



**WEATHER forecast:** Snow and rain showers Thursday afternoon diminishing to scattered snowshowers over mountains Thursday night and Friday. Predicted high Thursday 45, low 25, high Friday 45.

#### Precip.

	High	Low	Airport	AC	HH
March 17	36	26	.09		tr.
March 18	37	25	.01	.05	.12
March 19	32	10	.24	.02	.10
March 20	37	6	tr.		.01
March 21	42	34	tr.	tr.	.11
March 22	57	26		tr. <sup>3</sup>	.09
March 23	52	28	.04		
March 24	45*	32	.02	.12	.47

\*anticipated

**Meteorologist Ray Hall** at the airport said normal high and low for March 25 is 44-22 with sunrise and sunset 6:30-6:57.

**March precipitation** as of Thursday noon totals .94 of an inch compared to .86 for all of this usually dry month. February precipitation totaled .97 of an inch the same as the normal .97. Then all months were below normal back to August which had record 3.78 inches at the airport compared to normal 1.30.

**Hungry Horse Dam** precipitation totals 1.97 inches as of Thursday noon compared to full month's normal 2.19.

## Spring Festival At Church

**CORAM** — Canyon Church Women are sponsoring a spring festival sale at the church ed building Friday from 4 to 8 p.m.

There will be a chili and hot dog supper along with a table of bake goods, and also bazaar and gift items. There will also be a green thumb table and white elephant items. Mrs. Merton Franklin is chairman. Coffee will cost 10 cents a cup.

Proceeds are to help with the new roof on the church.

# Be Careful With Fires in Homes

by Sam Gilluly  
secretary-manager  
Montana Press Association  
**HELENA** — Tragic or near-tragic incidents bring a warning from State Fire Marshal William Penttila that all Montanans should carefully check home heating appliances.

"Gas fired water heaters, furnaces and wood burning fireplaces have all figured in fatal or near-fatal accidents across the state this winter," Penttila said. "Faulty installation or failure to provide proper maintenance results in serious carbon monoxide poisoning. A recent case in Dillon brought fatal results."

The state official says several factors may be involved.

He urges every homeowner to check periodically — or have checked — both his furnace and water heater.

Be sure, he adds, that the furnace or water heater has a vent coming from the outside of the dwelling, so that the installations get fresh air. This is sometimes a vent pipe or may be a vent from under the house. Sometimes a vent has been blocked accidentally or in an attempt to "weatherproof" the house.

All vent pipes and chimneys should be free of obstruction and drawing properly so that all products of combustion are removed to the outside of the house. Indications of improper venting could be an unusual accumulation of soot around or on the appliance, or on the hot air ventilators.

Other danger signs that could indicate the presence of carbon monoxide are odors in the house, or household members who complain of lightheadedness, dizziness or headaches, especially in the morning.

If wood-burning fireplaces are being installed as do-it-yourself projects, "make sure chimneys are of the proper type to handle a fireplace," Penttila said. "Never try to add a vent pipe to an existing chimney, because you might cause other appliances vented into the chimney to be cut off partially or entirely."

"Of utmost importance," he said, if a fireplace is being added to the home, is to be sure

to have outside vents to a furnace or water heater.

"The draw of the fireplace removes fresh air from the interior of the house, causing a partial vacuum, if there is no way to replace it. If the vacuum becomes strong enough, the normal operation of the gas water heater or furnace vent can be reversed, causing deadly carbon monoxide gases to be drawn into the house. If this occurs at night, you may never wake up to the problem."

Penttila also warned never to leave a damper open when a fireplace is not in use.

## MIDWAY DRIVE

between Columbia Falls  
on Highway

## GALA SUNDAY OPEN

NEXT FRI-SAT

APRIL 1-2

Walter Matthau in

and

Subject to cancellation

## KALISPELL THEATRE

LIBERTY — Network  
STRAND — Young Fr  
GATEWAY 1 — Gator  
GATEWAY 2 — Gable

## Park Theatre

Columbia Falls

Fri., Sat. — 7 & 9

"MEL BROOKS' COMEDY"

YOU  
FRANKIE

CLOSED TUESDAY

Starts Thursday —