



# News From The Red Caboose

FALL 2011



## Come and See the New Look of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum

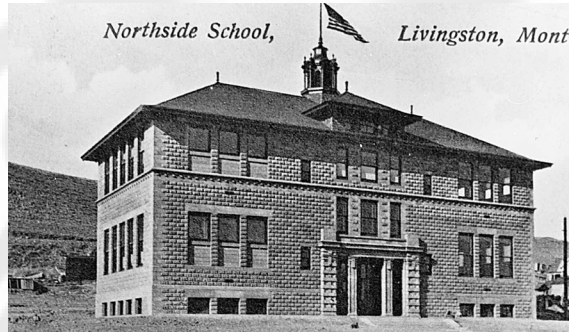
In 1977 the doors of the North Side School were re-opened to the public, unveiling the new Park County Museum. On October 29, 2011, thirty four years later, the doors of the North Side School will once again be re-opened for a new unveiling of the museum.

For the last year the museum has been closed for a major renovation. Needed infrastructure is in place, and the inventory of the collections are now complete. It will be an exciting time for the museum, showing off its new look and entering into the next phase of growth.

We now have in place a heating and air conditioning system. For the first time in thirty four years we will be able to maintain environmental controls for our collections, and have the ability to be open for much of the year. No longer will visitors swelter in the summer or not have the museum available during the winter months.

We will be watching our new energy bills closely to see what the cost is going to be. This increase we hope will be manageable due to the lengths we went to add insulation to the building. The insulation portion of the renovation is very noticeable, the new interior walls covering the windows and masonry walls will stand out. All of the original trim work and windows still exist, merely covered up by the new construction.

Most appealing, we think, will be the new exhibits. We have removed all the collections into storage and have been designing new ways to show off the wonderful collections that the museum



Northside School, Livingston, Mont.



holds. Along with the collections, the stories of Park County's people who lived here, or now call it home, will fill the exhibits.

The exhibits will be comprised of objects from the collections, enhanced by photos and story lines. Each exhibit will also have a children's component, beginning with hands-on interactive and participatory displays. In the future we hope to add newer technological components.

The exhibit rooms have been themed to give you a comprehensive way to view our wonderful history.

The Pioneer room will show case the history of homesteading, businesses and

the history of the county.

The Transportation room will offer a look at the coming of the railroad and how we have gotten around, then and now.

The Expedition room will contain the stories of Lewis & Clark; the fur trade era; the early government explorations of the area and the route to Yellowstone National Park.

The Native Cultures room will stand for the time, as it is the newest of our exhibits. In the future we will use it to tell the story of those of us who have ties to this area for the last 11,000 years.

This process is just starting and will take some time to complete. What you will be seeing is just the start. It will take the next year to get things completely in place. Then we will be changing aspects of each exhibit hall on a regular basis in order to cover the many diverse stories available.

We want to invite all of you and your friends to come and see the new look of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum. This is just the physical side of the museum. We continue to expand our outreach to the schools and others in the community and enhance the research abilities through our archives. The museum has a lot to offer the community and it has been made possible by your support over the years. We hope to re-engage our members and visitors with the new look and continue to provide a meaningful experience for all. ❖

— Paul Shea  
Museum Director



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# Fall 2011 • Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum

Grand Re-opening October 29 • Museum-School Partnership • HVAC Project



## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

By Bobbie Williams

This is an incredibly exciting time at the Yellowstone Gateway Museum. After thousands of volunteer hours inventorying, cataloging, and packing over 50,000 items, we are ready to redisplay the collection.

The museum's exhibits are designed to take the visitor back in time. The collection will tell the stories of native cultures, exploration, transportation and pioneers in this area.

The renovated building is totally climate controlled with a heating, cooling and ventilation system (HVAC) to protect the collection and provide comfort for the visitor.

An army of volunteers and staff has completely repainted the interior. We could not have done this without the hours of work and know-how from our building and grounds administration people, Kerry LaDuke and Daniel Davidson, nor could we have completed this project without the prodigious efforts of our director, Paul Shea or our curator, Laura McCarthy. They put in many, many extra hours.

