

Explore

Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

FREE

Big Sky

Nov. 22 - Dec. 8, 2016
Volume 7 // Issue #24

Welcome back winter!
Opening day at Big Sky Resort

Cats claw Griz in rivalry upset

Mountain Outlaw hits newsstands

Forum wrangles with Big Sky's water issues

The New West:
Honoring a conservation champion



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. P A R T N E R S .

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ON THE COVER: Big Sky Resort officially opens for the 2016-2017 ski season on Thanksgiving Day! Here, an unknown ripper sends it at the old Ambush terrain park under the Ramcharger chairlift in February 2012. PHOTO BY KENE SPERRY

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Welcome back winter!
Opening day at Big Sky Resort

Cats claw Griz in
rivalry upset 21

11 Forum wrangles
with Big Sky's
water issues

The New West: 17
Honoring a conservation champion

OPENING SHOT



Bozeman local Cassidy Wendell hiked Beehive Basin on a rare, 60 F November day. It was her first time hiking the trail and definitely won't be her last.
PHOTO BY CODY VANORDEN

Do you want to see your photography in the pages of EBS? Submit a maximum of three images via email to carie@theoutlawpartners.com. One photo per issue will be chosen for the opening shot.

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The Yellowstone Preserve is a 1,580 acre collection of eight mountain ranches located in Big Sky, Montana and is situated between the restricted enclaves of The Yellowstone Club, the Spanish Peaks Mountain Club and the Gallatin Preserve. This unique Collection of spectacular ranches is approximately 40 minutes south of Bozeman, Montana and only 45 minutes from Yellowstone National Park, the world's first national park.

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Comments sought for Middle Fork Sixteen Mile Road relocation

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

The Custer Gallatin National Forest is seeking input on a proposed relocation of a short section of Forest Service Road No. 642, the Middle Fork of Sixteen Mile Road. This road is located in the Bridger Mountains near Flathead Pass and the relocation would move it from private to national forest land.

The relocation would cover approximately 1/4 to 1/3 of a mile and resolve a disputed easement on private land.

“We believe the relocation would create a more sustainable road in an upland location that reduces erosion and maintenance costs and allows for better public access to national forest system lands,” said Lisa Stoeffler, Bozeman District Ranger. “The current road has a steep section on poor soils and is very close to the creek, causing sediment concerns.”

Much of the public use on this road occurs during hunting season and involves horse trailers. Incidents where vehicles have become stuck or slid off the road into the ditch have been reported.

Although the Forest Service believes the public has rights to travel the existing road, relocating it would prevent any future disputes with a landowner and ensure uninterrupted public use.

The Environmental Assessment is available by contacting the Bozeman Ranger District at (406) 522-2520 or on the Custer Gallatin National Forest’s website at fs.usda.gov/custergallatin.

Public comment may be submitted electronically to FS-comments-northern-gallatin@fs.fed.us. Use the name of the project, Sixteen Mile Road Relocation, as the subject line of your email.

Extreme ski pioneers launch into hall of fame

EBS STAFF

A pair of legends is leaving tracks in the powder of ski lore. Ski pioneers Dan and John Egan will be inducted into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum in April 2017 as part of the class of 2016.

First known as world-renowned extreme skiers, the Egans are now considered pioneers of action sports, and have starred in more Warren Miller ski films than any other skiers in the world.

Miller, a ski-movie pioneer in his own right, referred to them as “the ATVs” of ski films. Their famed three-story cornice break at Grand Targhee, Wyoming, was captured in Miller’s 1990 film “Extreme Winter,” and is the most viewed film segment of all time.

Egan and John were known for skiing the most remote regions of the world and their exploits have been featured on the Discovery Channel, ESPN and Good Morning America. Powder Magazine named them two of the most influential skiers of our time.

The Egans were pivotal in the growth of the action sports and played a critical role in moving the word “extreme” from the mountains to NYC’s Madison and Fifth avenues. Their exploits chronicled the geopolitical landscape of the late ‘80s and ‘90s.

The Egan brothers will be officially inducted into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame during Snowsport History Week in Stowe, Vermont from April 4-9, 2017.

Kenney named new Yellowstone deputy superintendent

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk announced on Nov. 17 that Patrick (Pat) Kenney has been selected as the park’s new deputy superintendent. Kenney will replace Steve Iobst, who retired in September.

“[Kenney] comes to us with extensive operational experience, project management skills, and the ability to build relationships both inside and outside the organization,” Wenk said.

Kenney, a 26-year veteran of the National Park Service, currently serves as the superintendent of Cape Lookout National Seashore in North Carolina. In this role since 2011, he handled issues including major facility improvements, a new concessions contract for a passenger ferry service, and storm recovery efforts, among others.

“I am thrilled to become the deputy superintendent at Yellowstone, the world’s first national park,” Kenney said. “While I’m sorry to leave my staff, colleagues, and partners at Cape Lookout, I am ready for this challenge and am honored to serve on Yellowstone’s management team.”

Prior to managing Cape Lookout, Kenney served as the planning branch chief at the Denver Service Center, which is the central planning, design, and construction management project office for the National Park Service. At DSC, Kenney managed numerous planning efforts in a variety of parks including Mount Rainier, Everglades, Big Cypress, and Badlands.

Mr. Kenney began his NPS career as a resource management specialist at Big Cypress National Preserve in 1990.

Park City patrol ratifies contract with Vail Resorts

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

Almost one year after voting to organize as a union, the Park City Professional Ski Patrol Association announced Nov. 15 the ratification of its first contract with Vail Resorts.

The two-year agreement was passed by a two-to-one margin on Monday night. The membership consists of patrollers from the former Park City Mountain Resort and Canyons Resort, and the newly created Mountain Safety patrol, which now operates as a single department at the Vail Resorts-managed Park City Resort.

Highlights of the agreement include expanded educational and professional development opportunities; a strengthened avalanche dog program; a joint patrol/management safety committee to address safety issues; a grievance

and expedited arbitration procedure to work out disputes; and just cause in disciplinary actions.

“Anytime two groups with separate histories and cultures are combined, there are bound to be some growing pains,” said Julia Edwards, a ski patroller on the union’s negotiating committee. “This contract helps unite us with common benefits and work rules.”

The negotiating committee was comprised of members representing patrollers at both the Park City and Canyons Village base areas and Mountain Safety. The contract will cover about 200 employees through the end of the 2017-2018 ski season.

CWA is committed to improving the working conditions of ski patrollers, who statistically have one of the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. and Canada.



Big Sky Resort is slated to open on Thanksgiving Day.

What is your favorite winter memory from the resort?



Jillian Blakeley
Big Sky, Montana

"The first time I skied the tram, because that was last year. And when I went to [a] ski patrol dog presentation—I learned that the ski patrol dogs can dig people out of avalanches."



Lisa Knorr
Big Sky, Montana

"When Challenger [chairlift] first opened in 1988. John Kircher and Scott Bowen were loading the chairs, and [the snow] was like wet cement. I don't remember the date exactly, but we had so much fun—I was with a bunch of friends. I was probably in over my head at that point."



Alex Buecking
Gallatin Gateway, Montana

"Deep Tuesday: 12/12/12. The best day I've ever had up there. That was one time that we got over a foot of snow overnight. And it was raining down here [in the Meadow], so everyone was like, 'I'm not going up there.' Tuesday, December 12th, 2012. The deepest day ever."



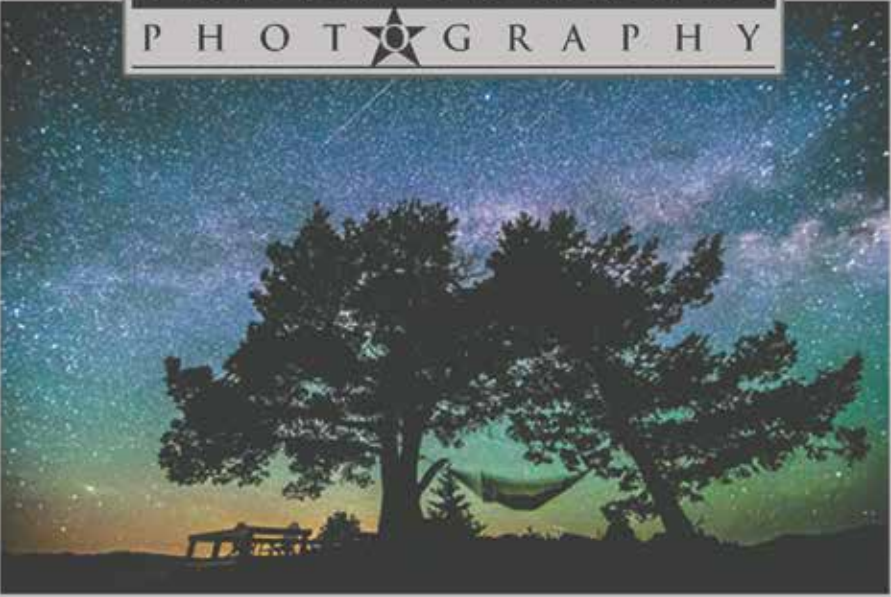
Aaron Hall
Big Sky, Montana

"My favorite memory is probably the winter of 07/08 and I was a lifty at Moonlight Basin. We had a really good crew and it was really laid back—it was back when Lee Poole owned it—so there were lots of employee parties and everyone had a really good time. It was my first big mountain experience and I got up right up into Headwaters [Cirque] just as soon as I could."



HOLIDAY SALE

RYAN TURNER
PHOTOGRAPHY



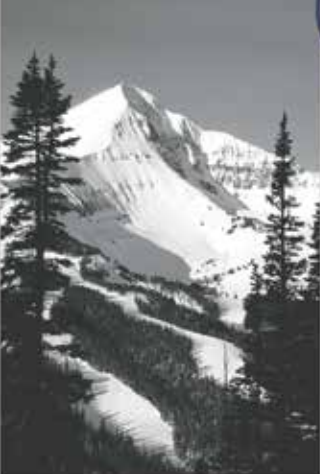
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Letter: Being good neighbors

The mayor of Bozeman is calling for neighborhood groups to help preserve the small-town feel. But the city commission is entertaining thoughts of allowing the Black-Olive monstrosity to be built by yet another out-of-state developer smack in the middle of a perfectly good one. Are you trying to create one neighborhood in a single bound by going skyward?

What is a neighbor anyway? It can be interpreted many ways. The neighbors of today are not the same as yesteryear. People don't build or buy houses to make a home anymore. Look at the turnover rate.

People build and buy houses to flip to make a quick buck. They build and buy houses to sell to make money. They build and buy houses as rentals to make money, and short-term rentals bring even more. Many come and go very quickly and some are never even present, so how can they be neighbors, much less a good ones?

LaVonne Stucky
Belgrade, Montana

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News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

Mountain Outlaw on stands Dec. 2

Magazine après-ski release party set for following day

BY JOSEPH T. O’CONNOR
EBS EDITOR

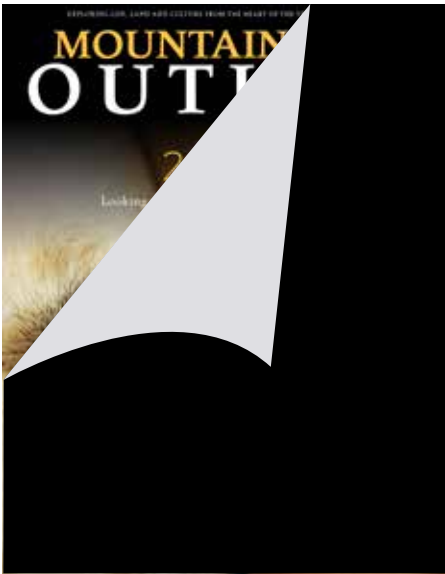
Thanksgiving and the kickoff to ski season at Big Sky Resort are the major events signaling the beginning of winter in our neck of the woods. But a key marker for us at Outlaw is also the arrival of the winter issue of Mountain Outlaw magazine—and its accompanying release party.

Dec. 2 marks the unveiling of Outlaw Partners’ twice annual, full-glossy publication introducing fascinating people and their stories from the Greater Yellowstone region, the Rocky Mountain West and beyond.

Among the tales in this 13th edition of Mountain Outlaw, you’ll read about the importance of taking care of this special part of the world and the consequences that lie ahead if we ignore warnings; a maverick named Ted Turner and his hopes for a better future; the happiest people we could find on the planet; secrets to the art of sledding; and keys to a successful après ski, among many others.

“With every issue of Mountain Outlaw, we dig deeper into the stories and people who make the Northern Rockies, and the world for that matter, such an interesting place to live,” said Senior Editor Tyler Allen. “This winter’s edition is the truest reflection of that journey yet.”

We also invite you to help us usher in the winter and our latest effort with the official magazine release party. This après ski-style celebration will kick off at Big



Sky Resort’s Montana Jack restaurant at 3 p.m. on Dec. 3. Join the Outlaws and our extended family to flip through the new book and meet some of the folks who helped make this edition possible.

And prepare to get your groove on. The Neverland Collective, Big Sky’s own funky threesome, will take the stage to scintillate the dance floor with original music as well as covers of some influencers including Sublime, Bob Marley, The Devil Makes Three, Jack White and a slew of others.

“The Neverland Collective has a really raw, garage-band style sound and do some really fun covers,” said Ersin Ozer, media and events director for Outlaw Partners. “The winter magazine release party is a great chance for contributors, readers, advertisers and Outlaws to celebrate the kick-off of winter and the release of our new magazine.”

Outlaw Partners will also raffle off a pair of custom-built skis from Jackson Hole-based Maiden Skis. Proceeds from the raffle will go to our friends at the High Fives Foundation, a Lake Tahoe-based nonprofit that provides support for adventure athletes that have suffered life-altering injuries, and education for those who participate in these action sports.

Montana Jack will serve up drink specials and the après party will roll until Mom calls you home for dinner, around 6 p.m. We invite all of our supporters to join us, and together we’ll ring in the new ski year in style.

MOUNTAIN
OUTLAW

WINTER 2017

MAGAZINE
RELEASE PARTY

Come join the Outlaws in celebrating the release of the 2017 winter issue of Mountain Outlaw magazine

LIVE MUSIC
NEVERLAND COLLECTIVE

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Harvesting your Christmas tree

CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Beginning Nov. 21, Christmas tree permits became available at all seven ranger district offices and numerous vendors across the Custer Gallatin National Forest. Forest Service offices in Bozeman, West Yellowstone, Livingston, Gardiner, Red Lodge, Billings and Ashland will have permits available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday for \$5 each, with a limit of three permits per household.

“Cutting a Christmas tree is a great, family-fun tradition for many,” said Marna Daley, public affairs officer for the Custer Gallatin National Forest. “Dress in layers for changing weather conditions, be prepared for emergencies, and enjoy spending time outdoors with friends and family.”

Those with a permit may cut a Christmas tree anywhere on the Custer Gallatin National Forest except in campgrounds, trailheads, designated wilderness areas, developed recreation sites, posted timber sale units, recently planted locations and administrative sites.

Permits are also valid for any national forest in the Northern Region, which includes all of Montana, northern

Idaho and portions of North and South Dakota. General guidelines for cutting a tree include the following:

- No tree cutting is allowed within 50 feet of any stream, lake, or wetland.
- Only trees 15 feet tall or less may be cut.
- Cut your tree as close to the ground as possible and below the lowest live limb. A remaining stump height of six inches or less is ideal.
- After cutting your tree, attach the purchased permit to a lower limb near the trunk for transporting home.
- “Topping” trees, or cutting the top off trees, deforms any future growth and leaves a visual eyesore. Take the entire tree or choose another one.
- Trees help protect watersheds, provide habitat for wildlife, and contribute to beautiful scenery. Keep these values in mind when selecting a tree.

A permit can also be purchased for gathering personal-use boughs. Permits, maps, forest road access updates and tree species identification guides are available at each ranger district office. For more information, please contact any Custer Gallatin National Forest office or for general forest information visit online at fs.usda.gov/custergallatin.

Permits are also available at these community businesses:

- Belgrade: Town and Country Grocery and Belgrade True Value
- Bozeman: Owenhouse Ace Hardware (downtown store bicycle shop and W. Main St. store), Murdoch’s Ranch & Home Supply
- Four Corners: Murdoch’s Ranch & Home Supply
- Big Sky: Big Sky Conoco
- West Yellowstone: Corner Cenex
- Livingston: Ace Hardware and True Value
- Big Timber: Conoco Town Pump
- Red Lodge: Sylvan Peak Mountain Shop, True Value Hardware
- Absorkee: Rockin J Gas Station
- Billings: Cabela’s & Ace Hardware (Heights and Zimmerman Trail Road locations).
- Ekalaka: Carter County Conservation District

Beaver // *Castor canadensis*



DID YOU KNOW?

- 100 colonies estimated in 2015 in Yellowstone National Park
- One colony may support 2–14 beavers that are usually related. Six is considered average
- YNP’s beavers escaped most of the trapping that occurred in the 1800s due to the region’s inaccessibility

Unregulated trapping, deforestation, and destruction of dams due to unwanted flooding have continued to affect the beaver population.

RESPECT.PROTECT.CHERISH.

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Obituary: Kelly Ann Kivlin

Kelly Ann Kivlin was born on Aug. 22, 1962 to Lois and Bob Kivlin in Baraboo, Wisconsin, and she was the youngest of five girls growing up in the Dells. Kelly attended college in Madison, Wisconsin, and lived in Chicago, San Diego, Florida and Maine before fulfilling her childhood dream to live in Montana. She was preceded in death by both her mother and father.



Kelly loved and cared for all people and found complete joy in taking care of her many dogs and beloved horses. She had an insatiable appetite for horseback riding in the mountains and exploring any and all lakes and streams while riding her beautiful horse Donald. Kelly also loved kayaking the Madison River and could often be seen paddling with her dog Elio proudly riding the bow.

She worked at Moonlight Basin in Big Sky for many years and most recently was the general manager of the McAllister Inn Steakhouse, delighting guests with her warm smile and glowing personality. Kelly was loved by all that were lucky enough to know her and always left a lasting impression with her optimism and enthusiastic joy of living each day to the fullest. She loved nature, horses, dogs and helping others. She was a fantastic teacher of life, unwavering in her beliefs of love, kindness and unselfishness.

Kelly was always willing to help find a stray animal a way home or provide one if necessary. Her friends were the most important part of her day and we will all miss her magical smile and uplifting laughter. She often said, “Be the person that you want to be” and she led by example. She was taken from us way too soon, as we need people like Kelly in this world. She is survived by her husband Keith Altimus, as well as her sisters Cheryl, Jill and Jody, and nephew Alan.

A celebration of Kelly’s life was held Nov. 20 in Jeffers, Montana, at the Jumping Horse Ranch Show Barn. We ask memorials in Kelly’s name be made to the Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter in Bozeman, Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary and Herding Dogs of Wyoming. Rest in peace sweet Kelly, we miss you.

Forum takes on Big Sky water issues

Dec. 6 town hall meeting will highlight challenges, process

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY - The sustainable use of Big Sky's water resources has proven to be a tough nut to crack.

The water and sewer district board wrangles with storage and discharge issues at nearly every monthly meeting; conservation efforts—including a potential Wild and Scenic designation for the Gallatin River—are alive and well; and it appears a water supply shortage in this semi-arid area is coming down the pike as the community grows.

A forum of stakeholders addressing this trio of issues has met four times since late June to hash out a plan for Big Sky's water resources. They come from Big Sky, Bozeman, Ennis and Helena, and represent 35 different organizations.

On Dec. 6, community members will have a chance to learn about the group's efforts—and weigh in on options being considered—at a town hall meeting held at Buck's T-4 from 4-6 p.m.

Lone Mountain Land Company and the Yellowstone Club paid \$7,500 each to get the forum off the ground by funding the first stage of the process—interviewing stakeholders to obtain clarity on Big Sky's water issues and gauge their willingness to participate—but according to Bozeman-based forum facilitator Karen Filipovich, the process isn't developer-driven.

"It isn't all about development," Filipovich said. "People ... from business to conservation to government interests, to even downstream interests—said, 'Look, we need to deal with these resources holistically,' and I think that's the opposite of a very narrow agenda."

The collaboration is a revival of a previous effort called the Wastewater Solutions Forum that dissolved in 2012. Funding for the second stage of the new water solutions group—information gathering and sharing, and consensus building—was provided by Gallatin and Madison counties, the Big Sky Water and Sewer District, and a Resort Tax Board appropriation awarded to Gallatin River Task Force for the project.

Stakeholders represented include business interests, conservation organizations and government agency staffers. A full list of stakeholders is posted on GRTF's website along with forum meeting notes and videos of prior presentations.

Stephanie Lynn, GRTF's education and communications coordinator, said meeting attendance has been strong, even among members of the public who aren't officially part of the forum. "I think if any more people came, we'd probably outgrow the water and sewer district conference room," Lynn said.

About 45 people attended the last informational session, a Nov. 3 meeting on wastewater treatment and discharge. Representatives from the water and sewer District, Lone Mountain Land Company, the Yellowstone Club, the Gallatin City-County Health Department, and the Department of Environmental Quality's Water Quality Division presented on challenges surrounding wastewater treatment in Big Sky.

