

info@mvhm.us



www.mvhm.us

MUSSELHELL VALLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2025

Annual Meeting, Sunday March 9, 2025

The annual meeting of the museum board will be held on Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 2:00 PM in the basement of the museum. At this time election of officers and board members will be conducted. This meeting is open to the public as are all board meetings. The museum board meets on the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM in the museum basement.

The museum is open each year from May through September from 1:00 to 5:00 PM each day.

Membership dues are due and payable on February 15 every year. The initial membership is \$20.00 and the annual renewal is \$10.00 per year. A personal lifetime membership may be purchased for \$150 and business lifetime memberships are \$200.

Museum Hours

May 1 - September 30
1:00 - 5:00 Daily

Musselshell Valley Historical Museum Mission Statement

The Musselshell Valley Historical Museum is a local, non-profit museum open to the public. It exists to preserve the history and heritage of Montana and the Musselshell Valley for present and future generations. The museum is a monument of our past and our heritage, and we are proud of it. Established in 1972, the museum is a living institution dedicated to preserving the story of our region.

The museum shall promote an understanding of appreciation of the history of Montana and the lower Musselshell Valley by collection, preserving, and providing a broad access to the historical resources maintained by the museum, library and archives. The Musselshell Valley Historical Museum's efforts in all areas are dedicated to high standards of scholarship and preservation.



Musselshell Valley Historical Museum Annual Newsletter Spring 2025

525 First Street West
Roundup, MT 59072

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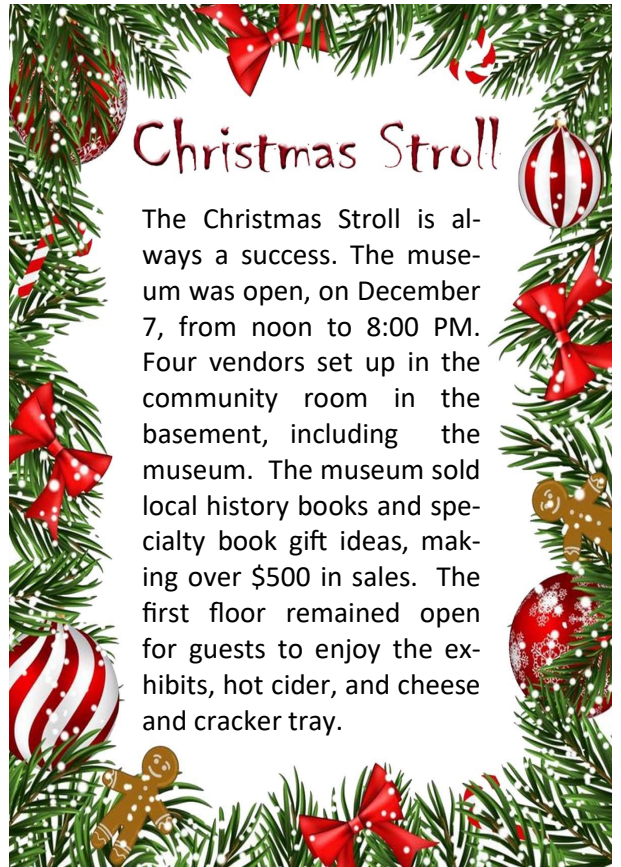
Website: www.mvhm.us

Find us on Facebook at:
Musselshell Valley Historical Museum

Student Tour

19 Roundup High School art students braved a chilly, rainy day in early May, to visit the museum. For many of them, it was their first time, others had visited, but not recently, and a few more were devoted fans. The rainy weather did not dampen the enthusiasm as the students, aides, teacher, and bus driver discovered many new and interesting finds. The group was divided into three sections, and each section had their own guide. The young ladies were especially excited in the dress shop with its beautiful gowns, accessories, and hats. They especially loved the hats with feathers. Other students enjoyed the rifles and animal mounts. And of course, all enjoyed the popular Dino Depot. The students didn't want to return to class, but all vowed to visit the museum again.

**The
Musselshell
Valley
Historical
Museum
is willing to
schedule
group tours**



Christmas Stroll

The Christmas Stroll is always a success. The museum was open, on December 7, from noon to 8:00 PM. Four vendors set up in the community room in the basement, including the museum. The museum sold local history books and specialty book gift ideas, making over \$500 in sales. The first floor remained open for guests to enjoy the exhibits, hot cider, and cheese and cracker tray.

Scheduled Events 2025 Season

Opening Day Thursday, May 1

Pancake Breakfast Sunday, May 4

Yard Sale Saturdays, June 7 & 14

Ice Cream Social Saturday, August 23

Closing Day Tuesday, September 30

Christmas Stroll Saturday, December 6



Who Was Mrs. Tom Bowes?

