

ExploreTM

Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

FREE

Big Sky

Aug. 4 - Aug. 17, 2017
Volume 8 // Issue #16

**Big Sky PBR shatters
attendance, fundraising records**

A Billion Dollar Bet

Big Sky's development history, part 4

NorthWestern Energy substation
plan draws concern

Mambo Kings headline classical music fest

Back 40: Wildfire suppression 101

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Aug. 4 – Aug. 17, 2017
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ON THE COVER: Cowboy Cody Nance post-ride backed by an enthusiastic Big Sky PBR crowd. PHOTO BY MIKE CHILCOAT

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OPENING SHOT

Nine-year-old Piper Marmer sells painted rocks and tic-tac-toe at the Big Sky Farmer's Market every Wednesday with half of her proceeds going to the ALS Therapy Development Institute. Her cousin Wats Littman and Finn McRae sell homemade flies, and have a tip jar that also benefits an ALS organization. Marmer and Littman's grandmother, Katharine Watson, suffers from ALS. Hungry Moose owners Mark and Jackie Robin have joined with the Watson family to launch a national campaign in Big Sky called #whatwouldyougive to raise funds for ALS TDI, the only nonprofit biotech company solely focused on ALS research. PHOTO BY AMANDA MARMER

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

Correction: Two seats on the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board will be up for public vote on May 8, 2018 not as reported in the July 21 EBS article "Resort Tax Board reviews conditional allocations, elects new chairperson."



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VICE PRESIDENT OF SALES, FOUNDING BROKER
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Thank you to everyone who made the 2017
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RAINBOW TROUT



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HOOKEED ON THE GALLATIN: YOUTH FLY FISHING CAMP: Spanish Peaks Community Foundation, Moonlight Community Foundation, Jimmy Armijo-Grover, Mike Richter, Luke Rice, Colin Henry, Kara Tripp, Camp Big Sky, Winston Rods, Jeremy Harder, and Invasive Species Action Network

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OTHERS: Big Sky Community Organization, Brian Hurlbut, Brian Van Eps, Ciara Wolfe, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Dave Pecunies, Double Barrel, Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, Greg Iszler, Kevin Pillsbury, Low Water String Band, Ryan Hamilton, Scenic City Pumping, and Wendi Urie

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Adam Skaggs and Mark Baker

PEDAL, PADDLE, RUN-OFF WINNING TEAM:
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News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

If you build it, they will come

Seven years ago Outlaw Partners set out on a mission to help create a signature event for Big Sky that would generate body heat and business while also building a stronger sense of community. Fast-forward to last week and the seventh annual Big Sky PBR, which took place with record crowds, massive media coverage, world-class athletes and musicians and amazing philanthropic support.

Thank you to our dedicated sponsors and volunteers who helped make the event possible. In addition, the hard-working staff of Outlaw Partners and Freestone Productions should be congratulated for executing such a seamless four-day show. The Simkins Family and Town Center are a critical part in the success of this event—being able to have this event in the center of town makes the event even more unique. Jim Murphy, my business partner on Big Sky PBR, has been a steady force in helping create this world-class event and I am grateful for him and his team.

As Big Sky continues its massive growth trajectory, it's important to make sure we remain focused on building community and authentic world-class events that help bring a stronger soul to our town. I lost count of how many “thank yous” and “congratulations” I received from locals and visitors who shared stories of what this event has brought to their businesses and meant to their families. It is truly our pleasure to help execute this event, and being part of the growth and nationally-recognized success of PBR has been exciting.

Please know that we recognize the hard work many of you contributed to help make the event happen and we are humbled by your support. Outlaw Partners stands committed to continuing to grow the Big Sky PBR event for 2018, in part by adding more events to the calendar. We continue to invest in assets that we hope will become part of an eventual Big Sky event center, which would allow us to do more and work with other groups to create new events. If you have suggestions on types of events you would like to see in Big Sky, please drop Outlaw a note as we welcome your ideas.

Thank you once again for making 2017 Big Sky PBR the best one yet!

Eric Ladd
CEO Outlaw Partners



PHOTO BY MIKE CHILCOAT



MEDICAL CLINIC OF BIG SKY URGENT CARE

2 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

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7 days a week - (ski season only)
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Yellowstone Club Community Foundation announces \$160,000 in community grants

YELLOWSTONE CLUB COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Yellowstone Club Community Foundation announced spring 2017 grants totaling \$160,000 distributed among 25 local nonprofits.

The grants have reinforced the foundation’s focus on education, arts and culture, healthcare, conservation, and community services.

Each year, the Gallatin Valley Food Bank, with the aid of the foundation’s largest recurring gift, distributes more than 30,000 KidsPacks filled with healthy food to help children through the weekend.

Summer arts highlights include the Big Sky Conservatory, a project of Warren Miller Performing Arts Center that bring world-class performing artists to Big Sky to train young people and adults from the region and elsewhere.

“Through the support of the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation, we are able to keep tuition prices affordable, serve our local community in an impactful and holistic manner, and maintain our brand of fostering the best artistry in the world,” said John Zirkle, artistic director of the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

The foundation also sponsors the Big Sky Classical Music Festival, a program of the Arts Council of Big Sky that offers a free concert by the Big Sky Festival Orchestra in Town Center Park on Aug. 13, at 5 p.m.

In the fall, Big Brothers Big Sisters is returning to Big Sky’s public schools with the renewed support of the foundation.

The foundation stages three annual fundraisers, the summer Weiskopf Cup golf event, the March Wine and Song Benefit, and the New Year’s Eve “Name That Run” auction on New Year’s Eve.

Since its inception in 2010, the foundation has provided more than \$3 million to local nonprofits through grants, scholarships, and sponsorships.

Mountain biker dies at Big Sky Resort

EBS STAFF

As of EBS press time on Aug. 2, the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office had not provided the findings of the coroner’s investigation into the death of 18-year-old Tanner Noble on July 24. Noble collapsed while riding his mountain bike at Big Sky Resort.

According to a press release from the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office, Big Sky Ski Patrol responded to the scene and continued life-saving efforts that had already been initiated.

A flight nurse with REACH Air Medical Services continued life-saving efforts on Noble in a Big Sky Fire Department ground ambulance. Noble was transported to Big Sky Medical Center.

Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office is handling the investigation and Sgt. Brandon Kelly said it could be anywhere from one day to one week from the incident before the medical examiner completed the investigation to determine cause of death. However, the cause of death was not available Aug. 2, nine days after the incident.

Madison County bans open burning; small fires in Big Sky Fire District still allowed

EBS STAFF

Due to extreme fire danger, on July 25 the Board of Madison County Commissioners, in cooperation with the Madison County Fire Warden and all local fire chiefs, confirmed an open burning ban effective at 12 a.m. on July 26, on private property in Madison County. The ban will remain in effect through 12 a.m. Sept. 30.

The Big Sky Fire District is exempt from this Madison County open burning ban, however properties within the BSFD are subject to a ban on fires larger than 48 inches in diameter throughout the rest of the summer. Fires smaller than 48 inches, which do not require burn permits, are still allowed in Big Sky.

“The assessment of conditions in the Big Sky area is always on-going and if conditions warrant it, we will request a burn ban is put in place for all fires in this area,” said BSFD Fire Chief William Farhat. “As of this time we are not close to that threshold.”

For properties outside of the BSFD, but within Madison County, the open burning ban is equivalent to Stage I restrictions, and restricts open burning of any kind, as well as the use of fireworks.

Federal Lands are not included in the Madison County burn ban. Much of eastern and western Montana have entered into fire restrictions. Visit <https://firerestrictions.us/mt> for a complete list of the restrictions currently in place around the state.

Study: Outdoor recreation in Montana grows to \$7.1 billion in consumer spending annually

OFFICE OF GOV. STEVE BULLOCK

Gov. Steve Bullock announced growth to Montana’s outdoor recreation economy and touted Montana’s public lands, outdoor economy, and high quality of life during the Outdoor Industry Association Trade Show.

“Our public lands are our birthright, our heritage, our great equalizer and so much more. Protecting our public lands is not only an investment in our economy but in our way of life,” Bullock said on July 26. “Outdoor recreationists know this is an investment that will pay off for generations to come, and together, we will always remain committed to keeping public lands in public hands for our kids and grandkids.”

According to the OIA report released July 26, outdoor recreation in Montana generates \$7.1 billion in consumer spending annually and supports 71,000 direct jobs. This results in \$2.2 billion in wages and salaries, and contributes \$286 million in state and local tax revenue. These numbers are up from previous studies released by OIA.

According to the report, 81 percent of Montana’s 1.04 million residents participate in outdoor recreation each year, and 7,800 jobs in Montana are sustained by hunting and fishing in comparison to 7,000 jobs that depend on mining and logging.

Speaking to approximately 1,000 outdoor manufacturers and retailers, Governor Bullock touted the importance of public lands to the overall economy and to the quality of life of Montanans and Americans.

“Outdoor recreation is the economy of the future and we are fortunate to live in a nation of iconic beauty, inspiring landscapes and bountiful waters,” Bullock said.



What are some future events that could benefit the Big Sky community? Why?



Karla Bivins
Big Sky, Montana

“I love the weekly music, and the farmers market in the summer time. I would like to see more art-based events.”



Andrew Schreiner
Big Sky, Montana

“This weekend [Grizzly Outfitters] is hosting an event called the Women’s All Ride. There’s about 60 women coming into town for the event, and about 80 women who are on the waiting list to get into the event. I think events that include women and the outdoors are something we need more of, because the ones that already exist seem to be doing well in Big Sky.”



Hannah Gendron
Three Forks, Montana

“I work in childcare so I think music events that are family friendly would be a great thing to have in Big Sky. Music makes people happy, and there’s not a lot of events where people feel they can take their kids out with them and everyone can have a good time.”



Lucas Kirkland
Big Sky, Montana

“I really like the music events. I like that we have free music because not a lot of communities are able to offer free events. It would be great to see more of them.”

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217 GOSHAWK TRAIL | \$4,225,000

Stunning ski-in/ski-out property situated in a pristine setting. Breathtaking views, groomed ski access and the elegant home create this masterpiece. This 6 bedroom, 6.5 bathroom home is ideal for entertaining guests with large open living spaces, three ensuite bedrooms, two guest bedrooms, and a bunk room. Extensive log and stone detail highlight the surrounding mountain environment. Spanish Peaks Mountain Club membership required. Golf membership included in sale. // **JACKIE MILLER | 406.539.5003**



PORCUPINE PARK 39 & 40 | \$595,000 - \$695,000

Beautiful and private, these parcels are located in the Porcupine Park Subdivision. Lot 40, at 6.34 acres plus an additional 22.58 acres of open space, and Lot 39, at 13.16 acres and accompanied by 8.87 acres of open space, give way to sweeping views to the south and east to the Gallatin Range and Porcupine Drainage. Mature, old-growth trees provide a beautiful backdrop for these very easy building sites. The parcels provide quiet seclusion and yet are only minutes away from all of the wonderful outdoor activities the Big Sky area has to offer. // **MICHAEL THOMAS | 406.581.2400**



25 BLUE SPRUCE WAY, UNIT B-1 | \$479,000

This immaculately maintained Pines Condominium end unit has never been rented and offers privacy in a wooded setting. The open kitchen is accented with a bay window and tile floors. Cathedral ceilings and a stone fireplace add warmth and light. Enjoy the outdoors from the large deck or take a short drive to Meadow or Mountain Village. There is plenty of storage in the one-car attached garage. Move in ready and fully furnished. // **LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848**



32 LOW DOG ROAD | \$1,295,000

Nestled in the trees, this private ski-in/ski-out home offers 4 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms in 2,759 +/- square feet of living space. Located at the base of the Wardance ski run at Big Sky Resort, this charming home is within close proximity to all Mountain Village amenities. Offering two master suites, a family room, radiant in-floor heating, a gas fireplace, a recent remodel and a gorgeous furniture package, as well as a patio that can't be beat! // **SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316**



TBD MOUNTAIN VALLEY TRAIL | \$539,000

Spectacular views of the Spanish Peaks, Lone Mountain and Southern Comfort await you at this wonderfully located 1.22 +/- acre home site in the Wildridge neighborhood of the Spanish Peaks Mountain Club. There is plenty of privacy with mature trees in a pristine setting, complete with a seasonal creek running through the property. Just a short drive to all club amenities. Spanish Peaks Mountain Club social or golf membership required. // **MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745**



5400 GALLATIN ROAD | \$49,500

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



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Letter: Will Gallatin County commissioners support Big Sky’s public transportation system?

While the Gallatin County commissioners initially voted against the Big Sky Transportation District’s request of \$80,000 to invest in the Skyline bus service, there’s still hope that they will include the funding for Skyline when they finalize the budget in August. More than 20 people from Big Sky attended the July 25 Gallatin County Commission meeting and over a dozen people spoke in support of Skyline’s request.

People noted that Big Sky is an economic engine for Gallatin County and that most of the people who work in Big Sky are Gallatin County residents. It was noted that whether it’s the employees, residents or visitors to Big Sky who spend their money in Gallatin County, the county benefits greatly from all the activity occurring in Big Sky. One downside to all this growth, however, is an increase in traffic.

A draft report commissioned by the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, conducted by Sanderson Stewart, indicates that traffic within Big Sky will grow by 4.3 percent per year for the next 20 years. At the commission meeting, many people talking with commissioners noted the stream of traffic on Highway 191.

Skyline just finished its 11th year of service, and in that time it has provided more than 1.6 million rides, both within Big Sky and between Big Sky and Bozeman. This year Skyline’s ridership is up nearly 9 percent (16,211 rides) from last year, with a total of 201,740 rides provided in fiscal year 2017.

Ridership data shows that 60 percent of people riding Skyline are traveling to and from work, and 67 percent say they always have a car available to them. So, Skyline is taking cars off the road, which improves safety and the environment along Highways 191 and 64.

As the Coordinator of the Big Sky Transportation District, I hope the Gallatin County commissioners will recognize the benefits of the Skyline system, and include \$80,000 in their budget for investment in Skyline.

David Kack
Bozeman, Montana

Letter: Navigating our course through uncharted waters

Like many of you, my summer has been filled with memorable adventures on the Gallatin. Our family spends almost every day on or near the beautiful rivers and streams in our area, whether it is enjoying the beautiful vistas along trails near our home in Ramshorn; fly fishing for golden trout while backpacking; or exploring every bend in the Gallatin during early season float trips.

Many people take our clean rivers and drinking water for granted, but our water is a fragile, limited resource. Our residential and visitor populations along with wastewater disposal needs are growing, but our water supply is not. Drought and climatic variability mean our water will at times be in shorter supply, with potential impacts to water quality, fisheries and human needs.

Effective water management in Big Sky is complicated by the lack of central authority and the many disparate entities overseeing water supply and wastewater treatment systems. We live in the headwaters of the Madison and the Gallatin watersheds. Our decisions affect both Big Sky and downstream communities.

Fortunately, a group of some of the most knowledgeable water experts in Montana are helping to solve our water challenges. Thirty-six individuals, representing diverse entities, are participating in a local planning effort called the Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions Forum, which is focusing on ecological health of the river systems, water supply and availability, and wastewater treatment and reuse.

The Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions Forum has a vision for Big Sky to be a model mountain community for water resource management. I have spent the last 15 years researching and advocating for the Gallatin River, and as a community member, executive director of the Gallatin River Task Force and stakeholder in the Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions forum, I have never been so optimistic about the future of water in Big Sky.

Successfully achieving this vision will require strong community engagement. When the Big Sky Sustainable Water Solutions Forum reconvenes in the fall, we want to present as much community feedback as possible to identify opportunities and recommend actions to manage our local water resources most effectively.

The Task Force will solicit feedback this summer and early fall through presentations in Big Sky and in downstream communities. In addition, community members can give feedback through a survey on our website, gallatinrivertaskforce.org.

This is your opportunity to make a long-term, positive impact! Help us protect our rivers and improve fish and wildlife habitat for future generations.

Sincerely,
Kristin Gardner
Big Sky, Montana

Letter: Seeking community engagement regarding NorthWestern Energy’s proposed substation

As Big Sky continues to experience rapid growth, the community must meet the challenge of accommodating the growth while preserving the area’s scenic beauty. The most recent challenge comes in the form of NorthWestern Energy’s proposal to build a new electrical substation on the entry corridor to the resort about three miles up the hill from Town Center.

The proposed electrical substation will be similar in size and scope to the existing substation in the Meadow. This means a 2-acre building envelope and 60-foot towers. The company has entered into an option to acquire land for the substation that is located alongside Highway 64 halfway between Town Center and the Big Sky Resort directly adjacent to the Antler Ridge and Sleeping Bear subdivisions. Establishing the substation on this site (called the Midway site) will not only impact the property owners in these two developments but will surely be an eyesore as you drive up the mountain to the resort.

NorthWestern Energy has indicated it is considering another site located a half-mile west of the Midway site on the north side of the highway. Building the substation at this location, called the Rainham site, would virtually eliminate any adverse visual or noise impacts on existing residences, and would be hidden from the highway by dense evergreens.

If you value the scenic beauty of Big Sky, this seems to be a vastly superior location. However, NorthWestern Energy continues to favor the Midway site for its ease of access and lower development costs.

In the company’s first community meeting to discuss the substation, the focus was on the need for the substation to meet Big Sky’s growing energy needs without discussing in any detail how they plan to mitigate the adverse visual and noise impacts on the residents and the community. When asked, they declined to state whether they even consider these adverse impacts in their site selection process. It’s time for the community to get involved to make certain NorthWestern Energy prioritizes the needs of our residents and preserves the scenic beauty of our community in the design and location of the new substation.

Bob Webb
Big Sky, Montana

An evacuation plan for Big Sky

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN - The unincorporated Big Sky community is located on Highway 64, the only dead-end highway in the state, and to leave, visitors and residents alike must travel east on Highway 64 and then turn onto Highway 191. Motorists can turn right for West Yellowstone or drive left toward Bozeman. This means options are limited, should the Big Sky community need to get out of the area in a hurry.

In the event of a hazardous situation like a wildfire, earthquake, hazardous waste spill, flood or law enforcement emergency, officials from either Gallatin or Madison counties would step in to facilitate an evacuation of Big Sky. To keep confusion to a minimum, county officials' efforts would be guided by an evacuation plan that includes notification procedures and route information based upon the hazard.

"No one incident is the same," said Patrick Lonergan, director of Gallatin County Emergency Management. "[Routes are] very situationally dependent." Based on the hazard and the conditions, Lonergan said alternative routes could be made using Jack Creek Road, which is a private gated road leading west to Ennis, or through the Yellowstone Club.

Big Sky straddles both Gallatin and Madison counties and is therefore subject to each county's emergency evacuation plan. Fortunately, emergency personnel from the two counties work closely.

"We do everything jointly up there," said Dustin Tetrault, the director of Emergency Management for Madison County. "We make sure our plans reflect each other's plans very closely ... so our responders know how each county works."

In the event of a dangerous situation that makes it unsafe to stay in the area, the counties will follow a two-step plan for evacuation, consisting of a warning of evacuation, followed by an evacuation order.

One form of notification is electronic, via a mass notification system. If lives are at risk, Tetrault says officials would rely on the national Integrated Public Alert and Warning System, which saves time during an emergency by sending mass alerts to cell phones, landlines, weather radios and news outlets.

"Any cell phone in the area [would] get the alert," Tetrault said. Emergency personnel can target the notification to a specific street, or alert all of Big Sky. Unfortunately, both directors say the system does not reach cell phones that are out of reception.

If time allows, emergency personnel would issue a warning in person, going door to door to spread the news. "The Gallatin County preference is to make contact in person if at all possible," Lonergan said, adding that this form of communication ensures understanding across the community.

At the time of such an evacuation warning, residents and visitors should prepare to leave at a moment's notice. Should individuals need time in order to leave, such as those with medical needs or livestock, Gallatin County suggests they leave when the warning is issued instead of waiting for an evacuation order.

Should a dangerous situation escalate, local officials will issue an evacuation order requesting that individuals leave immediately. Often, this notification is made in person. Further details, such as evacuation instructions and route plans, will be made available through the notification process. There could be specific route instructions, or there may even be an escort, Lonergan said.

"To do an evacuation and bring a whole pile of people down the road would have to be a really coordinated effort," Tetrault said.

There are several steps people can take in order to be prepared for an emergency evacuation.

"The best thing for the community of Big Sky to do is to register with the Gallatin County community notification system," Lonergan said. This system allows you to list contact information and preferences, as well as select locations you'd like to be notified about, whether it's your personal home and business, or your home and the home of your children or family members.

The directors also recommend that individuals come up with a personal emergency plan, keep an emergency kit and know what they would do in the event of an evacuation.

"Everyone should be prepared," Lonergan said. "That can mean different things to different people." Scenarios to be prepared for include not being able to leave the house, not being able to get home, or having to leave home in an emergency.

In order to be ready for the scenarios, people are encouraged to keep a 72-hour emergency kit that would include water, clothing, matches and other survival gear that can be stored in a car or other convenient location. Personal needs, such as medications and the needs of your animals, should also be taken into account.

"We go by 72 hours because that's the time it would take to get outside help," Tetrault said, referring to state or national emergency aid.

Tetrault says the items you take with you during an evacuation are organized into five categories that can be remembered as the five P's. Importance is placed in the following order: people; prescriptions; papers and documents; personal needs; priceless items.

Another point of consideration is to discuss a family plan, says Lonergan. "Where would you go? Where would you meet your family?" In some instances, an emergency evacuation might require sheltering individuals in a separate part of the county. In other cases, it may be up to the individual to find an alternative location to stay as long as it's unsafe to return home.

Tetrault suggests that prior to evacuation, individuals try to turn on lights inside and outside the house to increase visibility, disconnect garage door openers so that the doors can be opened by hand, and turn off any gas sources.

To sign up for the Gallatin County Community Notification system, visit readygallatin.com/public-warning/community-notification-system. To learn more about the Gallatin County Emergency Management, visit readygallatin.com, or to learn about the Emergency Management of Madison County, visit madisoncountymt.gov/176.



The Big Sky community is located on Highway 64, which is a dead-end highway with limited alternative routes should a life-threatening emergency require evacuation of the area. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

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Big Sky homeowners concerned about location of new substation

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – A July 25 meeting at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center about an electrical substation to be located somewhere between Meadow Village and Lone Mountain drew a sizable crowd and some strongly-worded comments from attendees.

The meeting, which started off as an explanation of a month-long facilitation process intended to ease tensions between NorthWestern Energy and Big Sky community members, inspired some sharp criticism of NorthWestern’s initial approach to locating a site for a new substation.

One community member expressed frustration that NorthWestern had moved forward with property acquisition for a potential site near the Sleeping Bear and Antler Ridge subdivisions before contacting homeowners in those neighborhoods.

“NorthWestern Energy is absolutely committed to figuring out how to make that work in the most sustainable, collectively beneficial way possible,” said Eric Austin, whose organization, the Burton K. Wheeler Center for Public Policy, was hired by NorthWestern to facilitate discussion between the energy company and the Big Sky community.

The project Austin is facilitating is scheduled to move quickly, with five smaller community meetings culminating in an Aug. 29 presentation of NorthWestern’s plan moving forward.

Northwestern Major Projects Director Tom Pankratz said the utility company anticipates Big Sky’s energy load demand will nearly double in the next 10 to 15 years. The company currently serves approximately 4,400 electrical customers in Big Sky.

Pankratz said Big Sky’s energy demand grows about 8 percent annually, a marked difference from the statewide average of about 1 percent, and that an additional substation is needed to add redundancy to the system and lessen the likelihood of long-term blackouts.

Most of the concerns residents voiced at the meeting centered on how NorthWestern’s initial selection, dubbed the Midway Site, would compromise aesthetics and property values. Community members have also expressed concern over the noise and wildlife impact of the proposed substation.

“How many of you would like, at your house, to look out [your] windows and see that substation right in front of you?” Antler Ridge resident Buz Daviz asked the employees of Northwestern Energy in attendance. “I don’t think anybody in Big Sky, whether it’s in Antler Ridge, whether it’s in Sleeping Bear, whether it’s in Aspen Grove, should have to look at a substation.”

Daviz added that he knows of one lot owner who’s lost a sale because a potential buyer heard a substation might be going in nearby.

Another Antler Ridge resident, John Bauchman, said he was under the impression that the Rainham site that had been proposed to Northwestern was a legitimate alternative to the Midway site. “The fact that we’re having these meetings leads me to believe or assume that there is a preference still for the Midway site [rather] than the Rainham sight,” he said.

“We don’t have a preferred site at this point,” Hangratez said, echoing an earlier comment by Pat Asay, manager of lands and permitting for Northwestern Energy. Asay said NorthWestern’s conditional use permit application for that site has been suspended.

Bauchman said he’s concerned that the substation, particularly if it’s located at the Midway site, will be an eyesore for people as they drive to Lone Mountain, similar to the sewer ponds located in Meadow Village.

The substation will require about 5 acres of land, and homeowners have argued that there are ways to minimize its impact—by being choosy about location and looking at ways to minimize viewshed impact, like building it underground or enclosing it in a structure. The tumult over the substation has spawned a Facebook group, The Big Sky Alliance for Responsible Development.

Fielding a question about cost—specifically about the feasibility of locating the substation at a higher-cost site that would be less impactful to homeowners—Hangratez said, “Yes, cost is a consideration for us. As I’m sure you all know, everything we do in Big Sky tends to be on the higher end in terms of cost ... As a regulated utility, we have to look at cost very carefully and we have to consider that [on behalf] of all of our customers.”

The first focus group discussions took place July 31 and Aug. 1 at the Big Sky Water and Sewer District. The July 31 meeting was geared toward Yellowstone Club and Spanish Peaks owners as well as other interested owners, and the Aug. 1 meeting was directed toward Meadow Village business and other commercial interests.

At the Aug. 1 meeting, NorthWestern provided information about site requirements for the substation as well as visual renderings of what it would look like if located at two of the four potential sites.

“We will take our last breath to make sure this isn’t going to happen [at the Midway] site,” said Sleeping Bear Road resident Jeannine Hall, whose deck-view would overlook the Midway site.

For more information about the project and future meetings, including upcoming meeting on Aug. 17, Aug. 20 and Aug. 21, visit <https://bigskysubstation.wixsite.com/bigskysubstation>.

EBS Associate Editor Sarah Gianelli contributed reporting to this story.



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LOCAL

Explore Big Sky

Tell Me, Tallie: How does Montana assess the value of my real estate?

