

**Final report on hunters at
Bonner Station is a rea
—Mike Thompson**

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PATHFINDER

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Vol XVIII, No. 31

"Voices from the Valley"

Thursday, December 4, 2003

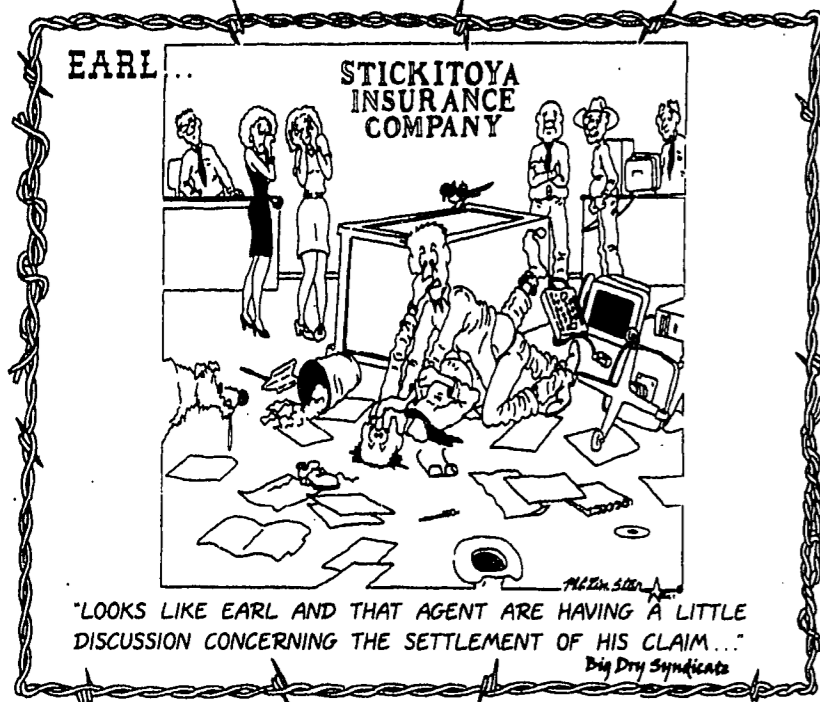
'Arsenic & Old Lace' Drama at SSHS Tuesday!

Fogged in at Salmon Lake

**Even waterfowl like a little visibility
before take-off, so we suspect these
were waiting for the fog to lift before
continuing south.**



Smith photo
email: pathfinder@montana.com
www.seeleystanpathfinder.com



Editorial Comment

Chips . . . bits & pieces

Mistake made. Last week in the Thanksgiving story about the 1st through 3rd grades, I made an error on the last name of Hope Crowell. She was listed as Hope Jacobs. My apologies to her dad Doug Crowell and her mom June Jacobs. Patricia Swan Smith.

Next week we'll have a hunting wrap up story that Patricia Swan Smith is working on. We have lots of successful young hunters out there and if parents would like to submit a photo of their kids for the story we will try and run them. Send it in with a self-addressed envelope for the return.

The SSSH Student Government is working on a community service project by putting together a holiday dinner in order to raise funds for families in need in the Seeley, Condon and Ovando communities during this holiday season. Called a Holiday Feast-ival, there will be a Holiday Dinner, with all the trimmings, and a concert following. Sounds like fine entertainment and a worthwhile project. See details in an announcement in this issue.

—Gary Noland

Strong Hands and Brave Hearts

"Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution He will come to save you.'" - Isaiah 35:3, 4

Harold Senkbeil, a noted teacher of the Church, writes of this text and asks "That's us, isn't it?" Feeble hands and weak knees. We lost our courage in this world, especially when the winds of adversity blow long and hard. If you've ever faced chronic pain or illness, you understand. If you've ever dealt with the emotional pain of loneliness or the heartache of disappointment or the aching loss of someone you love, you know that hands become feeble at times and knees get pretty wobbly. Then there's fear. We fear for someone else or fear for ourselves - fear for life and health or fear of the unknown. Whatever the kind of fear, it leaves the heart in a vise and the stomach tied in knots. Isaiah the prophet speaks directly to the likes of us today. He says, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come."

Now, talk is cheap. Anybody can tell us to be strong and not to fear. But this is not just advice on how to be a more successful person. This is the Word of God. This is the voice of the Lord, the God of the covenant, speaking through the mouth of His prophet. Isaiah, in the strength and power of the Holy

Spirit, looked far into the future, grabbed a fistful of the promises of God, and thrust them right into the fearful hearts of the people of Judah. "Your God will come," he promised. And come he did, in Jesus Christ, to save. Jesus Christ is God; He is the one true God and the only God who saves.

In Jesus' death on the cross, God the Lord wreaked havoc on death and the devil. By Jesus' sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection, he broke the stranglehold of death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

"Be strong, do not fear," for God comes to you now to bear your heartache and your fear - to wrap His arms around you. In His Word and the sacraments of Baptism and The Lord's Supper, He gives you forgiveness, comfort and peace; He strengthens you in your weakness and quiets you with His gracious presence. In the gospel you have the strength and courage you need right now and to all eternity. And that is very good news, indeed, for you.

