

Explore™

Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

FREE

Big Sky

Aug. 14 - 27, 2020
Volume 11 // Issue #17

***Big Sky goes back
to school***

Teacher housing:
A community effort

Photos from the clouds

Daws paints in a world of color

**Inside the detective work of
contact tracers**



OUTLAW
PARTNERS

explorebigsky.com



OUTLAW PARTNERS

Aug. 14 - 27, 2020

Volume 11, Issue No. 17

Owned and published in Big Sky, Montana

PUBLISHER

Eric Ladd | eric@theoutlawpartners.com

EDITORIAL

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, VP MEDIA

Joseph T. O'Connor | joe@theoutlawpartners.com

LOCAL EDITOR

Brandon Walker | brandon@theoutlawpartners.com

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT EDITOR

Bella Butler | bella@theoutlawpartners.com

NEW MEDIA LEAD

Mira Brody | mira@theoutlawpartners.com

CREATIVE

LEAD DESIGNER

Marisa Opheim | marisa@theoutlawpartners.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

ME Brown | maryelizabeth@theoutlawpartners.com

SALES AND OPERATIONS

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Megan Paulson | megan@theoutlawpartners.com

VP, SALES AND MARKETING

EJ Daws | ej@theoutlawpartners.com

VP OF EVENTS

Ennion Williams | ennion@theoutlawpartners.com

MEDIA AND EVENTS DIRECTOR

Ersin Ozer | ersin@theoutlawpartners.com

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LEAD

Sam Brooks | sam@theoutlawpartners.com

CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER

Blythe Beaubien | blythe@theoutlawpartners.com

CONTROLLER, DISTRIBUTION DIRECTOR

Treston Wold | treston@theoutlawpartners.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Dave Marston, Tom Conway, Mark Wehrman, Al Malinowski, Linda Arnold, Scott Brown, Scott Mechura, Ted Kooser, Tyler Allen, Tom Marino, Chris Kamman, David Tucker, Kate Battaglia, Todd Wilkinson, Patrick Straub, Chris Boyer, Ryan Lunde, Samuel Orazem

ON THE COVER:

The Madison River winds through a golden valley beneath ominous cloud cover. The image was shot from Bozeman photographer and survey mapper Chris Boyer's Red Plane. PHOTO BY CHRIS BOYER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OPINION.....	4	SPORTS.....	33
LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS.....	6	HEALTH.....	36
LOCAL.....	8	BUSINESS.....	39
OP NEWS.....	13	DINING.....	45
ENVIRONMENT & OUTDOORS.....	17	FUN.....	47
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT.....	28		

8

Big Sky goes back to school

At an emergency school board meeting on the evening of Aug. 6, the Big Sky School District school board decided to partially send students into the classroom once again while also including a virtual learning element.

11

Teacher housing: A community effort

Since construction began on the Habitat for Humanity and Big Sky School District teacher housing project over a year ago, contractors have donated more than 500 hours and community members have contributed more than 1,000 hours of labor helping construct the two triplex housing units.

14

Photos from the clouds

Hundreds of feet in the air, in a 1956 Cessna 172 airplane the color of a candy apple, Chris Boyer uses photography and survey mapping to tell a deeper story about the land.

18

Daws paints in a world of color

Bozeman local Gina Daws, who only started painting last October, recently sold her piece "The Rambler," a striking portrait of a sow grizzly, at the Big Sky Art Auction. Her world is one of color and experience.

33

Inside the detective work of contact tracers

A Big Sky local tested positive for COVID-19 on June 17. Shortly after, contact tracers called and walked the patient through the process of recounting each social activity in the last 48 hours.

Opening Shot



Nothing beats a camping sunset. The Taylor Fork is a popular camping destination in the Custer Gallatin National Forest with beautiful views. PHOTO BY TUCKER HARRIS

EDITORIAL POLICIES

EDITORIAL POLICY

Outlaw Partners, LLC is the sole owner of Explore Big Sky. EBS reserves the right to edit all submitted material. Printed material reflects the opinion of the author and is not necessarily the opinion of Outlaw Partners or its editors. EBS will not publish anything discriminatory or in bad taste.

EBS welcomes obituaries written by family members or from funeral homes. To place an obituary, please submit 500 words or less to media@theoutlawpartners.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor allow EBS readers to express views and share how they would like to effect change. These are not Thank You notes. Letters should be 250 words or less, respectful, ethical, accurate, and proofread for grammar and content. We reserve the right to edit letters and will not publish individual grievances about specific businesses or letters that are abusive, malicious or potentially libelous. Include: full name, address, phone number and title. Submit to media@outlaw.partners.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

For the August 27, 2020 issue: August 19, 2020

CORRECTIONS

Please report errors to media@outlaw.partners.