A special thanks goes to the groups and individuals that have contributed to this project. In the construction phase, we would like to thank Kirk Michels, architect, who was with us from the beginning. Three Rivers Engineering planned the HVAC system and Graybeal's who installed the system. Bioseal, Intermountain Builders and Drywall on Demand completed the internal enveloping project. Total Electric and Parisi Western Plumbing

were responsible for the electric and plumbing phase. Ace Hardware helped with our painting supplies. We thank you for a job well done.

The Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum have been instrumental from the start. We are grateful to the Park County Commissioners for their support in this project. The Livingston Community Trust, which contributed greatly in our final stage, was essential to the project's success.

The Livingston-Park County-Public Library and Eagles' Landing provided space for meetings during our construction stage.

Come and see your museum for the Grand Reopening on October 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ❖

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Laura McCarthy - Registrar

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Livingston, Montana, 59047

Phone: 406.222.4184

E-mail: museum@imt.net

## LIST OF HVAC PROJECT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### HVAC PROJECT FUNDING:

United States Department of Energy:  
Energy Efficiency Grant  
State of Montana Historic Preservation  
Grant: HB645  
Livingston Trust  
Park County  
Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway  
Museum  
Northwest Energy  
Ace Hardware

### CONTRACTORS

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Robert Williams

Answers to Pop Quiz: 1. (D), 2. (A), 3. (B), 4. (D), 5. (C)

*Hooked Yet? Why not become a member of the Friends?*

# **GRAND RE-OPENING**

**The Yellowstone  
Gateway Museum  
Presents**

*Ghosts  
of Park County's Past*

**October 29, 2011**

**10:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

**Come and see the new look  
of the Yellowstone Gateway  
Museum!**

- 10:00 A.M. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony by Park County Commissioners
- 11:00 A.M. Kid's Halloween Safety and Fun with our 1976 fire engine by Livingston Fire Department
- 11:30 A.M. Rediscovering the Lewis and Clark Trail presentation by Norm Miller
- 1:00 P.M. Sheep Wagon History and Arrival of New Donation by Don Ellis and Jem Blueher
- 2:00 P.M. Indian Education for All Projects presentation by East Side School 5th graders
- 3:00 P.M. Visions on the Great Bend of the Yellowstone presentation by Shane Doyle

- ALL DAY Kid's Halloween Craft Table and Photo Booth  
*Get your photo taken in your Halloween costume!*
- Kid's Halloween Costume Contest.**  
The winner will be announced in the Livingston Enterprise on Halloween, Monday October 31st!  
**Look for special Halloween Exhibits!**



All events are **FREE**  
and open to the  
public!

## MUSEUM-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP: BIG BEND OF THE YELLOWSTONE

By Laura McCarthy  
Education Director



The YGM/Schools collaboration centered on the theme, "The Big Bend of the Yellowstone." Students, parents and the community learned together at our dynamic speaker series begun in the Fall of 2010. Topics included vision quests past and present, flint knapping, ancient Native astronomy, local history and the history of Fort Parker, the first Crow Agency. Park High School and East Side fifth graders created displays of life on the Big Bend through time. Culminating events included a Fort Parker student activity day focused on history, botany, native games, archaeology and Crow creation stories. Students, parents and teachers participated in a Gala, hearing student poets and OPI Indian Education Specialist Mandy Smoker Broadus.

The displays created by the students were so impressive that the YGM would like to showcase their exemplary work at the grand reopening. The Yellowstone Gateway Museum will hold a reception for all students to present their work on October 29, 2011 at the Museum's grand reopening. East Side fifth grade students, now sixth graders, are invited to present their work and receive a cap honoring their achievement. The reception will be held at 2:00 PM October 29, 2011 followed by a presentation by Shane Doyle on Vision on the Big Bend of the Yellowstone.

