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ON THE COVER: The Big Sky PBR captivated thousands of fans and raised over \$75,000 for charity during three days of events in 2016. This year, it expands to include four days of community events in Big Sky, including a barn dance, art auction, several live music acts, and of course, the bull riding. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1: News	
Opinion	5
Local	6
Montana	14
Section 2: Environment, Sports & Dinin	g
Environment	17
Sports	26
Dining	30
Section 3: Business, Health & Back 40 Business	33
Health	
Back 40	
Section 4 : Outdoors & Fun	
Outdoors	49
Fun	63

10	Bison conference announces
IU	initiative in Big Sky

A Billion Dollar Bet Big Sky's development history, part 3



Good Samaritans save life on Ousel Falls Road

Business profile: Terraflow Trail Systems



Plus: Big Sky PBR program inside



The 13th annual Targhee Fest, held at Grand Targhee Resort from July 14-16, was filled with almost non-stop music, good food and drink, and seemingly endless opportunities to enjoy a July weekend in Alta, Wyoming. Hula hoops were popular with the younger crowds, while the adults ate, drank, and danced to new bands nearly every two hours. In between sets, concert goers would hike, play frisbee golf, mountain bike, tailgate in the sprawling camping area, or take a nap to rest up for the next performance. The resort is gearing up for their 30th annual Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival from Aug. 11-13, dubbed the Northern Rockies' Grand Daddy of Bluegrass Festivals. PHOTO BY DOUG HARE

Do you want to see your photography in the pages of EBS? Submit a maximum of three images via email to carie@outlaw.partners or use #explorebigsky on social media to be eligible. One photo per issue will be chosen for the opening shot.



THE BIG SKY REAL ESTATE CO.

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862 ELK MEADOW TRAIL

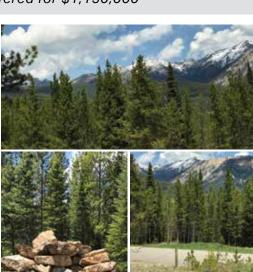
Located on 14th fairway of the Signature Tom Weiskopf Golf Course AND Ski in/Ski out. 7 bedrooms, bunk room (3 built in bunks, air hockey table, TV, adorable bathroom); spectacular master bedroom suite with private office, 6 fireplaces, Chef's kitchen, spectacular landscaping with stream and waterfall that wraps around property, 3 car garage, heated driveway, xm/sirius surround sound, theater room, pool table and bar.

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Spectacular views of Lone Mountain from every room in this spacious home. A picture perfect location in Sweetgrass Hills, Meadow Village. This home boasts a master suite on the main floor and a large family room on the lower level. Huge floor to ceiling windows in the living room enhance the sense of space and connection to the mountains. Minutes to the Big Sky Meadow Village and Town Center.

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SPANISH PEAKS NORTH LOT 63

4.22 acres located on Silverado Trail in this desirable and serene subdivision of Big Sky. This homesite features a private, treed setting that is frequented by elk, deer, and moose. A roughed-in driveway currently exists, as well as a collection of magnificent boulders that could be utilized to compliment your landscaping plans. An excellent location for your future Montana home of your dreams!

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4 July 21 - August 3, 2017 Explore Big Sky



2017 Parks and Trails Gala brings total BSCO fundraising effort to \$1 million

BIG SKY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Big Sky Community Organization hosted their 10th annual Parks and Trails Gala fundraising event July 7 at the Big Sky Community Park. A sold out crowd of more than 200 individuals were in attendance to celebrate and show support for the community park and trail system. The event raised \$185,000 for BSCO, pushing the cumulative amount of money raised at this event over the past 10 years to over \$1 million.

BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe spoke at the event, saying, "The dollar amount raised is definitely impressive, but the work that has been done and the accomplishments within our small community is the true success story. Each of you here tonight are a part of Big Sky's history and also the force for our future."

BSCO operates a \$1 million annual budget to support 83 acres of parkland, 19 miles of trails and several community recreation programs. Last year projects included securing 10 new private trail easements, adding 3 miles of trail, installing Big Sky's second traffic light and expanding the Camp Big Sky program to meet the area's growing youth population.

Future projects include building a 525-square-foot tree fort playground in Kircher Discovery Park, securing an additional 16 private trail easements for four new trail connections, and purchasing and developing an additional 7.5 acres of open space park land that the Beehive Basin trailhead sits upon.

USGS starts grizzly trapping operations in Hebgen Lake area

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

As part of ongoing efforts required under the Endangered Species Act to monitor the population of grizzly bears in the Yellowstone Ecosystem, the U.S. Geological Survey is informing the public that pre-baiting and scientific trapping operations are about to begin within the Hebgen Lake drainage basin.

Biologists with the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team (IGBST) will begin work in the area beginning July 15 and will continue through Aug. 31. Trapping operations can include a variety of activities, but all areas where work is being conducted will have major access points marked with warning signs.

Monitoring of grizzly bear distribution and other activities are vital to ongoing recovery of grizzlies in the Yellowstone Ecosystem. Biologists use food sources such as fresh road-killed deer and elk to attract bears, and potential trapping sites are baited with these carcasses. If biologists conclude that grizzly bears may be in the area, culvert traps or foot snares will be used to capture the bears. Once trapped, they're handled in accordance with strict protocols developed by the IGBST.

Whenever bear trapping activities are being conducted for scientific purposes, the area around the site will be posted with warning signs to inform the public of the activities occurring. These signs are posted along the major access points to the trapping site. It's important that the public heed these signs and do not venture into an area that has been posted.

For more information regarding grizzly bear trapping efforts call the IGBST hotline at (406) 994-6675

Two wildfires burn near Philipsburg, smoky haze in Big Sky from California

EBS STAFF

Two lightning-caused wildfires were burning approximately 25 miles southwest of Philipsburg, Montana, as of EBS press time July 19. The 374-acre Whetstone Ridge Fire and 69-acre Meyers Fire started in close proximity to one another in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and were detected July 14.

Three handcrews and two helicopters were working to contain the fires, with at least 100 personnel on the incidents, which were 0-percent contained as of press time. The main safety concern the firefighters are facing is the significant number of snags and heavy logging slash in the area.

Warm and dry conditions, with 20 mph sustained winds, were expected to persist in the area through the end of the week.

The smoky haze visible over southwest Montana during the week of July 17 is the result of large fires burning in Northern California's Sierra Nevada mountains, according to airnow.org, which tracks air quality throughout North America.

Gov. Bullock downplays presidential aspirations

BY BOBBY CAINA CALVAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) – Montana Gov. Steve Bullock is downplaying his national political ambitions even as he sets up a committee that would pay for his travel to political events across the country.

During a meeting with reporters in his Montana Capitol office July 18, Bullock said he is seeking to add his voice to the national conversation on health care, public lands and a host of other issues. But he says any speculation about a presidential bid or a run for the U.S. Senate in 2020 is premature.

He filed registration papers with the Federal Election Commission on July 18 for a political action committee called Big Sky Values. Bullock says it will help raise money to fund non-official trips.

Bullock is among many Democrats testing potential presidential runs.

Sen. Tester secures hearing for Yellowstone Gateway Protection Act

OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. JON TESTER

Sen. Jon Tester has secured a hearing for his Yellowstone Gateway Protection Act, which according to the senator is intended to protect Montana's outdoor economy and clean water near Yellowstone National Park.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining will hold a hearing on Tester's bill Wednesday, July 26, at 8 a.m. mountain time.

"As visitors flock to Yellowstone National Park and spend their money at local businesses, they are greeted by breathtaking views, clean water and world class wildlife," Tester said. "We need to keep the economy of this region strong for generations to come and this bill will ensure our kids and grandkids can experience the wonders of Montana's outdoors at the doorstep of Yellowstone."

Tester introduced the Yellowstone Gateway Protection Act after local residents and businesses asked him to protect the region from large-scale mining operations.

Tester's bill would permanently withdraw federal mineral rights on 30,000 acres of public land in the Custer Gallatin National Forest adjacent to the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness and Yellowstone National Park, and would eliminate the ability for proposed mines to expand onto unclaimed public land.



The stoplight at the corner of Ousel Falls Road and Highway 64 began operation June 29.

How has the new stoplight affected your Big Sky driving experience?



Collette Rinehart
Big Sky, Montana

"The trucks coming down from the hill are not prepared for the light, and I've almost been rear ended twice since the light's been put in, but I do think it's going to help traffic flow overall."



Charlie Gaillard Big Sky, Montana

"I think it's definitely made it a lot safer to drive."



Mike Alt Big Sky, Montana

"It's better for big trucks because it's less stressful and people aren't as careless and don't just fly down the hill anymore. Before the stoplight was there it was very unnerving to drive down that hill."



Kristin Drain
Big Sky, Montana

"It's a lot safer now. It used to be really tough to see when you were going across the road. I also walk to work a lot and now I can safely walk to and from work which is nice."

Op-ed: At a fork in the trail

BY CIARA WOLFE

Change is inevitable and provides challenges as well as opportunities. Here in Big Sky we are in an evident cycle of change. Some of the most visible community-wide changes we can see are:

- Development of commercial and residential properties.
- Exponential growth in our residential population and visitors.
- New individuals in leadership roles within our community bringing experience and longevity in Big Sky and from other communities.
- Public land access declining and being threatened while also experiencing an increase in the interface of wildlife and humans.
- Cost of living increasing at a rate faster than wages.

We have reached a fork in the road where we have two options as a community. We can turn a blind eye and ignore the changes we are seeing, leaving the decisions to those with the loudest voices; or we can embrace the change, get involved and ensure the future of our community is brighter and better than we could ever have imagined. My hope is that we collectively choose the latter.

Grassroots organizing begins at the local level to effect change. These movements are associated with bottom-up, rather than top-down decision making and involve all individuals. There is a reason that many successful communities are built around grassroots initiatives because when you prioritize citizen engagement it ensures long-term viability. By involving citizens of all levels, it fosters buy-in to the changes and decisions that occur across cycles of change.

At the Big Sky Community Organization (BSCO) we have worked to utilize grassroots community-building for the past two decades. Through it, we have accomplished a lot as an organization including developing a 36-acre community park and an integrated community trail system. However, just like the rest of Big Sky, we too are experiencing organizational changes. Some of these changes are:

- Funding cuts from our local Resort Area Tax District for public services like cleaning restrooms and mowing and weeding our parks and trails.
- Needing to secure private trail easements and purchasing critical property to ensure long term access and connectivity within our trail system and community.
- Increased responsibility and liability on behalf of our community with expanding park acreage and trail mileage to meet the growing population.

The BSCO has recognized the cycle of change and is committing to take the fork in the trail that connects our community to create the best possible outcomes. The lessons we have learned from over two decades of grassroots community building here in Big Sky are:

- Listen more than you speak to your community
- Ask difficult questions
- Be open to change and opportunity
- Be nimble and flexible when unexpected things occur
- Engage as many people as possible in every aspect of your work.

At the BSCO we are committed to staying involved, listening to our constituents and building a community we can all be proud of. I hope that you too will be a part of this cycle of change in our community. You can get involved by joining a local board or committee, running for an elected seat on a district board, meeting with your community leaders, attending community planning meetings, volunteering at events, voting, and expressing your opinions through letters to the editor and emails. We ask that you respect different opinions, seek solutions, ask difficult questions and give your time, treasures or talents as much as you are able.

I challenge you to engage more and complain less, and I guarantee our community will be stronger for it. Let's make sure the level of community engagement is something we measure rigorously as we strive to make Big Sky a world-class community and destination.

Ciara Wolfe is the executive director of the Big Sky Community Organization.

Resort tax board reviews conditional allocations, elects new chairperson

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Resort Area District tax board met July 12 to address agenda items that included a restructuring of the Big Sky Fire Department's request for funds, an update on bonding capacity, and a review of all contracts with conditional appropriations.

The board also held internal elections, when Jamey Kabisch stepped down from his four-year tenure as chairperson. Mike Scholz replaced him, with Kevin Germain stepping in as vice chair.

Two seats on the board, currently filled by Heather Budd and Ginna Hermann, will be up for public vote in the November elections.

"I think we get stagnant, jaded," Kabisch said. "I just want what's best for the district and I don't know that me serving as the chairperson moving forward is the right thing for the district. ... I look forward to serving the board in a different way."

Several representatives from local organizations expressed concerns about their 2018 funding, including Big Sky Transportation District Coordinator David Kack, Big Sky Fire Department Chief William Farhat, and Ciara Wolfe, executive director of the Big Sky Community Organization.

On behalf of the joint interests of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, Visit Big Sky and Big Sky Gateway Foundation, chamber CEO Candace Carr Strauss stressed the urgency of purchasing the high-visibility corner lot at the intersection of Highway 191 and Lone Mountain Trail—where the visitor center is now—and asked the board to consider how they might support this effort.

"We just feel that there's an amazing opportunity in front of us, and there's the potential for it to be lost and that would be a tragedy for our community," Strauss said. The board agreed to add the item to the next meeting's agenda on Aug. 9.

Transportation district coordinator David Kack shared his disappointment that Gallatin County declined providing any of the \$80,000 requested for the next fiscal year to expand their bus services.

"We've only gotten funding one in 10 years of asking [Gallatin County], and Madison County has been there every year," Kack said, adding that transportation services need to be looked at as a joint partnership akin to law enforcement, and that there is an expectation to receive funding from the county. The board agreed to write a letter to the Gallatin County commissioners on the transportation district's behalf.

Chief Farhat told the board there was a strong indication that the department would receive a grant that would help fund the hiring of additional battalion chiefs. Should the grant be received, it would decrease their resort tax funding request. But Farhat's primary purpose for addressing the board was to ask if they'd re-order the funding payout schedule for a replacement fire engine. If the department could pay the majority upfront, they could use the \$24,000 discount to purchase additional necessary equipment for the truck, and the board agreed.

Significant time was spent discussing how to improve board policies and meeting procedures moving forward. The discussion included changes in study request for proposal (RFP) requirements, changing the funding cycle to allow for two-year projects, and redistributing public commentary to align with the related agenda item.

Although the taxation of Big Sky's private clubs—the Yellowstone Club,

Spanish Peaks Mountain Club and Moonlight Basin—was on the agenda, the board's relatively new legal counsel, Betsy Griffing, said she needed to conduct more research to better understand how the clubs operate.

New tax software was discussed that will make it easier for the BSRAD board to identify short-term rentals through platforms like Airbnb and VRBO that may not have registered as collectors.

Mike Scholz reported the resort tax district currently has a bonding capacity of \$10,882,000. Bonding capacity is the maximum total contract value a bonding company will extend to a contractor in performance bonds—the district doesn't currently have any bonded projects.

Attorney Griffing led the final discussion of contracts with conditions, which included how to legally bind Morningstar Learning Center to remain a daycare center in order to receive funds, and how those funds would be reimbursed should the property's purpose be altered. After hearing from Morningstar's lawyer, Mindy Cummings, it was decided that a Montana trust indenture, which is akin to a mortgage, and promissory note would be the best way to resolve the issue.

Wolfe told the board that the Big Sky Community Organization has presented a strong application for a Montana Transportation Alternative Program (MTAP) grant that would provide the additional funding needed for construction of the pedestrian tunnel under Lone Mountain Trail, a project that could take up to four years.

She also addressed BSCO's receipt of \$548,619 of its \$620,852 total request, with the condition that \$142,765 may be sought and spent on the tunnel project, only after the expenditure of grant funds.

There was some clarification needed as to whether there were conditions on how the resort tax funding BSCO received could be spent.

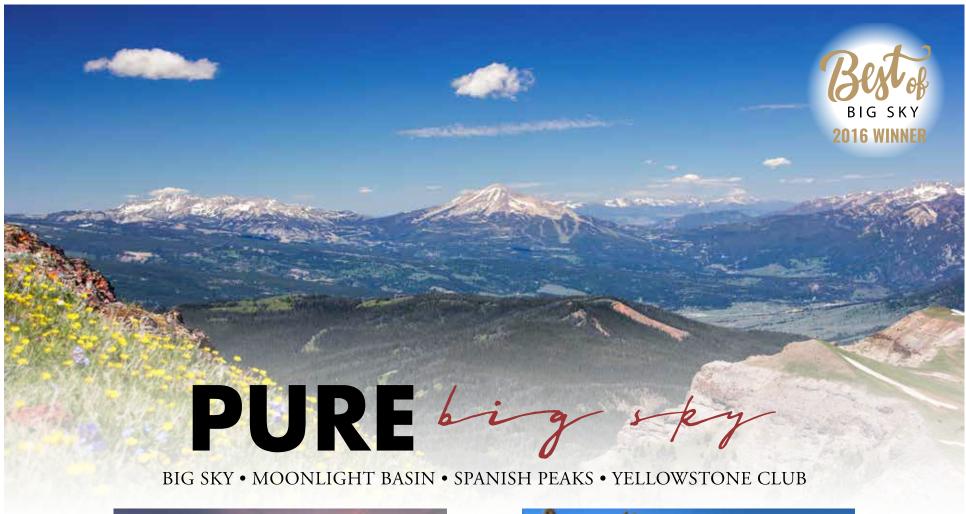
"If we don't get the MTAP grant, we take \$140,000 out of that, we're left with \$400,000 to do everything we want to do," Wolfe said.

"It's up to you and your board what you do with the rest of [the funds]," Kabisch said. "There were no other stipulations on our contract."

The resort tax board agreed to look at the way the final appropriation meetings are conducted in the future to avoid confusion about final outcomes among recipients and the board itself.

The next public meeting of the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board will be beld at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 9, in the resort tax office located in the Town Center RJS Building at 11 Lone Peak Drive, Suite 204.







217 GOSHAWK TRAIL | \$4,225,000

Stunning ski-in/ski-out property situated in a pristine setting. Breathtaking views, groomed ski access and the elegant home create this masterpiece. This 6 bedroom, 6.5 bathroom home is ideal for entertaining guests with large open living spaces, three ensuite bedrooms, two guest bedrooms, and a bunk room. Extensive log and stone detail highlight the surrounding mountain environment. Spanish Peaks Mountain Club mbership required. Golf membership included in sale. // JACKIE MILLER



22 MOOSE RIDGE ROAD | \$895,000

You can't beat the location of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath Powder Ridge Cabin! Offering one of the best ski-in/ski-out locations on the mountain, this beautiful property offers a private "cabin in the woods" feel while also offering close proximity to all that Big Sky Resort has to offer! Hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, a grand rock fireplace, private hot tub, and a one-car attached garage. Beautifully furnished and built with hand-hewn logs. // SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316



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ANDESITE ROAD LOTS | \$1,400,000-1,600,000

These gentling rolling vacant land parcels are beautifully situated in Big Sky Ski Resort's North Fork Creek Subdivision and ideally located near Town Center amenities. Horses, a barn with corral, an outbuilding and caretaker residence are all allowed on each site, making them a very unique find in the middle of the Meadow area. Trails, downhill and cross-country skiing, river activities and Yellowstone Park are all in close proximity. // LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848



SUMMIT HOTEL CONDO 10313 | \$495,000

This Summit Condo offer the best-positioned lodging location at the Big Sky Resort! Featuring 3 separate lock-off room configurations for the utmost in rental flexibility, fantastic views of the Spanish Peaks and the Gallatin Canyon, as well as many building amenities. Ask about how this condominium compares in $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ average rental income, to other 2 bedroom units in the Summit or in the overall base area! // MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745



5400 GALLATIN ROAD | \$65,000

If you are looking for a recreation property in the Gallatin Canyon, check out this Forest Service cabin! Across the road from Durnam Meadows and the Gallatin River, the cabin sits next to Tamphery Creek and borders beautiful National Forest. Use it in the summer for hiking or fall for hunting, this is a great location. Note: Due to this being a Forest Service cabin, it cannot be your primary residence. // BRENNA KELLEHER | 406.581.3361





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Big Sky, Montana





Big Sky Chamber of Commerce seeks input on traffic study

BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Approximately two-dozen people attended a July 19 presentation on traffic issues in Big Sky presented by the chamber of commerce. The meeting was held in the Big Sky Water and Sewer District boardroom and led by Danielle Scharf, a senior transportation engineer with Sanderson Stewart.

A considerable portion of the meeting was spent discussing the intersection of highways 191 and 64, and trying to come up with ways to make traffic move through Gallatin Canyon more smoothly.

Scharf said there's a safety concern when drivers park on the shoulder of the north side of Highway 64, also known as Lone Mountain Trail, and cross the road to access the Conoco on the south side.

"It's just a really bad place for pedestrians to be crossing the highway," Scharf said of the area just west of the intersection of highways 191 and 64. In addition to creating a potentially dangerous situation for pedestrians, trucks parked along the shoulder tend to block signage, including a sign to warn motorists of the bighorn sheep that frequently congregate just west of the Conoco.

According to the study, a number of intersections along Lone Mountain Trail already warrant improvements like turn lanes and signals, including the entrances to Ace Hardware, Roxy's Market, Big Pine Drive, and at Andesite Road. The turn into Big Sky Resort Road warrants a traffic light as well. "It would be a tricky signal installation," Scharf said of the latter, noting the turning patterns and tight geography.

Funding for improvements to Highway 64 might be a bit tricky too. Scharf said MDT considers it an "off-system" roadway, and as such, it doesn't

contribute money to improvement projects unless they fall under the bridge repair or safety program funding categories.

Safety program funds are competitive. At this point, it doesn't appear that Highway 64's crash data would grab the attention of those who administer the grants.

Several attendees acknowledged that Big Sky has a pretty strong track record of paying for its own projects. "There's a danger of training MDT that Big Sky fully funds all of its own stuff," countered David O'Connor, chair of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce's board of directors. "We pay taxes, too."

Slow-moving vehicles dominated the traffic discussion for problem areas along Highway 191. Scharf said one possibility to eliminate a string of vehicles backing up behind slow-moving drivers in Gallatin Canyon is additional signage that's more directive, and stepping up enforcement.

Kevin Germain, a member of the Big Sky Resort Area District resort tax board, said there are at least four areas in the canyon where there's appropriate geography to put in a passing lane. "I know it's a longer lead [time], more expensive item, but I think it's the only thing that's going to get traffic moving more seamlessly in that canyon," he said.

The study also recommended installing additional emergency phones in the canyon with advanced signage, along with a number of other potential improvements.

The chamber of commerce is seeking feedback on the report through Wednesday, July 26, before it's considered for adoption by the Gallatin and Madison county commissions.

Visit bigskychamber.com for the full report.



Visitors, locals assist after man collapses alongside Ousel Falls Road

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Jill and Jason Singer left their Cottonwood Crossings condo for a bike ride just before noon on July 9. Estimating the ride to Spanish Peaks down to Yellow Mule wouldn't take more than an hour, they left their younger children, Elijah, 4, and Ethan, 10, in the care of their eldest child, Isaac, 12.

By the time they reached the top of the switchbacks on Ousel Falls Trail, it had started raining, so they decided to head home. Jason went ahead, dipping down onto the gravel roadside path. Shortly thereafter, he stopped and put his foot down.

When Jill caught up, he told his wife he felt really light-headed.

"Then he crouched down on one knee," Jill said. "I got off my bike and put my hand on his face and asked if he was okay ... Then someone stopped and asked if we needed help."

By the time Jill turned back to her 41-year-old husband, he was unable to respond.

"It looked like he was choking or having a seizure," Jill said. "It was like he was drowning ... saliva was coming out of his mouth, his face was contorted, and then he just fell over."

Jill remembers jumping up and screaming "help" and for someone to call 911.

First on the scene was a young woman, only recently identified as Rachel Lee, a 26-year-old orthopedic nurse from St. Louis, Missouri, who was vacationing in Big Sky. Lee and her parents, brother and sister-in-law—four of whom are in the medical field—had just finished hiking Ousel Falls and were driving away when they saw a man crumpled facedown next to his bike.

Moments later, a bicyclist the Singers had passed on the trail earlier pulled up and offered assistance. Jill didn't know it at the time, but it was Kevin Budd, a former ski patroller and volunteer firefighter, and current member of Big Sky Search and Rescue.

"I was like, 'Oh my God, thank God,'" Jill said. Later, Budd's face would be the only one she would clearly remember from the crowd.

When Budd arrived, Lee declared Jason cyanotic—or turning blue from lack of oxygen—and pulseless.

Having determined it wasn't a crash, they flipped him over and Budd immediately began chest compressions, while Lee showed Jill how to administer CPR, which had to be done through Jason's nose because his mouth was clamped shut. Then Lee and Budd took turns carrying out the laborious chest compressions while they waited for an ambulance to arrive.

Budd and Lee were able to get Jason to start breathing intermittently, but he remained unresponsive.

"I kept thinking of my kids' faces and thinking, 'Please don't die; please don't die,'" Jill said.

In a daze, Jill watched as the ambulance attendants delivered automated external defibrillator (AED) shocks to her husband's chest before escorting him to Big Sky Medical Center where he finally regained consciousness.

Jason, a victim of cardiac arrest, was taken to Billings St. Vincent in an air ambulance as soon as the stormy weather allowed for transport. He was relocated to Billings Women's Health Clinic, where he underwent successful pacemaker replacement surgery on July 11. His new pacemaker will automatically shock his heart back into rhythm if necessary. By July 12, Jason was back home in Big Sky recuperating.

Almost exactly one year ago, Jason had a pacemaker installed after a routine check-up revealed an abnormally low heart rate that was likely contributing to his complaints of fatigue. His energy levels improved after the pacemaker insertion. Rigorous testing found no ailment with his heart, but did detect sarcoidosis—inflammatory cells that clump together to form abnormal masses—in Jason's lungs.

Although they haven't been given a definitive cause for Jason's cardiac arrest—low potassium levels and dehydration were also factors—the Singers are beginning to believe that the sarcoidosis may be related to the electrical glitch in his heart.



Jill and Jason Singer with their three boys after Jason's successful pacemaker replacement surgery on July 11. Jason experienced cardiac arrest during a June 9 bike ride on Ousel Falls Road and Big Sky resident Kevin Budd, an EMT, stepped in to assist. PHOTO BY RUTH FARNAN

After having their third child in Minneapolis, the Singers made a break to get out of the big city. They have been living in Big Sky for two years, where Jill works at Lotus Pad, and Jason for Total Electric.

If it wasn't already, the experience alongside Ousel Falls Road might have clinched Big Sky as the Singers' permanent home.

"Honestly, this situation has been so cathartic ... The timing of all it, if [Jason] would've keeled over anywhere else but where he did, with anyone else around, he wouldn't be here and I know it," Jill said. "All of those small things kind of added up to everything being okay in the end."

Jill said she's been overwhelmed by the community's response to her family's situation, which has included offers to bring over food and a flood of concerned comments online. She's especially touched given the relatively short time they've here. "To be embraced like that is pretty amazing."

From the hospital, Jill posted an item on the Big Sky Area Online Garage Sale Facebook page with a \$10 trillion price tag. She was asking for help in locating the two people who were crucial during her husband's crisis. "You, without a doubt, saved his life," she wrote. "My three boys and I thank you from the bottoms of our hearts."

Big Sky being a small community, it didn't take long for Budd to chime into the thread and say he had been one of the people to administer CPR.

"It was just dumb luck [that we were both there]," Budd says of the incident. "[Especially] when you think about how many other choices we both made that day that led us to both be there at the same time."

Budd is a little uncomfortable with the attention he's received for his role in the incident and stresses the importance of Lee's presence, as well as Jill's.

"If they didn't step in, who knows? Without them, it might not have been as happy an ending," Budd said, adding that he'd never been so happy to see firefighter Mitch Hammel and captain Stephen Pruiett as he was when they arrived on the scene.

Neither Lee nor Budd had ever performed CPR on a live person in need before, and both mentioned CPR's notoriously poor success rate.

"It was a just an act of God, honestly," Lee said.

Jill might not have found Lee, if Lee and her family weren't also curious about what had happened after Jason was taken away in the ambulance. While shopping in the Big Horn Center, Lee's mother and sister-in-law asked potter Jill Zeidler if she knew of any recent medical incidents. Zeidler relayed the story and put Lee in touch with her friends, the Singers.

Try as Budd may to dodge the spotlight, it's unlikely the outpouring of gratitude he's received from the Singers, and their friends and family, will stop any time soon.

"I don't know how I can ever thank Kevin," Jill said. "I just keep thinking about our kids, seeing their three faces, and thinking how could they live without their dad? ... I know a lot of people do it, but they need their dad."

Launch of 'Bison 1 Million' campaign announced at Big Sky Resort

BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Jonathan Sepp, owner of Flathead Bison Co. in northwestern Montana, says he's always known he was going to raise bison one day.

Sepp grew up in a military family and moved 15 times in his first 18 years. During long cross-country drives, his family would often take long rest stops in areas that serve as bison habitat, or did at one time.

Sepp was one of 600-plus people who attended the International Bison Conference in and around Big Sky July 4-7. Sepp said he was in good company at the conference, which is held every five years and alternates between the U.S. and Canada.

"I've heard that like 80 percent of bison ranchers do not come from an ag background. It's mostly people who love the animal, like me," Sepp said, adding that he hopes gathering information from larger producers will help him extend the long-term viability of his Hot Springs, Montana, operation.

Sepp explained that marketing and securing finances to get into the business have been the biggest challenges he's encountered. "It is notoriously difficult to convince a banker, an investor—whatever individual—that bison is a good idea," he said.

But Sepp, a former commander of a test parachute program in the United States Air Force, believes in the animal. He saved money and launched Flathead Bison Co. three and a half years ago. He currently runs anywhere from 20 to 100 head of bison on land he owns, as well as land he leases from the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Sepp has had help on the marketing front: His girlfriend Brittany Masters is a marketing ace who's helped him bring Roam Free Bison Bites, a seasoned jerky product, to consumers. He arrived at Big Sky Resort with an Airstream trailer that was completely retrofitted to both sell his product and demonstrate why he invested in it. He even has virtual reality goggles to visually replicate a small mixed-age herd of bison grazing.



Jonathan Sepp (left) in the Airstream trailer he brought to the International Bison Conference in Big Sky, Montana. He's pictured with Joshua Sivice (center) and Coty Morgan (right). PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT

Dave Carter, executive director of the National Bison Association, believes in bison too. Carter helped launch the effort to make bison the national mammal three years ago—over a beer in Big Sky, incidentally.

And on July 5, the association announced another big initiative. It aims to grow the current population from an estimated 391,000 head in private, public and tribal herds to 1 million by 2027. They're calling it the "Bison 1 Million" campaign.

Although the hurdles—access to capital, land and mentorship, among others—are formidable, several speakers indicated that the consumer market is ripe for more bison.



A number of the conference's programs addressed ways to identify and appeal to potential bison consumers, including this July 5 cooking demonstration. PHOTO BY LIAM KESHISHIAN

"The opportunity is very, very vast," said Laurie Demeritt, CEO of Hartman Research Group, a company that tracks demand trends in the food and beverage industry. "There's absolutely a halo of health and wellness around bison in the minds of most consumers."

She added that the appeal for premium and organic products largely centers on what's not in the product.

According to Carter, who co-owns a herd in eastern Colorado, there are a number of animal husbandry practices that make bison appealing to some segments of the population. Bison producers do not



Ted Turner (center) examines a bison carcass that's displays the animal's anatomy at the Flying D Ranch on July 7. PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT

de-horn, castrate, artificially inseminate or give growth hormones to their animals, he said.

During the final day of the conference, attendees arrived by the busload at Ted Turner's Flying D Ranch south of Gallatin Gateway for a tour of the facilities.

Turner, the 78-year-old founder of CNN and a member of the National Buffalo Hall of Fame, offered a quick hello under large white tents that had been set up for the occasion. Flying D Ranch manager Danny Johnson gave a run-down of the spread: 3,600 head rotating through nine pastures in a contiguous piece of land that measures 145 square miles.

"The herd has never seen something like this," said Johnston, gesturing to the bison grazing 100 yards away. "You think you're the spectators [but] they're watching you right now."

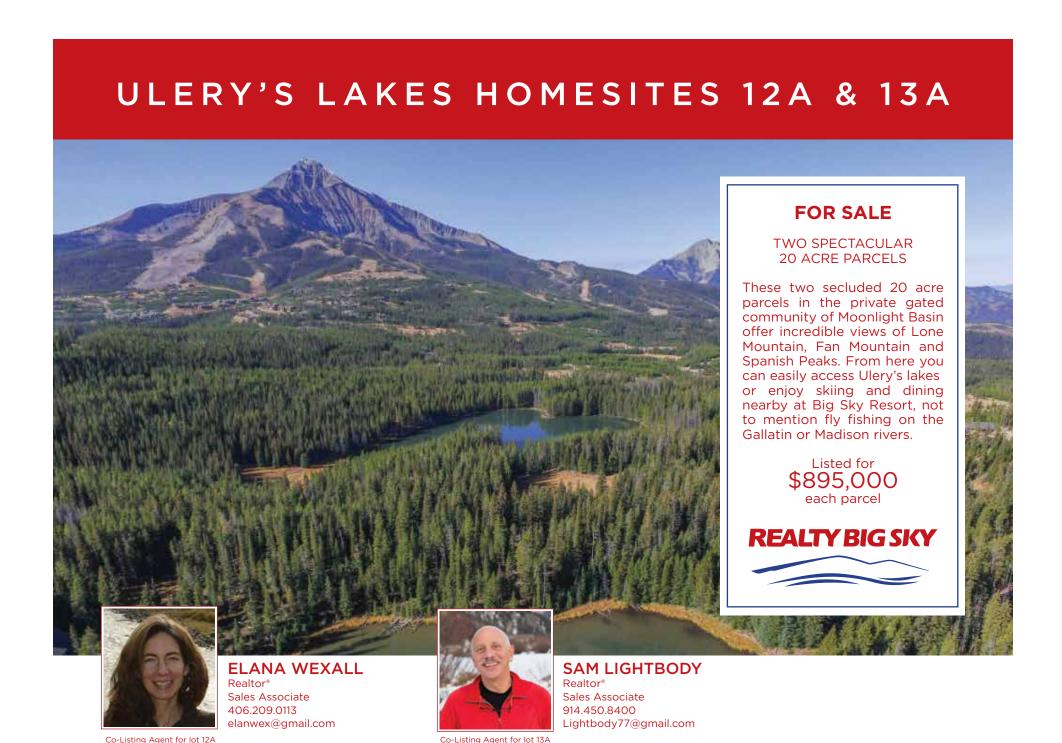
Larry Feight, president of High Country Ag Marketing, says securing enough land, both public and private, to accommodate a herd that's crested the 1-million mark will be tough.