OUTLAW PARTNERS & EXPLORE BIG SKY

P.O. Box 160250, Big Sky, MT 59716 (406) 995-2055 • media@outlaw.partners

© 2020 Explore Big Sky unauthorized reproduction prohibited

#explorebigsy

f explorebigsky

t explorebigsky

@explorebigsy

THE BIG SKY REAL ESTATE CO.

Martha Johnson
VP OF SALES
FOUNDING BROKER
MARTHA@BIGSKY.COM
406.580.5891



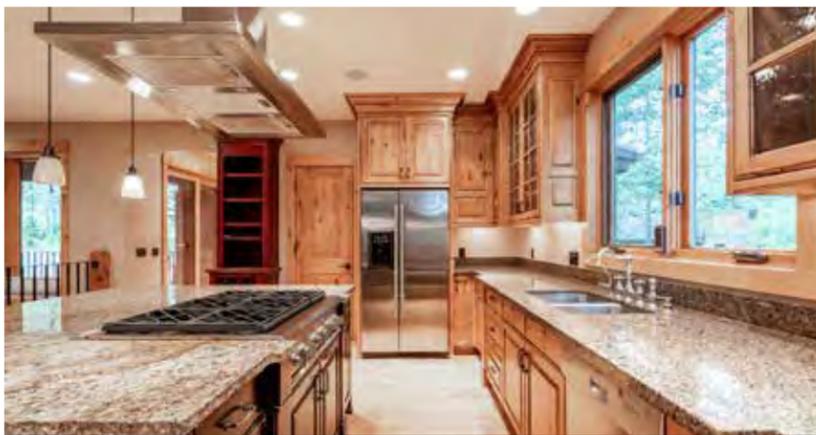
BRAND NEW CONSTRUCTION, READY NOW FOR OCCUPANCY

Moose Ridge Condos
BIG SKY TOWN CENTER
5 BED + 5.5 BATH | 3,885 +/- SQ. FT. | \$1,800,000



160 ACRES WITH TROUT PONDS

Great Point Lodge
MEADOW VILLAGE
8 BED + 10 BATH | 16,000 +/- SQ. FT. | \$25,000,000



FRESHLY PAINTED

334 Nordic Lane
ASPEN GROVES
5 BED + 5 BATH | 5,100 +/- SQ. FT. | \$1,895,000



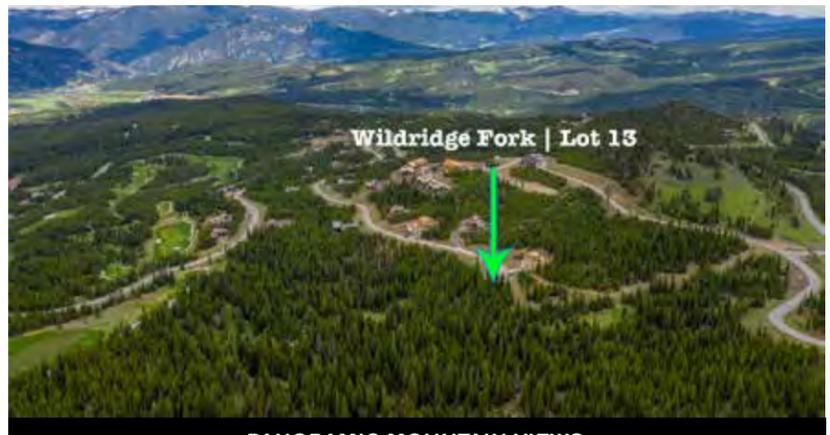
LARGE ACRE TRACTS

Gallatin Preserve
SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB
160 +/- ACRES | STARTING \$4,300,000



NEW CONSTRUCTION

Mountain Lake Phase 3
BIG SKY MOUNTAIN VILLAGE
2 - 4 BED + 3 - 4 BATH | 1,918 - 2,465 +/- SQ. FT. | \$959,500 - \$1,300,000
10% OFF LIST PRICE PRE-SELLING DISCOUNT



PANORAMIC MOUNTAIN VIEWS

Wildridge Lot 13
SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB
1.06 ACRES | \$699,000