"Wastewater treatment and disposal is a hot-button topic for the community," Lynn said. "I was very impressed with the stakeholders' willingness to be open-minded at the meeting a few weeks ago, but I expect strong views from the public in December about that topic in particular," Lynn said, referencing the Dec. 6 town hall meeting.

After providing a brief history of wastewater treatment in Big Sky and discussing some challenges with the current system—especially in light of projected growth—the presenters on Nov. 3 highlighted some potential solutions and answered stakeholder questions.

Big Sky Water and Sewer District General Manager Ron Edwards briefly touched on some options that have been considered: expanding treated effluent irrigation; groundwater discharge, which would involve engineered drain fields; using treated effluent for snowmaking, which would likely require a surface discharge permit; discharge into the Gallatin River, which would also require a DEQ permit; small, decentralized treatment facilities; and a combination of the above approaches.

"Maybe there's [other solutions] out there that maybe we haven't looked at," Edwards added. "That's part of this process."

Now that the forum is working off a common set of information, the next step of the process is to set priorities and gain consensus on the three focus areas—ecological health of local river systems, water quality and availability, and wastewater treatment and discharge—so the stakeholders can form one plan for the community, Filipovich said. "Think of [it] as a business plan for water resources."



Karen Filipovich (at podium) fields stakeholder questions at the Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions Forum meeting on Nov. 3. PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT

Although the project is collaborative and geared toward identifying an agreed-upon path forward, the forum's decision won't result in a binding resolution. Lynn said identified solutions would have to fit within Montana's existing legal framework, and state agencies like the DEQ and Department of Natural Resources and Conservation would handle enforcement if needed.

Filipovich said if all goes as planned, the forum will have a strategy for water resources in place by December 2017.

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Inside the Big Sky | By Derek Lennon

Why Big Sky is the perfect place to disconnect

BY DEREK LENNON
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

We live in a wired world. It's hard to even imagine living a life without technology. We are constantly connected via our laptops, tablets and smartphones. We're mobile, but we're still always available. All it takes is the tap of a button and we are connected.

In today's modern world, our lives revolve around technology. Whether you are impressing your Instagram followers or brokering a multi-million dollar deal, technology can make it happen. Let's face the facts, it's hard to disconnect, but wouldn't it be great if we could?

If your brain deserves a vacation and your body needs to go on a digital diet, it's time to book a trip to Big Sky. Summer, winter, spring and fall—Big Sky is the perfect place to disconnect. Did you know that cutting back on your technology consumption can help to reduce stress, improve sleep, boost productivity, and increase your overall satisfaction in life? It's true. Disconnecting is actually good for you!

When was the last time you had a totally technology free day? Be honest. It's been awhile, right? Leave the technology behind and enjoy the great things that Big Sky has to offer.

If you're ready to escape the eternal hum of electronics, here are a handful of things you can do in Big Sky to disconnect:

- Watch the sunrise or sunset.
- Participate in a yoga class.
- Go skiing from first chair to last chair.
- Book a night (or two) in a Forest Service cabin.
- Walk the dogs on the Uplands/Hummocks Trails.
- Snowshoe into Beehive Basin.
- Hike to Lava Lake.
- Listen to live music.
- Explore Gallatin Canyon.
- Drive south on Highway 191 to Yellowstone National Park.

You'll be amazed at how wonderful it is to ditch the technology ball and chain for a week, a day or even just a few hours. Leave the smartphone behind and enjoy the moment. Just be careful because you might get hooked on this "primitive" way of life.

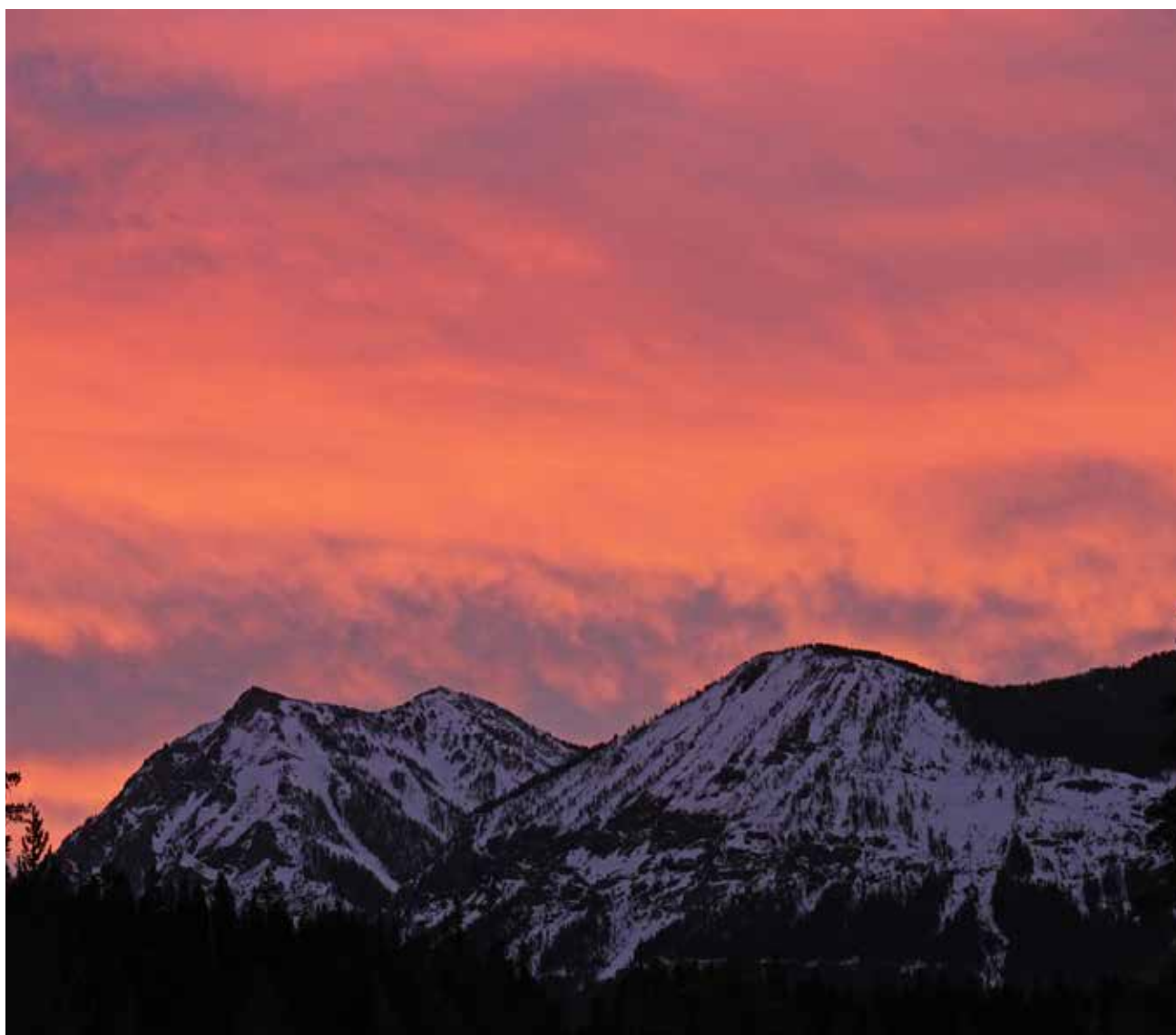
Of course, if you really need to connect while you're in Big Sky, that's no problem at all. We completely understand if you need to check in on your puppy at doggy daycare, email the boss, or put the finishing touches on a business deal. That's life.

There are an abundance of places to tap into Wi-Fi and/or utilize LTE wireless in Big Sky. Looking for a place to connect? Stop by the Big Sky & Greater Yellowstone Welcome Center or login at any Big Sky hotel. Big Sky is wired for everything that you need, but at the same time it's a place that will inspire you to disconnect too.

Take a pointer from author Kurt Vonnegut: "Enjoy the little things in life for one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things." Come for a visit and you'll see that Big Sky is the perfect place to disconnect.

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/big-sky-perfect-place-disconnect/>. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at <https://visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/>.



Sunrise in Yellowstone National Park's upper Soda Butte Valley. NPS PHOTO

Feds give pumped storage energy project thumbs up

Environmental assessment issued as project moves forward

EBS STAFF

A central Montana renewable energy project, one based on hydro-energy storage and generation, achieved a major milestone last month.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in October issued Absaroka Energy LLC’s Gordon Butte pumped storage hydro plan a positive environmental assessment paving the way for the project to move forward with license issuance, according to a Nov. 17 Absaroka Energy press release.

Pumped storage projects store and generate energy by moving water between two reservoirs at different elevations. Absaroka Energy’s \$900 million Gordon Butte plan addresses one of the most difficult challenges facing the nation’s electrical grid: creating the ability to respond instantaneously to variations in demand and generation as more renewable energy generation becomes a part of the country’s energy future.

“We are pleased that after a thorough review, FERC has determined that the construction and operation of the facility will result in minimal environmental impact—an outcome which is consistent with our mission,” said Carl Borgquist, president of Absaroka Energy.

“The environmental review of a project is always an important part of the development process,” Borgquist said. “With the issuance of the EA, we look forward to FERC finishing our license order and giving us the greenlight to build and operate the facility.”

Throughout the licensing process Absaroka Energy worked closely with local, state and federal regulatory agencies, landowners and other key stakeholders.

“We were able to address concerns and define mitigation strategies collaboratively,” Borgquist said. “This approach paid off with a quick response and positive report from federal regulators.”

Founded in 2008, Absaroka Energy LLC is a renewable energy company focused on providing an integrated renewable energy solution in North America offering international expertise in wind, solar and smart grid technologies.

The Gordon Butte pumped storage hydro project is a 400-megawatt facility sited in Meagher County east of Helena and is less than five miles from the Colstrip twin 500-kilovolt transmission lines, the backbone of the northwest grid. This interconnection location will give the facility access to markets across the northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest.

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Governor’s budget includes new taxes on wealthy, marijuana

BY MATT VOLZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) – Montana Gov. Steve Bullock proposed Nov. 15 to create new taxes on the wealthy and medical marijuana in an attempt to bolster state revenues that have stagnated amid a downturn in oil and coal production.

One week after winning re-election, the Democratic governor released a two-year budget plan that would increase state spending \$35 million by mid-2019, which is just 1.4 percent above the current budget.

It would also fund a \$293 million infrastructure package, increase tax credits for new and expanding businesses, raise state employees’ wages and pay for new initiatives for job training, preschool, youth suicide prevention and elder care.

“We have a budget that actually makes sure the government lives within its needs, that cuts some taxes for some folks, it makes investments important to Montanans all across the state,” Bullock said.

Republican legislative leaders panned the governor’s plan as unrealistic in a time of declining revenues. The Montana Legislature will take up the budget proposal when it convenes in January, and Republicans hold majorities in both the House and Senate.

The only way to pay for the governor’s spending plan is by raising taxes, and Republicans won’t support that move, House Speaker Austin Knudsen and Senate President-elect Scott Sales said.

“We came here to live within our means, not further burden the private sector with higher taxes,” Sales said. “As it sits today, I don’t think there’s much resolve to help him out by raising taxes.”

The rough patch for the energy industry has led to drops in production taxes, and resulted in less-than-expected corporate income taxes and individual income taxes collected by the state. Bullock’s budget director Dan Villa noted that Montana is in better shape than Wyoming and North Dakota, which have seen more drastic cuts than Bullock is proposing.

The governor’s budget plan looks to save money by cutting the budgets of all state agencies and to further offset revenue losses by moving money from special accounts into the state’s general fund, Villa said.

The proposal includes several new and increased taxes, most notably a new tax bracket for people who make over \$500,000 a year. They would be taxed at a rate of 7.9 percent of income above that amount, compared with 6.9 percent for the first \$500,000 earned.

Bullock also wants to end a tax credit on capital gains of over \$1 million.

“If you’re making over a half-million dollars, you can afford to pay a little bit more—and you should,” Bullock said.

Senate Majority Leader Fred Thomas called Bullock’s proposal a type of class warfare that the American people rejected when they voted for President-elect Donald Trump. “The people said no to that class warfare stuff. We’re not going to start that in Montana,” Thomas said.

Bullock’s budget proposal also calls for new taxes on medical marijuana and vaping products, along with tax hikes on tobacco and wine.

The plan seeks to save enough money to build the state’s rainy day fund to \$300 million by mid-2019. Republican leaders and Bullock’s budget officials differ on where that fund will start with the new budget year next July—Bullock puts it at \$121 million, while the GOP says it will be as low as \$78 million.

One area where there may be room for the Democratic governor to work with the Republican-led Legislature is on an infrastructure bill. Improving water and sewer systems, roads and bridges is particularly important to eastern Montana, which is straining under the population growth brought on by the Bakken oil boom in North Dakota.

Past infrastructure bills have previously failed on a Bullock veto and Republican lawmakers unhappy with some of the projects and the use of bonds to pay for them.

The new proposal includes many of those same projects—such as a building renovation at Montana State University and a new Montana Historical Society building—and \$157 million of the \$293 million package would be paid for through general obligation bonds.

Knudsen said lawmakers want to pass an infrastructure bill, but not one that includes those same projects. “We are interested in dealing with essential infrastructure, not pet projects,” he said.

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Section 2:
ENVIRONMENT,
SPORTS & BUSINESS



The New West:
Remembering Diekmann’s legacy a great way to unite Montanans



BY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

There are still many things Montanans can feel good about coming together over. One of them is getting a landmark designated to close out this year—a rare bipartisan gesture that, in its own way, would be a sign of hope in line with the beliefs of the person it honors.

On a map, this piece of terra firma hovers as a nondescript summit known only as “Peak 9,765.” Located in the Madison Range, astride of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, it is, however, a spot encircled by a magical panorama that holds everything we love about Montana within sight.

Snow-capped, chiseled mountains standing against time; unblemished natural beauty; a backcountry holding mystery and wildlife diversity unparalleled in most of the Lower 48; working private landscapes below where ranchers have made stewardship part of their legacy; and public lands, forever accessible to us and descendants we’ll never know.

A heart-felt vantage, it is the kind of viewshed that our dear friend, the late conservationist Alex Diekmann, devoted his life to protecting in perpetuity. Today, even after his untimely death earlier in this tumultuous year, it is one, thanks to his work, that will outlast us all.

Everywhere in the West, there are geographic place names which reference people, many whose contexts for young people especially are difficult to grasp. Some of the honorees never came close to setting foot in our region.

Peak 9,765 has a different context and may well have a different and more appropriate fate, thanks to a broad-based effort to name it for Alex and commemorate his lasting impact on this timeless landscape. What leaves us most moved? That we as Montanans have rallied together, across communities, across the state, across the political aisle, to make it happen.

Besides honoring a remarkable conservation champion, Alex Diekmann Peak would have profound symbolism for our time. Its power emanates from the perspective it offers, the lessons it imparts to younger generations in Montana who may wonder why it’s important in these divisive times to look past differences and unite for a common good.

Earlier in 2016, Alex died of an aggressive form of cancer, though in his abbreviated life he had more than 100,000 acres of landscape protection to his credit, deals that helped to leverage the value of both public and private lands.

Alex was a dad and a husband whose most cherished moments were derived in the outdoors among the company of family and friends. He left us convinced we mattered, he invited us to rally for causes that, in the end, were not nearly as impossible as they first appeared, and made us all feel better for getting involved.

No matter where his colleagues found themselves on the political spectrum, Alex had a tenacious, bulldog belief in the goodness of individuals. And he espoused the core conviction that “habitat” stands for places where humans can still think big.

Now we have an opportunity before us to let Alex’s name become an ever-present reminder that places on maps hold contemporary relevance reflecting our values.

The effort to designate Alex Diekmann Peak has won support from ranchers to downtown business people in Bozeman and Ennis, from seniors to millennials, from hikers, hunters and anglers to those who may never stand on the summit but see it as a touchstone.

Last summer, Sens. Jon Tester, a Democrat, and Steve Daines, a Republican, along with recently re-elected GOP Congressman Ryan Zinke inspiringly introduced legislation to make it official. They deserve our thanks for celebrating a conservation hero who was one of us.

Now the bill must still get passed in the last weeks of the current Congress. If you have a moment, pass along your encouragement to Tester, Daines and Zinke.

Tell them how auspiciously fitting it would be, as our country remains battered and divided, to be gifted a reminder of selflessness.

“It’s amazing what can happen when Montanans converge and delight in the panorama that reminds us who we are.” There would be no better tribute to the person who spoke those words. They came from Alex Diekmann.

New West columnist Todd Wilkinson penned this piece along with noted Madison Valley rancher Jeff Laszlo, conservationist and angler Craig Mathews, and John Muhlfield, the mayor of Whitefish. Wilkinson writes his New West column every week, and it’s published on explorebigsky.com on EBS off weeks.

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MSU graduate students receive Institute on Ecosystems fellowships

MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – Six Montana State University graduate students in environmental science and related fields have received fellowships from the Montana Institute on Ecosystems to support their research in Montana and the Rocky Mountain West. The students are working with IoE-affiliated MSU faculty.

Nick Bergmann, a New Hartford, New York native, is a doctoral student in Earth sciences working with Jamie McEvoy, assistant professor of geography. Bergmann is examining the water reservations that were granted to conservation districts along the Yellowstone River Basin in the 1970s, a landmark moment in the history of American water conservation. The project also traces the influence of the Yellowstone effort on water conservation in other parts of the western U.S.

Katie Epstein, a Boston native, is a doctoral student in Earth sciences, supervised by Julia Haggerty, assistant professor of geography. Her research focuses on how population growth and land use changes in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem impact elk ecology, wildlife management, environmental conflict and private land conservation. Her goal is to study how the changing land tenure patterns in ranchland impacts hunting access, brucellosis mitigation and elk population dynamics.

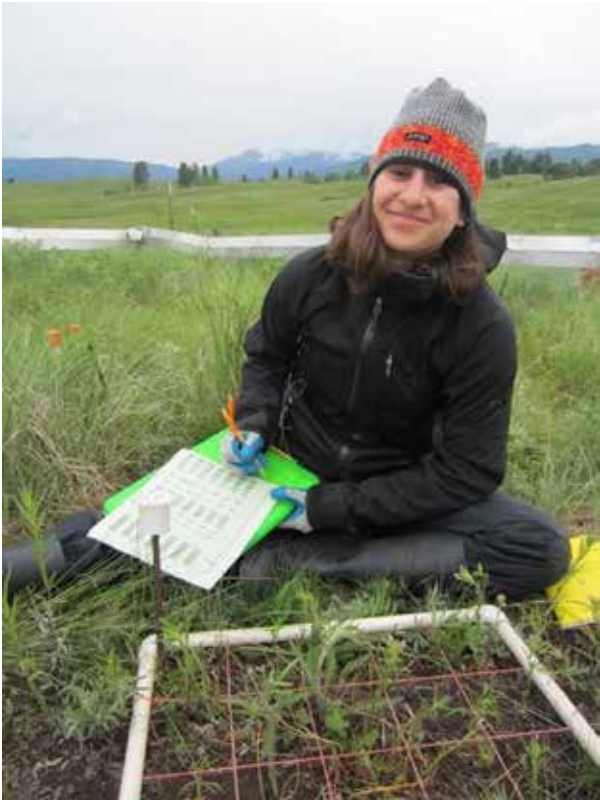
Katie Carroll, from Mesa, Arizona, is earning a doctorate in ecology and works with Andy Hansen, professor of ecology. She studies the impacts of climate and land use change on wolverine populations in Montana, Idaho, Washington and Wyoming. Carroll is using computer models to study potential changes in wolverine habitat suitability and connectivity in order to evaluate opportunities for conservation action.

Claire Qubain, originally from Gardner, Colorado, is earning a doctorate in ecology and is supervised by Jia Hu, assistant professor of ecology. Her research explores the landscape and climatic factors that influence nitrogen availability for soils and trees. The information will become increasingly important as snowpack decreases and climate continues to change in the western U.S., Hu said.

Emery Three Irons is earning a master’s in land resources and environmental sciences and works with Scott Powell, assistant professor of environmental spatial analysis, to study water quality in the Little Big

Horn River Valley on the Crow Reservation in southeastern Montana.

They will study the levels of coliform bacteria associated with wells, land use, proximity to the river and other variables so they can share information about resource use and planning with tribal decision-makers in order to help protect residents from sickness. Three Irons is from Crow Agency and before coming to MSU he studied at Little Big Horn College.



Claire Qubain, one of six graduate students at Montana State University that received fellowships from the Montana Institute on Ecosystems to conduct environmental science research in Montana and the Rocky Mountain West. PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAIRE QUBAIN

Matthew Weingart is pursuing a master’s in Earth sciences and works with Dave McWethy, assistant research professor in the Department of Earth Sciences, to investigate the relationship between fire, climate and people in forests on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Weingart is reconstructing the environmental history of the region by examining the pollen and charcoal preserved in lake-sediment cores. Weingart is from Pablo and previously studied at Salish Kootenai College.