"God isn't making any more land," said Feight, who displayed electrical fencing wares at the Big Sky Resort portion of the conference. "It's going to take a lot of land mass to make that goal."

Faye Brown with the Tanka Fund—a national campaign to return bison to the land, diets and economies of American Indian people—said she'd like to ensure that Native Americans producers are represented in the herd growth.

"In Indian Country right now, raising bison puts you in debt. We need to change that," she said, adding that 60 percent of all Native American reservation land is not owned or controlled by tribes.

"Twenty to 30 years down the road, it would be wonderful to see ... lots of



The Wilson Hotel, A Marriott Residence Inn set for summer groundbreaking

LONE MOUNTAIN LAND COMPANY

Lone Mountain Land Company will break ground on the Wilson Hotel on July 21, marking the addition of Big Sky's first major hotel brand. The Wilson Hotel in Town Center, a Marriott Residence Inn, is slated to open during the 2018-2019 ski season.

The hotel's name pays tribute to President Woodrow Wilson, who signed the congressional act that created the National Parks Service in 1916, and recognizes Wilson Peak, one of the most prominent mountains in the Spanish Peaks overlooking Big Sky. As the first brick building in Big Sky's Town Center, the design of the Wilson Hotel takes inspiration from the historic architecture found throughout Montana.

"My family has been guiding, planning and developing the Town Center since 1970, and we are excited to announce the first hotel," says Bill Simkins, Town Center's master developer. "We are confident that Town Center, anchored by the upcoming hotel and central plaza along Town Center Avenue, will continue to bring people together and further strengthen Big Sky's sense of community."

Co-branded as a Marriott Residence Inn to increase Big Sky's international appeal and attract new visitors to the area, the hotel is designed as an all-suite hotel, consisting of 129 units available for reservation, commercial space, a full-service restaurant, a bar/lounge area, meeting spaces, a fitness center, pool and more. Each room will have a kitchenette, making it ideal for extended ski and summer vacationers.

The hotel will be operated by Urgo Hotels and Resorts, a Bethesda, Maryland-based company with more than 30 hotels and resorts in the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean.



The Wilson Hotel is slated for a July 21 groundbreaking. RENDERING COURTESY OF BECHTLE ARCHITECTS AND JIM COLLINS

"The hotel is an important building for the Town Center Master Plan. We hope the economic impact from the hotel will make Big Sky even more active and vibrant throughout the year," said Bayard Dominick, LMLC's vice president of planning and development. "It's going to be a key location and economic resource for the future of Big Sky."

The official groundbreaking for the Wilson Hotel is scheduled to take place at 5:15 p.m. on July 21, during Lone Mountain Land's Community Block Party to celebrate the grand opening of the company's new headquarters in Town Center.



Tell Me, Tallie: How does Big Sky law enforcement work?



BY TALLIE LANCEY EBS COLUMNIST

Big Sky is largely governed by the "golden rule." For the most part, locals are courteous and respectful of their neighbors, tourists, and their collective "stuff." Thanks to its strong Midwestern influence, Big Sky is the sort of spot where people take care of each other. And that means taking care of each other's possessions and property. I've personally represented sellers of two homes that didn't even have house keys

because the owners didn't lock their doors. Our crime rates are low. Our kids are safe. And all generalizations are false.

When the honor system sees a spur in its saddle, we rely upon county and state law enforcement to protect us. On the rare occasion when treating others as you'd like to be treated falls short, officers of the law intervene. And after a few weeks of frequent firecrackers, overt open containers, and a new traffic light, many of us are wondering about such issues. Who enforces local laws? Who creates them? What are the rules, anyway?

Starting from the top, our publically elected officials are Gallatin County Sheriff Brian Gootkin and Madison County Sheriff Roger Thompson. From there, Big Sky is specifically served by six deputies who enforce state and federal laws and county ordinances. Per an interlocal agreement, those salaries and vehicles are funded by Madison County, Gallatin County, and the Big Sky Resort Tax Board in equal parts. Those entities fund a third of the bill or approximately \$276,621 each. The interlocal agreement is the only one of its kind in the state.

Montana State Troopers oversee all roadways that are "open to the way of the state." Due to an increased need in Big Sky, the Montana Attorney General Tim Fox and Colonel Tom Butler chose, just this spring, to fund one highway patrol trooper dedicated to the Big Sky area for 40 hours a week. In addition, Big Sky

is in District 7 of the Department of Justice, which is served by 29 additional troopers who circulate throughout the district.

Ordinances are often written by cities and enforced by their police departments. Big Sky is not a city and therefore has no municipal ordinances, though there are Gallatin and Madison county ordinances. Surprising to many newcomers, many of the typical city-like laws fall under the jurisdiction of Big Sky's 200-plus homeowners associations and their covenants. For example, overnight on-street parking, down-lit exterior lighting and noise concerns are all overseen by HOAs, meaning that often neighbors police each other on a volunteer basis. That's a position most folks are not eager to fill. Some HOAs have the legal ability to assess fines; some do not. Also surprising to people who move here, there isn't a local building code enforcement agency, which I'll cover in a future column.

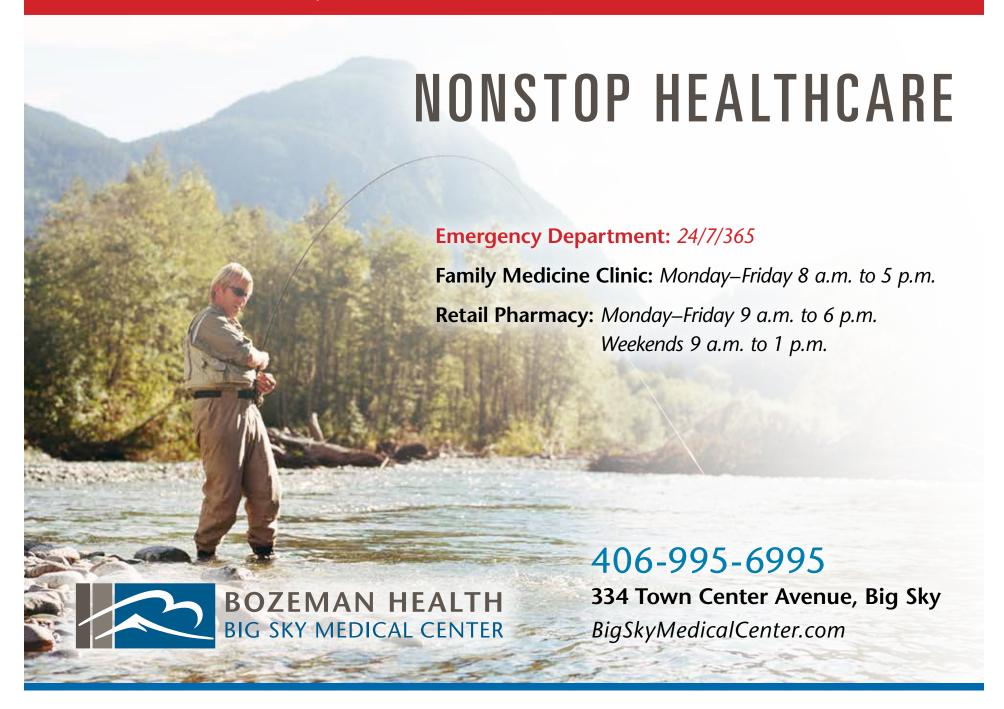
Interagency cooperation has served us well so far. As our community and its visitation numbers continue to grow, so too will our demands on public safety across the board. In fact, starting last week, for the first time in Big Sky, the Gallatin County Animal Control Warden will begin patrolling and enforcing county leash laws in an effort to protect people and their pets. This may unfurl with a mixed response; such is the consequence of more and more people living here.

Looking into the future, as we welcome new folks to Big Sky, we can extend our hospitality by demonstrating the Code of the West. And keep the Sheriff's local number saved in our phones, just in case. For Gallatin County, it's (406) 995-4880.

Are you wondering why something is particularly unique to our community? You want to know and I'm eager to learn. This column commits to answering your burning questions about why Big Sky exists the way it does. Ask me at tallie@reallybigsky.com.

Tallie Lancey is a broker with Big Sky Sotheby's International Realty and serves on the boards of Big Sky Community Organization, Top Shelf Toastmasters, and the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICES



MSU team looks back at 25 years of exploring a new frontier in Earth's crust

BY EVELYN BOSWELL MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN - Twenty-five years ago, the late astrophysicist Thomas Gold predicted that scientists would find microorganisms living in extreme heat in the hard rocks of Earth's crust.

A Montana State University team and their collaborators who have found such microorganisms in subsurface environments located in Montana, Colorado and the Middle East country of Oman, have now published a paper saying Gold was right about some things and mistaken about others. Either way, Gold set the course for a new field of research that has plenty of room for more explorers.

"It's an exciting time. It's a frontier as unique and potentially as fruitful as when people were first exploring Antarctica," said Eric Boyd, assistant professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology in MSU's College of Agriculture and College of Letters and Science.

Boyd, along with MSU postdoctoral researcher Dan Colman and their collaborators, published a retrospective paper on July 3 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences about the accuracy and significance of Gold's controversial predictions. PNAS is the official scientific journal of the National Academy of Sciences and covers biological, physical and social sciences. Gold published his predictions in the same journal in the same month a quarter-century ago.

Among other things, Gold speculated that scientists would discover a "deep, hot biosphere" in Earth's crust. This life would extend down for several miles until it became too hot to support life.

He was right about that, Boyd said.

MSU alone has found bacterial microbes living in the cracks of 2.7-billion-year-old rocks in the Beartooth Mountains of Montana; 360-million-year-old rocks in the Henderson Mine in Colorado; and 100-million-year-old rocks in Oman. Boyd said the microbes thrive in these environments and could be found in rocks with temperatures as high as 251.6 degrees Fahrenheit or possibly even higher. He said these microorganisms can be considered "highly efficient miners" that get their energy from extracting chemical energy from minerals instead of using light as a source of energy. They live off the hydrogen, methane and other forms of energy produced by chemical reactions between rocks and water.

Gold predicted, too, that microbes living in the hot rocks of the crust would be able to live off of hydrocarbons such as oils that could be replenished from Earth's mantle with no biological processes involved. He was wrong on that point, Boyd said, which means, among other things, that oil supplies cannot be replenished from non-biological processes that take place in the mantle.



Eric Boyd, assistant professor of environmental microbiology and associate director of the Thermal Biology Institute at Montana State University, works in the Boyd Lab on Friday, Feb. 10, 2017. Boyd is co-author of a 25-year retrospective about the search for life deep in Earth's crust. PHOTO BY KELLY GORHAM



Hot springs, such as those in Yellowstone National Park, host microbial communities supported by mineral forms of energy. As such, they provide a readily accessible portal for studying the processes that give rise to nutrients that support microbial life in the deep, hot biosphere. PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC BOYD

"I would say we have learned a whole heck of a lot since Gold made his postulations 25 years ago, but we still know so very little about these ecosystems," Boyd said.

Colman said the discoveries they have made about microbial life that exists under extreme conditions provide a better understanding of life on this planet. Their findings may also help in the search for life on other planets, in particular, rocky planets like Mars.

"You are not going to go to Mars and look for trees," Boyd said. "You are going to look for the most simple forms of life, such as microbes that live off of minerals, that set the stage for higher forms of life. If you find those simple forms of life, you will be compelled to look for more complex forms of life."

Noting that it's expensive to drill down to rock that might house heat-loving microbes, Boyd said it's also difficult to obtain funding for this type of research. For those reasons, the scientists hope to work more closely with exploration mining companies and other enterprises that already drill into the hard rocks of Earth's crust.

MSU researchers are involved in drilling operations in Oman, Boyd said, because they can easily access the layer below the crust there, allowing them to expand their search for life down and into the mantle. They also continue to explore the hot springs of Yellowstone National Park because the pools bring extremophiles, as heat-loving microorganisms are called, to Earth's surface making them easy to study.

"What this paper does is really serve as a road map for where we feel that the field should go and where the highest return might be," Boyd said.

He added that, "It's a fun time to be doing this kind of work. Literally, the field is wide open. Even if you flooded the field with investigators, the sand-box could never be too small."

The PNAS paper, titled "The deep, hot biosphere: Twenty-five years of Retrospection," grew out of a partnership between MSU's NASA Astrobiology Institute and the National Science Foundation. The NSF's International Continental Scientific Drilling Program, the NAI, and other groups provided funding for drilling work that is taking place in Oman.









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Section 2:ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS & DINING







The New West:

Denman's wildlife art crosses divides, appeals to next generation of collectors



BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Andrew Denman's engaging art is definitely not the kind of nature painting you'd typically find hanging at your grandparents' house—that is, if the tastes of your elders were anything like mine.

He doesn't cotton to an idealized Old West, or one that no longer exists, nor does he seek to document wildlife as if making photo-inspired illustrations for a field guide.

Denman, who opens a one-man show at Astoria Fine Art in downtown Jackson, Wyoming, this week, is in the vanguard of a new contemporary movement taking hold in animal art. It's far more colorful, brasher, irreverent and frankly more provocative.

If granny and gramps want to get a good sense of what appeals to emerging younger generations of art collectors—and perhaps add some splash to their own walls—they'll receive an eyeful in Denman's daring series of fresh works.

As gallery owners, artists and collectors readily attest, the Western art market finds itself at a soul-searching crossroads. Some have a less than optimistic outlook on where it is headed, as digital stimulation is producing shorter attention spans in the adult children of baby boomers. But I'm not one who believes the value of tactile original art will ever go away.

Yes, romanticized interpretations of wildlife, landscapes and Western culture—including portrayals of cowboys and indigenous people—once dominated local gallery scenes. And it's true that works by deceased masters still are coveted at auction.

But Realism has fallen out of favor for those 40 and under who regard traditional Western art, which includes portrayals of wildlife, as passé, boring, overly sentimental and kitschy.

It's not that Generation Xers and older millennials aren't drawn to wildlife scenes. They just want art that delivers bigger visual impact, and they have different sensibilities.

Many collectors, especially those living in the city, would rather have a large full-framed painting of an animal than the stuffed head of a dead one displayed as a trophy.

As many readers here know, I've been writing about wildlife art for more than 30 years and will continue to highlight the exemplars of a genre so closely tied to the regional identity of the Rockies.

Denman, a northern Californian who makes frequent research trips to the Greater Yellowstone region and other untamed corners of the globe, including Africa, wants viewers to behold the beauty of animals but he has no interest in painting mere pretty pictures that function as decorative wallpaper.

With his "totem series," he stacks animals on top of each other, sometimes to make contrasts, to illuminate their precarious status in the wild as with his



Andrew Denman's "Totem No. 3: Stacked Bighorns," 48 x 12 inches, acrylic on cradled board, 2017 PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW DENMAN

bighorn sheep piece, or even to challenge our conventional black and white way of thinking about species.

Playing off the power ascribed to white buffalo, Denman explores another species deeply embedded in the mythology and oral traditions of indigenous peoples—ravens. "Ravens are particularly potent symbols, not just in Native American folklore, but through numerous cultures, often acting as messengers, omens, and diviners of fortune both good and bad," he says. "White ravens, however, are of particular significance, representing spiritual cleansing."

Denman's show at Astoria, "A Different Animal" interestingly overlaps with Andy Warhol's Pop art "Endangered Species" series now on display at the National Museum of Wildlife Art in Jackson Hole.

It's safe to say that Warhol, a creature of nature-depraved Manhattan, had little sophisticated understanding of the imperiled wildlife he painted and the environments they inhabit. He was all about drawing attention to the superficial power of celebrity iconography and consumerism in modern society. For him, the cause célèbre status of endangered species was no different than starlets or talking heads on TV.

Denman and his contemporaries, while borrowing from some of the elements of Pop art, actually have a passion—and respect—for nature. And it is woven into their narratives.

"Anyone who tells you they can predict what will and won't become 'popular' is lying, but certainly those of us in wildlife art have noticed more interest in increasingly contemporary forms of expression and less stubborn emphasis on the kind of 'natural historical' and sporting art scenes that dominated the last century," Denman says.

I asked Denman why does wildness matter to him? "From the basic standpoint of human survival, there is plenty that can be said about respecting our planet and conserving our natural resources," he replied. "I'm hardly the first one to say it, but we need to live on the interest of the capital our natural heritage generates, and stop dipping unsustainably into the principal, squandering this rich trust fund that's been heired to us, so to speak. On a broader and more

spiritual level, the wilderness, wherever you find it, is not there just for us, but for all other creatures that call the whole planet home."

Denman, who also shows his work at Creighton Block Gallery in Big Sky, hopes his paintings serve as daily reminders and as counterpoints to nature art routinely written off as the same old, same old. Let there be no doubt, he succeeds.

Todd Wilkinson has been writing his award-winning column, The New West, for nearly 30 years. Living in Bozeman, he is author of "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek" about famous Greater Yellowstone grizzly hear 399 featuring 150 photographs by Tom Mangelsen, available only at mangelsen.com/grizzly. His profile of Montana politician Max Baucus appears in the summer 2017 issue of Mountain Outlaw and is now on newsstands.

Earthquakes a regular part of living near Yellowstone

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY - At approximately 12:30 a.m. July 6 a magnitude 5.8 earthquake struck western Montana, originating near Lincoln and rocking the ground in Big Sky. This earthquake comes at what appears to be the tail end of a recent earthquake swarm in Yellowstone, and experts are saying the earthquake events are unrelated and actually quite normal.

Mike Stickney, the director of the Earthquake Studies Office for the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology attributes the Lincoln earthquake to what's called the intermountain seismic belt within Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah.

"All earthquakes develop by a slip in the fault," Stickney said, explaining that for one reason or another, rock deep within the earth moves. The location of the movement is called a fault or fault plane, and the movement, or slip, will lead to seismic waves that generate shaking in the ground. "Small earthquakes are a daily occurrence along the intermountain seismic belt," he said.

Small earthquakes are also normal in Yellowstone National Park, however they are caused by a different kind of seismic activity. A portion of Yellowstone National Park rests on one of the world's largest active volcanoes, commonly known as the Yellowstone Caldera or Supervolcano. A chamber of magma is located relatively close to the surface of the earth in Yellowstone, and is responsible for the regular eruption of Old Faithful and other hydrothermal activity, as well as daily earthquakes.

Yellowstone volcanologist and geologist Jeff Hungerford recently broadcasted a statement for the park, saying, "Yellowstone National Park is a beautiful, wonderful place because it is a [seismically] active area."

"Recognize that when you come into the park, you might feel an earthquake if you're very lucky," he said, explaining that most of the daily earthquakes are hardly detectable. "Occasionally we do get a big earthquake that might shake a little rock off a cliff or something like that."

Between June 12 and July 10 Yellowstone experienced 1,141 earthquakes, and according to geologist Jacob Lowenstern of the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory, 1,000 of those were less than magnitude 2, meaning they were very small. So far this year, the park has recorded about 1,600 earthquakes, and on average, yearly totals range between 1,000 and 3,000 earthquakes.

"At this time, it looks like we'll be within the norm," Lowenstern said. "These swarms are pretty common. If you live in the area long enough, you'll probably feel them."

While an earthquake can raise alarm in a community, Lowenstern says there's no reason to be concerned the Yellowstone Supervolcano is about to erupt. "You would have to have a lot going on before you move to an eruption and these swarms aren't anything near what is required," he

said, adding that indications of a potential eruption include swarms of earthquakes over magnitude 5, land deformation and localized explosive eruptions.

Individuals have been experiencing and recording earthquakes in and around the Yellowstone region for hundreds of years, Lowenstern said. Mineralogist Albert Peale wrote an early account of an earthquake in Yellowstone during the Hayden Geological Survey of 1871.

"This morning about 1 o'clock we had quite an earthquake," Peale wrote in his journal on Aug. 20, 1871. "The first schock [sic] lasted about 20 seconds and was followed by five or six shorter ones. Duncan, who was on guard, says that the trees were shaken and that the horses that were lying down sprang to their feet. Some birds in the tree near which I had my bed were wakened and flew out of its branches. Some of the men were not wakened at all. We had three shocks during the morning."

Earthquakes in western Montana and Yellowstone have been studied and recorded for several decades now, Lowenstern said. Yellowstone National Park has approximately 35 and according to Stickney, MBMG monitors data from about 85 stations throughout Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington and Canada. These instruments monitor ground vibrations and shakes, which can be recorded and used to give a magnitude as well as locate the epicenter, depth and time.

Between June 12 and July 10 Yellowstone experienced 1,141 earthquakes

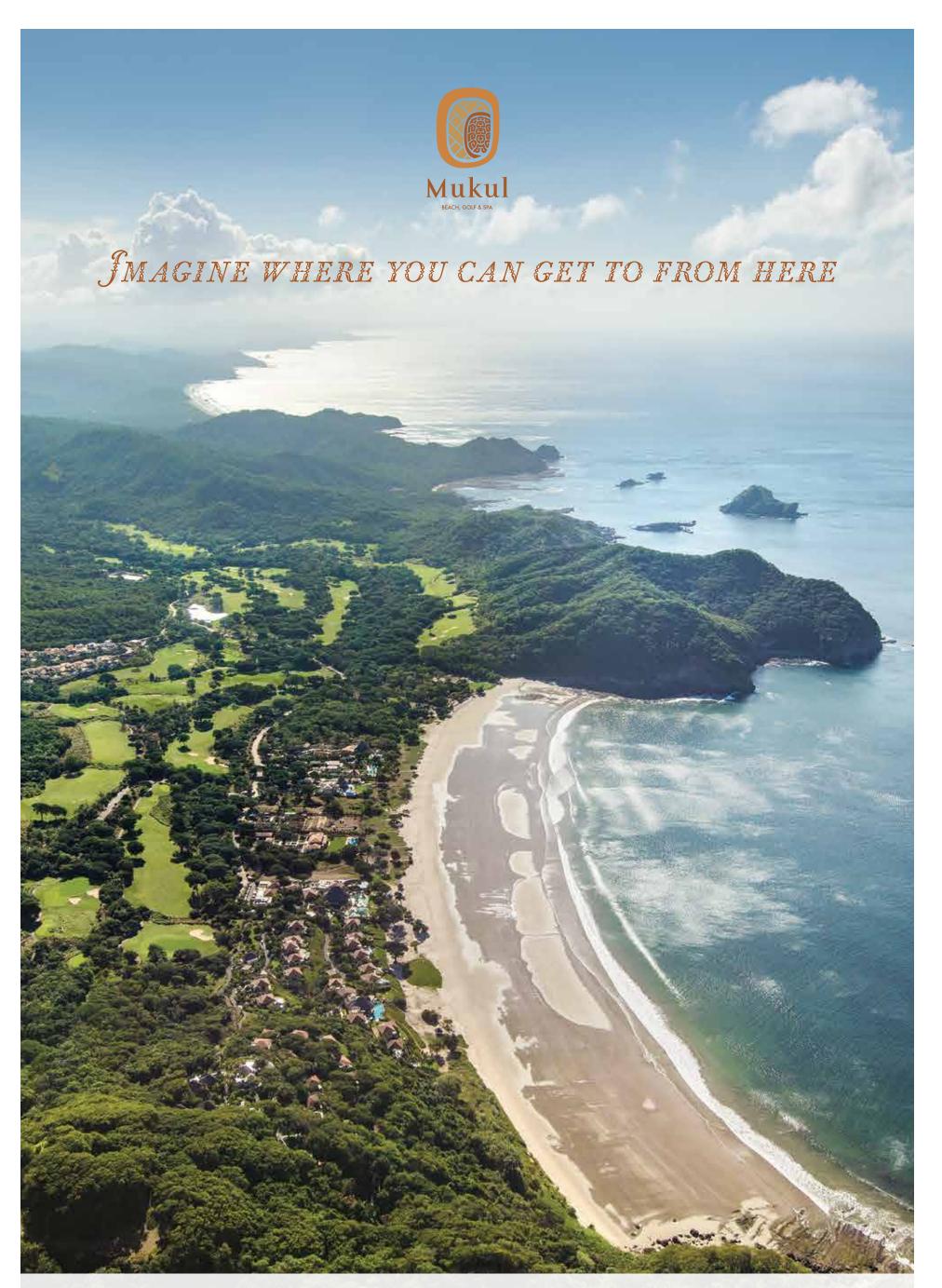
The magnitude of an earthquake indicates how much energy was released based on the motion of the ground. "Each time you go up one number on the scale, the amount of ground-shaking goes up by ten," Stickney said. Earthquakes of magnitude 2.5 and smaller are barely detectable, while those of magnitude 5 and greater have potential to cause damage.

The recent earthquake swarms in Yellowstone have not caused any damage, Lowenstern said. Over the past year the caldera has slowly been moving down while the Norris area is slowly moving up, but the recent swarms have not caused any changes to these trends in ground deformation, he added. The magnitude 5.8 earthquake in Lincoln caused some structural damage to area buildings, reportedly knocking food off grocery store shelves and sloshing grease out of a fryer at Lincoln's Wheel Inn Tavern.

"The recent activity is a reminder that we live in earthquake country and that a big one could always come along," Stickney said. "But the recent seismic activity appears to be a part of normal operations for the area that we live in."







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Debate over use of jumbo bomber as wildfires rage in West

BY KEITH RIDLER ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOISE, Idaho (AP) - A giant aircraft that can fly high above oceans on intercontinental flights instead jets in low and slow over a flaming forest, trailing a long plume that settles on the ground and creates a wildfire-stopping barrier.

The operators of the Boeing 747 converted from a passenger jet into a firefighting air tanker say it has proven itself battling forest fires in countries outside the U.S. The modifications allow it to drop more than 19,000 gallons of a flame-squelching combination of ammonium phosphate and sulfate mixed with water that comes billowing out in a red-colored line.

"We just happen to be the biggest, fastest firetruck in the air," said Jim Wheeler, CEO of Global SuperTanker Services.

But the company says the U.S. Forest Service is seeking to keep the plane grounded by offering a contract limiting firefighting aircraft to 5,000 gallons of fire suppressant and won't say why. The company says the federal agency is putting homes and lives at risk just as the current wildfire season surges past the 10-year average for land area burned in a decade that includes some of the most destructive and deadly wildfire seasons on record.

Late last month, the company filed a protest with the Forest Service contesting the size limit that appears to conflict with the Forest Service's 2012 air tanker modernization strategy report. That document identifies large-capacity tankers as an important part of the firefighting effort as the agency tries to pay for fighting fires without using money intended for such things as improving recreation opportunities for forest visitors.

Forest Service spokesman Mike Ferris said in an email the agency couldn't comment specifically about the possible 747 contract because of the company's protest.

Watchdog and firefighter advocacy groups said the agency might be trying to cut firefighting costs that have been using up big chunks of its budget. The Forest Service spent \$1.6 billion in 2016 fighting wildfires, an amount second only to the \$1.7 billion spent in 2015, according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

Besides the 5,000-gallon limit, the interim approval the Forest Service gave for the use of the 747 in January expired last month before the fire season took off and it got a chance to fight fires in the U.S. The company said without the approval, states wouldn't be reimbursed from the federal government for using the 747.

Some 50 large wildfires are currently burning in the U.S., with about 6,200 square miles scorched by mid-July, well above the 10-year average for this point in the season.

"Where (the Forest Service) is sorely lacking is in the very large air tanker category," Wheeler said.

The Forest Service has three aircraft in that category defined as having a capacity of greater than 8,000 gallons. The three DC-10s capable of dropping 11,600 gallons are currently under contract with a company called 10 Tanker. Company President John Gould said what's going on with the 747 concerns him because it could show up in new contracts for his company.

Casey Judd is president of the Federal Wildland Fire Service Association, a group that advocates for wildland firefighters.

"You have the largest fire department in the world managed by the Forest Service," he said. "There is a little more scrutiny from Congress. There are some changes going on as a result of this increased scrutiny, and the 747 may be a byproduct of that."

Andy Stahl is executive director of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, a watchdog group that describes its mission as holding the Forest Service accountable for responsible land stewardship. Stahl said air tankers were initially intended for early attack to prevent wildfires from getting large.

"That's no longer how they're used," he said. "Air tankers now are primarily used on large fires that have escaped initial attack. It's pork barrel spending in Western states."

Limiting air tankers to an initial attack role could save the Forest Service money by reducing costs on the largest and most expensive fires where air tankers, Stahl said, are ineffective.

A significant part of the Forest Service's firefighting cost is buying firefighting material at about \$1 a gallon and paying for the aircraft to drop it. Last year the Forest Service reported dropping more than 19 million gallons on national forest system lands, mainly in Western U.S. states.

The 747 can drop its entire load of 19,200 gallons in a line that's from three-quarters of a mile to 2 miles long and more than 200 feet wide. But it can also make eight separate drops from one load.

Company officials say the 747 is cheaper per gallon of liquid dropped than any other aircraft, a comparison based on what it would cost to drop the same amount using multiple smaller planes.

"If you need more than two airplanes, it's far more cost-efficient to call a 747," said Harry Toll, a managing partner with Alterna Capital Partners, which owns Global SuperTanker.

Another criticism the company rejects are questions about the 747's ability to operate at low altitudes. The company said firefighting efforts in Israel and Chile proved its low-flying ability to hit the target.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection currently uses DC-10s to coat ridgetops, a possible job for the 747 as well.

"Would we use it if approved? Absolutely we would use it," said Janet Upton, deputy director of communications for the agency, most commonly known as CAL FIRE.

It's not clear when the Forest Service will make a decision involving the protest filed by Global SuperTanker.

"The aircraft today is ready to go fight fires," Wheeler said.



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Nonprofit to showcase local farmers and land conservation

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Gallatin Valley Land Trust, a Bozeman-based nonprofit that works with Montana landowners to conserve private land from unwanted development and fragmentation, will showcase two conservation easements near Bozeman on Aug. 3 in the Local Food Conservation Tour. This tour is also a part of a larger effort to connect the community to local farmers and the land.

"GVLT preserves agricultural open space, wildlife habitat and the scenic quality of the Gallatin Valley to protect the working farms and ranches that have built our community over the past 120 years," said stewardship director Peter Brown. "By protecting these lands, we ensure that the farming community has ample access to productive land to grow healthy food for future generations."

After meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the GVLT office at 212 South Wallace, Suite 102, participants will travel by bus to the Happel Conservation Easement on Gooch Hill Road. Owners Lyle and Logan Happel, as well as local farmer Dylan Strike of Strike Farms, will discuss their partnership and successful management of a Community Supported Agriculture program, offering tours of the grounds and crop fields.

Fred Happel, Lyle and Logan's father, purchased the 40-acre farm in 1943 with money he saved from his army stipend while serving in Japan during World War II. He and his wife, Mae, established a large garden, sold eggs, raised hogs and ran a herd of black angus cattle on the farm, eventually founding Happel's Clean Cut Meats in 1961.

With a stroke of prudent forethought, Fred and Mae Happel established a conservation easement on their farm in 1997, joining with two other farms to conserve land that is now bordered by the Bozeman city limit to the east.

"They had such a close connection with the land, which was one of the reasons they put it in a conservation easement, so it wouldn't be chopped up and subdivided," Lyle said.

With the passing of his parents, Lyle now operates the meat cutting shop in its original location, continuing the family business his father carried over from his German stepfather. In order to carry on their parents' love for farming, the brothers are leasing 6 acres of the property to Strike Farms, who offers CSA shares to Bozeman and Big Sky, and also supplies several grocery stores and restaurants.



Lyle Happel runs Happel's Clean Cut Meats on a 40-acre farm west of Bozeman that was originally purchased by his father in 1943. The land has been put into a conservation easement, meaning it cannot be developed or subdivided. PHOTO BY LIAM KESHISHIAN

Following the visit to the Happel Conservation Easement, the bus will travel to the Kimm Conservation Easement in Manhattan, comprised of about 800 acres of prime farmland. This easement is home to the Kimm Potato Farm, which has been owned and operated by the Kimm family since the 19th century. Owner Jason Kimm will offer tours of the grounds and will describe some of the innovative techniques he uses on the property to manage the seed and organic potato operation.

"My family's been farming in the Gallatin Valley since the 1890s," Kimm said. "There's a tremendous amount of history to be thankful for. Our family loves agriculture and we want to see our farm stay in agriculture."

"GVLT works with many committed family farmers across the Gallatin Valley. Every farmer we know is proud that they grow food for their neighbors and community. This pride is evident in the way they steward and care for their land," he said. "Hearing the stories from these farmers is one way to learn more about your community, purchasing their local and healthy food is the best way to ensure that they can continue growing and selling vegetables locally."

Pre-registration is required for this Local Food Conservation Tour, however there is no cost to attend. For more information, visit gvlt.org/events/local-food-conservation-tour. To register for the event, email info@gvlt.org or call (406) 587-8404, ext. 8.