BY TALLIE LANCEY
EBS COLUMNIST



“[I] shall never use profanity except in discussing house rent and taxes,” reflected Mark Twain. Perhaps Mr. Twain would find good company in Big Sky these days.

If you received a letter from the Montana Department of Revenue last month, you may have been surprised to see the new assessed value of your real estate. You may have even used some of Twain’s irreverent parlance to express yourself. The 2017 Real Property Classification and Appraisal Notice raised some eyebrows in Big Sky. (By the way, if you own property in Montana and didn’t

receive this letter, you need to call your county treasurer’s office to verify your mailing address.)

In an effort to mitigate my own confusion about this valuation process, I reached out the Department of Revenue directly. Right off the bat, I was thoroughly impressed with the warmth and sincerity of the folks who work there. They welcome your calls; they want to educate the public. If you’d rather go fly fishing than talk to a government official, I’ll summarize the main points here.

Back in 2014, Montana legislators saw a problem with the effects of the frequency of assessments. They had been using a six year cycle, which meant that during the Great Recession, when Big Sky properties lost about half of their value, homeowners were paying more than they felt was fair. This occurred throughout Montana in areas where mining, tourism and agricultural economic shifts affect local property values. The last appraisal was done in 2015 and those valuations, in Big Sky, were arguably well below market, which is probably why so many folks were surprised by the increase this time around. You could describe the change as creating a slingshot sensation.

Fortunately, the law was changed in 2015 to increase the cycle from every six years to every two years. We saw appraisals in 2003, 2009, 2015 and 2017. The legislators’ intention is to smooth our market fluctuations and create a truer, more real-time picture of Montana’s real estate values.

They have their work cut out for them. In Gallatin County alone, there are approximately 58,000 parcels that 13 appraisers have to evaluate every 24 months.

Those county appraisers fulfill their obligation to assess market value using one of two methods: cost or comparison. During a real estate sale, the title or closing officer populates a Realty Transfer Certificate that denotes the sales price. That information then goes to the county clerk and recorder and is not available to the public. Montana is a non-disclosure state, so only realtors, title plants, and the Department of Revenue have access to sold data. Surprising to many of today’s Big Sky real estate shoppers, Zillow’s Zestimate algorithms have little correlation with true market trends. Capitalism’s invisible hand is extra invisible here.

Once the value of the home and/or land is calculated, the treasurer uses the statewide tax multiplier of 1.35 percent to determine your taxable value. Taxable value is the figure used to multiply by your local mills. If your property value is \$500,000, your taxable value is \$6,750. The notice you received last month estimated your potential taxes owed for 2017 based on the prior year’s millage rate. However, next year’s millage rate is yet to be determined. County commissioners will tally it this fall.

If I haven’t lost you yet, bear with me because I’m getting to the grand finale. It’s possible that the mill rate could go down due to the high volume of new taxable property. In other words, while your taxable value increased, the mill rate may decrease, leaving your taxes somewhat flat. On our own personal residence, my husband and I saw a 1.7 percent annual increase in our taxes over the last nine years, which seems downright gradual in my humble opinion.

But if you don’t like to pay any property taxes whatsoever, you could relocate to Pago Pago in American Samoa where there is no tax on private land. It’s about the same size as Big Sky and I hear their fishing is fine!

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

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

Camp Moonlight gets eager kids out of doors



Camp Moonlight participants spent July 24 canoeing, making arts and crafts, and taking part in a variety of educational outdoor activities. Camp Moonlight is geared toward youth aged 4-17, and is based out of Madison Village base area at Big Sky Resort. The camp wrapped up its 2017 season on Aug. 3. PHOTOS BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

History comes alive at Crail Ranch

EBS STAFF

Storyteller Mary Jane Bradbury will be doing a period impersonation of the late Nancy Russell, wife and business manager of esteemed Western artist Charles M. Russell, on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 12-2 p.m. at Big Sky’s Crail Ranch Homestead. A picnic lunch and soft drinks will be provided at noon with the program beginning at 1 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Against the backdrop of social and political reform of the early 1900s, Nancy Cooper Russell (1878-1940) was a woman ahead of her time. A self-taught business woman with the ability to take charge, Nancy helped her husband become the highest paid living artist of his time. Art historians consistently give her credit for being the reason the coveted Russell paintings and sculptures exist in museums and private collections today.

Bradbury presents a dialogue in Nancy’s words that gives insight into the remarkable woman behind the man. Bradbury shares Nancy’s stories of her chance meeting with the Montana cowboy artist who would become her husband, and his role in a growing genre of art that celebrated the myth of the West. Bradbury also shares Nancy’s accounts of the renowned artists and celebrities the Russells became acquainted with as they traveled from New York City to Hollywood in the early 20th century.

Sponsored by the Crail Ranch Conservators and funded by Humanities Montana, the program will run 45 minutes, followed by a Q&A period and discussion.

Crail Ranch Homestead Museum is located at 2110 Spotted Elk Road in Big Sky. For more information email crailranch@bscomt.org or call (406) 993-2112.



Storyteller Mary Jane Bradbury provides insight into the life of the late Nancy Russell, wife and business manager of great western artist Charles Russell, at Crail Ranch on Aug. 19. PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY JANE BRADBURY

Medical fund established to help with recent injury at Green Bridge

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY - From what Joshua Spivey has gathered about his brother Jacob's July 14 injury—he wasn't there—Jacob was running and slipped off a platform to the side of the Green Bridge near Deer Creek.

Then surfer, music lover and Navy veteran Jacob Spivey broke his neck. "He was facedown in the river at least 30-45 seconds, people said, and then people had to pull him out," Joshua said.

Neither Joshua, 39, nor Jacob, 30, are sure if it was impact from the platform or from the bottom of the Gallatin River that broke Jacob's neck. "We're assuming he hit the sand bar," Joshua said, adding that the platform used to have seats in it and wood railings around it. "All the wood siding around it [is] all gone."

The people Jacob was with that afternoon pulled him out of the river and someone took off in their car toward Big Sky to call 911—there's no cell phone reception near Deer Creek.

The Big Sky Fire Department arrived and transported Jacob in an ambulance to an area large enough for a helicopter to land—the Lava Lake Trailhead pullout. An air ambulance then flew him to Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital.

Jacob's doctor told Joshua that the window of opportunity "where you get any kind of recovery from an injury like that" is 2-2.5 hours. "It was such a team effort," Joshua said. "It was amazing."

"I was able to race down to the hospital and I saw him about two minutes before he went into surgery. He was conscious then, he was just scared," Joshua said. "I was able to talk to him, to give him a little peace of mind."

Joshua was joined by his parents during his hospital vigil over the next two weeks. "We don't leave him alone at all, there's always somebody there," Joshua said in a July 26 interview. "I'm there from about 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. and then my pops comes and he does the next shift and we all just kind of hang out during the day."

Jacob had a breathing tube in for about a week. He contracted pneumonia a couple of days after the accident, which might have developed due to water inhalation from the river. By July 26, he was starting to get his voice back after having a breathing tube in for so long.

The break in Jacob's neck is severe. Clinicians grade spinal cord injuries on a scale of A to E to classify the extent of the impairment. Jacob's injury is listed as an "A"—the most serious. "The doctor described it as a nerve

traffic jam," Joshua said. "The nerves are just discombobulated, they don't know what they're doing anymore."

Jacob underwent surgery to stabilize his neck, specifically the C-6 and C-7 vertebrae, which are located toward the bottom of the cervical spine.

"They put what they call a 'cage' in his C-7," Joshua said. "He has four screws on the spinal columns above and below the injury and two metal rods that are supporting his neck now."

Jacob doesn't have function from the chest down. "He doesn't have the ability to control his muscles across the stomach and the side, so he can't hold himself up, really," Joshua said. "He has full motion of his arms.

His hands are curled. ... He can't do full grip strength because the nerves [for that are] right there, C-7."

Joshua said they're still not sure what the full extent of the permanent damage to his little brother's spinal cord will be.

"[Jacob and I] had a talk [on July 26] and he understands what he's going to be going through. ... He's accepting of it, he's just trying to piece together what he's going to do with his life in case he doesn't walk again. I tell him not to think that far ahead, just take it day by day. I'm just trying to keep him grounded."

Jacob worked on F-18s as a mechanic in the Navy and was working at Big Sky restaurant Choppers Grub & Pub with Joshua for the summer. "He was really getting into fly fishing and we were gonna go rafting and hiking and we had our camping gear—that's kind of why I brought him out here," Joshua said, adding that his brother is a vibrant, healthy person.

"He's one of those people that you would say, 'Why him?' Out of all the people. ... He's a very giving dude [and] everybody likes hanging out with him."

Joshua said he knows his brother will go through inevitable ups and downs, but he received good care in the Bozeman hospital and that helped—so did the outpouring of support from social media.

"When I show him the Facebook responses, he gets very emotional. I'm like, 'See, people are going to reach out for you.' He's very uplifted [and] shocked by it."

Editor's Note: In an Aug. 2 interview, Joshua said that Jacob had been transferred to a Veterans Affairs hospital in San Diego, California. "So far, so good," Joshua said of the transition. "He's mobile, they've got him in an electric chair so he can move around."

A GoFundMe page has been set up to help the Spivey family with medical expenses. Visit gofundme.com/jacobspiveymedicalfund for more information.



Jacob Spivey broke his neck July during an accident at the Green Bridge, located in Gallatin Canyon at the confluence of Deer Creek and the Gallatin River. PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA SPIVEY

Montana auditor says he'll seek US Senate seat

BY BOBBY CAINA CALVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) - Montana state Auditor Matt Rosendale said Monday he will seek the Republican nomination to run against incumbent U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, considered one of the most vulnerable Democrats seeking re-election in 2018.

Rosendale joins a growing list of Republicans who have announced their candidacy or their interest in the Senate post. National Republicans have hoped to draw a higher-profile candidate to run against the two-term Democrat.

"I've been getting calls from across the state from people who are just not satisfied with the job Tester's doing," Rosendale said. "They feel like he comes here back home and he acts like a good old farmer and yet he goes back to Washington, D.C., and he votes with and just like Chuck Schumer," the Democratic minority leader from New York.

Billings Judge Russell Fagg, a former state legislator who is considering his own Senate run, took a jab at Rosendale's residency in Montana. Fagg said his "four generations of Montana roots, all the way back to the late 1800s" puts him in a better position to understand the problems faced by Montanans.

Rosendale moved to the state 16 years ago from Maryland and noted that voters have repeatedly elected him to public office.

In November, Rosendale won a four-year term as auditor to oversee the insurance and securities industries in Montana. He previously served in the Legislature, representing the Glendive area.

He ran unsuccessfully for the U.S. House in 2014, losing in the primary to fellow Republican Ryan Zinke, who is now Interior secretary.

Democrats have been anticipating a bid from Rosendale and have in recent months assailed him for seeking a repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

Rosendale also said he will campaign on strengthening programs for military veterans and increasing resources for the Defense Department.

Lots of outside money is expected to pour into Montana for the race, as has been the case with other closely watched contests and because of Tester's stature among congressional Democrats. As of June 30, Tester had \$4.7 million in campaign money.

"Jon Tester is as Montanan as it gets and it shows every day he's working in the U.S. Senate," his campaign manager Christie Roberts said in an email. "He is proud of his record of fighting for Montana, and he's ready to stack that record up against anyone."

National Republicans had courted Montana Attorney General Tim Fox to make a bid after Zinke decided to join President Donald Trump's administration. Fox declined, leaving the field wide open.

Among the other Republicans seeking their party's nomination are state Sen. Albert Olszewski and Big Sky businessman Troy Downing.

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The New West: Williams’ ‘Open Midnight’ finds meaning in ancestors, wildness



BY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Before William Williams joined other Mormon faithful—before he, too, set out on his own religious pilgrimage westward, ultimately dying in Wyoming—this ancestor of writer Brooke Williams was born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England in 1808.

Just months later, Charles Darwin, one of the godfathers of evolution, was born in the exact same community.

Cut from different socioeconomic cloth, it is unknown if Williams and Darwin ever crossed paths as boys from, figuratively, different sides of the tracks. Each, however, would later embark on journeys that changed the course of history.

In the case of the former, his shaped the destiny of the Williams clan in the West. For Darwin, famously, it involved sailing aboard the Beagle on a nautical course around the southern tip of South America and up to the Galapagos Islands, where the genesis for writing about the origin of species awaited.

In his new book, “Open Midnight: Where Ancestors and Wilderness Meet,” Brooke Williams, who divides his time between Jackson Hole and Castle Valley, Utah, muses on his affinity for untrammelled nature; on how landscape propels people forward and alters perception; and how the quest for meaning in wilderness delivers spiritual sustenance.

In late July, Williams gave a reading in Bozeman, met by a strong turnout of friends who have followed his work and that of his wife, Terry Tempest Williams. (Terry was on her own book tour in support of the paperback release of her acclaimed homage to America’s national parks titled “The Hour of Land.”)

Both Williamses were raised in the Latter-day Saints faith. Today, Brooke identifies as a “post-Mormon.” He’s still trying to make sense of his heritage, knowing it is sometimes easier to see more clearly from the outside than in. He readily says he is at once an outgrowth of moral ideals that sprung from his kinfolk who settled in their holy version of Zion, the promised land, where teachings emphasize dominion over nature, and yet he is a passionate defender of wilderness.

Today, Utah is ground zero for the modern sagebrush rebellion, a state where the power of LDS religious philosophy is tethered to a political ideology that is anti-federal government, anti-federal public lands ownership, anti-environmental regulation and anti what is, for Williams, his own reverence for leaving nature alone.

Landscape protection has actually proved to be very lucrative for Utah’s economy with nature-tourism, the main driver of Utah’s popularity as a destination.

If you did not care about national monuments like Bears Ears or Grand Staircase-Escalante before, you will with Williams as your Thoreau-esque chaperone.

The thing about “Open Midnight” is that it is, in a way, a celebration of public lands, but it’s not a rant. Rather, Williams uses the parallel courses of his great-great-great grandfather and Charles Darwin as springboards for pondering the existential factors that determine where people end up in their lives. What Williams couldn’t piece together from historic records about his relative, he invents by trying to imagine his frame of mind.

In fact, he gives his ancestor the chance he never had—to experience wild Utah in all her glory. As part of a trek of self-discovery, the author is a thoughtful, nurturing interpreter taking us to the wild haunts he loves, escorting readers on walkabouts through the slot canyons, pinyon-covered mesas and corners of southern Utah where ancient people first trekked a dozen millennia ago.

He ponders the things that impulsed William Williams and Darwin and he delves into his own grasp of the sacred. It’s a complicated weaving but it holds



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROOKE WILLIAMS

together. He brings his reflections into shining light, set against the backdrop of an immigrant’s dream.

William Williams was bound for Utah but he died on Oct. 9, 1863, along the banks of the Sweetwater River in far southwestern Fremont County, Wyoming. Pondering the prospect of a better life that on faith alone compelled his elder to seek the unknown and to perish trying to find it, Brooke Williams literally wades into the Sweetwater baptizing his own conviction that humility in nature holds answers.

“I believe that there is an underlying goodness, rightness and order in the universe,” he writes of his optimism even in these challenging times. “Call it what you will—God, a higher power, Great Spirit, Yahweh, Allah—but something is out there holding all this together, and it is big, complex, and beyond the most distant and radical limits of our ability to understand or even imagine, which renders meaningless all the arguments we have about life and death and what’s out there beyond the beyond.”

We are not in control, he admits, while finding solace and not fear in places that remind him of that fact. “I feel good knowing that something is true even when it is beyond our ability to know,” he adds.

What I know is Williams has penned a book that, in the best sense, will leave you agape, whether you believe in the religious definition of the word or not.

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

MSU researchers partner with Ennis hatchery, construct wetlands to treat effluent

Conference on treatment wetlands comes to Big Sky in August

BY MARSHALL SWEARINGEN
MSU NEWS SERVICE

ENNIS – On a June day when snow lingered on the peaks of the Madison Range, Jack Wallis personified Montana State University's Trout U moniker not with a fly rod in hand but with an 8-foot section of PVC pipe fitted with a wide vacuum nozzle.

As hefty rainbow trout lazed in the long, concrete-sided pools inside the Ennis National Fish Hatchery, Wallis steadily worked the apparatus through the water with the concentration of casting a dry fly, using the vacuum to suck up a sludge of fish food and excrement that had collected near a grate.

"I was pretty excited when I got to work on this project," said Wallis, an angler who visits Montana's alpine lakes when he's not earning his master's degree in environmental engineering at MSU. With this project, he explains, he gets to be around fish while working toward his goal of a career in wastewater treatment.

From the vacuum pipe, the sludge-filled water traveled through pumps, valves and tanks that directed the flow to the most important part of the system: a wetland constructed in order to treat the effluent. In the artificial wetland's beds of sand and gravel, underlain by drainage pipe and an impermeable liner, the roots of sedges and rushes host microbes that feast on the fish sludge and purify the water.

"We're using the same microbial processes as in wastewater treatment plants," Wallis said. "It's just in the form of a wetland instead of a mechanical system."

Wallis is part of a team of researchers in MSU's College of Engineering that has partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which operates the Ennis hatchery, to study the use of what are called treatment wetlands, which are relatively rare in the U.S.

"This project is the first of its kind at a federal fish hatchery," said Connie Keeler-Foster, who manages the Ennis facility. "A lot of our engineers are looking at this very closely. If it works, they could use it for other hatcheries as well."

The impetus for the project came a few years ago, when stricter effluent requirements prompted USFWS to consider new treatment options for the Ennis hatchery, which produces about 20 million rainbow trout eggs annually for hatcheries nationwide.

Meanwhile, Otto Stein, professor of civil engineering at MSU, was ramping up his research on the use of treatment wetlands, which are widely used in Europe to treat sewage from subdivisions and small towns, he said.

"We're on the cusp of a lot more of these systems starting to be used [in the U.S.]," Stein said. Compared to some other, more traditional wastewater systems, treatment wetlands "can achieve comparable, or even better, water quality for a fraction of the cost."

Stein was looking for ways to test large prototypes, and found that treating the hatchery's effluent would be similar to treating sewage. After weighing different options, USFWS decided to partner with MSU to try the low-cost method.



Montana State University graduate student Jack Wallis cleans out a fish raceway by pumping the wastewater to a water treatment system at the Ennis National Fish Hatchery, on June 19 near Ennis, Montana. PHOTO BY ADRIAN SANCHEZ-GONZALES

During summer 2015, USFWS equipment operators, with guidance from Stein's team, did the bulk of the construction, which involved excavating 3-foot-deep trenches roughly 10 feet wide by 100 feet long. The MSU team then helped lay down rubber membrane, which prevents the effluent from seeping into the ground, followed by drainage pipes and a thick layer of gravel and sand in which the sedges and rushes were then planted.

In September 2016 the hatchery began using the system to treat the sludge, which USFWS employees typically vacuum from the fish pools about once per week.

Wallis programmed the computer system that controls the valves and pumps. He also designed a filter system that will be used to remove phosphorus, a component of the effluent that the wetland doesn't remove in significant quantities.

In June, the MSU team visited the site to install additional plants in the wetland's 10 units, which are each about 100 square feet. The individual units allow the researchers to apply the effluent at different rates and monitor the effects on plant growth and water quality. The results could help the hatchery optimize the system, and could also improve the design of other treatment wetlands in the future.

"What appears to be a low-tech solution works because of a lot of sophisticated science," said Chris Allen, an adjunct instructor in the Department of Civil Engineering who helped with the Ennis project while earning his Ph.D. from MSU.

Still, in terms of how the wetland plants interact with the microbes that break down the effluent, "we still don't fully understand what's happening in the subsurface," Allen said. "That's a rich field to explore."

In August, scientists and engineers from around the world will visit the Ennis hatchery as part of the 7th International Symposium for Wetland Pollutant Dynamics and Control (WETPOL), a preeminent biennial conference about treatment wetlands. The conference, which will take place at Big Sky Resort on Aug. 21-25, is being hosted in the U.S. for the first time with help from MSU.

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Yellowstone grizzlies removed from threatened species list

BY MATT VOLZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) - The U.S. government lifted protections for grizzly bears in the Yellowstone region on Monday, though it will be up to the courts to decide whether the revered and fearsome icon of the West stays off the threatened species list.

More than a month after announcing grizzlies in and around Yellowstone National Park are no longer threatened, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officially handed over management of the approximately 700 bears living across 19,000 square miles in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming to wildlife officials in those states.

The ruling does not apply to the approximately 1,000 bears living farther north in the Northern Continental Divide area that includes Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Not much is expected to immediately change as a result of the handover. State wildlife officials have been working for decades to protect the bears as their population grows and their range expands farther away from the oldest U.S. national park, and they say they will continue to do so.

Federal wildlife officials will also monitor the states for five years and re-impose protections if the population drops below 500 bears.

The bears were determined to be a threatened species in 1975 after hunting and trapping in the 1800s and early 1900s nearly wiped them out. The strict no-kill policy and habitat preservation that came with being on the threatened species list helped their numbers recover in the years since.

Now, grizzly bears can be hunted again under the management plans submitted by Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. None of the three states will hold a hunting season this year, and wildlife officials say any hunts in the future would be held only after closely examining the effects on the population.

“There are a lot of safeguards in the conservation strategy to ensure the grizzly population will remain,” said Kevin Frey, a wildlife management specialist for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Hunting grizzlies is strongly opposed by wildlife advocates and Native American tribes who worry the bears’ recovery will nosedive without U.S. government over-

sight. Multiple organizations and individuals have filed notice that they will sue to place grizzly bears back on the threatened species list.

It’s happened once before. In 2009, a federal judge overturned the Fish and Wildlife Service’s decision two years earlier to lift protections after the Yellowstone bears’ numbers rose above 600. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the judge’s ruling in 2011.

The ruling then was that the bears still needed protection because of the decline of the whitebark pine trees—a key food source. Federal wildlife officials say that the bears have now adjusted to a more meat-based diet, and the whitebark pine nuts are no longer vital for their survival.

Wildlife advocates say that change in diet brings a different kind of threat.

Encounters with ranchers protecting livestock and hunters competing for elk and deer have become common as the bears’ population has swelled and they wander back into areas where they haven’t been seen in a century.

“We see bears going to areas where they have little chance of remaining conflict-free,” Frey said. “It’s becoming more challenging with all the people.”

Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk said the park supports the removal of grizzlies from the threatened species list but wants to make sure the population remains strong so visitors will continue having opportunities to see the animals.

Hunting still won’t be allowed within the park.

After gray wolves were taken off the endangered species list, Yellowstone unsuccessfully sought the creation of a no-kill zone, or buffer zone, around the park. State officials rejected it.

A no-kill zone won’t be pursued for grizzlies, Wenk said. Instead, park officials want to be involved with discussions that lead up to decisions by the three states on how to structure their bear hunts—and focus on areas where bears are more likely to have problems with humans and livestock.

“We have never asked for a buffer for bears. But what we have asked for and what is always part of our conversation is to concentrate the hunts in areas of conflict,” he said.

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EYE ON THE BALL

Carolina Panthers set for bounce-back season



BY BRANDON NILES
EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST

After losing only one game on their way to the franchise’s second Super Bowl berth in 2015, the Carolina Panthers came plummeting back to earth last season with a 6-10 record. Losing the Super Bowl to the Denver Broncos was a devastating blow for them—instead of making another playoff push last year, they watched the division rival Atlanta Falcons make it to the big game.

This year, Panthers fans should be optimistic for a bounce-back season.

The Falcons may have trouble recovering after a heartbreaking loss to the Patriots in the Super Bowl. They were an 8-8 team in 2015 and may have overachieved last year. The Tampa Bay Bucs are an upstart team in the NFC South, primed for a step forward, but quarterback Jameis Winston may not be ready to win the division in only his third year.

The New Orleans Saints are always tough, but it’s unlikely they’ll improve much on defense—only the San Francisco 49ers allowed more points per game last season—and that will continue to hamper the effectiveness of their potent offense. The division will be competitive, but questions face each of the teams that stand in the Panthers way.

Carolina on the other hand, suffered from injuries and a lack of playmaking on offense last year. Additionally, they had inconsistency up front on the defensive side of the ball, causing a young and developing secondary to be exposed heavily on a weekly basis.

During the offseason, the Panthers lost speedy wide receiver Ted Ginn Jr., but they drafted running back Christian McCaffrey out of Stanford and wide receiver Curtis Samuel from Ohio State with their first two picks. McCaffrey and

Samuel are both super quick and will bring tremendous playmaking ability to the offense. They are versatile players who can line up in the backfield, in the slot, or even help out on special teams. With these two on the field, opposing defenses will be caught off guard trying to account for the additional speed.

Furthermore, quarterback Cam Newton was banged up most of last season. While he played through the pain for all but one game, he was noticeably hobbled and looked less explosive than he has in years past. His 90 attempts and 359 yards running the ball were the lowest of his career, and he sustained brutal hits all season behind a shaky offensive line.

Newton has slimmed down and the Panthers signed Matt Kalil from the Vikings to play left tackle. Kalil has been disappointing during his career, but he provides an upgrade for the Panthers up front, and combined with the additional weapons in the backfield and in the passing game, Newton should be better protected than he was a season ago.

Finally, the Panthers should benefit from the defense being deeper and healthier this season. Charles Johnson and Luke Kuechly are healthy, and they signed veteran pass rusher Julius Peppers and drafted defensive end Daeshon Hall out of Texas A&M. The added help on the defensive line should help the Panthers get more pressure on opposing quarterbacks, which will cause a ripple effect that should improve the rest of the defense as well.

While the Panthers could certainly disappoint, the NFC South division title is within grasp for this talented team, and with dynamic weapons on offense, a former MVP at the quarterback position, and elite players throughout the defensive front seven, Carolina has every opportunity to make some noise in what should be a bounce-back season.

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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Golf tips from a pro: Big rules changes on the horizon

BY MARK WEHRMAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

The United States Golf Association quietly announced in March some major changes coming to the rules of golf in order to modernize the game. These “test rules” are proposed to go in to affect in 2019 taking into account feedback from the golfing public. In making their announcement they have solicited feedback from anyone with an opinion. Before talking about some of the changes that are coming down the pipeline, I suggest to all golfers to make your ideas and opinions heard by the USGA.

The following are examples of just some of the proposed rules changes, according to the “R&A / USGA Modernization Initiative”:

Putting green

Leaving the flagstick in the hole: No penalty if your ball hits the unattended flagstick in the hole, including when you play your ball from the putting green. If your ball deflects off the flagstick and is not holed, you must play it as it lies.

Repairing damage: You may repair all damage on the putting green—including spike marks and other shoe damage—other than natural imperfections or aeration holes.