Swan Song

Harold McArthur

Harold McArthur of Poskin WI Age 70 Died Tuesday, November 18, 2003 at his brother Clydes residence near Poskin, WI.

Hal is preceded in death by his loving partner Donna Howell, his brother Lee (Gerril Refsland) of Woodland, CA; 3 sisters Virginia Berheimer of Maplewood, MN, Alice Roberts of Bend OR, and Florence Gatlin of Hampton, VA.

Hal lived in Seeley Lake Montana for the past two years and was the caretaker of The Double Arrow Lodge. Hal was a hard worker, great story teller and a good friend. Hal will be greatly missed. There will be a memorial service Thursday December 4th at The Double Arrow Lodge in the Great Hall. Graveside Funeral Services for Harold McArthur were held Tuesday, November 25, 2003, 2 PM at Resurrection Cemetery in Mendota Heights, MN. Interment also at Resurrection Cemetery.

Passages

by Rev. Dr. Robert Lee Benson
Pastor
Holy Cross & Faith Lutheran

Workshop in Kalispell can help businesses compete globally

An upcoming one-day workshop in Kalispell will train Montana businesses to compete successfully in the global economy.

The Montana Rural Business Solutions Workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, in the WestCoast Outlaw Inn.

All rural business leaders are invited to attend.

The cost is \$50 per person, and scholarships are available. Call Elinor Edmunds at (406) 443-9292 or visit www.mwtc.org or <http://www.mwtc.org> for <http://www.mwtc.org> more information or to register.

WestCoast Outlaw Inn reservations are available at (800) 325-4000.

The event will be hosted by The University of Montana-based Montana World Trade Center, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Small Business Administration and Big Sky Airlines. The workshop will offer information about financing and technical assistance options, as well as models of rural companies that have overcome challenges to market products worldwide.

Topics will include Business Expansion Financing, Rural Montana in the 21st Century, Doorways to Added Value, Case Studies of Montana Companies and Solutions for You and Your Business.

Among the speakers will be Michelle Johnston, state director of the Small Business

Administration; Craig Denny, executive vice president and COO of Big Sky Airlines; Steve Anderson, CEO and managing partner of Artisans Doors of Montana; and Tom Swenson, president of the Montana Business Capital Corp.

Painting the Pillars at SLE



"Paint the Pillar" Project at Seeley Lake Elementary

If you've been by Seeley Lake Elementary School lately, you know that the school's four front pillars have taken on a new look. The once plain gray cement pillars now have scenes depicting Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, thanks to Donna Love, who volunteered to help students paint the scenes.

The process started at the beginning of the school year when the four seasons were assigned to each class. First and eighth grades are responsible for Spring, second

and seventh grades for Summer, third and sixth grades for Fall, and fourth and fifth grades and kindergarten for Winter. Each class drew pictures of things that occur in their season. These first designs formed the basis of the mountain scenery.

While the students were drawing, Donna painted the pillars white with a thick cement sealer. Next, students from fourth grade up helped her paint the background mountain scenes. Donna added the finishing touches.

The next step, which will continue this fall, weather permitting,

will be completed next Spring. Each student will paint the small pictures of their own creation on the pillars. First and second grades have already begun. A closer look at the Summer pillar will reveal children camping, fishing, and playing. Deer and mountain lions adorn Spring. Donna said, "I wasn't sure when we started how the pillar painting would turn out, but I'm very pleased with the progress."

If the weather holds, more students will add their designs. In the meantime, swing by and see the pretty scenes.



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Community band organizing for Winterfest

We are once again trying to organize a community band. If we have enough people, we will perform during Winterfest. Please contact Bob Green at Seeley-Swan High School or at home (677-3056) if you are interested. If you no longer have access to an instrument, we can probably help you out. All band instruments are needed, but especially trumpets and clarinets. We will meet on Wednesday, December 10 in the band room of Seeley-Swan High School at 7:00 p.m. to determine if there is enough interest to continue.

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

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

PUBLIC MEETINGS
S.L. Cemetery Bd, 1st Thur, 7pm, fire hall
Seeley Swan Health Bd., 2nd Mon, 5pm, Med. Ctr.
S.L. Comm. Council, 2nd Mon, 7pm, Sen. Cit. Ctr.
S.L. Elem Bd, 2nd Tues, 6pm
Swan Valley School Bd, 2nd Tues, 7:30pm, school library
DARLOA, 2nd Wed, 4pm, Sr. Cit. Ctr.
Swan Lands Comm. mtg., 2nd Wed, 7pm, Swan Eco. Ctr.
S.L. Chamber, 2nd Wed, 5pm, Deer Country Quilts

WEEKLY EVENTS
Alcoholics Anonymous: (help for those with a suspected drinking problem)
-Condon: Faith Lutheran Church, every Sunday, 3pm
-Seeley Lake: Every Wed, 7pm, Living Water Catholic Church, on SOS Rd. For info: 677-3271 or 677-2892.
*Potomac: 406-244-5204
Alateen: (help for teenagers of alcoholic families) Hotline 677-2753
Al-Anon: Every Thurs, 7pm, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1655 Airport Rd., 677-0016

