

Inquest called into fatalities

PHILIPSBURG — Granite County Sheriff Marvin Dägel has ordered an inquest in the deaths of two persons Monday night in a head-on collision near Hall.

Dägel said no inquest date has been scheduled, but it will be the week of Sept. 22.

Killed were the Rev. James Barry, 55, a Catholic priest who served parishes in Western Montana, and Betty Lou Blaskovich, 43, an Anaconda mother of two.

The Highway Patrol said Blaskovich's southbound pickup truck and Barry's northbound car collided on dry U.S. 10-A about seven miles west of Hall.

The accident was about 8:30 p.m. on a curve at the crest of a hill. Both drivers died at the scene.

Father Barry was buried Thursday in Butte's Holy Cross Cemetery. Services for Mrs. Blaskovich will be Friday at 11 in the Parson Funeral Chapel in Anaconda.