Fifth grade graduates come and show off your incredible work! ❖❖❖

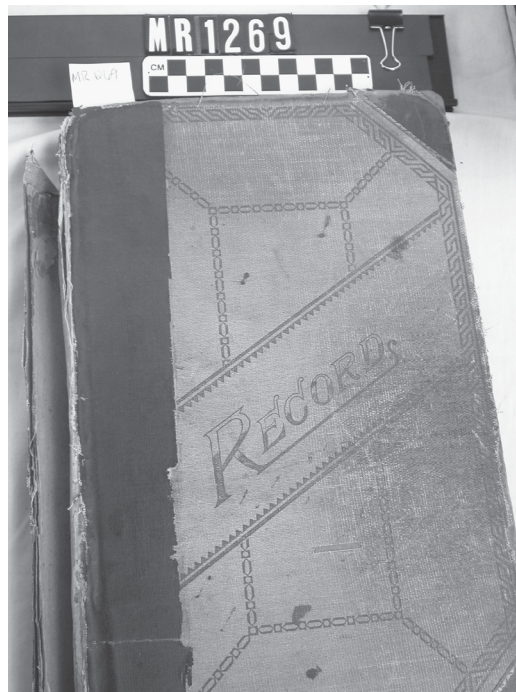
## LOOK WHAT WE FOUND MOVING...

Cleaning out the museum for the installation of the heating and cooling system was a very large task, much larger than anyone would have anticipated. Every corner, closet, display case, and exhibit hall was stuffed with treasures and many of which we never knew we had. As soon as we thought we had a part of the building moved, we would find another closet, another box, or another cabinet filled with artifacts. Each of the over 50,000 items were inventoried, cleaned, photographed, and packed.

Without the help of many volunteers the project would never have been completed, and we would not be celebrating our grand re-opening. Volunteers included Randy Adams, Lisa Adams, Maryjane Ammerman, Jessica Bates, Jeremy Braulick, Ruth Dargis,

---

*Found with the the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen collections was a dusty old unmarked ledger. We carefully opened the broken cover to see lists upon lists of names, dates, job descriptions, and reasons for termination. A quick look determined that these were Livingston Shop employees from 1906 to 1922.*



Daniel Davidson, Nancy Edwards, Shirley Gasek, Jamie Gaul, Carol Goosey, Bruce Graham, Ronnie Green, Helen Harris, Susan Kraft, Kerry LaDuke, Andy McDonnell, Charlie Rahn, Martha Riddle, Roddie Stanton, Sky Sullivan, Florence Taylor, Gary Travis, Bobbie Williams, and many others.

Processing all of these items forced us to consider the reasons why we accept and save things, and why we need to be more selective in the future. However, after getting discouraged by cabinets full of broken dishes or boxes of unidentified newspaper clippings; we would always find an artifact that made it all worthwhile.

While packing a series of books on railroad engineering, we came across a treasure trove of forgotten archives. In the early 1980s the Amy Downing Lodge of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen donated many of their materials, and others donated materials from the B. of R.T. Among these invaluable collections were meeting minutes dating back to 1899, framed charters, and ceremonial badges.

Found with the B. of R.T. collections was a dusty old unmarked ledger. We carefully opened the broken cover to see lists upon lists of names, dates, job descriptions, and reasons for termination. A quick look determined that these were

Livingston Shop employees from 1906 to 1922. These were the young men that had been forgotten in all other records. Most did not stay with the railroad long enough to join a union, most did not stay in Livingston; they traveled on with the railroad or found other jobs-- these were the drifters.

This museum, your museum, has resources that are one-of-a-kind. These archives and others like them are the reason that we have decided to convert the Warren McGee Room which housed the railroad display to a research library. By centralizing and organizing the Museum's written records, we hope to document and preserve these archives for our community. Only then, can we know the true story of Park County and the West. ❖❖❖

Discover the Whithorn Photo Collection Online at: <http://yellowstone.pastperfect-online.com>.









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# THANK YOU FOR KEEPING PARK COUNTY HISTORY ALIVE!

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE YELLOWSTONE GATEWAY MUSEUM!  
PICK UP A FREE PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT WITH NEW MEMBERSHIP! CALL 222-4184 FOR INFO



# CALL FOR VOUNTEERS



Starting with the founders Bill and Doris Whithorn, Warren McGee, Vince VanAken, Gladys Stermitz, and others; and continuing to the passionate individuals assisting with the Whithorn Photo Collection; volunteers have always been the driving force behind the Yellowstone Gateway Museum.