Overeaters Anonymous: every Thursday, 7pm, Faith Lutheran Church, Condon, 754-2371
Missoula County Commissioners Public Mtg, every Wed, Court-house Annex, Room 201, Missoula, 1:30 pm.
T.O.P.S. Mtg, every Thurs, Mission Bible Fellowship bldg., Seeley Lake, 10am.
MONTHLY EVENTS
FAIM Outreach Specialist, 1st & 3rd Thur, 9:30-3, Seeley-Swan Med. Ctr.
WIC Clinic, 1st Tues., 9:20-3:30, Faith Chapel
Pinochle, every 1st & 3rd Sat., Senior Citizens Center, 7 pm
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
Love Hearts Thrift Store: Open Wed, 11:00-4:00, Sat, 11-3, 677-5683

(emergency 677-2110)
Seeley Lake Community Hall: For hall rental, call Cheri Thompson, 677-2454
Seeley Swan Stage: Local trips Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri. Missoula trip Tues. Please call 677-2018 Monday morning to schedule rides.
LIBRARIES:
Seeley Lake Public Library (Seeley-Swan High School) Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed 11 a.m.-noon), Wed, 3-8 p.m., Sat, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 677-2224 ext. 5741
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, Greenough or Ovando.
Swan Lake Residents: 886-2324 (Fire, QRU or Search & Rescue) or 1-406-752-6161 for Sheriff. Highway Patrol.

Final report from Bonner Check Station a Winner!

by Mike Thompson

I hear a lot about the good old days, and I sure hope I didn't miss them.

If you take the expression "good old days" literally, you would have to conclude that only old days are good days. What makes old days good?

Well, old days are over, for one thing.

Fortunately, the human spirit clings to a brighter outlook. Speaking objectively, the old days are more distant from memory than the days we are living now. So, something good that happened in the past need not be clouded by the details that diminish its goodness, whereas today's good experiences are blurred by the back that still aches at the end of the day.

Which makes me wonder if the "old" part of the "good old days" shouldn't pertain more to the age of the person than the age of the days?

I think there's a tendency for people of a certain age to compare all present experiences to the faded and embellished memories of those lived long before. You take a hike one day and suddenly become conscious of a period when your feet dance nimbly from boulder to boulder, your breath comes easily, and the air smells uncommonly fresh.

"This is how I used to feel," you say to your companion. And, even though it makes you smile, the moment only seems to matter when you link it to the past. As soon as your knee starts to creak again, you're back in the reality of the bad "new" days.

On the other hand, I can still remember when the good old days most assuredly lay ahead of me. As a teenager, dreaming first of what it was going to be like to be Mickey Mantle when I grew up, then graduating to Jerry West, and finally mutating into a modern day Jeremiah Johnson (with a deadly jump shot, of course), my best days were over the next horizon.

So, does anybody know a good old day when they are living one?

Well, I'm here to tell you hunters that the season that ended last Sunday was better than it's been in the Blackfoot since the mid-1990s.

That's according to the final tally of elk, mule deer, and white-tailed deer from Bonner Check Station this hunting season. Hunters checked 199 elk, 162 mule deer, and 690 white-tailed deer through Bonner this year. Last year, which bore a pretty close resemblance to the "bad old days," hunters checked only 100 elk, 100 mule deer, and 470 whitetails through Bonner. Only 1999 was a worse



year for elk, with a recorded kill of 98.

The last time the elk harvest through Bonner matched or exceeded 199 was in 1994, when a whopping 280 elk were checked. But, the record (since 1980) was set in 1988 when 298 elk passed through.

The last time that 852 or more deer came through Bonner was in 1996. The best season for putting deer in the freezer (since 1980) was 1994, with a record of 1,657 checked.

So, what does this information really tell us? Most of you who killed elk or deer in the Blackfoot or Clearwater country this year didn't drive through Bonner with them. Or if you did for some reason, the check station might have been closed. (It's only open from about 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., and only on the first 8 days, and week-ends thereafter.)

Admittedly, we could end hunger in Montana with the deer and elk that we fail to count at Bonner Check Station. But, by operating the check station in the

exact same way every year, year after year, we do obtain a trend in the harvest.

In other words, Bonner Check Station is one way to find out if you're living in the "good old days," or not.

And, the answer? If you started hunting after 1996, the answer is certainly yes, these are the good old days. But, if you were hunting elk or deer in the period from 1984-1994, well, the curmudgeons among you would have to say that things just aren't like they used to be.

What made 1984-1994 so good?

By the mid-1980s elk numbers across Region 2 were starting to build in response to stricter controls by FWP on the harvest of cows and calves. Deer numbers were rebounding after the severe winters of the early 1970s, and also in response to regulations that reduced doe harvest. As elk and deer increased, so did FWP's allocation of permits to kill more elk and deer.

Add in some mild winters, good hunting weather, and an in-

creasing number of hunters afield and you get lots of elk and deer going home in the backs of pick-ups.

In fact, things were so good for hunters that elk and deer populations were starting to show reductions in some areas. So, FWP began issuing fewer special licenses to kill antlerless elk and deer.

