



Hello Sun River Valley Residents!

The Friends of the Sun River Valley Helping Hands organization is currently taking family names/requests for assistance this Holiday Season. Due to COVID-19 regulations and restrictions, we must have your name submitted to us by December 9th. Please contact **Barb Frye at 406-217-5454** if you believe your family might need some extra help with gifts and food items this year. Please leave a detailed message at this number if Barb cannot take your call immediately. You can also contact **Colleen Green at 406-660-1901** and leave a message with her. All referrals and information remain confidential.

\*\*\*\*\* **ALSO PLEASE** - if you would like to donate any food items - **especially turkeys or hams** - any help in this area would be greatly appreciated. The past two years, we have assisted 80+ families annually. A suggested list of food items includes but is not limited to:

Peanut Butter	Sugar
Pancake Mix	Cereal
Syrup	Canned Fruit
Jello	Canned Vegetables
Hamburger Helper	Turkey Stuffing
Canned Soup and Meals	Pie Filling
Flour	Pasta Sauce

Food items can be dropped off at the Helping Hands Headquarters in Simms once we open after Thanksgiving, Monday November 30th, at the Lions Hall on Main Street.

Last, and certainly not least, if you would like to “Adopt-A-Family” or child for the Holiday Season and provide warm clothing for them, please stop by our Headquarters starting Monday, November 30th. Any and all help in this area would be helpful in ways you cannot even imagine.

Take care, God Bless, and have a Joyous Holiday Season!

*Colleen Green*



Save the Date

December

- 1 Speech & Drama Photos 4:00 pm
- 3 Parent/Teacher Conferences: 1- 7 p.m.
- 7 Basketball & Wrestling Practice Begins
- 8 School Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- 23 Christmas Break Begins

January

- 4 Back to School—Christmas Break Ends
- 5 Winter Sports Photos 4-5 pm
- 12 School Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- 22 Teacher PIR Day

SUN RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NEWSLETTER



~ From the Desk of the Superintendent ~

Thank you Sun River Valley students and parents for your patience as we navigate the COVID-19 Pandemic during the 2020-2021 school year. The diligence of our staff and students has kept our school open up to this point.

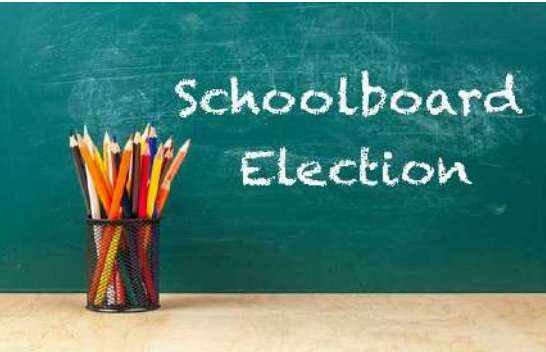
I appreciate the effort our parents and guardians provide—helping with the remote day on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and also providing arrangements for your children to continue learning when having to go online due to quarantine. It is definitely a difficult time for all of us.

As we move forward to 2021, rest assured that we will do everything we can to finish strong.

Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

*David P. Marzolf*  
*Sun River Valley Public Schools*



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS: The filing period to run for a trustee position on the Sun River Valley School District Board will open December 10, 2020. Interested parties can request

a Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy form from Belinda Klick @ 264-5110 x122 or [bklick@srvs.k12.mt.us](mailto:bklick@srvs.k12.mt.us)

The last day to file is Thursday, March 25, 2021. School Elections will be held by mail ballot through the Cascade County Elections Department Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

The District has two trustee positions open on the combined elementary/high school board which are 3-year terms (Kennard Steinke and Kristy Leach).

2020

~

2021

December

January



## Quarter 1 Complete

Quarter 1 is complete for Simms Middle and High School students. We are moving into the midway point of Quarter Two and members of the 2021 Simms Senior Class are underway with scholarship preparations and class projects. Seniors have conducted meetings with their class advisers to complete preparations for Graduation. As a reminder, end of year ceremonies:

**Class of 2020 Graduation (Sunday) May 30, 1:00 PM**

**\*Tentatively this date is subject to changes.**

## Student Achievements

Congratulations to all students that competed in the Simms Spelling School competitions this fall. The competition was intense, and we truly have bright minded individuals within this schoolhouse.