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Company uses wastewater and algae for biofuel, fertilizer

BY DAVID ERICKSON MISSOULIAN

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) – It's not often that a business comes up with an idea that's good for the environment and saves money at the same time. But that's what Clearas Water Recovery, a Missoula tech company, believes it has done.

Formed eight years ago, the company has developed a patented process to use algae to remove nitrogen and phosphorous from public wastewater treatment plants, keeping waterways from being inundated with the compounds that starve fish and plant life of oxygen. In turn, the algae can be sold to other companies for fertilizer, biofuels and other uses.

Think of it as high tech farming.

As the global population skyrockets, nitrogen and phosphorous pollution is becoming a significant environmental concern. Often referred to as "nutrient loading," these two elements cause algal blooms in lakes and rivers that create "dead zones" that devastate vegetation and animals.

Clearas officials say they have found a way to harness Mother Nature's own solution to nutrient loading in a different way, making it a beneficial process that makes money instead of an ecological nightmare.

Sewage contains high levels of nitrogen and phosphorous, and those two elements happen to be what algae, the fastest-growing plant on the planet, likes to eat.

Phosphorous and nitrogen are in demand from the agriculture sector for their use as fertilizers. So rather than having life-killing algae in nature's waterways, the nutrients can be put to use in corn fields.

"I think the simplest way to describe what we do is to say that we take harmful constituents out of the wastewater prior to discharge into our rivers, lakes and streams, and we do it biologically sustainably," explained company CEO Jordan Lind.

There are other technologies for removing those nutrients, but they often involve chemical treatment.

Clearas formed as a company when algae farmers in the Bitterroot Valley wanted phosphorous and nitrogen from Missoula's wastewater treatment facility to feed their biofuel. Lind recalls that the head of the wastewater facility told them they could take as much wastewater as they wanted for free, a much better alternative than buying synthetic nitrogen.

It was a "eureka" moment. Kevin McGraw, the company's co-founder and operations manager, realized that they could develop a technology to harness wastewater's nutrients to grow a valuable product while doing public utilities a favor.

"What they need to get rid of, our plants require," Lind explained.

The company developed a testing facility at Missoula's wastewater treatment plant on North Reserve. A series of tubes feed 15,000 gallons of wastewater per day through algae and return it to the Clark Fork River much cleaner than it was before.

The company recently landed a contract to implement their Advanced Biological Nutrient Recovery technology at a Utah municipality called the South Davis Sewer District, which will be a 4-million-gallon-per-day system.

Lind said Montana has relatively lax environmental regulations on what wastewater facilities can discharge, but in other places tighter regulations mean that more and more cities will look to this technology.

"There's a really natural connection between what the regulators want you to remove before discharge and exactly what algae requires," he said. "What they want you to remove is phosphorous and nitrogen because phosphorous and nitrogen take and create limited oxygen in the discharge waters.

"Well, when you have limited oxygen in discharge waters, then plants and fish and others that rely on it die. Phosphorous and nitrogen are exactly what the regulator wants to get rid of, and phosphorous and nitrogen are a food source for algae."

In fact, some of the explosions of bright green algae that can be found in the Clark Fork River and other bodies of water across the country in the summer are caused by too much nitrogen and phosphorous from agriculture runoff, laundry detergents and other sources.

The beauty, Lind says, is that Clearas is recovering the resource rather than just removing it. They have centrifugal machines that can turn the algae into whatever consistency a customer needs, whether it's a watery sludge for fertilizing a field or a dry cake for making plastics or fuels.

"There's lots of potential co-products that result from the treatment process," Lind said. "So you truly are going waste-to-value. And that's kind of the new trend in our space. All these municipalities and large industrial plants that have wastewater, there's value in that waste. The question is how you convert it. And our method is a proven way to do that."

Lind said there is a lot of interest in the company's technology in the Great Lakes region, in Europe and in Asia.

"Bodies of water that are inland are great for us," he said. "For wastewater, dilution is the solution to pollution. But when you don't have an ocean to dilute into, then the problem compounds on itself.

"With the Great Lakes, you have a massive population and tons of nutrients are being discharged into landlocked lakes, so the Great Lakes are degrading. Political, economic, social, regulatory issues all combined around that, creating a hotbed, a firestorm of activity around water quality."

The Utah contract is the first of what the company hopes will be a long line of dominoes to fall. In essence, they hope that once one municipality sees the technology working, then others will hop on board.

It's a little more complicated because taxpayer funds have to be used to upgrade wastewater treatment plants. However, they have high hopes. Right now, the company employs about three dozen people, and they have acquired an engineering firm to deal with helping cities implement the technology.

Andy Gordon, the company's market development manager, said he believes the technology could transform the world.

"When we say that we want to be a billion-dollar company from Montana, we're not kidding," he said.







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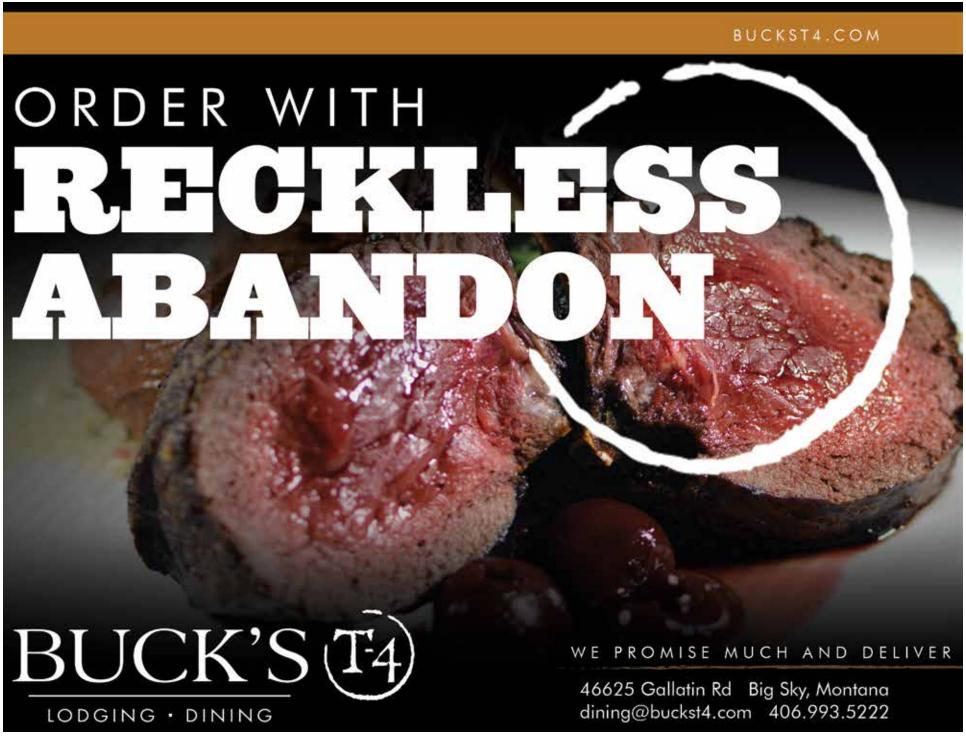
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Big Sky Softball League

	FIELD #1	TEALAO	UMP. AND SCOREBOARI
Monday, July 24	6:00pm	3 vs. 14	15
	7:15pm	3 vs. 15	14
Tuesday, July 25	6:00pm 9 vs. 2 7:15pm 9 vs. 1	1 2	
Wednesday, July 26	6:00pm	11 vs. 5	6
	7:15pm	11 vs. 6	5
Monday, July 31	6:00pm	15 vs. 4	14
	7:15pm	14 vs. 4	15
Tuesday, August 1	6:00pm	2 vs. 15	11
	7:15pm	11 vs. 15	2
Wednesday, August 2	6:00pm	12 vs. 6	3
	7:15pm	3 vs. 12	6

D _.		FIELD #2		1P. AND OREBOARD
	Monday, July 24	6:00pm 7:15pm	1 vs. 8 16 vs. 8	16 1
	Tuesday, July 25	6:00pm 7:15pm	10 vs. 13 10 vs. 14	14 13
	Wednesday, July 26	6:00pm 7:15pm	12 vs. 7 12 vs. 15	15 7
	Monday, July 31	6:00pm 7:15pm	6 vs. 5 7 vs. 5	7 6
	Tuesday, August 1	6:00pm 7:15pm	16 vs. 9 10 vs. 16	10 9
	Wednesday, August 2	6:00pm 7:15pm	10 vs. 1 14 vs. 8	8

TEAMS

1 Huckers 5 Sons of Pitches 9 Big Sky Ballers 13 Cab Lizards

2 LPC Golden Goats 6 LMLC Barnstormers 10 GE Johnson/Jackson 14 Cinema Bear

3 Milkies Big Dogs 7 Yeti Dogs 11 Yellowstone Club 15 The Cave

4 Broken Spoke 8 Bluemooners 12 Riverhouse 16 Blue Collar Ballers



The Big Sky Softball League is about halfway through its season. On July 12, the Huckers (in grey) triumphed over the LMLC Barnstormers 20-13. PHOTOS BY LIAM KESHISHIAN







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Golf tips from a pro:

Wedges are all about the bounce

BY MARK WEHRMAN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

When you hear the term "scoring clubs" in golf, people are generally talking about the wedges. The old adage, "Drive for show and putt for dough," couldn't be truer. The shots around the green, otherwise known as the "short game," are where we can lower our scores, and these shots are generally played with our wedges or putter.

When buying a wedge, your choice should be based off of one major factor: the bounce. There are other factors that should be considered including the look of the clubhead, picking the right loft, and the weight of the club. When deciding on loft, pick the loft that will fill the yardage gap you are trying to eliminate. But the bounce of the wedge is essential to the consistency of the strike.

Bounce is the sole of the golf club, otherwise known as the flange. It is measured by the degree of change from the leading edge to the trailing edge. The leading edge is at the bottom edge of the clubface and is what we use to aim the clubhead. The trailing edge is the back edge of the bottom of the club, or the back of the flange.

The first rule of thumb when deciding on the correct degree of bounce is what type of golf ball striker are you? Are you a picker or a digger? In general, if you're a picker of the golf ball and rarely take a divot, you would select a wedge with less bounce—fewer than 8 degrees.

Having a wedge with less bounce will help you slide the leading edge behind the golf ball, which will enable you to get more grooves on the ball and ultimately helps you spin your shot. Pickers of the golf ball tend to hit their wedges too thin. Less bounce will prevent that from happening.



Examples of different lofted wedges on the market, with various bounce options. PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK WEHRMAN

If you're a digger, someone who has a steep angle of approach and takes a healthy divot regularly, you should buy a wedge with more bounce, at least 8 degrees or more. More bounce will prevent you from hitting your shot too heavy and keep the leading edge from taking too deep of a divot. Diggers generally struggle with chunking their wedges, and more bounce will keep you from hitting it too heavy.

When you're shopping for wedges in the future, there are two numbers on the bottom or back of the wedge. The higher number is the loft of the clubface and the smaller number is the degree of bounce. Pay special attention to both numbers and make your selection, minding the bounce.

Mark Webrman is the PGA Head Professional at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course.





EYE ON THE BALL

4 breakout NFL pass rushers for 2017



BY BRANDON NILES EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST

With the NFL pre-season just around the corner, it's time to schedule your fantasy drafts, make your predictions, and don your favorite team apparel as we look toward another great season of football!

Each year, I like to take a look at the young pass rushers around the league, trying to identify who the next break

out candidate might be. Last season, we saw players like Minnesota Vikings defensive end Danielle Hunter, San Diego Chargers rookie defensive end Joey Bosa, and Arizona Cardinals outside linebacker Markus Golden all deliver double-digit sacks for the first time in their young careers.

Last year, I predicted Hunter's rise in the ranks, and this season I wanted to make similar predictions. These players are unheralded right now, but by the end of the season, they might join Hunter, Bosa and Golden in the nightmares of opposing quarterbacks.

Here are four young pass rushers around the league to keep an eye on during the 2017 season:

Noah Spence, Tampa Bay Bucs defensive end

As a rookie last year, Spence racked up 5.5 sacks despite reportedly playing with a partially torn labrum that required him to wear a harness the rest of the season. Spence, now only 23 years old, had 11.5 sacks during his final year in college after a suspension from Ohio State led him to play his last year for Eastern Kentucky.

Since being drafted in the second round, he's been everything the Bucs hoped he'd be as a player and as an asset along the defensive line. Now healthy, and still playing alongside a stellar group of defensive linemen in Tampa Bay, which includes All-Pro tackle Gerald McCoy, Spence should be in for a dynamite second season.

Benson Mayowa, Dallas Cowboys defensive end

A journeyman his first three seasons, Mayowa finished 2016 strong with four sacks

in the last five games of the regular season. Despite bouncing around the league during the past few years, Mayowa is still only 26 years old, and he demonstrated exceptional quickness coming out of his stance in sub-packages last season.

Expect his role under defensive coordinator Rod Marinelli to increase this year, especially with fellow defensive end Randy Gregory facing a yet-to-be-determined suspension for reportedly failing his seventh NFL drug test. The Dallas defense has a lot of emerging talent, but Mayowa's talent for getting after the quarterback should be on full display in 2017.

Bud Dupree, Pittsburgh Steelers outside linebacker

A part-time player as a rookie in 2015, Dupree was a full-time starter heading into last season before a groin injury kept him out of action until late November. Dupree managed 4.5 sacks in only seven games to finish the season however, and he enters this year with even higher expectations.

The Steelers have a strong defensive supporting cast and an excellent coaching staff that should help the 24 year old out of Kentucky make the leap from exciting prospect to established star. Dupree has a rare blend of power and speed that make him a nightmare for opposing blockers, and his high-motor is one of the traits I love seeing in a young pass rusher.

Shane Ray, Denver Broncos outside linebacker

Ray kind of broke out last season with eight sacks. Now entering his third year, Ray will be counted on to replace the retired DeMarcus Ware as Denver's second pass rusher working opposite Von Miller. Ray seems up to the task.

Still only 24 years old, Ray has a suddenness to his game that allows him to work around offensive tackles without losing his pursuit angle. He uses his speed and a bevy of pass rushing moves to get after the quarterback and is still learning the position. Expect double-digit sacks from Ray and his first Pro Bowl selection.

Brandon Niles is a longtime fan of football and scotch, and has been writing about sports for the past decade. He is a fantasy football scout for 4for4 Fantasy Football and is co-bost of the 2 Guys Podcast.



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Heirloom vegetables

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER EBS STAFF

When you think of an heirloom vegetable, you probably picture odd shapes, vibrant colors and deep flavors. There was a point in time when this was the norm for all vegetables, before perfectly symmetrical vegetables with a curiously long shelf life began dominating the produce aisle at supermarkets.

An heirloom vegetable is just that, an heirloom. These vegetables are grown from seeds that were produced prior to 1951. This specific year marks the date when scientists discovered they could create new varieties of plants through crosspollination, and thus the hybridization of vegetables began.

Heirloom vegetables are open pollinated, which means that they are pollinated without the help of human hands. Natural processes such as wind and transfer via insects are responsible for the pollination of heirloom vegetables. If you save seeds from heirloom vegetables and plant them the following season, they will produce plants that are the same as the previous year. Try to do the same with a hybrid vegetable and you won't like the results.

Many hybrid varieties are bred to be picked when they're unripe so they can be shipped long distances and gas-ripened later. Mass production wasn't a concern prior to hybridization, so flavor could take priority for producers—something that remains true today for those who grow and harvest heirloom vegetables.



CC PHOTO

The uniformity of hybrid crops is ideal for mass producers, allowing them to harvest their crop all at once. For the home grower, heirlooms provide a less uniform option that allow the vegetables to be harvested at different times because they don't ripen all at once. If you don't have a green thumb, keep an eye out for vegetables of the heirloom variety at your next farmers' market.

Among heirloom vegetables, tomatoes boast some of the best and most unique flavors. I have fond memories of picking a tomato off the vine and enjoying it like an apple, tomato in one hand, salt shaker in the other. The following recipe is a play on that idea, allowing the robust flavor of the heirloom tomato to shine without being overpowered by other ingredients. Use a variety of colors for a pretty presentation and a unique taste with each bite.

Sliced Heirloom Tomatoes with Basil

4 heirloom tomatoes, any variety ¼ cup olive oil ¼ cup basil leaves
Salt and pepper

Cut the tomatoes into ½-inch slices and arrange on a tray. Drizzle with olive oil and add a good amount of salt and cracked pepper. Top with basil chiffonade. (Chiffonade means to cut into ribbons.) Serve at room temperature. Sometimes the best things are easy!

AMUSE-BOUCHE

Amuse-bouche refers to an appetizer, and by French translation means, "to entertain the mouth." It offers a glimpse into what you should expect from a meal. Also it's free, compliments of the chef.

Not all flavors are created equal

BY SCOTT MECHURA **EBS FOOD COLUMNIST**

Flavor is the king of cuisine, is it not? The first summer sweet corn, or that perfectly aged 20-year single malt scotch. Perhaps it's that rich chocolate cake, or a prime rib-eye steak grilled over a wood fire. We sometimes carry these food memories with us for a lifetime. Often, we refer to something as simply "delicious." We can't put our finger on it, but we know pure decadence when we taste it.

The definition of flavor is taste, especially the distinctive taste of something, as experienced in the mouth. It's the "as experienced in the mouth" area of exploration that intrigues me. Flavor often takes center stage on the pallet, but I would argue it has two silent partners that often get overlooked. They are temperature and texture.

Think of flavor as the "lead singer" in the band; It's often the face and personality of a dish or culinary combination, it may initially stand out, but I believe that without the texture of that "drummer," or the sizzling hot temperature of the "lead guitar," flavor would not be what it is.

You are no doubt trying to conjure up foods and flavors right now in your mind, and wondering what parts the drummer and lead singer play in relation to the good-looking lead singer.

Let me illustrate some personal favorites.

Here's an easy but subtle one: chocolate and peanut butter. One of my favorite candies is Reese's Peanut Butter Cups—it's the perfect balance of chocolate, peanut butter and dairy. Let's change the texture and temperature of these three.

Consider stirring peanut butter into your chocolate milk. It's the same three ingredients, but to me, peanut butter chocolate milk does not have the same appeal as the candy.

Or how about coffee? Some people enjoy a black cup of coffee, while others prefer some cream and sugar in theirs. Either way, there's nothing like a hot cup of coffee.

Conversely, iced coffees, modeled after Vietnamese coffee, have become more and more popular. But watch the facial expression as someone sips a cup of prepared coffee after it's become cold, be it with cream and sugar or not. There's no real difference other than temperature.

Salt is used in the making of some cheeses, yet putting salt on cheese? Well that just doesn't sound very appealing.

Here's the one that generates some lively debate every time I bring it up: I will ask a friend or co-worker if they enjoy ketchup on their mashed potatoes. The response is usually one where the facial expression beats the verbal response—an expression suggesting that it sounds awful and who would do that?

My next question then, is why do you put ketchup on french fries, since they are both potato preparations? "Well that's different," they always say. "Why?" I ask, they are both potatoes? No one can pinpoint it exactly, but let's try.

Another recipient of copious amounts of ketchup is hash browns. A variance with hash browns is what the British call "chips." We call them fries, although they're essentially a large-cut wedge of potato. When fried, they are light and pillowy inside, and rather than dipping them in tartar sauce, as they're typically served, we put ketchup on them as well.

So then why do we not put ketchup on a baked potato? The inner texture is identical to those large cut "fries?" I believe the answer lies at the midway point. We seem to enjoy ketchup on any preparation of potato that is fried and hot.

It seems like that ketchup lead singer isn't really that great without the textural drummer and sizzling hot lead guitar.

Scott Mechura has spent a life in the hospitality industry. He is a former certified beer judge and currently the Executive Chef at Buck's T-4 Lodge in Big Sky.



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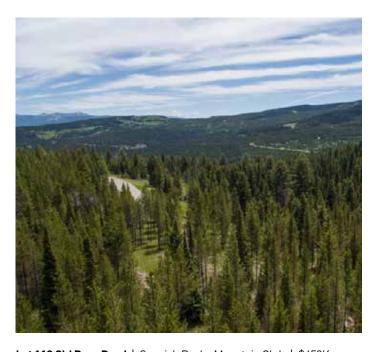
388 Andesite Ridge Road | Yellowstone Club | \$6.45M 2.15 ACRES | 5,020 SQ FT | 4 bedrooms | 5 bathrooms Lowest priced ski-in, ski-out home at Yellowstone Club



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Section 3:BUSINESS, HEALTH & BACK 40









Big Sky Resort, tucked among the wild peaks of southwest Montana, began with NBC News anchor Chet Huntley's dream of "if you build it, they will come" in 1973 and is now attracting visitors and second homeowners in droves. Today, Big Sky epitomizes the modern Wild West as developers are betting big money, to the tune of \$1 billion by some accounts, that it will be the world's next great destination resort community, while its full-time residents hang on for the ride.

In this five-part series, Jackson, Wyoming-based writer Brigid Mander and Explore Big Sky staff interviewed nearly 100 sources to chart the development history of a community that sprouted at the base of a ski area—unusual for Western resorts that typically began as mining or railroad towns where ski infrastructure followed.

This series will take readers through the unorthodox development history of Big Sky, from Huntley's big idea in the '70s; Boyne Resort's purchase of the resort after Huntley's untimely death; Tim Blixseth's acquisition of large swaths of land around Big Sky Resort and his founding of the private Yellowstone Club; financial ruin of three large resorts during the Great Recession and CrossHarbor Capital Partners' acquisition of them in bankruptcy court; and the explosive development, challenges and opportunities happening here today.

At the core of the community is an iconic, towering peak that's been drawing snow speculators for more than four decades. – EBS Staff

Part 3: The Great Recession hits Big Sky hard, CrossHarbor buys in for pennies on the dollar

BY BRIGID MANDER EBS CONTRIBUTOR

To the chagrin of modern-day conservationists and public land advocates, during the 19th century vast amounts of land were given as compensation to railroads in exchange for them building tracks to expand American industry and the economy.

President Abraham Lincoln in 1864 awarded land in what is now the Custer Gallatin National Forest to Northern Pacific Railroad, and over a century later the land was spun into a company called Plum Creek Timber. In the early 1990s, the Nature Conservancy—with \$10 million pledged toward the purchase by conservationist and CNN founder Ted Turner—attempted to buy some of these sections in today's Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, considered ecologically important, for \$25 million.

The deal fell through and in 1992 some of this land in southwest Montana caught the eye of a timber baron named Tim Blixseth whose company, Big Sky Lumber, acquired 139,000 acres for \$24 million. Shortly thereafter, he turned around and offered to trade it to the U.S. Forest Service in exchange for consolidating land near Big Sky Resort.

The deal had opponents who didn't want to see a huge swath of land near Big Sky, between two designated wilderness areas, become private. However, it would end private ownership of environmentally sensitive drainages along Yellowstone National Park's boundary, and protect other nearby habitat also critical to wildlife.

Blixseth prevailed. His land swap required an act of Congress and President Bill Clinton to complete: by the end, two land swaps known as Gallatin I (1993) and Gallatin II (1998) saw the government trade 45,278 acres to Big Sky Lumber in exchange for 91,752 acres of public land to the U.S. Forest Service.

It was a catch-22 for conservation, notes Barb Cestero of the Wilderness Society's Bozeman office. "I think it's important we remember these land exchanges resulted in conservation gains and produced the current public access on the land that abuts Yellowstone and the southern Madison and Gallatin ranges," she said. "I also don't think in the '80s or '90s anyone anticipated the growth the area was going to experience."

Of the 45,278 acres, Blixseth sold 25,000 acres to developers headed by Lee Poole, which became Moonlight Basin, and 6,678 acres to James Dolan, who created The Club at Spanish Peaks. Blixseth kept 13,600 acres for himself, and in doing so, Big Sky saw three new players enter the scene, each seemingly in charge of their own modern day fiefdom, with minimal governmental oversight.

Continued on page 34.



The Village at Yellowstone Club under construction on June 8. The 550,000-square-foot, approximately \$300 million project that includes multiple buildings, residential units and amenities is expected to be finished in 2019. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES

Continued from page 33.

"I was going to build a couple lifts, a house, and lock the gate [on the 13,600 acres]," Blixseth said. "But then a couple friends asked if they could join me and build houses too." And so he came up with the idea of a private ski club, turning the parcel he'd kept into a place he called the Yellowstone Club.

As a private ski area, members would be required to buy real estate, pay yearly dues and a hefty \$250,000 initial membership fee, which Blixseth says was required to run even a small operation with so few skier days. According to Blixseth, a Los Angeles-based consulting firm he hired told him that the idea wasn't economically viable, and there wasn't enough "wheel traffic" in the backwoods Montana outpost. "I fired them, and did it anyway," he said.

The permit application with Madison County was to build 864 homes and 100 guest accommodations.

By 2004, Blixseth's club was garnering fairly consistent national headlines such as "Millionaires Flocking to Yellowstone Club," in the Los Angeles Times, and "Home, Home on the Million-Dollar Range," in The New York Times in 2006.

Blixseth insists that, despite the sums of money needed to join and highprofile members such as Bill and Melinda Gates, he wanted to keep the club down to earth, like a family place to hang out. Stories floated around of club applicants jettisoned for treating employees poorly, or who were otherwise unpleasant to be around.

Partners in the Yellowstone Club included ski film producer Warren Miller—who is still listed on the club's website as Honorary Director of Skiing—former NFL quarterback and congressman Jack Kemp, and pro golfer Annika Sorenstam. More recent members to join include Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel, as well as Tom Brady and Gisele Bundchen.

Stephen Kircher, president of Boyne Resorts, says that while the increased media attention was good for business in the early days of the Yellowstone Club, Boyne now had to contend with uneasy new neighbors. At various points in time, each new neighbor battled over a contested 15-acre area near the summit of Lone Mountain.

"In 1998, I showed up, being responsible for Big Sky for Boyne, and my first meeting was Blixseth telling me he owned the top of Lone Mountain," Kircher said. "He was in the middle of the Gallatin II land swap, and we negotiated a settlement for the land."

It took a long time for Boyne to see the end of the deal—Blixseth didn't turn it over, and during the next few years both Moonlight Basin and Spanish Peaks laid claim to the 15-acre spot. In 2013, the Montana Supreme Court legally awarded it to Boyne, after everyone else had gone bankrupt.

Kircher, who admits that Blixseth was a difficult neighbor, maintains respect for his accomplishments nonetheless. "Blixseth is a visionary, a complete out-of-the-box thinker. He brought this place to a level of prominence it would never have had otherwise. I mean, we're ski operators from the Midwest," Kircher said with a laugh. "His [Yellowstone Club] idea was sustainable, anyway, until he took that loan from Credit Suisse. He would have been okay, if he hadn't gotten too big for his britches."

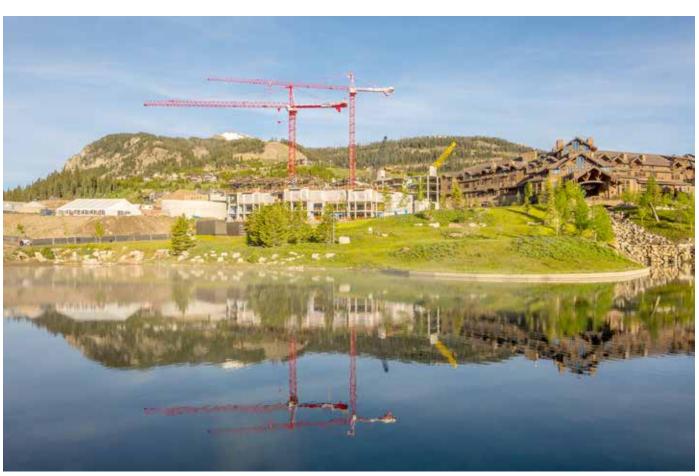
Indeed, Blixseth went down in spectacular style from the rarefied kingdom he'd created at Yellowstone Club—even today, he admits he may have had an autocratic style, but he says he was "a benevolent dictator."

In 2004, Credit Suisse approached him with a new syndicated loan product that allowed for loans of large, previously unavailable sizes. After declining the initial offer, according to documents from the United States Bankruptcy Court for the State of Montana, Blixseth agreed to a loan for \$150 million, which later rose to \$375 million, and was finalized in September 2005. The club was the asset that Blixseth borrowed against.

When Blixseth and his wife Edra agreed to an amicable divorce shortly thereafter, in early 2006, things went well until it came to the Montana property. No agreement could be reached, and Blixseth bitterly put the club up for sale. Sam Byrne, the managing partner of CrossHarbor and a very heavily invested Yellowstone Club member, offered \$470 million for it. But Byrne backed out of the deal shortly before it was to close in early 2008, citing various problems.

Byrne had originally bought a lot for himself and one to develop in 2005, and the next year he bought a 58-unit condo development for \$60 million. In 2007, he made another bulk purchase of lots for \$54 million. A 2009 article by the Associated Press stated that Byrne had invested more than \$200 million into the club.

Eventually, seeing no end, Blixseth gave the club to Edra, and she declared bankruptcy shortly afterward. Byrne's CrossHarbor bought it out of a Montana bankruptcy court, and became the owner of the club in July 2009, with influential investors such as majority stakeholder and private equity billionaire Ron Burkle, and various minority stakeholders, for the bargain basement price of \$115 million.



The Yellowstone Club currently has 107 residences under construction, comprised of 28 personal member homes and 79 front doors being developed by the club, which includes 48 units in The Village. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES

Blixseth tried to stop the deal until the end. Credit Suisse was ruled to have made an irresponsible loan, without conducting due diligence—similar loans to other resorts, like Idaho's Tamarack, also resulted in financial ruin. Nonetheless, Credit Suisse filed lawsuits accusing CrossHarbor and Edra Blixseth of conspiring to bankrupt the club so it could be purchased on the cheap, but didn't win its case.

The Yellowstone Club and its privacy-seeking homeowners were glad to move on from the media circus that the divorce and the case spawned. Numerous members were quoted in media outlets as happy to put it behind them and move forward under the calmer, un-sensational hand of CrossHarbor.

This wasn't the end of financial collapses in Big Sky, however. The Dolan family's Spanish Peaks filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy in October 2011. In June 2013, CrossHarbor, in partnership with Boyne—Spanish Peaks owed Boyne more than \$8 million, according to Kircher—bought it at auction for \$26.1 million.

Moonlight Basin wasn't far behind. Lehman Brothers, itself bankrupt, in 2008 foreclosed on Moonlight, which owed the lender approximately \$170 million. In 2013, Lehman reached a deal to sell the resort development to Boyne and CrossHarbor for an undisclosed amount, in a "complicated Chapter 11," said Matt Kidd, a managing partner at CrossHarbor.

"We believed in the market," Kidd said. "After we bought the Yellowstone Club, we realized that Spanish Peaks and Moonlight Basin were more overleveraged than even Yellowstone, so we were able to wait, and move on them when we were ready."

Leaving the Butte, Montana, courthouse after the Spanish Peaks auction in 2013, Dolan nodded in CrossHarbor's direction. "[Byrne] is the new king of the valley," Dolan said. "I wish him luck."

Kidd says this is good news for Big Sky. "Fifteen years ago, this place was being developed by people who were in constant litigation, and hated each other. We've been trying to bring a cohesive vision and development here," he said.

CrossHarbor's locally formed subsidiary, Lone Mountain Land Company, now owns approximately 5 acres of land in Big Sky Town Center. It has three commercial projects in the works, along with residential, retail and office space for related development.

Businesses began opening in LMLC's 47 Town Center Avenue building this past winter and a grand opening will be held for the adjacent, 38,000-square-foot building at 25 Town Center Avenue on Friday, July



The new headquarters for CrossHarbor Capital Partners' locally formed development subsidiary Lone Mountain Land Company, as well as its real estate sales under the banner of Big Sky Real Estate Co., will reside in the 25 Town Center Avenue building. Lone Mountain Land Company now owns approximately 5 acres in Big Sky Town Center and breaks ground July 21 on the Wilson Hotel. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

21. In addition to Lone Mountain Land Company and Big Sky Real Estate Co. headquarters, it will house a café and retail store.

There will also be a groundbreaking ceremony July 21 for the Wilson Hotel, a Marriot Residence Inn expected to open during the 2018-2019 ski season.

Reporting was contributed by EBS Managing Editor Tyler Allen.

Read the fourth installment in this series "Affordable housing, water and sewage, and traffic issues accompany explosive development" in the Aug. 4 edition of EBS.



MSU student designers win national ADDYs

BY ELIESE BESEMER MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – Two Montana State University graphic design students won silver awards for their designs in the student division of the 2017 national American Advertising Awards, or ADDYs, held on June 10 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Norrie Syme and Bill Leighton, students in the MSU College of Arts and Architecture's graphic design program, created their winning designs as part of the School of Art's Graphic Design 465 course taught by Meta Newhouse, a professor in the School of Art.

"These awards really speak to the high level of instruction in our program and the individual students' skills and hard work," Newhouse said. "We are extremely proud of all our winners."

Syme, a senior from San Mateo, California who won silver in the logo design category, worked on a project that required him to rebrand an existing music festival, including the identity, the website and other branded items. He chose the bluegrass festival FreshGrass, which combines traditional and new types of bluegrass music in a festival set in a rural, mountain atmosphere. In creating his logo, Syme employed a design technique called forced connection, which pairs two separate visual ideas to create a cohesive image, communicating the two ideas simultaneously, according to Newhouse.

