

Ravalli County Sheriff's Office
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Hamilton, MT 59840



Chris Hoffman, Sheriff

Stephen Holton, Undersheriff

****Special Press Release 09-24-2014****

Ravalli County Sheriff Chris Hoffman said that during the early morning hours of 09-22-2014, Ravalli County Detention Officers investigated suspicious activity in a cell block in the Ravalli County Detention Center. The Detention Officers discovered 24-year-old Simeon Lippert allegedly attempting to escape the facility. Lippert was safely brought into custody. The subsequent investigation indicated that Lippert had destroyed a locking mechanism and gained entry into the heating and cooling access areas of the facility. Evidence suggests Lippert damaged electrical conduit and cinder blocks in an effort to access the exterior of the Detention Center. Lippert was arraigned later that day for Attempted Escape (felony) in violation of M.C.A. 45-7-306, and Criminal Mischief in violation of M.C.A. 45-6-101. It appears Lippert acted alone in the escape attempt.

Also during the early morning hours of 09-22-2014, the Ravalli County Sheriff's Office and Corvallis Volunteer Fire Department responded to a mobile home fire east of Corvallis. The residence was totally engulfed when fire personnel arrived. 49-year-old Judd McCown died in the fire. Two other adult occupants of the residence safely escaped the home with fire fighter assistance. One of those people was transported by ambulance due to smoke inhalation. The investigation determined the cause of the fire was a lighted cigarette near a home oxygen supply.