Touching your line of putt: No penalty for merely touching your line of putt, but you must not improve your line of putt beyond the allowed repair.

Your ball or ball-marker moves: No penalty if you, or your opponent in match play, accidentally move your ball or ball-marker on the putting green. You must replace your ball or ball-marker on the original spot (which, if you don’t know it, you must estimate).

Your ball moves after you had lifted and replaced it: If your ball on the putting green is moved by anyone or anything—including the wind—after you already had lifted and replaced it, you must replace your ball to its original spot.

Bunkers

Moving loose impediments: When your ball is in a bunker, you may move loose impediments in the bunker.

Touching the sand: When your ball is in a bunker, no penalty for touching the sand in the bunker with your hand, club or other object, except:

- You must not deliberately touch the sand with your hand or a club, rake or other object to test the bunker’s condition.
- You must not touch the sand with your club right behind or in front of your ball, in making your backswing for your stroke or in making a practice swing.

Water hazards (to be known as “penalty areas”)

Moving loose impediments and touching the ground: When your ball is in a water hazard, you may move loose impediments and touch the water or the ground in the water hazard with your hand or club (such as in grounding your club or taking practice swings).

Searching for ball

Time for search: Your ball is lost if you don’t find or identify it in three minutes after you or your caddie begin looking for it.

Accidentally moving your ball: No penalty if you or your caddie accidentally moves your ball during search. You must estimate the ball’s original spot and replace it on that spot.

Taking relief when a rule requires you to drop a ball

How to drop your ball:

- You must hold your ball above the ground without it touching any growing thing, or natural or artificial object, and let go of your ball so that it falls through the air before coming to rest.
- To avoid doubt whether you did this right, it’s recommended that you drop the ball from at least 1 inch above the ground (including any growing thing, or natural or artificial object).

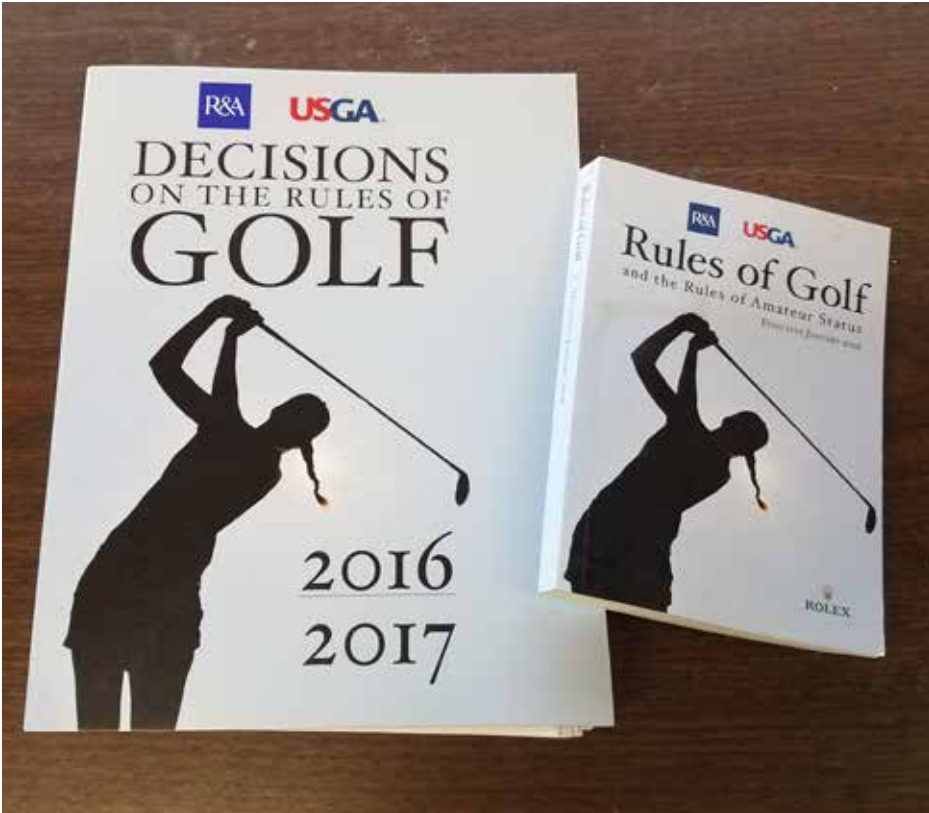


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK WEHRMAN

Finding your relief area: You must drop the ball in and play it from a relief area measured from the reference point or line given in the rule under which you are taking relief:

- When current rules tell you to drop within one club-length of the nearest point of relief—such as immovable obstructions, ground under repair, etc.—your relief area is 20 inches (50.8 centimeters) from the nearest point of relief, no closer to the hole.
- When current rules tell you to drop as near as possible to a spot—such as stroke and distance relief, embedded ball, ball on or in movable obstruction, etc.—your relief area is 20 inches (50.8 centimeters) from that spot, no closer to the hole.
- When current rules tell you to drop within two club-lengths—lateral water hazard or an unplayable ball—your relief area is 80 inches (203.2 centimeters) from the reference point (that is, where your ball entered the water hazard or was unplayable), no closer to the hole.
- When current rules tell you to drop back on a line—such as behind a water hazard or behind the spot of an unplayable ball—your relief area is 20 inches (50.8 centimeters) on either side of the estimated line from the hole through the designated point (such as where your ball entered the water hazard or was unplayable).

Where to drop and play your ball:

- You must drop your ball in and play it from the designated relief area.
- If your dropped ball comes to rest outside the relief area, you must lift it and drop it again. There is no set limit to the number of times to re-drop your ball, and if necessary you should try to drop it in different parts of the relief area.
- If your dropped ball will not stay in the relief area after several tries and it is reasonable to conclude that it will not stay in the relief area no matter where you drop it within that area or how you drop it—including dropping it from as low a height as allowed—you may place the ball at any spot in the relief area.

Ball to use in taking relief: Whenever you take relief by dropping a ball—whether free relief or penalty relief—you may either use your original ball or substitute another ball.

Since the USGA’s initial announcement this list has been getting longer. In my opinion, the list could grow even more. More specifically, I’d like to see the out of bounds and lost ball penalty be changed to mirror the penalty for losing a ball in a lateral water hazard. This would mean instead of having to replay the shot you would be able to drop closest to where the ball left the course boundary or where it appeared to be lost.

If you would like to offer your opinion and suggestions to the USGA I encourage you to do so by emailing them at rules@usga.org.

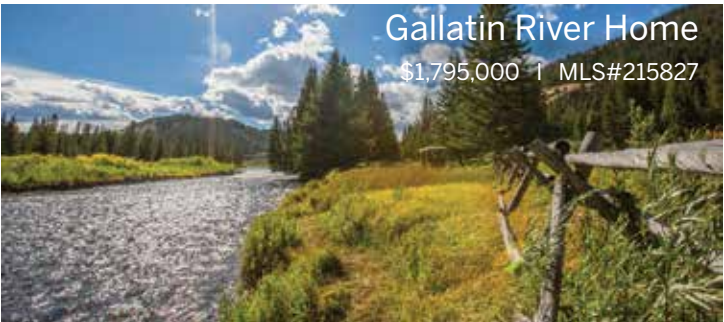


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Big Sky Softball League

	FIELD #1	TEAMS	UMP. AND SCOREBOARD		FIELD #2	TEAMS	UMP. AND SCOREBOARD
Monday, August 7	6:00pm 7:15pm	10 vs. 15 6 vs. 9	6 15	Monday, August 7	6:00pm 7:15pm	13 vs. 7 13 vs. 4	4 7
Tuesday, August 8	6:00pm 7:15pm	3 vs. 2 4 vs. 2	4 3	Tuesday, August 8	6:00pm 7:15pm	5 vs. 16 5 vs. 14	14 16
Wednesday, August 9	6:00pm 7:15pm	8 vs. 3 8 vs. 5	5 3	Wednesday, August 9	6:00pm 7:15pm	16 vs. 11 16 vs. 12	12 11
Monday, August 14	6:00pm 7:15pm	2 vs. 10 9 vs. 3	9 10	Monday, August 14	6:00pm 7:15pm	14 vs. 7 16 vs. 7	16 2
Tuesday, August 15	6:00pm 7:15pm	2 vs. 12 8 vs. 2	8 12	Tuesday, August 15	6:00pm 7:15pm	13 vs. 16 3 vs. 13	3 16
Wednesday, August 16	6:00pm 7:15pm	11 vs. 1 13 vs. 1	13 11	Wednesday, August 16	6:00pm 7:15pm	15 vs. 8 15 vs. 9	9 8

TEAMS

1 Huckers
2 LPC Golden Goats
3 Milkies Big Dogs
4 Broken Spoke

5 Sons of Pitches
6 LMLC Barnstormers
7 Yeti Dogs
8 Bluemooners

9 Big Sky Ballers
10 GE Johnson/Jackson
11 Yellowstone Club
12 Riverhouse

13 Cab Lizards
14 Cinema Bear
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Vine & Dine Festival takes wining and dining to new heights

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Take sipping to new heights at the fourth annual Vine & Dine Festival at Big Sky Resort, with festivities beginning Thursday, Aug. 17, and back-to-back artisanal food and wine-centric events, seminars, soirées and adventures scheduled through Sunday, Aug. 20.

Taste hundreds of obscure wines from boutique wineries in a dozen different countries and listen to master sommeliers with some of the most sophisticated palates in the world discuss Portuguese, orange and mineral wines. Google’s culinary team will also be on hand preparing tasty delights to personalize your food experience.

The Vine & Dine Festival also offers creative, sophisticated seminars with some of the foremost experts on Portuguese wines. Master Sommeliers Fred Dame and Jay Fletcher, both at the top of their class, will teach deductive tasting techniques. American chef and TV personality John Besh will dazzle attendees with delectable Southern delights, and Google Global Program Chef Scott Giambastiani will prepare globally-inspired Google cuisine using Montana products. You will have the opportunity to learn, sip, taste and relax while enjoying live music and art against the spectacular backdrop of Lone Peak.

Back again for the fourth year is Vine & Dine’s signature event: Pinot on the Peak. Big Sky Resort combines pinot tastings with the resort’s popular Lone Peak Expedition. A pun on the resort’s motto, the “Biggest Tasting in America” includes a ride on the Swift Current chairlift, an alpine picnic, a covered safari ride and an aerial tram ride to the top of Lone Peak where you can toast to good wine, new friends and adventures at 11,166 feet.

New to the festival is an opportunity for hospitality professionals to take an intensive introductory sommelier class from a team of master sommeliers. Bozeman’s increasingly metropolitan vibe is drawing a growing number of consumers with sophisticated palates and an affinity for fine wine and cuisine. This introductory course is an opportunity for local and regional wine and hospitality professionals to keep their knowledge of proper wine service and deductive tasting up to par.

Visit bigskyresort.com/vine to purchase tickets and for a full schedule of events and seminars.



Big Sky Resort’s Vine & Dine Festival takes place Aug. 17-20 and offers a jam-packed schedule of food and wine-focused social mixers, pairing dinners, seminars and slope-side adventures. PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG SKY RESORT.

Vine & Dine schedule of events

Wednesday, August 16 & Thursday, August 17

Court of Masters Introductory Sommelier Class
2-day course | Talus Room, Summit Hotel | \$525 | 8 a.m.

Thursday, August 17

Wine’s Intriguing New Color...Orange!
Peaks Restaurant | Free | 5 p.m.

Back to our Roots
Summit Hotel Terrace | \$95 | 6 p.m.

Friday, August 18

Tasting the Master’s Way
Talus Room, Summit Hotel | \$40 | 11 a.m.

Personalizing your Food Experience & Google-inspired Luceon
Peaks Restaurant | \$55 | 1 p.m.

What’s the Deal with Natural Wines?
Summit Boardroom | \$25 | 1 p.m.

Valley to Cloud - Experience American Alps
Guild of Sommeliers Dinner with Fred Dame,
Jay Fletcher and Scott Giambastiani
Everett’s 8800 | \$295 | 6 p.m.

Burger, Beer and Wine Shootout and After-Party
Montana Jack | \$55 | 6:30 p.m.

North vs. South - Scarpetta Wines from the Corners of Italy
Andiamo | \$95 | 6:30 p.m.

Meet the Wineries
Peaks Restaurant | \$125 | 7 p.m.

ProStart Fundraiser Dinner
Buck’s T-4 | Price and time TBD

Saturday, August 19

Pinot on the Peak
Basecamp | \$125 | First trip at 10:25 a.m.

Vine & Dine ProStart Education
Summit Boardroom | 10:30 a.m.

Wines of Portugal
Summit Boardroom | \$25 | 11 a.m.

Cheese & Wine...One Stinky Good Time
Talus Room | \$48 | 1 p.m.

Vine and Dine Live Big Resort Stroll and Market
Resort Event | \$75 | 3:30 p.m.

Vine and Dine Dinner
The Great Northwest Experience
Chet’s | \$75 | 7 p.m.

Vine and Dine Dinner
A very Special Evening with Chef John Besh
Peaks Restaurant | \$275 | 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, August 20

Recharge Brunch
Peaks Restaurant | \$40 | 8:30 a.m.

Pretty wildflower? THINK AGAIN!



Spotted knapweed is a short-lived perennial or biennial plant that can grow up to four feet in height. The roots exude catechin, which acts as an herbicide to inhibit competition of other plant species, resulting in reduced plant diversity and degraded ecosystems.

One spotted knapweed plant can produce up to 300 flower heads, thus producing up to 140,000 seeds.

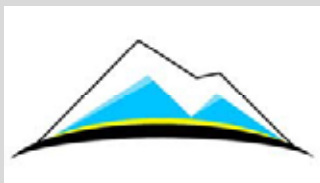
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DINING

Explore Big Sky



The buzz on honey varietals

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER
EBS STAFF

I would wager that at least 75 percent of people have honey in their kitchen. I would also guess that very few of those people know which variety of flower's nectar produced that honey. Many hives are strategically positioned close to fields of specific flowers so that bees will collect their nectar from them.

Honey is made when a honeybee collects nectar from flowers and transports it back to the hive where worker bees process the nectar into simple sugars. The nectar is then spread throughout the honeycomb where evaporation creates a thicker syrup. The evaporation process is helped along by the design of the honeycomb and the constant flutter of the bees' wings.

Whether you are hoping to reduce your carbon footprint, save the bees, or support local agriculture, buying local honey is not a bad idea. Mass-produced honey can be diluted with corn syrup and ultra-filtered, which removes many of the natural nutrients present in raw honey.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Montana is the third largest producer of honey in the country, topped by North and South Dakota. There are hundreds, maybe thousands of honey varieties, but below is a list of some of the more common and accessible types in our area.

Clover honey is one of the most common and widely available types of honey. Its color varies from clear to light amber, depending on the location and source of the clover. Clover honey is mildly sweet with floral notes, with a slight sour aftertaste. This variety lends itself well to more delicate and lighter applications when cooking.

Buckwheat honey is among the darkest in color and strongest flavored of all honey varietals. It has a robust caramelized flavor as its deep brown color suggests. It contains high levels of iron and has antioxidant properties. Use this varietal when you want a deep honey flavor.

Fireweed honey comes from fireweed, one of the first plants to grow after land has been burned. It is delicately flavored and pale in color, and is a great choice for sweetening tea.

Wildflower honey is used to describe a product made from several flower sources. Its color and taste will vary according to the mix of seasonal flowers used.

Honey can be used for several applications—as a sweetener in your latest recipe, for its health benefits, or simply stirring a tablespoon into a cup of tea. Remember that lightly colored honey will have a more delicate flavor, while darker varieties will be more robust. So next time you reach for that plastic bear-shaped bottle at the super market, consider buying a local variety, pay attention to the varietal, and mix it up!



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY

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.

Ketchup

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

Chefs live for “cool” ingredients. At least that’s how we have been represented to the public. And for most of us that’s true. But in our ongoing efforts to discover new flavors, ingredients and preparations, sometimes our journey takes us right back to foods and flavors that have been on our taste buds the whole time. And if we’re creative (or silly) enough, we find a whole new purpose for an old familiar friend. As a condiment that can be found in 97 percent of American kitchens, I thought ketchup should have its 15 minutes.

Compared with a sundry of fascinating foods, such as dragon fruit, haggis, saffron and vanilla, ketchup hardly seems interesting. But those are precisely the foods I like to dig deep into, because everything—even the seemingly banal—has a story.

The history of ketchup takes us back to China or Vietnam in A.D. 544, in the form of a fermented fish sauce. Fish sauce is still being made today in almost identical fashion to its ancestor.

There are many flavors of ketchup around the world.

We can divide ketchup’s past into two time periods: pre-tomato and post-tomato. The first tomato ketchup recipe appeared in a cookbook in approximately 1812. Before that, ketchup’s main ingredient was everything from walnuts to berries to oysters and even mushrooms. Of these varieties, mushroom ketchup in particular was immensely popular, and incidentally, became the father of Worcestershire sauce.

Tomato ketchup as we know it today did not appear until 1871, when a man by the name of Henry Heinz got together with a doctor/chemist named Harvey Washington Wiley. Anytime a chemist is involved in the early stages of food development, you probably should avoid it. But maybe that’s just me.

As you might imagine, these two put together quite a concoction containing some questionable preservatives, not the least of which were coal tar and sodium benzoate. The reason for this was that consumers wanted ketchup all year, yet the growing season for tomatoes was only late summer. And while neither of these ingredients are in ketchup today, sodium benzoate is an ingredient in many grocery store provisions.

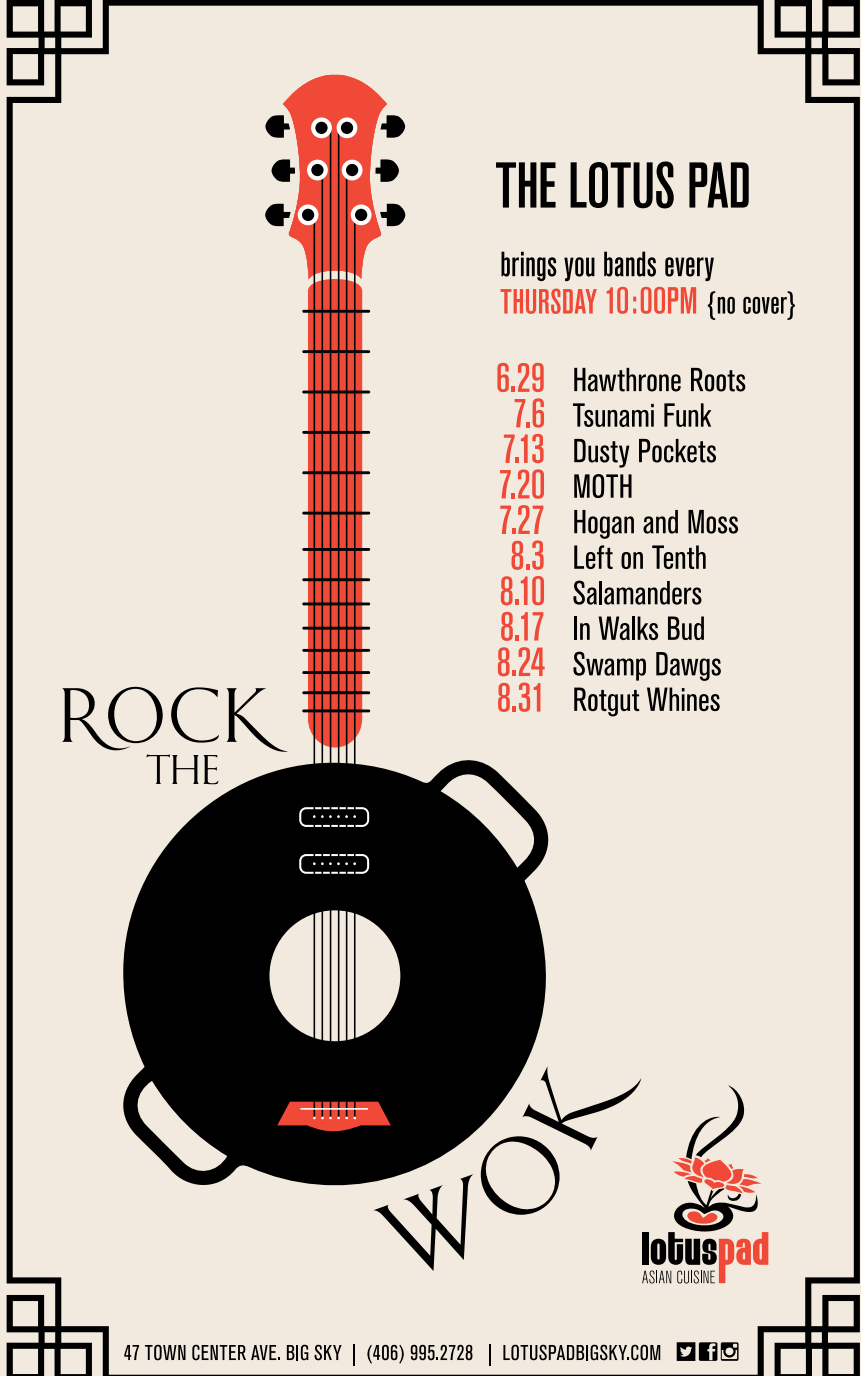
Heinz and Wiley decided that using spoiled tomatoes as the base, and then adding even more frightful ingredients for preserving was not the answer. Instead, they chose to use higher quality tomatoes to make ketchup in large quantities, and sell it on shelves as a finished product year-round. It was that type of forward thinking that still has Heinz holding 60 percent of the national market and 30 percent of the global ketchup market.

Ever wonder why ketchup seems to take forever to pour out of the bottle? (Think back to the Heinz commercial featuring the Carly Simon song, “Anticipation.”) That is because ketchup is one of the few liquids, food or otherwise, that is categorized as a non-Newtonian fluid.

A non-Newtonian fluid is a liquid whose viscosity fluctuates depending on external forces—like concussing the bottle on the 57 with the palm of your hand. Yep—there is actually some science behind the bottle shape and well-placed 57.

And even though as Americans, we love our apple pie (which is Dutch), and our fireworks (which are of Chinese origins), tomato ketchup is true-blue Americana. But don’t get too prideful just yet. The grand majority of Americans may have a bottle in the fridge, but Canadians consume even more ketchup than we do. Sorry America, we’ll have to find something else to excel at consuming. Spam perhaps?

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:
BUSINESS, HEALTH
& BACK 40





Special series

A billion dollar bet

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

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

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

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

Part 4: Affordable housing, water and sewage, and traffic issues accompany explosive development

BY BRIGID MANDER
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

In the nearly five decades since its contentious introduction to the world, Big Sky has evolved as an outdoor recreation paradise. In addition to exceptional alpine skiing, Big Sky draws visitors to its Nordic ski trails, blue-ribbon trout streams, and growing summer offerings, especially mountain biking.

Its proximity to the rapidly growing university town of Bozeman is increasing the pool of locally based day visitors, and the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport is now the eighth busiest airport by volume in the Federal Aviation Administration’s Northwest Mountain Region, according to airport director Brian Sprenger.

This region includes Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington—with major airports in cities like Seattle, Salt Lake City and Denver. Sprenger adds that Bozeman’s airport has four times the traffic of the average of cities with the same population size.

Airlines now offer direct flights to Bozeman from cities including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Dallas and Seattle, making access to Big Sky for destination visitors increasingly easy.

There is plenty of Big Sky development still to come. According to Charity Fechter, planning director for Madison County, at the Yellowstone Club about 70 percent of the subdivision lots have been created, but Moonlight Basin is permitted for 1,651 total residential units, and has platted only an estimated 470 to date.

CrossHarbor Capital Partners’ locally formed subsidiary, Lone Mountain Land Company, is working to secure funding for a five-star Montage hotel in Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, according to CrossHarbor managing partner Matt Kidd, who believes it will happen this summer. The building would be more than 500,000 square feet when completed.

CrossHarbor co-founder and managing partner Sam Byrne has repeatedly told members of the media that high-end accommodations for tourists are needed to attract more attention and more business, and LMLC broke ground July 21 in Big Sky Town Center on the Wilson Hotel, a 129-unit Marriott Residence Inn that should open during the 2018-2019 ski season.

However, there are unsolved issues from the past and the major challenges include affordable housing, water and sewer rights, traffic issues, as well as development impacts on wildlife habitat and connectivity.

Continued on page 31.



Lone Mountain Land Company broke out the golden shovels July 21 in Big Sky Town Center to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Wilson Hotel, a 129-unit Marriott Residence Inn slated to open during the 2018-2019 ski season. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

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Continued from page 29.

“How Big Sky grows is not just going to affect that community, but the entire northwest quadrant of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem,” said Dennis Glick of Future West, a Bozeman-based nonprofit that promotes sustainable community development. “The one thing in conservation that really applies to Big Sky is large-scale thought. It would be very shortsighted not to take significant steps to preserve these wildlife habitat areas. So far, the approach from Big Sky has been reactive, not proactive.”

Water is one thing that is non-negotiable in Big Sky. “Everyone needs clean water, and most people are willing to work for a solution,” says Bob Zimmer, the waters program coordinator for the nonprofit Greater Yellowstone Coalition. “But there is potential for a lot of growth in Big Sky.”

Ron Edwards, who was hired by the district 22 years ago, says that he estimates Big Sky will soon have to appeal to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality for new wells. “At the current pace of construction, we will have to get new water in about five years,” Edwards said.

However, wastewater is the biggest issue in the area according to Edwards. Treated wastewater is recycled and used to irrigate golf courses, but there is resistance to using more of it for snowmaking purposes. Edwards suggests if that attitude prevails, someday treated effluent will have to be released into the Gallatin River. According to Zimmer, however, if that happened, “public opinion would come unglued.”

The Yellowstone Club was served a wastewater-related public relations and environmental disaster in March 2016, when approximately 30 million gallons of treated effluent leaked out of a broken pipe in a storage pond and eventually reached the Gallatin River. The spill originated with a design flaw in the wastewater storage pond, built in the early days of the club.

Affordable housing is another hot button issue and one that Big Sky shares with most resort communities, as well as a growing number of cities around the nation that are seeing increasing inequality between homeowners and renters.

A bill to allow local voters to decide on an up to 1-percent increase of the resort tax was brought to the state legislature this spring, but failed in a 25-25 tie in the Senate. In Big Sky, the additional money was to be earmarked for affordable housing projects, and it bitterly divided the town.

For now, the Yellowstone Club offers employee housing in Gallatin Gateway, 30 miles north toward Bozeman, and 12 miles south at 320 Ranch in the winter, as well as 10 condos in Big Sky. “This is definitely a priority for us and we continue to seek options to enhance employee housing,” wrote Yellowstone Club Vice President and General Manager Hans Williamson in an email.