### **2019 Simms Spelling Bee (Oct-9<sup>th</sup>)**

**1<sup>st</sup> PLACE CHAMPION Austin Naude** (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

2<sup>nd</sup> Jacob Lee (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

3<sup>rd</sup> Kaylee Zietzke (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**Austin Naude will represent Simms Middle School at the Cascade County Spelling Bee. This event will be scheduled in 2021 February as per the Covid-19 format being developed. GOOD LUCK, AUSTIN!**

***2020—21 Simms Geography Bee Coming  
January 2021***

## Literacy Striving Readers Grant Update!

We are making tremendous progress with all students in the 6-12. Our teachers have embraced the projects, interventions, and core curriculum adopted to help all students become successful. Thank you, Faculty and Staff, for making this experience so special. —Mr. McKinley

## Special Thank you!

As the building Principal, I would like to recognize and thank: Suzie Barringer, Diana Simpson, Diana Leonard, and Jennifer Reeves. These individuals serve our school through the North Central Learning Resource Center. Each week they travel to the building, serve our students, and provide support with all learning that goes on in our schoolhouse. Thank you NCLR! —Mr. McKinley

## ALL VALLEY PARENTS:

*Thank you for your efforts to get your children to school on time each day! If your student needs to eat breakfast at school, please make arrangements for him/her to arrive **before 7:50**. This will allow time for eating breakfast and getting to class on time.*

***Our school day starts at 8:00, and instruction begins right away. Students who are late arrivals miss valuable learning.***

## Simms Athletic Department

Congratulations to the Simms Girls Varsity Volleyball Teams and Coaches for placing second at the North C Divisional Volleyball Tournament! This season was spectacular as they won the trophy for the 6C West Conference, and placed fourth in District Tournament hosted in Cascade, MT, and Valier, MT. The Lady Tigers completed their season at a high level as they qualified for State hosted in Malta, MT. Lady Tigers lost out but didn't go easily against their opponents at State. Congratulations to the student athletes and Coaches Thompson & Harrison.

### **Students of the Month (October)**

MS – Xaidia Thibert 6<sup>th</sup> Grade.

### **Students of the Month (November)**

HS – Tristan Robles 11<sup>th</sup> Grade.

MS – Taya Thomas 6<sup>th</sup> Grade.

## Congratulations Simms Students of the Month!

**\*Students are nominated and voted up-on each month by SRVS Faculty and Staff.**



## ~ A Message from the Fort Shaw Elementary Principal ~

Hello Fort Shaw Elementary Families,

I cannot believe the Holiday Season is already upon us! As I write this, I am thinking of all of the things I have to be thankful for at this time. Keeping our school open is at the very top of the list, although I am thankful for this I know it is not because of sheer chance and good luck. Our families have been so diligent in keeping their children home when they are sick or have had a possible exposure. They have worked with us through isolation periods and preventative quarantines, most at a moment's notice.

Our teachers, paraprofessionals, and service providers have flipped the way they instruct, teach small groups, and interact with students to meet individual needs. They have made packets, learned to create instructional videos, made phone calls and Zoom/Google meets. Their dedication to providing the best possible instruction is truly something we as a community should be thankful for.

Our kitchen staff has continually modified how they serve students and meet community needs, and our custodial staff works around the clock to keep our schools sanitized and safe. Our bus drivers, who always amaze me, not only drive buses but now they hand out masks if students need them... and then many of them show up in the school to help as substitutes and custodial staff!

I'm so grateful for our office staff, they communicate with families non-stop, support a variety of student and family needs, and support our staff in a myriad of ways. We would be lost without their support. Our substitute teachers have made an enormous impact on our ability to stay open; they often come in at a moments notice and fill a variety of vacancies throughout the day, all while implementing lesson plans so the learning does not stop!