"Norrie paired a banjo, to represent the type of music featured in the festival (bluegrass, which often features the banjo), with seedlings, indicating a fresh, new idea, to give people a good visual representation of what this festival is all about," Newhouse said.

Leighton, a 2017 MSU graduate from Eagan, Minnesota, created his project, which won silver in the integrated brand identity campaign, as part of his senior thesis. The project involved creating a fictitious ski company that he called Modifi, which makes skis focusing on sustainable materials, such as wood from pine beetle-killed trees or reclaimed barn wood. Leighton designed a general

product image, company logo, designs for different product models and a website, all geared to promote his fictitious company.

"Receiving such positive feedback from my industry has been a major confidence boost," Leighton said. "I can't think of a better way to end my years at MSU."

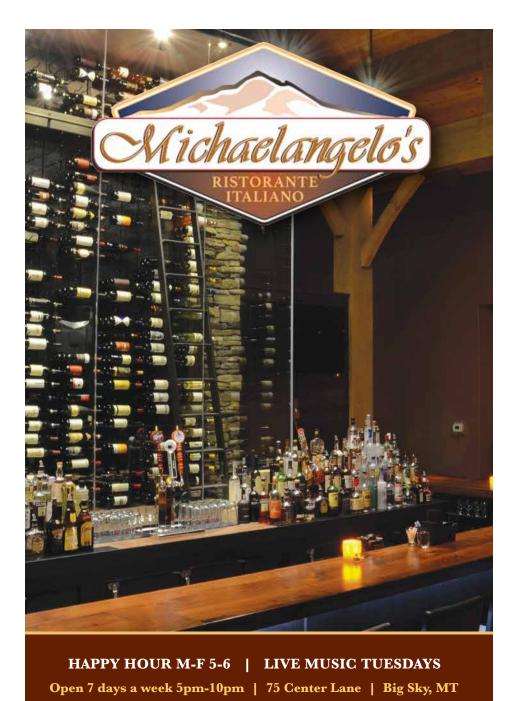
Leighton also mentioned that, someday, he would like to launch Modifi as a real business.

"This project really means a lot to me," he said. "Other than design, skiing is my passion. Creating Modifi was my way of combining my love for both things."

In addition to the national awards, MSU students won five silver ADDYs and one gold award at the district level, and six silver and three gold ADDYs at the state level, including a gold and Best of Show award for Syme at the state competition.

"The students have traditionally done well at the state and district levels," Newhouse said. "Last year MSU student designers won 14 ADDYs at the state competition, including the award for Best of Show. It really is wonderful to have two national winners from our program here at MSU this year."

The ADDYs are sponsored by the American Advertising Federation, the national association for those in the advertising field. Each year, the AAF sponsors a threetier competition, the ADDYs, to celebrate the best of advertising in the U.S. The student competition, sponsored by the AAF and AD 2 National, an organization designed for young professionals in advertising, mirrors the professional, with events at the state, district and national level. It recognizes and rewards creative excellence in student projects and honors the creative spirit of advertising, according to the description on the student entry form.



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Big Sky's Toastmaster club recognized by Toastmasters International

TOP SHELF TOASTMASTERS

Top Shelf Toastmasters has been named a Select Distinguished Club of Toastmasters International, a certification achieved by 30 percent of Toastmaster clubs.

To be considered for the recognition, a club must achieve seven of 10 established goals for success including new member growth, and competent communicator and advanced leadership achievements for individual club members.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran spearheaded the initial effort to establish a Toastmasters club in Big Sky. With the commitment of 20 initial members, Top Shelf Toastmasters was created in March of 2016. It's made up of



Top Shelf Toastmasters meets every Tuesday above The Cave from 12-1 p.m. PHOTO BY KATE KETSCHEK

business professionals, massage therapists, artists, firefighters and retirees looking to hone their communication skills for a myriad of reasons. The club meets for one hour every Tuesday.

"I joined to stop saying 'ya know' and build confidence," said Kinga Wilson, the vice president of membership for Big Sky's chapter. "I can speak from the hip, but needed help planning out presentations. I've also noticed I am more focused, get to the point quicker, and am winning more arguments at home!"

"My friends have noticed that I'm more articulate during conversations and have the ability to distill complicated subjects down to be more easily understood," said Carlye Luft, Top Shelf Toastmasters' vice president of education.

The following officers were recently elected to Top Shelf Toastmasters:

President - Kari Gras
Vice president of education - Carlye Luft
Vice president of public relations - Kate Ketschek
Vice president of membership - Kinga Wilson
Treasurer - Lianne Kershaw
Sergeant at Arms - Tallie Lancey
Secretary - Katie Alvin

Meetings are held each Tuesday 12-1p.m. in the Town Center conference room, above The Cave. Those interested in participating are invited to attend a meeting to learn more. Contact Kari Gras at kgras2010@gmail.com or (406) 570-4257 for more information.

Toastmasters International is a world leader in communication and leadership development. The organization and its chapters empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders by providing a positive and supportive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self confidence and personal growth.



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Earth sculptors

Terraflow Trail Systems builds Big Sky's biking future

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – Pete Costain looks at dirt differently than other people. Within a few minutes of meeting him at the top of Big Sky Resort's Swift Current chairlift, he's pointing out gradations in the soil content, talking about trail-finding techniques, explaining the topology of building intermediate berms that will also be fun for experts.

Then he climbed aboard a Bobcat excavator, ready to show off his craft in action. "As far as trail building at the resort, I'm a firm believer in building trails that riders will only get to experience in a resort environment," Costain said. "Why build trails that mimic what riders can find in their backyard? Whether quality of jumps and berms, creativity of line, or epic views, resort riding should leave an impression."

According to the Terraflow Trail Systems website, Costain has been riding mountain bikes "since before the invention of the mountain bike." He began racing competitively, both cross-country and downhill, in the late '80s and has been freeriding for almost two decades. Despite working seven days a week during the summer months, he still manages to fit some rides in during his workdays.

In 2000, while he was the events and recreation manager of Whitefish Mountain Resort in northwest Montana, Costain oversaw the construction of several lower mountain cross-country and downhill bike trails. He earned a reputation for building multi-use trails that harmonize with natural surroundings and are tailored to the needs of those who recreate on them.

Costain, along with his wife Linda, founded Terraflow Trail Systems in 2009 with the intention of creating multi-use community trails, private hiking systems and dedicated mountain bike freeride trails at locations in the Northern Rockies. Terraflow currently has 12 employees, six based out of Whitefish and six based in Big Sky, including the couple's sons Parkin and Ladd.

Although still based out of Whitefish, Costain and Terraflow have completed numerous projects around the Big Sky area since first building a hiking trail in Moonlight Basin in 2012. In 2014, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club contracted Terraflow to build more than 9 miles of cross-country



Birken Schimpff kicks up dust at Big Sky Resort on the new Ninja Marmot jump line. PHOTO BY LIAM KESHISHIAN



Pete Costain, owner of Terraflow Trail Systems, excavates dirt and rock June 13 on a future connector to the Blue Flow trail at Big Sky Resort. PHOTO BY DOUG HARE

flow trail linking large tracks of green space to the South Fork of the West Fork of the Gallatin River and the greater Big Sky trail network.

Given the quality of his trails and versatility of his team's abilities, Lone Mountain Land Company, Big Sky Resort, and the Big Sky Community Organization have employed Terraflow to build a trail network around the area to make the community a destination for trail-users and mountain bikers of all abilities.

"We have made a concerted effort to responsibly grow our mountain biking program and trail system the last several years," said Chelsi Moy, public relations manager of Big Sky Resort. "I think we've made leaps and bounds—especially in developing our beginner and intermediate trails. ... People are really starting to take notice of Big Sky as a mountain biking destination, and we could not be more pleased."

In 2015, Terraflow completed the Mountain to Meadow trail, an iconic 6-mile roller coaster that starts at the Big Sky Resort base area and ends in Big Sky Town Center. That same year, Terraflow built two fishing access trails and completed 3 miles of trails that comprise the Ulery's Lake and Jack Creek Nordic trails, which double as hiking and beginner biking trails in the warmer months.

In summer 2016, Terraflow finished one of the resort's most popular lift-access trails, called Snake Charmer. Dropping eastwards off of Andesite Mountain, the first true flow trail at the resort boasts smooth berms that cascade through lodgepole pines and, according to Costain, has helped boost lift tickets sales for the resort.

Ralph's Pass, which opened June 15, was also the work of Costain and his staff. This 2.7-mile cross-country trail—that the Big Sky Community Organization secured easements from 10 different landowners to build—provides a crucial function of connecting the Uplands trail to the Ousel Falls trailhead, linking Town Center to the First Yellow Mule Forest Service trail and the popular Ousel Falls.

After Terraflow wrapped up the Ralph's Pass project, they built the Ninja Marmot jump line at the resort, and now they're working on the Blue Flow trail in conjunction with Big Sky Resort's trail crew.

"Even though the Ninja Marmot may be intimidating to many riders, in my opinion, it will be an achievable goal to many downhill riders that are mastering the jumps on Snake Charmer," Costain said.

"The future of riding is bright in Big Sky," he added. "All development parties seem to be in agreement that mountain biking is a key component of Big Sky's future. We are definitely in the running with Targhee and Jackson, as evidenced by the amount of Wyoming plates in town with bikes!"

YELLOWSTONE CLUB*



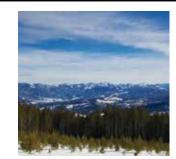
River Runs Through It 13,349 SQ FT / \$14M



388 Andesite Ridge Rd. 5,020 SQ FT / \$6.45M



Lot 338 Bristlecone Dr 14.6 Acres / \$4.95M



Lot 86 Andesite Ridge Rd. 2.64 Acres / \$3.3M



Lot 472 White Spruce Dr. 2.9 Acres / \$3.3M

SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB*



Lot 38 Bitterbrush Trail 1.27 ACRES / See agent for details



118 Old Barn Rd. 2.49 ACRES / See agent for details



MOONLIGHT BASIN*

Luxury Suite 1B 2,563 SQ FT / \$1.445M

BIG SKY*



Kandahar at Beehive Basin 5,409 SQ FT / \$3.45M



Ometa Ranch 6,050 SQ FT / \$2.455M

BIG SKY



100 Crail Ranch Dr. 3,730 SQ FT / \$1.29M



330 Beaver Mountain Trl. 2,293 SQ FT / \$780K



99 Pheasant Tail Unit 1 2,805 SQ FT / \$759K



Spanish Peaks Club Condo #27A 2,503 SQ FT / \$698K



Summit Hotel 911/912 1,303 SQ FT / \$695K

BIG SKY



Lot 15 Bobtail Horse Rd. .88 ACRES / \$445K



Lot 1 Ciel Drive 8.03 ACRES / \$415K



Lot 3 Joy Rd. 6.83 Acres / \$395K



Gallatin Rd. Parcel 1 2.63 ACRES / \$255K



Gallatin Rd. Tract 4 1.4 ACRES / \$254K

RANCH & RECREATION



SxS Ranch Bozeman, MT 483.78 ACRES / \$7.5M



Missouri River Ranch Craig, MT 160 Acres / \$5.9M



Mountain Meadows Big Sky, MT 120 Acres / \$3.495M



Homestead at the Beacon Butte, MT 640 Acres / \$1.65M



Rocking R7 Ranch Lot 4 Bozeman, MT 20.232 ACRES / \$650K



YELLOWSTONE CLUB*

Lot 144A Pumice Rd. 2 Acres / \$2.65M

SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB*

Homestead Cabin #6 2,585SQ FT / \$2.2M



Ski Tip Lot 10 1.02 Acres / \$875K



Ski Tip Lot 8 1.11 Acres / \$825K



Lot 119 Old Barn Rd. 3.13 Acres / \$450K

BIG SKY



25 Lower Dudley Creek 4,076 SQ FT / \$1.65



245 Rain in Face 3,446 SQ FT / \$1.595



2789 Two Moons Road 2,250 SQ FT / \$1.495M



Mountain Selah 4,574 SQ FT / \$1.35M



Black Eagle Lodge 2,549 SQ FT / \$1.35M

BIG SKY



49850 Gallatin Rd. 2,499 SQ FT / \$595K



281 Village Center 473 SQ FT / \$295K



Big EZ Lots 32 & 33 20 ACRES ea. / \$795K option to purchase separately



Lot 4 Beaver Creek West 20 ACRES / \$539K



Lot 287A Rising Bull Rd. 1.04 Acres / \$529K

BOZEMAN



Limestone Creek 40 ACRES / 10,297 SQ FT \$12.9M



1800 Skunk Creek Rd. 38.71 ACRES / \$393K



Osprey Cove Lakehouse Hebgen Lake, MT 4,628 SQ FT / \$1.795M



Lot 14 Chokecherry Lane Hebgen Lake, MT 1.08 Acres / \$97.5K

RANCH & RECREATION



Yellowstone Ranch Preserve Hebgen Lake, MT 277.17 ACRES | \$8.365M 239.75 ACRES | Under Contract 236.52 ACRES | \$6.95M Whiskey Jug Cabin: 2,702 SQ FT

COMMERCIAL



Big Sky Entrance Property Big Sky, MT 4.61 Acres / \$3.24M



Parcel 3B Gallatin Rd. Gallatin Canyon, MT 5.46 ACRES / \$640K



Marketplace Unit 104 Big Sky, MT 1,204 SQ FT / \$560,920



BeaverPond Plaza Units 8A & 8B Bozeman, MT 3,400 SQ FT | \$390K



RJS Tower Unit 205/207 Big Sky, MT 961 SQ FT / \$339K



Airport Garages Bozeman, MT \$24.9K per unit 2 available units





From Jackie with love Is sunscreen keeping you safe?



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

In setting out to write this article, I thought a quick summary of how sunscreen works and a list of the top three best and worst sunscreens on the market would be simple and straightforward.

It turns out that's not the case. What I learned is that despite our increased awareness of the dangers of the sun's ultraviolet rays and expanding sunscreen sales, skin cancer is on the rise.

According to Environmental Working Group, a resource I often refer to when looking up health ratings of cosmetic, skin care and cleaning products, there is very little evidence that wearing sunscreen actually prevents skin cancer, particularly the most deadly, melanoma.

Also, much to my surprise, I found that the Food and Drug Administration does not require sunscreen and body care products marketed to babies and children to undergo any different criteria than those marketed to adults. The formulas are the same. The only difference is the branding of the package.

In most other countries, the maximum sun protection factor, or SPF, allowed by manufacturers is 50. Not only does an SPF above 50 create unstable products that can themselves harm the skin, they can also be misleading, giving us a false sense of security.

According to a 2017 article in Fox Business News, many sunscreens sold in the U.S. would not be allowed on the European market since we don't require a product's SPF to reflect both UVA and UVB protection.

In the U.S., SPF indicates UVB protection that keeps us from getting burned. But UVA protection does not have to be coordinated—even on products labeled "broad spectrum." Overexposure to UVA rays can cause age spots, sagging skin

and wrinkles. Overexposure to both UVA and UVB can cause cancer. The FDA is apparently reviewing their guidelines regarding capping SPF at 50, but no decisions have been made yet.

While spray-on sunscreens are convenient—I used to be a big fan—there's growing concern around the effects of inhaling chemicals into the lungs, missing areas of the skin and not having a thick enough layer that actually provides the SPF we think we're getting. The FDA has been looking into the safety of sunscreen sprays since 2011 but still hasn't announced any conclusions.

While the list of problems with sunscreens goes on, I'll end with the issue of hormone disruption. Some sunscreens contain oxybenzone, which leaches through the skin into the blood and mimics estrogen in the body. Oxybenzone has been linked to endometriosis in women, low birth weights in newborns, lower testosterone levels in adolescent boys, and lower sperm levels in adult men.

This information made me a bit disgruntled. It's summer in Montana and my body wants to soak up the heat of the sun before it's dark and cold again. I want sunscreen to be effective and safe. But ignorance, in the long term, isn't bliss. Here at high altitude, UV rays are intensified and I want to protect myself wisely.

There are precautions we can take to fully and safely enjoy the outdoors. First, go to Environmental Working Group's website EWG.org and look up which sunscreens are safe (my favorite, easy to find brand is Alba Botanica) and throw away any you have that aren't. Don't get burned. Sunburns, especially among children and adolescence, can cause skin cancer. Wear a hat and sunglasses. Find or create shade when possible. Invest in UV protectant clothes. Plan activities around times of day when the sun is not at its peak—namely before 10 a.m. or after 2 p.m.

Sorry for being a sunscreen buzzkill, but I couldn't not share this with you.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach, culture consultant and public speaker. Contact her at Jackie@corehealthmt.com

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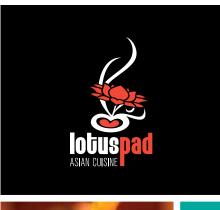
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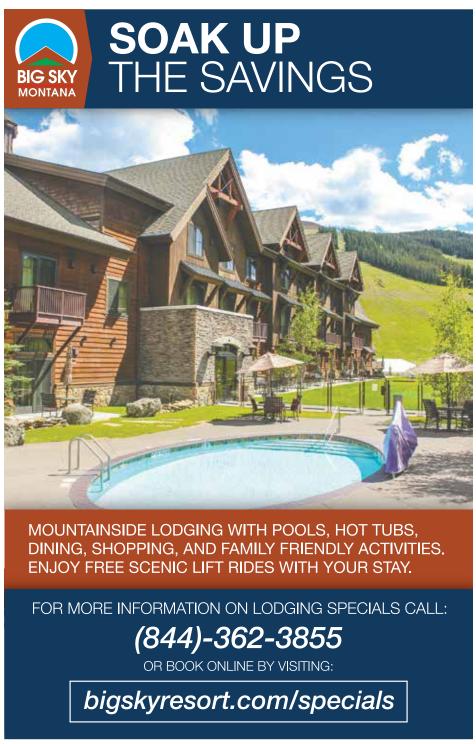


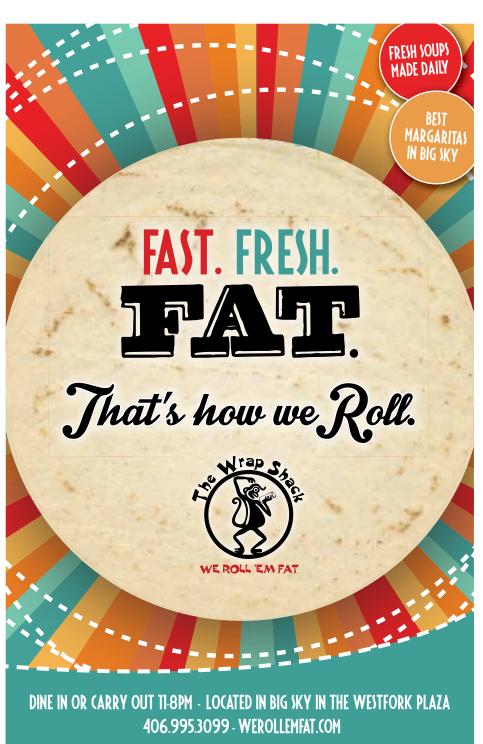
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Crail Ranch Trail with Historic Crail Ranch Conservators

Learn about Bear Habitats

Saturday, July 29 - 10:00 a.m. Black Diamond Trail and Willow Way with the United States Forest Service

Wildflower and Weed Identification

Tuesday, August 1 – 10:00 a.m.

Ousel Falls Trail with GBS Weed Committee

Mountaineer Mania

Tuesday, August 1 - 5:30 p.m.

Ousel Falls Trail with Lone Peak Fitness

Wetlands at Work

Tuesday, August 8 - 10:00 a.m. *Hummocks Trail with Montana State University Ext.*

Meadow History Hike

Tuesday, August 15 - 10:00 a.m.

Lone Mountain Trail & Ousel Falls Rd. Trail
with Historic Photography

Hike with Avalance Rescue Dog

Tuesday, August 15 - 5:30 p.m.

South Fork Loop Trail with Big Sky Ski Patrol and Gallatin County Search & Rescue

Mindfulness & Exploration Hike

Tuesday, August 18 – 10:00 a.m.

Willow Way Trail with Angela Marie Patnode

Geology Hike

Tuesday, August 22 - 10:00 a.m. *Uplands Trail with Katie Alvin and East Slope Outdoors*



For hike descriptions and to RSVP visit: bscomt.org/hike-learn 32 Town Center Avenue, Unit B1



Work-related burns to the hand can result serious injury



BY JEFF DANIELS EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Work-related injuries come in many varieties and luckily, burns are a small percentage of those injuries, mostly seen in chefs and kitchen workers. That was true for the Medical Clinic of Big Sky until this summer, when we treated a couple of serious burns within a few days of each other.

During the first half of July, two workmen came in with significant burns to an entire hand. One young man was cleaning the inside of a tar-coated container with a propane torch. Propane must have built up in the container when a spark set it off. He remembers pulling his hand away and noted that it was on fire. The flash of burning flame didn't coat his hand with any flammable material; the heat of the propane flame was enough to cause second-degree burns on his fingers and hand, and blistering was apparent early on.

He was in a lot of pain. The hand has lots more nerve endings than other parts of the body, and a burn to the entire hand could be excruciating. The only treatment we could offer was pain control and a tetanus shot. The hand was bandaged to protect the blisters, and he promised to wear protective gloves the next time he used the propane torch.

A few days later, another workman rushed into the clinic with one hand coated in a black substance, plunged into a tub of cold water. He said he was carrying a pail of molten rubber, when he tripped and dropped the pail, splashing a coating of a 375 degrees Fahrenheit liquid onto his hand, which quickly hardened and adhered like a tight rubber glove.

Blisters were already forming as we examined the hand, which was hard to do since he wanted to keep it soaking in cold water to ease his pain. It took injections of an anesthetic into the hand to allow us to try to peel away the coating of rubber.

I sent one of my students to the Ace Hardware store to pick up a tub of GOJO hand cleaner and a tube of GOJO with pumice. We also got a tube of lanolin from the pharmacy. All of these items were recommended by the manufacturer of the rubber product to help remove it from the skin. Our problem was not only the pain of rubbing the rubber off the skin, but also the fact the big blisters had already formed underneath the rubber coating on almost the entire hand.

My students Ty Tantisook from the University of Tennessee and Greigh Hampson-Tindale from Griffith University in Australia scrubbed and scrubbed and cleared most of the rubber off the hand, without breaking one of the blisters. They carefully wrapped the hand and fingers with gauze, and we sent him home with medicine for pain when the anesthetic wore off.

We'll have to keep a close eye on both hands to make sure that infection doesn't set in, and to make sure that scars or contractures (tightening of the skin) don't form and diminish the function of the hand.

Both of these injuries could have been avoided, or at least been less severe, if protective gloves were worn. This is the case with many of the work-related injuries we see.

The Medical Clinic of Big Sky is open every weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. this summer, to take care of all your medical needs.

Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2015 Chamber of Commerce Chet Huntley Lifetime Achievement Award and has been practicing medicine in Big Sky since 1994, when he and his family moved here from New York City. A unique program he implements has attracted more than 800 medical students and young doctors to train with the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.



Town Center ←→ Mountain Village









WHERE BIG SKY COMES TOGETHER

Town Center to Mountain Village Bus Schedule *Heading Up*

DEPARTING
TOWN CENTER

7:25a / 8:35a / 9:35a / 11:35a / 2:35p / 3:35p 4:35p / 5:35p / 6:35p / 8:35p / 10:35p

ARRIVING
MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

7:44a / 8:54a / 9:54a / 11:54a / 2:54p / 4:54p 5:54p / 6:54p / 8:54p / 10:54p

Mountain Village to Town Center Bus Schedule
Heading Down

DEPARTING MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

8:15a / 9:15a / 10:15a / 12:15p / 3:15p / 5:15p 6:15p / 7:15p / 9:15p / 11:15p

ARRIVING TOWN CENTER

8:35a / 9:35a / 10:35a / 12:35p / 2:35p / 3:35p 4:35p / 5:35p / 6:35p / 7:35p / 9:35p / 11:35p

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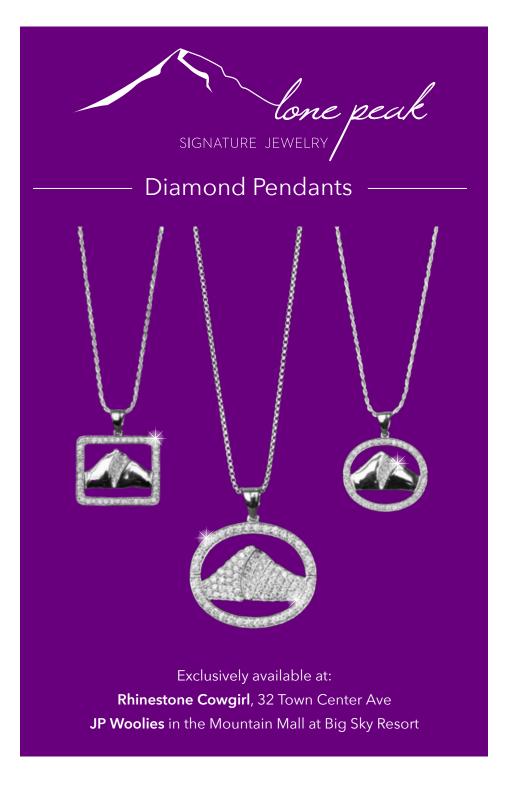
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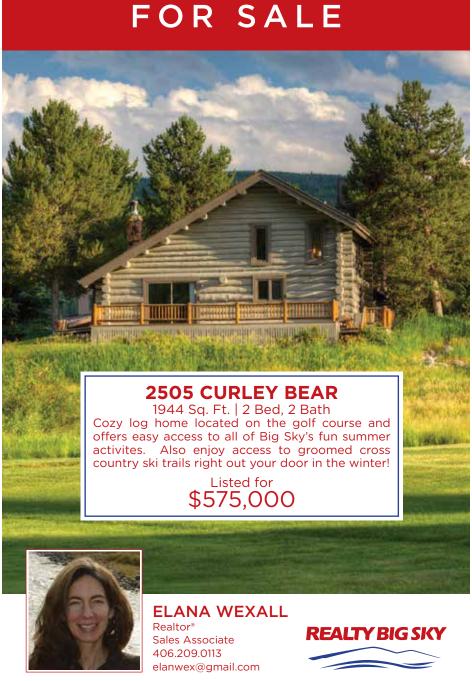
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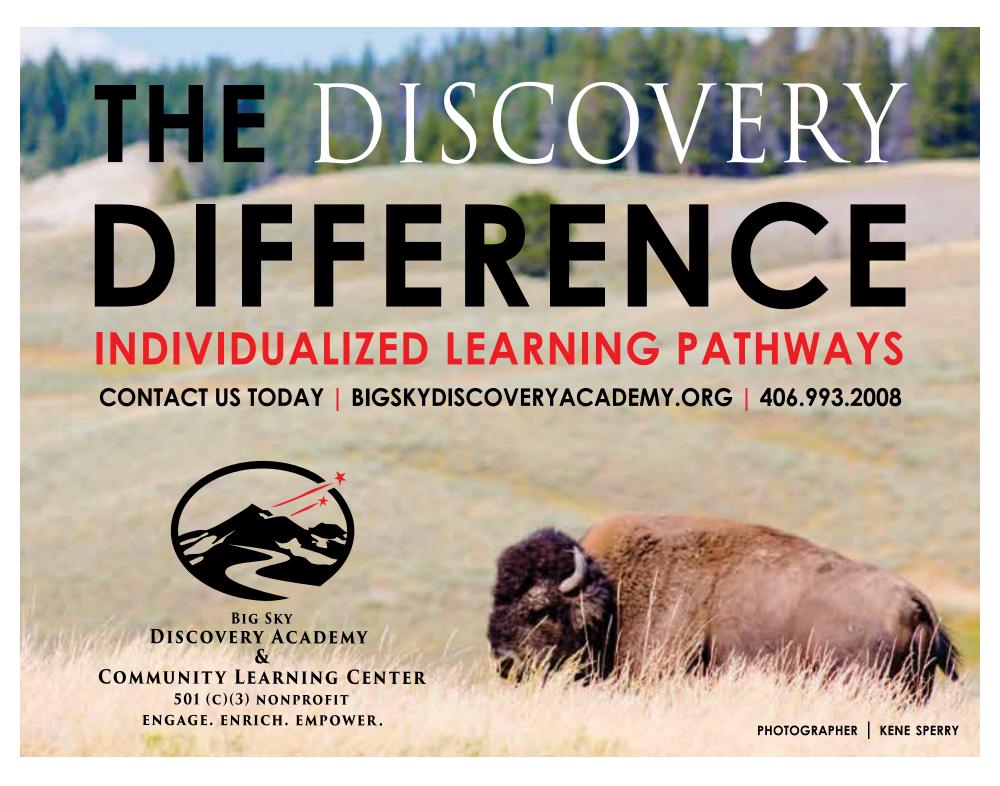


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Montana faces double quandary over Medicaid expansion

BY BOBBY CAINA CALVAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

BUTTE, Mont. (AP) - For all the uncertainty over the fate of a health care overhaul in Washington, tens of thousands of Montana's working poor are already in a double quandary: Even if Congress leaves Medicaid expansion mostly intact, the future of the state's program remains uncertain

Gov. Steve Bullock, who counts Medicaid expansion as a key achievement in his first term, has less than two years to justify its continuation. The program is scheduled to end in 2019 if state lawmakers decline to renew it during the legislative session that starts in January of that year.

Among the 31 states with expanded Medicaid, Montana's program is unique. As part of a grand bargain to placate moderate Republicans in the conservative-leaning state, Bullock and his fellow Democrats agreed to charge most enrollees premiums and co-pays, establish a jobs program intended to help able-bodied Medicaid recipients find good-paying work, and seek reauthorization.

While Montana Democrats tout their state's plummeting number of medically uninsured—from 20 percent of the population in 2013 to 7 percent last year—the number of Medicaid enrollees has far exceeded expectations, and some worry the program cannot be sustained.

Since it took effect in January of last year, nearly 80,000 of Montana's 1 million residents have enrolled. The state had projected only 33,000 by this time.

Some Montana lawmakers are eager to revisit the expansion program when the session reconvenes in 2019.

"So, is this thing really working?" said state Sen. Bob Keenan, a Republican from the western Montana town of Bigfork. "I'm from the state of Missouri at this point in time—show me."

Keenan and other critics are skeptical the state is doing enough to get people into jobs—and off Medicaid—in the program's second year.

"The spin right now is that conservative Republicans are going to take something away," Keenan said. "That's not me. For now, I'm just sitting back and waiting to see if they can justify the program."

Even the lead sponsor of the bill that authorized expansion is raising concern that the higher-than-expected number of enrollees could be unsustainable and that state officials need to be more aggressive with the program's job training component.

"They promised that they would make it work," said Republican state Sen. Ed Buttrey of Great Falls. "And if they don't, then the program needs to change, or there will be a great risk that it could go away."

That's an unsettling prospect for Tammie Jackson and her husband, Travis, both of whom rely on Medicaid for health coverage.

For years, both were uninsured. Travis is on traditional Medicaid because of diabetes-related disabilities. He's been unable to work because of severe nerve damage in his hands and feet.

Tammie Jackson makes a modest living cleaning hotel rooms in the mining town of Butte, a working class-community where about a tenth of the 34,000 residents are enrolled in the expansion program.

She's held the same job for 26 years, but it didn't come with health insurance. For most of that time, she did without.

She qualified for Medicaid under the expansion last year. It provides the specialists to treat her for Asperger's and anxiety, and for the cyst they found in her uterus. She also wrenched her back a month ago and is doing physical therapy so she can return to work.

"Without Medicaid expansion, she wouldn't be able to get any physical therapy she needs so she can start getting a paycheck again," said Travis Jackson, who often speaks on his wife's behalf because she can sometimes feel socially awkward around people she doesn't know.

The Jacksons have watched with concern as the health care debate unfolds.

About two-thirds of Medicaid expansion enrollees already have jobs. However, those jobs lack health benefits, and the wages are too meager to pay for private coverage—a reality far too common in rural economies.

Bullock's office said more than 12,000 Medicaid enrollees have gotten employment services through the Department of Labor and Industry.

The agency considers the workforce component a success, even if the number of participants is just a sliver of what was anticipated. State officials initially expected 75 percent of Medicaid expansion enrollees would avail themselves of job services, which translates to about 60,000 would-be job seekers. But given little additional new resources, that goal may have been unreasonable from the start.

Nevertheless, said department spokesman Jake Troyer, "We're training new people to come into the workforce, and we're giving people opportunities to upscale their employment."

Troyer could not immediately say, however, how many people his agency helped get off Medicaid because they landed better jobs.

John Goodnow, CEO of Great Falls' Benefis Health Systems, said the public must be better informed about the people who have been helped if the program is to survive after 2019.

"What we have to do better is demonstrate the positive impact it's had to our state, to our economy, and not just in human interest terms—and there are lots of those—but also in terms of dollars and cents," said Goodnow, who chairs Montana's Medicaid expansion oversight committee. "And we need to work on that now."

BACK[1]

For Explore Big Sky, the Back 40 is a resource: a place where we can delve into subjects and ask experts to share their knowledge.

Noun: wild or rough terrain adjacent to a developed area **Origin:** shortened form of "back 40 acres"

'Tsunami of settlement' reaches Montana during first decade of 20^{th} century

Favorable weather, expansion of Homestead Act a boon to homesteaders

BY DEREK STRAHN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Several short-term trends helped trigger Montana's remarkable homestead boom. The most significant was the Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909, which doubled the free land available to settlers to 320 acres. In 1912, Congress went even farther, lowering the required waiting period for land acquisition from five to three years, while also permitting homesteaders to be absent from their lands five months of each year. Together, these laws generated an eager response, ensuring that nearly 32 million acres of Montana land would pass from public to private hands.