Then the winter of 1996-97 hit, and elk, deer, and antlerless hunting opportunities plummeted. Since then we've had mild winters, but often dry summers as well, and hunting weather has varied from bad to worse.

Until this year. The results at Bonner may herald the dawning of a new day. We know that elk numbers are high, and deer are trending upward again. FWP is starting to reward more hunters with more special permits again. And, finally the weather is cooperating in hunting season.

Whether this new day will be "good," or "bad," is entirely up to you.

DEQ adds Pyramid and eight other sites to priority list

by Gary Noland

A legal notice in this issue of the Pathfinder says the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is allowing 30 days for public comment on its intention to list Pyramid Mountain Lumber facility on the Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA) priority list.

According to Moriah Bucy, solid and hazardous waste management specialist with DEQ, Pyra-

mid Lumber is one of nine sites that have been on the "radar screen" for some time, but not at a high level of priority.

The legal notice says an October 2001 Phase II Environmental Investigation documents the presence of pentachlorophenol and petroleum contamination in soil and groundwater at the site that exceeds EPA maximum contaminant levels and Montana numeric water quality standards.

Bucy said Pyramid is one of nine other sites where older inves-

tigations are now being put out for public comment. The public comment time runs from December 10, 2003 to January 8, 2004 at 5 p.m., and a future public meeting can be scheduled by the request of 10 or more persons or by a local governing body.

Loren Rose, Pyramid controller, said he was unaware of DEQ's intention to provide a public comment period, but that the problem is nothing new.

Pyramid ran a wood treatment facility for a short time, three years from 1977 to 1980, and it was operated only sporadically, Rose said.

"We knew we were on their list, and we've been working with them for three years," Rose said.

There have been four monitoring wells and three soil drillings at the site, Rose said, adding that

Pyramid two years ago hired an engineer and added another well for monitoring as well as taking soil drilling samples.

Levels of contaminants were low in the groundwater, Rose said, adding, "I don't think the contamination level will cause the level of concern that the wording of DEQ's notice will create."

"I don't think the twenty-three year old spill poses a serious envi-

ronmental problem," Rose said, but added that Pyramid is a socially responsible company and will continue to work with DEQ as they have for the past three years. "We've spent far more money on this to date than DEQ required," Rose added.

If anyone has any questions, Rose said they should feel free to call him at his office: 677-2201, extension 26.

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Thank You
The family of Walt Styler wishes to thank everyone who gave cards, flowers, hugs and kind words of sympathy during this difficult time.

Holiday Feast-ival

Holiday Dinner, including all the trimmings and dessert.
WHEN: Tuesday, December 16, 2003
5pm to 6:30pm
Holiday Concert follows at 7pm

WHERE: Seeley Swan High School Small Gymnasium

WHY: To provide food baskets, phone/gas cards and holiday gifts for those in need in the Seeley, Condon and Ovando communities. This is in conjunction with the Wold's Valley Market Giving Tree, the Seeley Lake Lions Club, Condon Girl Scouts and the Condon AARP.

HOW: Tickets are available at the following locations, Rovero's, Seeley Lake Wold's Valley Market, Seeley Lake Seeley Lake Senior Citizens Center (M-F, 7am to 1pm) Seeley Lake Lions Club Seeley-Swan High School Office Seeley Lake Elementary School Office Condon Elementary School Office Trixie's Saloon, Ovando

COST: \$5 for an individual pass \$20 for a family pass Donations will be gratefully accepted. Gift passes also available.

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Sheriff's Report

(911 calls compiled with the cooperation and assistance of the Sheriff's Department and Deputy Scott Newell.)

November 17 - 23, 2003

11/17, 7:35 a.m. - Criminal mischief - window broken - Seeley Lake
 11/17, 2:35 p.m. - Extra patrol requested for hunter shooting near house - Condon
 11/17, 3:58 p.m. - Officer advice needed re: junk vehicles - Condon
 11/17, 10:25 p.m. - Medical call - Seeley Lake - cancelled
 11/18, 10:12 a.m. - Handgun lost - Seeley Lake
 11/18, 10:13 a.m. - Court papers served - Condon
 11/18, 10:34 a.m. - Vehicle accident - Condon - no injuries
 11/18, 12:04 p.m. - Vehicle spinning brodie's - Seeley Lake
 11/18, 2:47 p.m. - Alarm - Seeley Lake - not bona fide
 11/19, 4:16 p.m. - Person to be removed - Seeley Lake

11/19, 5:08 p.m. - Cell phone lost - Seeley Lake
 11/19, 5:51 p.m. - Court warrant served - 1 arrested - Seeley Lake
 11/20, 10:27 p.m. - Bar check - Seeley Lake
 11/21, 11:01 a.m. - Theft of bar stool - Seeley Lake
 11/21, 3:15 p.m. - Court papers served - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 12:33 a.m. - Bar check - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 1:17 a.m. - Bar check - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 1:52 a.m. - Criminal mischief - vehicle window broken - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 11:55 a.m. - Follow up investigation re: criminal mischief - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 5:05 p.m. - Theft of wallet from vehicle - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 7:30 p.m. - Vehicle needs assistance - Seeley Lake
 11/22, 10:58 p.m. - Bar check - Seeley Lake
 11/23, 12:27 a.m. - Bar check - Seeley Lake
 11/23, 12:45 p.m. - Vehicle accident - Seeley Lake - 1 transported by Lifeflight
 11/23, 3:15 p.m. - Civil problem - Seeley Lake
 11/23, 8:44 p.m. - Person needs assistance - Condon