For myself, I'm thankful for my administrative partners who provide mentoring and assistance as we learn to navigate the pandemic. And finally, I'm grateful for our students who have demonstrated resilience and hope; they wear their masks without complaint, learn at home through quarantine and isolation, eat lunch six feet from their friends, and the list goes on. Their courage and positivity keep us going throughout the difficult days.

As you celebrate the Holiday Season, I would encourage all of you to take some time and list the things you are thankful for...it really does help.

Happy Holidays

Shianne Currey

FSE Principal  
[scurrey@srvs.k12.mt.us](mailto:scurrey@srvs.k12.mt.us)  
264-5586 ext. 602

*Please call Simms High School, 264-5110,  
Ext 124, for more information.*







# ROME — POMPEII — GREECE

JUNE 2022

The trip is still on!

We've moved our Europe trip to June, 2022, which means there's still time to enroll new travelers. Sign up by the end of December for a \$300 Early Enrollment Discount and to qualify for Risk Free Enrollment. Invite your friends and family on this once in a lifetime experience!

Visit: [www.eftours.com/2421129su](http://www.eftours.com/2421129su)

- Affordable payment options
- Cost breakdown and itinerary
- Trip is open to ALL adults and grades 9-12 (in/out of District)

We look forward to seeing you there!

CONTACT: Whitney Polich  
wpolich@srvs.k12.mt.us  
406-264-5110 ext. 401

Thank you, Veterans, from SRVS Schools!

As the building Principal, I would like to thank Mrs. Sara Davidson for creating the Virtual Veterans Day presentation on November 11<sup>th</sup> on behalf of our schools! That production was also developed with the help of Mrs. Jennifer Rohrer on the technical side of things (Thank you). Thank you, students, for your performances honoring our history, and all those that have served in the United States Armed Forces. Thank you, Veterans, for your service past and present to our county. Great Job, Simms Tigers, for putting that production together!

## Academic All-State Fall 2020

*In order to receive Simms Academic All-State, Students must carry a 3.5 Grade Point Average or higher & received a varsity letter for one quarter during the regular season. Congratulations to all High School Students in your academic achievements while playing extracurricular activities! Job well done. -Mr. McKinley*

### Football 2020

#### Freshmen

Gaven Flanagan 3.5

#### Sophomores

#### Juniors

#### Seniors

Kaidin Thibert 4.0  
Samuel Mishler 3.95  
Caden Smerker 3.83  
Stephen Links Jr. 3.8  
Chad Hitchcock 3.73  
Lane Hinderager 3.72  
Timer Thomas 3.7

### Volleyball 2020

#### Freshman

Grace Johnson 3.5

#### Sophomores

Baylee Herman 3.96  
Nina Okes 3.71  
Kodiann Lynn 3.71

#### Juniors

Taylee Sawyer 3.86

#### Seniors

Faith Afleje 3.9  
Kierah Kriedeman 3.9



## A Message from Your School Counselor

### Events for December and January

It is never too late to complete the FAFSA, and it is required for most colleges!

#### ACT National Testing dates and deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (Late fees)
Dec. 12	Nov. 6	Nov. 20
Feb. 6	Jan. 8	Jan. 20
Apr. 17	Mar. 12	Mar. 16
Jun. 12	May 7	May 21
July 17	Jun. 19	Jun. 25

#### Important information:

**Juniors:** will take the ACT March 24<sup>th</sup>- this is paid for by the State and is required. The test will begin at 8:00 AM, and there are no late entries.

**Seniors:** You are approaching the last semester of high school. Keep focused- the last semester does count. Colleges and employers look to see how you finish—so finish strong!

**Senior Projects:** keep working on that e-Folio and getting your project put together. Remember your paperwork needs to be signed and added to E-Folio.