Equally significant in attracting homesteaders were the aggressive promotional campaigns by area boosters. During the early 1900s, transcontinental railroads like the Northern Pacific, the Great Northern and the Milwaukee Road spent millions publicizing the region. With impressive agricultural display trains and a host of colorful leaflets and brochures, they encouraged immigrants—especially Germans and Scandinavians—to embrace a new life of farming in what some now evocatively billed as "the Treasure State." For as little as \$22.50, a homesteader could rent a freight car to bring his family and all their belongings from Saint Paul, Minnesota, to eastern Montana.

Hypnotized by the powerful sway of a well-financed propaganda machine, homesteaders flooded into Montana. Between 1900 and 1909, a veritable tsunami of settlement descended upon the state, rushing westward across the Hi-Line area north of the Missouri River and engulfing the broad valleys that fed the Yellowstone River. Dozens of new boomtowns like Wolf Point, Glasgow, Malta, Havre, Plentywood, Scobey, Jordan, Rudyard, Ryegate and Baker appeared out of thin, dry air like mirages on the rolling plains.

Homestead life was anything but easy. Many newcomers erected sod houses constructed from grassy slabs of topsoil. Others built cramped, one-room shanties out of rough-cut lumber, covering them in tarpaper and insulating them with dirty rags and discarded newspapers. Mice, snakes and grasshoppers were a constant torment. Some families traveled up to 25 miles to cut fence posts, find firewood or dig coal on the prairies of eastern Montana. With these crude accommodations, homesteaders faced the blistering heat, choking dust storms and subzero cold of Montana's often inhospitable plains.

Isolation on this harsh and forlorn landscape often took its toll. "I have stood in the doorway of our shack, with my heart full of sadness and loneliness and listened to the wind," wrote Sue Howells of Choteau County. "It is an incessant, screeching, whining and screaming wind, and it seems to be heard nowhere except in Montana on the homestead."

Despite these hardships, many carved out a meaningful life during Montana's homestead boom, and the effects of their commitment were readily apparent. The state's population exploded from 243,329 to 376,053, and the aggregate number of farms doubled to 26,214 during the



Seven children were raised in this homestead cabin north of Circle. PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK AND SUSIE GRAETZ

20th century's first decade. By 1910, the income generated by agriculture surpassed that of mining. But this was just the beginning.

In the years immediately following this initial burst of excitement, nature and global politics worked hand-in-hand to beguile even more homesteaders to the Big Sky Country. The period of greatest settlement during the homestead boom was also a time of generally ample and well-timed rainfall in typically drought-stricken northern and eastern Montana. Abundant wheat harvests were commonplace. In 1909, total wheat production reached almost 11 million bushels, but in the "miracle year" of 1915, it totaled more that 42 million bushels.

Making homestead life even more prosperous was the coming of the "War to End All Wars," which ravaged Europe between 1914 and 1918. World War I dramatically increased European demands and artificially inflated grain prices to unprecedented levels. Montana's high-protein hard spring and winter wheat "held top rank on the booming international markets," according to historians Michael Malone and Richard Roeder.

Derek Strahn is a Bozeman historian, teacher, historic preservationist, radio show personality and folk/blues musician. He is the author of several works related to local and Montana history, including "The Montana Medicine Show's Genuine Montana History."

Section 4: OUTDOORS & FUN







INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Late season cycling tours roll through Yellowstone

EBS STAFF

The Greater Yellowstone Coalition and West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce will hold two separate cycling events this year in Yellowstone, offering the chance to experience the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem on two wheels instead of four.

From Saturday, Aug. 19, to Friday, Aug. 25, cyclists will travel 350 miles, completing a loop from West Yellowstone to Driggs, Idaho. The group will travel through Archer and Kilgore in southeast Idaho and finish their tour in West Yellowstone. With six days of riding and an optional rest day in between, the Cycle Greater Yellowstone tour incorporates mileage and elevation gain.

On the second day of riding participants will arrive in Driggs just in time to view the total solar eclipse. The following day cyclists can opt for a rest period or continue on customized routes. The tour will continue the next day.

Capped at 300 cyclists, the Cycle Greater Yellowstone event is full, however a waiting list is available.

On Oct. 7, the annual fall cycle tour from West Yellowstone to Old Faithful will return, hosted by the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce and benefiting Yellowstone Forever and the Reid Sanders Memorial Fund, among others. The 20th annual Old Faithful Cycle Tour is comprised of a 60-mile route along the Madison and Firehole rivers, offering breathtaking scenery of Yellowstone in the fall. Pedal past gurgling geysers, bugling elk, and golden aspen trees for a truly unique national park experience.

Shuttles will be available for those who do not wish to ride the entire 60 miles, bicycle mechanics patrol the route and are available to help with



On day one of the 2017 Cycle Greater Yellowstone Tour cyclists will travel the Mesa Falls Scenic Byway toward the Tetons. PHOTO BY GERRIT SU

flat tires or minor repairs, and two feed stations will be located at Madison Junction and Old Faithful with water and light refreshments.

The tour wraps up with a group dinner from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Povah Community Center. The tour is limited to the first 350 riders that register online and as of July 13, there were about 100 spots still available.

To learn more about the Cycle Greater Yellowstone tour, visit cyclegreateryellowstone.com.

To learn more about the Old Faithful Cycle Tour or to register for the event, visit cycleyellowstone.com.

Park visitation numbers stay strong through June

EBS STAFF

Yellowstone National Park hosted 803,298 visits in June, accounting for the second-busiest June on record.

June's numbers were down 4.8 percent from the 2016 monthly total, when a record 838,316 visits were logged.

To date, the park has hosted more then 1.35 million visits, a drop from last year's 1.43 million figure. When considered in a five-year period, the numbers are still impressive. Approximately 1.02 million visits were counted during this same period of 2013, or 33 percent fewer than this year.

Park officials urge visitors to plan their trip to the park ahead of time, anticipate delays at popular attractions, and check road conditions on the park's website, https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit

YTD Recreational visits (Through June)	
2017	1,353,636
2016	1,432,071
2015	1,298,855
2014	1,084,826
2013	1,016,650

6,000 *trout* per mile





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Rise-up: prime time dry fly time is now



BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

With rivers clear and running at average summertime flows, dry fly purists are delighting in hatches of caddis, Yellow Sallies and Pale Morning Duns, or PMDs, and trout are rewarding them by rising to eat well-presented offerings. To put it another way: It's a powder day on most nearby rivers. Like a powder hound seeking out fresh

lines and sacrificing sleep for first chair, a dry fly angler must also commit to the task when conditions warrant.

This is the time for three- and four-weight fly rods, single dry flies and longer leaders. If, like many recent entrants into fly fishing, your dry fly game needs some work because you spend a lot of time deep nymph fishing, here's some advice to help you to get more out of this unique time on our local waters.

Lighten up a bit. As hatches of caddis, PMDs, and Yellow Sallies increase, plan to decrease your rod weight, tippet size and fly selection. Your all-around rod choice might be a 9-foot five-weight, but when PMDs erupt from a riffle on the Gallatin River, a three-weight rod will present a size 16 dry fly more softly. Rod length is not as crucial as weight. Rods that are in the 7-foot-6-inch to 9-foot range will do most duty. Use tippets that are 4X at the heaviest, but 5X is ideal. Rio Suppleflex is a soft and supple material and a good match for dry flies size 14 and smaller.

Leader length matters. You might go smaller with rod and tippet choice, but go longer in your leader. Start with a standard 9-foot leader and then add your Rio Suppleflex tippet, creating a leader of 12 feet or longer. Trout Hunter also makes a Finesse leader whose genesis was the Henry's Fork in Idaho—a river known for finicky trout requiring perfect presentations.

Master your reach cast. This cast is essential for creating a drag-free drift when presenting a dry fly. Aim your presentation a little higher than normal and shoot a little more line than you think is necessary. As the fly line straightens out in front of you and above the water, reach across your body or way out to your side and pull the extraneous fly line into an "in the air" mend. The fly line should fall to the water softly and already mended. Immediately after the line lands, point the rod tip at the fly and track the fly as it drifts downstream.

Know your chemistry. Your grandparents' dry fly quiver most likely included amadou, mucilin and perhaps a silicone gel. Nearing the year 2020, anglers carry Fly-Agra, Shimizaki, Line Speed and Aquel. Even though the names have changed, the goal is the same—to get your fly to float naturally and for as long as possible. Add to these products some new fly-tying materials such as CDC and Z-lon and a simple understanding of which products work best together. For example, most gel floatants, like Aquel, don't work well with CDC.

Time of day is key. As summer peaks, the sun is also at its most intense. Trout prefer not to feed under bright, noontime sun, so fish early in the morning or late in the evening. On a river like the Gallatin where lots of river-lovers are out, fishing early and late means trout are more willing to eat off the surface. In addition, wind will be a little calmer in the morning and evening than midday.



Dry fly fishing is in prime form on local waters. Smaller rods, lighter tippets and a better understanding of the various fly floatants will help you have more success convincing a trout to rise to your fly. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

Enjoy the little moment. Because we experience such wonderful weather in our mountain hamlet, our rivers are enjoyed by many during these next few weeks. Solitude is often better found in fall, winter and spring, but that doesn't mean there aren't moments of beauty in high summer. A sunrise on a canyon wall, a deer crossing the river, or caddis flying in the golden hour before sunset are all brief moments to be enjoyed if the trout are not rising.

Being a purist in fishing, be it dry fly fishing or swinging for steelhead, often means a level of self-sacrifice. For the angler wanting to experience dry fly happiness this time of year, your timing is right, but be prepared to suffer a tiny bit for your dry fly success.

Pat Straub is the author of six books, including "The Frugal Fly Fisher," "Montana On The Fly" and "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Fly Fishing." He and his wife own Gallatin River Guides in Big Sky. He also co-owns Montana Fishing Outfitters and the Montana Fishing Guide School.



On the Trail: Madison Loop

Explore local hiking, biking and equestrian trails with Big Sky Community Organization's trail series.

BY CIARA WOLFE **BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Madison Loop provides 3.6 miles of natural-surface trail on the beautiful north side of Lone Peak. You're more likely to see wildlife than people on this trail, making it the perfect place to enjoy the beauty of Lone Peak in solitude. The trail starts at the Madison Base Area.

From the parking lot, you will see a small, brown trailhead sign that designates 0.1 mile of the Madison Loop. Head past the closed lodge and amenity buildings and take a left onto a narrow beaten path through tall grass that quickly turns into an obvious trail.

After about 100 yards on the trail, you will come to the first intersection, which marks the start and finish of the Madison Loop. I chose to go left and start with the switchbacks up the ski hill. I ran approximately 0.9 miles and 300 feet up several gradual switchbacks, weavingin and out of the forest and onto the open ski trails of Moonlight Basin.

A small mucky pond on your left and a large wooden bench for resting are two more indicators you are on the right trail. When approaching the top of the climb, you come to the second intersection. Follow the signs for Madison Loop and you will begin descending the elevation just gained.

This section of the trail has several creek crossings and beautiful views of Beehive Basin. The descent is steep in some areas and the trail has a rocky, shale surface earning its intermediate level rating. At the bottom, I emerged from the forest onto the open ski slopes. When I saw the base of the Six Shooter chairlift, I realized this trail had taken me farther down than I had climbed. Preparing myself for another uphill, I began with several steep switchbacks up



The Madison Loop provides 3.6 miles of challenging terrain, beautiful vistas, excellent wildlife viewing opportunities and solitude in the mountains for hikers and bikers of all skill levels. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

and under the Six Shooter and Derringer ski lift, climbing 200 feet back up to the first intersection and start of the loop.

Portions of this trail are steep, but there are ample straight sections for resting between climbs, making it enjoyable for all abilities. The Madison Loop provides challenging terrain, beautiful vistas, excellent wildlife viewing opportunities and solitude in the mountains, each treats in and of themselves.

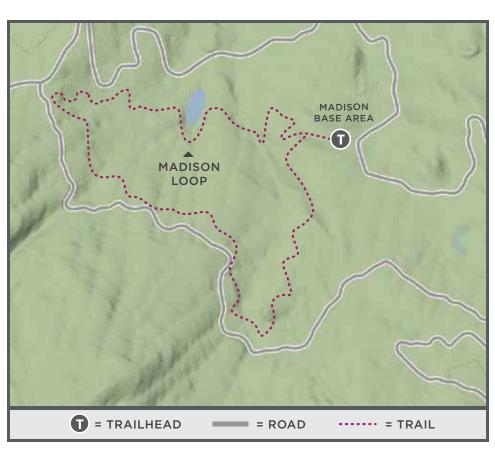
The Madison Loop is part of the Moonlight Basin trail system and connects with Ulery's Lake Trail to make for a longer hike.

Moonlight Basin is unique to Big Sky, as it is the only private club that still allows public access to trails on their private property. The Big Sky community is grateful for that access. It adds additional mileage to the Big Sky Resort trail system that links to our community trail system. Please be aware that bear sightings are common in this area, and be "bear aware" when recreating.

After your hike, check out the restaurant and tavern at Moonlight Lodge for a bite to eat or hard-earned drink. The Tavern has a deck affording unbeatable vistas.

For more information about Big Sky's parks, trails and recreation programs, visit bscomt.org. The Big Sky Community Organization is a local

nonprofit that connects people to recreational opportunities by acquiring, promoting and preserving sustainable places and programs for all.





TRAIL STATS



Uses

Difficulty

Elevation



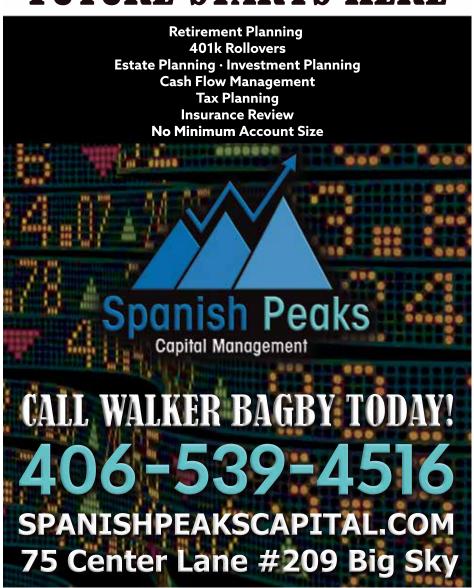
Hike, trail run Intermediate 3.6- mile loop roundtrip and bike

704 feet

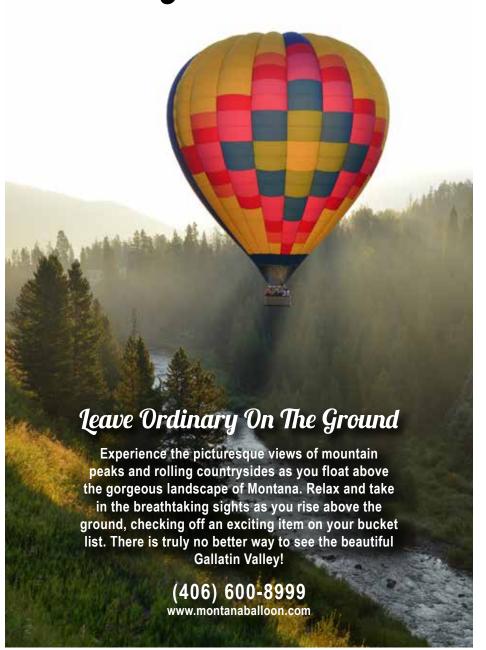
Dirt

Directions: Drive west towards Big Sky Resort and Moonlight Basin on Lone Mountain Trail. Pass Big Sky Resort and continue 1 mile until you come to the entrance gate to Moonlight Basin. Pass through the gate and take an immediate right following signs for the Madison Base Area. Follow the road 2 miles and park in the lot adjacent to the Madison Base Area yurts. The trailhead can be found directly behind the Skyline bus shelter located in front of the winter amenity buildings.

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SUNDAY

10:00-11:15am All Levels Yoga

MONDAY

7:00-8:00am Dance X 9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga

11:00-Noon (July-Labor Day) Community Yoga for a Cause (ALS) (Outside in Town Center)

TUESDAY

7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga

8:15-9:15am All Levels Yoga

9:30-10:30am All Levels Yoga

6:30-7:45pm All Levels Yoga

WEDNESDAY

7:00-8:00am Dance X

9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga

11:00-Noon The Practice (Yoga Level II-III)

THURSDAY

7:00-8:00am All Levels Mat Pilates

8:15-9:15am All Levels Yoga

9:30-10:30am All Levels Yoga

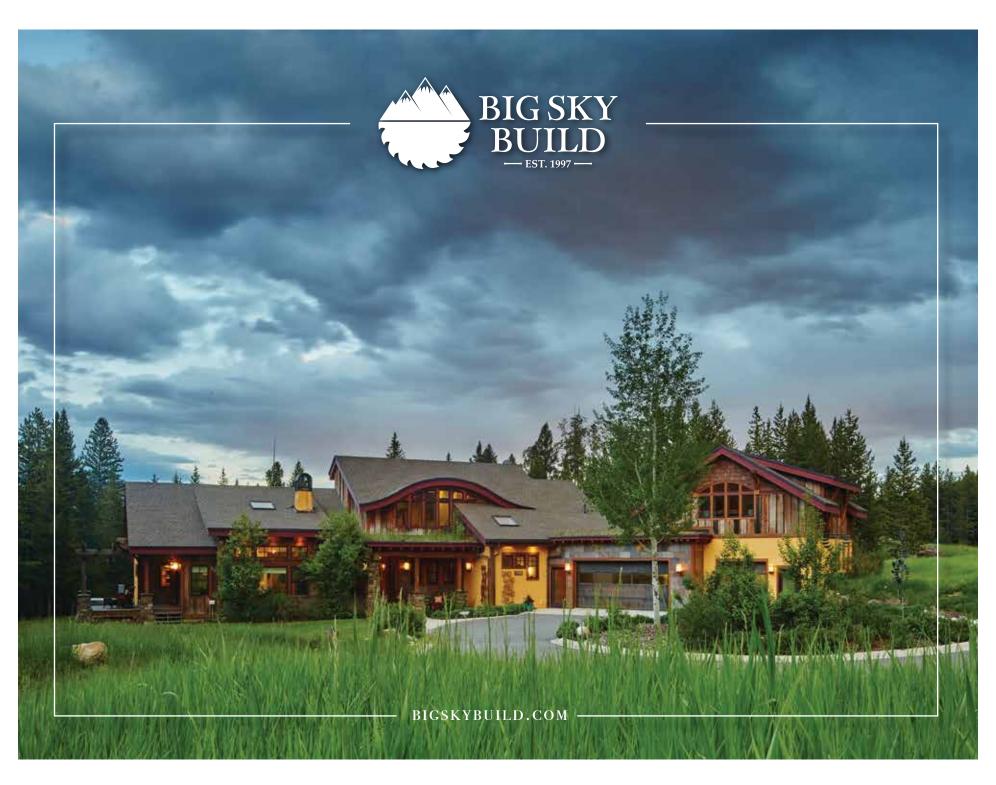
FRIDAY

9:00-10:15am Level II Yoga

11:00-Noon Yin/Restorative Yoga

SATURDAY

9:00-10:00am
All Levels Yoga
Check schedule online
(workshops may take
the place of class)











Inside the Big Sky

By Derek Lennon

View the Aug. 21 solar eclipse in Big Sky

BY DEREK LENNON EBS CONTRIBUTOR

What are you doing on Aug. 21? If you're looking for something extraordinary to do, come witness the solar eclipse from Big Sky.

Solar eclipses are quite rare. They occur when the moon passes between the Earth and sun. As the moon completely blocks out the sun, a massive shadow will be cast across the planet. It's astounding to see. In fact, this natural phenomenon may be a once in a lifetime opportunity.

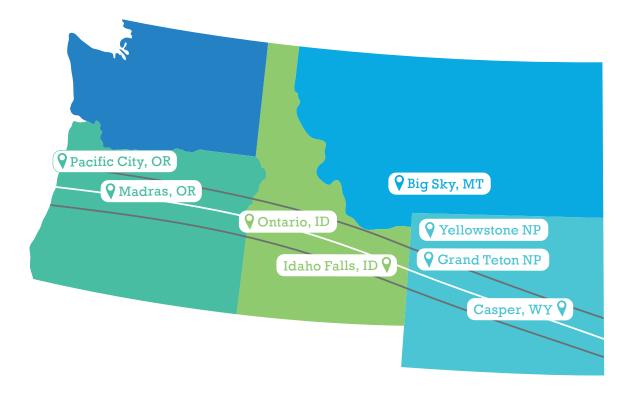
The last time the path of totality of a solar eclipse passed through part of the United States was Feb. 26, 1979. It's been 99 years since a solar eclipse passed coast to coast across the U.S. Luckily, this jawdropping astronomical event will occur this summer. Take advantage of this opportunity by booking a trip to Big Sky to see the solar eclipse.

The Aug. 21 solar eclipse has been labeled the Great American Total Solar Eclipse. This solar eclipse will sweep across the sky from Oregon to South Carolina. If you're within the roughly 70-mile wide path of totality, you'll experience a total solar eclipse for just over two minutes. Even if you're not in the exact path, everyone in the United States will experience at least a partial eclipse.

Big Sky is just north of the path of totality. According to the NASA website, you'll be able to see 96.66 percent coverage if viewing the eclipse from Big Sky. Mark your calendars: The Aug. 21 event starts at 10:17 a.m. and ends at 12:58 p.m., reaching its peak at 11:35 a.m.



Big Sky is just outside the path of totality for the Aug. 21 solar eclipse and can be a convenient home base for viewing this significant cosmic event. PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY



If you're planning a vacation around the solar eclipse, Big Sky is a prime destination. Our mountain town is the perfect place to set up shop and enjoy the solar eclipse along with the many other outdoor and cultural activities Big Sky has to offer. With limited light pollution, clear skies and few people, Big Sky is the ideal place to sit back, relax and witness the power of Mother Nature as the Earth, moon and sun align.

If you want to view the solar eclipse in the path of totality, you're just a short drive away. Why not make Big Sky your home base and take in a solar eclipse while on a national park road trip? Regardless of whether you watch the eclipse from Big Sky or you venture a bit off the beaten track, Big Sky is the perfect place to get away from it all and embrace the beauty of nature.

If you plan to be in the Greater Yellowstone Region for the Aug. 21 eclipse, remember to book your campsite or hotel as soon as possible to ensure a spot. People will be traveling from near and far to witness the Great American Total Solar Eclipse—it's going to be extraordinary.

Wherever you choose to view the Aug. 21 solar eclipse from, we know you'll enjoy it. Please be sure to have a pair of special solar eclipse glasses to protect your eyes. Safety first.

You can learn more about the Aug. 21 solar eclipse at space.com, greatamericaneclipse.com and eclipse2017.nasa.gov.

Derek Lennon is a skier and writer who lives, works and plays in the mountains of the world. He is based in Big Sky, Montana, where he lives with his wife Mia and two dogs.

A version of this story was originally published on the Visit Big Sky blog at https://visitbigskymt.com/solar-eclipse-big-sky-montana/. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at https://visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/.

Nature-based activities offered weekly through the summer

BY SYDNEY MACDONALD EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

The Big Sky Community Organization is offering a series of free educational hikes and lectures every week this summer, a continuation of a program the nonprofit launched last year.

The Hike and Learn series aims to engage community members with local trails, wildlife and adventures while providing tips about staying safe in the outdoors.

BSCO Program Coordinator Shannon Odom says it's been a great way for Big Sky to showcase its trails. "It's a really good way to get people out and enjoying nature, and it helps people learn about things they haven't experienced before," Odom said.

This year's series started with a bird spotting and identification hike, and a wildlife and nature walk.

BSCO Asset Manager Scott Hoeksema guided the bird spotting and identification hike along the South Fork Loop Trail on July 11, leading avian enthusiasts through a variety of bird habitats.

The group spotted about a dozen local bird species including sparrows, robins and a rare sighting of a western tanager, a songbird with a brightly-colored head that ranges from red near its beak to yellow along its neck. "You would be amazed at what you see while you're observing," Hoeksema said. "It's one of the best ways to slow down and experience nature."

With more than 250 breeding populations of bird species in Montana, Big Sky is a great place to learn more about bird identification this summer.

Sherry Lucas participated in the bird spotting activity, and says she's very excited about the Hike and Learn series. "I want to learn everything that I can

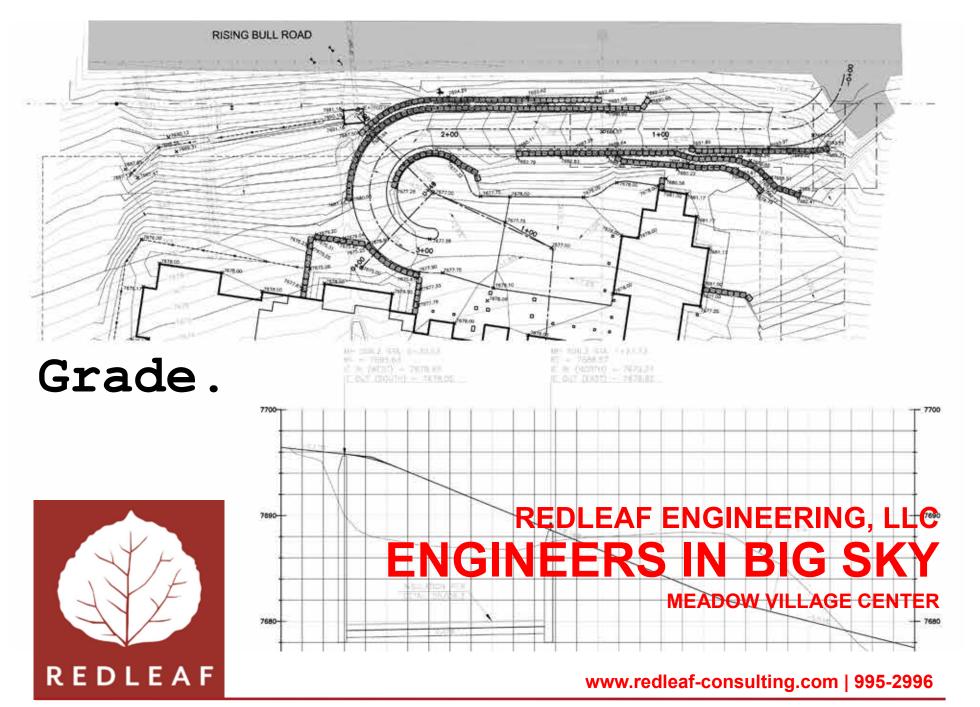


Hike and Learn participants use binoculars to look for birds along the South Fork Loop Trail July 11. The series will continue through Aug. 22. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

about birds and animals while living here," Lucas said.

BSCO will offer classes on subjects ranging from working avalanche rescue dogs to bear habitat. The free guided hikes and activities will be offered every Tuesday and Saturday through Aug. 22.

Visit bscomt.org/bike-learn for more information or to register for upcoming events.



Major archery challenge returns to Big Sky

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – For the fourth year in a row, Total Archery Challenge will bring its major outdoor sporting event to Big Sky, and as many as 850 participants are expected to attend. Total Archery Challenge Big Sky is a three-day archery challenge open to any archer wishing to improve skills in the off-season. The event will be held at Big Sky Resort Friday, July 21 through Sunday, July 23.

Participants will ride up the resort ski lifts and have an opportunity to shoot a variety of archery courses based on skill level, ranging from close shots with minimal angles, to steep angles with targets 100 yards away. There are also two kids' courses and a fun novelty shot that gives the archer a chance to win a prize.

"We've got it to where beginners and experts can have a good time," said Sean DeGey of Total Archery Challenge. "The objective is to get a bunch of archery guys together and have a good time and hone skills."

More than 100 targets will be scattered across the Big Sky slopes, set up in ways that resemble real hunting scenarios. Targets can include 3-D replications of deer, elk and bear.

"The event is a great way to prepare for the season," said Ryan Holm of Mystery Ranch, the Bozeman-based backpack manufacturer sponsoring the Big Sky event. "This is a really cool opportunity for an archer because most of the time you're sitting at your house on flat land with a target a certain distance away. ... [Total Archery Challenge] is an opportunity to shoot with friends, at different angles, and to dial in equipment."

Because the event is not a formal competition, archers can move closer to their targets, or move right or left, in order to shoot at their own skill level.

Archery instructor Joel Turner will speak about target panic and how to get over the common pre-shot nervousness many archers face as they get set and draw back the bow string on a target. Turner will also offer tips on elk bugling with game calls.



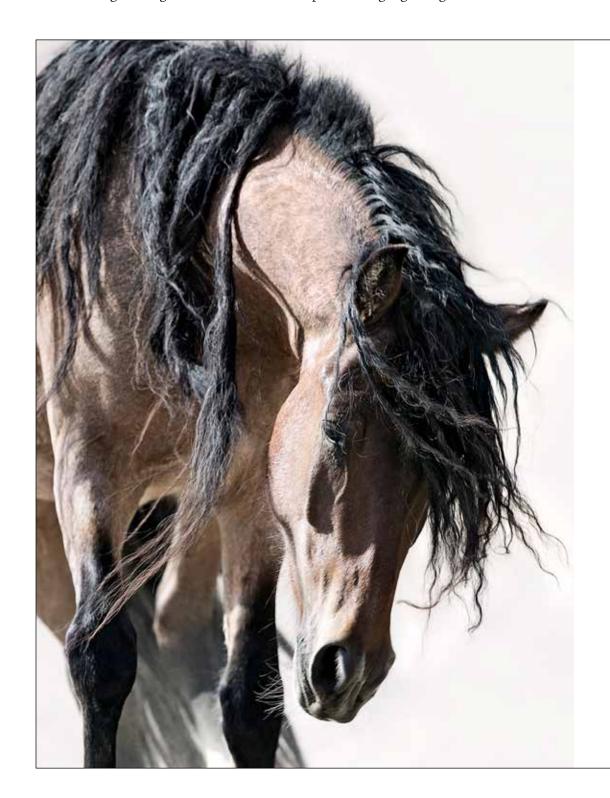
More than 100 targets will be scattered across Big Sky Resort to resemble real hunting scenarios as part of Total Archery Challenge's July 21-23 stop in Big Sky. PHOTO BY SEAN DEGREY

Saturday, July 22, Bozeman musician David Brinker will play during the evening programming that will include raffle prizes that benefit Backcountry Hunters & Anglers. A special release video by Sitka Gear will follow the music and once it is dark, participants are invited to the Nockturnal Glow and Arrow shoot. This evening course will be lit by black lights and offers a fun spin on the day's event.

Based on past attendance, DeGrey anticipates participants representing at least 20 states, as well as Canada and Mexico. The Big Sky event is the second largest of Total Archery Challenge's six archery shoots, held in locations that include Texas, Pennsylvania and Michigan.

"We're very proud to host these kinds of events," said Chelsi Moy, Big Sky Resort's public relations manager. "Participants are outside and they're experiencing our mountain. They're living big ... living big adventures."

To learn more about Total Archery Challenge Big Sky or to preregister, visit totalar-cherychallenge.com/big-sky.





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Instilling wildlife conservation and wilderness ethics at Jack Creek Preserve

Programming includes summer camps, pack trips and bow hunter education

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Twelve years ago Jon and Dottie Fossel set aside land intended as a gift to Big Sky and Ennis residents, establishing the Jack Creek Preserve and a legacy of wild land, where people can learn about wildlife, nature, conservation and hunting. Early on, Jon envisioned summer camps for kids learning about wildlife and wilderness survival, fall bow hunter's education classes, and cross-country ski trips in the winter, and his vision has been carried through.

Set amid a backdrop of 4,500 acres, bordering sections of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness and offering critical wildlife habitat, the Jack Creek Preserve is managed by the Jack Creek Preserve Foundation, which works with local schools and nonprofits to host events and offer recreational opportunities.

In addition to established hiking or skiing trails that connect to the Spanish Creek and South Jack Creek Forest Service trails, the preserve offers cabin rentals and a large campground that can host as many as 60 people at a time. There's also a public archery range with 3-D animal targets open most days from May to October. Currently, mountain biking is not available at the preserve, but JCPF director Emily Tilt said establishing mountain biking trails is on the foundation's radar.

The preserve is free and fully available to the public, however recreationists must get pre-approval and a code to access the private Jack Creek Road. Those interested in exploring the preserve can contact foundation staff and fill out appropriate waivers by calling (406) 995-7880 or emailing info@jackcreekpreserve.org

This summer, the preserve will host two youth summer camps, held July 20-23, and Aug. 3-6. The programming will focus on teaching outdoor skills and conservation, with the first camp highlighting archery and the second focused on wilderness. Participants of the first camp will have an opportunity to earn their Bow Hunter Education certificate. Campers will stay at the preserve and in addition to archery, they will be exposed to fly fishing, photography, wildlife tracking and mapping.

"So many kids don't really get outside," Tilt said. "To give them an opportunity to get outside ... that's really what we want to do."

"The original intent [in creating the preserve] was youth education, conservation, encouraging a hunting ethic," she said.

Aug. 11-13, the public is invited to come on a guided pack trip through the preserve and surrounding Lee Metcalf Wilderness with Adventures Outfitting of Ennis as the guide. Guests will ride about three hours to Shadow Lake and can spend the second day fishing, hiking or riding before coming out on the third day. As many as 10 can come on this adventure and registration is available online. As of July 14, this trip was still available.