The Montana Institute on Ecosystems is a multi-institutional community dedicated to understanding complex ecosystems and the interconnectedness of people and nature. It is also the flagship research program of Montana’s National Science Foundation EPSCoR Track 1 grant. The IoE graduate fellowship program allows students to pursue research topics that are important for understanding Montana’s ecosystems and communities.

Visit montanaioe.org for more information.

Railroad partnership to move mineral used by mines

KALISPELL, Mont. (AP) – Mission Mountain Railroad and the BNSF Railway are going to work together to move gondolas full of a mineral used by mines to Fortine, Montana.

The companies are looking for new customers from other countries as well as people living miles away from the tracks, the Flathead Beacon reported. Most of Mission Mountain’s freight business comes from a lumber producer.

Railroad owner Watco Companies wants to diversify the freight traffic as the state’s timber industry shrinks.

Transporting magnetite via Fortine is more direct than the previous route, BNSF official David Walker said.

“We think this is a good alternative to the traditional ways of moving products over the border,” Walker said. “Customers want options for how they ship commodities, and this is a great option for those shipping to Canada.”

The Mission Mountain Railroad was created after BNSF passed along a line to Kalispell and another to Eureka.

“Our traditional model on the Mission Mountain has been to serve local customers that are physically located along the railroad in Kalispell, Evergreen, Columbia Falls and Eureka,” said Ted Kadau, vice president of marketing and sales for Watco Companies, the company that owns the railroad. “But we’re now looking for ways to expand our business and diversify beyond our traditional commodities.”

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Buck's T- 4 Lodge

Photo: Rich Addicks

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Cats down Griz in Brawl of the Wild

BY COLTER NUANEZ
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Montana State’s nightmare season ended in a dream in Missoula.

MSU shocked the Montana Grizzlies Nov. 19 with a 24-17 win in front of 26,000 fans at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Before this unexpected Saturday, the Bobcats struggled to form an offensive identity with a true freshman quarterback at the helm and a first-year head coach guiding the once-proud program.

Turnovers plagued Montana State for all of October and most of November as MSU stumbled to six consecutive Big Sky Conference losses—a disappointing start for a team that qualified for the playoffs eight times since 2002 and hung Big Sky Conference champion banners on six occasions over the same span.

But quarterback Chris Murray steadily settled in, Jeff Choate galvanized his team despite losses—and a mantra of rebuilding—and the Bobcats finished 2016 with a sudden surge.

Montana State turned the ball over 23 times during a six-week losing streak that included narrow defeats to North Dakota, Sacramento State and Northern Arizona, and they suffered beat downs at the hands of Weber State, Eastern Washington and Southern Utah. In MSU’s home finale however, Murray and the offense took care of the ball, the Bobcats found consistency offensively and MSU ground down UC Davis.

In the Nov. 12 home finale for 14 seniors, including memorable contributors like running backs Chad Newell and Gunnar Brekke, and offensive lineman J.P. Flynn, MSU ran the ball with authority. Newell rushed for 132 yards and a touchdown, pushing him past 2,000 yards in his storied career and scoring a touchdown to lead MSU to a 27-13 victory, the Bobcats’ first Big Sky win this season.

The win proved to be a breakthrough and Montana State carried the momentum into the 116th Brawl of the Wild showdown against its fiercest rival, the Montana Grizzlies.

Playing loose with the monkey of winning their first conference game off their collective back, MSU came to Missoula with nothing to lose—but the Bobcats gave up a 58-yard touchdown to Grizzly wide receiver Justin Calhoun on UM’s first offensive snap.

Thereafter, a dominating performance by MSU’s offensive line knocked Montana’s defense on its heels all afternoon, a flustering defensive showing and a thoroughly well executed game plan in Choate’s first rivalry game helped the Bobcats shock the Griz and the rest of the Treasure State.

Montana State rushed for 368 yards, including 142 yards and two touchdowns by the electric Murray. The Bobcats consistently knocked Montana’s front seven off the ball, creating lanes that allowed MSU to average 5.9 yards per rush and pile up more than 38 minutes of possession. With former Griz defensive coordinator Ty Gregorak calling the defense for the Bobcats, MSU held Gregorak’s former team to 305 yards of offense and just 13 first downs.

The result: a 24-17 MSU victory filled with grit on an unusually warm November afternoon at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

“Going out like this, this is a dream come true,” said Montana State senior captain Chad Newell after rushing for 72 yards and a third quarter touchdown that gave MSU a 17-point lead. “Five years ago, this is what I came here to do. We got it done today.”

Montana State’s season ends with a 4-7 record, including 2-6 in Big Sky play. The loss drops Montana to 6-5 as the Griz, once the No. 6-ranked team in the country, lost four out of five down the stretch. UM finishes Bob Stitt’s second season at 3-5 in Big Sky play, just UM’s second losing conference record since 1992.

Colter Nuanez is the creative director and senior writer for “Skyline Sports” (skylinesportsmt.com), an online newsgathering organization providing cutting edge coverage of Montana State University and Big Sky Conference sports. The award-winning sportswriter has worked for newspapers and magazines across the West and has covered the Big Sky since 2006.



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EYE ON THE BALL

Hope for the Cleveland Browns



BY BRANDON NILES
EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST

As of this writing, the Cleveland Browns are winless through 10 weeks of the NFL season. This isn't new territory for a team that hasn't been to the playoffs since 2002 and hasn't been out of the AFC North basement since 2010.

But it is unsettling for a fan base experiencing high levels of success in the NBA and the MLB this year. The Browns, ranking in the bottom five of the league in both points allowed and points scored per game this year, are in trouble and without a clear path to recovery.

However, in light of a presidential election that has left the country divided and bitter, I wanted to look for some hope and optimism for the league's perennial bottom dweller.

First, the Browns have two young quarterbacks who have shown signs of ability, and will likely have a top draft pick in April, allowing them to pick from the available talents at the college level to move forward with. Deshaun Watson from Clemson, Miami's Brad Kaaya, and most notably, DeShone Kizer from Notre Dame, all look like quality options that will likely be available, so there's potential for the future in Cleveland at quarterback.

Second, the Browns have a good coaching staff. Head coach Hugh Jackson might take a couple of years to find his groove, but if Cleveland gives him time to gel with his roster and build something up, then he should be able to provide them some badly needed stability. Pep Hamilton has shown promise as an offensive coordinator—he was in charge of the 2014 Indianapolis Colts offense that led the league in passing yards and is credited with assisting in the development of Andrew Luck.

Finally, the Browns have some pieces to build on. Converted quarterback Terrelle Pryor Sr. has been a revelation as a starting wide receiver. He's on pace for over 1,100 receiving yards this season and has looked every bit the part of a legitimate No. 1 guy on the outside. When healthy, rookie wide receiver Corey Coleman has looked as explosive as he did at Baylor, giving the team two legitimate options in the passing game.

While the defense has a lot of holes, there are talented players on that side of the ball as well. Rookie second-round pick Emmanuel Ogbah has flashed the ability to become a consistent pass rusher, notching three sacks over the first half of the season in a hybrid role. With a pair of interceptions and eight passes defended this season, Jamar Taylor looks like he's turning his career around after floundering in Miami his first three years, and Danny Shelton still looks like a long-term starter at nose tackle.

To move forward, the Browns need to display something they have yet to show since re-joining the league in 1999: patience. The team needs to stick with a coach, develop their young talent, accrue draft picks, and build something sustainable for the long haul.

The Browns can no longer subsist on overpaying free agents and continuing these chaotic offseasons full of roster turnovers, new coaching staffs, and changing systems.

If the Browns stick with Jackson, keep an eye on the future, and show patience in developing their roster—while they look for the permanent answer at the quarterback position—they can and will find their way back to being competitive.

The NFL is full of turnover and excitement every year, and more than any other sport, there is always reason for hope, regardless of which team you call your favorite. All it usually takes is to draft well and get a little lucky at the quarterback position. If the Browns can be patient, there's no reason we can't be talking about them as the next great Cleveland sports story in the next few years.

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-host of the 2 Guys Podcast.

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Boardroom Bobcats program partners students with nonprofit boards

MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – The Montana State University Leadership Institute has launched a new pilot program that places MSU students as non-voting members of local nonprofit boards.

Boardroom Bobcats links 10 MSU students with nine nonprofit organizations in the Bozeman community, according to Laura Demmel, project manager with the MSU Leadership Institute. This pilot year will include a year of monthly board activities and four different board leadership trainings.

The nonprofit community of Bozeman has welcomed the program as the ideal facilitator for connecting student leaders and local nonprofit boards, according to Demmel.

“Participating in the program gives a board a point of view that many members don’t have, a student’s point of view, a relevant point of view, and one that may be similar to many people we serve,” said Joe Esparza, board chair of Warriors and Quiet Waters Foundation, Inc., one of the participating nonprofits.

Josh Iverson, a senior majoring in history and economics from Hampton, Minnesota, paired with Eagle Mount, said that students will benefit by gaining board experience and knowledge of best practices, participating in board leadership trainings, and networking with the nonprofit community and their board members.

“I’m glad I don’t have to wait until the end of my (academic) career to start serving,” Iverson said.

Created and developed by MSU Leadership Institute Director Carmen McSpadden and former program manager Cindy Wilson, the pilot year of Boardroom Bobcats is supported by a \$5,000 seed grant from MSU’s Outreach and Engagement Council.

Visit montana.edu/leadership for more information about Boardroom Bobcats and the MSU Leadership Institute.

The following MSU students were paired with the boards of the nonprofits listed next to their names (student, hometown, major and company):

- Ryeland Allenson, LaPorte, Colorado; accounting; Bozeman Schools Foundation
- Matt Brownlow, Missoula, business marketing/management; Bozeman Community Foundation
- Karen Funke, Bozeman, graduate student, adult and higher education; Bozeman Public Library Foundation
- Josh Iverson, Hampton, Minnesota; history, economics; Eagle Mount
- Hilary Lemen, Barrow, Alaska; economics; Montana Aquatic Resources Services, Inc.
- Rob Lliteras, Seward, Nebraska; history; Warriors & Quiet Waters Foundation
- John Miller, Judith Gap; business management; Gallatin Valley Land Trust
- Darci Peterson, Pinedale, Wyoming; English education, sociology, with a minor in coaching; THRIVE
- Isaac Stafstrom, Cascade; animal science; Big Sky Youth Empowerment
- Liz Wilk, Olympia Fields, Illinois; graduate student, science and natural history filmmaking; Montana Aquatic Resources Services, Inc.



Montana State University students, from left, Hilary Lemen, Josh Iverson, Elizabeth Wilk, Ryeland Allenson and Robert Lliteras, are members of the Boardroom Bobcats, a partnership between the MSU Leadership Institute and several local nonprofit organizations. The aim of the project is to place upper-level undergraduate and graduate MSU students as non-voting members of regional nonprofit boards. PHOTO BY ADRIAN SANCHEZ-GONZALEZ

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MSU professor's research noted in Wall Street Journal story about nursing workforce

MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – A recent Wall Street Journal story about changes in the nursing labor market featured the work of Montana State University nursing professor and healthcare economist Peter Buerhaus.

The story, “Nurses Are Again in Demand,” appeared online Nov. 7 and in the paper’s print edition Nov. 8. Written by reporter Melanie Evans, it noted that unlike trends in previous years, nursing employment is “heating up in many markets, driving up wages and sign-on bonuses for the nation’s fifth-largest occupation.”

Evans reported that the last nursing shortage ended with new nursing graduates filling many positions and the 2008 financial crisis leading older nurses to delay retirement.

However, she noted that as the economy has improved, recruiters say that nurses who held on to their jobs are now retiring or cutting back on their hours.

Yet even with national numbers showing a stable nurse workforce in recent years, there are regional shortages in some pockets of the country, Evans reported.

“The prospect of nursing shortages isn’t as dire as the last shortfall more than a decade ago, when the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said the nation lacked 110,000 nurses,” Evans wrote. “Labor experts say the influx of new graduates is expected to offset the wave of retiring nurses in the coming decade. But projections by Mr. Buerhaus and other researchers, based on analysis of demographic trends and nursing graduation rates, show that won’t be enough to meet growing demand in the coming decade.”

“We have analyzed the growth of the nursing workforce by nine regions of the country,” Buerhaus explained recently to MSU News Service. “Our analysis reveals that states in New England and in the West Coast region of the country can expect slow growth in the supply of registered nurses. In the mountain region that includes Montana, future growth in the number of RNs will be fairly strong, but will lag behind other regions of the country, namely the South.

“Whether nursing shortages develop in the low-growth regions will depend on the growth in the demand for RNs,” Buerhaus added. “At the moment, the state of Montana is expected to experience shortages of nurses in coming years as demand is projected to outstrip supply.”

In addition to his work as a professor, Buerhaus also serves as director of the MSU Center for Interdisciplinary Health Workforce Studies.

DOCTOR'S NOTE

Clothing can cause discomfort



BY DR. JEFF DANIELS
EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Sometimes your clothing can make you miserable, and not because it’s out of fashion. A common complaint that we see in the Medical Clinic of Big Sky is patients developing an allergic reaction from their clothing, most often manifested by a rash.

Most people have experienced and can easily recognize the rash of poison ivy, a reaction in the skin called delayed hypersensitivity, which happens when a chemical from that plant gets onto the skin. Human skin is impervious to most substances, but an interaction between the chemical and the T cells of your immune system results in the blistering, oozing, crusting and itching. Sometimes there’s no recollection of contacting the plant, but it can be carried onto you by your favorite pet, or even through the air if it is burned.

The reaction to the poison ivy toxin can be rather extreme, and there are thousands of other chemicals out there that produce a rash upon contact with the skin. In very few cases the rash will look as terrible as poison ivy, though we rarely see blistering and crusting; usually we see red, irritated skin with small bumps, typically with itching or burning.

In many cases the area of skin involved conforms to something physical that has “imprinted” its image on the skin. In other cases, transfer of whatever chemical is involved, either by touch or by sweating, can lead to unusual patterns that might not be recognized as conforming to an article of clothing, a belt buckle or a rubber glove. The skin around the eyes is particularly susceptible to chemicals touching other areas of the body and transferred by hand contact with the face.

One of the most common contact dermatitis culprits that we see comes from clothing with black or dark blue dye. These are dyes that are loosely held on the fabric and easily rubbed off on the skin. One common denominator is sweat, so dark clothing worn against the skin while exercising is going to more easily leach out its chemicals, interact with the immune system and result in a rash.

Other clothing that can induce contact dermatitis include cotton or cotton/polyester blends that use formaldehyde resins to make them wrinkle-resistant; metals used as fasteners or buckles; tanning chemicals in leather; and latex proteins found in rubber.

When a patient comes in to the clinic with a new rash, it’s important to get a complete history: new medications taken, different foods, travel, and exposure to common household chemicals are possible causes. Could exposure on the job be the culprit?

When the appearance of the rash suggests contact from clothing, it sometimes takes repeated and detailed questioning in order to bring out the relationship. In my experience, reactions to dark clothing dyes are much more common than reactions to soap, detergent, shampoo, or even foods, which are what most people initially suspect as the cause.

Treatment involves avoidance of the offending clothing and the use of steroid medications, either topically or systemically. Testing can be done to try to identify the offending agent, so it can at least be avoided in the future. My advice to anyone is to avoid sweating while wearing black or dark blue undergarments.

Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2016 Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Cbet 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 700 medical students and young doctors to train with the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.

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From Jackie *with love*

What does stress have to do with the common cold?



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN
EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

What does stress have to do with the common cold? It turns out, quite a bit. Let's consider how the stress response works in the body.

If we feel excited or threatened, hormones like adrenalin surge to boost our energy, focus our attention and improve our reaction time. Production of the hormone cortisol increases and causes additional sugar to be released into the bloodstream to provide the brain with extra energy.

Cortisol also curbs other systems that aren't critical for keeping us alive during a stressful event. It regulates inflammatory, immune, digestive, reproductive and growth systems. Once the excitement or perceived threat passes, the body returns to a normal baseline.

Good stress, or "eustress," is short term. It focuses energy, feels exciting, improves performance and is perceived as within our coping abilities. It might occur during joyful events in life such as the birth of a child, receiving a promotion or taking a vacation.

The opposite of eustress is distress, also called negative stress. It's can be short- or long-term, causes anxiety, feels unpleasant, decreases performance, can lead to mental and physical problems and is perceived as outside of our coping abilities. It might occur due to relationship or money issues, excessive demands, lack of sleep or illness.

A problem many of us face today is that we're spending too much time in distress and the body has less opportunity to return to a healthy baseline.

In 2012, Carnegie Mellon University published the work of a research team led by Sheldon Cohen. They found that people suffering from psychological stress are more susceptible to developing common colds. They found that symptoms of the common cold are not caused by the virus but are instead a side effect of the inflammatory response—the greater the body's inflammatory response to the virus, the greater the likelihood of experiencing the symptoms of a cold.

It seems that prolonged stress decreases the body's sensitivity to cortisol. This means that cortisol loses its ability to regulate the inflammatory response and creates uncontrolled inflammation, which promotes the development and progression of many diseases.

"The immune system's ability to regulate inflammation predicts who will develop a cold, but more importantly it provides an explanation of how stress can promote disease," Cohen wrote in the report. "When under stress, cells of the immune system are unable to respond to hormonal control, and consequently, produce levels of inflammation that promote disease. Because inflammation plays a role in many diseases such as cardiovascular, asthma and autoimmune disorders, this model suggests why stress impacts them as well."

This is a great reason to become aware of our own stress patterns and learn to manage them. Meditation, exercise, the outdoors and simple breathing exercises are all great tools for mitigating stress. Also, eating a healthy diet of whole foods rather than processed foods while reducing sugar and caffeine help us become more resilient during stressful events.

An oft-overlooked tool that goes a long way in preventing and reducing stress is good communication. Check out the book "Nonviolent Communication" to learn more.

During the holiday season, feeling overwhelmed and stressed out is not uncommon. It's also the cold and flu season. Coincidence? Maybe not.

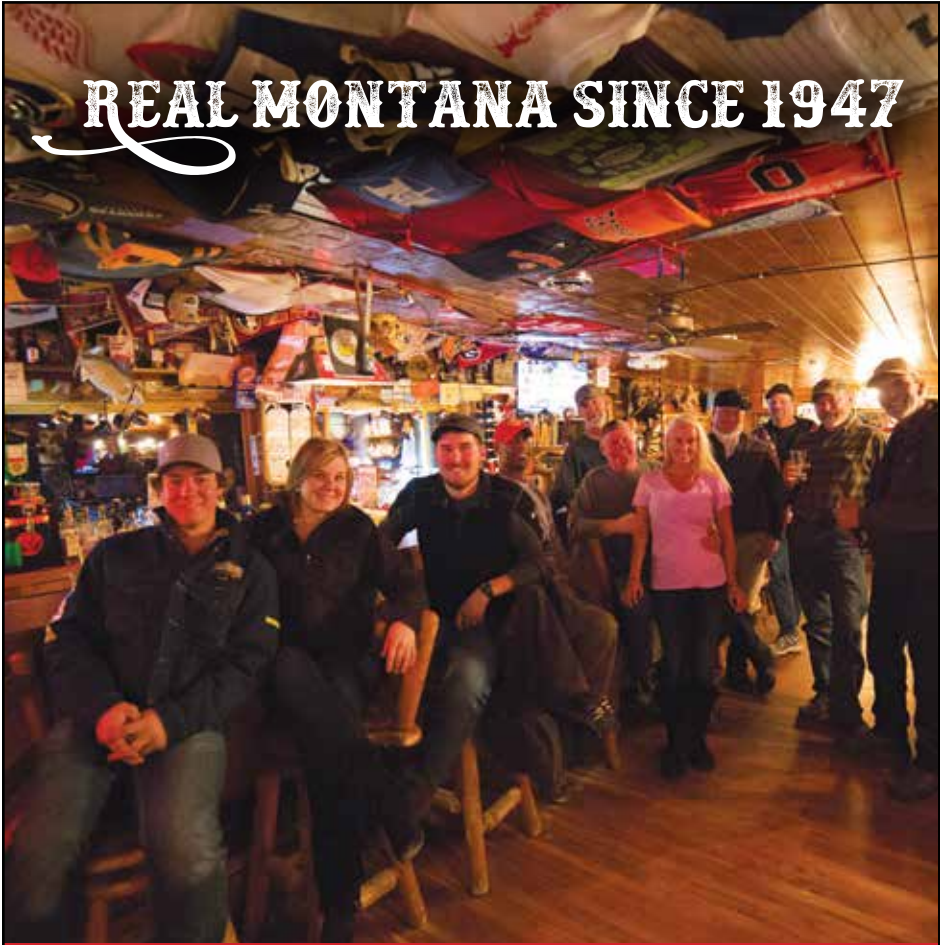
Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach and Consultant, a public speaker and health activist. Contact her at jackie@corehealthbmt.com.



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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.

You know you are a chef when you ...



BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

“Chef” can be a relative title. Occasionally, chef positions are merely the most experienced cook in the kitchen, one who cooks on the line, side by side with his staff on a daily basis.

Some chefs divide their days between cooking on the line and a host of other daily duties. Others still have such large or streamlined operations that they rarely even touch food, but rove around to touch all the areas under their management umbrella.