Without providing specifics on any future projects, Williamson noted that with their current staff numbers, the club is able to offer housing to 34 percent of its winter seasonal work force, and 44 percent of its summer staff.

The Yellowstone Club is currently building a 550,000-square-foot base area project called The Village, which will lead to more jobs, and that is causing some in the community to demand that the club do more to house people closer to the club and help alleviate commuter traffic. While there are no regulations requiring the club to do so, it’s not

helping community relations and concern over housing and growth, according to some residents.

“I think there is a huge amount of resentment from a lot of people down here, that [the private clubs] refuse to use any of their land to solve the problem,” says Steve Johnson, a resident who sits on the zoning advisory committee, and fire and park district boards. “This housing issue [is partly] a problem of their creation, and they want resort tax to pay for it, or the counties. You have 20,000-square-foot mansions and a servant class. I’m not sure it’s sustainable.”

“Part of the solution to the problem could be a commitment of land,” Johnson added. “Why can’t they do it with their land? They’re looking for additional resources to solve their problem.”

“We’ve created a list of tools in zoning to allow for employee housing,” said Gallatin County Planner Tim Skop. “But the developers don’t use them, and we don’t force them. If the markets solve everything, maybe it’ll solve this too, because the best food isn’t good if no one is there to serve it.”

Boyne, for its part, says it’s tackling the affordable housing problem with renewed investment as part of its recently announced “Big Sky 2025,” an estimated \$150 million, decade-long project that includes new lifts, on-mountain dining, lodging and housing at Big Sky Resort.

The resort already supplies some 450 employees with housing, in dorms and apartments, and plans to increase the number of seasonal workforce beds by an additional 200 in a phased construction plan, according to Brian Wheeler, the resort’s director of real estate and development. A remodel of the former Black Bear Bar and Grill—now called the Mountain Lodge—added 42 beds last fall and a remodel of the Golden Eagle in the Meadow Village is underway, which will add approximately 35 beds.

Both the meadow and mountain employee housing campuses will see new buildings constructed in the future, according to Wheeler.

“We have a lot of projects kicking off to get ahead of this issue,” said Stephen Kircher, president of Boyne Resorts. “We want to reduce reliance on bussing, or leases, and if an employee wants to live in Big Sky, we want to help them do it.”

Reporting was contributed by EBS Managing Editor Tyler Allen.

Read the fifth installment in this series “A ship without a captain?” in the Aug. 18 edition of EBS.



Big Sky Resort is currently remodeling the Golden Eagle building in Meadow Village, which should add approximately 35 employee beds. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

Big Sky resident plants seed for shared office space for creatives, professionals

BY BAY STEPHENS
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Working in solitude is great for focusing and knocking out deadlines, but a growing population of freelance professionals and home workers are opting for more collaborative “co-working” environments over the solo grind.

Natalie Osborne, a web developer and Big Sky resident, envisions a shared workspace—CoWORK Big Sky—that would benefit vacationers and year-round residents.

Co-work spaces are defined as “membership-based workspaces where diverse groups of freelancers, remote workers, and other independent professionals work together in a shared, communal setting,” according to coworkbigsky.com.

Although the idea sprouted as a way for entrepreneurs to save money by sharing office space, Osborne said the concept of co-working has grown into far more than sharing a roof and utilities.

Co-work offices have become settings where organic relationships form between professionals who might not have otherwise crossed paths. The result is better networking, new clients, and inspiration that would not have been possible working from home.

Osborne has experienced this firsthand while co-working in Anchorage, Alaska: The more people she met in the shared office, the more clients she had referred to her. “If I’m in a space where people are talking me up or I have the opportunity to talk myself up, it just enhances marketing for myself,” she said.

She also sees CoWORK Big Sky as a way for vacationers to take care of business while away from home. As the trend of shorter winters continues, many ski resorts are brainstorming ways to draw guests for all four seasons. A comfortable place to get some serious work done between mountain bike rides or ski runs could allow Big Sky’s guests more versatility in the length and season of their vacations.

Other ski resorts are already implementing co-working to allow flexibility for visitors. Heavenly Mountain Resort in Tahoe has a ski-in, ski-out co-work space called the Mountain Lab, according to the Tahoe Daily Tribune. Users can ride up the gondola, put their nose to the grindstone for a couple of hours, then end the day carving turns on the slopes.



Natalie Osborne, a web developer and Big Sky resident, envisions a shared workspace, CoWORK Big Sky, that would benefit vacationers and year-round residents. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

Since the heart of co-working is being a part of a community, supported and inspired by others, Osborne thinks this micro-community could enrich Big Sky’s small businesses.

“Wouldn’t it be great if we could offer opportunities in this town for people who aren’t just here to serve tourists?” Osborne said. Although she knows the value of resort-related jobs, she said, “maybe [it’s] time that we start looking at how we can provide community for fulltime residents who aren’t in the service industry.”

There are a handful of nonprofits in Big Sky that stand to benefit from a co-work space, Osborne said, adding that such an undertaking would be run as a nonprofit as well. She thinks CoWORK Big Sky could be sustainable by bringing nonprofits with a shared mission under one roof while also offering a workspace for entrepreneurs and creative workers such as herself.

Britt Ide, who sits on the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce board of directors and is executive director of the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation, said such a space could open opportunities for entrepreneurial ventures and nonprofits. “There’s

been some discussion about how to bring in some co-work space for the different nonprofits around the community to foster collaboration between them,” she said adding that small businesses would also gain from the space.

Hurdles to overcome at this point include finding a suitable, yet not too expensive, space. For CoWORK Big Sky to be viable economically, Osborne said, support from the wider community and the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce is a must. She’s using online surveys to gauge the interest and specific needs of Big Sky residents.

A possible next step for Osborne, Ide said, would be to present her vision to the chamber of commerce.

Although it feels like a big puzzle right now, Osborne is encouraged by the momentum that co-working is gaining in Bozeman, where two such spaces have opened on Main Street in the past month. She believes they will help fuel the conversation for establishing a space in Big Sky.

The value of a co-work space, according to Osborne, is that “it can kind of be whatever the community needs it to be.”

Last large acreage of developable land in the Rockies to sell at auction

CONCIERGE AUCTIONS

The last large acreage of developable land in the Rocky Mountains, Yellowstone Preserve, will sell to the highest bidder at auction through global auction firm Concierge Auctions on Thursday, Aug. 17.

Located in Big Sky, the 1,580-acre property is comprised of eight mountain ranches and infrastructure for eight home sites plus a caretaker site. Yellowstone Preserve offers more than 2.5 square miles of mountain views, forest and wildlife; more than 1 mile of Gallatin River frontage; nearly 2 acres bordering Gallatin National Forest; and more than 2 miles adjacent to the Yellowstone Club.

All eight ranches offer unique amenities including panoramic mountain views, abundant wildlife and private trails. The Dunraven Ranch—arguably the best of the collection—offers mountain views in every direction, 309 acres of forest, meadows, talus gardens and Gallatin National Forest access.

Located a short distance from Big Sky Town Center, Big Sky Ski Resort, Moonlight Basin, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club and the Yellowstone Club, the property offers easy access to modern conveniences as well as a variety of outdoor activities including rafting, horseback riding, wildlife watching, and golfing.

“A collection of nine home sites, Yellowstone Preserve is impressive acreage bordering Yellowstone Club, National Forest, and the Gallatin River,” said Exclusive Listing Broker Martha Johnson of The Big Sky Real Estate Co., who has partnered with Concierge Auctions in the past. “It’s arguably one of the last intact large acreage holdings in the Rocky Mountains in the heart of everything wonderful about Big Sky. ... As Yellowstone Preserve is not being offered publicly, this auction is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Previously listed for \$39.9 million, the property will sell in cooperation with Johnson.

For more information visit conciergeauctions.com/auctions/yellowstone-preserve-big-sky-montana.



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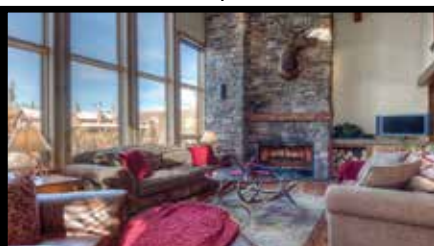
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Study: Montana’s manufacturing sector doing well

Jobs in alcoholic beverage production double in 4-year span

EBS STAFF

BOZEMAN - The number of jobs the manufacturing sector provides in Montana has increased at a rate more than double the national rate, according to a new report commissioned by the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center at Montana State University.

The 2017 State of Montana Manufacturing report, prepared by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Montana, indicates that manufacturing employment has increased 18.3 percent in the past seven years, to a total of 19,400 jobs.

“Manufacturing is really defined as anybody that takes something physically and changes the value of it,” said Paddy Fleming, the director of MMEC. Examples he listed include breweries, distilleries and even newspapers.

The report suggests a generally positive trend in manufacturing for the state.

It found that company earnings in manufacturing have increased 14 percent since 2010, and there were more than 3,300 manufacturing establishments in Montana in 2015. Leading categories within the industry include miscellaneous manufacturing with 691 establishments, followed by fabricated metal manufacturing with 493 establishments and food products with 370.

The average wage for a worker in the industry was \$47,227 in 2015, which is 18 percent higher than the average Montana worker’s wages.

In terms of earnings, the two largest Montana manufacturing industries in 2015 were associated with the processing of coal and crude oil (18 percent of total earnings) and the processing of wood products (15 percent). The study noted that the production of alcoholic beverages is a rapidly growing industry in Montana. Distilleries, wineries and breweries employed 711 people in 2015, up from 267 in 2011.

Most Montana manufacturers are small businesses: 85 percent of Montana’s manufacturing businesses have fewer than 20 employees.

Fleming theorizes that the growth in Montana’s manufacturing sector is due to overall ingenuity as individuals branch out to find jobs in the state. “This is my opinion, but Montana is full of entrepreneurs and people in love with the state. Maybe they can’t find a job but they want to stay in the state so they create a job,” he said.

Growth in the manufacturing sector is good news for Montana, Fleming said. “It means we have a much more diversified economy. When grain is down, the whole economy isn’t down. It diversifies the economy so we’re not so dependent on one industry.”

The 2017 State of Montana Manufacturing report can be found at montana.edu/mmec.

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First annual artisan festival showcases Montana goods and art in Meadow Village

EBS STAFF

The Meadow Village Owners Association will host the first annual Big Sky Artisan’s Festival on Aug. 12 and 13, at the Big Sky Meadow Village Center. The festival will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday and will feature a weekend of food, music and one-of-a-kind shopping.

As many as 40 artisans from across Montana will bring their unique products to Big Sky for the event, including jewelry, beauty products and food. The Helena-based LizE Designs Artscapes will bring an assemblage of mixed media goods in the form of collage, handbags, dolls and jewelry, while Big Sky oil painter Maria Source will display a collection of Montana-inspired landscapes. Other vendors include Judith Colvin Designs, Beth Gregory Jewelry and Natural Essentials skin care. Meadow Village retailers, such as the boutique Trove West, whose owners were integral in planning the event, will also be represented.

To round out the weekend, there will be a plein air paint-out during which artists will paint a scene in natural light in the open air, working within a fixed timeframe of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday and until 2 p.m. on Sunday. The artists are invited to capture scenes in and around Big Sky. Paintings may be works in progress that are completed during the paint-out. On Sunday, from 3 to 6 p.m. the paintings will be auctioned off in a wet paint sale, with proceeds benefiting the Arts Council of Big Sky.

To learn more about the Big Sky Artisan’s Festival, visit bigskyartisanfestival.weebly.com or email bigskyartisanfestival@gmail.com.



Big Sky Community Library

bigskylibrary.org

hours.
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SAV Digital Environments, Energy 1 open shared space in Town Center

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY— After 17 years of regular trips through Gallatin Canyon, SAV Digital Environments has set up shop here in Town Center, closer to the bulk of their Montana clientele.

SAV sets up integrated digital systems for homes and businesses. They design tailored audio and lighting systems, immersive video-viewing areas, and window treatments that can allow a pre-determined amount of natural light into a space. They also design climate control, security and surveillance systems.

At a July 28 ribbon cutting with the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, Cory Reistad, president of SAV, said the new space in Big Sky makes sense.

“We’ve been in Bozeman for 17 years and we’ve been serving this community almost exclusively,” Reistad said, adding that SAV has new employees living in Big Sky. “[We wanted] to be at the forefront of the growth here.”

They’ll be joined in that space by Energy 1, an 8-year-old renewable energy solutions firm.

Energy 1 owner and co-founder Leo Crane said opening a space in Big Sky with SAV makes sense given that they’re both in the design/build industry and have many overlapping clients.

“We crossed paths enough on past projects that this was a very natural fit for us to have a space up here,” Crane said. Both SAV and Energy 1 also keep offices in Bozeman and Jackson, Wyoming.

Energy 1 works on mechanical, electrical and plumbing projects with a focus on renewable energy. They design solar and solar-electric systems for clients, as well



Energy 1 owner Leo Crane and SAV Digital Environments president Cory Reistad (right) at the July 28 ribbon cutting for their shared space in Town Center. PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT

as high-efficiency heating and cooling using smart thermostats and geothermal technology.

Crane said the bulk of Energy 1’s business in Big Sky focuses on geothermal systems, which take advantage of the more consistent temperature of the earth underneath a building for heating, cooling and hot water. But they also work on installations like oxygen enrichment to help people coming from lower altitudes acclimate to Big Sky’s elevation.

Crane added that Energy 1 is the only company in the state of Montana that has partnered with electric automaker and solar panel manufacturer Tesla on their charging stations. “That’s an exciting part of our business that we’ll be able to offer Montana clients—Tesla products,” he said.



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by Sola

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Tea on tap at Big Sky’s newest café

BY SYDNEY MACDONALD
EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

BIG SKY- Tucked into Town Center is a new farm-to-table restaurant that might appear familiar to Bozeman coffee and tea drinkers. Tiffany Lach of Sola Café & Market in Bozeman worked diligently to finetune her latest project this summer, a community restaurant called Compass Café.

The café’s interior is filled with large tables, an extensive beverage bar, and a carefully constructed atmosphere that’s focused on promoting community gatherings. “For me it’s all about serving great food, and having people gather and get together. It can be a place to have a one-on-one conversation, or a group meeting. It’s just kind of a place for all walks of life,” Lach said.

Lach is no newcomer to the food industry. In 2008 she founded Sola Café & Market, and she followed that with Red Tractor Pizza in 2014, both of which operate out of Bozeman. Lach’s restaurants are known for catering to gluten-free and vegan-based diets, and focus on recipes with plenty of locally sourced ingredients.

“I have really always been passionate about organic food, and making sure that we [know] where our food [comes] from.”

Compass Café serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, and offers a variety of food for on-the-go customers. Along with entrees, the coffee shop sells muffins, cookies, scones and other baked goods for customers to gnaw on.



The staff of Compass Café gathers during preparations for the restaurant’s Aug. 1 grand opening. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD




Compass Café owner Tiffany Lach sits in her newly finished farm-to-table restaurant in Big Sky’s Town Center. PHOTOS BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

The new café will also offer an 18-tap tea bar, equipped with iced tea, lemonade and kombucha. Customers can mix and match flavors, and for a monthly fee join the tea bar club, which includes a mug and the ability to fill up on tea whenever you please.

Compass Café opened Aug. 1, and Lach said they’re planning to serve food and drinks at their 25 Town Center Avenue location from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Lach says she’s excited to make the next step with her new restaurant, and to start serving Big Sky.

“It’s kind of like hosting a party every day,” Lach said. “It’s a wonderful way to meet my community and serve my community.”





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From Jackie *with love*



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN
EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

Chris Williams and Leandra Hill launched Whole Earth Lawn Care in May 2017 with a desire to create “a good business model that does a lot of good.”

Williams says he’s developed an effective and natural lawn care program that eliminates the environmental and health impacts that chemical fertilizers potentially have. Williams and Hill are interested in living spaces that are safe for human and pet health.

For the main component of their program, they mix biochar into their customers’ soil. Biochar is an agricultural-grade charcoal-like substance made from animal waste, mill waste and crop residue. It’s a byproduct of heating organic matter with little or no oxygen, a technique called “pyrolysis.”

This method of mixing charcoal (or carbon) into soil is based on an ancient technique used over 1,500 years ago. Scientists studying riverbanks lining the Amazon discovered that areas where charcoal was used for crop production have some of the richest, most fertile soil in the world.

Now, this ancient and simple farming technique is being looked at as a solution for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and curbing world hunger by increasing crop yields. Carbon holds onto carbon dioxide remarkably well—some scientists believe for hundreds to thousands of years. Carbon also helps replenish poor soil, enhances plant growth and root development, and requires 20 to 30 percent less watering in some soils.

Williams is quick to point out that his goals aren’t quite so lofty and biochar

An ancient technique for modern lawns

isn’t a magic bullet, but he’s a firm believer in its sustainability and ability to improve soil fertility. “Nature has its own ways of being efficient and creating multiple wins,” he says.

Strategically adding biochar to soil creates a home for bugs, fungi and microorganisms. These microorganisms release waste and provide nutrients like nitrogen, thereby reducing fertilizer requirements. Furthermore, biochar seems to be able to hold onto the nitrogen that is added to soil in chemical fertilizers and releases nitrogen to the plant it’s feeding more steadily, thus reducing nitrate pollution to rivers.

Williams and Hill are keen on shifting landowners’ perspectives on how they grow and care for their lawns. “Traditionally we have used chemical products because it’s what has been marketed to us—it’s cheap and easy,” Williams said. “While the biochar program can cost a bit more, it has great value.”

They plan to grow their second company, Whole Earth Soil Catalyst, with an eye toward creating more sustainable golf courses and urban areas.

This got me thinking about the environmental impact of golf courses on our watersheds. I contacted Big Sky’s four golf course superintendents for information about their grounds keeping practices. To my delight, each is taking strides to reduce impact to our water supply and said they’d be happy to meet with Williams to learn more about biochar. Stay tuned for more on those conversations in the next edition of EBS.

In the meantime, if you’d like to learn more about the biochar program, visit wholeearthlawn care.com.

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

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DOCTOR'S NOTE

Reflecting on a month of work and play in Big Sky Country

BY TY TANTISOOK
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

After 26 hours of driving, I pulled into the town center of Big Sky on a rainy July afternoon. The two-day haul from Nashville, Tennessee, took me across eight states, and I was eager to begin my month at the Medical Clinic of Big Sky and to experience Big Sky Country in all its glory.

Fast-forward to the end of July. My month in Montana has flown by with all that I've experienced and learned. I'd heard lots of great things about the winter in Big Sky, but I didn't know what to expect for the summer. This town is like no place on earth with world-class fishing, golf, hiking and mountain biking right in your backyard. Being able to fish the Gallatin or hike Lava Lake after a full workday is pretty amazing.

As an added bonus, elite national parks like Grand Teton, Yellowstone and Glacier are just a short drive away. Struggling to decide which unforgettable activity to do after work and on weekends is a great problem to have.

My experiences at the Medical Clinic of Big Sky have been equally outstanding. It's been a pleasure providing urgent and primary care to the awesome people of this town while learning from Dr. Jeff Daniels, Cary Wilson, and the clinic's other talented staff. This month featured students from South Africa, Canada, Illinois and Tennessee.

Sharing recommendations about the outdoors while treating locals and visitors has been a daily treat. Practicing medicine in this environment with a unique and friendly patient population has been invaluable training for all of the clinic students.

With an active population comes many unique injuries related to mountain biking, hiking and fishing, like removing the occasional fishhook. We have helped dozens battle the infamous Montana summer allergy season. It has been a delight helping tourists from lower elevations overcome altitude sickness so they can enjoy their time here with their friends and families.

Perhaps the most memorable patient came in to the clinic after severely burning his hands with 375-degree liquid rubber. Millimeter by millimeter, we peeled off the tar-like substance from his skin that had solidified to encompass his left hand. He somehow kept a great attitude and smiled throughout the meticulous and painful process.


I've even had the pleasure of seeing a newly healed patient at the top of Beehive Basin a few days after treating him. Fortunately, we were able to help get him back on his feet so that he could enjoy his vacation with his family. Many people work hard all year to be able to have a few days or a week here, and the clinic's role in helping these folks enjoy their vacation is commendable.

The people of Big Sky have been extremely kind and welcoming, offering advice on any topic from the best restaurants in town to the best dry flies to pull in trophy browns and rainbows. Coming from Memphis, I didn't think I'd find some of the best barbeque I've ever had right on the banks of the Gallatin River.

There's something unique about a small town where you can make small talk with one of the most famous athletes in the world over a Beehive Basin Brewery pale ale. The views in and around Big Sky make it a lot easier to unplug for a while and forget about spotty cell phone coverage. After a few weeks in this dreamland, it's easy to see why people from all walks of life travel here from all over the world—with the lucky ones finding a way to stay.

Ty Tantisook is a fourth-year medical student from Nashville, Tennessee, who recently completed a unique training program implemented by Jeff Daniels of the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.

Hike AND LEARN



RECREATION - ART - WELLNESS - HISTORY
ENVIRONMENT - KIDS ACTIVITIES

Free guided hikes and activities throughout BSCO's Community Trail System

Tuesdays and Saturdays throughout the summer. See details below.

History Hike

Tuesday, July 25 - 10:00 a.m.
Crail Ranch Trail with Historic Crail Ranch Conservators

Learn about Bear Habitats

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

Wildflower and Weed Identification

Tuesday, August 1 - 10:00 a.m.
Ousel Falls Trail with GBS Weed Committee

Mountaineer Mania

Tuesday, August 1 - 5:30 p.m.
Ousel Falls Trail with Lone Peak Fitness

Wetlands at Work

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

Meadow History Hike

Tuesday, August 15 - 10:00 a.m.
Lone Mountain Trail & Ousel Falls Rd. Trail with Historic Photography

Hike with Avalance Rescue Dog

Tuesday, August 15 - 5:30 p.m.
South Fork Loop Trail with Big Sky Ski Patrol and Gallatin County Search & Rescue

Mindfulness & Exploration Hike

Tuesday, August 18 - 10:00 a.m.
Willow Way Trail with Angela Marie Patnode

Geology Hike

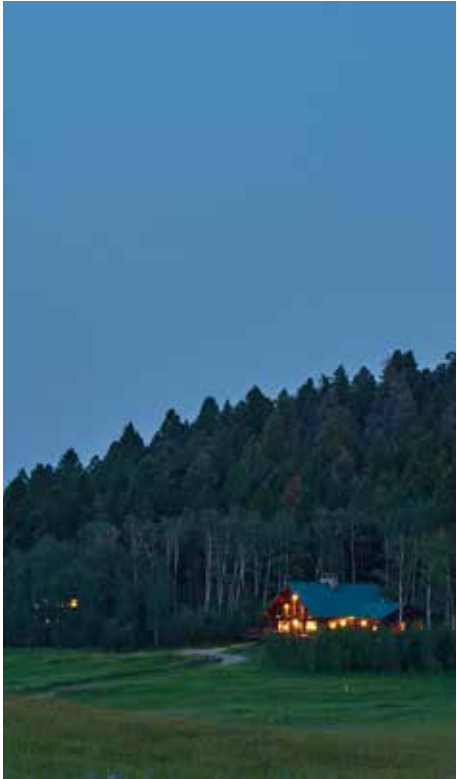
Tuesday, August 22 - 10:00 a.m.
Uplands Trail with Katie Alvin and East Slope Outdoors



BIG SKY
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

For hike descriptions and to RSVP visit:
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Kennel cough plagues Gallatin Valley dogs

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – Gallatin Valley veterinarians are reporting numerous outbreaks of a contagious canine upper respiratory infection known as kennel cough. The infection, which presents as a persistent cough in dogs, has kept veterinarians busy throughout June and July.

“We probably get four to eight cases a day just in our clinic,” said veterinarian Loni Odenbeck, co-owner of 360 Pet Medical in Bozeman. As of July 28, there have been at least three confirmed deaths in Gallatin Valley as a result of this kennel cough outbreak, Odenbeck said.

Symptoms of the disease include a variable cough, with or without production, which often progresses to the point of vomiting. Some dogs may also experience lethargy and a lack of appetite. Untreated, some dogs may develop pneumonia or pleural effusion, where blood or lymph builds around the lung. These conditions can result in hospitalization and even death. “Some of these [dogs] are going from a mild cough to pneumonia in 24 hours,” Odenbeck said.

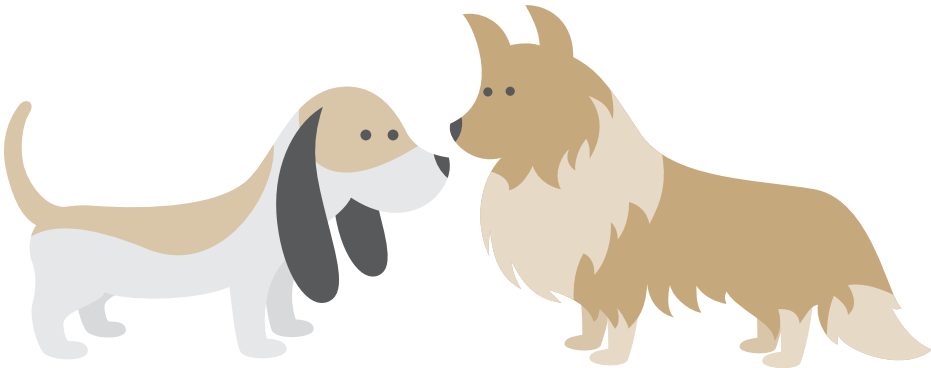
360 Pet Medical recommends pet owners avoid dog parks, boarding or grooming facilities, doggy day care, and any other high-density dog population areas. Once diagnosed with kennel cough, an infected dog should immediately be isolated from other dogs and isolation should continue two weeks past when symptoms resolve.

“Fortunately most of the dogs are getting through [the infection] quite well,” Odenbeck said. With proper care, such as cough suppressants and rest, dogs are able to recover without difficulty. But should the sickness develop into pneumonia, dogs must be hospitalized and treated with intravenous fluids, antibiotics and oxygen therapy.

“Kennel cough mostly is a general term for an upper respiratory infection,” Odenbeck said. “It can be [caused by] any one of multiple pathogens.” One of the most common causes of kennel cough is the bacteria bordetella and a vaccine is available to prevent the kennel cough infection caused by this agent. However, Odenbeck says many of the dogs getting the disease right now are vaccinated for bordetella.