By Dale Alger

During the weekend of February 1, 2025, a driver had a medical emergency and drove through the fence of the Old Miner's Cemetery and damaged some of the headstones. It is actually named the United Mine Workers of America Cemetery. Wednesday, February 5, I received an email from the news director of KTVQ2. He wanted to know if anybody could meet a Q2 reporter at the cemetery for a story. David Jay met me at the cemetery and we talked about the cemetery, the importance of mining to the community and the fact that many of the people in that cemetery had died during the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918-1920. I also mentioned to him that the saddest headstone I had ever seen was in this cemetery. The stone says "Mrs. Tom Bowes." I just think it is sad that not even her first name is on the stone.

We then went to the Musselshell Valley Historical Museum and looked at the extensive coal display and a few other exhibits in the museum.

Several people saw the clip on Q2 on the 10:00 PM news on February 5. Thanks to communication through the internet and people's curiosity, I received quite a bit of help in finding the identity of Mrs. Tom Bowes. Her name is Katherine Page Bowes. She was born December 25, 1856, in Columbus, Ohio. Her parents were both born in France. Katherine passed on May 27, 1923 in Roundup at the age of 67. She was listed as a housewife on her death certificate.

Thomas Bowes was born in England on September 23, 1860. He passed on July 20, 1934. He was a coal miner at Number 3 in Roundup. He had lived in the United States for at least 50 years. They lived at No. 3. I did not find any information about children.

It was actually harder to find where Tom was buried. I found a short article of his passing in the Roundup Record-Tribune on July 26, 1934. The problem was that his name was misspelled in the article. He was listed as Thomas Bowers. My "Find a Grave" app on my phone was not providing a burial place for Thomas Bowes. I finally found him on the app at the New Miner's Cemetery across the road and a little south of the Old Miner's Cemetery. He is listed as Thomas Bower. I have not gone to the cemetery to check his name on the headstone because of the snow we have had lately. When some of the snow melts I will make that journey.

Thank you for help from Athna May Porter and Wilma Mihalovich

Sources:

Roundup Record 6 1 2023
Roundup Tribune 5 31 1923
Roundup Record-Tribune 7 26 1934
IPhone Application: Find a Grave



Klein Exhibit

Klein was a busy little community from 1900, when the mine opened, until 1956 when it closed. At one time, up to 1,500 people lived in Klein and the surrounding communities. It had a church, post office, boarding house, saloon, and company store. In the museum exhibit, you will find a hand drawn map of the mine and community. There are school sweaters and many sports pictures on display. At one time, there was quite a rivalry between Klein's sports teams and Roundup's.



Wounded Warrior Visit

In October, the museum offered a tour to seven veterans. These veterans were part of the Wounded Warrior Project, and had come to this area for a dinosaur dig. All of the veterans came from southern California, and none had ever been to Montana. They were intrigued by the gun registry from 1918, and enjoyed the mining display and diorama. The military display and badges garnered a lot of interest. When taken to the tack room, interest turned to the McClellan cavalry saddle. Another big point of interest was the Dino Depot. Thomas Hebert was there to give insight on that display. The group spent nearly 2 hours at MVHM, were excited about what they had seen, and enjoyed their visit.



Republic Coal office on the south end of Main Street, Roundup



Acquisitions



The museum acquired two notable donations this season. One of the donations was a complete barbershop unit from 1908. The unit includes the original walnut mirror frames, marble shelving, lights, and of course the barber chair. The barbershop was donated by David Hamilton.

A second donation was two complete glass enclosed cabinets displaying a Canada Goose, and another with various, smaller water fowl. The bird displays were donated by Leigh Ann Kristiansen. The cabinets were built by Leigh Ann's father-in-law, Elden Kristiansen, in 1985.

Piano Recital



Keelie Williams and student perform a duet.

Mrs. Keelie Williams gave a piano recital in the museum community room on the evening of April 29, 2024. Eight of her students performed various music selections for their parents and friends. Refreshments and a brief social hour followed the recital. The following students performed in the recital: Caleb Larsen, Ben Liggett, Lilly Reiersen, Lucille Tobola, Sylvia Tobola, Madison Williams, Mae Williams, and Joseph Williams.

Ice Cream Social

The Second Annual Ice Cream Social was held on a very warm day, August 24. Visitors were greeted with a nice breeze and plenty of shade in the museum outdoor space. Huckleberry ice cream sandwiches and ice cream bars were for sale. A fun afternoon of fellowship with museum lovers was enjoyed by all who attended.



Museum board members model vintage hats that were sold during the annual yard sale in June.