The selfless acts of those who have greeted visitors at the front desk, built display cases, mowed the lawn, and cataloged our endless backlog of collections have kept our small museum

alive for 35 years. Now that we are up and running in our newly remodeled building, we are again in need of volunteers. If you would like to meet new people and learn more about this great county, please contact Director Paul Shea, or Registrar Laura McCarthy at 222-4184.

Some possible duties include:

- Greeting visitors at the Front Desk
- Helping to catalog the artifact backlog
- Assisting in the unpacking of collections
- Helping to organize our new research library
- Participating in the Museum/Library partnership to digitize historic issues of the *Livingston Enterprise*
- Serving as a board member

This is your museum, if there is a project not listed here that you believe will benefit Park County residents, please contact us and we will help facilitate it. ❖❖

## RESEARCH LIBRARY

The Yellowstone Gateway Museum holds countless archives related to local businesses, labor unions, family histories, maps, voting records, self-published books and more. In an effort to organize our collections and make them more accessible to the public, we are creating a research library. We hope to consolidate all our written works to one room. These works range in size from large bound ledgers and over-size maps, to booklets on traveling through Yellowstone National Park, Northern Pacific Railway union rosters and technical drawings.

The research library will hold computers with access to our collections, including the Whithorn Photo Collection. The room will also have a station for scanning other photos and archives in our collection. The ongoing project of organizing the physical copies in our library collection, while digitizing and preserving high-demand items will require an army of historians. Please consider offering your time to preserve Park County history while exploring old photographs, scrapbooks, postcards, and more.

If you are interested in assisting in the Yellowstone Gateway Museum of Park County Archives, please contact Registrar Laura McCarthy at 222-4184, or [lmccarthy@imt.net](mailto:lmccarthy@imt.net). ❖❖



## Continuing HVAC and Museum Needs

By Paul Shea  
Museum Director

In order to install the new heating and cooling system for the museum, the existing displays need to be moved into storage and out of the way of any possible damage. This will enable museum staff and volunteers to re-display and put up new exhibits on the history of Park County. We are still in need of Capital Funds for the project.

The museum is looking to acquire Capital Funds for satellite displays around the town of Livingston and other areas of the county to feature off-site exposure of the collection.

New and existing projects will also need funding:

- **Preservation Fund**, used to purchase supplies and materials for the storage, handling and preservation of museum objects and archives

- **Whithorn Fund**, this fund is used to help maintain the museums photo archives

- **Research Fund**, this fund is used to purchase research materials for and to maintain our research library (books, maps, etc.)

- **General Fund**, this fund is used for general operating expenses

- **Accessibility Project**: This is a Capital Funds project to address access to enter and move about the museum. This would include ramps to enter the building and an elevator to move from floor to floor. Further improvements to the building including work on the office, research room and entry way.

- New website to enhance our online presence, more and more travelers are using the web to plan vacations.

- Updating revisions to be done on the three billboards we share with the Depot Museum. They are located on I-90 to the east and west of town, and one is south of Emigrant on U.S. 89.

- New and re-displayed exhibits.

Donations may be made to: The Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum, P.O. Box 815 Livingston MT 59047 or call Paul at 406-222-4184 for questions or further information. ❖❖

# WHITHORN BOOK SALES

## NEWS FROM THE YGM PUBLICATIONS BRANCH

By Dick Dysart

So far during 2011, the Friends of YGM have sold about 770 books by Bill & Doris Whithorn. This is about the same level as our book sales last year. We believe that Jon Watson's online database [yellowstone.pastperfect-online.com](http://yellowstone.pastperfect-online.com), showing more than 7,300 historical images from Park County, may be partly responsible for the steady book sales. The museum has also benefited from increased publicity from local newspaper articles in recent months.