In order to identify and understand the cause of the recent outbreak, a number of Gallatin Valley veterinarian clinics have tested for known pathogens, and bordetella does not appear to be responsible for the current outbreak, Odenbeck says. “We suspect it could be a new virus.”

360 Pet Medical has been working with the national diagnostic testing center Idexx Laboratories to isolate the pathogen causing the recent outbreaks in Gallatin Valley, however Odenbeck says it could take several months before there is a conclusive finding.



360 Pet Medical recommends pet owners avoid dog parks, boarding or grooming facilities, doggy day care, and any other high-density dog population areas to avoid the kennel cough that’s been widespread throughout Gallatin Valley. ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF VECTEEZY

SUMMER BUS SCHEDULE

5/29/17 - 9/29/17

Town Center ↔ Mountain Village

BIG SKY

TOWN CENTER

MONTANA

DINE

GATHER

SHOP

WHERE BIG SKY COMES TOGETHER

Town Center to Mountain Village Bus Schedule

Heading Up

DEPARTING TOWN CENTER

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

ARRIVING MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

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

Mountain Village to Town Center Bus Schedule

Heading Down

DEPARTING MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

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

ARRIVING TOWN CENTER

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

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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”

Wildfire suppression 101

BY AMANDA MONTHEI
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Wildfires are a fact of life in the American West — as of Aug. 1, some 39,000 wildfires have burned almost 5.5 million acres, a collection of land about the size of New Jersey. August marks the pinnacle of fire starts and large-scale wildfires in the Northern Rockies, as fuels are at their driest and precipitation levels dip to their lowest.

Many people, especially those living in fire-prone areas, know how wildfires begin— whether it’s lightning striking tinder-dry timber or a campfire left to smolder and ignite nearby leaf litter, fire starts are generally a result of either carelessness or the passage of lightning.

How those fires are managed and contained, however, is a lesser-known phenomenon which depends on factors ranging from vegetation types and terrain to the decisions of the fire’s incident commander. Below are some lesser-known aspects of fire suppression.

Mobilization

When fires are first spotted, they are called into a local dispatch center, which then takes an inventory of the local resources (engines, crews or helicopters) available to respond to the fire.

A new incident that is small and manageable on a local level is called an initial attack fire. Most fires are contained and controlled at this level, requiring very few resources over only one or two operational shifts. These incidents vary in size, but are generally smaller than 50 acres. The majority of these fires are incredibly small, sometimes just a single tree that was struck by lightning.

Extended attack fires are slightly larger and often more complex—perhaps structures are threatened, or steep terrain and heavy fuels complicate containment efforts. Extended attack fires and large-scale, headline-making fires are handled by a geographic coordinating center for a specific region, or by the National Interagency Fire Center based in Boise, Idaho.

NIFC prioritizes incidents based on infrastructure, structures or communities at risk, mobilization time, and financial or geographic factors to determine which crews, engines or helicopters go where.

Resources

What could a crew of 20 people possibly do to help contain a 2,000-, 10,000- or 50,000-acre fire? This was one of my biggest questions when I started to pursue wildland firefighting, and come to find out, there’s quite a bit we can do to thwart the progress of a fire, regardless of size.

Hand crews have a variety of responsibilities, but their primary task is to dig line. Digging line creates a fuel break, as firefighters use hand tools to dig a 12- to 24- inch fireline all the way to mineral soil, preventing the fire from continuing to spread along ground fuels.

Where timber is concerned, however, different tactics must be used to control a fire— namely, burning out or requesting water and retardant drops

from aircraft. To burn out, firefighters use drip torches and other ignition tools to start a fire along the line. The purpose is to eliminate all fuel between the line and the approaching fire, which will die out once it reaches trees and brush that have already burned.

Aircraft like helicopters and air tankers are also a massive contributor to the success of wildfire suppression, as they not only have the capability to fly crews in and out of remote fires, but can also drop anywhere from 200 to a couple thousand gallons of water or retardant on areas of a fire either inaccessible or too extreme for engines or crews to engage in.

Finally, engines are used when the fire is reasonably accessible by road (even logging roads or two-tracks). Engines carry hundreds of gallons of water to remote areas and, once there, engine crews can set up hose to reach areas of the fire that are far from the road.

Contained or controlled?

If you’ve ever read a news story about a wildfire, you’ve likely seen containment numbers. A fire is considered contained when there’s a line constructed around the perimeter of the fire that will not allow it to spread any further. A fire is considered controlled when that containment line has been determined to be capable of “holding” the fire after crews have left.

But a lot more goes into the containment and control of a fire than one would expect. Containment requires that crews have begun “mopping up,” or gridding the fire area for smoke or hot spots that might undermine the control line if left unattended. Mopping up is a tedious but important task that can last for weeks on large fires. It involves extinguishing smoking material and residual heat to ensure that the fire doesn’t throw an ember or flare up again.

For many fire crews, mopping up makes up nearly 80 percent of their time on the fireline. However dirty and unglamorous, it’s a necessary part of fire suppression.

Amanda Monthei is a wildland firefighter by summer and a freelance writer and odd-job connoisseur the rest of the year. While originally from Michigan, she now spends her time fishing, hot-springing and smelling like smoke in the Salmon River Mountains of Idaho.




The 2012 Condon Mountain Fire was started by lightning northeast of Condon, Montana, on July 28, 2012. Resources assigned to the 5,200-acre fire included aircraft, hand crews, engines and heavy equipment. PHOTO BY CODY HOOVER


Section 4:
OUTDOORS & FUN



On the trail: Lava Lake pg. 48



Kids activities in Big Sky pg. 51



Eddy Line: Summer Spruce Moths pg. 53

INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Mounted shooting event brings Old West to West Yellowstone

EBS STAFF

The Yellowstone Outlaw Regulators and Diamond P Ranch will host the third Annual Diamond P Shootout in West Yellowstone Aug. 4-6. The event reaches to the roots of Montana and the West, bringing the ideal of the “Old West” and cowboys to life. Mounted contestants compete in this fast-action timed event using two .45-caliber single action revolvers, each loaded with five rounds of specially prepared blank ammunition.

Competitors are required to dress in Western attire, whether that means a Western shirt and blue jeans, or 1800’s period shirts without collars and high-waisted pants. It’s possible onlookers will see a fringed buckskin-wearing frontiersman or a cowgirl wearing a split riding skirt amidst silver screen cowboys and riders in modern chaps, jeans and shirts.

During competition, the mounted shooters will be asked to ride a pre-determined pattern that includes shooting at balloons while riding at high speeds. The rider will alternate between using two 1800s -style, fixed sight, single-action six-guns holstered on either hip.

Over the last two years, the event has drawn nearly 100 competitors from two countries and 12 states, including national champions in the sport. West Yellowstone’s event is scheduled the weekend following the United States Western National Championships in Las Vegas, and will catch shooters traveling home or to other events in the Northwest.

This year’s event will consist of the two-day Jim Hanson Horsemanship/ Mounted Shooting Clinic on Thursday and Friday, a sponsor appreciation poker walk Friday evening, and shootout matches on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Diamond P Ranch event arena west of West Yellowstone on Highway 20. Cowboy mounted shooting is a spectator’s sport



The third annual Diamond P Shootout in West Yellowstone Aug. 4 through 6 will feature fast-riding and quick-shooting as mounted horseback riders compete to see who is the best shot. PHOTO COURTESY WEST YELLOWSTONE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

and individuals are welcome to attend to watch the fast riding and quick shooting action.

The Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association has a variety of levels of competition, appropriate for novices up to seasoned professionals, and the sport of cowboy mounted shooting is arguably the fastest growing equestrian sport in the nation.

In addition to a weekend of cowboy action, there will also be the Annual Rod Run Car Show and Mountain Man Rendezvous in West Yellowstone Aug. 5 and 6. For more details and other activities, visit destinationyellowstone.com.

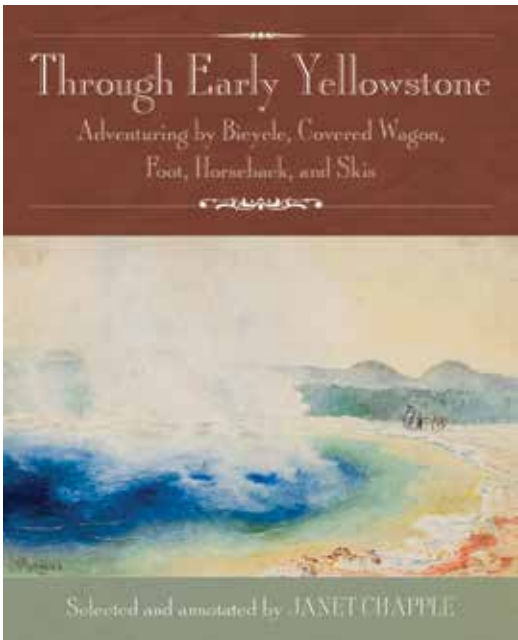
New book recounts old stories of Yellowstone

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY - With two years of record-breaking visitation in a row, it can be difficult to imagine what Yellowstone National Park looked like in its early days as a park, when there were more ungulates than humans, lending the area a mystique that favors the unknown and little-known.

Just as captivating as the descriptions of geothermal features in “Through Early Yellowstone: Adventuring by Bicycle, Covered Wagon, Foot, Horseback, and Skis” is the portrayal of those who called the area home. The accounts of how it changed travelers who ventured into it are particularly enjoyable. Thomas Whitmell, who visited Yellowstone in 1883, 11 years after it became the world’s first national park, put it this way:

“Yes, one’s face is blistered with the fierce noons; one is a little stiff from the freezing nights, slightly bruised by the dislocating gait of the faithful ‘cayuse.’ One has had enough of rice and



prunes under canvas and of cold meat in the ‘corrals;’ but where were there brighter skies and blither air? That it has been give to one to see the beauty, the grandeur, and terror of this region of ‘wonder-beauty’ before the tourists troop through it in unbroken procession, laus Deo.”

Whitmell’s description is one of 11 narratives compiled by Janet Chapple, an Oakland, California-based editor who selected and annotated travel accounts published from 1871-1928. A scholar of and lover of Yellowstone history, Chapple worked on the project for almost 15 years.

The artwork that accompanies the text—a gallery of watercolors from 1884 by T.H. Thomas, never before seen outside of Wales—is also stunning and provides for another captivating window into the area.

In late June, “Through Early Yellowstone” won honorable mention in the travel category of the 19th annual Foreword INDIES Book of the Year award.

West Yellowstone hosts Mountain Man Rendezvous and Living History Encampment

EBS STAFF

In the late 1800s, the mountain men who inhabited the Yellowstone region survived by trapping, hunting and fishing the area’s abundant wildlife. Many of them got together once or twice a year to socialize, and sell and trade furs and hunting equipment at a gathering known as a rendezvous, a French word meaning “appointed place of meeting.”

From Friday, Aug. 4, through Thursday, Aug. 13, West Yellowstone hosts the 12th annual Smoking Waters Mountain Man Rendezvous and 1800s Living History Encampment at the Old Airport grounds for people to get a sense for how the mountain men of yesteryear lived, worked and traded.

Visible from U.S. Route 20 when traveling from the southwest, the event replicates an 1800s encampment featuring entertainment, demonstrations and seminars related to the trades and crafts of the era. Activities include storytelling sessions, a trader’s row, beading, leatherwork, parfleche (hide-stretching), knife and tomahawk throwing, primitive bow making, shooting and flint-knapping. Food vendors will also be on site. The event is free to the public.

Storytelling is a favorite activity at the Smoking Waters Mountain Man Rendezvous—and not just for the kids. Musicians provide live entertainment, and open fire cooking imbues the food with a rustic flavor. Black powder shoots engage young and old, as do the tomahawk and knife demonstrations. Rendezvous attendees can get a sense for some of the challenges and dangers that existed in the days of the mountain men when they take part in the seminars and competitions held during this event.

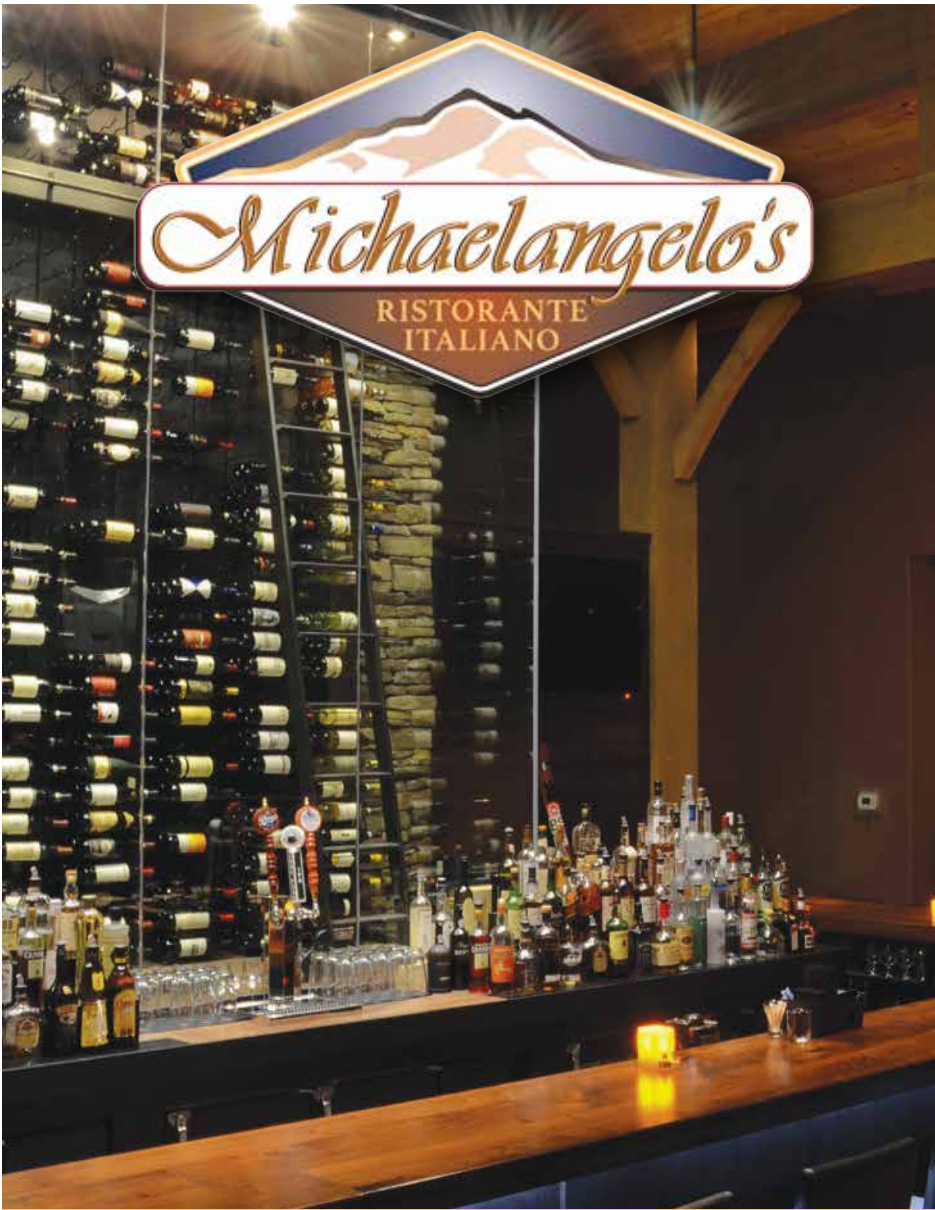
The Smoking Waters Mountain Man Rendezvous and 1800s Living History Encampment is open 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Aug. 4-Aug. 13, at the Old Airport,



West Yellowstone’s 12th annual Mountain Man Rendezvous and 1800s Living History Encampment gives visitors a taste of how the mountain men of yesteryear lived, worked and traded. PHOTO BY CASEY KIRKPATRICK

now Gallatin National Forest land directly west of West Yellowstone, adjacent to Iris Street.

For more information contact Sunshine Kirkpatrick at (406) 646-7931, by email at dmawestye@omsds.com or visit twoturtlestradingpost.com/events.html.



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Yellowstone National Park cracks down on sexual harassment

BY MATTHEW BROWN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BILLINGS (AP) - As many as 10 workers in Yellowstone National Park’s maintenance division will be disciplined after an investigation found female employees were subjected to sexual harassment and other problems.

The move comes as widespread reports of harassment, bullying and other misconduct have tarnished the image of the National Park Service and its parent agency, the U.S. Interior Department.

Investigators have uncovered problems at many of the nation’s premier parks—Yellowstone, Yosemite, the Grand Canyon, Canaveral National Seashore—as well as inappropriate behavior toward female employees by the Interior Department’s former director of law enforcement.

A report on sexual harassment at Florida’s De Soto National Memorial, which is run by the park service, was released this week by an employee advocacy group that obtained the document through a public records request.

At Yellowstone, the Interior Department’s Office of Inspector General launched its investigation last year, after a park employee complained to a local magazine and members of Congress that a pervasive “men’s club” environment had encouraged the exploitation and abuse of female workers.

The inspector general’s investigation also found that government-issued charge cards in the maintenance division had been misused. Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk said the punishments stem from both harassment and charge-card misuse but declined to be more specific, citing employee privacy.

The review was shared with park officials on March 13. More than four months later, the personnel actions will be handed down and could range from letters of counseling or reprimand, to suspensions or firing, Wenk said. The workers can appeal before the penalties become final. The penalties were slated to be proposed by Aug. 1 or soon thereafter.

A letter of counseling is not considered a disciplinary action, Wenk said.

Since the harassment allegations emerged last year, park supervisors have undergone mandatory sexual harassment training. Similar training is happening this summer for all seasonal and permanent employees.

In disclosing the upcoming discipline, Wenk echoed prior comments of senior officials within the park service and Interior: They’re trying to change an embedded culture that has allowed misconduct to proliferate.

“I’m concerned that people understand what acceptable behavior in the workplace is,” Wenk said. “We’re setting out very clear expectations for how people comport themselves.”

Investigators found that between 2010 and 2016, six women who previously worked in the maintenance division had faced derogatory comments or actions that made them feel uncomfortable. They said the division’s supervisor described the culture at Yellowstone as a “good old boy system” that was rampant in the 1990s but has improved over time.

The park is taking other steps, including instituting a new policy intended to curb the misuse of alcohol by employees after hours at remote work locations. And there will be a park-wide audit of employees’ use of charge cards, Wenk said.

There’s been no indication Wenk, who became superintendent in 2011, knew about the allegations at Yellowstone and ignored them. He has said he first became aware of them just before an article published last September in The Montana Pioneer.

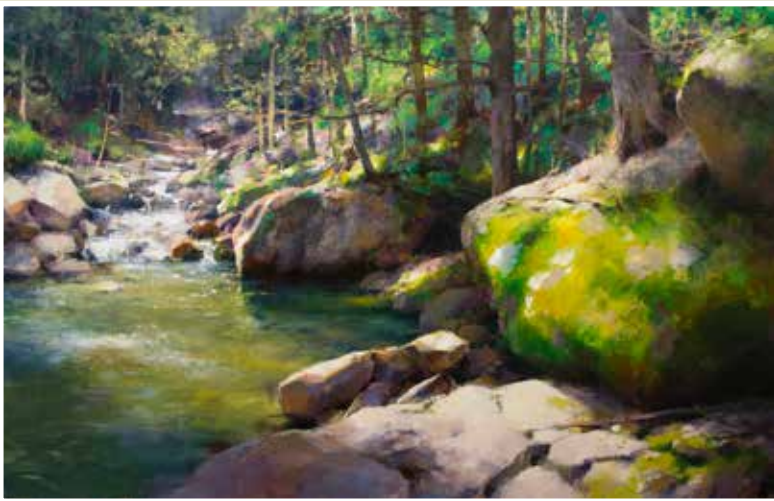
The superintendents of Yosemite and the Grand Canyon retired in recent months following allegations of sexual harassment and hostile work environments.

At least 18 Yosemite employees came forward with allegations, and working conditions were said to be so bad that they were labeled “toxic.” At the Grand Canyon, male employees reportedly preyed on female colleagues, demanded sex and retaliated against women who refused.

The Interior Department’s law enforcement director, Tim Lynn, retired this spring after investigators disclosed in February that he had displayed a “pattern of unprofessional behavior” by touching and hugging female employees and making flirtatious remarks.

Zinke spokeswoman Heather Swift said the actions at Yellowstone reflect that leaders of individual parks feel newly empowered to confront harassment.

“[Zinke’s] leadership will create a culture where people are valued for their work and not discriminated against,” Swift said.



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On the Trail: Lava Lake (Cascade Creek Trail)

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

BY CIARA WOLFE
BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Scattered throughout Gallatin Canyon, there are several U.S. Forest Service trails of varying difficulty and length leading into the Spanish Peaks and other surrounding mountains. Lava Lake trail is one of the most popular. This 6-mile out-and-back hike is known for its steep ascent and rewarding destination: Lava Lake, a beautiful alpine lake in the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. The elevation gain is significant, but with a steady and gradual climb to the lake, this trail has earned a difficulty rating of moderate.

This well-traveled trail provides ample parking at the easily recognizable Lava Lake trailhead along Highway 191 in Gallatin Canyon with a well-marked and obvious route to the lake. The trail is dirt, but interspersed with large rocks that help the trail dry-out faster in the spring, and provide many “steps” throughout the hike.

At the beginning of the trail, you will pass some summer residences before entering the dense lodge pole pine forest of Cascade Canyon. Approximately 1.5 miles into the hike the forest begins to open up, affording beautiful meadow views. There is also the potential for animal sightings depending on the time of day and season.

The trail runs beside Cascade Creek with one major creek crossing across a log bridge with views of a couple of small waterfalls. The final climb of the hike ascends switchbacks up the hillside, which acts as the lake’s natural dam. At the top, you reach Lava Lake, a crystal-clear mountain lake surrounded by mountain views, and with plenty of recreational options.

Lava Lake is a popular swimming hole in the hot summer months, and also provides great opportunities for fishing. For those who wish to make this hike an overnight excursion, there are a couple of established campsites around the lake, accessible by a trail that leads to the far end of the lake.

Lava Lake is an excellent out-and-back hike to get a true mountain lake experience that can be enjoyed by all ages and abilities. Make sure to leave



One of the most popular hikes in Gallatin Canyon, the steep 6-mile Lava Lake trail culminates at the mountain lake it was named for, nestled at 7,115 feet in the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

ample time for the hike with plenty of additional leisure time to enjoy the lake itself.

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.



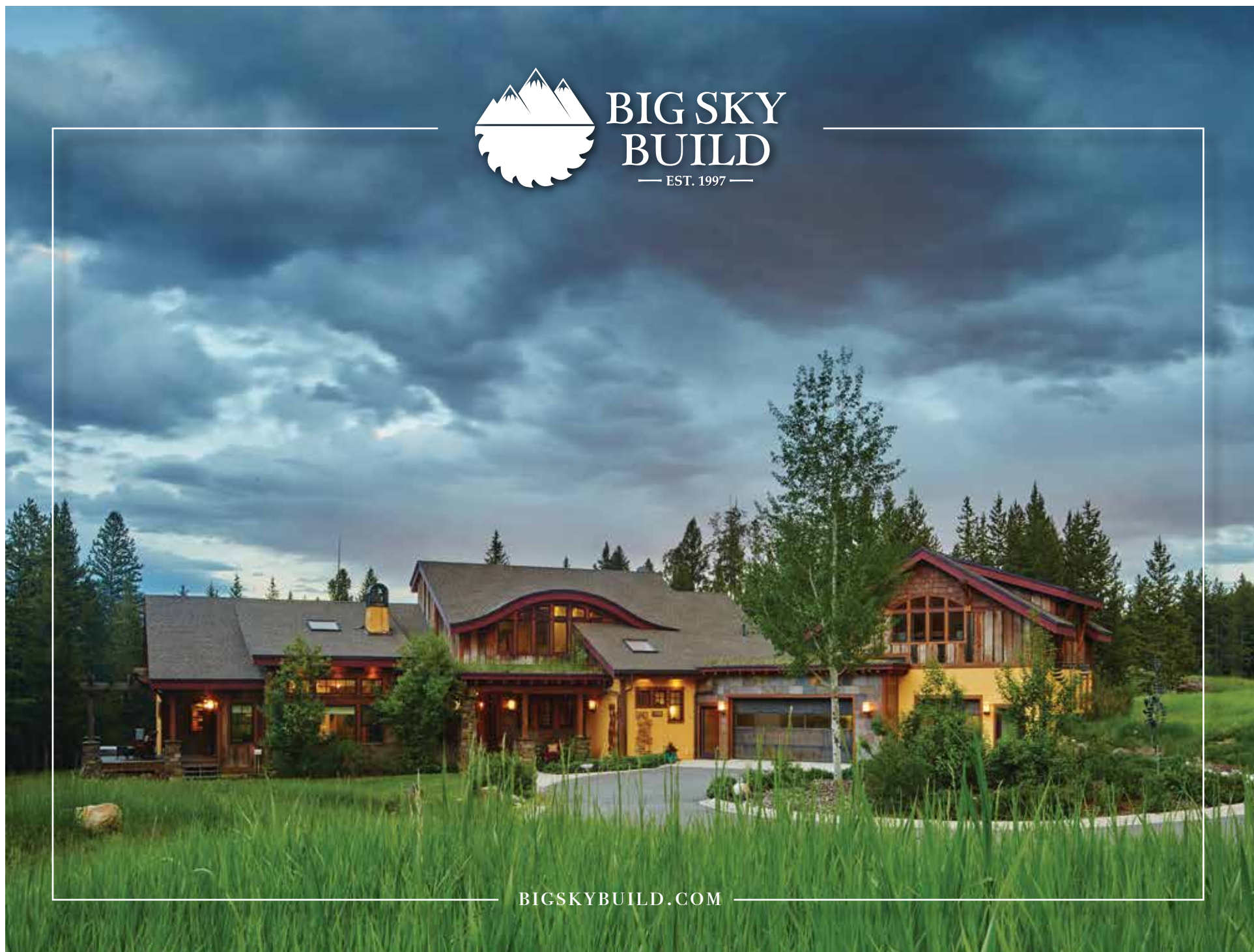
TRAIL STATS

Distance	Uses	Difficulty	Elevation	Surface
6 miles roundtrip	Hike and horses	Intermediate	5,525 feet (trailhead) 7115 feet (lake)	Dirt and rocks

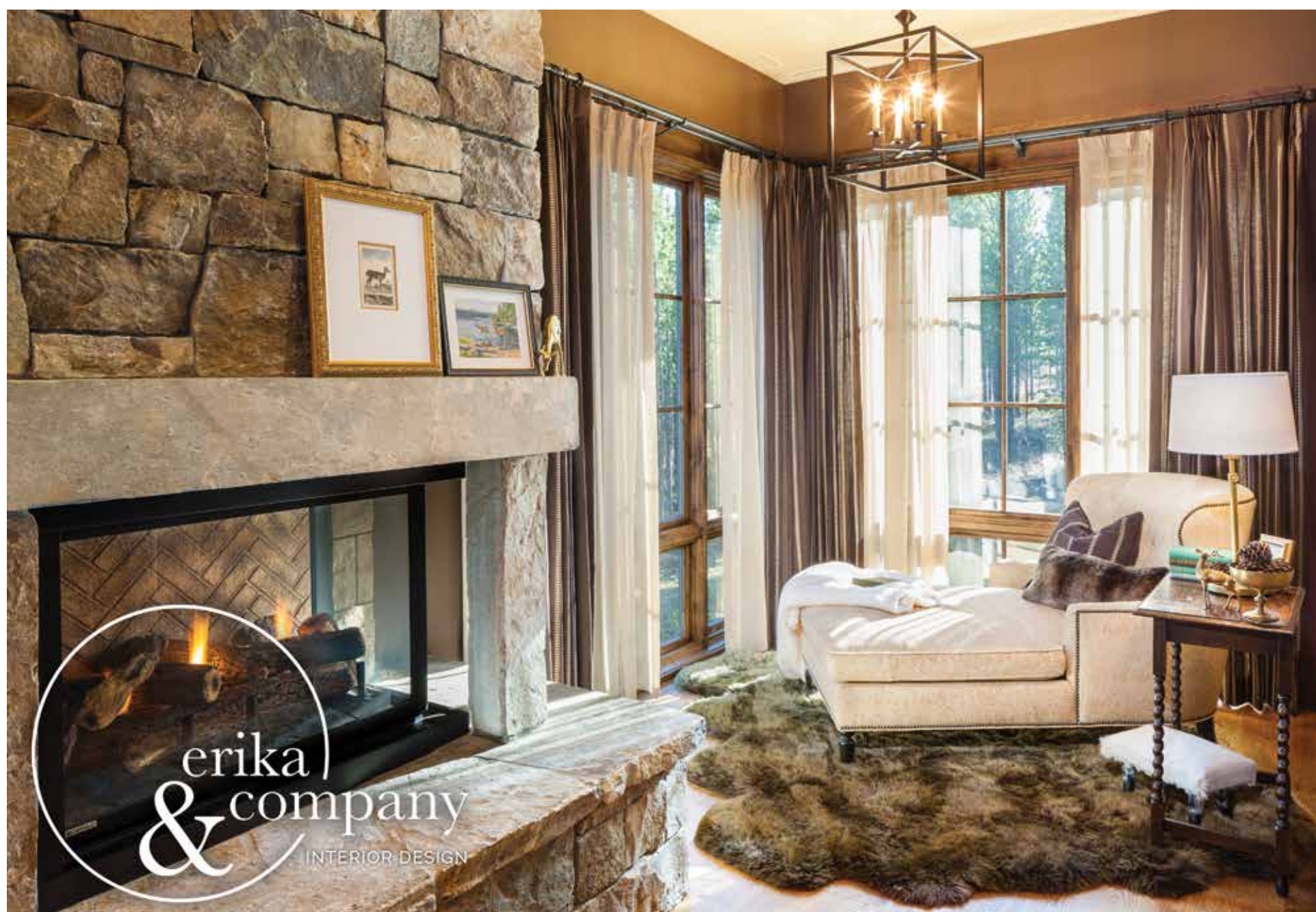
Directions: Drive north from Big Sky on Highway 191. The trailhead is located approximately 15 miles north of Big Sky. It’s well marked, has a large parking area and is frequently used as a boat pull-out for rafters.