Once, on a TV program highlighting the then brand-new Venetian hotel and casino in Las Vegas, the executive chef said he never has a knife in his hand, but rather a clipboard, two-way radio, and cell phone. My guess is he will never require a gym membership, and puts an average of 12 miles per day on his feet.

But spend enough time in a kitchen and the following statements will all come true, no matter the specifics of a chef’s environment.

- Unless the restaurant is closed, you always wonder when you’ll get the text or call to come in.
- You continuously hear the kitchen printer, which prints food tickets no matter what other noise is going on. Sometimes you hear it in your sleep. Like it’s speaking to you directly.
- You will also hear any timer, anywhere, for that matter.
- You constantly have some degree of burn or cut on your hands or arms, and at times other places. And you’ve unfortunately learned that cutting a burn hurts worse than burning a cut.
- You eat so many of your meals standing up that your body begins to prefer it.
- You have Sharpie markers everywhere: in your briefcase, your car, various drawers at home and your pocket at all times.
- The term family meal has nothing to do with blood relatives.
- You always smoke up your home because, well, that’s just how a piece of meat should be seared in cast iron.
- You forget what it’s like to celebrate any holiday, wedding, funeral or birthday with anyone.
- Ironically, most people use the white noise of a fan to help them sleep at night, yet, a chef associates the white noise with the hood fans they hear all day, every day. And it isn’t calming, but rather it makes us think of the energy and chaos from work.
- No one you know has sharp knives in their kitchen. Or they have the kind that has tiny little serrated edges on them. And if we’re forced to use them, we die a little bit inside every time we hold one.
- You can hand a chef nearly anything and they can figure out a way to use it to replace the broken knob on the stove.
- You’ve worked with someone somewhere who says they had a long day and goodnight as they are leaving. And you think to yourself that you still have two more hours worth of work. Then you remember you saw them arrive to work after you’ve been there for two hours.
- When you are over to dinner at anyone else’s house and they’re cutting vegetables, you can’t help but think to yourself, “You’re doing that wrong.”

Believe me, many qualities identify you as a chef, so I will revisit this topic from time to time.

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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Section 3:
INSIDE YELLOWSTONE,
OUTDOORS & FUN



Big Sky Resort preps for opening day

EBS STAFF

Big Sky Resort is gearing up to open Thanksgiving Day—as it has 28 of the last 30 years—even though unseasonably warm temperatures the first two weeks of November worked against considerable precipitation that graced the Northern Rockies in October.

Big Sky Resort’s Public Relations Manager Chelsi Moy told EBS on Nov. 17 that she’s optimistic the mountain would open on schedule and that the ski area’s snow guns are running.

“We have double-digit [snow] cats ready to rock and roll,” Moy said. “There was enough snow that we could start grooming as of [Nov. 16].”

Five inches of snow fell in The Bowl on Nov. 16, and another 4-plus inches accumulated on Nov. 17.

Moy pointed out that the mountain received double the average precipitation during October. “If the precipitation continues the way it has been, then that’s

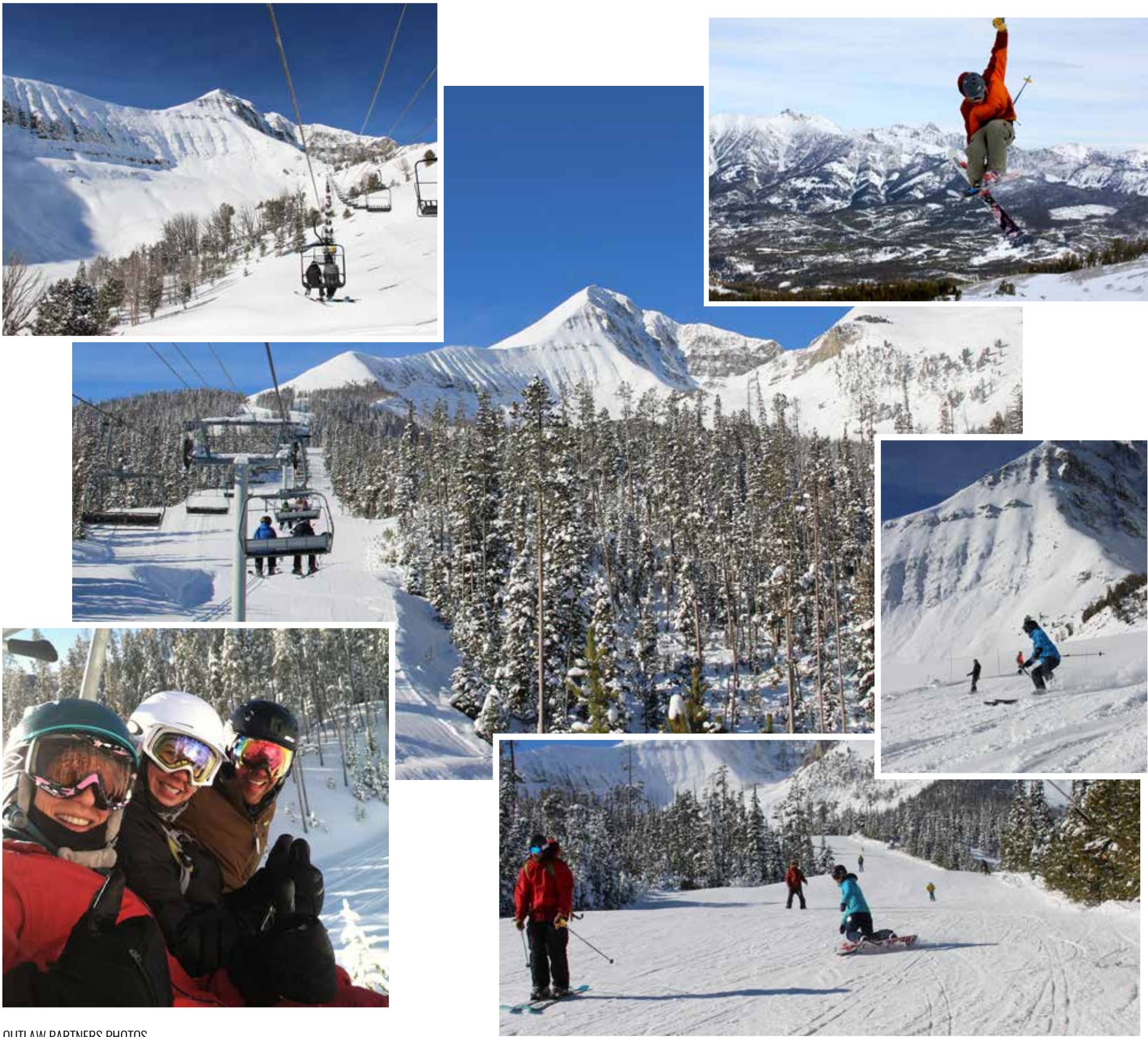
going to turn into snow—and that’s a really encouraging forecast going into the entire season,” Moy said.

The Northern Rockies are expected to benefit from above-average precipitation this winter due to a weak La Nina cycle, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

On opening day, the resort will pass out hot chocolate, coffee and swag at the base of Swiftcurrent chairlift.

Under a new “yielded ticket system” being implemented this winter, people who purchase lift tickets early will snag the best prices. “The earlier you buy, the greater the discount you get [and] anytime you buy your tickets online, you’ll get a discount,” Moy said.

Window rates will also change depending on the time of year and demand. Skiers and riders can purchase an adult full-day ticket for \$89 during the early season; that rate will increase to \$129 during busy holiday stretches like President’s Day weekend.



OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTOS

INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Report: Man died seeking place to soak in Yellowstone

BILLINGS (AP) – An Oregon man who died after falling into a scalding Yellowstone National Park hot spring in June was looking for a place to “hot pot,” the forbidden practice of soaking in one of the park’s thermal features, officials said.

Sable Scott told investigators that she and her 23-year-old brother, Colin, left a boardwalk near Pork Chop Geyser and walked several hundred feet up a hill in search of “a place that they could potentially get into and soak,” Deputy Chief Ranger Lorant Veress told KULR-TV in an interview.

As Sable Scott took video of her brother with her cellphone on June 7, he reached down to check the water temperature and slipped and fell into a thermal pool about 6 feet long, 4 feet wide and 10 feet deep, according to a National Park Service incident record.

Park officials did not release the video or a description of it, but the report said it also chronicled Sable Scott’s efforts to rescue her brother.

Search and rescue rangers spotted Colin Scott’s body floating in the pool the day of the accident, but a lightning storm prevented recovery, the report said.

The next day, workers could not find any remains in the boiling, acidic water.

“In very short order, there was a significant amount of dissolving,” Veress said.

The report included images of several signs warning people of the dangers of the park’s geothermal features and of traveling off walkways in the area where Colin Scott died.

The Park Service did not issue any citations in the case.

Scott was on a college graduation trip with his sister at the time of his death, which came a day after six people were cited for walking off-trail at the park’s Grand Prismatic Spring.

A week later, a tourist from China was fined \$1,000 for breaking through the fragile crust in the Mammoth Hot Springs area, apparently to collect water for medicinal purposes.

October visitation decreases in Yellowstone 2016 still sets record

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

October Yellowstone National Park visitation decreased by nearly 4 percent from October 2015. However, the first 10 months of 2016 are up 3.6 percent from the previous year. Compared to the first 10 months of 2014, the park experienced a 21 percent increase—or more than 700,00 additional visits—this year.

Three of the park’s five entrances—the North, South, and East entrances—showed a decrease in recreational visits for the month of October compared to the same month last year. The decrease at the East Entrance was likely a result of several temporary closures due to weather between Oct. 3 and Oct 20.

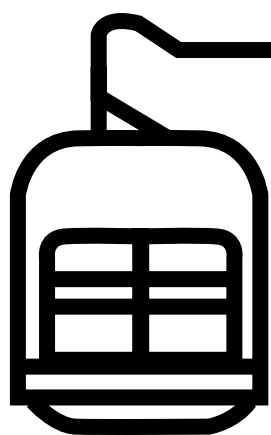
For the sixth month in a row, the most striking increase in vehicle traffic was with buses. A total of 942 buses were in the park this October compared to 826 buses in October 2015—a 14 percent increase from 2015.

While many factors could be at play, park managers point to the National Park Service’s Centennial year, marketing and tourism promotions by the states of Montana and Wyoming, and lower gas prices as influences in the record number of visits to Yellowstone so far this year.

To the north, Glacier National Park broke its annual visitation record in September. The previous record of 2.3 million visitors was set in 2015, and the park estimates 2.79 million people will pass through entrance gates this year.



NPS PHOTO



WORD FROM THE RESORTS

Giving you the news directly from the region's top ski resorts



BY CHELSI MOY
BIG SKY RESORT PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

As skiers and snowboarders assess their gear, buy passes and plan their ski getaways, Big Sky Resort is also prepping for winter—and has been for a while. Thanksgiving Day is slated for opening day. Snow is in the forecast and we are ready with our snowmaking machines as long as we get a little help from Mother Nature.

Our two brand new chairlifts are complete. The chairs are on Powder Seeker, a high-speed six-seat chairlift with heated seats and blue bubble covers. It's the highest bubble chairlift in North America and the most technologically advanced lift built in the country this year. The lift houses are modern and spacious. The new Challenger chairlift, a new triple with a conveyor load, will get skiers and snowboarders to the ridge 25 faster than the old lift. Both chairlifts will open as soon as the snow permits. We think people will appreciate the warmer, quicker rides.

There are four new runs at Big Sky Resort this year—two gladed runs and two groomed runs in the Bowl area for a total of 20.5 new skiable acres. White Witch, near Lone Tree Quad, was named by the Landry family when the naming rights were auctioned off at a Moonlight Foundation fundraiser. Steep and Deep—a black diamond groomer—and Ski Time—an intermediate run—are both groomers in the Bowl and named after 1980s Warren Miller ski films. Forbidden Forest is the largest of the new runs at 15 acres and is located between Lower Morningstar and Magic Meadows.

Also, don't forget that free week for Sky Card holders begins Nov. 28, and \$29 day is Dec. 2. There are a lot of exciting changes this season at Big Sky Resort. We're excited to see you on the slopes!

Visit bisgskyresort.com for more information.

BY JENNIE WHITE
GRAND TARGHEE MARKETING AND
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER



Temperatures have dropped and it's starting to look more like winter. Here at Grand Targhee Resort, we're excited for the 2016-17 season to get underway. Keep an eye on our website for opening day. We can't wait to share some turns with you!

To get you excited for the winter, we want to let you know what we were up to this summer. Spring of 2016 we retired the old double Blackfoot chairlift—an iconic piece of Grand Targhee Resort's history since 1974—and replaced it with a Doppelmayr fixed grip quad.

The new Blackfoot has footrests and sweeps riders to the top of the mountain in seven minutes at a rate of 450 feet per minute. Sit back, relax and enjoy the ride to over 500 acres and 1,200 vertical feet. We've also installed a restroom at the base of the lift.

Other mountain improvements include expanded parking, a new grooming snowcat, new terrain park features and renovations to the Rendezvous restrooms. Additional miles of single-track trails have been added to Targhee for all the fat bike enthusiasts out there.

We hope you'll plan a trip to Grand Targhee Resort this winter and experience our Western hospitality and pure mountain charm. Here's to a great winter. Think snow!

Visit grandtarghee.com for more information.



BY DAVID JOHNSON
MARKETING AT JACKSON HOLE MOUNTAIN RESORT

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort is excited to announce that our 51st season will begin on Thanksgiving Day and will run 135 days until April 9, 2017, making this the longest season in JHMR history.

Following the heaviest snowfall during the month of October in 16 years, 55 inches, JHMR has felt the heat wave like much of the West. As we anxiously await Thanksgiving Day, the weather appears to be turning for the cold. It looks like winter's coming and JHMR will get back in the flow.

We're excited to announce that we're bringing back many exciting events for the upcoming 2016-17 winter season. On Dec. 17, we're opening a new lift, the Sweetwater Gondola, which will ease access to the Casper area and increase loading capacity out of the base area.

In February, the return of the World Championship Powder 8's and Skijoring will mark a two-week run of events. The weekend of Feb. 4, the Powder 8's will return to Cody Bowl for the best synchronized skiing event around. The following weekend competitors will come from near and far to take part in Skijoring, billed as "the most adrenaline packed 15-20 seconds of fun."

The season culminates in early April, but the real party takes place during our Jackson Hole Rendezvous Spring Festival. This year's dates are March 17-19, 2017 and we'll announce the bands and acts in the near future. Last year Zac Brown Band put Rendezvous on the map in front of a record crowd here in Teton Village and we're excited to see what's next.

Visit jacksonhole.com for more information.

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On the Trail: Storm Castle Peak Trail

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



Olive Wolfe at the top of Castle Rock Peak Trail, the 6-year-old’s first big hike and summit. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

BY CIARA WOLFE
BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hiking Storm Castle Peak Trail is a truly magical experience. Storm Castle is one of the more prominent geological features in Gallatin Canyon and this hike provides expansive views from it in a fairly short distance. This 4.7-mile hike allows you to summit and sit atop one of the most breathtaking rock outcrops in this area. Novices and experienced hikers alike can feel like they’re top of the world while sitting on this iconic limestone monolith overlooking Gallatin River and the surrounding mountains.

Storm Castle Peak Trail is an intermediate hike with a hefty 2.35-mile climb on a narrow natural-surface trail. Although the elevation gain is significant, the consistent grade and switchbacks interspersed with incredible vistas throughout make for a pleasurable experience for individuals of all abilities.

Start at the Forest Service trailhead parking lot located on the north side of Storm Castle Road. While hiking up meandering switchbacks and through a beautiful “enchanted forest,” you’ll have several options for water and snack breaks on small outcrops with big vistas. The closer you get to Storm Castle Peak, the more side trails have been cut in. Stay on route and prevent erosion by following the most prevalent trail.

Once the rock itself is in sight, the route will wrap behind Storm Castle and then climb to the top of it. There are several areas at the top where you can sit and admire the distance you have climbed. Make sure to save some energy for the 2.35-mile hike down—it goes fast, but it can be challenging with steep switchbacks and loose rocks. Also make sure to choose safe places to pass other hikers and be conscious of your dogs or children kicking rocks onto hikers below you.

Fall is an excellent time for Storm Castle Peak Trail, however I don’t recommend hiking it in slick conditions due to its grade and tight turns. This was my daughter’s first big hike and summit. The confidence and pride she found on top will hopefully cultivate a lifetime of recreation and appreciation for the world around us. I encourage you to go explore, test your limits, and bask in the feelings of gratitude that this hike provides due to its majestic nature.

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

Distance	Uses	Difficulty	Elevation Gain	Surface
4.7 miles roundtrip	Hike	Moderate	1,880 ft	Dirt

Directions: From Big Sky, drive north on Highway 191 for 17.2 miles. After passing the Lava Lake Trailhead, turn right onto Storm Castle Road, a well-maintained dirt road. Drive about 2 miles until you approach a small row of parking spaces on the north side of the road marked with a Forest Service trailhead sign.

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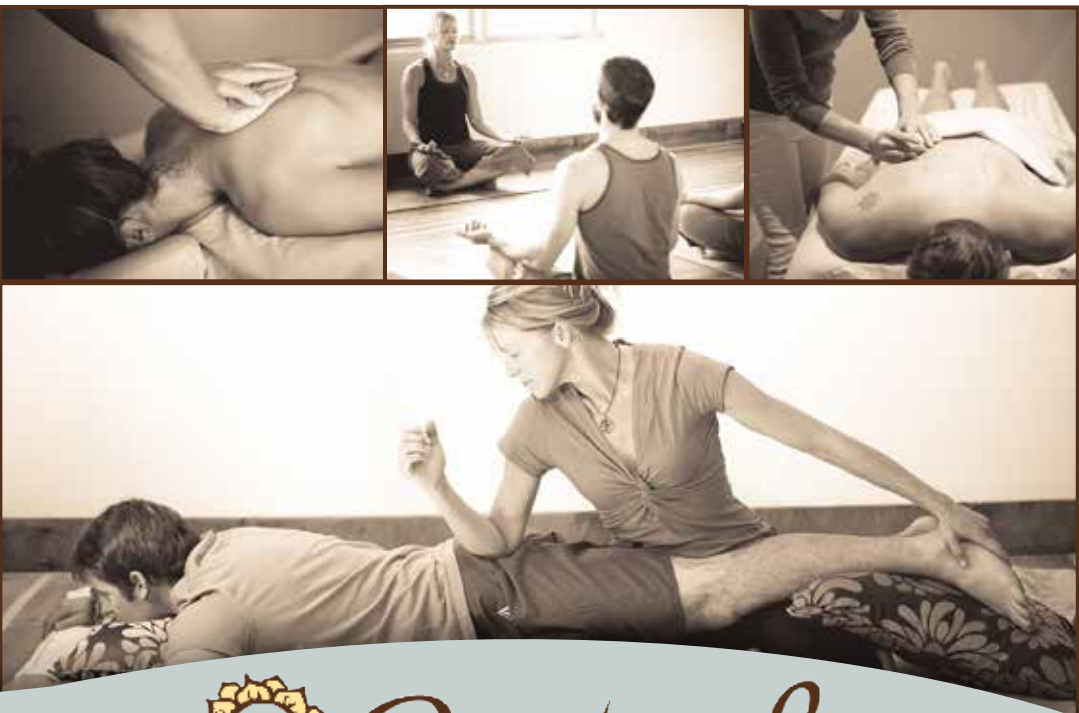
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LET GO TO LET LIVE YOGA WORKSHOP
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12/3 4 - 7 PM

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SUNDAY

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TUESDAY

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THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

9:00-10:15am
All Levels Yoga

5:45-6:45pm
Pi-Yo

7:00-8:00am
All Levels Yoga

9:30-10:45am
Ski conditioning yoga

6:30-7:45pm
All Levels Yoga

9:00-10:15am
All Levels Yoga

11:00-12:30
The Practice
(Yoga level 2-3)

7:00-8:00am
All Levels Yoga

9:30-10:45am
Ski conditioning yoga

Nov. 24
Special Thanksgiving
Day Class
7:30-8:30am
(free!)

9:00-10:15am
Level II Yoga

11:00-12:00
Gentle/Restorative Yoga

3:15-4:00
3rd-5th Kids Yoga

4:15 - 4:45
K-2nd Kids Yoga

9:00-10:15am
Ashtanga/Vinyasa
Flow
All Levels Yoga



THE EDDY Line



BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

On the morning of the Nov. 9, I took my daughter fishing on the Gallatin. She's only 5 years old, so we spent more time skipping rocks and looking for petrified wood than we did with our lines in the water. Despite our lack of angling-centric focus, we managed to trick a few whitefish and a few trout.

At the end of the day, the limestone cliffs near Storm Castle were lit in golden light nearly the same color as my daughter's blond hair. I nearly forgot about the previous day's election and was thankful for the moment—being able to enjoy a world-class river with my daughter. I said to her, "We've got it pretty good, you know?" She smiled back and skipped another rock into the water.