On Aug. 23, the Jack Creek Preserve will partner with Seasonal Montana, an Ennis-based farm-to-table catering service, in hosting a farm dinner that highlights produce and meat from local farms and ranches, with wine and craft beer pairings by Vino Per Tutti and Dean's Zesty Booch.

To conclude the August programming, the foundation will offer a Bow Hunter Certification class Aug. 25-26. This class is open to anyone ages 11 and up and will teach shot placement, equipment care, and tree stand setup and safety. Participants will also learn the importance of stewardship, wildlife and natural resource management, and the hunter's role in conservation.

"The mission of the foundation is focused on creating an understanding of the relevance of hunter-based conservation," said foundation board



The Jack Creek Preserve is 4,500 acres of wildlife habitat, providing recreationists a chance to see elk, deer, marmot, weasel, black bear and grizzly in the summer months.

member Brian Benyo. "Hunters and hunting as a tool to manage wildlife was well established throughout history," he said, adding that funds raised by the hunting industry have initiated and enabled efforts to conserve and maintain many wildlife species. "[Without those efforts] we certainly wouldn't have the diversity we do of wildlife in this country,"

"We are 4,500 acres that connect to the Lee Metcalf Wilderness," Tilt said. "We want to protect [this area]. This land is truly a corridor for wildlife, all kinds of wildlife travel through here."

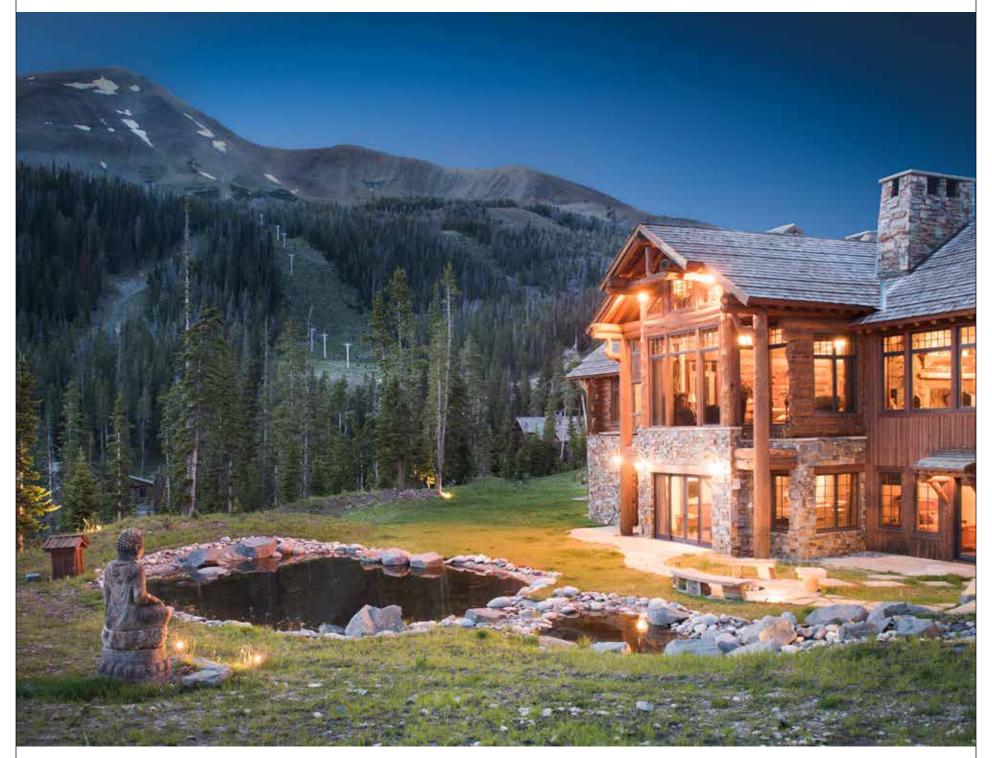
"The preserve stands as a symbol to what individuals can do to preserve wildlife," Benyo said.

Jack Creek Preserve is offering a chance at two unique hunting opportunities this year. Raffle tickets are on sale for either an archery or rifle elk hunt, which may be purchased by phone or ordered online. All orders must be received by 5 p.m. on July 31, as the drawing will be held on Aug. 1.

"It is our belief that hunting can foster a deep love and respect for the land, the wildlife it supports, and the outdoor experience," Jon says on the foundation's website. "We believe that honest, ethical hunting for free-ranging animals kindles vitality in the individual hunter, deepens appreciation of wildlife and wildlands, and strengthens society as a whole."

To learn more about the Jack Creek Preserve and any of the foundation's summer or fall programs, visit jackcreekpreserve.org.





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Big Sky Resort hosts Kids Adventure Games

Approximately 300 kids aged 6 to 14 participated in the Kids Adventure Games at Big Sky Resort July 7-9. The non-motorized, multi-discipline adventure race included hiking, biking, obstacles, zip lines and water components.

The games are intended to get kids outside and accustomed to self-sufficiency in the outdoors. "We're just trying to teach them [that] when you go on a day hike, you protect your map, you protect yourself and you have to be self-sufficient," said founder Helene Mattison of Vail, Colorado.

Mattison was inspired to produce the games on a commercial level after throwing a wildly popular birthday party for her young twins that incorporated similar concepts. "It's just a birthday party gone crazy," she said. This is the third year the Kids Adventure Games have come to Big Sky. PHOTOS BY GABE PRIESTLEY







Fire and 'hoot owl' restrictions start as summer heat sets in

EBS STAFF

In response to high water temperatures and low stream flows, several rivers in southwest Montana have been closed to fishing from 2 p.m. until midnight daily.

Known as "hoot owl" restrictions, the directive was enacted by Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks on July 19. In a July 18 press release, the agency notes that these restrictions were put into effect two weeks later in the season than the previous two years.

The following stretches of river are subject to the daily closure:

- Lower Gallatin River from its confluence with the Madison River at Three Forks to Sheds Bridge near Four Corners
- East Gallatin River from the bridge at Spring Hill Road to its confluence with the main stem of the Gallatin.
- The Lower Madison River from Ennis Dam to its mouth
- The entire Jefferson River
- Big Hole River from Saginaw Bridge on Skinner Meadows Road to the mouth of the North Fork Big Hole River
- Big Hole River from Notch Bottom Fishing Access Site to its confluence with the Beaverhead River
- Lower Beaverhead River from Anderson Lane to its confluence with the Big Hole River.

As of July 19, FWP has not enacted fire restrictions in Region 3—which includes Gallatin and Madison counties, among others—but several other regions have entered into Stage 1 fire restrictions.

Most counties in eastern Montana, which is currently experiencing significant drought, are under Stage 1 fire restrictions. Yellowstone County is under Stage 2 restrictions.

Stage 1 restrictions ban campfires except where specifically exempted and allow cooking fires on propane devices and liquid petroleum gas stoves that can be shut off. Smoking is allowed only in vehicles and areas 3 feet in diameter that have been cleared of flammable materials.

Stage 2 restrictions include all of the Stage 1 prohibitions. In addition, welding, explosives and using internal combustion engines off of established roads is banned from 1 p.m. to 1 a.m. each day. Generators used in enclosed buildings or in an area cleared of vegetation are exempted.

The restrictions are in response to dry, warm weather that could increase the danger of human-caused wildfires. FWP said they will be in effect until further notice.

FWP sites that could be impacted include fishing access sites, wildlife management areas and state parks. For questions about fire restrictions at a specific state park, check the individual park pages at stateparks.mt.gov.

For more information about fire restrictions at FWP sites, visit fwp.mt.gov and click on "restrictions and closures."





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Find out what tunes we're bumping! In Big Sky Beats, Explore Big Sky staff suggests tracks for your next playlist. Whether you need to freshen up your music library, want to expand your collection or just need some tunes for a summer trip, we've got you covered.

Sometimes you just need a feel good playlist. Something that can pick you up whenever you're feeling down in the dumps. I often turn to rap and hip-hop during these troublesome times, as many feature a cheerful beat that instantly puts me in a good mood. Even if you consider yourself someone who doesn't enjoy this type of music, I encourage you to give it a try. You might surprise yourself and find something you actually enjoy.

- "Coastin" Zion I
- "Up Up & Away" Kid Cudi
- "Good Day" Nappy Roots
- "Miss Right" Anderson .Paak
- "Sunday Candy" Donnie Trumpet and The Social Experiment
- "Good Life" Kanye West
- "Black Spiderman" Logic
- "I. Pink Toes" Childish Gambino
- "Wild Child" Lupe Fiasco
- "Hey Ya!" OutKast

American Life in Poetry: Column 643

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Here's a lovely poem that imagines the afterlife by Emily Ransdell, who divides her time between Washington and the Oregon coast. This poem appeared first in The Cortland Review.

Bowling in Heaven

By Emily Ransdell

Like newlyweds, my parents slip out of their clothes. He puts aside the sweater I chose for him, she undoes her pearls.

They rise up from their old ailments, their fears of falling, broken hips and other bad news.

Now they dance barefoot in their living room, go bowling on a whim. They garden all day without pain, calling out like songbirds, come see the hollyhocks, they have grown so tall!

Nights, they lie down like dolls and their sleepless eyes glide closed. They seem so eager for morning, I pray they will find each other again and again.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright © 2016 by Emily Ransdell, "Bowling in Heaven," from The Cortland Review, (Issue 69, 2016). Poem reprinted by permission of Emily Ransdell and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2017 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS
 "___ Abner"
 Aleutian island
- Vishnu's serpent 12 Father: Arabic
- 13 Banana genus 14 Plant of the iris family
- 15 Computer chip 16 Raw
- 18 Coptic clergyman
- 20 Defiant shout 21 Abstract being
- 25 Sputnik dog
- 29 Emery 32 One 33 Pack down
- 34 Eur. finch 36 Celsius (abbr.) 37 Husband of
- Jezebel 39 Easy job 41 Of punishment 43 Of birth
- 44 Youth 46 Benevolent and

15

- Order of Elks
- income (abbr.) 56 Spruce Husband of
- 60 Madame

DOWN

- Dayak people Sawyer ___ Darya River
- Press for payment Shak.
- contraction Kernel (pref.) Haw. island 8

Protective

- (abbr.) 49 Lade (2 words) 55 Adjusted gross
- Halcyone 58 Pitch 59 Glacial trough
- Bovary 61 Woman: obs.

Byron poem

- 11 Annex 17 Mulberry of
- India 19 S.A. herb
- 22 Explosive letters 23 Killer of Castor

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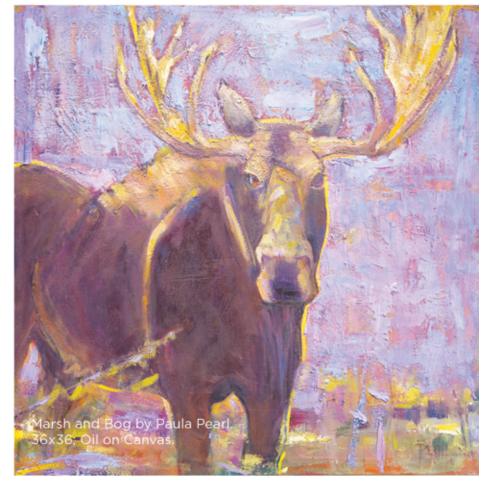


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Section 5: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT







Turnpike Troubadours, The Last Revel next up at Music in the Mountains

ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

The next two bands performing at the Arts Council's Music in the Mountains concert series couldn't be more different, yet share something in common: a rabid fan base built from energetic, rollicking live shows.

On Thursday, July 27, Oklahoma's Turnpike Troubadours help kick off Big Sky's popular PBR bull-riding event at 7 p.m. at Center Stage in Town Center Park. The Troubadours have garnered a huge following since their 2007 debut, "Bossier City." At their best, the quintet synthesizes the populist, political folk of Woody Guthrie and the outlaw-styled honky-tonk of Waylon Jennings with doses of bluegrass, Cajun, and straight-up rock.

Fronted by singer-guitarist Evan Felker and including bassist R.C. Edwards, fiddler Kyle Nix, guitarist Ryan Engleman, and drummer Gabe Pearson, the group celebrates and explores modern rural life with a full awareness of history, delicately avoiding being ornate revivalists. The band's 2015 self-titled album debuted at number three on the Billboard country charts.

"The Troubadours put on one of the best live shows around," said ACBS Executive Director Brian Hurlbut. "They have such a great sound, which will be perfect for the lead-in to the bull-riding event over the weekend."

Taking Center Stage on Thursday, Aug. 3, is Minnesota's The Last Revel. Although the band has only been around for a few years, The Last Revel has also amassed a huge following around the country for their ability to blend the folk and rockabilly, with old-time string band and rock flavors to create a sound that's as original as it is timeless. The trio utilizes their multi-instrumental abilities to bring the acoustic guitar, upright bass, fiddle, five-string banjo, harmonica, kick drum and three-part vocal harmonies together to consistently deliver "bombastic live performances," as well as delicate and haunting folk ballads.



One of the most widely-anticipated shows of the summer, the Turnpike Troubadours help kick off the Big Sky PBR festivities in their Thursday, July 27, Music in the Mountains slot at Center Stage in Town Center Park. Music begins at 7 p.m. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

Their third album, "Hazard & Fate," released in April, further demonstrates their ability to create rich and delicately textured recorded material with a modern tip-of-the-hat to the storied history of American folk music. Montana has been particularly kind to the band, having been discovered at the Red Ants Pants Music Festival a few years ago and since then playing to big crowds across the state.

"It's been fun to watch the rise of The Last Revel over the past few years," Hurlbut said. "Not only are they an amazing live band, they are super nice, humble and deserving people."



Minnesota's The Last Revel performs Thursday, Aug. 3. The band has quickly gained popularity for their instrumental versatility and engaging live performances. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

The rest of the Music in the Mountains lineup includes DeadPhish Orchestra on Aug. 10; Andy Frasco and the U.N. on Aug. 17; the Ghost of Paul Revere on Aug. 24; and Con Brio to close out the concert season on Aug. 31. The seventh annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival, with special guests the Mambo Kings, will take place Aug. 11-13, and Montana Shakespeare in the Parks will provide a free performance in Town Center Park on Sept. 1.

All Town Center Park events are free and open to the public. Contact the Arts Council of Big Sky at (406) 995-2742 or visit bigskyarts.org for more information.



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Historical themes meet cutting edge technology

The art of R. Tom Gilleon

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – With paintings that command six figures—"dead man prices" to some—and the only living artist for whom the C.M. Russell Museum has thrown a solo retrospective, it's fair to say R. Tom Gilleon is one of the most successful Western artists working today.

Gilleon, who lives with his wife, artist Laurie Stevens, on a 2,000-acre ranch southwest of Great Falls, Montana, was in town to play in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Celebrity Golf Tournament on July 10, but Big Sky's significance goes deeper than an appreciation for the area greens. It's also where what Gilleon calls the "tipi phenomenon" took hold.

Gilleon paints a wide range of subject matter, from landscapes to comic works imbued with satirical commentary, but his depictions of Native American scenes, and especially his tipis, are what his patrons clamor for.

In the late '90s, Gilleon put a canvas on the easel and painted the tipi outside his studio window.

"I kept thinking, 'This is a waste of canvas; a waste of paint; nobody in their right mind is ever going to want a painting of a tipi,'" he said.

But late Moonlight Basin founder Lee Poole picked it up and put it in the lodge's dining room.

It wasn't long before Gilleon started receiving requests for commissions. The popularity of his tipis, shrouded shelters that emanate a warm, inviting glow, made the artist take a deeper look at the structure's universal allure.

"It's deeper than just the American Indian," said Gilleon, who studied architecture in college before embarking on creative careers with NASA and Disney. "All over the world, every culture you see has some kind of pyramid."

The triangle is symbolic of mystery, an effect heightened by the artist's particular gift for rendering light.

The tipi is also quintessentially American, and representative of our inherently nomadic nature.



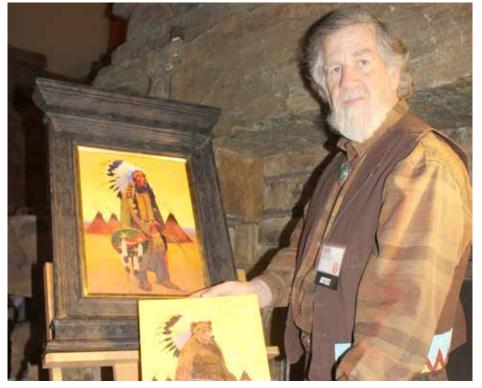
Gilleon's "Fire Wolf" is one of two Native American portraits that will be up for auction in the Big Sky Art Auction in the PBR arena tent on Thursday, July 27 from 5-7 p.m. PHOTO COURTESY OF CREIGHTON BLOCK GALLERY

Although you wouldn't know by looking at him, the tall, bearded Gilleon is one-eighth Native American.

When I floundered finding the words to ask Gilleon how he is received by other Native American artists, he didn't hesitate to fill in the blank.

"I do have blood so I understand the sensitivity there. One of my very best friends is a Blackfeet and ... he knows it's not something I take lightly. I think it's something that comes through in the art. That I don't just take a picture off Google and copy it."

Gilleon does work off of historic images, but he doesn't directly copy the drawings that appear on the tipis. Rather, he creates a stylized version of his own.



Artist R. Tom Gilleon, renowned for his depictions of Native American subject matter, performs a quick finish for a piece in the Arts Council Art Auction held at Moonlight Basin Lodge in March. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

"I change it so I don't feel like I'm taking his," Gilleon said.

Gilleon was raised in large part by his full-blooded Cherokee grandmother and Scottish grandfather, a talented cabinetmaker, in the small town of Starke, Florida.

In the 1960s being Native American was not something you drew attention to Gilleon said, but his grandmother's heritage did have an influence.

"She would take me into the woods and show me edibles, take me fishing and show me how to get the little shellfish ... basically how to survive. Everything she'd show me was 'you learn to do this so you don't have to take their goddamn cheese.' That's what I learned from her—learn to do things for yourself and don't depend on other people to do it."

Jokingly, Gilleon said the real mystery is why his grandfather was on the run from Scotland. "All of my ancestors were rebels," he said. "So it's natural that I would be too."

One way Gilleon has been a revolutionary is through his Digital Canvases, which mark an exciting shift from static, oil paintings to the realm of "moving paintings" in which a scene transitions through changing hours of day and night, weather and seasons.

The Digital Canvas series is a collaboration with inventor Marshall Monroe, who Gilleon worked with as a Walt Disney Imagineer.

Set to the gentle soundtrack of a Native American flute, "Hungry Fox Equinox" is a seamless seven-minute loop that depicts a glowing tipi in a winter landscape. The sun sets, the evening glows, a flurry of snow kicks up, smoke rises from the tipi, and the aurora borealis pulsates through the sky before the sun rises and the sequence begins again.

These digital works begin with a very basic oil painting by Gilleon that provides the brushstroke effect of an actual painting. This painting is photographed and replicated digitally to become the base layer for as many as 30 separate, digitally rendered paintings. As one of these digital paintings fades away, another slowly takes its place, creating the illusion of movement.

Gilleon is currently working on another digital canvas featuring Cascade County's Square Butte, also the subject of many Charlie Russell paintings.

"Suppose you could go back and you could ask Charlie Russell—and instantly make him as computer savvy as he is with oil. ... Would he pick [painting] where he could only get one horse leg up in the air, or would he [have it] move throughout the entire day and tell the whole story?"

Gilleon would bank on the latter—and has—but would never give up painting with oils, either.

"I hope at some stage in the near future I can draw and paint the way I did [when I was a child], where every brushstroke I made was absolutely right—it was probably horrible-looking but it was all me, and there was never a doubt. Financially I'm able to do it now, but can I actually get back to that freedom? I think Picasso did, and I really hope I can too."

East meets West in Paul Brigham's multimedia landscapesNew solo exhibition opens Aug. 1 at Gallatin River Gallery

EBS STAFF

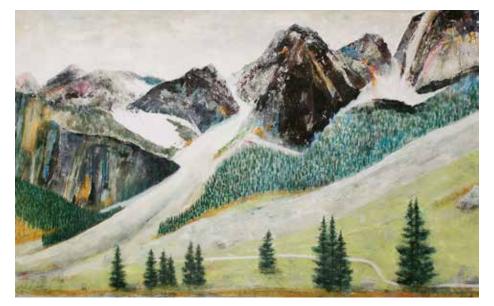
A solo exhibition of new work by multimedia artist Paul Brigham opens at Big Sky's Gallatin River Gallery on Aug. 1, and runs through Sept. 30. "Mineral Kingdom," Brigham's eighth show at GRG, will showcase new mountain landscapes and abstracted wildlife art in the artist's Asian-influenced style.

Intuitively layering texture and color to create a sense of timelessness, Brigham's art appeals to a wide audience, as the pieces are not location specific, but utilize broad strokes to capture the universal spirit of the natural world. Inspired by Asian paintings, Zen gardens, and backpacking in the Sierra and Rocky mountains, Brigham renders natural

mountain landscapes with a perspective uniquely his own.

Born and raised in rural New England, Brigham took his first art class at age 4 and spent his childhood drawing birds and people. Brigham grew up surrounded by traditional Asian paintings of birds, flowers and landscapes, and an authentic Japanese garden, and he developed an interest in Asian arts and Eastern philosophy early in life.

While studying at the University of Massachusetts in the '70s, Brigham was captivated by photographs of the West, and left school to take a journey that would lead him to Yosemite National Park. He worked in the park for several years before settling in the Bay Area, where he currently resides.



Large-scale landscapes by multimedia artist Paul Brigham will be featured in a solo exhibition entitled "Mineral Kingdom," opening at Gallatin River Gallery in Big Sky on Aug. 1. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GALLERY

Today, Brigham's paintings continue to reflect the influence of his early years, especially in pieces that juxtapose realistically painted wildlife with abstracted backgrounds. Brigham achieves this effect through a combination of silk-screened images, mark-making and blocks of color arranged to mimic the everchanging natural world and the physical and spiritual dimensions of landscape.

Brigham's technique consists of layering paint and silk-screened images and then using sandpaper to partially reveal previous layers. This technique not only contributes to the depth and texture of the surface, but is suggestive of the ephemeral nature of life.

"I strive to balance the expressive and venturous quality of abstract expressionism with the calming serenity of traditional Asian paintings," Brigham wrote in an artist statement.

Although Brigham has received formal training in the arts, he largely considers himself self-taught, preferring to learn from direct observation and experience of the world around him. Brigham was one of the first artists represented by Gallatin River Gallery, now approaching 18 years of business in Big Sky.

Gallatin River Gallery is located at 114 Ousel Falls Road in Big Sky. Visit gallatinrivergallery.com or call (406) 259-2909 for more information.

Lotus Pad 'Rocks the Wok' on Thursday nights

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – When Big Sky's Lotus Pad moved to 47 Town Center Ave., not only did they get an upgrade in terms of chic ambience, but they also more than doubled their square footage. So why not turn that added floor space into a dance floor one night a week?

Since the end of June, Lotus Pad has been hosting weekly live music under the catchy event name "Rock the Wok." The shows begin between 10 and 10:30 p.m. every Thursday following the Music in the Mountains concert in Town Center Park. A different act is featured each week.

"When the Lotus Pad moved into the new, larger space in January, we knew that hosting band nights was going to be a priority for the summer," said manager Cara Lindeman, who has experience in event planning and is spearheading the restaurant's events and promotions.

"Plus I love live music!" she said.

Deciding to host weekly live music was inspired by the success and popularity of the band nights at the old Bluebird Cafe, a one-time local hot spot once owned by Lotus Pad owner Alex Omania.

"Alex and I wanted to do it again now that the Lotus Pad has more space and dancing room," Lindeman said. "So far, the community has been very receptive with great turn outs and lots of dancing."

The bands featured are mostly regional acts representing a wide range of musical genres from funk to reggae to garage rock. But Lindeman said they all have one thing in common: their music is upbeat and danceable.

There are still five more opportunities to "Rock the Wok" before the series concludes on Aug. 31. On July 27, Hogan and Moss, a folk-punk band from Texas will keep the energy flowing with original songs that weave together old Delta soul, gypsy swing and gospel blues and are delivered with passion, speed and drive.

On Aug. 3, Bozeman funk and reggae outfit Left on Tenth will play, and on Aug. 10, The Salamanders, a garage country rock band, also from Bozeman, take the stage.

Aug. 17 brings In Walks Bud, an area reggae-rock band; Swamp Dawgs heat things up with their southern soul and New Orleans-style funk on Aug. 24; and closing out the series on Aug. 31 is King Ropes with their brand of psychedelic hard-country roots rock.

Lindeman said she's been excited for every band but there is one group she's been particularly looking forward to.

"They're all so different," Lindeman said. "Each week is a fresh sound. But if I had to pick one in particular, it would be The Salamanders—I've wanted to see them for a long time."

Visit lotuspadbigsky.com for more information.

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\$315,000 | #218508 | Call Don

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FOURPOINT RD, ANTLER RIDGE LOT \$240,000 | #214051 | Call Don

.35± acre ridge lot, great building site, views of Lone Mtn, Yellow Mtn, and canyon. One of the first lots sold when initially offered, rolling hillside topography with community W/S.



MEADOW VILLAGE DR UNIT C \$395,000 | #218809 | Call Don

Commercial Condo in Big Sky Meadow Village! Nice 1,000± sf office condo in the First Security Bank Building. Lease option available, co-listed with Fred Bell Real Estate.



\$215,000 | #220805 | Call Stacy or Eric

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Arts Council presents weekend painting workshops Aug. 5-6

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY - The Arts Council of Big Sky is offering two weekend painting workshops Aug. 5-6, led by established Western artists Michael Untiedt and Nancy and Morgan Cawdrey.

Untiedt, a Denver-based oil painter, will lead a plein air workshop entitled "Working on Site;" and Nancy Cawdrey and her son, Morgan, will lead a silk-painting class. Both workshops will be held at Ophir Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Untiedt's two-day workshop will entail one day of painting in the outdoors, followed by a day in the studio to complete the work started the day prior. Untiedt will be painting in oils, but participants are welcome to paint in any medium.

An expert at "nocturnes," or moonlit scenes, Untiedt's depictions of the West—sagging barns, spirited cowboys, aging mountain men and dramatic skies—exude a luminous timelessness. His paintings often draw from memories growing up on the sweeping prairielands of southeastern Colorado. Untiedt is an award-winning artist and experienced teacher with a playfully philosophical bent. His works are represented in galleries and museums around the country. He's also participated in the Arts Council's annual art auction.

"My role as art instructor is to help each artist find their 'path of best steps' to creating art," Untiedt said. "[And] building on personal strengths to develop an individualized creative voice. ... My teaching is directed toward individualized guidance based on individual learner needs."



Mother-son artists Nancy and Morgan Cawdrey teach various silk-painting techniques in one of two weekend-long workshops being offered through the Arts Council on Aug. 5-6. PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY CAWDREY GALLERY & STUDIO

"Silk Painting" will be a fun, exploratory class led by multidisciplinary artists Nancy and Morgan Cawdrey. Nancy is a signature member of the Montana Watercolor Society, and her work is exhibited in many private and corporate collections across the country and in Europe. She maintains a gallery with her son, Morgan, in Bigfork, Montana

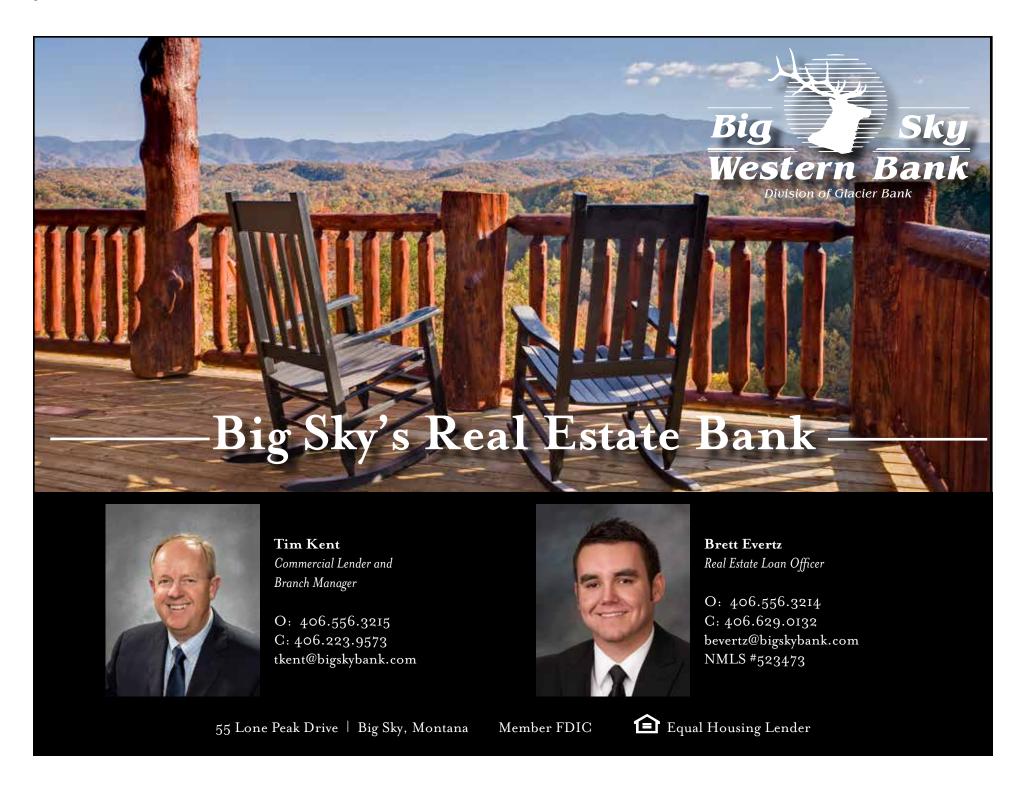
The Cawdreys will present short demonstrations of a variety of ancient and modern silk painting techniques including gold and clear "gutta resist," "no flow" technique, wet-on-wet, dry brush, washes, detailing, and more. Participants will leave with at least two finished, frame-ready pieces. The workshop is open to artists of all levels.

"I took this two-day class at Nancy's studio in Bigfork earlier this month," said Arts Council Secretary Linda Goldinger. "[It

was] so much fun! Silk painting has been done in Asia for centuries and has been big in Europe for years, but it's still somewhat of a phenomenon in the world of Western art."

A welcoming reception for class participants and artists will be held Friday, Aug. 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. Both workshops will take place Aug. 5-6 at the Ophir Elementary School in Big Sky. All levels of experience are welcome, but participants must be at least 16 years of age.

For more information and to register call the Arts Council at (406) 995-2742 or visit bigskyarts.org.





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Lucinda Williams, Bellamy Brothers to headline Red Ants Pants Music Festival

RED ANTS PANTS FOUNDATION

July 27-30 marks the seventh year of the popular White Sulphur Springs, Montana, music festival that benefits the Red Ants Pants Foundation, a nonprofit in support of women's leadership, working farms and ranches, and rural communities.

Held in a cow pasture on the Jackson Ranch, and surrounded by the Big Belt, Little Belt and Castle mountain ranges, the festival will bring in more than two dozen different artists performing on separate stages. The weekend-long, grassroots, honky-tonkin' music festival brings in millions of dollars to the rural economy. Last year's festival drew a record 16,000 attendees.

This year's lineup includes The Bellamy Brothers, Lucinda Williams, Asleep at the Wheel, Shooter Jennings and the Waymore's Outlaws, Turnpike Troubadours, Parker Millsap, and an exciting host of Americana legends and rising stars.

A side stage lineup will showcase another 14 artists from around the country, among them Christy Hays, Ferdinand the Bull, Izaak Opatz, Old Sap, Sarah Burton, The Lucky Valentines and Zoë Nutt and The Union.

"We're thrilled about the depth and range of this year's lineup," said Red Ants Pants Music Festival Founder and Producer Sarah Calhoun. "It is truly an incredible group of Americana's favorite legends as well as some of the most exciting rising stars in music today."

The festival is also proud of their carefully curated lineup of food and craft vendors. This year's festival features more than 60 booths offering quality craftsmanship, one-of-a-kind artwork, delicious fare made with fresh, homegrown ingredients, craft brews and more.



The Red Ants Pants Festival returns to Jackson Ranch outside of White Sulphur Springs, Montana July 27-30. Headliners at this celebration of rural Montana include Lucinda Williams and the Bellamy Brothers. PHOTO BY FRIX PETERSEN

The Red Ants Pants Music Festival was founded in 2011 and designed to bring people together in a celebration of rural Montana. As the festival heads into its seventh year, organizers are aiming to spotlight the values and the mission of the Red Ants Pants Foundation.

The proceeds from the festival fund the foundation's grant cycle and run its timber skills and women's leadership programming. Proceeds from the festival have helped create more than \$85,000 in grants to support rural communities, working family farms and ranches, and women's leadership projects.

Visit redantspantsmusicfestival.com for more information.



'Charged: The Eduardo Garcia Story' screens at The Ellen

IMPLEMENT PRODUCTIONS

"Charged: The Eduardo Garcia Story" screens at the Ellen Theatre in downtown Bozeman at 5:30 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 5. Each screening will be followed by a Q&A with the entire cast and crew. An afterparty will be held upstairs at the Eagles Club, located at 316 E. Main St.

Directed by Bozeman filmmaker Philip Baribeau, "Charged" chronicles the lifechanging journey of chef and outdoorsman Eduardo Garcia. Garcia was shocked by 2400 volts of electricity after touching the carcass of a bear with the tip of his knife while hiking in the backcountry of Montana's Paradise Valley.