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Inside the Big Sky

By Derek Lennon

13 adventurous things to do with kids in Big Sky

BY DEREK LENNON
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Big Sky will bring a smile to anyone’s face, but often the people with the biggest smiles in this Montana mountain town are the kids.

For children, Big Sky is the coolest outdoor playground in the world, summer or winter. It’s big, it’s fun, and it’s never-ending. When you plan a trip to Big Sky, your kids are bound to have a blast—and so will you.

Here are a few of the coolest things you can do with your little ones in Big Sky:

Kids Adventure Games – Enter the annual Kids Adventure Games and let your kids compete in a kids-only adventure race held at Big Sky Resort, typically in July.

Climbing boulders in the park – Head down to the Big Sky Community Park and let your kids perfect their climbing skills while playing on the bouldering features.

Whitewater rafting on the Gallatin – Book a trip on the river and hold on while you splash through the wild rapids of the mighty Gallatin.

Endless hiking options – Lace up the hiking boots and hit the trails into the vast Gallatin National Forest. Popular, kid-friendly options include Ousel Falls, Beehive Basin, Lava Lake and Uplands.

Ziplining adventures – Don your harnesses and book your high speed zipping adventure today.

Big Sky Resort Basecamp adventures – Plan a full day of fun at Big Sky Resort’s Basecamp – high ropes courses, zip lines, giant swings, hikes, skeet shooting, disc golf, paintball, paddle boarding, and the list goes on!

Wildlife spotting in Yellowstone National Park – Grab your bear spray and head down to Yellowstone for the day. Can you name all of the wild animals you spot?

Ski camps and lessons – Rent skis or snowboards and play on the snow-covered slopes of Big Sky Resort.

Sledding – Pick a sled and rip down the friendly, mellow hills of Big Sky Country.

Horseback riding at a dude ranch – Saddle up and go on a horseback riding tour on trails that weave through the Montana mountain ranges.



Summer or winter there are a plethora of fun, outdoor activities to do with your kids in Big Sky. PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT BIG SKY

Dog sledding in the Madison Range – Hold on tight as enthusiastic huskies lead you through the wild forests of the Madison and Gallatin.

Mountain biking – Rent a mountain bike and ride the world-class flow trails, cross country trails, and downhill trails at Big Sky Resort or in the surrounding national forests.

Head up Lone Peak – Scramble to the rocky summit or hop on the Lone Peak Expedition to enjoy the spectacular panoramic views from the summit of Lone Mountain at 11,166 feet.

As you can see, there is plenty for kids (and adults) to do in Big Sky. If you have wide-eyed, curious, fun-loving, outdoor kids, Big Sky, Montana is a great vacation spot for the whole family.

No matter what time of year you choose to visit our mountain town, you’re sure to enjoy this corner of southwest Montana.

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/things-to-do-kids-big-sky-mt/>. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky’s blog at <https://visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/>.



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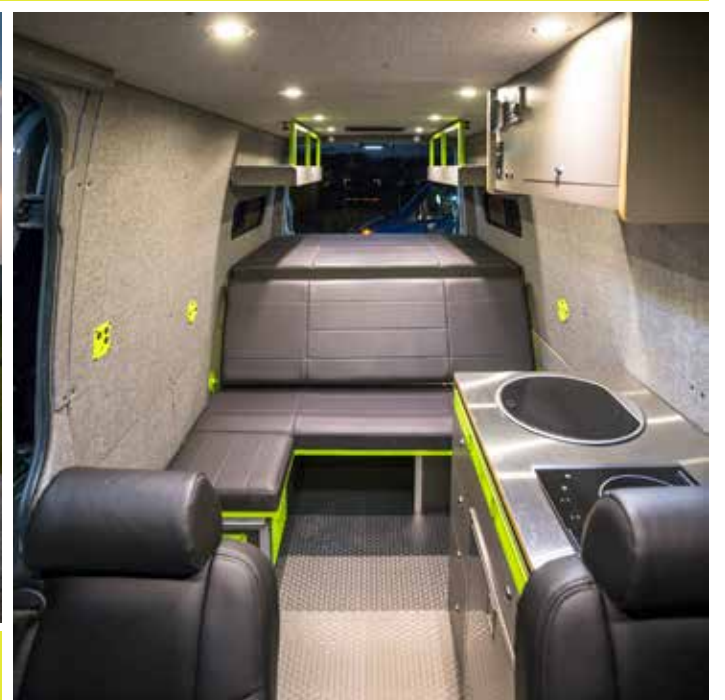
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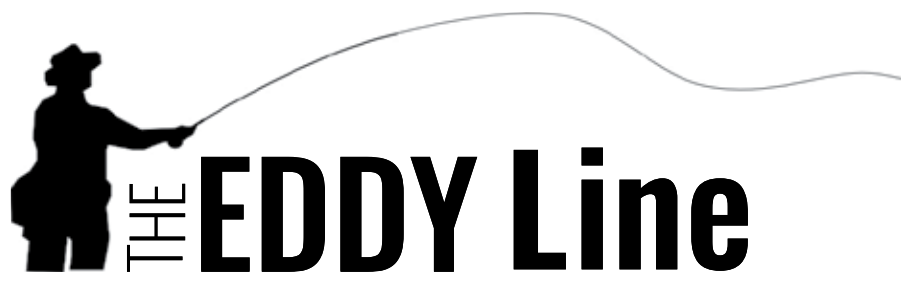


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Summer spruce moths: Late summer’s special treat from the fish gods



BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

We’re in high summer here in Big Sky country—PBR wrapped up last week, Yellowstone National Park visits have hit yearly peaks, and anglers are often more common than caddis hatches on our local rivers and streams. Fortunately, our streamflows are hovering near long-term averages and each day further into August means longer nights, which can translate to cooler water temperatures.

The majority of river-dwelling insects have hatched, but we now enter the season of terrestrials, insects that live on land but may find themselves on a trout stream. Grasshoppers, ants, beetles and crickets are the most common landlubbers opportunistic trout may eat. But a local moth—yes, a moth—excites local anglers the most and helps us make it through these dog days of late summer.

The spruce moth (*Choristoneura occidentalis*) is technically the Western spruce budworm and if you love trees, you may dislike the spruce budworm. But if you love fly fishing and catching fish on dry flies when few others are, the spruce moth may be your new favorite hatch. A spruce moth is parasitic to pine trees but once on the water, it’s a delicacy to our wild trout. Here’s some help to better understand and enjoy this unique hatch.

Time it right. If you’re tired of waking up early to get to the best fishing before the bite wanes, the spruce moth hatch may be for you. The moths begin flying three to four hours after sunrise. Once the sun rises and warms the cool mountain air, action can be hot and heavy for a few hours. As the heat of the day is felt in the early afternoon, the moths seek the shade and cooler refuge of pine trees.

Adjust size and shape throughout the hatch. Most spruce moths on the Gallatin River are size 14 and 16, with a few larger insects in the size 12 range. Early in the hatch, trout will feed voraciously, giving little care to color or profile. But as the hours tick by and water temperatures rise, trout may become more selective and color and profile selection requires more attention. Moth patterns with a larger wing and hefty profile such as a Bloom’s Spruce will keep your success going.

Learn a reach cast. If you’ve read my column before, you’ve heard me say this many times. A reach cast is an essential tool to get a longer and more natural drift. Since spruce moths are land-dwelling insects that are found a-stream, you can expect bank-side structure to be a featured element of their hatch. And if you need to avoid structure while also achieving a long, drag-free drift, a reach cast will help. Learn it. Practice it. Catch more fish.

Tackle your tippet and floatant selection. Fish 4X and 5X tippets on 9-foot leaders. Rip SuppleFlex and TroutHunter Finesse are ideal for this hatch. A potent liquid floatant such as Hi-and-Dri, Shimazaki or Fly Agra is essential. Top it off and ensure your fly floats by using a drying powder such as Loon’s Top Ride or Blue Ribbon.



The spruce moth is a common occurrence on our local waters in the coming weeks. Just when it seems like the dog days of summer will drag you down, the spruce moths appear and bring joy back to local anglers. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

Location, location, location. Spruce moths hatch near trees. They are pine tree budworm. Trout like to rise to them. Trout are not fans of bright sunshine. Connect the dots and focus on feeding areas that are near trees, in shallow water and provide shade cover. Shallow water is water less than 6 feet deep but deeper than 1 foot.

Keep a tight lip. Salmon flies are the sexy hatch everyone talks about. Pale Morning Dun, or PMD, hatches are technical and tempt experienced anglers to enter geek-out mode. Hoppers are easy: Put a boat in the water, tie on some 2X and fish it down the middle.

Yet the aura around the spruce moth hatch is still understated; and arguably, a little misunderstood. It’s OK to keep it that way. Many of us fishing today who learned how to do it years ago did not have Facebook or Instagram to give away all the secrets. We had to do it the hard way: by actually going out and doing it.

Spruce moths, albeit a nuisance to pine trees and forest managers, are a welcome respite to hungry trout during an otherwise scrawny feeding period. As anglers, we’re thankful our trout throw caution to the wind during these hot and dry months—we just need to be cool, calm and collected to keep its appeal understated.

“A trout will eat a moth?” Sure. I guess so.

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



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8.21.2017	Mountain Village Businesses and other commercial interests, Location TBA
8.22.2017	Big Sky Owners Association and other residential owners 6-7:30 at Big Sky Water & Sewer.
8.29.2017	Community-Wide Project Wrap Up Meeting Warren Miller Center 6-7:30

The schedule of meetings can be found on our website and to see the growing FAQ page please visit: bigskysubstation.wixsite.com/bigskysubstation or email bigskysubstation@gmail.com for more information.



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NorthWestern Energy

Montana Enduro Series to finish out season in Big Sky Aug. 13

MONTANA ENDURO SERIES

Lone Peak’s Revenge will be the fourth and final stop of the 2017 Montana Enduro Series, the 3-year-old brainchild of the Montana Bicycle Guild. Big Sky Resort, with its rugged alpine terrain, world-class scenery, and ever expanding network of mountain bike trails, is an ideal venue to wrap up the series.

Enduro racing has become a popular discipline worldwide. Racers set out on a course that links a series of timed downhill stages with untimed transition stages. The transitions can be a combination of human-powered climbing and/or lift-assisted ascents. At the end of the day, the racer with the fastest combined downhill stages wins.

The more relaxed pace of the climbs allow racers to socialize with fellow racers and look around to take in the scenery. The focus is fun, adventure, and camaraderie. Despite that, it’s a physically grueling event, with the extensive climbing and high-intensity descents putting everyone’s fitness and skills to the test.

The course, which includes both Lone and Andesite mountains, will be announced on Wednesday, Aug. 9. Racers will have Saturday, Aug. 12, to practice the course, with racing starting 9 a.m. sharp Sunday morning.

Visit bigskyresort.com for more information



Lone Peak’s Revenge will take place on both Lone and Andesite mountains, with the course being announced just days before the race. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA BICYCLE GUILD

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10:00-11:15am All Levels Yoga	7:00-8:00am Dance X 9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga 11:00-Noon (July-Labor Day) Community Yoga for a Cause (ALS) (Outside in Town Center)	7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga 8:15-9:15am All Levels Yoga 9:30-10:30am All Levels Yoga 6:30-7:45pm All Levels Yoga	7:00-8:00am Dance X 9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga 11:00-Noon The Practice (Yoga Level II-III)	7:00-8:00am All Levels Mat Pilates 8:15-9:15am All Levels Yoga 9:30-10:30am All Levels Yoga	9:00-10:15am Level II Yoga 11:00-Noon Yin/Restorative Yoga	9:00-10:00am All Levels Yoga Check schedule online (workshops may take the place of class)

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGALS

The trustees of the following school districts will meet for the purpose of considering and adopting their final budgets on or before August 20th for the school year 2017-2018. The meetings of the trustees may be continued from day to day until the final adoption of the districts’ budgets, no later than August 25, 2017. (20-9-131 MCA) Any taxpayer in the district is invited to attend the public hearing at the date, time, and meeting place noted. For further information, please contact the district official listed.

DISTRICT	CONTACT PERSON	DATE/TIME/MEETING PLACE
Manhattan #3	Ann Heisler (284-6460) P.O. Box 425 416 N. Broadway Manhattan, MT 59741	August 15, 2017 7:30 P.M. High School Activities Room
Bozeman #7	Mike Waterman (522-6097) P. O. Box 520 404 W. Main Bozeman, MT 59715	July 24, 2017 (preliminary review) August 14, 2017 (final review) 6:00 P.M. Willson Board Room
Willow Creek #15	Sherri Lower (285-6991) P. O. Box 189 407 Main Street Willow Creek, MT 59760	August 15, 2017 4:00 P.M. Willow Creek School Home Ec Rm
Springhill #20	Kelly Callantine (388-7879) 6020 Springhill Community Road Belgrade, MT 59714	August 15, 2017 4:00 P.M. Springhill School
Cottonwood #22	Sharon Roe (580-6345) 13233 Cottonwood Rd Bozeman, MT 59718	August 17, 2017 4:00 P.M. Cottonwood School
Three Forks #24	Randi Strickland (285-6830 Ext 124) 212 East Neal Three Forks, MT 59752	August 15, 2017 6:30 P.M. High School Conference Room
Pass Creek #25	Kelly Callantine (388-7879) 3747 Pass Creek Rd Belgrade, MT 59714	August 14, 2017 7:00 P.M. Pass Creek School
Monforton #27	Kris Ortmeier (586-1557) 6001 Monforton School Rd. Bozeman, MT 59718	August 15, 2017 6:00 P.M. Monforton School Library
Gallatin Gateway #35	Carrie Fisher (763-4415) P.O. Box 265 100 Mill Street Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730	August 2, 2017 6:00 P.M. Gallatin Gateway School
Anderson #41	Tanya Roberts (587-1305) 10400 Cottonwood Rd Bozeman, MT 59718	August 17, 2017 7:00 P.M. School Library
LaMotte #43	Sue Becker (586-2838) 841 Bear Canyon Road Bozeman, MT 59715	August 16, 2017 4:00 P.M. LaMotte School
Belgrade #44	Jay Bates (924-2031) P. O. Box 166 312 N. Weaver Belgrade, MT 59714	August 14, 2017 7:00 P.M. Central Administration Board Room
Malmborg #47	Sharon Roe (580-6345) 13233 Cottonwood Rd Bozeman, MT 59718	August 15, 2017 6:00 P.M. Malmborg School
West Yellowstone #69	Spring Binfet (646-7617) or Bonnie Weickum Box 460 411 N. Geyser West Yellowstone, MT 59758	August 8, 2017 6:30 P.M. West Yellowstone School Art Room
Big Sky #72	Corky Miller (995-4281) 45465 Gallatin Rd P.O. Box 161280 Big Sky, MT 59716	August 18 2017 10:00 A.M. Ophir Elementary Conference Room
Amsterdam #75	Sharon Roe (282-7216) 6360 Camp Creek Rd Manhattan, MT 59741	August 10, 2017 7:00 P.M. Multi-Purpose Room

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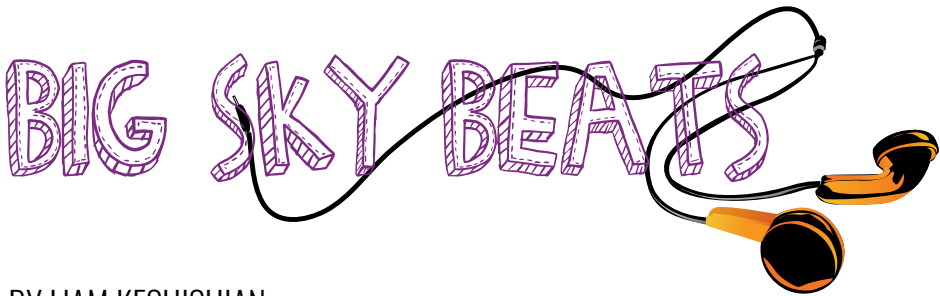
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BY LIAM KESHISHIAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

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

Music can be key to falling asleep for a number of people, myself included. Music can be a huge help on those nights when you just can’t quite konk out and need a little something to soothe the mind and pass out to.

Certain songs have the ability to put me right to sleep when I’m on edge, including this collection of 10 songs that can relax me almost instantly. Each of these songs is quite calming and I would highly recommend them if you’re ever feeling in need of some shut-eye.

- “Fourth of July” - Sufjan Stevens
- “Technicolor Beat” - Oh Wonder
- “10,000 Emerald Pools” - BØRNS
- “Wait” - M83
- “Fire Escape” - Foster the People
- “Sound in Color” - Alabama Shakes
- “Angels” - The xx
- “Space Song” - Beach House
- “Holocene” - Bon Iver
- “The Scientist” - Coldplay

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Cubic feet per minute (abbr.)

4 Heddles of a loom

8 Hall (Ger.)

12 Have (Scot.)

13 Clergyman

14 Eur. juniper

15 Amount (abbr.)

16 Stallion (2 words)

18 Late

20 Passover meal

21 Afr. eye-worm

23 Pipe

27 Deny

32 Amer. Civil Liberties Union (abbr.)

33 Eur. Economic Community (abbr.)

34 Goodbye (Fr.)

36 Org. of Amer. States (abbr.)

37 Starch

39 Male noble

41 Marsh

43 At the age of (Lat.)

44 Wild rubber

48 Caribbean island

51 Senet

55 Catch

56 Pueblo Indian

57 Dash

58 Internat'l Red Cross (abbr.)

59 Monitor lizard

60 Spawning ground

61 Television channel

DOWN

1 Sudan lake

2 Eclat

3 Dross (2 words)

4 Computer aided manufacturing (abbr.)

5 Down with (Fr., 2 words)

6 Qualified

7 Reward

8 Lava

9 Rhine tributary

10 Classifieds

11 Shelter

17 Pronoun

19 Physician

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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A78

American Life in Poetry:
Column 645

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Poets are experts at capturing those moments when one thing reminds us of another. Here snow reminds Catherine Stearns of something we can imagine took place years before. Stearns lives in Massachusetts, and her most recent book is “The Transparency of Skin,” (New Rivers Press).

Snow in August
By Catherine Stearns

With a flick
of her wrist, she broke
the chicken’s neck
and set it on her lap
where my sister’s head
had just been. Over
her bare knees dangled
waxy yellow bird feet,
while the white feathers
she began to pluck
fell all around us.

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 Catherine Stearns, “Snow in August,” from The Cortland Review, (Issue 66, 2015). Poem reprinted by permission of Catherine Stearns and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2017 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction’s author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.

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DOG OF THE MONTH

Photo: Dave Reeves Photography

SCOUT

Age: 3 years old

Breed: Cowboy Corgi (Corgi/Red Heeler)

Owner: Summer Joyner

Likes: Playing catch, hiking, chasing birds and gophers on our property, and spending time on the river

Dislikes: Anything on wheels (bikes, skateboards, etc), getting brushed and is very territorial of anything that belongs to him, especially his mama!

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48784 GALLATIN ROAD

\$7,100,000 | #215673 | Call Don
Outstanding 83± acre recreational parcel with Gallatin River Frontage & vibrant springs one of which flows into a large stocked pond. Main house, guest house & caretakers quarters as well as a historic barn.



4 LITTLE PLUME RD

\$2,900,000 | #216922 | Call Stacy or Eric
Fantastic custom, hand built, true post and beam timber frame ski in/ski out home on 1.7± acres with unobstructed views of Lone Mountain. 4 bd, 5 ba, 3 car attached garage plus 1 ba, 1 ba guest suite apartment over the garage.



FOUR POINT ROAD

\$2,100,000 | #219569 | Call Don
Ridge home in Antler Ridge with views of Lone Mtn from all three bedrooms, the great room and from the sunny south facing deck. Reclaimed beams, granite, high-end appliances, convenient mid-mountain location.



TBD NORTHFORK ROAD

\$1,800,000 | #209944 | Call Don
216± acres, old growth forest, meadows, Approx. 3/4 mile of North Fork flows through, borders public lands, private road, outstanding Spanish Peak views.



NORTH FORK ROAD, LOT 8

\$1,300,000 | #301292 | Call Stacy or Eric
Stunning 20± acre lot in coveted, private Triple Triangle Ranch in the North Fork. Gently sloping with mature Doug Fir trees. Driveway, fiber optic, power, well, 12,000-gallon fire suppression tank are all in place.



LONE MOOSE MEADOWS CONDO

\$569,000 | #300475 | Call Stacy or Eric
Coveted, private and serene brook side unit with beautiful furnishings make this one level, 2 bd, 2 ba condo offering unmatched. Beautifully maintained, fabulous covered deck, 1 car garage. Ski-in/ Ski-out.



SPANISH PEAKS CLUB CONDO

\$539,000 | #300192 | Call Stacy or Eric
Ideally located 2bd, 3 ba unit offering great views and morning light. Gourmet kitchen, hickory cabinets, rock fireplace, lower level bonus room with access to private patio with hot tub hookup. 1 car attached heated garage. Clubhouse with pool.



SHOSHONE HOTEL CONDO #1942

\$315,000 | #218508 | Call Don
This 1 bd, 1.5 ba condo will sleep up to 6 people; beautiful views of Lone Mtn as well as the Spanish Peaks. Full service Shoshone Hotel offers pool, hot tub, exercise room, steam room, room service, valet, ski-in-ski-out!



FOURPOINT RD, ANTLER RIDGE LOT

\$240,000 | #214051 | Call Don
.35± acre ridge lot, great building site, views of Lone Mtn, Yellow Mtn, and canyon. One of the first lots sold when initially offered, rolling hillside topography with community W/S.



SITTING BULL ROAD, HILL CONDO

\$215,000 | #220805 | Call Stacy or Eric
2 bd, 1 ba, 3 level Hill Condo Loft. Chefs kitchen with new cabinets, SS appliances and breakfast bar. Remodeled bathroom, wood floors, ski storage room, and washer/dryer. This unit is perfect for year-round living or as a secondary home.



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Dress it down, dress it up

Handmade fine jewelry for all occasions

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Shelly Bermont’s high-end, handmade jewelry creations and designs have been showcased in select jewelry stores across the country for 15 years, but for the first time the artisan goldsmith and collector of fine stones, gems and pearls has her own storefront.

Shelly Bermont Fine Jewelry opened in the Meadow Village Center, in between Lone Peak Brewery and OZssage Spa, on July 31.

Bermont has had a second home in Big Sky for nearly 20 years, and became a fulltime resident of the community last year. She decided to open a retail location because she thinks Big Sky is ready for a fine jewelry store.

“I’ve seen the morphing of this sleepy little town into a town that’s attracting the rich and famous,” Bermont said. “Shopping to me is part of the fun of travel. To find a handmade, unique piece of jewelry while on vacation is fun.”