We have many reasons to give thanks—public lands, stream access, and healthy rivers with plentiful trout, among others—but they all take a back seat if we do not work to protect them for future generations. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

We give thanks for our friends, family, and the goodness we all enjoy. Before the bumrush of the holidays overtakes many of us, here's a pause for reflection on the many things we should be thankful for here in our corner of angling heaven. And, yes, I write similar things each Thanksgiving, but think of this as a friendly reminder of just how good we have it.

Access to world-class fishing with Montana's stream access law. We could not live the fishing-centric lifestyle many of us do without our stream access law. Created so the public could enjoy our rivers and streams, it is a law any angler and river user must be thankful exists.

We must also understand that with this law comes responsibility to protect and care for the resources we use. Remember to respect private

Thanksfishing: Southwest Montana anglers have a cornucopia of reasons to be thankful

property by not trespassing. Regardless of your personal feelings toward government and its role in our daily lives, we live in a state where public lands allow us to partake in the things we love to do: fish, ski, hike, bike, hunt and more. Our good fortune of access doesn't stop with hunting and fishing—residents and visitors to our area have access to a park with ball fields, a playground for kids, and a community trail system.

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Personal and political feelings aside, our state wildlife management agency deserves some gratitude. In August, much of the Yellowstone River was closed due to an invasive parasite. With the long-term health of the Yellowstone River in mind, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks made a potentially polarizing decision to close the river. When tens of thousands of native whitefish are dying, something is wrong. We should be thankful we have an organization with staff committed to the public's ability to enjoy Montana's resources for generations to come.

Protecting the places we love. Thank you to the many groups and organizations dedicated to protecting what we enjoy. Groups like the Gallatin River Task Force, Trout Unlimited, Montana Land Reliance, Gallatin Valley Land Trust, and many more ensure we have plenty of places to wet a line, take a hike, and leave things better than we found them.

Home to some of fly fishing's best. Southwest Montana is home to some of the world's best fly-fishing shops, guides and outfitters. Many of the sport's top personalities call this area home. If you need help with the best 3-weight rod for PMDs on the Gallatin, you have a variety of excellent local fly shops; if you want to learn the habits of spring creek trout, you have access to them and the superb guides who can help you; if you want to explore a far-off destination, you could have coffee with someone who has been. Use the resources at your doorstep to spend more time on the water.

As we learned on Election Day, our country is as unique as our political process. As we give thanks for what we enjoy and set our sights on the holidays, be sure to not lose sight of the necessity to take action to ensure we still have reasons to give thanks—for yourself, and in my case, the life of my daughter. And remember that with giving thanks comes responsibility.

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, he is co-director of the Montana Fishing Guide School, and co-owns a guide service on the Missouri River.

Avalanche awareness classes scheduled for Dec. 15 and Jan. 10 in Bozeman

EBS STAFF

In partnership with the Friends of the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center, the Bozeman Parks and Recreation Department is offering two free avalanche awareness classes this winter.

The first class open is open to all and will take place Thursday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. Bring a beacon if you have one—beacon practice is included. The second offering is a women's only class and it is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. Both classes will be held at the Beall Recreation Center in Bozeman.

Classes will cover important information about terrain, weather, snowpack and human factors. Once there's enough snow, Beacon Park will be open and free to the public for avalanche beacon practice seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Please register in advance by visiting bozeman.net/recreation or calling (406) 582-2290.



Once the snow allows, Beacon Park will be open and free to the public seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Beacon Park allows people to become familiar with their avalanche transceivers and is located in the southeast corner of Bozeman's Beall Park. PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN PARKS AND RECREATION



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Women In Action is offering scholarships to boys and girls aged 3 - 15 who want to attend winter ski schools at Big Sky Resort. Scholarships for equipment rental are also available.

Scholarships are based on financial need.

For more information on available classes, go to:
www.bigskyresort.com/the-mountain/mountain-sports-and-lessons/youth-local-programs

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Big Sky, MT 59716

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- Big Sky School
- Morningstar Learning Center
- **WIA's website—www.wiabigsky.org**



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Public input sought for Snow King development plan

Gondola, observatory, zip line, expanded beginner terrain proposed

EBS STAFF

Snow King Mountain in Jackson, Wyoming, is accepting public input on its Phase 2 development plan that will eventually go before the Bridger Teton National Forest for approval.

Once the Forest Service has collected public comments and completed the environmental assessment, it will give Snow King direction about what can and cannot be accomplished in its proposed plan.

“Essentially we are trying to keep alive a small ski resort that has been teetering on shutting down for a long time and want to improve it to attract more visitors and diversify the business,” Snow King General Manager Ryan Stanley wrote EBS in an email. Stanley added he hopes the Bridger Teton National Forest will begin the National Environmental Policy Act process next year and he expects it will be a couple years before Snow King knows if it can act on the proposed improvements.

Snow King Mountain’s Phase 2 plan includes:

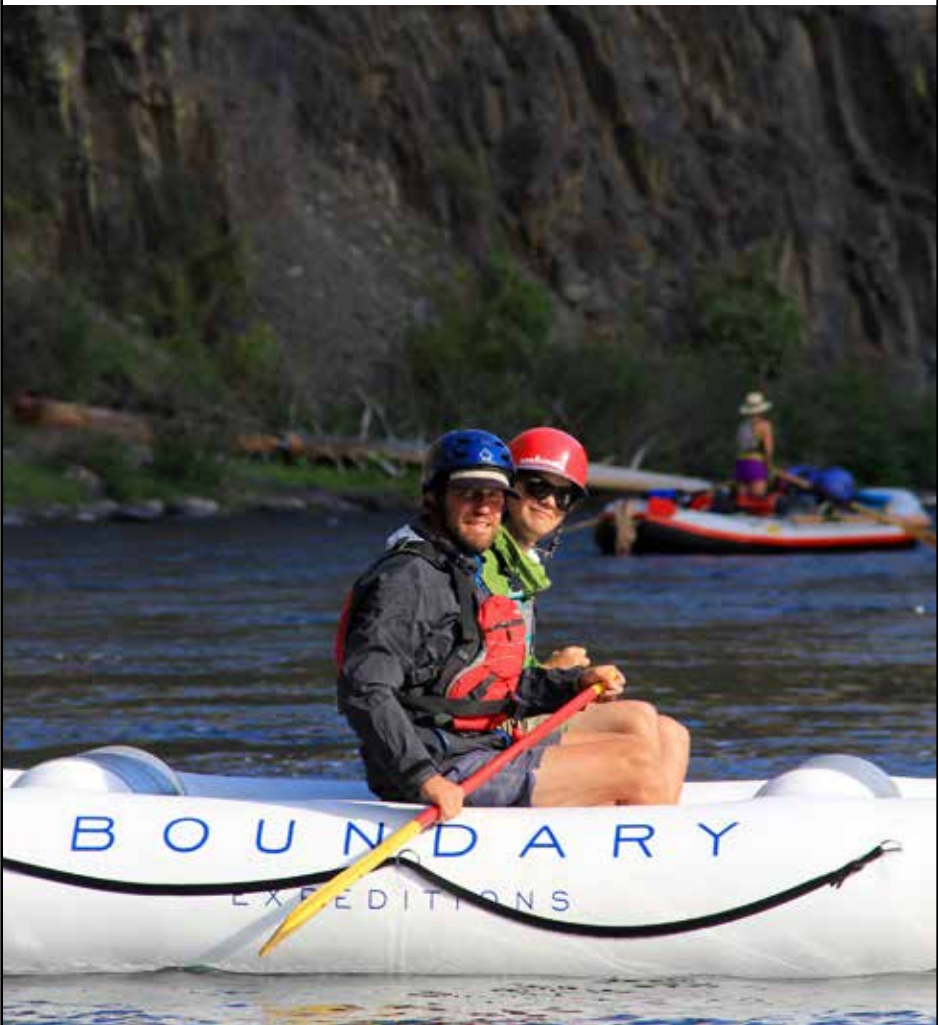
- Replacing the 35-year-old summit lift with an eight-person gondola.
- Replacing the Panorama House with a new restaurant, meeting center/planetarium, ski school and ski patrol office. Moving the ski school to the top of the mountain would give students and instructors access to more sun and better beginner terrain.
- Building an observatory at the Summit that would be run by Wyoming Stargazing.
- A 72-acre expansion of the east and west boundaries. Snow King would return more than 100 acres of currently permitted land on the south side of the mountain to the Forest Service. The new terrain would provide much needed beginner and intermediate runs during the winter and the potential for mountain bike trails during the summer.
- Creating a new access road to the summit, which would also serve as a beginner run down the mountain in the winter and an improved hiking trail in the summer.
- Installing a zip line adjacent to the new gondola.

For more information about the Phase 2 plan, visit snowkingmountain.com/mountain/master-plan/ or submit an email to phase2@snowking.com



One of the facilities proposed in Phase 2 would be located at the summit of the mountain and would be the site of a restaurant, meeting space, ski patrol station, and potentially a telescope and observatory.
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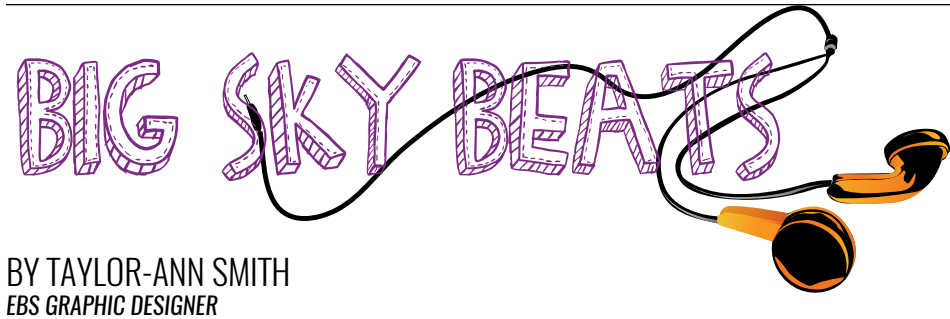
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BY TAYLOR-ANN SMITH
EBS GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Find out what tunes we’re bumping! In Big Sky Beats, Explore Big Sky staff offers suggested 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 the chairlift, we’ve got you covered.

Winter is finally here! The snow is taking its time to pile up, and the Outlaw Partners are more than ready to strap on our snowboards and skis and play in the powder.

In celebration of the season, we’ve compiled an essential playlist for you this winter—featuring each Outlaw’s favorite song to jam to on the slopes:

1. “Get Innocuous!,” LCD Soundsystem (Tyler Allen)
2. “Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die,” Willie Nelson (Eric Ladd)
3. “Lydia,” Highly Suspect (Amanda Eggert)
4. “Free,” Phish (Carie Birkmeier)
5. “Communication Breakdown,” Led Zeppelin (E.J. Daws)
6. “Church,” De La Soul (Ersin Ozer)
7. “The Seed,” The Roots (Joseph T. O’Connor)
8. “On Trees and Birds and Fire - Sam Feldt & Bloombox remix,” I Am Oak (Alexis Deaton)
9. “Thunderstruck (Electro Remix),” Ministry, DJ Rad (Megan Paulson)
10. “Living the Dream,” Sturgill Simpson (Doug Hare)
11. “Tubthumping,” Chumbawamba (Ryan Weaver)
12. “The Tempest,” Pendulum (Wes Overvold)
13. “Hail Mary,” Tupac Shakur (Amy Delgrande)
14. “Sleepyhead,” Passion Pit (Taylor-Ann Smith)

Visit explorebigsky.com/beats for a sampling of the playlist.

American Life in Poetry: Column 608

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

It’s high time that a column about American life can at last offer a poem about romance fiction. Most of us poets are lucky to have a few hundred readers for our books, and that’s only a tiny fraction of the tens of thousands of devoted followers of bodice-rippers. Here’s a poem by Marilyn L. Taylor, who lives in Wisconsin, that offers an explanation.

Aunt Eudora’s Harlequin Romance
By Marilyn L. Taylor

She turns the bedlamp on. The book falls open
in her mottled hands, and while she reads
her mouth begins to quiver, forming words
like Breathless. Promises. Elope.
As she turns the leaves, Eudora’s cheek
takes on a bit of bloom. Her frowzy hair
thickens and turns gold, her dim eyes clear,
the wattles vanish from her slender neck.
Her waist, emerging from its ring of flesh,
bends to the side. Breasts that used to hang
like pockets rise and ripen; her long legs
tremble. Her eyes close, she holds her breath—
the steamy pages flutter by, unread,
as lover after lover finds her bed.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2015 by Marilyn L. Taylor, “Aunt Eudora’s Harlequin Romance,” from Third Wednesday, (Vol. IX, No. 1, 2015/2016). Poem reprinted by permission of Marilyn L. Taylor and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2016 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

1 Priest

4 Amer. Cancer Society (abbr.)

7 Quill for winding silk

10 Gray and black plaid

11 Least bit

12 Dance

14 Gum

16 Active

17 Serum (pref.)

18 Leal

20 Comparative ending

21 Dance step

22 Chamber

24 Ten-sided figure

28 Setting

31 Elevator inventor

32 Tactical Air Command (abbr.)

34 Two-toed sloth

35 Aunt (Fr.)

37 Refuge

39 Basse-Normandie city

41 Bother

42 Exclamation

44 Military group

46 Unexploded bomb (abbr.)

49 Amorphous mass

51 Lie (2 words)

53 Sayings (suf.)

54 Husband of Fatima

55 Tennyson character

56 Son of, in Gaelic names

57 Civil War commander

58 Adjusted gross income (abbr.)

DOWN

1 Die away

2 Ger. industrial valley

3 Soft drink

4 lt. poet

5 S.A. rodent

6 Pierce

7 Cubic feet per second (abbr.)

8 King's yellow

9 Chaste

10 But (Sp.)

13 Gyration (pref.)

15 Dross

19 Sp. article

21 Dough (Ital.)

23 Eye (pref.)

24 Speck

25 Greek letter

26 Quinine

27 Nose (pref.)

29 No (Scot.)

30 Europe (abbr.)

33 Spoken alphabet letter

36 Eur. Economic Community (abbr.)

38 Noble (Ger.)

40 Of birth

42 Kimono sash

43 Mollusk

45 Valley

46 Rhinoceros beetle

47 42 (Rom. numeral)

48 Garden plot

50 Cistern

52 Hyson

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

H	A	I	I	B	I	S	T	A	E
O	G	R	E	N	A	C	L	A	M
B	O	R	A	D	I	S	A	S	T
		I	R	B	I	L		D	I
D	O	G	L	E	G		B	E	G
A	B	A	V	O	R	A		M	A
C	E	T	A		D	E	G		A
E	D	E	N		Y	E	A	H	O
		T	H	E		T	A	P	P
A	E	R	I	E		L	E	T	H
B	R	O	C	A	T	E	L		O
A	D	A		T	A	A	L		N
S	A	D		H	I	D	E		A
								A	C

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A69

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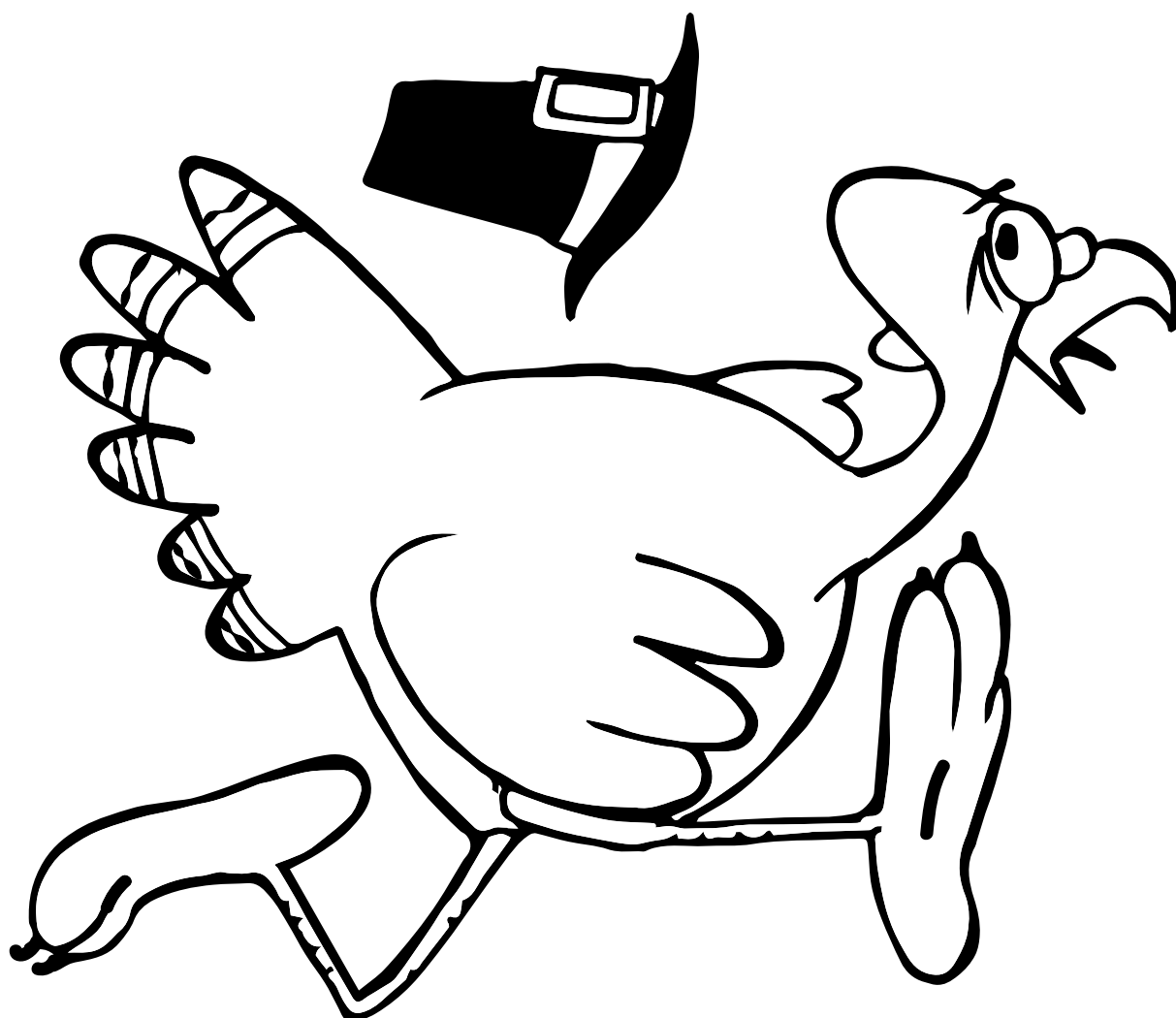


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Section 4: EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT, BACK 40



19th Annual Christmas Stroll pg. 51



Montana Shakespeare in the Schools
pg. 53



Back 40:
Solid skiing on rocky slopes pg. 56



Lone Peak Cinema celebrates 5 years of film and fun

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY - Lone Peak Cinema isn't your ordinary movie theater. On a quiet Wednesday evening, two men enjoy a post-work beer at the theater's bar with no intention of seeing a movie, and gradually multiply into a group of six as they are joined by other locals looking for a noisy bar scene alternative.

Two women arrive in a flurry to buy the first advance tickets for Warren Miller's "Here, There and Everywhere," which will be screened on Wednesday, Nov. 23. Showing a ski film the day before Thanksgiving and opening day on the mountain was how Scott and Sally Fisher opened Lone Peak Cinema five years ago in November 2011, and has remained a tradition ever since.

Scott and Sally met in business school at University of Colorado Boulder. Born and raised in Vail, Colorado, Scott grew up on the slopes but it was Sally—for whom visiting her family's home in Aspen from Chattanooga, Tennessee, was a much-anticipated treat—who reignited his passion for the sport.

"With Sally, I fell in love with skiing all over again like I did when I was a kid," Scott said.

After college, Scott and Sally knew they didn't want to stay in Colorado because of overcrowding, but still wanted a life in the mountains.

After graduation and a two-month trip to South America—climbing Machu Picchu and skiing in Argentina and Chile—the couple set out in search of



Scott and Sally Fisher with their dog Ada Z—named after the A to Z Chutes at Big Sky Resort—skiing Beartooth Pass in June 2013.
PHOTO BY MARK DAVIDSON

their next mountain home. They stopped in Jackson, Wyoming, but couldn't find a hotel and took it as a sign to move on. Then they thought Bridger Bowl would be their spot—until they came to Big Sky and saw Lone Mountain.

"We saw the Big Couloir and it was all filled in in June and we couldn't believe it was a run," Scott said. "And we just decided that we wanted to move here."

That was 2007 and the Fishers got jobs as ski instructors at Big Sky Resort—Sally, who has a

large, loyal client base, still teaches on the mountain—before getting the idea to open a movie theater during a road trip to Tennessee in 2010.

"We really love this community and we wanted to add to it," Scott said. "We wanted to provide something that wasn't already here and we had this idea—inspired by a movie theater in Aspen—and it kind of snowballed."

The Fishers put together a business plan. While there was a positive response from the community, they couldn't find a pre-existing structure that would work as a theater.

After sitting on their business plan for nearly a year, they got a call from Bill Simkins, who caught wind of their desire to open a theater. Simkins put the Fishers in touch with developer John Romney, who was about to break ground on one of the first commercial buildings built in Big Sky after the Great Recession.