Dec. 1	National Honor Society Scholarship	\$25,000
Dec. 1	Firefighter/EMS Scholarship	\$500
Dec. 4	MSU Presidential Scholarship	Up to a full tuition waiver for 4 years
Dec. 15	Burger King Scholarship	varies
Dec. 20	Montana FFA Scholarship	\$500
Dec. 31	Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship	1,000
Dec. 31	Free Speech Essay Contest	\$10,000
Jan. 8	Pride Foundation Scholarship	\$10,000
Jan. 11	MT Jaycee Foundation Scholarship	\$1000
Jan. 15	Hope for Healing Scholarship	\$5,000
Jan. 15	Washington Crossing Scholarship	\$1,000-\$7,500
Jan. 15	Wild Turkey Foundation	varies
Jan. 15	John F Kennedy Profile in Courage essay contest	\$5,000
Jan. 24	MECA Memorial Scholarship	\$500
Jan. 31	AAG's Do Something Good Grant	\$1,500

Rebecca Boucher  
School Counselor



Greetings Tiger Fans!

How is it possible, during the L-O-N-G-E-S-T year ever on planet Earth, that we suddenly find ourselves in the twilight of 2020? Although this fall hasn't been exactly "normal," our school staff, coaches, and kids have persevered and had very successful seasons! First of all, congratulations to Coach Taylor Thompson and Coach Jessica Harrison on taking the SHS Girls Volleyball team all the way to the State tournament! The girls team did a fantastic job and played so well during the Divisional tournament!

Secondly, congratulations to Coach Fredrickson and Coach Rains for leading the SHS Boys Football team all the way to the playoffs! Even though things didn't go their way in Thompson Falls, the boys team had an incredible season and were so fun to watch! I'm so proud of both teams.

Speech and Drama with Mrs. Sarah Davidson is well on its way! I wish them the best of luck, and I'm sure they will do us all proud!

This school year, I feel like I've been holding my breath whenever we have a "Governor Press Conference," just waiting to see what the new restrictions might be. I feel as though I dare not plan too far ahead in case plans change. But, that being said, I have a tentative plan for December. I will draw two names out of the Middle School and High School each week, and those kids will receive a Christmas stocking full of sugar and small gifts, and maybe a gift card! Hopefully, we will still be able to have an Ugly Christmas Sweater Day for the kids and staff, complete with lots of prizes! I will post the date on my Facebook page in the next couple of weeks or so.

When I reflect on this year thus far, what strikes me most are the things that we took for granted. I never in a million years would have thought that I would be praying that my kids would be able to go to school and be with their friends. I never imagined I would tear up just watching our football team charge onto the field under the lights on a Friday night, knowing that THIS could have been taken away from them too. I never thought that I would feel such gratitude for our crazy, obnoxious cheering section while they shouted their encouragements to the girls volleyball team, and then shouted their song requests to Mr. McKinley. So many kids across the country were denied these memories. They only have a short window to compete in high school sports. They will only have one shot at having a last home game. A championship game. A Senior Night with a gym full of their hometown fans, all on their feet cheering for the kids that they have loved and watched grow up right before their eyes. So, as Thanksgiving approaches, I'm filled with gratitude that our kids have had a chance to make these memories... I hope they realize what a gift it is.

I hope that everyone has a safe and happy Holiday Season! If you have any questions about Booster Club, or would like to help out, just let me know!

Kristy Leach  
Booster Club President





**Sun River Valley School District 55 & F**  
**October Student of the Month**  
**SIMMS SCHOOL**  
**(Xaidia Thibert 7<sup>th</sup> Gr.)**



Congratulations Students! Thank you, Faculty and Teachers, for selecting these students!  
 Students are nominated and selected based on the following criteria within their schools:  
**Academic Performance, Character, Behavior, Effort, Social Relationship, & Attendance.**  
**GO TIGER'S ROAR ON!**

**Sun River Valley School District 55 & F**  
**October Student's of the Month**  
**FORT SHAW SCHOOL**

*Pictured Left to Right:*  
**(Ivy Croxford 1<sup>st</sup> Gr.) (Cayla Gorence 4<sup>th</sup> Gr.)**



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**GO TIGER'S ROAR ON!**



Students of the Month—November 2020

Sun River Valley Middle School and Simms High School



CONGRATULATIONS!

Taya Thomas  
7th Grade  
SRMS

Tristin Robles  
11th Grade  
SHS

GO TIGERS—ROAR ON!



*From all of us at Sun River Valley School District,  
We wish you a Very Merry Christmas  
And  
A Healthy, Happy New Year.*