Bermont has earned a reputation for her use of the highest-quality Tahitian and South Sea saltwater pearls, warm-hued opalescent baubles she sets off with leather or gemstone-beadwork and 18- or 22-karat gold.

“Everybody thinks that’s all I do,” Bermont said. “But it’s not. Just about any beautiful stone you can think of, if it catches my eye I will buy it.”

Guided by her attraction to interesting or unique natural stones, she also works with untreated Sleeping Beauty turquoise, an increasingly rare stone with a value close to that of pearls, white and pink corral, aquamarine, peridot, amethyst and diamonds—all ethically-sourced and strung on recycled gold that Bermont melts down, rolls out and hammers by hand.

Bermont said most jewelers begin with a design—often computer-generated—and then seek out the necessary components to create it. Bermont works backwards, allowing her vast inventory of stones or, if a custom piece, the customer, to dictate the design.

Bermont began making jewelry in Miami when the black tie affairs of the ‘80s and ‘90s began to give way to more casually-attired social events, a trend Bermont has only seen continue.

At the time, Bermont was married to a man “who thought jewelry was part of the uniform,” and had been given a lot of extravagant pieces of jewelry she wasn’t finding occasion to wear anymore.

“I just found it a shame to have such beautiful jewelry sitting in a safe,” Bermont said. “My jewelry is fine jewelry, but I want it to be wearable with your jeans and T-shirt.”



Shelly Bermont specializes in handmade fine jewelry that combines precious stones and pearls with earthy elements like leather to create one-of-a-kind pieces suitable for all occasions.



Shelly Bermont Fine Jewelry opened in the Meadow Village Center on July 31. She will be open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and is available by appointment for private showings. PHOTOS BY JENNINGS BARMORE

That’s why she often chooses a matte finish and incorporates leather, which adds a natural, earthy element that offsets the gloss of the pearls.

“People love the idea of putting something important on leather,” Bermont said. “It works so well in [places] like Aspen, Florida, Texas and California ... it’s natural and more casual.”

Bermont started deconstructing her elaborate jewelry and creating new pieces out of the old, first by sending them to a jeweler to execute her designs, and later, after intensive training with multiple goldsmiths, doing the handiwork herself. Her first sales were of \$30 silver earrings to her girlfriends.

As Bermont became more proficient at goldsmithing and “fell madly in love” with the precious metal, she starting purchasing more expensive stones and, in the process, discovered a love of pearls.

While the pieces on display in her store have a price range of \$100 to \$25,000, Bermont said she can work with any budget.

“I do this because I love it,” she said. “I’ve never done it for the money—everything I make I put back into the business, and [use to] buy more materials.”

Not only will Bermont cater to any budget, she also enjoys creating custom pieces that reflect the customer’s style or taste, and encourages people to pick out their own pearls. While the majority of her ready-for-purchase pieces consist of bracelets, necklaces and earrings, Bermont has fulfilled commissions for men’s bracelets, key chains and tuxedo studs.

Above all, Bermont likes working with her hands and doesn’t hide her disdain for the largely digitally-designed and machine-created jewelry on the market today.

“[Most of] the new metalsmiths haven’t even banged on a piece of metal,” Bermont said.

For Bermont, it’s the handmade integrity of her line of jewelry and the use of only the finest quality stones and pearls that sets her work apart.

“I make every piece so that if it doesn’t sell I’ll wear it,” Bermont said. “The worst thing is for someone to buy a piece of jewelry and for it to sit in a jewelry box. If you don’t love it, bring it back and I’ll turn it into something you do.”

For more information, visit shellybermont.com, email shellybermont@gmail.com or call (406) 995-7833.

From trumpets to timbales

Big Sky Classical Music Festival offers variety of musical styles

ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

Presented by the Arts Council of Big Sky and Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center, the seventh annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival is slated for Friday, Aug. 11, through Sunday, Aug. 13, with performances at Center Stage in Town Center Park and at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center. The festival features three nights of world-class music, two of which are free and open to the public.

The first night of the festival on Friday, Aug. 11, features an intimate recital at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center. One of the foremost trumpet players on the scene today, Mary Elizabeth Bowden, will be joined on stage by pianist Molly Morkoski and violinist Angella Ahn.

Classical trumpeter and Gold Medal Global Music award winner Mary Elizabeth Bowden has been described by Gramophone Magazine as “brilliant” and “radiant in new repertoire for trumpet.” Bowden, a Yamaha Performing Artist, is highly regarded for her artistry and virtuosity as a soloist, and has been praised for the clarity, purity and power of her sound. Among the pieces that will be performed are Eric Ewazen’s “Trio for Trumpet, Violin, and Piano.”

Pianist Molly Morkoski has performed as soloist and collaborative artist throughout the U.S., Europe, the Caribbean, and Japan. Her playing has been recognized by The New York Times as “strong, profiled, nuanced ... beautifully etched ... an energetic and focused player ... with flexibility and warmth.” The Boston Globe has called her “outstanding.”

Angella Ahn is the violinist for the Ahn Trio. Her trio, comprised of Angella and her two twin sisters, was born while all three studied at the Juilliard School of Music. The trio now tours the world, playing in venues that include New York’s Lincoln Center, Vienna’s Musikverein, Leipzig’s



The festival kicks off on Friday, Aug. 11, with an intimate recital at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center featuring acclaimed trumpet player Mary Elizabeth Bowden (above), pianist Molly Morkoski and violinist Angella Ahn.



Latin-influenced Mambo Kings headline the seventh annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival which includes a wide variety of free and ticketed concerts and events Aug. 11-13. PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY.

Gewandhaus, Argentina’s Teatro Colon, and The Beijing Concert Hall. She is currently professor of violin and viola at Montana State University, as well as the artistic director of the Big Sky Classical Music Festival.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m., and tickets can be purchased at warrenmillerpac.org.

Saturday, Aug. 12, features a free outdoor concert in Town Center Park with Mambo Kings. The quintet, together since 1995, are enjoying success as upstate New York’s foremost Latin jazz ensemble, and rapidly earned a national reputation for their explosive blend of Afro-Cuban rhythms and jazz improvisation. Since their orchestral debut in 1997 with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and Conductor Jeff Tyzik, Mambo Kings have appeared at the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival and with pops orchestras in Baltimore, Vancouver, Detroit and Dallas.

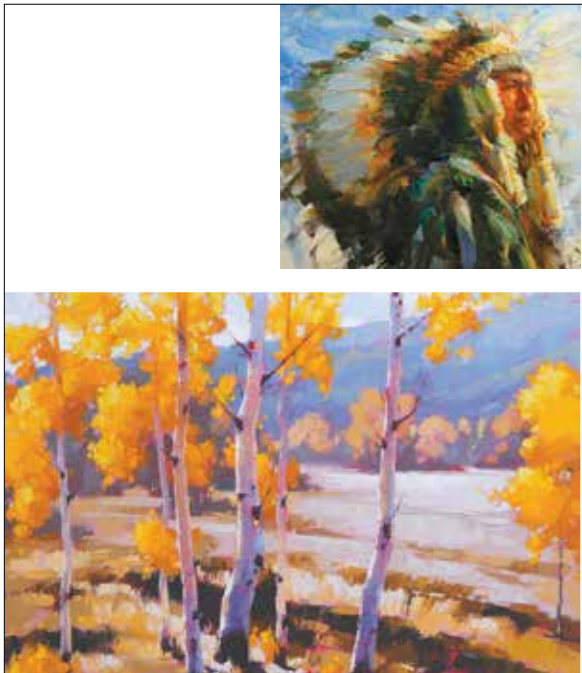
The concert will start at 6 p.m. with an opening ensemble followed by Mambo Kings at 7 p.m. Food and beverage vendors will be available at Town Center Park.

On Sunday, Aug. 13, the Big Sky Festival Orchestra will perform a free outdoor concert in Town Center Park. The orchestra will be conducted by Maestro Peter Bay Austin Symphony Orchestra, and features some of the top Montana musicians, as well as Concertmaster Jessica Matheas, also from the Austin Symphony Orchestra, and several musicians from the Utah Symphony. Soloists Mary Elizabeth Bowden on trumpet and Angella Ahn on violin will be featured during a performance of Hummel’s “Trumpet Concerto in E-flat Major.” Other selections on the program include Mozart’s “Symphony No. 31 in D Major,” Vaughan Williams’ “Lark Ascending,” and Schubert’s “Symphony No. 3 in D Major.”

The concert will commence at 5 p.m. In the case of rain, the event will take place at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center and will start one hour later. Food and beverage vendors will be available at Town Center Park.

Other free events throughout the weekend include an open rehearsal/discussion with Mambo Kings on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 1-2 p.m. in the Talus Room at Big Sky Resort. There is also a masterclass with students from the Montana State University String Camp from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Talus Room that is also free and open to the public for observation. Finally, the MSU String Camp Orchestra will be performing a free concert at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 13. No tickets are required.

For more information about the festival, please call (406) 995-2742 or visit bigskyarts.org.



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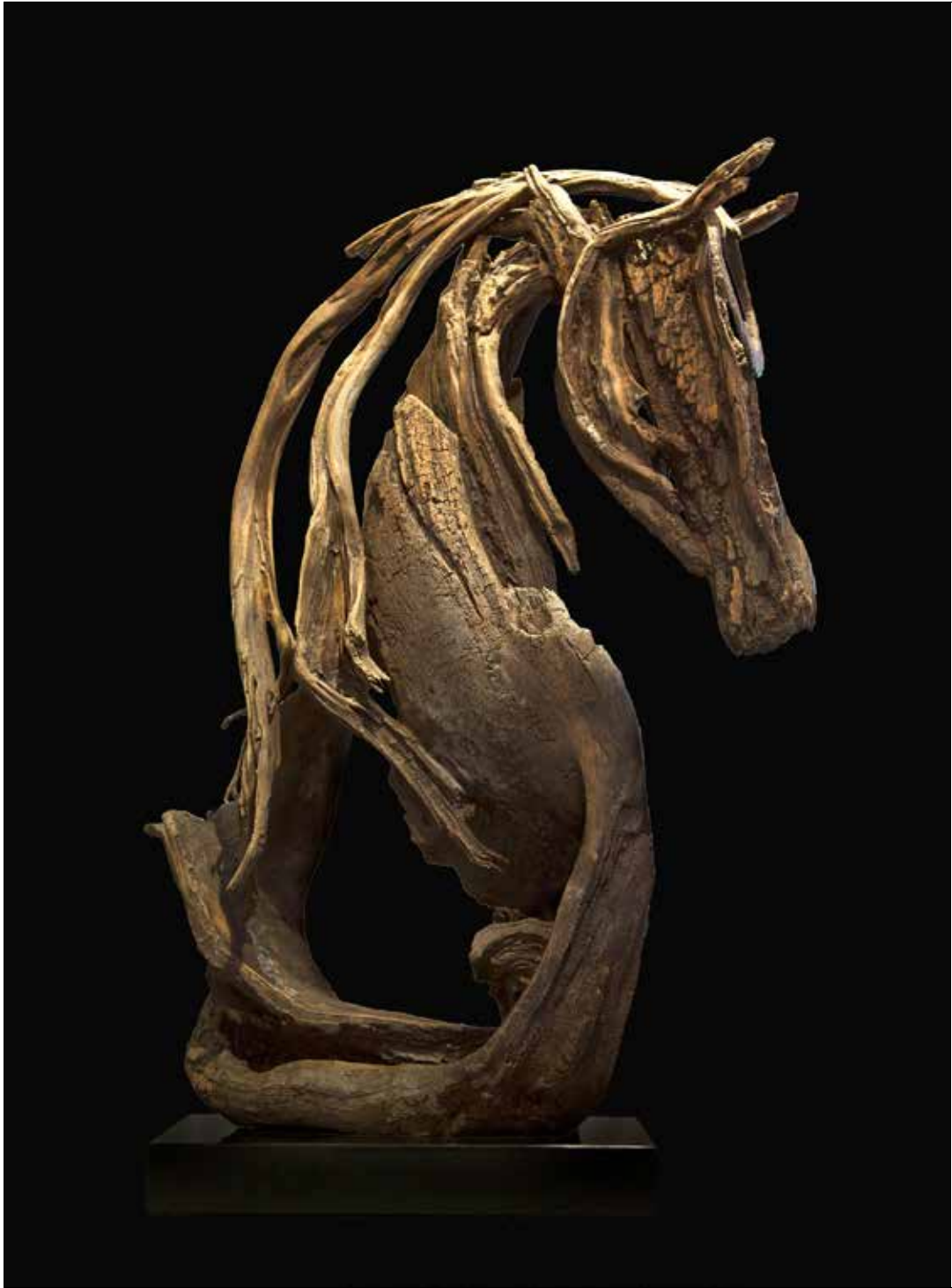
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Preview of all auction artwork at the Zoot Art Gallery beginning July 27th, with Closing Reception on August 8th



Artists from top, clockwise: Robert Krogle | *Standing Tall Against the Sky*; Sherry Salari Sander (NorthStar Award Winner, 2017) | *Late Fall*; Deb Schmit | *Messengers*; Pat Lambrecht-Hould | *Memories (detail)*; Nancy Dunlop Cawdrey | *A Little Slice of Heaven*; David Mensing | *Disseminative*



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Town Center
 Big Sky, Montana

“Dream Dancer”
 Brenna Tyler, Bronze, #11/15

Participants in WMPAC’s theater conservatory perform and lead community workshops

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – As has been the case for the dance and choral programs, the theater component of the Big Sky Conservatory culminates in a sneak preview of work developed during the residency program and offers a chance for the community to participate in free workshops led by top performing arts professionals. All of the events take place at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

On Saturday, Aug. 5, from 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Tony Award-winning Broadway actress Michele Pawk and actress/playwright Stephanie DiMaggio will lead an acting workshop for actors of all ages, abilities and experience that will include general games and warm up exercises followed by the creation of a short musical. Pawk will also discuss what it’s like to work to on Broadway and be a professional actor.

From 1-3 p.m., playwright Caroline McGraw and director Eddie Prunoske will lead a writer’s workshop with a focus on the playwriting process, and a practical lesson about how a play is taken from the page to the stage. Local writers are invited to bring writing samples to be critiqued and workshopped.

On Tuesday, Aug. 8, at 7 p.m. there will be a ticketed two-act event that will include scenes and original works created by the residency fellows, or paying participants, followed by a reading of a new play by McGraw, starring Pawk, that the troupe of New York theater professionals worked on while in Big Sky.

“That’s the whole conservatory,” said WMPAC Artistic Director John Zirkle. “We’re helping bring a new work to fruition, and the fellows get to be a part of that process.”

The hope is that McGraw’s as-of-yet unnamed play will follow suit with DiMaggio’s play “Levity,” which was developed during the inaugural Big



Tony Award-winning actress Michele Pawk will lead a free community theater workshop open to aspiring actors of all levels and experience on Saturday, Aug. 5 as part of the Big Sky Conservatory summer residency program. A separate workshop for playwrights will also be offered. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY.

Sky Conservatory two years ago, and will now see its world debut during WMPAC’s 2017/2018 winter season.

“Levity” will also be the first new, original play not only presented by, but also produced by the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

“Ideally we’ll have this cycle [where] the play is developed [here] and two years later it makes it into our winter season,” Zirkle said. “That’s the intention ideally—we incubate it, we premiere it, we present it and we produce it. ... That’s the whole vision of the performing arts center—present in the winter, create in the summer, inspire year-round.”

For more information about the Big Sky Conservatory visit bigskyconservatory.org. To purchase tickets visit warrenmillerpac.org.



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Comedian Paula Poundstone returns to The Ellen

Western film series continues through August

THE ELLEN THEATRE

Comedian Paula Poundstone returns to The Ellen Theatre on Friday, Aug. 11. Known for her casual style, smart, observational humor, and razor sharp improvisational wit, Poundstone comes to Bozeman fresh on the heels of the release of her new comedy-rich book, “The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness.”

Poundstone has been the star of several HBO specials and her own series on ABC and HBO. She is also on Comedy Central’s list of the 100 best standup comics of all time, and is an American Comedy Award-winner for best female standup comic. Poundstone can be heard regularly on NPR’s weekly comedy news quiz show “Wait, Wait...Don’t Tell Me!” The show begins at 8 p.m.

The Ellen hosts an Eclipse-a-rama concert featuring All-Star Acoustic Jam Band on Saturday, Aug. 19 at 8 p.m. The supergroup is comprised of musicians Darol Anger, Emy Phelps, Andy Reiner, Joy Adams and others. Angler, a fiddler, composer, producer and educator, is at home in a number of musical genres and has helped drive the evolution of the contemporary string band through his involvement with numerous groundbreaking ensembles. Today, Anger can be heard playing the theme music for NPR’s “Car Talk” program every week, along with Earl Scruggs, David Grisman and Tony Rice.

The Ellen’s Summer Western Series continues with weekly screenings of cowboy classics. August screenings include “The Outlaw Josey Wales”



Comedian Paula Poundstone returns to The Ellen on Aug. 11. Later in the month, The Ellen hosts a special eclipse concert by All-Star Acoustic Jam Band as well as its weekly Cowboy Classics film screenings. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ELLEN THEATRE

starring Clint Eastwood on Aug. 2; “High Noon” starring Gary Cooper on Aug. 9; and “How the West was Won” featuring an all-star cast on Aug. 16. Screenings begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets and a complete schedule of events are available online at theellentheatre.com. For more information or to purchase tickets over the phone, call The Ellen box office at (406) 585-5885.

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PBR weekend brings out record crowds

DOUG HARE
EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – “Big Sky’s Biggest Week” lived up to its billing once again this year. From July 26-29, the sometimes sleepy Town Center of Big Sky came alive, as the four-day extravaganza of events brought nearly 15,000 people in total attendance. The main draw, the Big Sky PBR, is the top-paying touring pro bull riding stop with prize and sponsorship money totaling nearly \$80,000 for the 40 cowboys who competed.

The sold-out, four-time PBR Event of the Year drew visitors from around the country, with trailheads overflowing for the week and many local business owners saying that this was the most profitable week of the year for them.

Tickets sold to attendees from 41 different states with an estimated media coverage of 20-million-plus Facebook and Instagram views. The event raised a record of more than \$115,000 for local charities highlighted by checks to Big Sky Rotary Club and Montana Land Reliance.

“The Big Sky PBR is not only incredibly fun and successful, the event has been very generous to charities around Big Sky,” said Jessie Wiese, the southwest manager of Montana Land Reliance. “We’ll use the funding to secure land conservation projects in and around Big Sky, protecting wildlife habitat, scenic beauty and streamfront.”



A charity golf tournament at The Reserve at Moonlight Basin helped raise \$50,000 for the Rider Relief Fund during the week. PHOTO BY LIAM KESHISHIAN

The festivities kicked off with a charity golf tournament at The Reserve at Moonlight Basin that helped raise \$50,000 for the Rider Relief Fund during the week, which included \$8,000 donated from Big Sky PBR event producers Eric Ladd and Jim Murphy. “We are so appreciative of the outpouring of support from the community of Big Sky,” said Jill vanEgmond, director of fund development for Rider Relief Fund. “Big Sky PBR week was a record-setting event for us with a sold out golf tournament and the generosity of those who made purchases during our live auction.”

“This is hands down the best event we are a part of. From organization to execution it’s second to none,” she said.

Wednesday also included the inaugural community barn dance, called the Hometown Hoedown,



The inaugural Hometown Hoedown barn dance was a wholesome, multi-generational affair with live-calling and old timey music by the Beet Tops. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

with free dance lessons and fiddle music courtesy of the Beet Tops. “It has such a quaint, intergenerational feel. It’s nice to see kids and grandparents having fun on the same dance floor,” said Big Sky local Mona Lovely.

The next day saw a successful Big Sky Art Auction that sold more than \$300,000 worth of fine Western paintings and prints, followed by a Turnpike Troubadours concert that drew approximately 5,000 people, filling the lawn until the final notes of a lengthy encore set.

“I’d say it was the biggest concert we’ve ever had in Town Center Park,” said Brian Hurlbut, executive director of the Arts Council of Big Sky. “The band did exactly what we hoped—their high-energy show blew the roof off the venue and set the stage for a great PBR weekend.”

Three thousand attendees witnessed the first night of bull riding action, and 15 riders hit the eight-second mark. “The crowd was electric,” said Freestone Productions’ Jacey Watson, who along with her husband Andy puts on PBR events across the country. “It was really great to see so many cowboys ride. It doesn’t happen so often, but in Big Sky it happens a lot. [I think it’s] the fresh mountain air and the good Montana vibes.”

The first night ended with a James McMurtry concert, and a number of fans stayed through a light rain to take in McMurtry’s lively rendition of Neil Young’s “Too Long in the Wasteland.”

The second night of bull riding kicked off with Jamie McLean’s electric guitar version of “The Star Spangled Banner” and a flag ceremony with local businesses and firefighters representing the community. Even with



The second annual Big Sky Art Auction sold more than \$300,000 worth of art and was followed by a Turnpike Troubadours that saw record attendance. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD



Three thousand attendees witnessed the first night of bull riding action, during which 15 riders hit the eight-second mark. PHOTO BY SYDNEY MACDONALD

the impressive bull riding that took place over the weekend, for some, the mutton bustin' competition is the highlight of either night, as children cling to wily sheep for a shot at glory.

In the final round of bull riding, no riders were able to make it to eight seconds. "It's not that uncommon," said Watson, who keeps close tabs on riders' performances in her role with Freestone Productions. "A lot of times in the Built Ford Tough Series we see maybe one or two bulls rode on a championship round. Obviously, the bulls outperformed the cowboys [in the last round]. It is the luck of the draw."



For many, the mutton bustin' competition is the highlight of both nights, as children cling to wily sheep for a shot at glory. PHOTO BY MIKE CHILCOAT

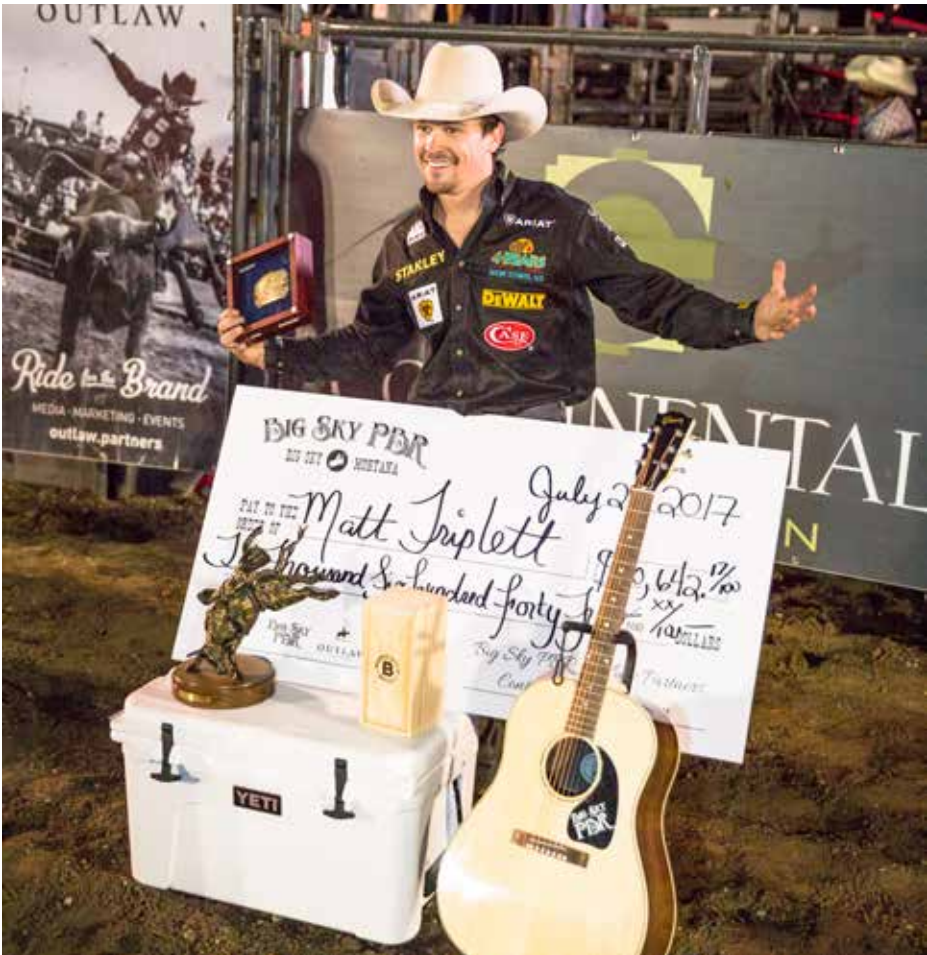
Columbia Falls, Montana-native Matt Triplett, who's currently ranked No. 7 in the world, took home first place, with Cody Teel and Volborg, Montana-native Jess Lockwood taking home second and third respectively. "I just want to thank all the fans and all the people that put so much work into this to make this event so awesome," Triplett said.

Immediately following the prize ceremony, the Jamie McLean Band took the stage as the crowd filtered out into a July night, spruce moths encircling the still bright arena lights. The band played late into the night, with the concert culminating in a surprise fireworks show. McLean, who played at PBR two years ago, said, "This year definitely felt bigger and better. We just hope to be back." The lead singer also hiked Lone Mountain over the weekend and attended both nights of bull riding.

"To watch these guys get thrown around was pretty nuts. It makes me feel pretty lucky to be a professional musician. Just being close to the animals, I can't imagine riding one of them," he added.

"I think the event turned out wonderfully. We had some nice little rain showers to settle the dust and we had wonderful evenings. The Big Sky arena is incredibly romantic. It's a quintessential setting and you can't replicate it," Watson said. "How wonderful was it to crown a Montana boy at a Montana event?"

"It's nice to see Big Sky come alive," said Tom Simkins, co-owner of Simkins-Hallin Lumber, a major sponsor of the event. "We've had a vision of a vibrant, bustling downtown for a while now. It was fun to see enough people to make that vision a reality." The Simkins family owns much of Big Sky Town Center and each summer allows their land to be used for the venue and looks forward to future PBR weekends.



Montana-native Matt Triplett, who's currently ranked No. 7 in the world, took home first place and a check for \$10,642. Cody Teel and Montana-native Jess Lockwood won second and third place respectively. PHOTO BY MIKE CHILCOAT

When asked why Big Sky PBR event has won Event of the Year four years in a row, Watson is quick to point out that it's voted on by the riders. "A lot of common comments that I got from the cowboys [highlighted] how welcomed they felt in Big Sky ... Big Sky should pat themselves on the back and know that it is a great place to come visit for everyone. It goes a really long way for those cowboys to have the extra support of people paying their way to experience Big Sky."

