plus facility upkeep, Apt. util., & Salary. No pets. Resume: 234 Arden Dr., Belgrade, MT 59714. #652

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 NFR RODEO MOTORCOACH PACKAGE to Las Vegas: 12/5 to 12/10 and 12/11 to 12/17. Call Karst Stage in Bozeman 406-586-8567 dial 42 for Roger. www.karststage.com. #654

**WOODHOUSE CONSTRUCTION, Inc.**

custom homes • light commercial standard & timber frame construction  
 EIN #81-0498223 Established 1984 MT Reg. #13352

STEVE WOODHOUSE, PRESIDENT

Phone (406) 342-4087  
 Toll-free 1-866-342-4087  
 Fax (406) 342-4621  
 PO Box 487  
 Lincoln, Montana 59639

Independent Builder/Dealer  
 woodhouse@timberframe.com

**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.

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

**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.**

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

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**2002 Big Buck Contest**

Sign Up at Elk Range Lounge  
 AT THE CLEARWATER JUNCTION  
 Happy Hour Monday - Friday 5 - 7 p.m.  
 FREE POOL Mon & Tues Evenings  
 For info call Ken or Jeff at 244-0098

**SEELEY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU**

**Week of September 16, 2002**

Monday, September 16 Chicken Nuggets  
 Tuesday, September 17 Nachos  
 Wednesday, September 18 Roast Pork & Gravy  
 Thursday, September 19 French Dip Sandwiches  
 Friday, September 20 Pancakes & Links

**BLACKFOOT Telephone Cooperative**

1221 N. Russell St. Missoula, MT 59808  
 For questions, call: (800) 649-4108

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Independent Builder/Dealer  
 woodhouse@timberframe.com

# WOLD'S VALLEY MARKET

Locally owned  
& operated

One Mile South of Seeley Lake  
on Scenic 83

A member of Associated Food Stores, Inc.  
SEELEY LAKE, MONTANA



Open 7 Days A Week!

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

406/677-2121

WE ARE MEMBERS OF



SEE INSERT SPECIALS

Effective September 11, 2002 - September 17, 2002 • POSTAGE STAMPS • ATM MACHINE

## The ESPRESSO BOOTH

Easy Access from Whitetail Drive  
NOTE HOURS

Fall/Winter Booth hours  
Sunday — Saturday 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



### Lunch is Ready ...

Lunch Menu for this week...9/16 - 9/18

Monday: "Iron Kettle" Chicken & Dumplings Soup  
Tuesday: "Tremendous Tato Tuesday" - Baked Potato with your  
choice of toppings  
Wednesday: "Cousin Polly's" Broccoli & Cheese Soup

~ 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., 12 oz. bowl with roll - \$2.50

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

### YMCA News Update on Activities

The YMCA Soccer Season is here! The Y Soccer Program has become the largest Y Sports Program. Last year over 100 kids participated in this popular sport. This year all athletes registered for soccer will receive soccer jerseys. Parents register your kids early!

Seeley Lake soccer practice will be Monday and Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the ball field next to the school.

Ovando school soccer practice will be on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Swan Valley and Salmon Prairie School practice times will be Monday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Coaches and helpers are needed! Please contact Ellie Wood at 754-2509. No experience necessary.

Helmville is joining the Y Soccer program this year. Their practices will be Thursday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Soccer games are scheduled for September 16, Seeley Lake at Condon, at 4:00 p.m. at the Condon ball field next to the airport. Helmville will play Ovando on Sept. 19 at 4:30 p.m. at the Ovando ball field.

Parents, it is important that each soccer player wears shin guards and good running shoes. If you buy a soccer ball the sizes are as follows: Kindergarten - 1st Grade: size 3 ball; 2nd - 4th grade: size 4 ball; and 5th - 8th grade: size 5 ball.

Volunteers are needed for coaching as well as helpers! Please call Teresa Friede, 677-2186 or Kathie O'Brien, 677-3330 if you would like to help.

The Registration Fee for soccer is \$15.00 per participant. Family discounts and scholarships are available. Please call the Seeley-Swan YMCA Office for more information, 677-3330, or stop by the Outreach office at the Lazy Pine Mall. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Special of the Week

### "Good Night Irene Latte"

Freshly steamed milk & espresso is added to the distinct flavors of Amaretto & Irish Cream for a lip-smacking coffee experience!

Save .25 cents on any size this week!

### "FYI"

It was 1905 that the first commercial espresso machine was manufactured in Italy.

September 11th — Always remember.  
Kiss your spouse, hug your kids & pray.

## The Wine Rack

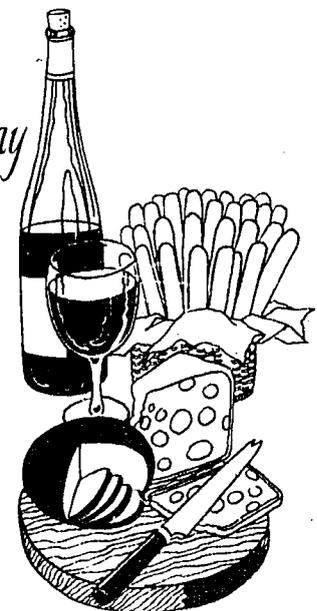
### Wine of the Week

Robert Mondavi Coastal

Private Selection Chardonnay

Showcasing grapes from their finest California coastal vineyards, the Private Selection wines embody a fruit forward style, perfect for enjoying with family & friends.

This Chardonnay displays crisp apple, melon, tropical fruit & spice notes, with its soft oak nuance from barrel aging.



\$9.39

for .750 ml bottles for the Month of September