### Old Books and New Books:

- **Photo History of Livingston.** by Bill & Doris Whithorn. Early in 2011, The "Wan-I-Gan Press" published a revised edition of this important Whithorn book, first published in 1966. The new edition was produced in the same large format as the Shields Valley book, and contains 113 high-resolution photographs, 693 index entries, and a map of Livingston. The new Livingston book with its bright red cover has been quite a success. So far we have sold more than 500 copies, a new record for us. [64 pages, 113 photos, \$12.95]

- **Photo History of Shields Valley.** by Bill & Doris Whithorn. Our in-house "Wan-I-Gan Press" published a new enlarged edition of this book in 2010. First published in 1969 in a small 6 x 9 format, it is now out-of-print. The new version contains 64 pages, an index, and measures 8.5" by 11". The book continues to be a best seller, particularly up the Shields River Valley, because of the sharp high-resolution photos and a new index of 1,076 names [64 pages, 152 photos, \$12.95]

### A Book Still in Progress:

- **Growing Up in Livingston - 100 Years Ago.** by Copeland C. Burg. This book was originally published by the Park County News in 1962, as: *The Livingston Story*. The author was born in Livingston in 1889. He attended school here, worked as a newspaper reporter and later left town in 1923. The book consists of 12 lively reminiscences about his school days, his family, local

companions, and some of the stories that didn't make the papers. We are reprinting the original text, but we intend to add historical notes and photographs to enhance the stories. We hope that the book will be published by the end of the year. Stay tuned!

### Another Old Book Indexed:

- **Looking Back.** by Arnold Huppert, Sr. Copyright 1966. Published by the *Park County News*, Livingston, Montana, 101 pages. [Indexing by Richard Dysart, May 2011]

Arnold Huppert, Sr. was born in Poland in 1892, and he died in Livingston in 1973. He and his wife are buried in the Park View Cemetery. During his 59 years in Livingston, he was associated with the Brooks Realty Company, and he knew the business community well. The first part of this book outlines the author's early life in Poland, in New York City, and in South Dakota. The last half of the book describes his life in Livingston, from 1914 through 1966.

The book is quite important historically because Mr. Huppert makes an effort to give the names of every merchant, street by street, as they were when he stepped off the train in April of 1914. Because of this, I focused my indexing on only those years he spent in Livingston. There are about 480 index entries. The book is at the Livingston Park County Public Library. Copies of the index are available from Dick Dysart. ❖❖❖



The Late Copeland C. Burg

**This book, by Bill & Doris Whithorn, first appeared in 1966 and has been recently reprinted in a larger format.**

**The 2011 revision includes 115 digitally restored captioned photographs. The 693 indexed entries include the names of many merchants, civic leaders and residents.**

**Explore the rich history of this important town through these high resolution historical images.**

**Wan-I-Gan Press**



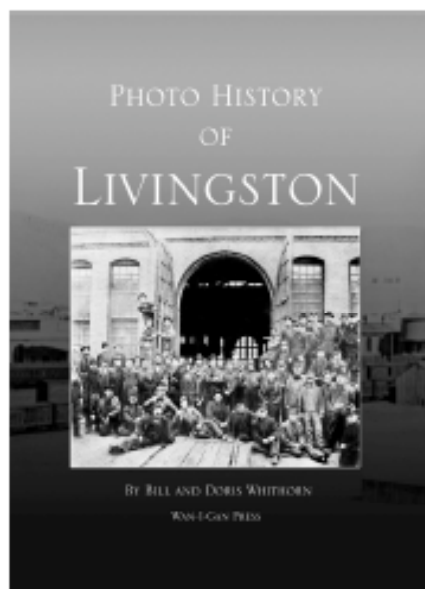
**Friends of Yellowstone Gallery Museum**

**P.O. Box #15**

**Livingston, MT 59047**

**406-721-8937**

**Other Whithorn book titles are available at:  
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# MONTANA MEMORIES

## A.W. MILES RUNS HIS OWN BOARD OF TRADE?

By Patty Bauer-Miller

**T**his is a long ago tale told to Cliff Miller of Livingston by an older friend Billy Garr of Cottonwood Bench east of Clyde Park. Garr was a son of Billy and Mary Garr who homesteaded that ranch on Cottonwood in 1897 where they lived for 50 years. Billy had 7 brothers and one sister. He and his brother Pat lived and farmed the family ranch after their parents death in 1919 and 1922. The brothers sold the ranch to the Logan family in the early 1950's.