"We were the anchor tenant," Scott said. "We're so lucky John built this place as a theater for us. We were very proud of taking the risk to try and start a business right after the recession and now there are all these businesses and people living here."

With 40 to 80 percent of ticket sales going to the movie production companies and such large square footage, it requires a lot of hard work and innovation to sustain Lone Peak Cinema as a viable business. Again and again the Fishers come back to expressing gratitude to the community for making their dream possible.

"We are excited to reach this milestone," Sally said of their five-year anniversary. "It's been a lot of work; we are still scraping by. But we owe making it this far to the outstanding support from the year-round residents. We'd like to thank the locals for coming to movies, buying concessions from us, and letting their kids see the movies twice or more!"

Lone Peak Cinema celebrates five years of business all day on Monday, Dec. 5, with all things \$5: movies, popcorn, beer, wine, cocktails, candy and more. The Fishers will also be giving away five movie passes.

Visit lonepeakcinema.com for a full schedule of show times.



PHOTO BY TAYLOR-ANN SMITH

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

***If your event falls between December 9 and December 22, please submit it by December 2**

Big Sky

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Mommy and Me Yoga
Yoga Stone, 10:30 a.m.

Bingo Night
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Warren Miller’s Here, There and Everywhere
Lone Peak Cinema, 6 & 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Opening Day
Big Sky Resort, 9 a.m.

Live Music: Brian Stumpf
Scissorbills Saloon, 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Live Music: KP
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Live Music: Kent Johnson
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Live Music: Stumpf
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Mommy and Me Yoga
Yoga Stone, 11 a.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
\$29 Dollar Day
Big Sky Resort, 9 a.m.

Live Music: Mark Davidson
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Holiday Kick-Off Sale & Open House
Bighorn Center, 4 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting
Mountain Restorative Health, 5 p.m.

Wildly Free to Be Workshop
Yoga Stone, 5:30 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
Contentment from Within Workshop
Yoga Stone, 9 a.m.

Women’s Early Bird Clinic
Big Sky Resort, all day

Mountain Outlaw Magazine Release Party
Montana Jack, 3 p.m.

Live Music: Telemark Tom
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Let Go to Let Live
Santosha Wellness Center, 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4
Women’s Early Bird Clinic
Big Sky Resort, all day

Live Music: Stumpf
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5
Homeownership Education Class
Buck’s T-4, 5 p.m.

Madrigal Dinner
Buck’s T-4, 6:30 p.m.

Lone Peak Cinema 5 Year
Anniversary Party
Lone Peak Cinema, all day

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6
Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions
Forum
Buck’s T-4, 4 p.m.

Homeownership Education Class
Buck’s T-4, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7
Big Sky Young Professionals
Kick Off Party
Lone Peak Brewery Upstairs, 5 p.m.

Big Sky Interact Club: Nepal Fundraiser
Olive B’s, 5 p.m.
Reservations Required

Bozeman

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Rich Mayo
Kountry Korner Café, 6 p.m.

Gunnar’s Family Band
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Cribbage Night
Eagles Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

Teahouse Game Night
Townshend’s Bozeman Teahouse,
7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Karma Kids
Mountain Yoga, 5 p.m.

Meet the Author: Craig Lancaster
Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24
10th Annual Huffing for Stuffing
Museum of the Rockies, 8:50 a.m.

The Vibe Quartet
406 Brewing, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Museum Store: Annual Members
Only Holiday Sale Begins
Museum of the Rockies, 9 a.m.

Walk for the Health of It
Peets Hill, noon

Claudia Williams
Kountry Korner Café, 5:30 p.m.

Poetry Slam Open Mic Night
Bozeman Public Library, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
MSU Men’s Basketball vs. Delaware
State
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 2 p.m.

A Little House Christmas
Verge Theater, 2p.m.

Open Mic Night with Dane Thompson
Wild Joe’s Coffee House, 5 p.m.

Bob Britton
Kountry Korner Café, 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Sunday FUNDay: Gallatin County
CASA/GAL
Bozeman Brewing, 2 p.m.

Petty John’s Underground
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Bridger Mountain Big Band
Eagles Lodge, 7 p.m.

Chordwood Criket
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28
MSU Men’s Basketball vs. Arizona
Christian
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Tours for Tots: Amazing Antlers
Museum of the Rockies, 10 a.m.

Quenby & The West of
Wayland Band
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Brews & the Big Sky:
The Art of the Hunt
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

Cribbage Night
Eagles Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Tours for Tots: Amazing Antlers
Museum of the Rockies, 2 p.m.

Mathias
Outlaw Brewing, 6 p.m.

Meet the Author: Michele Corriel
Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
Tours for Tots: Amazing Antlers
Museum of the Rockies, 10 a.m.

Winter Book Sale
Belgrade Public Library, 11 a.m.

The Vibe Quartet
406 Brewing, 6 p.m.

Lecture: Andromeda Unchained
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
6th Annual SLAM Winter Showcase
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, all day

Winter Book Sale
Belgrade Community Library,
11 a.m.

Walk for the Health of It.
Peets Hill, noon

Claudia Williams
Kountry Korner Café, 5:30 p.m.

Bozambique
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Friday Night Jazz
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

The Nutcracker Ballet
Willson Auditorium, 7 p.m.

MSU Women’s Basketball
vs. Carroll College
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

Play: A Christmas Carol
The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Congo Sanchez of Thievery
Corporation
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Band of Drifters
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

Tsunami Funk
American Legion, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
6th Annual SLAM Winter Showcase
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, all day

Holiday Market Jubilee
Gallatin County
Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

Holiday Open House Extravaganza
Antique Market and More, 10 a.m.

Winter Book Sale
Belgrade Community Library, 11 a.m.

Christmas Stroll
The Emerson Center
for the Arts & Culture,
12:30 p.m.

The Nutcracker Ballet
Willson Auditorium, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

A Little House Christmas
Verge Theater, 2 p.m.

Christmas Stroll
Downtown Bozeman,
4:30 p.m.

‘Twas the Night Before Christmas
Emerson’s Crawford Theatre,
6:30 p.m.

MSU’s 51st Madrigal Dinner
MSU Strand Union Building,
6:30 p.m.

Play: A Christmas Carol
The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Jon Wayne & The Pain + MOTH
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Band of Drifters
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

Tsunami Funk
American Legion, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4
6th Annual SLAM Winter Showcase
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, all day

Holiday Tea
The Story Mansion, 12:30 p.m.

MSU Women’s Basketball vs. Seattle
University
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 2 p.m.

Play: A Christmas Carol
The Ellen Theatre, 3 p.m.

Aaron Williams
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

MSU’s 51st Madrigal Dinner
MSU Strand Union Building,
6:30 p.m.

Bridger Mountain Big Band
The Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5
Gallatin Roller Girlz Meet and Greet
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Terry Guptill
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

MSU Men’s Basketball vs.
Milwaukee
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

Improv on the Verge
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6
Rich Mayo
Kountry Korner Café, 6 p.m.

Nathan Kalish and the Last Callers
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Cribbage Night
Eagles Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

Larry Kiff
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Andre Nickatina
The Molly Brown, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7
Montana Hall Lighting Ceremony
MSU Bozeman, 5:30 p.m.

Dan Henry
Outlaw Brewing, 6 p.m.

MSU Gamelan Sekar Gunung Fall Concert
Reynold’s Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
The Vibe Quartet
406 Brewing, 6 p.m.

Mystery Ranch Holiday Art Sale
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

A Winter’s Madrigal
Kaleidoscope Youth Theatre, 6:30 p.m.

Aaron Kamm & The One Drops
with The City Parks
The Filling Station, 8 p.m.

Jimmy’s First Christmas on Parole
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS:
Pints with Purpose
Bridger Brewing, Mondays at 5 p.m.

Burgers & Bingo
Eagles Lodge, Friday Nights at 5:30 p.m.

Open Mic Night
The Haufbrau, Sundays, Mondays, and
Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m.

Karaoke
American Legion, Mondays at 9 p.m.

Service Industry Night
Wildrye Distilling, Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

Music & Mussels
Bridger Brewing, Wednesdays at 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Thursdays with
The Bridger Creek Boys
Red Tractor Pizza, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Karaoke
Eagles Lodge, Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.

Yoga for All
Bozeman Public Library, Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
and 12 p.m.

Open Mic with Eric Bartz
Lockhorn Cider House, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Bingo
American Legion, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Bowl for Kids’ Sake
Bozeman Bowl, Fridays at 4 p.m.

Learn to Skate Classes
Haynes Pavillion, Sundays at noon

Livingston & Paradise Valley

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Creek & River Writers Night
with Mike Devine
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Thanksgiving Community Dinner
Elks Lodge, 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Gunnar’s Family Band
Gourmet Cellar, 6:30 p.m.

The Waylanders
Pine Creek Lodge, 8 p.m.

Same Time, Next Year
Blue Slipper Theatre, 8 p.m.

Christy Hays
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Exit 288
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Aaron Williams
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Same Time, Next Year
Blue Slipper Theatre, 8 p.m.

Exit 288
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

Christy Hays
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Same Time, Next Year
Blue Slipper Theatre, 3 p.m.

The Max
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

Jay’s Lounge
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28
Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Matt Gabriel
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Audrie & Daisy
Shane Lalani Center, 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
Shelter Day
RX Coffee, all day

Shelly Besler
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
Christmas Stroll
Downtown Livingston, 5 p.m.

Elks Christmas Auction
Elks Lodge, 5 p.m.

Calista
Pine Creek Lodge, 8 p.m.

Same Time, Next Year
Blue Slipper Theatre, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
Christmas Bazar
Park County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m.

Same Time, Next Year
Blue Slipper Theatre, 8 p.m.

2nd Annual Lebowski Fest
Katabatic Brewing, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4
Same Time, Next Year
Blue Slipper Theatre, 3 p.m.

The Max
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

West Yellowstone

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Yellowstone Ski Festival
Rendezvous Ski Trails, all day

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Yellowstone Ski Festival
Rendezvous Ski Trails, all day

Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Yellowstone Ski Festival
Rendezvous Ski Trails, all day

Knit Night
Send it Home, 6 p.m.

Yoga For Everyone
Povah Center, 6:15 p.m.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
West Yellowstone School Gym, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Yellowstone Ski Festival
Rendezvous Ski Trails, all day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Yellowstone Ski Festival
Rendezvous Ski Trails, all day

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
Knit Night
Send it Home, 6 p.m.

Yoga For Everyone
Povah Center, 6:15 p.m.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
West Yellowstone School Gym, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
Knit Night
Send it Home, 6 p.m.

Yoga For Everyone
Povah Center, 6:15 p.m.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
West Yellowstone School Gym, 7 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS:
West Yellowstone Historic Walking Tour
West Yellowstone Historic District, daily

Ennis

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Free Thanksgiving Dinner
Madison Valley Baptist Church, 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Lions Club Tree Sale
Grandma’s Park, all day

Live Music
Willie’s Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

The Cooks
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Madison Valley Women’s Club Holiday Bazaar
Ennis Elementary School, 9 a.m.

Nathan North
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Mathias
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
Business After Hours
Fan Mountain Inn, 5 p.m.

Here, There & Everywhere
Madison Valley Public Library, 5 & 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
Spirit of Christmas Stroll
Downtown Ennis, 3 p.m.

Live Music
Willie’s Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Willy James
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
Lang Termes
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4
Dan Henry
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Rotary Club seeks families for Giving Tree

The Christmas Giving Tree is an annual program that helps families during the holidays by providing gifts for the children and a Christmas dinner for the family.

If you would like to participate in this project, pick up a Santa Letter for each child from one of the three Big Sky banks, the food bank or the Country Market. The Rotary Club will schedule gift delivery Dec. 21- 23, and will also provide the family with a Christmas dinner basket at the time of gift delivery. This program is completely confidential.

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19th annual Christmas Stroll lights up the streets of Big Sky Dec. 9

EBS STAFF

The streets of Big Sky will come alive Friday, Dec. 9, from 5:30-9:15 p.m. during the 19th annual Big Sky Christmas Stroll with festive activities at Meadow Village, Westfork Meadows and Town Center.

This year the opening ceremony begins promptly at 5:30 p.m. with Santa's arrival on a horse-drawn buggy provided by Lone Mountain Ranch and the Dickens Carolers—in full period dress—performing during the lighting of the new “candy cane” Christmas trees surrounding Center Lane Condominiums in Meadow Village.

The activities continue all evening with businesses at West Fork Meadows, Town Center and Meadow Village Center participating.

Highlights of the evening include the tree-lighting ceremony at Meadow Village Center; photos with Santa at First Security Bank; illuminated Nordic and fat bike trails and walkways; sleigh rides with Lone Mountain Ranch; a community gingerbread house at Big Sky Sugarbuzz in Westfork; a magic show hosted by Lone Peak Brewery; classic holiday films on the big screen at Lone Peak Cinema; and live music and a fireworks display at Big Sky Town Center.

Businesses will stay open late offering shoppers raffles, holiday specials and the opportunity to cross a few items off the holiday gift list.

Big Sky's Christmas Stroll began 19 years ago in Meadow Village Center—Town Center did not yet exist. Local businesses believed Big Sky was ready to have their own stroll and a grassroots committee comprised of JoDean Bing of Blue Ribbon Builders, Andrew Schreiner of Grizzly Outfitters (then located in the Meadow Village Center), and Debbie Applebaum of Willow Boutique came together to make the event a reality.

“Our Christmas Stroll is truly a local event,” Bing said. “It takes place during the shoulder season in Big Sky and the local people of all ages—from young children sitting on Santa's lap to grandmothers who sing Christmas carols—come and stroll through the evening. The turn out each year increases as our local population increases.”



Children share their Christmas wishes with Santa Claus during Big Sky's 2015 Christmas Stroll
PHOTO BY HEATHER BING

Big Sky Christmas Stroll Schedule of Events

5:30 p.m. : Tree lighting with Santa Claus & The Dickens Carolers

5:45 p.m. : Photos with Santa Claus at First Security Bank

6:30 p.m. : Magic Show at Lone Peak Brewery / Live music and events at Fire Pit Park in Big Sky Town Center

8:15 p.m. : Fireworks show at Town Center stage

Support ‘Small Business Saturday’ Shop local on Nov. 26

EBS STAFF

The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce is encouraging the Big Sky community to shop small on Saturday, Nov. 26, as a part of the nationwide American Express event, “Small Business Saturday.” The purpose of the event is to encourage locals to get out and support local businesses.

Area shoppers are invited to meet at the chamber between 9 and 10 a.m. for coffee and mimosas to kick off the celebration, and to enter for a chance to win one of four \$50 gift certificates to spend during Small Business Saturday at any of the participating local businesses. Attendees will also receive a free tote bag and other complimentary swag courtesy of American Express.

The national Small Business Saturday movement started in 2010. This is the third year that the chamber of commerce is sponsoring the event in Big Sky, and the first year the organization has been recognized as a “Neighborhood Champion” by American Express, for their commitment to organizing activities to rally their community for the event.

Approximately 30 Big Sky businesses participate each year, including retail and dining establishments in the canyon, Meadow and Mountain villages.

Amy Langmaid, owner of Rhinestone Cowgirl, a women's boutique in Town Center, has been participating in the event since she opened her doors three years ago, and has found it to be way to encourage business and fun.

“It's been really successful,” Langmaid said. “I especially like it because it's mostly people I know from the community who come, and it's fun to see people from Big Sky out and about shopping.”

Langmaid offers her special discount for the day in a playful fashion. Upon checkout, customers pop a balloon containing discounts of 15 to 40 percent off their entire purchase.

“It's a lot of fun and I really feel like it gets people to do what it's supposed to do—get people to shop local,” she said.

Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Membership Director Margo Magnant said Small Business Saturday is one of the chamber's favorite events of the year.

“We look forward to celebrating with all of the local businesses that help make our community so special all year,” she said.

Keep an eye out for a “Shop Small Specials” guide with a listing of participating Big Sky businesses and special discounts.

For more information or to become a participating business email info@bigskychamber.com or call (406) 995-3000.



Amy Langmaid, owner of Rhinestone Cowgirl boutique has been participating in “Small Business Saturday” since she opened her business three years ago. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

‘Holiday Collage’ combines Bozeman Symphony with fast-paced light show

BOZEMAN SYMPHONY SOCIETY

The Bozeman Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Choir presents an innovative and highly charged concert experience called “Holiday Collage” on Dec. 10 and 11 at the Willson Auditorium in downtown Bozeman.

This unique, fast-paced program is choreographed to a brilliant light show, while featuring—and celebrating—the upper echelons of Bozeman’s musical talent.

This year’s performance features a new twist by marrying the collage concept with the music of the holidays, and includes a wide variety of festive holiday tunes, both traditional and popular, such as “Joy to the World,” “O Holy Night,” “Silent Night”; and selections

from Tchaikovsky’s “Nutcracker,” Handel’s “Messiah” and Vivaldi’s “Gloria,” among others.

Anticipation among orchestra and choir musicians has been building since Maestro Matthew Savery announced his vision and repertoire for the Bozeman Symphony’s 49th concert season.

The 100-member volunteer choir will join the orchestra for this festive performance featuring members Carrie Krause, Sue Makeever, Andrew Scruggs, Gregory Young, Alan Leech, Julia Cory Slovarp, Mandy Bowker, Jeff Vick, Nancy Ojala, Jeannie Little, Mary Ann Jacobson, Paul Gates, Slate Hudson, Sandra Stimson and Cortney Bury.

“Collage is the most innovative and exciting concept I have ever experienced,” Savery said. “It’s like listening to your ultimate mix-tape while watching a stunning light show. Always mind-boggling!”

“Holiday Collage” performances are at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at the Willson Auditorium.

Join Maestro Matthew Savery, Choir Director Jon Harney, and members of the Bozeman Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Choir for post-performance receptions at Starky’s Authentic Americana on Saturday; and on Sunday in the Weaver Room at the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture.

Tickets can be purchased at bozemansymphony.org, at the Bozeman Symphony offices or by phone at (406) 585-9774.



Bozeman Symphony holiday performances feature the best of local talent
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOZEMAN SYMPHONY

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'Hamlet' comes to Big Sky

MSU NEWS SERVICE

Now in its 24th season, Montana Shakespeare in the Schools will perform Shakespeare's "Hamlet" in approximately 50 schools, making its stop in Big Sky at Lone Peak High School on Friday, Dec. 9.

During its annual fall tour, the program brings a live theatre production to approximately 12,000 students in communities throughout Montana, Wyoming and Washington.

The 10-week tour is the first of two educational outreach programs being offered by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, which is based at Montana State University, during this academic year.

"As with the summer tour, this program places special emphasis on underserved, rural areas," said Kevin Asselin, executive artistic director for Montana Shakespeare in the Parks. "For many students, this is their only opportunity for live, professional theater."

Chicago-based director William Brown will head this production. Brown first came to MSIP in 1980 as an actor. He did several summer tours before returning in 1993 as a director.

"For many communities, this is the cultural event of the year," Brown said. "And for us, that responsibility makes every performance an essential one. Bringing 'Hamlet' to Montana's schools is a rare opportunity. I could not be more excited."

Workshops will be offered to each school on relevant themes in the play, Shakespearean verse, theatrical production and stage combat. The eight actor-educators who make up the touring company have been chosen from national auditions in Chicago, Minneapolis and Montana. Five out of eight are returning to the tour for the second time. They are Stephanie Chavara, Miles Duffey, Ty Fanning, Brett Garrett and Luke Massengill. Joe Bianco, Tyler Meredith and Faith Servant join the company for the first time.

A special performance, open to the public, will be held at the newly opened Tippet Rise Art Center in Fishtail, Montana, on Saturday, Dec. 10.

The touring production of "Hamlet" concludes Dec. 16. at Manhattan High School. "Montana Shakes!"—a tour designed specifically for elementary school children—will visit 60 schools in the spring.

For more information about Montana Shakespeare in the Schools and a full schedule of remaining performances, visit shakespeareintheparks.org/montana-shakespeare-in-the-schools.php or call (406) 994-3303.



Brett Garrett and Ty Fanning perform in Montana Shakespeare in the Schools' 2016 production of 'Hamlet.' PHOTO BY TIM STILLER/THE BIG EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Montana Shakespeare in the Schools Southwest Montana schedule

- Dec. 7, Belgrade High School, Belgrade
- Dec. 8: Chief Joseph Middle School, Bozeman
- Dec. 9: Lone Peak High School, Big Sky
- Dec. 10: Public Performance at Tippet Rise Arts Center, Fishtail

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54 Nov. 22 - Dec. 8, 2016

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bozeman Film Society screens Montana-based film 'Certain Women'

BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

Actress Lily Gladstone joins Bozeman Film Society on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. in Bozeman's historic Ellen Theatre for a screening of the award-winning, Montana-based film, "Certain Women."

Shot in Livingston and Bozeman, this affecting, bittersweet film was well received at both Sundance and Toronto International Film Festival, going on to win the award for best film at the London Film Festival. Directed by one of America's foremost directors, Kelly Reichardt ("Wendy and Lucy," "Meeks Cutoff"), the film features a remarkable ensemble cast led by Michelle Williams, Kristen Stewart and Laura Dern, along with newcomer, Montanan Lily Gladstone.