November 24 - 30, 2003
 11/24, 12:56 p.m. - Follow up investigation re: theft - Seeley Lake
 11/24, 1:45 p.m. - Intimidation - Seeley Lake
 11/24, 9:47 p.m. - Suspicious activity - Condon
 11/25, 7:04 p.m. - Court papers served - Seeley Lake
 11/28, 11:18 a.m. - Court papers served - Condon
 11/28, 12:02 p.m. - Illegal parking - Greenough
 11/28, 1:29 p.m. - Property found - Seeley Lake
 11/28, 2:07 p.m. - Court papers served - Seeley Lake
 11/28, 5:20 p.m. - Court papers served - Seeley Lake
 11/28, 5:35 p.m. - Property returned - Seeley Lake

11/28, 7:09 p.m. - Suspicious vehicle - Condon
 11/29, 2:54 a.m. - Disabled vehicle - Hwy. 200, MM 28
 11/29, 1:38 p.m. - Probation violation - Seeley Lake - 1 arrested
 11/29, 1:59 p.m. - Civil standby - Seeley Lake
 11/29, 3:13 p.m. - Court papers served - Seeley Lake
 11/29, 4:08 p.m. - Follow up investigation - Seeley Lake
 11/29, 4:38 p.m. - Officer advice needed - Seeley Lake
 11/29, 6:07 p.m. - Follow up investigation - Seeley Lake
 11/30, 8:44 a.m. - Restraining order violation - Seeley Lake
 11/30, 2:37 p.m. - Abandoned vehicle - Hwy. 200, MM 29

Weather Report

DATE	HIGH	LOW	CONDITIONS
Nov 15	40	18	Foggy a.m., partly to mostly cloudy p.m.
Nov 16	38	26	Trace precip., 0.2" snow, mostly overcast, skiff of snow early, heavy snow late p.m.
Nov 17	37	31	0.30" precip., 2.8" snow, heavy snow last p.m., overcast & flurries today, steady snow & sleet in p.m.
Nov 18	45	30	0.19" precip., 1.0" snow, snow overnight, rain today, windy in p.m.
Nov 19	55	33	Mostly cloudy & windy, rain late p.m.
Nov 20	54	21	0.17" precip., 1.3" snow, rain turned to snow last p.m., partly to mostly cloudy today.
Nov 21	32	13	0.06" precip., 2.0" snow, steady snow in a.m., flurries and windy throughout the day and evening.

Richard E. Taylor, Seeley Lake RD email: retaylor@fs.fed.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Rule 17.55.108 of the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM), the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) hereby gives notice of a 30-day public comment period on its intent to list the Pyramid Mountain Lumber Facility in Seeley Lake, MT, on the Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA) priority list. The Pyramid Mountain Lumber Facility is located in Township 16 North, Range 15 West, Section 3 of Missoula County, Montana. DEQ has confirmed a release of a hazardous or deleterious substance that may pose an imminent and substantial threat to public health, safety, or welfare or the environment.

DEQ has determined that remedial actions are required to address contamination at the Pyramid Mountain Lumber Facility. An October 2001 Phase II Environmental Investigation report and a January 2002 Environmental Site Investigation Report document the presence of pentachlorophenol and petroleum contamination in subsurface soil and groundwater at the facility. Contaminant concentrations in subsurface soil exceed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) preliminary remediation goals and/or soil screening levels. Contaminant concentrations in groundwater exceed EPA maximum contaminant levels and Montana numeric water quality standards.

Therefore, DEQ proposes that the facility be included on the CECRA priority list. The public comment period will begin on Dec. 10, 2003, and end on Jan. 8, 2004, at 5 p.m. Copies of facility-related documents are available at the DEQ Site Response Section of the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Bureau office located at 1100 North Last Chance Gulch in Helena. DEQ will hold a public meeting upon written request to DEQ on or before Jan. 8, 2004, by 10 or more persons, a group composed of 10 or more persons, or by a local governing body. Please submit written comments to Moriah Bucy at the DEQ Remediation Division, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or via email to mbucy@state.mt.us <mailto:mbucy@state.mt.us>. For more information, call 406-841-5064.

Rem0403256

Paws-Up Needs Your Help!

Story and photos By Jessica Egrid

(Note from the editor: Jessica is a senior at the Seeley-Swan High School this year. She also volunteers at the Paws-Up Safe Home.)

Most of the people in Seeley Lake have heard of Paws-Up Safe Home. This shelter ends up with the lost and abused animals from community members and tourists. It also boards dogs when people go out of town.