'Charged: The Eduardo Garcia Story' is an unflinching account of a Montana chef's triumphant return from near-death to the redemption he found on the road to recovery. PHOTO BY PHILLIP BARIBEAU

Garcia lost his hand, ribs, muscle mass and nearly his life, but more important than what he lost is what he found. Through sheer resilience, his former partner, Jennifer Jane, nursed Garcia back to health and he learned to embrace his past, his family and his future.

A survival and love story unlike any other, "Charged" tells Garcia's remarkable journey from getting up off the forest floor to becoming the man he is today.

The Ellen Theatre is located at 17 W. Main St. in downtown Bozeman. Visit theellentheatre.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



Summer is flying by in Big Sky country. And now we wait with bated breath forspruce moths to pop. If you had to put two hatches head to head on the Gallatin for a heavy weight match no doubt you'd find salmonflies and spruce moths in the ring.

What spruce moths lack in size compared to salmonflies they make up for in numbers and trout desirability. Trout can't help themselves when these powdery morsels hit the water. And what's better is the patterns that imitate them tend to float well and are easy for anglers to see.

It's hard to say if the hatch this year will be another great one, but based on the trend the last couple of years we are hoping for the best. The moths are not aquatic, but because of their interest in evergreens and clumsy nature they

tend to find themselves trapped on the water's surface in large quantities starting in late July through late August some years. They tend to be more airborne in the morning, so that is the ideal time to take advantage of the fishing. That being said, trout have a hard time denying a well placed presentation any time of the day when they're present.

Below are some tips to increase your odds.

Have a variety of patterns at your disposal. At the beginning of the hatch fish will usually eat anything that is light colored and bushy. But after getting hooked a few times they tend to get a bit more selective. Don't get caught up on just spruce moth specific patters.

Some of the best patterns are designed to imitate light colored caddis. Size also tends to decrease as the hatch progresses from 12-14 in the beginning to 14-16 towards the end of the hatch.

Use powdered floatant. I'm a huge fan of the brush on style, but the shake style powdered floatants work great as well. Apply the powder before the initial cast and continue applying to keep your fly floating high and dry. Fish will eat a sunk moth for sure, but it's hard to set the hook when you don't see the fish eat your fly.

Look for sections of river that are lined with evergreens. You want to be in areas where fish are seeing moths with frequency. A large meadow that is far from evergreens will unlikely be the place to be. Steep canyon walls that are lined with evergreens are often the best.

The spruce moth hatch is not limited to the Gallatin. You'll find them on the upper Madison, upper Yellowstone and many small creeks in the area.

Rivers are busy this time of year, so please be considerate of others. A little kind conversation can go a long way with fellow river users.

Tight lines and wet hands.













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EVENTS CALENDAR

PLANNING AN EVENT? LET US KNOW! EMAIL MEDIA@THEOUTLAWPARTNERS.COM, AND WE'LL SPREAD THE WORD.

FRIDAY, JULY 21-**THURSDAY, AUGUST 3**

*If your event falls between **August 4 and August 17, please** submit it by July 28

Big Sky

FRIDAY, JULY 21

Total Archery Challenge Big Sky Resort, all day

Lauren Regnier Rainbow Ranch, 5 p.m.

Grand Opening Block Party Big Sky Real Estate Company, 5 p.m.

Running Lungs Run 45465 Gallatin Road Trail and Lone Mountain Trail, 5 p.m.

Sugar Daddies Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

Chet's Beer Dinner Chet's Restaurant, 7 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 22

Total Archery Challenge Big Sky Resort, all day

Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 12 p.m.

Junior Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 3 p.m.

12th Annual Brewfest Big Sky Resort, 4 p.m.

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

The Crossing with Gavin Bryars WMPAC, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 23 Total Archery Challenge

Big Sky Resort, all day

Wyatt Hurts Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

ONDAY, JULY 24

Community Yoga for Cause Town Center Stage, 11 a.m.

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all night

Monday Funday 320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Wyatt Hurts Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

Women's Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

History Hike Crail Ranch Trail, 10 a.m.

Community Lunch First Security Bank, 11:30 a.m.

Top Shelf Toastmasters Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m. Children's Summer Reading: Recycle Rob Big Sky Community Library, 4 p.m.

House Plants: Care and Propagation Big Sky Landscaping Garden Center, 5:30 p.m.

Wine Tuesdays Carabiner, all evening

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26PBR Rider Relief Golf Tournament Moonlight Reserve Golf Course, 12:30 p.m.

Children's Summer Reading: Build a Better World Big Sky Community Library, 4 p.m.

BBQ and Wagon Rides 320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Farmers' Market Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

Big Sky Community Barn Dance PBR Arena, 6 p.m.

Lone Peak Anime Club Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 27

Big Sky Art Auction PBR Arena, 5 p.m.

Music in the Mountains PBR Kickoff Party: Turnpike Troubadours Town Center Stage, 7 p.m.

Hogan and Moss Lotus Pad, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 28

SAV & E1 Ribbon Cutting SAV, 3 p.m.

Big Sky PBR PBR Arena, 5 p.m.

Jon Parvin Rainbow Ranch, 5 p.m.

Tom Marino Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

Big Sky PBR After Party: James McMurtry SAV Stage, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

The Yoga of Sound: Mantras and Santosha Wellness, 9 a.m.

Learn about Bear Habitats Black Diamond Trail, 10 a.m.

Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 12 p.m.

Junior Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 3 p.m.

Big Sky PBR PBR Arena, 5 p.m.

Mandy Rowden Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

The Crossing with Guest Conducting **Fellows** WMPAC, 7 p.m.

Big Sky PBR After Party: Jamie McLean SAV Stage, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Wyatt Hurts Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 31

Community Yoga for Cause Town Center Stage, 11 a.m.

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all night

Monday Funday 320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Wyatt Hurts Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 1 Women's Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Wildflower & Weed Hike Ousel Falls, 10 a.m.

Top Shelf Toastmasters Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m.

Fairy Gardens & Terrariums Big Sky Landscaping Garden Center, 5:30 p.m.

Wine Tuesdays Carabiner, all evening

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

BBQ and Wagon Rides 320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Farmers' Market Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

Lone Peak Anime Club Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

Parks Committee Meeting BSCO Office, 5:30 p.m.

Music in the Mountains: The Last Revel Town Center Stage, 7 p.m.

Locksaw Cartel Lotus Pad, 10 p.m.

Bozeman

FRIDAY, JULY 21

WaterWorks: Cattail Dry Creek Schoolhouse, all day through July 30

Big Sky Country State Fair Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all day

Wilderness Walk Sunlight Meadows, all day

Crazy Days Sidewalk Sale Downtown, 10 a.m.

Sweetwater String Band Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 22

Big Sky Country State Fair Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all day

Young Explorers Program Gallatin History Museum, 11 a.m.

Crazy Days Sidewalk Sale Downtown, 10 a.m.

Left on Tenth Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

3 p.m.

Big Sky Country State Fair Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all day

Montana Raptor Conservation Center,

Erin & The Project Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 24 Bill Price

Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 25 Hops & History

Living History Farm, 5:30 p.m.

Weston Lewis Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

The Hero Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

Film Slam Emerson Cultural Center, 6 p.m.

Comedy Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7:30 p.m.

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Tim Montana and the Shrednecks Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 27

Weatherwood Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Garden & Home Tour Emerson Cultural Center, 4 p.m.

Ray Bonneville Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

Garden & Home Tour Emerson Cultural Center, all day

SUNDAY, JULY 30 Ecosystem talks: Raptors and Rivers Montana Raptor Conservation Center, 3 p.m.

Thermal Grass Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 31

Maddie Kelly & Lucas Mace Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

Whitney Rose Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

Sweet Pea Chalk on the Walk Downtown, all day

Tails & Trails dog hikes Dee-O-Gee, 5 p.m.

Jill Cohn Lockhorn Ciderhouse, 7 p.m.

Jason Eady Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 Sweet Pea's Bite of

Bozeman Downtown, 5:30 p.m.

Seasonal Montana Dinner Gallatin Valley Botanical, 6:30 p.m.

The Outlaw Josey Wales Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Bozeman Running Film Festival Downtown, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

Wilderness Walk Crater Lake, all day

Local Food Conservation Tour GVLT, 5:30 p.m.

The Seeker Ellen Theatre, 8:30 p.m.

Wood & Wire Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS:

Bridger Mountain Big Band Eagles Lodge, Sundays at 7 p.m.

Open Mic Night The Haufbrau, Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays at 10 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, Mondays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.

Mobile Mondays Emerson Cultural Center, Mondays at 11 a.m.

Bozeman Public Library, Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. Bogert Farmers' Market

Free Yoga for All

Bogert Park, Tuesdays at 5 p.m. Cribbage Night Eagles Lodge, Tuesdays at 6:25 p.m.

Rocking R Bar, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Old Time Bluegrass Pub 317, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Karaoke Bar IX, Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

Lunch on the Lawn Emerson Cultural Center, Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Bozeman's Original Pub Trivia Pub 317, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Rocking R Bar, Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

Red Tractor Pizza, Thursdays at 7 p.m. Music on Main Downtown, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Bluegrass Night

Once Upon a Mattress Ellen Theatre, Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.

Eagles Lodge, Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.

Pickelball Southside Tennis Courts, Fridays at 9 a.m.

Eagles Lodge, Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, Fridays at 7 p.m.

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Haynes Pavilion, Gallatin County Fairgrounds, Saturdays at 9 a.m.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Livingston & Paradise Valley

FRIDAY, JULY 21

Summerfest Miles Band Shell Park, all afternoon Quenby Landorio Duo Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

The Black Lillies Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Marty Haggard Music Ranch Montana, 7:30 p.m.

Stephen Sondheim's Company Dulcie Theatre, 8 p.m.

Russ Nassett & the Revelators Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 22

Aran Buzzas Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Reconnecting Roots Music Ranch Montana, 7:30 p.m.

Stephen Sondheim's Company Dulcie Theatre, 8 p.m.

Way Station Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Russ Nassett & the Revelators Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

Keith Scott Blues Brunch Pine Creek Lodge, 11 a.m.

Stephen Sondheim's Company Dulcie Theatre, 3 p.m.

Calypso Vinyl Night Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

Keith Scott Blues Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 24

Doc Tari Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

Beer for a Cause Katabatic Brewing, all night

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

Park County Fair Park County Fairgrounds, all day Livingston Farmers' Market Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

Mandy Rowden Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m. **THURSDAY, JULY 27** Park County Fair Park County Fairgrounds, all day

Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Mandy Rowden & Quenby Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

For God & Country Music Ranch Montana. 7:30 p.m.

Monica Rizzio Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Park County Fair Park County Fairgrounds, all day

Downtown Livingston, 5:30 p.m.

Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

The Young Dubliners Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Tim Montana and the Shrednecks Old Saloon, Emigrant, 8 p.m.

Stephen Sondheim's Company Dulcie Theatre, 8 p.m.

Polly O'Keary and the Rhythm Method Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Justin Case Band Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

Park County Fair Park County Fairgrounds, all day

Stephen Sondheim's Company Dulcie Theatre, 8 p.m.

Hawthorne Roots Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Justin Case Band Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Park County Fair Park County Fairgrounds, all day

Livingston Cemetery Walk Mountain View Cemetery, 1 p.m.

Claudia and Friends Chico Saloon, 3 p.m.

Stephen Sondheim's Company Dulcie Theatre, 3 p.m.

CD Woodbury Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

Two Story Ranch Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Michael Charles Chico Saloon, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 31 Jill Cohn

Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

Fly Fishing Fair Park High School, all day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

Fly Fishing Fair Park High School, all day

Erin & The Project Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

Livingston Farmers' Market Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

The Swingley Jazz Project Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 3 Fly Fishing Fair Park High School, all day

Livingston Hoot Main Street, 4 p.m.

Darryl Worley Music Ranch Montana, 7:30 p.m.

Ghost Town Blues Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

West Yellowstone

FRIDAY, JULY 21 Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Stars Over Yellowstone Madison Campground, 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 22 Kids in the Park Pioneer Park, 10 a.m.

Yellowstone Historic Center Annual Heritage Celebration Union Pacific Dining Hall, 5 p.m.

Hawthorne Roots Pioneer Park, 6 p.m. Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Stars Over Yellowstone Madison Campground, 10:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 25 Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY. JULY 26 Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY. JULY 27 Speak for Wolves Conference Union Pacific Dining Lodge, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 28 Speak for Wolves Conference Union Pacific Dining Lodge, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 29 Speak for Wolves Conference Union Pacific Dining Lodge, all day

Shakespeare in the Parks: Macbeth West Yellowstone School Football Field, 6 p.m.

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 Yellowstone Historic Center, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3 Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Ennis

FRIDAY, JULY 21 Maita & the American West Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 22 10th Annual Madison Marathon Gravelly Range Road, 8:30 a.m.

Cowboy Poetry Night Bear Creek School House, 5:30 p.m.

Paul Lee Kupfer Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Larry Gibson Bale of Hay Saloon, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 23

Mandy Rowden Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26 Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market

Ennis High School, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 28 Eryn Bent Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Bale of Hay Saloon, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 29Ghosts of the Madison Mule Deer Foundation Banquet Ennis Rodeo Grounds, 5 p.m.

Todd Green Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Bob Weber Bale of Hay Saloon, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Butte Magic Elling House, Virginia City, 3 p.m.

Weston Lewis Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market Ennis High School, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3 Business After Hours Berkshire Hathaway Building, 5 p.m.





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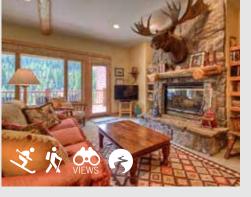
. FIND YOUR. PERFECT PROPERTY

BIG SKY • MOONLIGHT BASIN • SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB • YELLOWSTONE CLUB • SKI, GOLF, & FISHING PROPERTIES



LOT 60, LOOKING GLASS ROAD, MEADOW VILLAGE

Beautiful, flat .3 acre homesite * Looking Glass neighborhood of Meadow Village* Beautiful views to the Spanish Peaks and Lone Mountain* Sewer & Water District* Ideal location close to Town Center amenities. * \$275,000 * MLS 300099



LONE MOOSE MEADOWS CONDO, **UNIT 203**

2BR/2BA one level private, brookside location * Beautifully maintained with designer furnishings and notable touches * Large covered deck* 1 car garage with two storage units * Ski-in/ Ski-out in winter * Easy access to Meadow or Mountain * Great rental history and just the right size for a mountain property. * \$569,000 * MLS 300475



ULERY'S LAKE LOT 17 -MOONLIGHT BASIN

20 acres with stunning views and ownership of approximately 1/2 of the lake and shoreline *Plus access to the smaller lake to the east side of the lot *So a home can be situated between two stunning lakes *Access drive has been roughed in *Shared 500 acre private, gated community *Deeded access to the private Jack Creek Road

*\$1,350,000. *MLS 215952



MILL CREEK RANCH - MOONLIGHT BASIN

Not all backyards are created equal: HUNT, FISH, SKI * 2,636 +/- * The LARGEST tract of land available in Moonlight Basin* Multiple homesites and one existing home* Magnificent views * No covenants* No HOA * Unparalleled privacy *Abuts the Lee Metcalf Wilderness* Deeded access through the gated Jack Creek Road to Big Sky or Ennis * Co-listed with Swan Land* \$18,750,000. Virtual tour online * MLS 205504





Stacy Ossorio, Broker C: 406.539.8553 stacy.ossorio@gmail.com Eric Ossorio, Broker C: 406.539.9553 eric.ossorio@gmail.com

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Sweet Pea Festival celebrates 40 years

EBS STAFF

The Sweet Pea Festival is a three-day festival of the arts held in downtown Bozeman the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday in August. This year's Lindley Park programming kicks off late in the afternoon Friday, Aug. 4 with a performance by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks; Saturday ramps up with a children's run and parade that lead the community to the park where the festivities continue through 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6.

The weekend entertainment comes in many forms including music of all genres, performances by local theatre and dance troupes, workshops, family-friendly entertainment and activities, a flower show, a beer and wine garden featuring Montana microbrews, and more than 100 arts and crafts vendors offering unique, handcrafted goods.

The week leading up to the Sweet Pea Festival also offers an abundance of free community events. The Sweet Pea juried art show is on display at the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture through Sept. 1. The show will feature a diverse collection of artwork from Montana artists, ranging from watercolor and oil paintings to sculptural works.

Artists of all skill levels converge on Main Street on the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 1, for Chalk on the Walk, where kids, adults and professionals decorate the downtown Bozeman sidewalks between Grand and Broadway. Professional chalk artists Bill Spiess and Raquel Mayer will be creating works of art in front of U.S. Bank.

More than 40 area restaurants and food vendors will showcase their offerings on Main Street during the Bite of Bozeman on Wednesday, Aug. 2 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 3, brings The Sweet Groovalicious Funk Machine to the Music on Main stage for a full-on '70s dance party beginning at 6:30 p.m. Immediately following Music on Main, Sweet Pea presents a free screening of "The Seeker" at the Ellen Theatre. The film highlights the band Cloud Cult, which will close out the Main Stage Sunday afternoon at Lindley Park.

The Sweet Pea Run, Children's Run and Sweet Pea Parade all take place the morning of Saturday, Aug. 5.

Music, dance, theatre and family stage performances are ongoing at Lindley Park from 4-10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, and 11 a.m. -7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6.



More than 40 area restaurants and food vendors will showcase their offerings on Main Street during the Bite of Bozeman on Wednesday, Aug. 2 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. PHOTOS BY WESLEY WHITE

Admission to events leading up to festival weekend is free. Admission to the events in Lindley Park requires the purchase of an admission wristband, with children six and under admitted free.

The Sweet Pea Festival is a registered nonprofit. All money raised beyond what is needed to operate the festival is given back to the community in the form of grants for the arts, art education and special projects in the Bozeman area.

With the success of the 2016 festival, Sweet Pea was able to give grants to eight local non-profit organizations including the Children's Museum and Eagle Mount, and sponsorships to six arts organizations such as Pecha Kucha, the Bozeman Film Society and SLAM, which hosts it annual Summer Festival concurrently with Sweet Pea in Bozeman's Bogert Park.

"There is never too much art to be had!" writes Sweet Pea executive director Kris Olenicki. "All for one, art for all!"

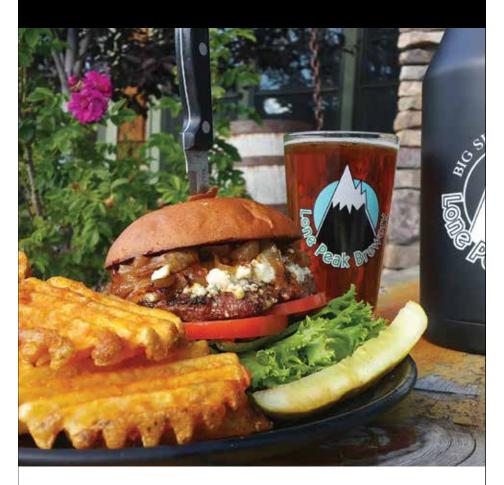
Visit sweetpeafestival.org for a full schedule of events.



A dozen musical acts, as well as performances by local theatre and dance troupes will grace the main stage of the Sweet Pea Festival between Aug. 4-6.

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The American West has produced some of the most thoughtful and moving literature in U.S. history. Read on and enjoy the Cowboy's Quill: insight into the best writers, books and poetry this side of the Mississippi.

Literary podcasts:Modern aural tradition

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

The spoken word and the written word are not as distinct as one might imagine. Most of our great epic poems, "The Epic of Gilgamesh," "The Iliad," "The Odyssey," "The Aeneid," "Beowulf," were meant to be recited and heard. The aural quality of the spoken word is more primordial than words on a page.

Occasionally, I listen to books on tape, or actually I listen to them on an app called Audible. But I still prefer the old-fashioned way. There's something about being able to read at your own pace, the tactile satisfaction of turning the page, the ability to re-read sentences and passages, or maybe just being able to throw the book itself on the shelf—like a trophy hunter mounting horns to his wall.

Let me walk that claim back. Sometimes a good book being read by a talented narrator using different character voices, intonations and timbres can make a road trip go by effortlessly. Without the need to focus on the letters of the page, the mind is unencumbered, the imagination freer to wonder, unhindered by any task besides listening, and perhaps staying in your lane.

Not only have I been listening to books, but there are also a few literary podcasts in our region that continue to impress me and keep me informed about the best writers in our region. Montana Public Radio has two programs that are stellar: "The Write Question" and "Reflections West" are weekly podcasts that delve into the thoughts of writers and scholars of the American West.

"Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers" has only a few podcasts, but they are all fascinating, in-depth interviews with some up-and-coming writers. Wyoming Public Radio, in collaboration with the MFA program at the University of Wyoming, just started a podcast called "Spoken Words" that has plenty of potential.

But if you're going to listen to just one literary podcast produced west of the 98th meridian, download a few episodes of "The Last Best Stories." Produced by Jule Banville, a professor at the University of Montana School of Journalism where she teaches audio storytelling, these podcasts always seem to be of superior quality. The first one I listened to, about the town of Pray, Montana, being for sale for a half million dollars got me hooked. At around 20 minutes for each episode, they are easily consumable and always captivating.

People like to say that Montana is a small town with long roads. Well, it just so happens that those long roads are the perfect place to listen to podcasts and learn more about this small town we call home. Whether "The Last Best Stories" is discussing historical Montana and modernday Montana, here is proof that the art of storytelling is alive and well in the Treasure State, and you don't need to crack a book to hear tales worth listening to.

Doug Hare is the Distribution Director for Outlaw Partners. He studied philosophy and American literature at Princeton and Harvard universities.



Between the Shelves

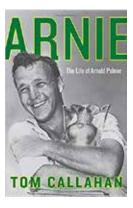
BY AMY HUNTER ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

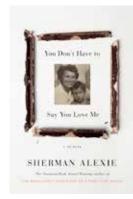
People are fascinating. One of the things that draws us to books is the ability to delve into another perspective, experience and life. The library has an impressive collection of biographies and memoirs that let us do exactly that.

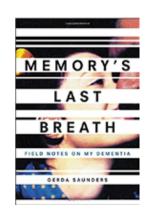
To reach the biography and memoir section of the library, turn right and walk past the turnstile of paperback books until you run into the bookshelf on the wall. Turn around and the shelves behind you are full of biographies and memoirs, from Thomas Jefferson to Barack Obama, from the Wright brothers to Warren Miller. There's a book about someone of interest for everyone.

Our new titles include "Arnie: the Life of Arnold Palmer" by Tom Callahan, "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me" by Sherman Alexie, and "Memory's Last Breath: Field Notes on my Dementia" by Gerda Saunders.

The biographies and memoirs for kids are at the end of the wall with the chapter books on the left. Kids can read about pioneer computer coder Grace Hopper, piano inventor Bartolomeo Cristofori, and Malala Yousafzia, who is fighting for girls' rights around the world. Come to the library to learn about amazing new people.









Remove mud, water, and vegetation from your gear and clean with water and a stiff brush. There is no need for chemicals.



Drain any water from your equipment (including bait buckets) at your access point. Use a sponge for items that can't be drained.



Dry your equipment thoroughly. The longer you keep your waders and other equipment outside and in the hot sun between trips, the better.

You can keep the Gallatin River healthy















Big Sky

83± acre recreational parcel w/ Gallatin River frontage, which flows into a large stocked pond. Main house, guest house, caretakers quarters & historic barn. Within minutes of Town Center.

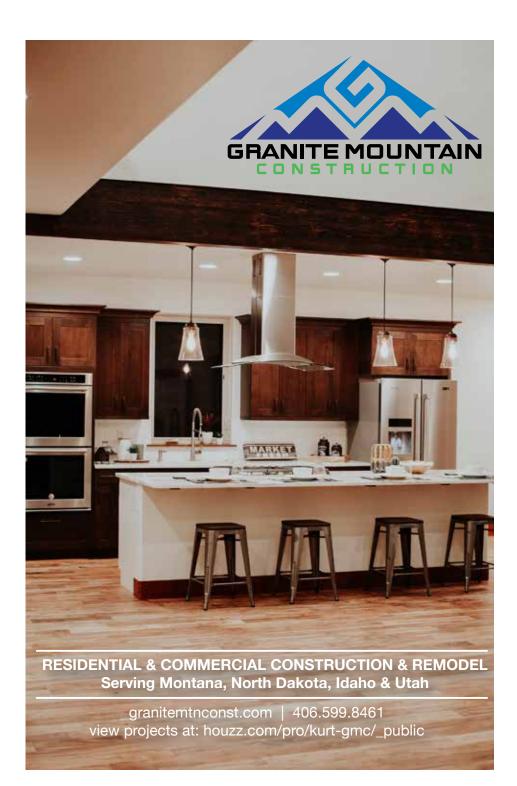


Bridger Canyon

40.24± acres, 4 bd, 8 ba, 10,923± sf home, 5 fireplaces, wine room, home theater, bar, incredible craftsmanship and attention to detail.



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BIG SKY'S BIGGEST WEEK

M U S I C * L I N E U P

WEDNESDAY

7.26

THURSDAY

7.27

FRIDAY

7.28

SATURDAY

7.29

BIG SKY'S HOMETOWN HOEDOWN

FREE LESSONS, FIDDLE MUSIC & DANCE CALLS FEATURING: THE BEET TOPS
PBR ARENA, 6-10PM

TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS

FREE ADMISSION TOWN CENTER STAGE, 7PM

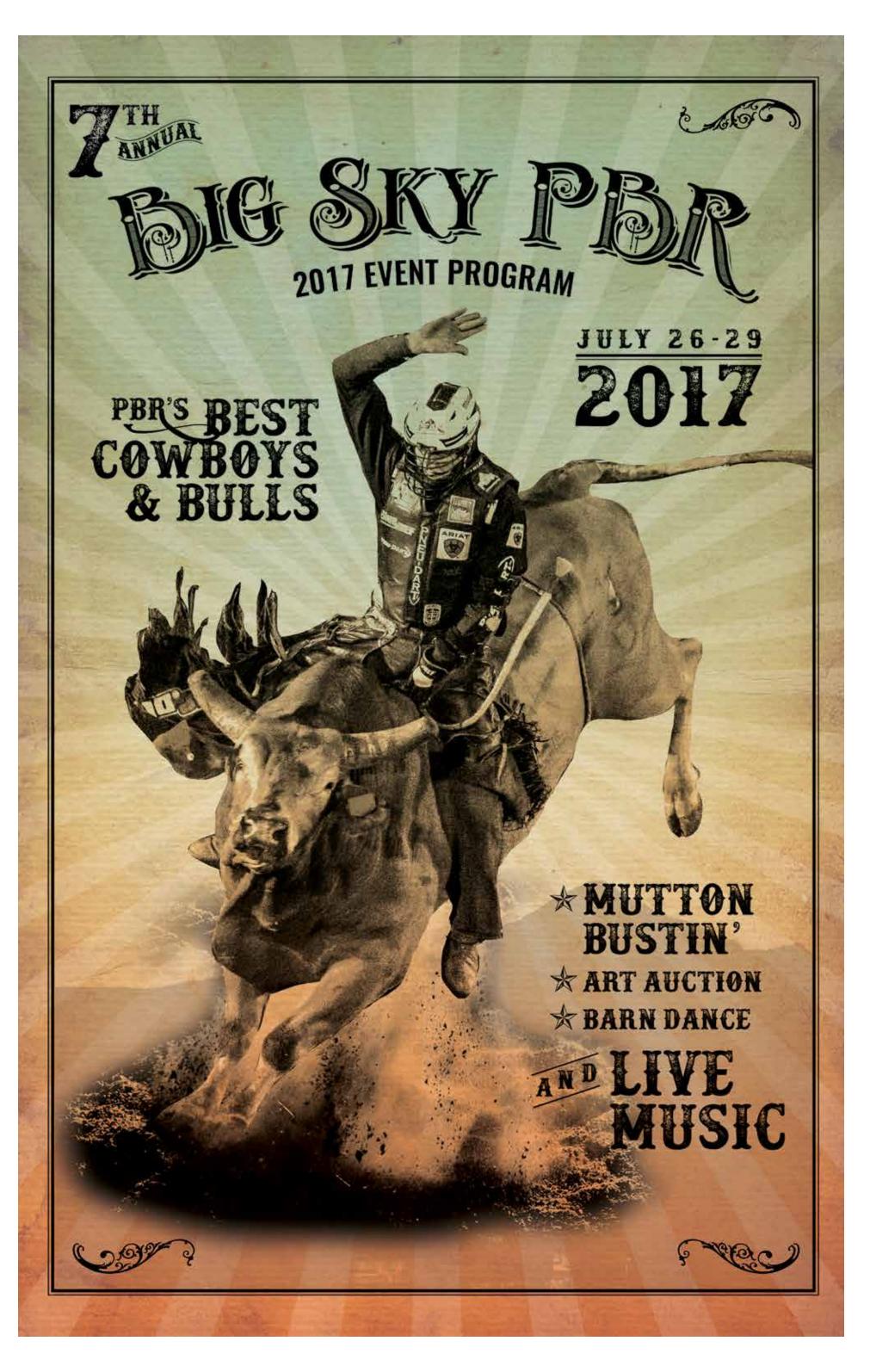
JAMES MCMURTRY

COST: \$20 ONLINE, \$25 AT DOOR, SAV STAGE DOORS OPEN AT 8:30, SHOW AT 9PM TICKETS AT DOOR AND BIGSKYPBR.COM

JAMIE MCLEAN BAND

COST: \$20,0NLINE, \$25 AT DOOR, SAV STAGE DOORS OPEN AT 8:30, SHOW AT 9PM TICKETS AT DOOR AND BIGSKYPBR.COM





BIG SKY PBR **PROGRAM**

Schedule of events 3)
Bull riding basics 4	Ļ
What is PBR? 5	<u>.</u>)
Calcutta details 5)
Mutton Bustin' lineup 6)
PBR music 7	1
Rider Relief Fund 9)
Sponsors 10)
Bulls to watch12)
Three Big Sky clubs, unlimited possibilities 19	}

BIG SKY PBR WINNERS



2015 STETSON LAWRENCE

2014 NATHAN SCHAPER

2013
JARED FARLEY

2012 BRANT ATWOOD

2011
BEAU HILL

Welcome to the 7th annual Big Sky PBR!

All mountain towns have events that they are known for.

This spring we received a call from a family in Maryland that was planning a vacation around a PBR event. They narrowed down their destination to two locations: Big Sky and Nashville, Tennessee. They chose Big Sky.

What started seven years ago has since gained national attention and now spans four days of community events including a charity golf tournament, barn dance, art and Calcutta auctions, concerts, mutton bustin' and two nights of professional bull riding.

A genuine thank you to all of the event sponsors for making this event possible and to the Simkins family, Big Sky Town Center, Yellowstone Club, Moonlight Basin and Spanish Peaks Mountain Club for being our lead sponsors; and also to our co-producers Continental Construction and Freestone Productions.

Giving back is a large part of the event's ethos and we are grateful that Big Sky PBR has been able to generate over \$300,000 for charity since its inception. This year's event will support more than a dozen local and national charities doing outstanding work. We appreciate all the blood, sweat and tears that go into the work you do.

It's an honor to have the top bull riders in the world on the Big Sky roster! Special thanks to the local families and businesses who have sponsored the PBR registration expenses for each cowboy kicking up dust in Big Sky.

For the last four years, these cowboys have voted Big Sky as PBR's "No. 1 Touring Pro Event of the Year," which is no small feat considering how many other reputable and established events are on the tour.

What makes this event so special? While the arena is specifically designed for bull riding without a bad seat in the house, this honor is largely thanks to you. It's you—the cheering fans who fill the seats with excitement for the bull riders, stomping your feet for the action, and singing along and laughing with entertainer Flint Rasmussen's jokes.

We are especially grateful for our fans and the Montana hospitality you show to PBR's athletes.

Enjoy the show!

Eric Ladd & Ersin Ozer

Outlaw Partners

BIG SKY PBR PRIZES

The winner of the 2017 Big Sky PBR will take home a portion of nearly \$50,000 in prize money, as well as Sandy Epstein's prized "Sky Ride" trophy bronze, a new Gibson acoustic guitar, a golden buckle from Montana Silversmiths, YETI cooler, and a commemorative bottle of Bozeman Spirits' 1889 Whiskey (provided he's 21 years old).



Nathan Schaper, second from left, won Big Sky PBR in 2014 and 2016. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO





PBR Rider Relief Golf Tournament

Moonlight RESERVE Golf Course, 12:30 p.m. - Buy a team and be paired with a cowboy

18 teams of 4 plus a PBR cowboy will play a 9-hole, 5-person team scramble tournament with a shotgun start. All proceeds from the tournament will go to the Rider Relief Fund with the mission to provide financial assistance to athletes, bull riders and bullfighters injured in the competitive sport of bull riding.

Big Sky Community Barn Dance

PBR Arena, 6 p.m. free dance lessons, 7:30-10 p.m. dance calls, FREE

A free barn dance, live dance calling and fiddle music. This event is family friendly and you don't have to be a great dancer to attend, you'll learn the steps with your partner as they are called or can show up early for dance lessons.



Big Sky Art Auction PBR Arena, 5-7 p.m., FREE

bigskyartauction.com

Whether you're a serious collector or just appreciate the arts, the Big Sky Art Auction will appeal to anyone with a zeal for the dramatic.

Music in the Mountains Big Sky PBR Kickoff Party Town Center Stage, 7 p.m., FREE

Big Sky PBR sponsors the free Thursday night Music in the Mountains performance by Turnpike Troubadours.



Big Sky PBR Bull Riding Night 1

PBR Arena

5pm – Vendor Village opens, VIP gate open

5:30 p.m. – Calcutta auction in VIP tent, General Admission gates open

7 p.m. – Bull Riding Starts

One cowboy will take home the bronze, the check, the guitar and the buckle during the championship night.