Buy your tickets early next year—this year's two nights of bull riding sold out in less than 24 hours.



Jamie McLean Band closed out Big Sky's Biggest Week with a rockin' show that culminated in a surprise fireworks display that lit up the late July night. PHOTO BY MIKE CHILCOAT

Bozeman Film Society presents new screening of ‘Beatriz at Dinner’

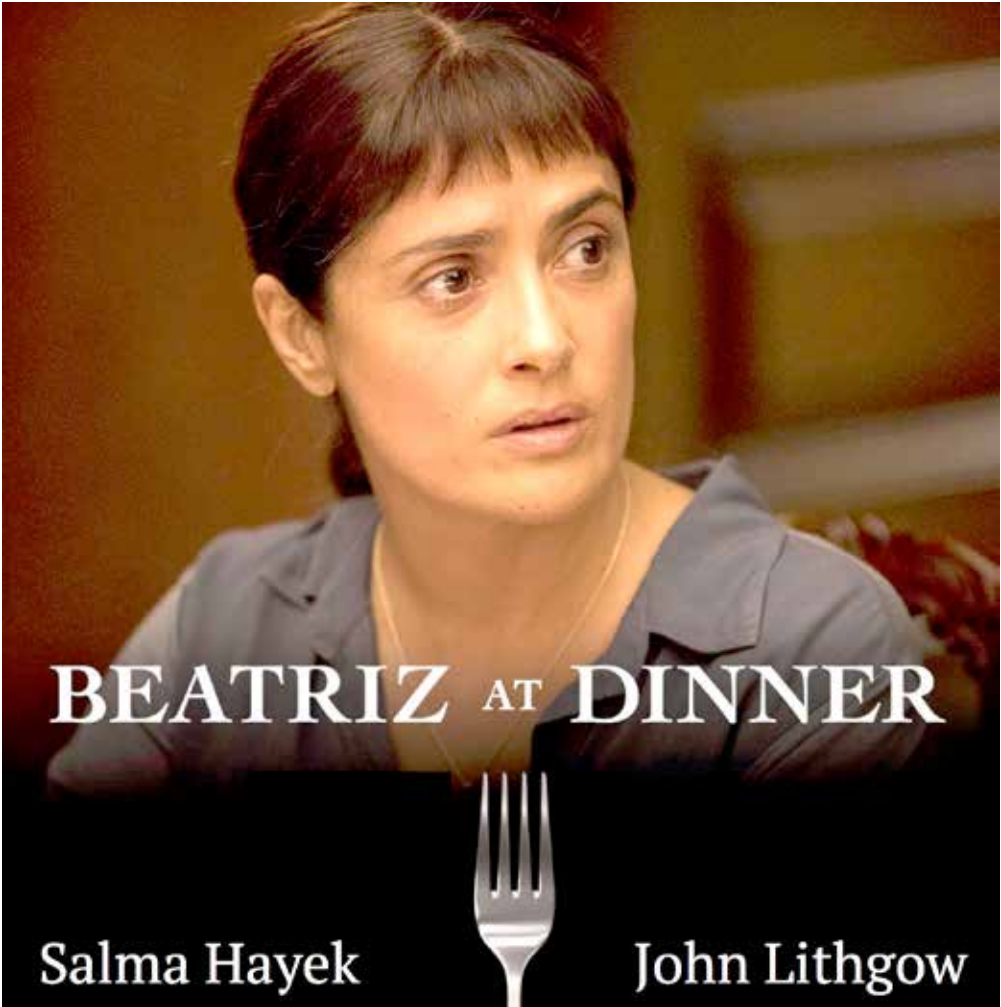
BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

On Thursday, Aug. 10 at 7:30 p.m. the Bozeman Film Society presents a screening of the critically acclaimed new release “Beatriz at Dinner” at The Ellen Theatre.

Starring Salma Hayek, “Beatriz at Dinner” is a social commentary about a Los Angeles massage therapist and holistic healer who drives to the seaside mansion of her client, Cathy. When her old Volkswagen breaks down, she receives an invitation from Cathy to stay for a seemingly innocuous business dinner. What ensues is an awkward evening that only gets weirder when Beatriz, emboldened by several glasses of wine, confronts the assembled guests with their unexamined privilege—in particular the aptly named Strutt, played by John Lithgow, and his predatory pursuit of wealth and comfort.

Rolling Stone film critic Peter Travers said that “Salma Hayek gives the performance of her career in this stealth weapon of a comedy from director Miguel Arteta and screenwriter Mike White.” Rated R, the film runs 83 minutes.

Tickets are available online at tbellentheatre.com, or in person at the box office located at 117 W. Main St. in Bozeman. The Ellen Theatre lobby opens at 6:30 p.m. for concession and bar. Seating begins at 7 p.m., and showtime is at 7:30 p.m.



Actress Salma Hayek has received praise for her starring role in “Beatriz at Dinner,” a new release screening at The Ellen Theatre on Thursday, Aug. 10. PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

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LOT 60, LOOKING GLASS ROAD, MEADOW VILLAGE
Beautiful, flat .3 acre homesite * Looking Glass neighborhood of Meadow Village* Beautiful views to the Spanish Peaks and Lone Mountain* Sewer & Water District* Ideal location close to Town Center amenities. * \$275,000 * MLS 300099

LOT 46, LONE WALKER ROAD
Beautiful, large .5 acre lot * Heart of Big Sky's Meadow Village * Elevated corner lot in “Looking Glass” * Easy walk to Town Center * \$299,950 * MLS 220254



NORTH FORK ROAD, LOT 8 – TRIPLE TRIANGLE RANCH
Stunning 20 acres with Lone Mountain Views * Driveway and all utilities in place * 12,000-gallon fire suppression tank on lot * Ideal location for cross country skiing, mountain biking and nature hikes * Paved, private access road * Easy access to meadow, mountain and Lone Mountain Ranch. * \$1,300,000 * MLS 301292



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Targhee Bluegrass celebrates 30 years

EBS STAFF

The Targhee Bluegrass Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary Aug. 11-13 with three full days of bluegrass music and dancing in the alpine setting of Alta, Wyoming’s Grand Targhee Resort.

Since its inception in 1988, Targhee Bluegrass has become known as the granddaddy of bluegrass festivals in the Northern Rockies, repeatedly drawing the biggest names in bluegrass music from the old timers to the hottest new acts on the scene.

This year’s lineup boasts a variety of bluegrass musicians, from traditional pickers such as the Del McCoury Band, Darol Anger, Peter Rowan and Sam Bush to contemporary acts and fast up-and-comers like The Infamous Stringdusters, Railroad Earth, Sierra Hull and Mandolin Orange.

Targhee Bluegrass Festival has been a mainstay for bluegrass aficionados for over two generations because of this reputation for stage appearances and spontaneous jam sessions by artists and performers that span the bluegrass genre spectrum.



Settle in for three days of traditional and contemporary bluegrass music and jamming at the “granddaddy” of bluegrass festivals held Aug. 11-13 at Grand Targhee Resort in Alta, Wyoming.

During the week leading up to the festival, many of the stage performers and artists play host to a very unique camp and music teaching experience by attending the Targhee Music Camp, which is sold-out.



Targhee Bluegrass fest celebrates its 30th anniversary with a lineup that includes traditional pickers such as the Del McCoury Band, Darol Anger, Peter Rowan and Sam Bush to contemporary acts like The Infamous Stringdusters, Railroad Earth, Sierra Hull and Mandolin Orange. PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRAND TARGHEE RESORT

With music as the common language, this camp focuses on individual instrumental skills, group playing, singing and jamming. Each day features morning and afternoon classes with your chosen instrument, elective workshops, jam sessions (both structured and unstructured) and evening performances—meant to add up to a jam-packed and inspiring experience.

Classes are generally geared toward intermediate players, and some degree of proficiency is expected. (Please contact Thomas Sneed if you have questions about your ability level). Students of all ages are welcome, however, students 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

For a complete schedule of events or to purchase tickets visit grandtarghee.com/summer-music-festivals/bluegrass-festival.



Photo by Matthew Millman

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EVENTS CALENDAR

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

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 4-
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17**

***If your event falls between
August 18 and August 31,
please submit it by August 10.**

Big Sky

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4
Customer Appreciation Event
Big Sky Western Bank, 11 a.m.

Fish Fry
BYWOM, all evening

Liv Ladies AllRide
Big Sky Resort, 5:30 p.m.

Quenby and West of Wayland
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
Liv Ladies AllRide
Big Sky Resort, all day

**Plein Aire Painting Workshop
with Michael Ome Untiedt
Ophir Elementary School,
all day**

**Silk Painting Workshop with
Nancy and Morgan Cawdrey
Ophir Elementary School,
all day**

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

Hawaiian Open
Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 1 p.m.

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

Double Barrel
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
Liv Ladies AllRide
Big Sky Resort, all day

**Plein Aire Painting Workshop
with Michael Ome Untiedt
Ophir Elementary School,
all day**

**Silk Painting Workshop with
Nancy and Morgan Cawdrey
Ophir Elementary School,
all day**

Wyatt Hurts
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7
Community Yoga For A Cause
Town Center Stage, 11 a.m.

Monday Funday
320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Wyatt Hurts
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8
Big Sky Chamber Board Meeting
Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 a.m.

Women's Weekly Golf Clinic
Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m.
and 5:30 p.m.

Top Shelf Toastmasters
Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m.

Wine Tuesdays
Caribiner, all evening

Big Sky Theater Workshop Performance
WMPAC, 7 p.m.

Brian Sumpf
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9
Trails Committee Meeting
BSCO Office, 2 p.m.

BBQ and Wagon Rides
320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Farmers' Market
Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

Lone Peak Anime Club
Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10
Music in the Mountains: Deadphish
Orchestra
Town Center Stage, 7 p.m.

Mathias
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

Salamanders
Lotus Pad, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11
Wilderness Walk
Swan Creek, all day

Big Sky Classical Music Festival: Mary
Elizabeth Bowden
WMPAC, 7:30 p.m.

Fools Gold
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
Wilderness Walk
Gallatin Range, all day

**Big Sky Artisan Festival
Meadow Village Shopping
Center, all day**

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

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

Big Sky Classical Music Festival:
Mambo Kings
Town Center Stage, 6 p.m.

StayKation
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

Beginners Kundalini Yoga & Meditation
Santosha, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13
Lone Peak's Revenge Enduro
Big Sky Resort, all day

**Big Sky Artisan Festival
Meadow Village Shopping
Center, all day**

Big Sky Classical Music Festival: Big
Sky Festival Orchestra
Town Center Stage, 5 p.m.

Wyatt Hurts
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14
Community Yoga For A Cause
Town Center Stage, 11 a.m.

Monday Funday
320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Wyatt Hurts
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15
Historic Crail Ranch Hike & Learn
Crail Ranch, 10 a.m.

Women's Weekly Golf Clinic
Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m.
and 5:30 p.m.

Top Shelf Toastmasters
Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m.

Wine Tuesdays
Caribiner, all evening

**Meadow Garden Tour by
Bike
Big Sky Landscaping Gar-
den Center, 5:30 p.m.**

Brian Stumpf
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16
Natural Resource Council Committee
Meeting
BSCO Office, 9 a.m.

BBQ and Wagon Rides
320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Farmers' Market
Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

Lone Peak Anime Club
Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
Visit Big Sky Board Meeting
Town Center Conference Room, 8:30 a.m.

Vine & Dine
Big Sky Resort, all evening

Business After Hours
Trove West, 5 p.m.

Music in the Mountains: Andy Frasco
and the U.N.
Town Center Stage, 7 p.m.

In Walks Bud
Lotus Pad, 10 p.m.

Bozeman

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4
Leading with Creativity
Baxter Hotel, 8:15 a.m.

**Sweet Pea Festival
Aug. 4-6**

Shakespeare in the Parks: Macbeth
Lindley Park, 3:45 p.m.

The Quebe Sisters
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
SLAM Festival
Bogert Park, all day

Charged
Ellen Theatre, 5:30 and 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
SLAM Festival
Bogert Park, all day

Ecosystem talks: Raptors and the
Prairie
Montana Raptor Conservation Center, 3 p.m.

Shakespeare in the Parks: You Never
Can Tell
Lindley Park, 5 p.m.

Bridger Creek Boys
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.
R.L. Hayden
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7
Silversmiths Mine
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8
Mike & Mike
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

The Dirty River Boys
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9
Comedy Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Ivan Doig: Prairie Nocturne
Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

High Noon
Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Kelsey Waldon
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10
Summer Pool Party
Bozeman Hot Springs, 6:30 p.m.

Bozeman Stampede Rodeo
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.

Beatriz at Dinner
Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Jack Ingram
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11
Gallatin Art Crossing reception
The Emerson, 5:30 p.m.

**Art Walk
Downtown, 6 p.m.**

Bozeman Stampede Rodeo
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.

Paula Poundstone
Ellen Theatre, 8 p.m.

The Commonheart
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
Young Explorers Program
Gallatin History Museum, 11 a.m.

**GVLt Evening on the Land
Bridger Canyon, 5:30 p.m.**

Joe Man
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Bozeman Stampede Rodeo
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13
MRCC Open House
Montana Raptor Conservation Center,
3 p.m.

Slim Pickings
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14
Jim Averitt
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15
Tails & Trails Dog Hikes
Dee-O-Gee, 6 p.m.

Small Fruits and Berries for Your Home
600 W. Kagy Blvd., 6 p.m.

Dusty Pockets
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

MeatEater Podcast
Ellen Theatre, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16
How the West Was Won
Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
Becoming Chinese in Montana
Hager Auditorium, Museum of the
Rockies, 6 p.m.

Art on the Rocks
Emerson Cultural Center, 6:30 p.m.

Erin & The Project
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Uncle Lucius
Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS:
Bridger Mountain Big Band
Eagles Lodge, Sundays at 7 p.m.

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

Mobile Mondays
Emerson Cultural Center, Mondays at
11 a.m.

Bogert Farmers' Market
Bogert Park, Tuesdays at 5 p.m.

Cribbage Night
Eagles Lodge, Tuesdays at 6:25 p.m.

Bingo
Rocking R Bar, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Old Time Bluegrass
Pub 317, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Karaoke
Bar IX, Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

Lunch on the Lawn
Emerson Cultural Center, Wednesdays
at 11:30 a.m.

Bozeman's Original Pub Trivia
Pub 317, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Trivia Night
Rocking R Bar, Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

Bluegrass Night
Red Tractor Pizza, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Music on Main
Downtown, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

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

Bingo
Eagles Lodge, Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, Fridays at 7 p.m.

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market
Haynes Pavilion, Gallatin County
Fairgrounds, Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Livingston & Paradise Valley

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

2017 Fly Fishing Fair
Park High School, all day

Montana Manouche
Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Jason Eady
Old Saloon, Emigrant, 8 p.m.

Intermountain Opera Bozeman
Dulcie Theatre, 8 p.m.

Montana Deluxe
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Groovewax
Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

2017 Fly Fishing Fair
Park High School, all day

Dan Henry
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Livingston Classic PBR
Park County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.

Stolen Rhodes
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Quenby & West of Wayland Band
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Groovewax
Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
Montucky Fest
Old Saloon, Emigrant, 2 p.m.

Studebaker John
Chico Saloon, 6 p.m.

Leif Christian
Pine Creek Lodge, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7
Travis Hayes
Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8
Thomas McNamee Book Reading
Elk River Books, 7 p.m.

Old Sap
Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9
Livingston Farmers' Market
Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

Larry Myer
Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

The Old 97's
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10
Travis Yost
Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

The Lonely Heartstring Band
Music Ranch Montana, 7:30 p.m.

Rootz Within
Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

The Vandoliers
Old Saloon, Emigrant, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11
Erin & The Project
Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.
Country Dance
Music Ranch Montana, 7:30 p.m.

Tom Catmull's Last Resort
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Hector Anchondo Band
Chico Saloon, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
Ian Thomas
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

The Whiskey Gentry
Old Saloon, Emigrant, 8 p.m.

Slim Pickins Bluegrass
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13
Edible Bikeable Garden Tour
Multiple locations, 11 a.m.

Slim Pickins
Pine Creek Lodge, 1 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14
Eryn Bent
Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16
Livingston Farmers' Market
Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

Sean Eamon
Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

Rain City Ramblers
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
Denny Earnest
Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Corb Lund
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Redhead Express
Music Ranch Montana, 7:30 p.m.

Rain City Ramblers
Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

West Yellowstone

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

Annual Rod Run Car Show
Downtown, all day

Cowboy Mounted Shooting
Diamond P Ranch, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

Annual Rod Run Car Show
Downtown, all day

Cowboy Mounted Shooting
Diamond P Ranch, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day
Cowboy Mounted Shooting
Diamond P Ranch, all day

MONDAY, AUGUST 7
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

Trappers: A Musical Adventure
Yellowstone Historic Center & Museum,
7:30 p.m.

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

The Spirit of Flyfishing: A Photographic
Journey Opening Reception
West Yellowstone Public Library, 6 p.m.

Trappers: A Musical Adventure
Yellowstone Historic Center & Museum,
7:30 p.m.

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Jimmy Smith System
Wild West Pizzeria, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Solidarity Service
Wild West Pizzeria, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

Wilderness Walk
Cabin Creek, all day

Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Misfit Moonshiners
Wild West Pizzeria, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13
Smoking Waters Mountain Man
Rendezvous
West of town, all day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16
Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
Highway 20, 8 p.m.

Fish Camp Boys
Wild West Pizzeria, 9 p.m.

Ennis

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4
Cory Johnson
Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Dan Henry
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
Farm Dinner
Rainbow Valley Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

Erin & The Project
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Christy Hays
Gravel Bar, 9:30 p.m.

Karaoke
Bale of Hay Saloon, Virginia City, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
Bale Beer Fest
Virginia City, all afternoon

Fan Mountain Frog Dogs
Willie's Distillery, 2 p.m.

Mathias
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9
Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market
Ennis High School, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11
Shirley Anderson Sylvester Artist
Reception
Elling House, Virginia City, 5:30 p.m.

Left for Dead
Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Aran Buzzas
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Willson & McKee
Elling House, Virginia City, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12
Madison Valley Arts Festival
Peter T's Park, all day

Christy Hays
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Larry Gibson
Bale of Hay Saloon, Virginia City, 9:30 p.m.

Che Zuro
Gravel Bar, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13
Che Zuro
Willie's Distillery, 2 p.m.

Neil Filo Beddow
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16
Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market
Ennis High School, 4 p.m.

Arts Council of Big Sky
Painting
Workshops
August 5 & 6
Ophir School

Gallatin Art
Crossing
reception
August 11
The Emerson in Bozeman
5:30 p.m.

Big Sky
Classical
Music Festival
August 11-13
Big Sky, location varies

Big Sky
Resort's
Vine and Dine
August 17-19
Location varies

Big Sky Classical Music Festival

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**Mary Bowden,
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AUG. 12

Mambo Kings

Saturday | 6:00 p.m.
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Free concert, family friendly & food vendors

AUG. 13

Big Sky Festival Orchestra
*featuring soloists Mary Bowden and Angella Ahn
under the direction of Maestro Peter Bay*

Sunday | 5:00 p.m.
Center Stage at Town Center Park

Free concert, family friendly & food vendors



bigskyarts.org

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DeadPhish Orchestra returns to Big Sky for another night of jam-band favorites

EBS STAFF

Expect a night of jammy grooves when the DeadPhish Orchestra returns to Big Sky for a Music in the Mountains concert on Thursday, Aug. 10 at Center Stage in Town Center Park.

Grateful Dead and Phish “phans” are nothing if not loyal, and when they can’t get the real thing, a top notch tribute band is the next best thing. Boulder, Colorado-based DeadPhish Orchestra has created a name for itself among that fan base since the quartet began playing together many years ago.

The group had played Grateful Dead songs together, and they had played Phish songs together, but they started to wonder what would happen if they tried to merge the music of the two bands that gave rise to the jamband music scene.

While these two bands have their surface similarities, most fans realize that their actual musical styles are quite different. The Grateful Dead are an earthy, folky, bluesy band where Phish is sharper around the edges–funky and more aggressive. But both bands have an improvisational approach to their live shows, and it is the magic that can arise in that spontaneity that DPO strives to emulate, and according to fans do a good job of it. that is just about as much fun as humans are allowed to have.

DeadPhish Orchestra has sense become known for their unique presentation of a seamless web of sound that distinguishes them from a typical tribute act. Seeing their band and fellow professional musicians as a big group of good friends, they have also toured nationally with projects like Phix and Great American Taxi.

“We rarely bring bands back from the previous season,” notes Arts Council Executive Director Brian Hurlbut, “but last year the band had such a positive



Experience a seamless, jammy blend of Grateful Dead and Phish favorites when DeadPhish Orchestra take Center Stage in Town Center Park on Thursday, Aug. 10. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY.

response and their show was simply amazing, so we’re bringing them back again this year. The band loved the Big Sky audience, too.”

Town Center Park opens at 6 p.m. with music starting at 7 p.m. Food and beverage vendors will be available. The Arts Council of Big Sky asks that attendees leave pets and glass containers at home. For more information on the concert series visit bigskyarts.org.

Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



Welcome to the last hoorah for summer vacationers in Big Sky! Towards the end of August river traffic will reduce considerably and the anglers that are still around will be more spread out.

This time of year most of our aquatic insects have hatched, so we start to rely more heavily on terrestrials like hoppers and ants, streamers and small nymphs. Mid August often brings storms, which will help to cool down our rivers after a hot summer.

Many fish on the Gallatin have moved into faster, more oxygenated water and most of their dietary needs will be met with small nymphs with the

occasional terrestrial or small fish. This is a great time to toss big hoppers in fast water. Sometimes making them twitch will be more enticing than a still presentation. There will be some sporadic hatches of caddis and mayflies, but they are often very location specific and short lived. If the hopper bite isn’t working for you try small attractors, ants, etc. Subsurface try two small nymphs or a smaller streamer with a small nymph dropper.

The Yellowstone has been in great shape this year and we’re hoping that will continue through the rest of the summer. Hoppers, nocturnal stones, ants and other sporadic hatches are on the menu. Try big dries with long droppers or dead-drifting a streamer or Pat’s Rubber Legs with a smaller nymph dropper.

This is a great time of year to track down a small creek in Yellowstone Park or hike to a high mountain lake in search of cutthroat or grayling. Lamar, Soda Butte and Slough Creek in the northeast corner of the park all make great day trips and can offer some great dry fly fishing this time of year. From Big Sky you have a long drive to get there, but the reward can be great. We recommend getting an early start to beat some of the traffic.

The upper Madison is always a reliable option, but is seeing some higher than normal water temperatures due to the way water is being released out of Hebgen dam. Hopefully by mid August temperatures have started to cool down and the river is back to its normal self. Techniques will be similar to the Gallatin, but Madison fish are sometimes a little tougher to get to the surface.

Have fun out there and be courteous to your fellow river users. Also, trout have been handled more than their fair share this summer and need to be handled with care. Minimize how much you handle them, keep them in the water and release them as quickly and gently as possible.

Bloom’s Stealth Ant



Conehead Woolly Bugger



Morrish Hopper



Rainbow Warrior



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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William Finnegan: Wave Rider

BY DOUG HARE
EBS STAFF

Surf fiction doesn't immediately conjure up thoughts of great literature. Of course, there is some good writing about the beautiful addiction to riding waves and the allure of the ocean's ebb and flow. Allan Weisbecker's "In Search of Captain Zero" and his tales of Central American adventures rival anything Hunter S. Thompson ever wrote. Then there is Kem Nunn's classic "Tapping the Source," which captured the seedy underbelly of Huntington Beach surf culture in the '80s and inspired the movie "Point Break." One of Australia's most celebrated writers, Tim Winton, also penned a classic coming-of-age surf story, "Breathe," almost a decade ago.

As far as nonfiction about surfing, one writer stands head and shoulders above the rest. Sure, Mark Twain and Jack London both wrote about surfing Hawaii's Waikiki in the early 1900s, but their memoirs don't hold a candle to what William Finnegan accomplished with "Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life," winner of a 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Biography.

In 1992, Finnegan, a longtime war correspondent, published a two-part article in The New Yorker called "Playing Doc's Games" which was instantly recognized for its eloquent authenticity, among both surf bums and the literati. Some 25 years later, he writes with even greater precision and critical distance from the overly-mythologized sport.

For Finnegan, chasing waves is in one sense a noble, ascetic practice which rejects conventional notions of achievement and questions standard obligations of duty. At other times, he feels more conflicted: "Being rich white American kids in dirt-poor places where many people, especially the young, yearned openly for the life, the comforts, the very opportunities that we, at least for the seemingly endless moment, turned our backs on—well, it would simply never be O.K."

Finnegan's "Barbarian Days" recounts growing up in the '50s and '60s in southern California and Hawaii catching waves and getting into fistfights. As he grows up, becomes a journalist, has a family and explores far-flung locales, his love for surfing outlasts the adolescent-rebellion phase, but his innocent passion for the activity doesn't blind him to the problematic aspects of his pursuits.

Here is a book best read on a beach. It will be awhile before anyone writes about the mysterious cult of surfers with such evocative simplicity and clear-headed reflection. Whether Finnegan is detailing the friendships he has made riding big waves, his close-calls with drowning, or his travels around the globe searching for the perfect break, "Barbarian Days" lays the gifts of Poseidon bare for all to see.

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

Between the Shelves

BY AMY HUNTER
ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

What are your thoughts on young adult fiction? Please don't stop reading. Young adult fiction is a great window into how the teenagers in our lives may be feeling or the things they are experiencing. Even if it's not necessarily therapeutic to remember our own adolescences, it can help us develop empathy for a younger generation. It's also very entertaining and a little less "mature" (read: explicit, content-wise) for those who don't relish the details and descriptions of some adult books.

The Big Sky Community Library has some great young adult books. For those on the younger side of the reader spectrum, we have "Forever, or a Long, Long Time" by Caela Carter, "Mrs. Smith's Spy School for Girls" by Beth McMullen, and "The Ethan I Was Before" by Ali Standish. These books are all in our young adult, or YA, section. For our older readers, high school and beyond, we have "Once and for All" by Sarah Dessen and "The Girl in the Blue Coat" by Monica Hesse. These books are in the adult fiction section with a red sticker on the spine. When you come to the library, ask the librarian for assistance.



CLEAN.

Remove mud, water, and vegetation from your gear and clean with water and a stiff brush. There is no need for chemicals.

DRAIN.

Drain any water from your equipment (including bait buckets) at your access point. Use a sponge for items that can't be drained.

DRY.

Dry your equipment thoroughly. The longer you keep your waders and other equipment outside and in the hot sun between trips, the better.

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