The non-profit organization was started in 1998 when Elinor Williamson asked Renee Stowe to take care of one dog until it could be found a home. This one dog led to over 200 dogs and numerous cats. All of the animals that are taken to Paws-Up are in need of basic care. Many are in need of veterinary attention. This is one of the reasons Paws-Up needs your continued support.

Renee uses most of her home for the operation of Paws-Up, which includes providing heat and water. So far both Renee and Elinor have covered much of the cost out of their own pockets.

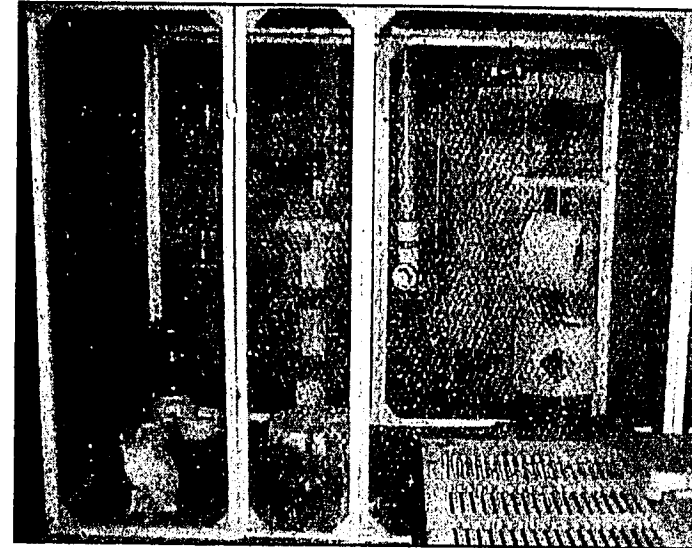
In the past couple of months there have been various animals brought to the shelter that were in need of special care. Some of these creatures were injured and others needed basic veterinary procedures. These veterinary visits are very expensive. The animals that are already at Paws-Up need food and water bowls, collars, leashes, harnesses, food, and other necessities. To fund these things Paws-Up needs donations from the community.

Paws-Up is an asset to Seeley Lake and it needs to stay in operation. It not only helps the animals that are brought there, but it also helps the animals of more unfortunate families by funding operations to spay and neuter the pets of these families. Paws-up also donates many pounds of animal food a week to the food bank.

To continue this great service, Paws-up needs continued cash donations. You may also help by donating food, toys, or anything you can to Paws-Up Safe Home. The organization needs to stay in operation for the good of all the lost and neglected dogs and cats in Seeley Lake. Paws-Up would also like to thank those who have and are donating to Paws-Up.

If you are able to do so, please send a cash donation to Paws Up Safe Home, P.O. Box 323, Seeley Lake, MT 59868, or you may call Renee 677-3435 about donations. If you would like, you may sign up for monthly or yearly donations.

Also, please remember to spay and neuter your pets. When you take an animal into your family, it becomes your responsibility. Your pets love and trust you, so please do not let them down.



This is called the "Cattery". This keeps the cats separated from the dogs at Paws Up.



Dana Freide with a couple of the dogs at Paws Up Safe Home. Several students volunteer to help out at Paws Up. Dana and Jessica Egrid are two of those students.



This guy's name is Zeke. He was one of the many favorites that stayed at Paws Up.

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 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.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
 Mon. 5 p.m. Jr-Sr High Confirmation-Bible Class; Tues 7:30 pm. Adult Bible Study Wed. 7 pm Adult Bible Study
 Pastor - Rev. Robert Benson -1655 Airport Rd.
 Phone - 677-7677

Living Water Catholic Church
 Worship Mass: Sunday-2:00 p.m.
 152 SOS 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. Phone-677-3575
 3292 Hwy 83 North
 Pastor-Scott Anlhony

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

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 Phone 677-2110
 Pastor Ken Wutzke

Suspense and murder on stage wth “Arsenic and Old Lace”

Seeley-Swan High School Drama will present “Arsenic and Old Lace” a play by Joseph Kesselring, on December 9th at 7:00 pm.

Joseph Kesselring is a true ma-stermind in comedy, and shows this rare talent through the blending of age, suspense, poison, and murder in a truly magnificent play.

“Arsenic and Old Lace” takes place in the home of two elderly ladies in Brooklyn N.Y.

The two ladies, Abby Brewster (Samantha Hoxworth) and Martha Brewster (Nikki Maloughney), seem like pure earth angels, but all this changes when their nephew Mortimer (Jon

Phipps) becomes engaged to Elaine (Katie Biggins). It will be a fun filled evening.

The cast and crew includes Katie Biggins as Elaine, Michael Biggins as Brophy, Mariah Childs as Lieutenant Rooney, Samantha Hoxworth as Abby, DuRay Kelly as Dr. Witherspoon, Justin

Kesteren as Klien, Nikki Maloughney as Martha, Marshall Meyer as O’Hara, Jon Phipps as Mortimer, Ben Stratton as Jonathan, Trey Trevino as Mr. Gibbs, Kandy Vance as Dr. Einstein, Shawn Varner as Dr. Harper, and Zeyad Yusuf as Teddy.

The Production Crew in-

cludes: Amanda Christensen, Katlin McGrew, and Angella Phillips as Stage Managers; Technical Direction by Andy Troutwine; Technical Crew Zach Jackson, Beau Rammel, and Dean Ruth.

Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children.

“Playing at SSHS
Tuesday, December
9, at 7:00 p.m.”



Zeyad Yusuf as Teddy, Nikki Maloughney as Martha, Jon Phipps as Mortimer, and Samantha Hoxworth as Abby



Officer O’Hara (Marshall Meyer-Left) and Officer Brophy (Michael Biggins-Right) haul off Jonathan Brewster (Ben Stratton-Middle)



The steamy kiss scene between Elaine Harper (Kaytee Biggins-Left) and Mortimer Brewster (Jon Phipps-Right)



Officer O’Hara (Marshall Meyer-Right) explains his play to a tied up Mortimer Brewster (Jon Phipps-Left)



Jonathan Brewster (Ben Stratton-Left) and Dr. Einstein (Kandy Vance-Right) threaten Mortimer Brewster’s (Jon Phipps-Middle) life.



Shawn Varner as Dr. Harper, Nikki Maloughney as Martha, and Samantha Hoxworth as Abby

SSHHS Drama Class Cast



Cast And Crew: Back Row: Zach Jackson, Ben Stratton, Shawn Varner, Zeyad Yusuf, Justin Kesteren. Middle Row: Nikki Maloughney, Kandy Vance, Marshall Meyer, Samantha Hoxworth, Jon Phipps, Katie Biggins, and Amanda Christensen. Front Row: Michael Biggins, Angela Phillips, Catlin McGrew, and Trey Trevino. (Not Pictured: Mariah Childs, Andy Troutwine, Beau Rammel, Dean Ruth)

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Young 4-H winner



A future 4-H'er whose photo wasn't received in time for the recent 4-H pages is three and a half year old Gabrielle Sexton, daughter of Mike and Toni Sexton. Gabrielle is shown with ribbons, two blues, a red and green, and others for items entered in the Junior Open Culinary Classes.

Seeley Lake Post Office Announces Mail Tips for Holiday Season mailing

The Seeley Lake Post Office is ready to deliver the holidays for you. "Our post office is expecting a very busy holiday mail season that usually starts the day after Thanksgiving," says Postmaster Vicki Jardine.

"We encourage Seeley Lake customers to mail early and to ship all their holiday presents with the Postal Service," says Postmaster Jardine. We have some great package rates, especially for Priority Mail, in addition to Delivery Confirmation, low-rate package insurance coverage, colorful holiday stamps and other neat mailing services."

For mailing cards and packages within the U.S. using regular and Priority Mail, the Post Office recommends mailing out-of-state by Saturday, Dec. 20; and in-state by Monday, Dec. 22. "After those dates, customers can still use Express Mail for their packages going to many destinations," says the Postmaster. "But to save money and to help ensure we get all your holiday mail there on time, we recommend MAILING early."

The post office advises customers to mail to U.S. military overseas and to international locations by early December. Mail to the troops in Iraq/Middle East area should be sent by Dec. 4 for delivery by Christmas. Mail to other U.S. military overseas locations should be sent by Dec. 11; and mail to foreign countries by Dec. 15. Express Mail is available after those dates.

The World's Gateway to the Seeley Swan

Swan Song

Thomas F. Geary

HELMVILLE - Thomas F. Geary, 81, of Helmville, died Friday, Nov. 28, 2003, at Powell County Memorial Hospital in Deer Lodge after an extended illness.

He was born in Butte on Sept. 14, 1922, to Thomas and Margaret "Madge" Geary of Helmville. He attended grade school in Helmville and graduated from Powell County High School in Deer Lodge in 1940.

In 1959, Tom married Mary Kay Dolan of Butte. She died in 1960 when their only child was born.

A lifelong resident of the Helmville Valley, he worked several years for the county road department and did weed control spraying in the Helmville/Ovando area, after which he returned to work on the Geary brothers' family ranch.

After several years as an avid hunter, Tom became an enthusiastic and knowledgeable supporter of all forms of wildlife and their habitat, which extended to the backyard of his home on the Blackfoot River. A historian of the Blackfoot Valley, he was a vocal promoter of forest preservation and gravel roads.

He was dedicated to raising and lowering the flag daily at the Helmville Post Office and always had treats for the kids.

He is survived by his daughter, Nora Ann Geary of Kalispell; brothers and sisters-in-law Bill and Maureen, Dan and Wynne, and Patricia of Helmville and Pat "P.D." of Butte; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, brothers John, Hugh and Joe, and sister Margaret Ann.

A vigil service was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Helmville with funeral Mass there at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Cremation has taken place.

Memorials are suggested to the long-term care unit at Powell County Memorial Hospital or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Carroll student from Swan Valley has flair for design

Story and photo by LAURA TODE
- IR Staff Writer 11/14/03

(Editor's note: the following story and photo about Swan Valley college student Shannon O'Brien is reprinted with permission from the Helena Independent Record. O'Brien is a 2000 graduate of Seeley-Swan High School).

Last year, Carroll student Shannon O'Brien needed to fill her arts requirement for graduation, and being a computer science and mathematics major, she automatically turned to a desktop publishing class to get the requirement out of the way.