Janet Hamill, Norma Trent, Peggy Unterseher, Dale Alger

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Business Names

1st Security Bank
Allison Saddlery
Busy Bee Café
C Brewer
Edwards Broadcasting 99.9FM
Elite Towing
Elite Tune and Lube
Key Insurance
Lee Farms LLC
Lions Club
McCleary Distributing
Moody Enterprises
MT Historical Society
Musselshell Valley Equipment
Picchioni's IGA
Progressive Club
Roundup Record-Tribune
Signal Peak Coal
VFW
Women's Club

Individual Names

Alger, Dale & Tomi
Allen, Roberts*
Allison, Bill
Anderson, Sharon
Armstrong, Bradley*
Arthur, Anne*
Backstrom, Jeanette*
Barta, Dan*
Bartos, Jean*
Beadle, Mary Jane
Bedford, Henry & Kay*
Bethke, William G.*
Betts, Elizabeth*
Beye, Wendy
Bissonette, Adele L.*
Blum, Rose Emily*
Brown, Dennis*
Brown, Mickey & Phyllis*
Burch, Anita*
Casper, Bob*
Chandler, Sandra*
Christensen, Trish*
Clement, Michelle*
Combs, Bonnie*
Cooper, Madeline*
Corn, Marie
Cottrell, Serena*
Crawford, Kathy*
Crosby, Steve & Barb
Crouse, Erma & Mitch*
Dahl, Susan*

De'goes, Arlene E.*
Desjarlais, Gene & Delores
Doneker, Thomas*
Durgin, Richard & Andrea
Edwards, Bill*
Edwards, Vivian
Egeler, Robert & Joyce*
Eickhoff, Rhea*
Eiselein, Beverly*
Eiselein, Greg
Eliasson, Gary*
Eliasson, Eric*
Eliasson, Jay*
Eppers, George & Darlene
Erdie, Karen Jo*
Evelo, Jane
Ewen, Jim*
Fletcher, James*
Fuller, Hank W.
Gallentine, Merle*
Gebhardt, Kelly & Darlene*
Gerrard, Pat
Gjerde, A. Russell*
Goffena, Mike*
Gouine, Diane
Gray, (Masini), Ed & Kay*
Hebert, Leslie*
Hagstrom, Dave & Roberta*
Hamill, Janet*
Harper, Roger*
Hawkins, Susan*
Hebert, Leslie*
Hinman, Susan Wetzel*
Hochmuth Ranch Trust*
Hodges, Nancy*
Ihrig, David & Kimberly
Jetter, Melvin & Rose*
Jones, Anne Marie
Jones, Dave*
Juhl, Will & Georgia*
Kenney, Patrick*
Kilby, Gordon*
Komar, Clara M.*
Kozelski, Albert & Jan*
Lang, Delinda*
Langsather, James*
Lekse, Larry*
Liggett, Pamela J.*
Lynt, Sharon*
Mackay, Bill*
Marmon, Donna*
Maxwell, Michael*
McCaffree, Dan*
McCready, Louise*

Mihalovich, Michael*
Mihalovich, Richard*
Mihalovich, Robert U.*
Mihalovich, Wilma*
Miller, Dr. Bob & Jean*
Mitchell, William J.*
Moody, Brian & Debra*
Moore, Linda*
Moses, Steve C.*
Munyon, Pamela J.
Nelson, Mary
Parrott, Donald*
Parrott, Doug & Shirley*
Parrott, Jeffery*
Parrott, Joseph*
Peterson, Sharon Mercado*
Picchioni, Linda*
Purcell, Mary
Reighard, Doug*
Reikofski, Mary*
Riojas, Jane*
Robertson, Jerry*
Ross, Bette*
Rutan, Dave*
Sackett, Gary*
Samuels, Marlene*
Samuelson, Jessica*
Schladweiler, Jim & Rita
Seitz, Scott & Victoria*
Seitz, Diane
Sloan, Edith
Smith, Loris*
Smith, Thomas S.*
Snook, Dwayne & Wendy*
Spek, Beverly*
Spek, Darlene E.*
Stevens, Tim*
Teini, Dallas & Cecilia
Thomas, Gary & Debra*
Toogood, Clarence*
Trent, Norma
Unterseher, Peggy
Vandeberg, Daniel J.*
Van Dyke, Randy*
Walker, Agnes
Watkins, Rick & Jacqueline*
Webber, Jeri*
Whitmen, Kathleen*
Winkler, Kenny*
Witzel, Nancy*
Wood, Elizabeth
Yount, Linda



* Denotes Lifetime Member

Dinosaur Workshop

On November 16, the Musselshell Valley Historical Museum hosted Eric Metz from the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman. As the Paleontology Collections Manager-Registrar for MOR, Metz was on hand for a workshop on fossil collection, identification, categorization, and preservation. Eric Metz received his undergraduate degrees in earth sciences and secondary education from MSU, and his Masters in geology from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