Garr related the following, "All our trips were made by horseback and by team and wagon with a horseback ride into Livingston taking at least four hours one way. There was a lot of riding after dark .A good horse was your best friend. I figure it was about 25 miles one way and we used that old road that is closed up now. That road went from Livingston plumb to White Sulphur Springs through the dry land. Anyway, it was late fall and I had cut my oats, kind of green it was, so



the heads didn't all fall off...the best way to cut 'em...I rode in to see A.W. as he was the only one buying. He and I made this deal that I would get about \$2.00 per 100 wt. for my crop. He knew he was getting a good crop. I was to bring in the first load right away. I was to bring in the first load right away. It sounded like the very best deal I could ever get so I rode home and we loaded a regular lumber wagon with about 70 bushels for the first trip .It took four good stout horses to make the trip. We left as early as 4 a.m. and came right back for the next load. You know this was all by scoop shovel and we worked the better part of the nights. It was a tough trip every time because it was late fall with snow just around the corner. Of course Miles had the Livery Stable, the best in our entire area, so the horses were fed and watered before we started home. This was not a free service. The horses did better than we did. I think we made four trips with the crop. Now Miles had a big spread with the Livery Stable, hardware store and that huge lumber yard. He was also into sheep and he had it all going. He

was one sharp business man. You know where he was? He was all over downtown Livingston with the Miles Block and assorted businesses."

Cliff was hanging on the old man's words waiting for a good ending.

Garr said, "Well, when I went in to get our pay

A.W. says to me...well, Garr it peers as though the price of oats just went down so the best I can give you is 60 cents per 100 wt.

I couldn't go no where else because I couldn't afford to not sell my oats so he got my crop and delivered to him first class."

Cliff learned from Garr that a piece of paper beats a hand shake no matter who the deal maker is. History shows that A.W. Miles ran his own Board of Trade right here in Livingston, Montana in about 1922.

## FUR TRADE

The Yellowstone River played a large part in the North American Fur Trade, and the Big Bend of the Yellowstone was part of it. Beginning with the late 1600s Portuguese fishing boats trading iron for furs, the wealth of fur bearing animals of North America drove a large part of several countries economies.

For two centuries the English and French dominated the North American Fur Trade. It wasn't until the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis & Clark Expedition that the Americans entered the fur trade is a substantial way.

Immediately following the completion of the Lewis & Clark trek, American fur traders started up the Missouri River and into the Northern Rocky Mountains. John Colter was among the first to trap and traipse the waters of this area. Others would soon follow and add their stories to the times. The large fur trading companies were not far behind.

John Jacob Aster's American Fur Company and the legendary Rocky Mountain Fur Company vied with the English for domination of the fur resources of our area. The Rendezvous System, located to the south of the Yellowstone Plateau, cemented Americas place in the Western United States.

From 1830 until 1845 the Rendezvous burned an image of the fur trade into the minds of people that still exists to this day. Business, politics and the forging of national expansion took place during these tumultuous years. It is a story worth looking at, and it's relation to the Big Bend of the Yellowstone.

As part of a new exhibit we will take a brief look at the Fur Trade in North America; the years relating to the use of the Big Bend of the Yellowstone; some of the personalities involved, and a look at the impact of these new arrivals in the Northern Rockies. ❖❖❖



# FRIENDS OF THE YELLOWSTONE GATEWAY MUSEUM

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## Pop Quiz: Park County History

- 1) "Yankee Jim" is buried in which state?  
A. - Montana  
B. - Wyoming  
C. - South Dakota  
D. - California
- 2) Who said: "Give me a museum and I will fill it?"  
A. - Pablo Picasso  
B. - Bill Cody  
C. - Gene Autry  
D. - P. T. Barnum
- 3) In 1903 Teddy rode a horse named:  
A. - Trigger  
B. - Bonaparte  
C. - Sea Biscuit  
D. - Silver
- 4) The first man to take photos of Mammoth Springs, was:  
A. - Jack E. Haynes  
B. - Thomas Moran  
C. - Frank J. Haynes  
D. - William H. Jackson
- 5) "Calamity Jane" is buried in which state?  
A. - Montana  
B. - Wyoming  
C. - South Dakota  
D. - California

ANSWERS TO POP QUIZ ON PAGE 2

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