The quietly explosive chamber piece, based on a trio of short stories by Helena-born writer Maile Meloy, follows three women in a small, Montana town striving to forge their own paths amid the wide open plains of the American west.

Gladstone's portrayal of Jaime, opposite Stewart, has received sweeping praise for its heartfelt, vulnerable portrayal of a ranch hand facing an existential crisis, garnering her a nomination for Independent Film Project's Breakthrough Actor award, and a nod in Rolling Stone magazine's "12 Breakout Stars."

Doors open at 6 p.m. for concession and bar; seating begins at 6:30 p.m., with Gladstone's introduction to the film slated for 7 p.m.

Visit www.bozemanfilmsociety.org for more information.

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Kim Zupan: Master craftsman

BY DOUG HARE
EBS STAFF

Kim Zupan teaches carpentry at the University of Montana's Missoula College. It's hard to imagine he's more skilled as a woodworker than as a wordsmith.

Zupan's novel "The Ploughmen" is a meticulously crafted debut set in rugged, north-west Montana where the author grew up. And the sprawling, stark, often desolate landscape he describes might very well be considered one of the main characters.


The plot turns on the interaction between a sheriff's deputy working graveyard shifts at the county jail and an insomniac murderer standing trial, smoking cigarettes through the night, and the uneasy friendship that develops between them.

Understandably, Zupan dabbles with themes violent, dark, and bleak. From this grisly backdrop, Zupan tackles head-on themes of crime and punishment, confinement and freedom, guilt and innocence, loneliness and friendship, death and life. As different as their situations find them, both the young deputy and the old serial killer are two men in search of redemption in their own unique ways.

Not many writers could succeed in transforming a murderer into a sympathetic character, or unearth the demons of a hard-working, honest man with such deftness. Zupan pulls it off in an arresting, if terrifying, fashion.

Zupan's sentences are Faulknerian, and his prose is baroque, ornate, and at times risky. "The Ploughmen" is not an easy read, but definitely a rewarding one.


Doug Hare is the Distribution Coordinator for Outlaw Partners. He studied philosophy and American literature at Princeton and Harvard universities.



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BACK 40

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”

Solid skiing on rocky slopes

BY DAN EGAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

In big mountain skiing you often have to get through bad snow to find the good snow. Here in Big Sky, there are often rocks above or near the surface of the snow waiting to trip up skiers and snowboarders. This calls for a strategy and using specific tactics to ski the slopes. Here are a few ways I break down a run when it appears rocky.

The entrance. If the entrance is not perfect, simply side step down until you can make turns. Make sure to have a good solid stance on your side step with your shoulders square to the hill, and don't be afraid to use your poles for balance and as braces. Move quickly down the slope because taking too long with a difficult entrance can throw off your mental game for skiing the terrain below.

Have a plan. I like to ski rocky areas in sections. I move from snow pod to snow pod with a clear vision in my mind of where I'm going to stop and start. This allows me to link a few turns together with confidence before I stop again.

Speed. Once you have a plan and are through the entrance, move at a steady pace with a focus on two to three turns at a time. You don't want to move too slowly through the rocks, as a bit of speed will help you avoid obstacles, but don't move at a reckless pace.

Power slide. If you can power slide past the obstacles, do it. Execute a good power slide with your feet shoulder width apart, hands and poles facing down the mountain and with your eyes looking down, not across the slope.



When skiing a rocky slope, sometimes the best route is going straight down the fall line.
PHOTO BY JOHN ARNOLD/MINDFULMOUNTAINS.COM



Keep your eyes looking down the fall line and concentrate on the snow, not the rocks.
PHOTO BY JOHN ARNOLD/MINDFULMOUNTAINS.COM

Turning. When skiing through rocky areas, keep your skis in the fall line. If you're going to nick rocks it's better to be in a skiing position than with your skis sideways. I like to use hop turns in these situations.

Finding the way. Your eyes are key to navigating through a minefield of rocks. Remember: you go where you look, so look where you want to go. Keep your eyes focused down the fall line, concentrate on the snow and try not to look at the rocks.

Repetition. Skiing the same runs several times has many advantages. The first time you ski a run, you learn where the rocks are and what path to take. The second time you can gain a bit of confidence, and by the third or fourth time you can start to really ski the slope.

More importantly, going back to the same run the next day or later in the week you can see how the slope has been changed by skier traffic, as well as new snow and wind. This will give you more and more confidence throughout the season.

Extreme skiing pioneer Dan Egan has appeared in 12 Warren Miller Ski films and countless others. Today he teaches clinics and guides trips at locations around the world including Big Sky, where he'll be teaching Feb. 23-25, March 2-4 and March 9-11. Find more ski tips from Dan Egan at skiclinics.com/education/skitips.

This story originally appeared in the Jan. 23, 2015 issue of Explore Big Sky.



Move quickly through a steep entrance—like this one in Val d'Isère, France—and sidestep down it, if necessary.
PHOTO BY DAN EGAN

Explore

Big Sky

2016 - 2017

Gift & Gear Guide

From the sharpest duds on the market to essential outdoor gear and local picks, this holiday gift and gear guide will keep those stockings stuffed.





Give'r Gloves

Kincos have long been the standard bearer for ski patrollers and core Montana skiers. It's a yearly ritual to slather the gloves in Snoseal, put them by the fire and wait for opening day. Enter Jackson Hole-based Give'r gloves: Their superior craftsmanship allows for better dexterity and an already-broken-in-feel. The waterproof wax-coated supple leather, reinforced in all the right places, is insulated for frigid days and breathable enough for spring backcountry excursions. With the option for up to three hand-branded initials, Give'r gloves are a can't miss gift this season.

Starting at \$40 give-r.com

Keen Men's Durand Polar Shell Boots

These boots are so well insulated they should come with a warning: Do not wear indoors or your feet may begin to sweat. This makes sense, since they're designed for adventuring in frigid conditions that require their waterproofing and 200-gram insulation. The quality of the craftsmanship is immediately apparent, built with durable materials that will withstand the test of many outdoor pursuits. A proudly embroidered stitching on the tongue reads "American Built."

\$180 keenfootwear.com



Fishpond Jagged Basin Duffel

Constructed with waxed canvas and recycled nylon lining, the Jagged Basin Duffel not only looks upscale, it's ready for any outdoors adventure. Its durability—including water resistant zippers—and various compartments make it ideal for on the river or strapped on an ATV. This duffel also features hidden shoulder straps in a zipper pocket that easily convert it into a backpack. Fill it up and take this carry-on compatible duffel anywhere.

\$180 fishpondusa.com



Gregory Targhee Ski Pack

The award-winning Targhee's ergonomic design will keep your shoulders happy during a long day in the mountains, and its thoughtful collection of straps, buckles and loops will keep your gear properly wrangled on long uphill slogs. Equally as important, accessing these items when they're needed is efficient and painless.

Winter-specific features include snow-shedding fabric, an insulated hydration sleeve to prevent your hose from freezing, and large glove-friendly zipper pulls. The pack's outer pocket was designed for quick avalanche gear retrieval should something go awry and its 32-litre volume will carry up to 35 pounds of supplies for a marathon day in the mountains.

\$190 gregorypacks.com





Tepui Tents Expedition Series Duffel

Made with a high-strength poly-canvas, this rugged bag is perfect for adventures in the snow or on the river. It's abrasion resistant and waterproof, so if your rig is busting at the seams heading to the mountains, rest easy knowing your valuables are safe when you lash the Tepui duffel to your roof—the 110-liter volume is ideal for weekend warrior expeditions.

It's available in orange or black—the high-vis orange model is recommended if you're prone to leaving your gear in a snow bank during blizzards.

\$120 tepuitents.com

Petzl Altitude Harness

For those days when you're pushing your ski tour further than the local meadow to find steep alpine pow, or climbing to lofty summits, the Petzl Altitude ultra-light (150 grams) mountaineering/ski harness is a must have. Designed to be donned without having to take off your skis or snagging your crampons, the Altitude harness gives you peace of mind while adding minimal weight to your kit.

\$80 petzl.com



GCI Outdoor FirePit Rocker

Equal parts form and function, the FirePit Rocker is surprisingly comfortable and sturdy no matter your height. Ideal for day-trippers, car campers or RVers, the rocker is a nice addition to spice up your outdoor living room. The rocking motion is super smooth and its low profile doesn't lack in support; it packs flat, has a carry handle and is easy to setup. The bonus cup holder keeps your favorite brew close at hand while enjoying the outdoors.

\$60 gcioutdoor.com

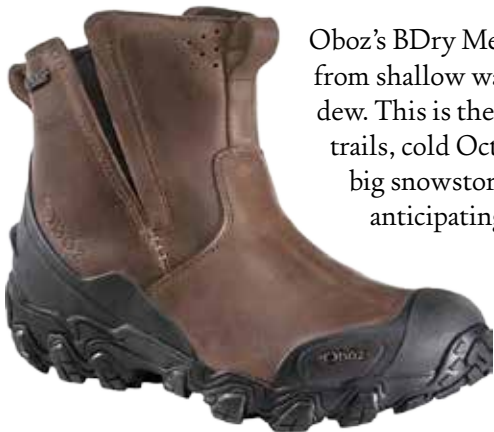


Oboz Big Sky Insulated BDry boots

You need a pair of boots for the late-fall and winter seasons that are waterproof, lightweight and breathable. Introducing the Big Sky Insulated BDry boot, from the Bozeman-based Oboz footwear company. The boots feature Oboz's Molded Heel Counter to reduce heel lift and keep your dogs snug and tight.

Oboz's BDry Membrane will keep your feet protected from shallow water, mud, snow and frozen morning dew. This is the boot for those autumn hikes on wet trails, cold October days gathering firewood, or big snowstorms while you shovel your driveway anticipating a powder day—Oboz has your feet covered.

\$165 obozfootwear.com



Patagonia Women’s R1 Hoody

Everyone should have a favorite go-to layer that stands the test of time. Patagonia’s R1 Hoody is just that. It has a long cut, thumb loops and a slim fit that’s treated with polygiene to keep it smelling fresh after sweaty mountain sessions. The balaclava-style hood is all function: it fits close and the collar zips up to your nose when in snow ninja-mode.

The material is 93-percent recycled polyester. It’s got a long half zipper in the front, and the R1’s external pocket will hold a phone, some cash or an energy gel. And if you go a little too hard on your hoody, Patagonia has a generous repair policy—so the R1 will make it out for another season (or five, or ten).

\$159 patagonia.com



Darn Tough Socks

Good Witch Crew Light

The cozy, smooth and seamless design of these socks makes for an unbelievably comfortable fit, almost like you’re wearing none at all.

\$20

Cable Basic Crew Light

The scalloped edge and cable knit pattern of these socks add a touch of style and femininity to Darn Tough’s trademark comfort and durability—all of their socks are guaranteed for life.

\$19 darntough.com



Outdoor Research Floodlight Down Jacket

In a game of word association, one might not partner “800-fill goose down feather” and “waterproof” together, but Outdoor Research has. The technicians at OR deserve a gold star for the Floodlight Jacket, blending the lofted warmth of a puffy and the armor of a hard shell through its Pertex Shield technology.

The best part? Slim design allows it to be used as a sleek layering piece, but it also can be worn on the outside without feeling like a marshmallow. Clear out the closet and make room for OR’s Floodlight Jacket.

\$395 outdoorresearch.com



Stegmann Women’s Wool Clog

These clogs are made by an esteemed German company that dates back to 1888 when the Stegmann factory was founded. They’re not only warm and comfortable— with or without socks—but fit snugly and offer great arch support. There’s no place you can’t wear your Stegmans. They’re like socially acceptable slippers.

\$125 stegmanncomfort.com



Smartwool



NTS Micro 150 Boxer Brief

Smartwool’s lightest weight Merino wool blend combines ultimate performance with next-to-skin comfort. The NTS Micro 150s are perfect for ski days when cotton just won’t cut the mustard.

\$48



Women’s NTS Mid 250 Pattern Crew

Nobody likes having to come in from a day of skiing because they’re too cold and this 100-percent Merino wool top from SmartWool is the perfect base layer to keep you warm all day. In addition to providing an itch-free base, the fit is long allowing it to stay tucked into your ski pants to keep snow and cold air out. It’s available in a range of colors, bright to neutral, to fit bold or subtle sensibilities.

\$105 smartwool.com



Royal Robbins Sequoia Crew

Here is a versatile, handsome sweater that looks good on a fall hike, at après ski, or during a night on the town. The cotton/wool/nylon blend makes it lighter and quicker to dry than pure wool. It has the retro look of the early climbing days in Yosemite but also a timeless, bohemian simplicity. Go with a color that looks good with your favorite pair of blue jeans.

\$75 royalrobbins.com



Sitka Gear

Core Heavyweight Hoody

Owned by technical fabric giant Gore, think of Sitka Gear as the Patagonia for hunters. Their Core Heavyweight Hoody is the perfect choice for steep climbs on cold days, with lofted fleece that breathes well and a form-fitting hood to maintain heat when not moving. The Polygiene odor technology is designed for multiple days stalking animals in the mountains, where showers and washing machines don't exist.

\$149

Dewpoint Jacket

The Dewpoint Jacket is a three-layer shell built for rain and snow. The remarkably lightweight Gore-Tex jacket blocks the wind well and is very packable if the sun and wind decide to give you a break. The pit zips open up to large pockets that can hold a bugle, GPS, or even small binoculars. Available in Optifade Open Country camo or Lead gray.

\$339 sitkagear.com



Duckworth Lightweight Ski Socks

If you ski most of your days in the U.S., why not sport socks made here? The 20-Micron Merino wool in Duckworth's ski socks is shorn from Montana sheep and built to last. This may be the last pair of ski socks you ever buy.

\$26 duckworthco.com



Ibex Shak Hoodoo Hoody

When getting dressed for the variable winter weather in the Northern Rockies, layering is the tried and true formula for comfort. The Ibex Shak Hoodoo Hoody serves as a perfect mid-layer to retain precious heat without adding additional bulk to a multi-layer ensemble.

Made from heavyweight Merino wool sourced from New Zealand, the Shak Hoodoo is ultra-comfortable both out on the slopes and back in the lodge with a hot drink.

\$175 shop.ibex.com



Creek to Peak Wear

From a company geared toward providing top-quality clothing with an emphasis on preserving the outdoors and our public lands, Bozeman-based Creek to Peak Wear is the real deal. Their uber-soft hoodies feature creative design and a softness that’s only rivaled by their comfy, fleece-lined beanies.

Signature Hoodie \$46-\$48; Pom Pom Beanie \$35 creektopeakwear.com



Duckworth WoolCloud Snap Shirt

This unisex shirt from Duckworth wears like a jacket but its Montana-grown wool insulation gives it a bulk-less, styled fit. The breathable wool fill won’t clump over time like other insulation material, yet still provides a lightweight cozy layer to protect you from the chill.

The WoolCloud Snap Shirt is made in the USA, and it’s functional as well as fashionable: layer it underneath a heavier jacket or shell for extra warmth during ski season, or wear it solo around town. Its wind-resistant, 40-denier nylon snap-button shell is as durable as anything this Montana-born company puts out there.

\$275 duckworthco.com

Falke Ergonomic Sport System

If you’re looking for a baselayer line as technical as your turns, check out Falke’s Ergonomic Sport System. The German-based company has studied body mechanics to create a system that meets sport-specific demand—including skiing—for all levels of athletes. By following the principle of form following function, Falke has skillfully crafted layers ranging in function from limiting in-shoe (or in-boot) shear stress to climate regulation to injury prevention. Luxurious yet functional, high-quality materials such as Merino wool blends and silk are used in this extensive product line.

Women’s Long Tights Comfort (\$150)

These mid-weight base layer bottoms feature a plush fleece lining and fast-drying materials.

Women’s Full-Zip Stretch Jersey Jacket (\$175)

This lightweight jacket features moisture-wicking materials with reflective details in soft, jersey-knit top.

Women’s SK5 Ski Socks (\$50)

The SK5s feature a thin material for maximum foot-to-boot control, along with silk to keep your toes warm and dry.

Women’s ¾ Athletic Tights (\$100)

These lightweight, seamless tights are integrated with body-mapping technology to keep cooler areas more protected, and ventilate heat-generating areas.

ess.falke.com / net-a-porter.com (in the U.S.)



Maven Outdoor Equipment Company

S.1A Spotting Scope

In Montana, glassing for elk requires state-of-the-art optics. Luckily, Maven Outdoor Equipment Company is based nearby in Wyoming, and produces a group of spotting scopes to bring you closer to the action. The angled S.1A features a powerful 25-50x magnification, and a fluorite objective lens allows unparalleled low-light performance.

\$2,100



B.2 Binoculars

The binoculars in Maven’s B Series will allow you to spot your bull elk at incredible distances. With a manual diopter adjustment ring to focus better on your subject, the Maven B.2 offers excellent low-light performance and a generous depth of field.

Not the lightest pair of binos out there, the B.2 is merely one chassis option, but it’s a solid, durable construction. And Maven lets you choose from more than a dozen elements to tailor your preferences.

\$1,100 [Mavenbuilt.com](#)



Skullcandy Hesh 2 Wireless Headphones

Take your favorite tunes everywhere and have total control with the Hesh 2 wireless headphones. Impressively loud, comfortable and noise cancelling, these Bluetooth headphones feature an array of controls. Increase and decrease volume, and change tracks with ease via the headphones; answer and place, or mute, phone calls with the included auxiliary cable.

With a 15-hour battery life, these are perfect for traveling, in the office, or on the mountain—the Skullcandy Hesh 2 is a top choice in wireless headphones.

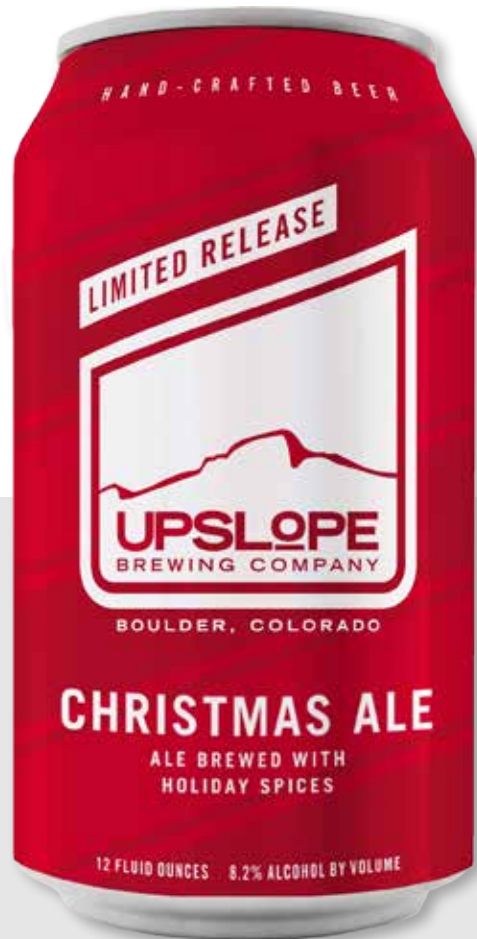
\$100 [skullcandy.com](#)



Katadyn BeFree Water Filtration System

Never worry where your next drink will come from on your next camping trip. Katadyn’s portable, chemical-free filtration system converts water from streams, lakes and rivers into clean, safe drinking water.