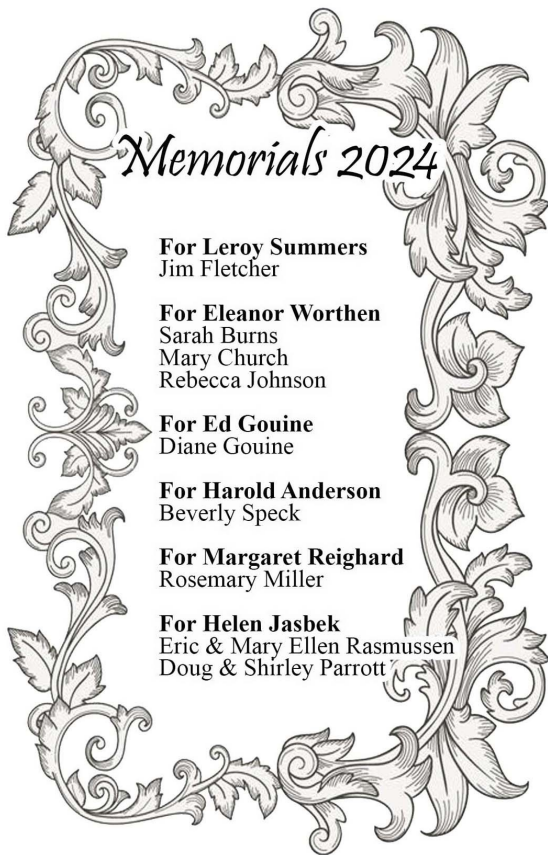
Also, in attendance, were Eric Eliasson and Rob Mihalovich, members of the board of directors for the Musselshell Valley Historical Museum, and currently working on dinosaur digs in the area. Other friends and members of the MVHM board were also in attendance.

The Montana Dinosaur Center in Bynum sent representatives, as did Carter County Museum in Ekalaka. Victor Bjornberg, head of the Montana Dinosaur Trail, and his wife, Marilyn, also attended.

Hands-on handling and identification of fossils by attendees was followed by a catered lunch from The Back Porch. Afterwards, all went to the MVHM for a tour.

The Musselshell Valley Historical Museum will be changing up the Dino Depot display in 2025. We're excited for the year to come!

As first reported in the Roundup Record Tribune



A friendly face welcomed visitors to the museum



The Musselshell Valley Historical Museum

is supported by donations. By becoming a member, you join a growing list of community spirited individuals and businesses ensuring the long-term success of this community historical treasure.

Simply clip this form with your scissors, fill out the requested information and mail it to the address below. You can select annual membership or life membership for an individual. Becoming a member helps us preserve the history of our region and brings you our annual newsletter of activities and interesting historical information.

Name _____

Address _____

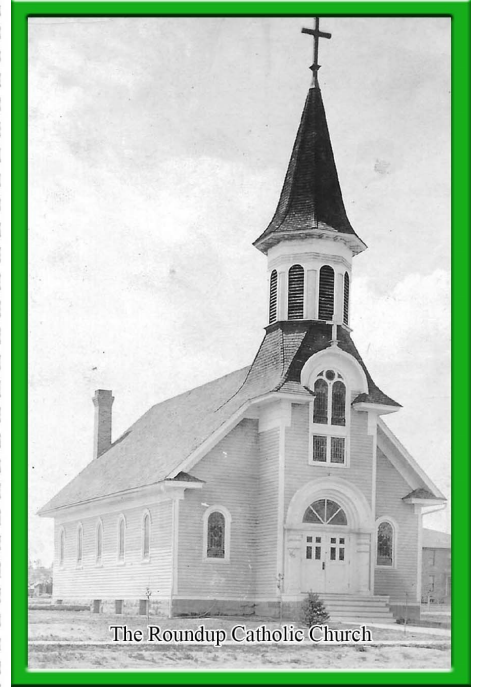
City, State, and Zip _____

- Life Membership \$150
- Business Membership \$200
- Individual Annual Membership \$20
- Annual Renewal Membership \$10



Musselshell Valley
Historical Museum
524 1st Street West
Roundup, MT 59072

♥ Memorials are accepted year round and are a lovely way to remember and honor someone special.

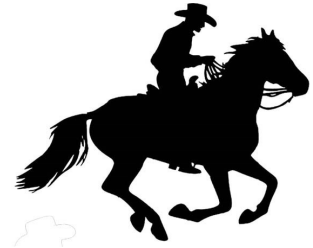


The Roundup Catholic Church

Donations for the annual yard sale can be dropped off at the museum during business hours.

Sale Dates: June 7 & 14

Thank you for your support!




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