What she didn't know that first day of class, was that she had a natural flair for computer-aided design and her work would one day be in use.

To link learning with real-world experience, O'Brien's teacher, Linda McCray, presented both sections of the desktop publishing class with a series of assignments to redesign print materials for local nonprofit organizations.

One of her students' first projects was a redesign of the brochure used by the Helena Ad Club, a local group of advertising and marketing professionals.

"I just had a regular sheet of paper — eight and a half by 11 — and she just gave us the assignment. I looked at the A and I just thought of the triangle, and it all came through," O'Brien said.

Her design, in bold black and white, and folded into a triangle, was adopted last spring by the organization's board of directors, and the Helena Ad Club met Wednesday evening at the Myrna Loy for the unveiling of the new brochure and a viewing of the Clio Awards — advertising's answer to the Oscars.

The new brochures were well received by the group, and most

members gathered up a handful to take with them.

"I can't say that I've ever seen the triangle," McCray said at the gathering. "Because of the shape, it's not mail-able, but for a small group like ours, it doesn't matter."

O'Brien, a native of the Swan Valley, has applied to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, where she plans to study Human Computer Interaction as a graduate student. While she said she won't be pursuing a career in design, she will continue with computer design on her own when she has free time.

O'Brien wasn't the only student designer to have a project selected for print and distribution. A poster, designed by Chris Curtis, also a student in McCray's desktop publishing class, was selected for print by Spring Meadow Resources.



Photo by Laura Tode IR Staff - Carroll College senior Shannon O'Brien's brochure design was recently adopted by the Helena Ad Club. The project started as a class assignment in her desktop publishing class.

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Pathfinder file photo by G. Noland

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2nd Annual Homestyle Christmas Program in Swan Valley

The Second Annual Homestyle Christmas program will be held on Wednesday, December 17, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. at the Swan Valley Community Hall. Refreshments will follow the program. If anyone is interested in participating in the program by sharing a sacred musical selection, please call Marcia Boothby at 754-0094 for more information.

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Pop's
Grand Re-Opening Specials
December 5 - 7
Cheeseburger & Fries - \$2.95
Kid's Burger - 99 cents
Coffee - 25 cents

All you can eat
Barbecue Pork Spareribs
\$7.95 - while supplies last
Breakfast until 2:00 p.m.

677-2970

ANNUAL
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December 6
9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.
at Seeley Lake Elementary

Xmas Gifts, Arts, Crafts, Baked Goodies and More. Lunch and Refreshments available.
Visit with Santa!

NO ADMISSION CHARGE
Tables still available: Call 677-2195 or 677-2748

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Special of the Week

"Almond Joy Latte"

Hershey's Chocolate syrup, Almond & Coconut
flavoring expertly mixed with steamed milk &
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as the candy bar!

Save .25 cents on any size this week!

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Don't overlook life's small joys while searching for
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*We have Gift Certificates for the Coffee Booth! A great
gift or stocking stuffer for that busy person who needs to
drink great coffee or eat delicious food on the run!
Available in the booth!*

Lunch is Ready...

Lunch Menu for this week...12/4 - 12/10

Thursday: Cheddar Baked Potato Soup, chunky & cheesy!

Friday: Bagelwich Meal Deal — sandwich, chips, drink & cookie

Saturday & Sunday: No soup but we have sandwiches

Monday: Chicken & Dumplings Soup, down home good!

Tuesday: "Baked Tatos, topped w/your choice of fixings!"

Wednesday: Caesar Chicken Salad, fresh & oh so good for you!

~ 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.,

12 oz. Bowl Soup with crackers \$2.50, or cup \$1.25

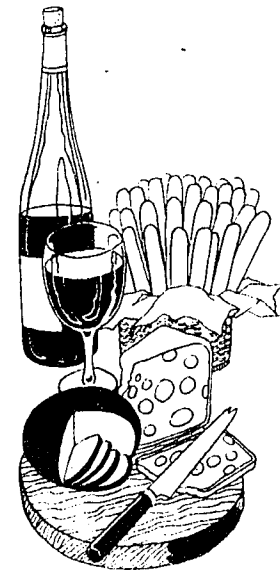
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Wine of the Week

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\$6.99 Save 2.00 off
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for .750 ml bottles for the Month of December

YMCA News Update on Activities

Adult Aerobics

Adult aerobics classes have begun. Join aerobics instructor Terry Bartlett for morning walk fit and step classes. 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. The walk fit can be outdoors walking the bike path, as long as weather permits.

- Session: September - May
- When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.
- Fee: \$25.00 per month Step Class; \$15.00 per month Walk Fit Class

Evening Aerobics

Evening Aerobics class will begin January 6, 2004. Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Seeley Lake Elementary School Multipurpose room. The fee is \$16.00 per month. Classes will be led by participants trained by Terry Bartlett, certified aerobic instructor.

Please contact the YMCA Outreach office for information: Phone 677-3330 and/or e-mail: ssymca@blackfoot.net. The Seeley-Swan YMCA Outreach Office is located in the Lazy Pine Mall. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to noon, and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.