\$40 [katadyn.com](#)



Upslope Christmas Ale

Dark fruits and seasonal spices create this ruby red ale that will put some pep in your step this holiday season. While family and friends are enjoying their spiced latte whatevers and hot apple nonsense, you can sit back and celebrate the holidays the way they should be celebrated: with an ice-cold beer.

upslopebrewing.com
Look for Upslope’s Christmas Ale at retail stores near you



Munk Pack Oatmeal Fruit Squeezes

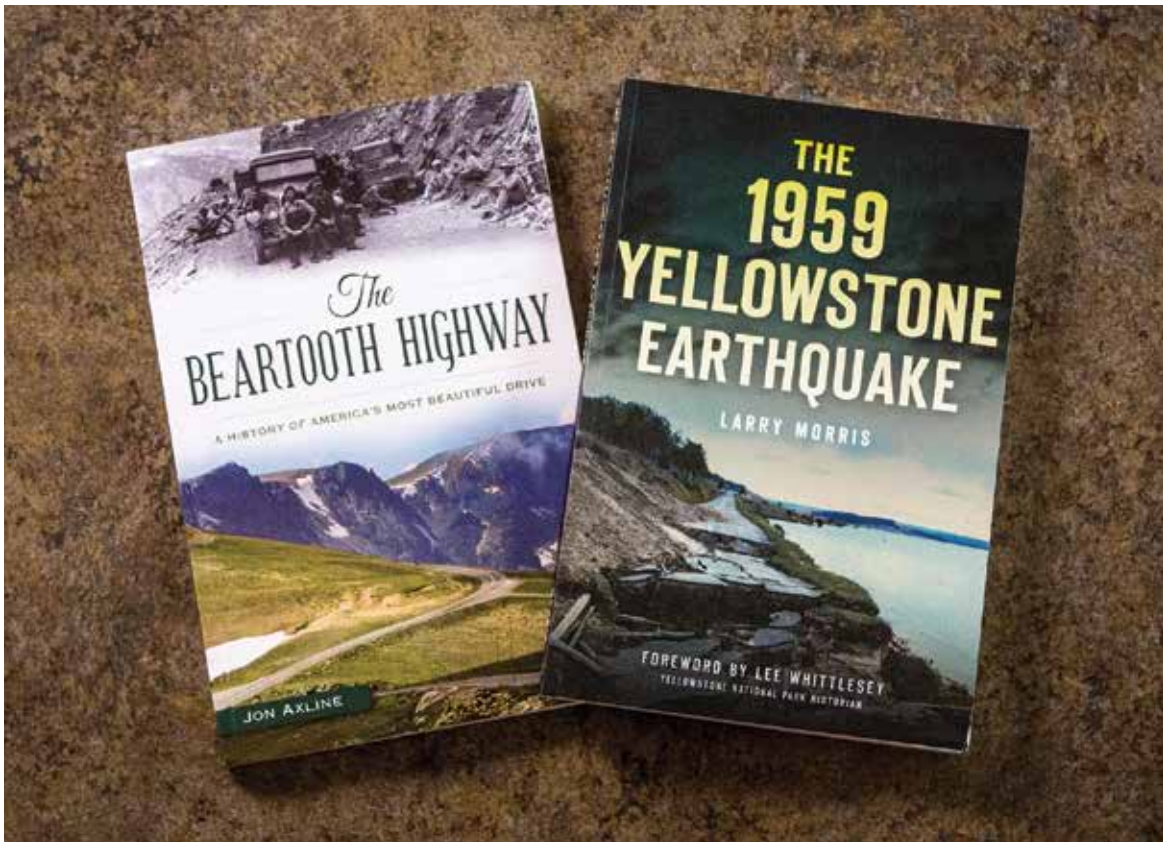
Like applesauce on steroids, Munk Pack’s Oatmeal Fruit Squeezes are a perfect snack for people with or without teeth. Packaged in a lightweight, mess-free pouch and jammed full of healthy, vegan, whole-grain, gluten-free goodness, these packs are a nutritious treat to bring on the trail, the river, backpacking, biking, road-tripping—heck, even horseback riding.

munkpack.com \$14.99 per six-pack

Hiball Energy Drinks

Kick up the holidays with the gift of good energy for your family, co-workers or staff. Hiball Energy drinks are made with certified organic and Fair Trade ingredients, including organic caffeine so you can feel good about drinking them and sharing with others. Over 20 options are available including Cold Brew Coffee, Sparkling Energy Water, High Protein Energy Drinks, Organic Energy Juice, and energy-free Alta Palla Sparkling Juice. Subscriptions start at \$25-\$45 per month and are shipped directly to your door each month for free. Order online: hiballer.com/subscriptions.

Bonus: Use code 30-OFFSUBSCRIBE at checkout for \$30 off your first subscription order.



“The Beartooth Highway: A History of America’s Most Beautiful Drive”

Historian Jon Axline illuminates the origins, construction, and consequences of building a 68-mile highway from Cooke City to Red Lodge, a project that started during the Great Depression. Brimming with historic photographs, this book manages to make the engineering marvel of building a road over a mountain come alive.

\$22 arcadiapublishing.com

“The 1959 Yellowstone Earthquake”

Larry E. Morris tells a suspenseful account of the 7.5-magnitude earthquake that hit the Northern Rockies in 1959 and its chaotic aftermath. This is a tale of tragedy, survival and the awesome power hidden in the geological structure around the Yellowstone Caldera. The forward is by Yellowstone National Park Historian Lee Whittlesey.

\$22 arcadiapublishing.com



The Ski Week

Seven-day skiing event

Look no further for your dream ski trip. The Ski Week is a uniquely crafted experience that lets you choose your resort and features après entertainment, lessons, guided excursions, nightly parties and resort-specific events. Simply pick a resort, such as Obertauern, Austria; Niseko, Japan; or Aspen, Colorado, for example, pay for your room and resort fees and show up for the most action-packed week of the winter.

Starting at \$1,000 theskiweek.com



‘Kids Ski & Rent Free’ with Jackson Hole Resort Lodging

Choose any Jackson Hole Mountain Resort condominium or home rental for four nights or more and receive 10 percent off your lodging with this family ski package special. For each paying adult, kids 14 and under ski free, a savings of approximately \$100 per day, per child.

Ski-in, ski-out vacation rentals for this package are available in Teton Village, and 4 miles from JHMR in The Aspens Condominiums. All condos and homes are equipped with full kitchens.

jhrl.com

Offer is valid Nov. 24, 2016 through April 9, 2017, excluding Dec. 20, 2016 through Jan. 4, 2017. Call (800) 443-8613 for complete program details, restrictions and to make reservations.

Jackson Hole brings back Golden Ticket promotion

Skiers and snowboarders with a valid winter resort season pass anywhere in the world who come to Jackson Hole between Jan. 9 and Jan. 31, 2017, will receive a 40-percent discounted lift ticket. Ski as many days as you like at this discounted rate during Golden Ticket week.

jacksonhole.com



Stanley

Classic Growler and Tumbler Gift Set

Keep your favorite local microbrew frosty all day long at your next tailgate, barbeque or campout with this easy-carry, easy-pour growler. The stackable stainless steel tumblers included allow you to enjoy some beers while avoiding the waste of plastic cups.

\$75



Classic Vacuum Stein

Bring this vacuum-insulated stein along on your next adventure, and relax knowing that you can take your time enjoying a cold, carbonated beer—for up to nine hours, if it lasts that long.

\$35 stanley-pmi.com



YETI Rambler Lowball

The 10-ounce YETI Rambler Lowball is the perfect addition to any adventurer's pack. You'll be stoked you brought this along—whether you pour your morning coffee or three fingers of whiskey in it—for an overnight river trip, yurt excursion or car camping adventure.

\$20 yeti.com



Women's Costa Anaa Polarized Sunglasses

If you're looking for something with style, comfort and protection, the Anaa sunglasses by Costa will not disappoint. The Anaa's are available in an assortment of fashion-forward color combinations and lens options. With non-slip frames hugging the 100-percent polarized, scratch-resistant lenses, there's no worry about these getting lost or damaged while out on the lake or river. Costa also offers a limited lifetime warranty and free returns on these hand-built sunnies.

\$149 costadelmar.com





1. Fill a **Liquid Hardware Aurora Vacuum Insulated Travel Mug (\$30)** with **Stoked Stix (\$9)** organic instant coffee packaged in individual servings. Life is just too short for bad coffee—even in the backcountry—and the mug’s magnetic lid will prevent you from dropping the lid in the dirt while managing the coffee/water/mug situation.

2. Should the adventures of your beloved take him or her far from sanitary water, the **Grayl Ultralight Purifier Bottle (\$60)** will filter out all manner of viruses, bacteria and protozoans. In 15 seconds, the 11-ounce container will produce 16 ounces of water uncontaminated with giardia, E. coli, cholera and Hepatitis A. The filter is good for 300 uses—no batteries, chemicals, pumping or sucking required.

3. The **Power Practical Luminoodle Light Rope with Lithium 440 battery (\$40)** provides 180 lumens of lightweight LED illumination. Plug it into the battery via the USB connector and use the ties to hang, hook, or stretch the waterproof noodle into the best configuration for the task at hand. Ball it up for concentrated light or stretch it out for diffuse ambiance lighting.

4. Garage Grown Gear’s bestseller, the **PoleClinometer by SnoWander (\$12)** is low-tech at its best: elegant and straightforward with a practical application. When affixed to your ski pole, the sticker allows you to quickly determine slope angle—a critical factor when assessing avalanche danger.

5. Billed as the lightest, smallest-packing hammock on the market, the **Single Hammock by Hummingbird Hammocks (\$75)** weighs less than a lemon at 5.2 ounces, packs smaller than a coffee cup and holds up to 300 pounds. Tack on only another 2.3 ounces with **Hummingbird Hammocks’ Ultralight Tree Straps (\$30)**. Incorporating parachute technology and design, the Hummingbird Hammock allows for safe, convenient hanging whether on a far-flung adventure or just chilling in your backyard.

All items are available at garagegrowngear.com, a Driggs, Idaho-based company that’s dedicated to giving a voice to the little guys in the gear world—when they’re not out in the mountains testing it out themselves



Marina Kessler Jewelry

Bozeman, Montana’s Marina Kessler has been a metalsmith for 17 years, and did an eight-year apprenticeship with the renowned jeweler Kathy Straus, of Vermont’s Little River Goldsmith. Since earning a degree from Kootenay School of the Arts in Nelson, British Columbia, she now creates both her own line and custom jewelry.



Kessler says her work comprises of forms that unite the elements of nature and one’s personality, blending classic and contemporary design.

Visit marinakesslerjewelry.com for pricing

PHOTOS BY ZAC VAUGHN



Caninja Bandana

This holiday season, it’s time to spoil your furry, four-legged friend with a Caninja bandana. Built from four layers of durable, dog-certified fabrics, Caninja makes more than just your typical bandana. They slip effortlessly onto the collar and survive a lifetime worth of washes without becoming wrinkled and ragged.

Available in a variety of sizes and patterns—ranging from stylish plaids for around town to high visibility orange for hunting season—you’re bound to have a happy pup.

Starting at \$12 caninjadogwear.com



Caliber Coffee

80 Snowy Mountain Circle, calibercoffeeinc.com

Caliber Coffee opened its doors to Big Sky’s java-seeking populace 10 months ago, but before owner Opie Jahn launched the coffee shop aspect of the business, he learned how to roast a damn good coffee bean.

“There was obviously a [need] for a meeting and gathering place in Big Sky,” said Jahn’s wife Annie Burd at the West Fork Meadows shop. They plan to expand on the outdoor information they provide so recreationists can read up on local mountain and water conditions. But first, they’ll help you get a good caffeine buzz going.

- Caliber Coffee hat: \$28
- CamelBak Forge Divide travel mug: \$30
- 12-ounce bag of Totally Baller Blend: \$15

Lone Peak Cinema

50 Ousel Falls Rd, Big Sky, lonepeakcinema.com

Help Lone Peak Cinema celebrate its fifth anniversary this year, and stoke out the movie buff on your Christmas list. Big Sky’s theater owners Scott and Sally Fisher are offering a 10-pack of movie tickets good for any flick they’re showing (though we suggest “Rogue One: A Star Wars Story.” Tickets go on sale Dec. 9 and the first showing is Dec. 16). Bonus: Tickets are transferable and never expire!

\$80 – Movie ticket 10-pack



High Country Goods

175 Aspen Leaf Drive, wearehighcountry.com

High Country Goods co-owners Alaina Stinson and Josh Tozier take a curated and intentional approach to mountain style in their Town Center shop. Tozier created most of the designs on the shirts the shop sells. “They’re one-of-a-kind,” Tozier said, adding that a fresh batch is arriving Thanksgiving week.

High Country Goods also carries items the owners discovered at art fairs, local markets and trade shows including jewelry, books, bags, belts, mugs and artwork.

- Western Bound waxed canvas satchel with Pendleton wool: \$98
- Turquoise necklace by Hawk House: \$55
- 10-by-10-inch artwork by Kelsey Dzintars: \$108





The Trove West

145 Center Lane, Big Sky, trovestorewest.com

Himalayan cashmere scarf

Completely handcrafted—from loom to painting—this scarf is the consummate statement piece for any outfit. Aside from its beauty, the impeccably soft cashmere will keep you warm and fashionable all season.

\$210



Horse of a Different Color

50 Meadow Village Drive, Big Sky, horsebigsky.com

Crystal bar glasses and decanter

Designed and etched by Colorado-based artist Lorraine Coyle, these crystal glasses and decanter elevate any bar. Featuring “spirit” animals from the Rocky Mountains, this collection is an elegant representation of the region and the perfect containers for your favorite elixir.

Decanter - \$185, glass - \$43



Creighton Block Gallery

33 Lone Peak Drive #104, Big Sky, creightonblockgallery.com

“Make A Stand” by Duke Beardsley

Colorado artist Duke Beardsley is noted for using traditional Western imagery with mixed media in a modern fashion. “Make A Stand” features notable western figures in repetition to create a sense of depth and modernity. This painting makes a perfect centerpiece for both the modern or rustic home.

\$9,500



Outlaw Partners

11 Lone Peak Drive #104, outlaw.partners/shop

Gear

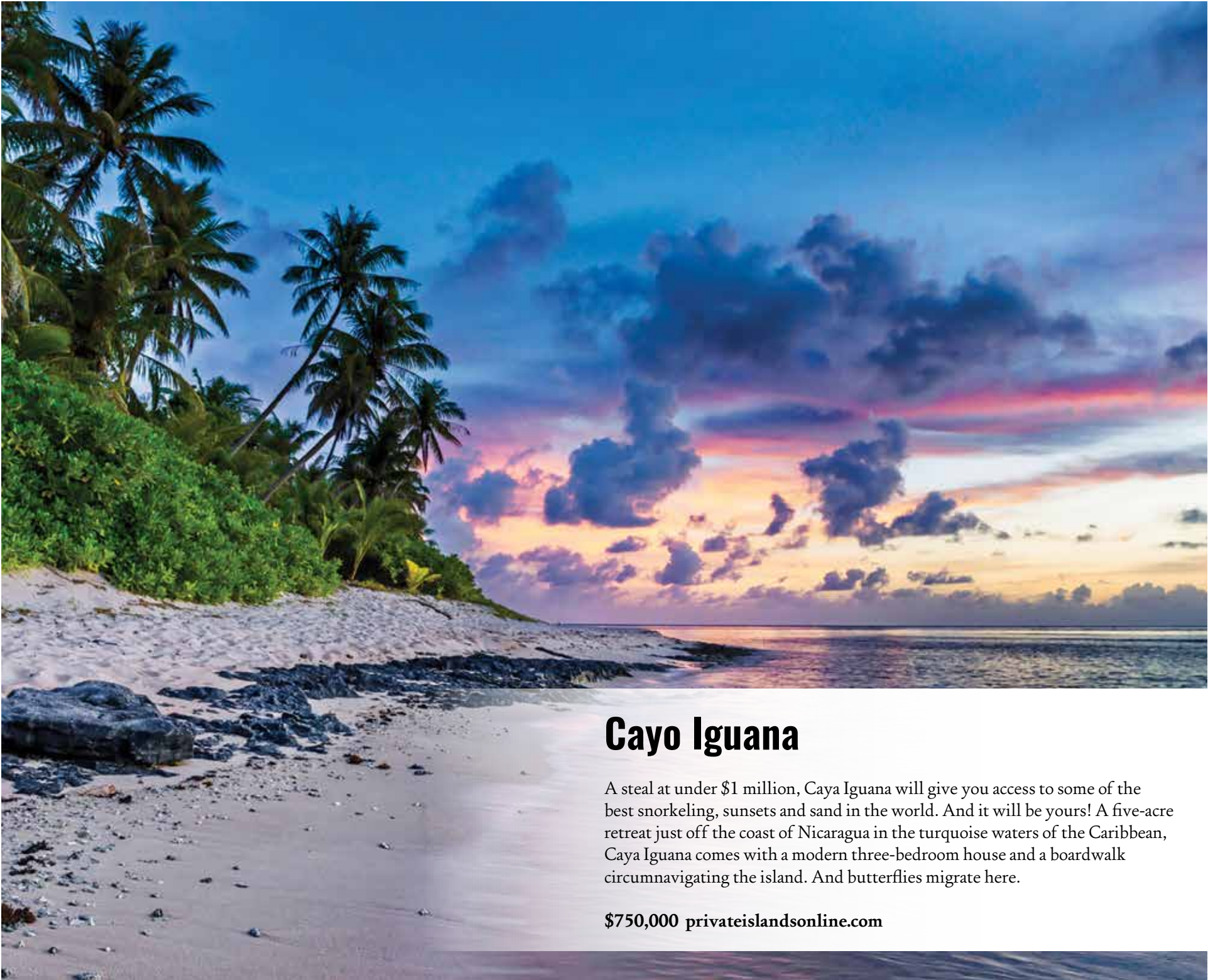
Keeping comfort and quality in mind, Outlaw Partners (publisher of EBS) offers T-shirts with a sueded cotton/polyester blend that prevents shrinking and creates an ultra-soft feel. Cap off your look with an adjustable trucker hat or wind-defying buff—ideal on the slopes or the river—and show that you ride for the brand.

shirt \$20; foam trucker hat \$20; buff \$15

AgustaWestland AW101 VVIP

The VVIP stands for Very, Very Important Person (see heads of state). After all, the U.S. Marine Corps planned to replace President Obama’s Marine One helicopter with this baby. The cabin looks like that of a private jet, and can reach a top speed of 192 mph. We hear it also retains its resale value well, so if you’re in the market for a chopper, look no further.

\$21,000,000 [thebillionaireshop.com](#)



Cayo Iguana

A steal at under \$1 million, Caya Iguana will give you access to some of the best snorkeling, sunsets and sand in the world. And it will be yours! A five-acre retreat just off the coast of Nicaragua in the turquoise waters of the Caribbean, Caya Iguana comes with a modern three-bedroom house and a boardwalk circumnavigating the island. And butterflies migrate here.

\$750,000 [privateislandsonline.com](#)

The holiday season is a time for giving and showing appreciation for the ones you love. It's also a chance to consider some of the tremendous nonprofits and charities in our region. In this Gift and Gear Guide, EBS staff highlighted a few

below that we're passionate about, support financially, or where we volunteer our time. Consider offering your support to one of these or an organization of your bold dear this holiday season. - The Editors



The Montana Land Reliance (MLR) partners with private landowners to permanently protect agricultural lands, fish and wildlife habitat, and open space.
mtlandreliance.org



BSCFB promotes a vibrant local economy by utilizing community resources to preserve the food security, health and dignity of those in need in the Big Sky area.
bigskyfoodbank.org



The Big Sky Community Organization connects people to recreational opportunities by acquiring, preserving and promoting sustainable places and programs for all.
bscomt.org



BSSEF's mission is to provide an opportunity for kids to become great skiers and pursue personal goals while promoting good sportsmanship, healthy competitiveness, sound technical skills, and an appreciation for the spirit of skiing in the mountains.
bssef.com



The Spanish Peaks Community Foundation supports the greater Big Sky area by funding community service projects, the arts, education and management of the outdoors.
spanishpeaksfoundation.org



Eagle Mount Bozeman is committed to provide quality therapeutic recreational opportunities for people with disabilities and young people with cancer, and to provide support for families of participants so that "they shall mount up with wings as eagles." (Isaiah 40:31)
eaglemount.org



Yellowstone Forever connects people to Yellowstone through outstanding visitor experiences and educational programs, and translates those experiences into lifelong support and philanthropic investment to conserve and enhance the park for the future.
yellowstone.org



Providing opportunities to extraordinary teenagers in order to foster self-reliance, critical thinking skills, and community participation throughout Gallatin County, Montana.
byep.org



Gallant Chance Ranch works with at-risk youth ages 13 and up in Gallatin County to inspire them to D.R.E.A.M. – develop responsible, enthusiastic and ambitious mindsets. The organization strives to develop youths who are prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century as emerging leaders within their community.
gallantchanceranch.org



The Friends of GNFAC supports the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center in providing quality avalanche education and awareness programs to the greater Gallatin community and all backcountry users in southwest Montana. Together, their programs reach over 5000 people a year, and GNFAC's avalanche advisories reach over 4500 people daily.
mtavalanche.com



VISION: A healthy Gallatin River Watershed for future generations
MISSION: To partner with our community to inspire stewardship of the Gallatin River Watershed.
gallatinrivertaskforce.org



Women In Action addresses the concerns of children and families lacking opportunities for quality education, health, and human services. WIA aims to enhance and enrich the lives of children and families through a broad range of social programs that include counseling services, education programs and scholarship opportunities for summer and winter camps.
wiabigsky.org

19th Annual Big Sky Christmas Stroll

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

5:30 TREE LIGHTING WITH SANTA CLAUS & THE DICKENS CAROLERS
In front of Big Sky Owners Association in Meadow Village Center

5:45 PHOTOS WITH SANTA CLAUS AT FIRST SECURITY BANK
Meadow Village Center

6:30 MAGIC SHOW
Upstairs at Lone Peak Brewery in Meadow Village Center

6:30 LIVE MUSIC & EVENTS
At Fire Pit Park & throughout Town Center

8:15 FIREWORKS SHOW
Center Stage & Fire Pit Park in Big Sky Town Center



Also

OPEN HOUSES AND MERCHANT ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY GINGERBREAD HOUSE
Hosted by Big Sky Sugarbuzz in Westfork Meadows

SLEIGH RIDES
Meadow Village Center & Town Center

ICE SKATING AND BROOM BALL
Big Sky Town Center - weather permitting

ILLUMINATED PATHWAYS
NORDIC SKI & BIKE TRAILS
Between Meadow Village Center and Big Sky Town Center

BONFIRES AND S'MORES
Meadow Village Center & Town Center

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ERIK MORRISON | erik@lovestreetmedia.com

Ski, stay & stroll at big sky with sky card deep discount days