Big Sky PBR After Party featuring James McMurtry SAV Stage, 9 p.m.

Concert access included with Big Sky PBR tickets. Music-only tickets available at bigskypbr.com and at the door.



Big Sky PBR Bull Riding Night 2

PBR Arena

5 p.m. - Vendor Village opens, VIP gate open

5:30 p.m. - Calcutta auction in VIP tent, General Admission gates open

7 p.m. – Bull Riding Starts

One cowboy will take home the bronze, the check, the guitar and the buckle during the championship night.

Big Sky PBR After Party featuring Jamie McLean Band SAV Stage, 9 p.m.

Concert access included with Big Sky PBR tickets. Music-only tickets available at bigskypbr.com and at the door.





SCORING

A rider must stay atop a bull for eight seconds, ride with one hand, and is disqualified if he touches himself or the bull.

Judges award higher marks to riders with good control and body position.

A rider who spurs the bull earns extra points. Half of the rider's score is based on the bull's performance and how difficult he is to ride, and the other half is determined by how well he matches the animal's movement.

The clock begins when the bull's shoulder or hip crosses the bucking chutes and stops when the rider's hand comes out of the bull rope or he touches the ground.

Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour events have two judges. Each can award up to 50 points for the ride (25 points for the bull and 25 for the rider). The total is added together to make up the score. The total score possible for a bull ride is 100 points.

Riders earn points at each event based on their ride scores, their finish in each round, and their overall finish in the event.

If a bull doesn't perform at the level of others in the competition, judges can award a re-ride, so the cowboy has a fair chance to earn points on a different animal.

FOUL

If a rider is fouled, it means something happened during the eight-second ride that gave the bull an unfair advantage over the rider. This can include the animal hitting the rider or himself on the bucking chute before the ride, or the flank strap falling off before the ride is over. When a foul occurs, the judges often award a re-ride.

BOUNTY BULL AND HIGH-POINT BONUSES

On the first night of the Big Sky PBR, the top rider after the first round will be invited back for a bonus "Bounty Bull," and a chance to win \$2,000.

If the cowboy manages to hang on for eight seconds, he'll win the bounty. Last year's Bounty Bull rider didn't hit the eight-second mark, so this year's pot is \$4,000.

The High Point Ride Award (separate from the Bounty Bull) is a \$2,000 bonus given out on the second night of the PBR to the rider with the highest combined score from the long-go rounds on Friday night and Saturday night.



PHOTO BY WES OVERVOLD

PBR: The toughest sport on dirt

Professional Bull Riders tour was founded in 1992 by a group of 20 bull riders looking to bring their sport into the mainstream. Each of these cowboys threw \$1,000 into a hat and started what has grown into one of the fastest-growing sports in America. Since its inception 25 years ago, more than \$140 million in prize money has been awarded.

PBR now holds more than 300 annual events in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Australia and attracts over 3 million attendees to its live events each year. The tour culminates each fall in Las Vegas where the winner of the PBR World Finals is crowned.

What is Big Sky PBR?

Seven years ago, Big Sky PBR producers met in a rocky sagebrush field and imagined how they could transform the vacant grounds into the perfect

bull-riding venue. Their vision was to bring the toughest sport on dirt to Big Sky without a bad seat in the house.

Thanks to the support of the Big Sky community, loyal sponsors and fans, this event has grown from the sagebrush up, into a multi-day community event. It now brings thousands of people into town and attracts global attention from fans and athletes, who share Big Sky with the world.

Big Sky PBR's 2017 schedule of events spans four days and includes two nights of bull riding, a charity golf tournament, an art auction, a community barn dance and three nights of live music.

Calcutta

The 2017 Big Sky PBR will include a Calcutta auction each night—on July 28 and 29—raising money for Big Sky Rotary Club and the Montana Land Reliance respectively.

Spanish Peaks Community Foundation returns as sponsor of the Calcutta, which begins each night at 5:30 p.m. under the Golden Buckle tent.

The 40 bull riders will be split into eight teams of five, and a professional auctioneer will sell off each team to the highest bidder. Half the money will be split between each night's beneficiary. The other half will go to buyers of the top scoring individual riders in the long go-round.

The Big Sky PBR Calcutta involves riders in the long go-round, not the championship round. The Calcutta auction is open to Golden Buckle ticket holders only. Visit bigskypbr.com for event details and ticket information.

Rules

The 40 riders are split into eight teams of five, each team auctioned off to the highest bidder. 50% of proceeds will be split three ways with the other 50% going to charity. Calcutta winnings are determined by individual performance of the riders in the long go-round, not the collective score of the team.

1st place - 60%

2nd place - 30%

3rd place - 10%

*A bonus auction with proceeds to benefit the Rider Relief Fund will be held immediately after the Calcutta auction.



The talented Pat Busby will demonstrate his auctioneer skills under the Golden Buckle tent before the first bull ride of the night. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

Mutton Bustin': Little Buckaroos to Watch

Whether growing up on a ranch or having never set foot in a saddle, these little buckaroos are ready for some mutton bustin' action at Big Sky PBR. Each child will clamber aboard a wooly sheep and have a chance at a wild ride. We asked each mutton buster to name the sheep they'll ride, and they delivered, producing gems like Tow Truck, Pine Cone, Godzilla and Dirty Diaper.

Mutton Bustin' sponsored by



FRIDAY NIGHT LINEUP



Henry Renna A native of Bozeman, 5-yearold Henry loves to swim and climb, and can't wait to go to kindergarten in the fall. **Sheep name:** Lightning Bolt



Owen Renna Owen lives in Bozeman, Montana, and is 5 years old. He loves skiing, biking, building Legos and doing ninja **Sheep Name:** Speed Racer



Jude Knox Jude is a 4-year-old from Big Sky who skis and bikes and loves water and ice cream. **Sheep name:** Blast Off



Mira Ranieri Mira is a 5-year-old bundle of energy from Bozeman. When not sword fighting her big brother, or twirling around the house, she enjoys skiing, camping and selling lemonade. Sheep name: Alice



Odin Wortman Odin visits his family in Big Sky at least once a year. He is 5 years old and loves to play outside. Some day he wants to jump as high as the roof on his house in Norway. Sheep name: Musty



Tru Devitt At 6 years old, Tru enjoys skiing, snowboarding, BMX racing and roughhousing with his buddies. He has been working hard on growing three front teeth for over a

Sheep name: Godzilla



Elijah Brauer When he's not biking or skiing, 5-year-old Eli enjoys spending his spare time with his bearded dragon Brando and his younger sister Maya. Sheep name: Fireball



Bently Gay Bently is 3 years old and he calls Staley, North Carolina, home. He is the son of Peyton and PBR rider Gage Gay. Bently enjoys getting on sheep every chance he gets and watching his dad ride bulls. **Sheep name:** Dirty Diaper



Rand Scott Rand is a 3-year-old from Mandan, North Dakota. The grandson of PBR stock contractor Chad Berger, Rand loves bucking bulls, rodeo, spending time with his family and hanging out at the ranch. **Sheep name:** Asteroid



Wyatt Cohen A Big Sky native, Wyatt is an avid rider of bikes, horses and occasional sheep. He is 6 years

Sheep name: Flash

SATURDAY NIGHT LINEUP



Frank Daily Frank loves shoveling snow, hauling firewood and washing his dad's boat. He is 3 years old and his mom will buy him an ice cream cone if he wins this event. **Sheep name:** Tow Truck



Elliot Graham At 5 years old, Elliot's favorite pastimes are hide and go seek and shredding the gnar. When he grows up he wants to be a geologist and eat only ice cream. Sheep name: Super Flash



Bently Gay Bently is a 3-year-old from Staley, North Carolina. The son of Peyton and Gage Gay Bently enjoys getting on sheep every chance he gets and watching his dad ride bulls. **Sheep name:** Dirty Diaper



Will Guenther When Will isn't camping or playing with Legos, he loves floating Montana's rivers and playing games. He is 6 years old. **Sheep name:** Army



Lane Harrison Lane is a 4-year-old from Bozeman who loves watching hulls and horses buck. He is full of energy and loves everything outside, especially camping, hiking, playing hockey and skiing. **Sheep name:** Funny Bone



Rand Scott Rand is a 3-year-old from Mandan, North Dakota. The grandson of PBR stock contractor Chad Berger, Rand loves bucking bulls, rodeo, spending time with his family and hanging out at the ranch. **Sheep name:** Asteroid



Austin Grundman Hailing from northern California, Austin enjoys the Green Bay Packers, Pokemon and wrestling with his brother. He is 6 years old. **Sheep name:** Death Metal



Harrison Henslee Harrison is a joyful 6-year-old who loves drawing and going hunting with his dad. **Sheep name:** Pine Cone



PBR weekend music lineup



PHOTO BY BESS BIRD

CHARLES TOLSA

PHOTO COURTESY OF TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES MCMURTRY



PHOTO BY DANIEL BULLOCK

The Beet Tops

Envisioned as an event that will promote and build a sense of community around a shared gathering space, the inaugural Big Sky Hometown Hoedown is an event that will bring out locals and visitors of all stripes.

Veda Barner and "Dancing Dan" Schlapkohl will coach even the greenest of dancers on the Montana Cowboy Swing and the Texas Waltz at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26, under the Golden Buckle tent at the PBR arena.

The Beet Tops, an old-time string band hailing from Missoula, will take the stage from **7:30 to 10 p.m**. The Beet Tops play Appalachian fiddle tunes with a signature sass and energy that's garnered them a reputation for getting folks moving on the dance floor. Beet Tops fiddler Claire Karcher will put her calling skills on display, leading dancers of all abilities through a Southern-style square dance. Join this free, fun pre-PBR event!

Turnpike Troubadours

Celebrated for putting on one of the best live shows around, Turnpike Troubadours have garnered a huge following since their 2007 debut album, "Bossier City." The quintet from Oklahoma celebrates modern rural life and invites comparisons to Woody Guthrie and Waylon Jennings.

Spurred in part by an all-in touring schedule, Turnpike Troubadours are enjoying a surge in popularity—their self-titled 2015 album debuted at number three on the Billboard country chart. Catch the free concert at **7 p.m. on Thursday, July 27, at Center Stage in Town Center Park**.

James McMurtry

Son of "Lonesome Dove" author Larry McMurtry, James McMurtry is an American rock and folk songwriter with a gift for spinning a tune that gets concertgoers on their feet.

A famously political songwriter, McMurtry takes on an unassuming vocal style and presence as he plays songs that move like a story. His first album, "Too Long in the Wasteland," was released in 1989 and poignant lyrics have been a hallmark of each album that's followed. His most recent record, "Complicated Game," came out in 2015 and featured the tunesmith's incredible ability to craft a song and deliver it with endless energy.

McMurtry will play the **SAV Stage on Friday, July 28**, after the last cowboy takes his ride.

Jamie McLean Band

The Jamie McLean Band will close out Big Sky PBR's music with their mix of Southern roots rock, blues, R&B, funk and soul. A lean and mean trio that's shared the stage with the likes of Gregg Allman, Drive By Truckers and North Mississippi Allstars, the Jamie McLean Band promises honest rock 'n' roll and lots of catchy bass lines.

"Take the straightforward, no-nonsense rock of The Rolling Stones and The Black Crowes and mix in the personal sincerity of Ryan Adams and Tom Petty and the result is the Jamie McLean Band," the musicians say.

They'll play the **SAV Stage on Saturday, July 29**, after the winner of Big Sky PBR is crowned champion.



The Rider Relief Fund provides a safety net for injured athletes

BY SYDNEY MACDONALD EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Every year, rodeos across the country invite competitors to endure the task of holding onto a 1,500-pound-plus bucking bull for eight seconds. With little to no room for mistakes, competitive bull riding can be detrimental to athletes' physical health, as well as their financial stability.

In the past, rodeo athletes typically had to fend for themselves if they experienced a medical emergency, shouldering the burden of medical bills and financial stress largely on their own. Over the past decade, the Rider Relief Fund has provided support to bull riders and bull fighters when major injuries occur.

The Rider Relief Fund is a nonprofit founded in 1998 to provide financial assistance to athletes, bull riders and bullfighters who get injured in competitions.



Bull riding is a high stakes undertaking. Every year the Rider Relief Fund helps 20 to 40 bull riders and bull fighters pay medical bills, negotiate medical expenses and regain financial stability after an accident. PHOTO BY MIKE CHILCOAT

RRF's Director of Fund Development Jill vanEgmond says the nonprofit serves as a safety net. "We help people get back up off their feet when they're truly not able to help themselves," she said.

On average, the Rider Relief Fund helps anywhere from 20 to 40 injured riders pay medical bills, negotiate medical expenses and regain financial stability every year. Athletes of all levels and ages are eligible to apply for assistance from RRF as long as they were

2017 Big Sky PBR Golf Tournament

What: A 9-hole, five-person team scramble tournament followed by live music, happy hour specials and a mechanical bull

When: Wednesday, July 26. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. and there will be a 2 p.m. shotgun start

Where: The Reserve at Moonlight Basin, an 8,000-yard Jack Nicklaus Signature Design Golf Course

Why: All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the Rider Relief Fund

injured competing in a sanctioned event, and this includes stops on the Professional Bull Riders tour.

"Most people who bull-ride are uninsurable to a large degree, and PBR only provides a certain level of insurance to riders in the top 45," vanEgmond said, adding that their financial situation can be further hampered by a loss of income while they recover.

"A lot of these guys work paycheck to paycheck and have families to provide for. Without us they could be in financial ruin," she added.

Sean Willingham, a professional bull rider of 18 years who hails from Summerville, Georgia, was bucked off a bull at the Rimrock Auto Arena ground in Billings, Montana, in 2015. Willingham suffered a severe neck injury and RRF stepped in to offer financial support to Willingam and his family.

"After breaking my neck in 2015, I was out of work for three months. The Rider Relief Fund not only helped pay some of my medical expenses, the organization also helped me pay my bills. This year I underwent surgery on my groin and once again Rider Relief Fund stepped in to help me financially," Willingham said. "Without Rider Relief Fund, my family would not have been able to make it through my injuries."

RFF has been able to continue offering support to a variety of bull riders thanks to the group of dedicated volunteers who continually work rodeo events all over the country. Last year alone the organization raised over \$22,000 for their cause at Big Sky's PBR event.

"Bull riding is the fastest growing sport in the country, and as these young guys come up we just want them to know we're there for them. That's our sole purpose," vanEgmond said.

Visit www.riderrelief.org for more information

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Bulls to Watch

Six-time PBR Stock Contractor of the Year Chad Berger Bucking Bulls will bring 80 top bovine athletes to this year's Big Sky PBR. Chad Berger, who's been in the business for over a decade as a bull rider and later as a stock contractor, says his bulls are genetically primed for events like this.

"They're born to buck," says Berger, whose father started raising bulls in the late 1960s.

In addition to extending his reign as Stock Contractor of the Year, Berger's been expanding his bull pen. "I must have a disease because I love bulls and I want to buy more," he told PBR writer Justin Felisko after last year's World Finals. "Heck, I bought more at the World Finals and I am still looking for the next one."

Similar to riders, PBR bulls are ranked on their performance during each ride. Judges look for drop in the front end, kick in the back, and spin and direction changes. They're scored 0 to 50 and their ranking is determined by averaging these scores.

Of Berger's 200-plus bulls, here are four that he looks forward to watching throw some dust in Big Sky.



Smooth Operator

With an average bull score of 44.26 and an average buck-off time of 2.94 seconds, 7-year-old Smooth Operator is ranked seventh in the world. On his best days, Smooth Operator is reported to be nearly impossible for any lefty to ride. In 2015 this bull was a World Champion Bull contender but fell out of the standings after a lower back/pelvis injury Berger suspects happened during competition. "There was not a ranker bull in the world. I think he bucked so hard that he just did it," Berger said after the injury. In June 2016 the bull made his comeback, throwing riders in an average of 2.76 seconds last year.

Average Bull Score: 44.26*



Cooper Tires Semper Fi

Cooper Tires Semper Fi is 1,500 pounds of throwing power. His average buck-off time is 2.90 and his average career bull score is 43.11. Like any athlete, Semper Fi can be hot or cold, but on a hot day he ramps up the trickery. Semper Fi will break his timing between bucks with a stutter step and back up before taking the next jump, sending many riders right over his head and horns.

Average Bull Score: 43.11*

*career score

*season score

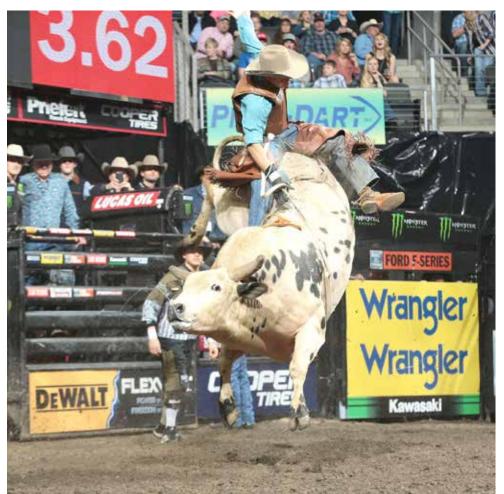
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Deep Water

Riders Teel and Sage Kimzey and Brennon Eldred are the only riders to ever reach eight seconds on champion-ship-round bull Deep Water. He explodes, leaps and twists high in the air. This May he tossed off Jess Lockwood, currently ranked No. 4 in the world, in 3.13 seconds during the 2017 Last Cowboy Standing Built Ford Tough Series in Las Vegas. This bull's average score is 43.83 for the season and he's sure not to disappoint.

Average Bull Score: 43.83*
*season score



Beaver Creek Beau

Beaver Creek Beau is an 8-year-old Bodacious bull whose career score is 43.59. He's been successfully ridden on just 10.53 percent of his rides. Next to Smooth Operator, Beau is perhaps the second hardest bull for a lefty to ride, and his speed—that is, his lack of speed—makes him a tough one for any rider to beat. Incredibly strong, but relatively slow, this bull has come through on many championship rounds with a quick buckoff.

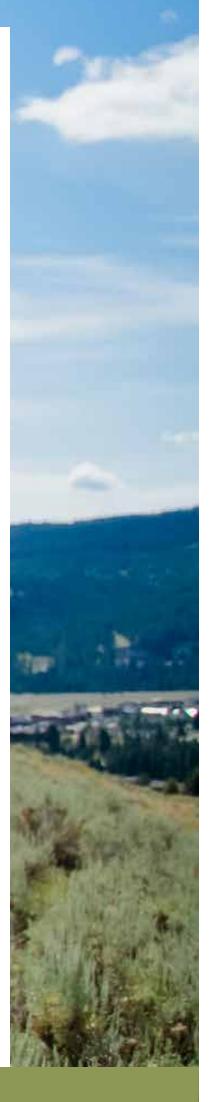
Average Bull Score: 43.59*
*career score

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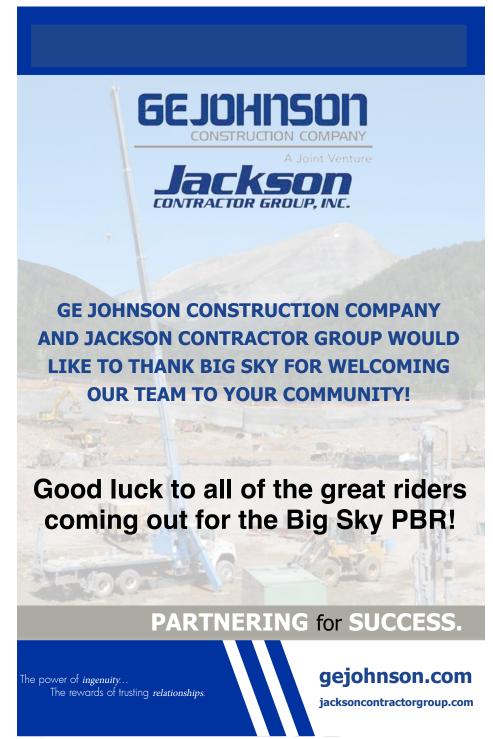






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The Yellowstone Club has a storied history in Big Sky, a remarkable current state and an exciting future. The YC has won legions of fans purely on the basis of its renowned ski experience: minimal lift lines, untouched powder, steep drops and chutes and perfect groomers—all of this, and a cup of hot chocolate (or whatever else you might fancy) from one of our mid-mountain comfort stations.

The skiing at the Yellowstone Club is just the beginning. The YC has set the bar on mountain architecture, with homes that capture the splendor of the setting and fuel dreams of exploring. Members enjoy other seasonal activities like playing golf on the Tom Weiskopf-designed course, fly fishing, the ropes challenge course, mountain biking and so much more.

Spanish Peaks Mountain Club is a home-away-from home for its members. It's a place to relax, rejuvenate and embrace the outdoors in the height of



Spanish Peaks Mountain Club golf course



Lake Cabin in Moonlight Basin PHOTOS COURTESY OF CROSSHARBOR CAPITAL PARTNERS

luxury. Amenities include a Weiskopf-designed 18-hole golf course, a fish camp along the Gallatin River, an intimate clubhouse with direct views of the Spanish Peaks, a full-time activities team, a children's play cabin, a wide-range of real estate opportunities and more.

Spanish Peaks Mountain Club highlights the very best of Big Sky living. With top-notch dining located just steps away from golfing and skiing, members can enjoy anything from a quick bite between runs to a five-course meal with superb fine wine pairings.

Members of Moonlight Basin also enjoy Big Sky living at its best: ski-in, ski-out access to Big Sky Resort, the iconic Moonlight Lodge and Tavern, direct access to vast public land including the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, and private lakeside and outdoor activities with Moonlight's outfitter team. Homes at Moonlight are designed to minimize impact on the environment, resulting in a community that feels tucked away from it all, but it's just a short drive past Big Sky Resort.

Membership at Moonlight equates to days full of adventure—consider a golf round at the Jack Nicklaus signature course or practice your cast at Ulery's Lake, with evenings tucked among the trees and s'mores. Join a group or privately guided horseback ride through Moonlight's vast acreage, dine at the RESERVE clubhouse or the Carpe Diem Café food truck at the Moonlight Club yurt, or experience the Moonlight's "glamping" tents with farm-totable, outdoor dining.

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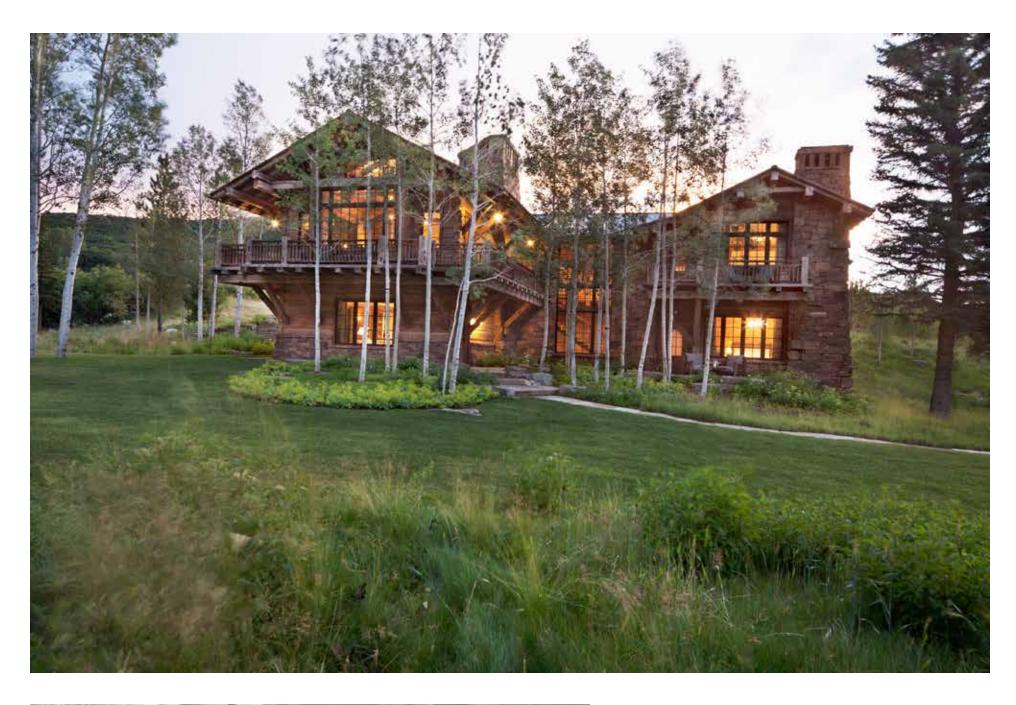
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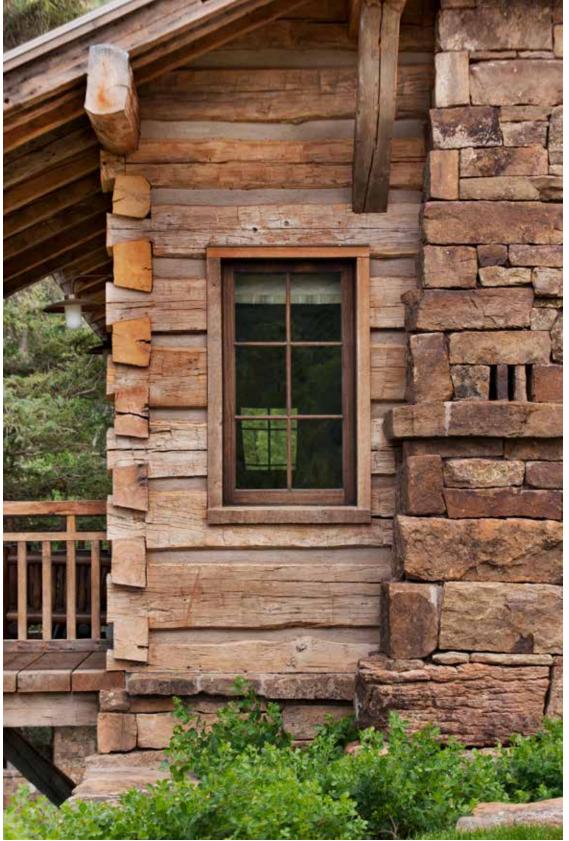
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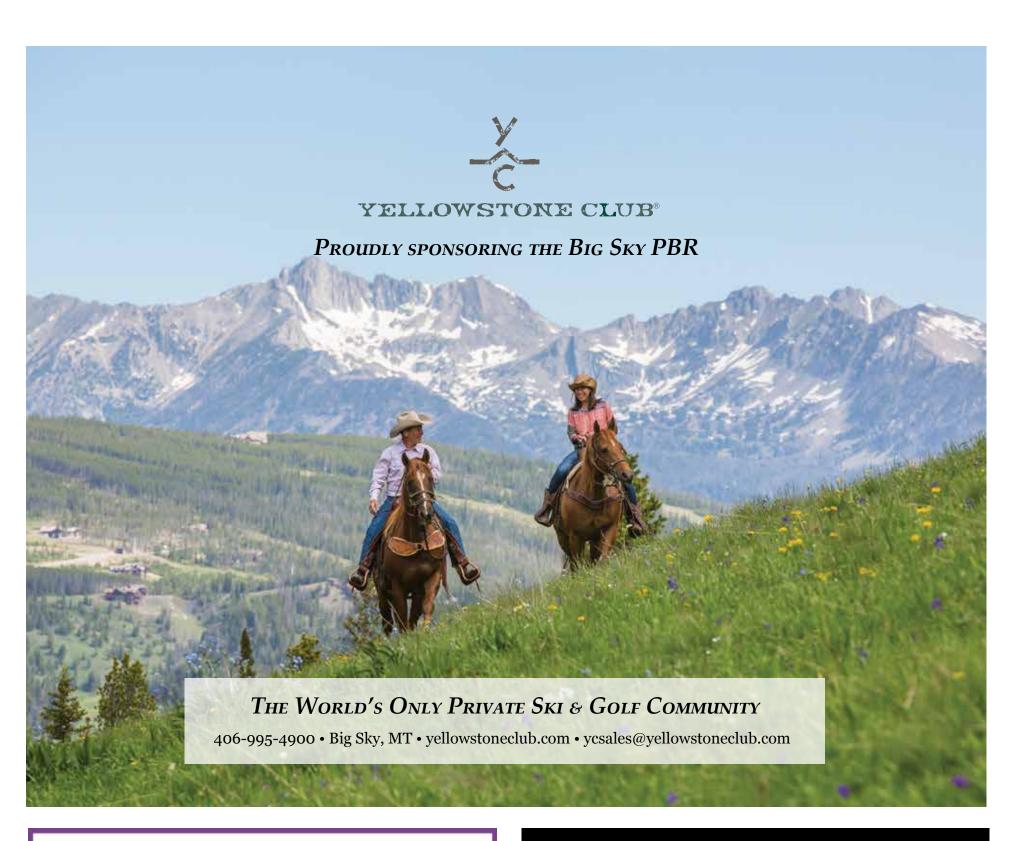
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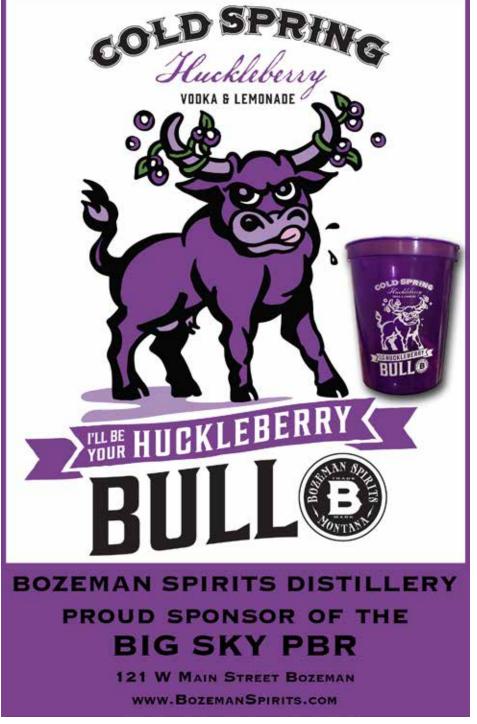


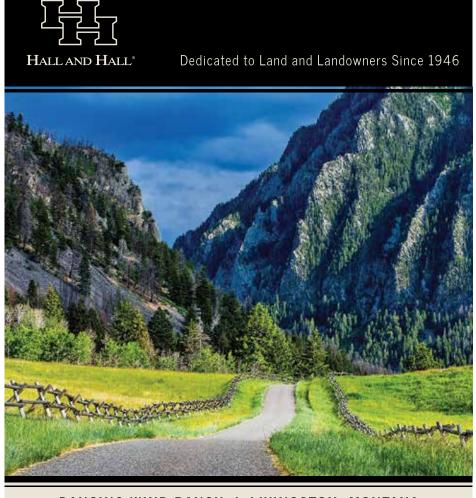


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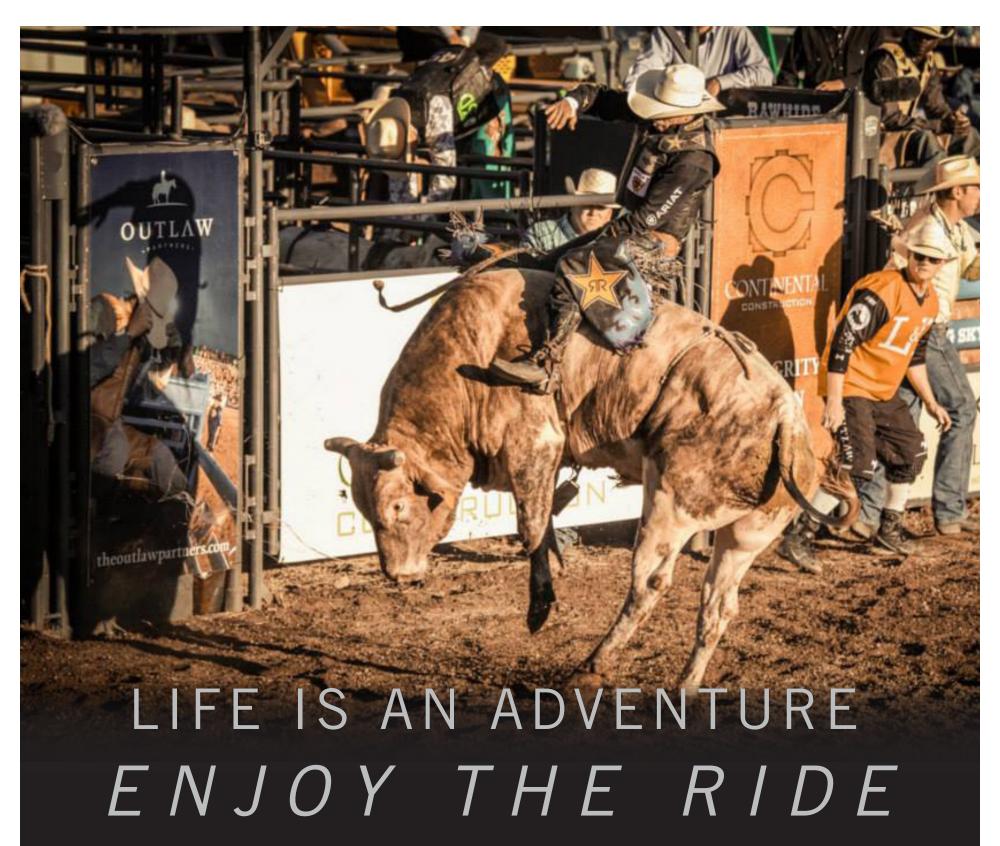
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