BEST VIEWS IN BIG SKY

Inspiration Point
SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB
5 BED + 5.5 - 6 BATH | 4,275 +/- SQ. FT. | \$4,150,000 - \$4,350,000



SKI-IN/SKI-OUT PROPERTY

Highlands Neighborhood
SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB
3 - 6 BED + 3.5 - 5.5 BATH | 2,318 - 4,620 +/- SQ. FT. | STARTING FROM \$2,575,000

All information contained herein is derived from sources deemed reliable; however, the content contained herein is not guaranteed by Lone Mountain Land Company LLC or its affiliated or parent companies, subsidiaries, officers, managers, employees, agents, brokers or salesperson and none of the foregoing make any representations regarding the accuracy of such information. Any floorplans, square footage, photos, illustrations/renderings, maps, and features and amenities described herein are for illustrative purposes only and are subject to change without notice. Offerings are subject to error, omissions, prior sales, price changes or withdrawal without notice. Prospective purchasers are urged to independently investigate the property. No governmental agency has judged the merits or value, if any, of this property. This material shall not constitute an offer to sell in any state or jurisdiction where prior registration is required and shall not constitute a solicitation if you are working with another real estate agent. © 2020 The Big Sky Real Estate Co. All rights in and to the content are owned and controlled by The Big Sky Real Estate Co.





COVID-19 has crippled the airline and travel industries, but also allowed people to work remotely. How has COVID-19 impacted your travel plans or work since March?



Kenny Sim
Iowa City, Iowa

"I worked at Enterprise Rent-A-Car for about two years. With COVID-19, my position became unavailable, so I quit and within less than a week I moved out here to Big Sky with no plans really—just a plan to live in my car for a month and feel it out to see how I liked it. I found a roommate and two jobs within two weeks of being here. I already have plans of coming back to Big Sky full-time in the winter after I finish school!"



Arthur Bohleber
Seattle, Washington

"My wife and I both have the ability to work remotely. We have been traveling for the past month on a road trip across the country from Seattle to Illinois and back. This is our last stop, and honestly it has all been kind of a blessing in disguise."



David Furman
Brooklyn, New York

"So unfortunately, a lot of my summer travel plans were canceled. But fortunately, the companies in New York have been very flexible with remote working policies and the ability to use this time to pump the brakes and not subscribe to a brutal corporate environment all the time. It's been nice to be able to come out to Big Sky and tie that into a road trip with some friends from other parts of the country."



Donna Glenn
Memphis, Tennessee

"This is our first trip on an airplane since March so air travel has definitely been impacted. We decided we would go somewhere really far away and beautiful where we could get back to nature. We actually feel kind of back to being normal now because Montana isn't as much of a high-risk place like Tennessee or Florida. Actually, traveling on the airline was a breeze, and the airlines are doing a great job; we felt very safe."

STACY OSSORIO

Broker, Private Office Advisor
406-539-8553

stacyossorio.evrealstate.com
stacy.ossorio@evrealstate.com



ENGEL & VÖLKERS
— PRIVATE OFFICE —



Crail Creek Condo 630 | \$1,025,000 | MLS# 346131



Montana Club Lot 3 | \$1,250,000 | MLS# 346985

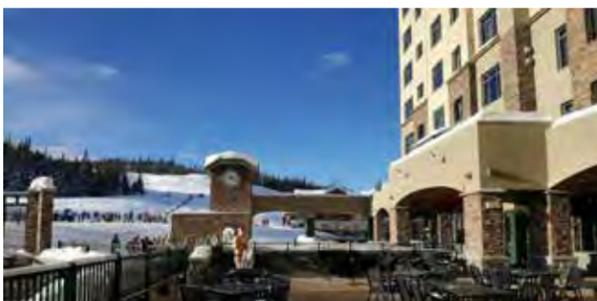


Firelight Condo #327 | \$575,000 | MLS# 348864

TRUST EXPERIENCE



The Upper Pines | \$1,198,000 | MLS# 342512



Summit Hotel 10513 | \$620,000 | MLS# 344166



Shoshone Hotel 1987 | \$548,000 | MLS# 341800

*Your trusted Big Sky real estate advisor.
Providing exceptional service to buyers and sellers of Big Sky properties for 25 years.
Let me be your community connection.*



Protect what matters most.

At AssuredPartners, we're here to provide best-in-class asset protection and unparalleled service when wildfire strikes. Through our powerful partnerships we are able to provide complimentary wildfire defensive services that protect your home before, during, and after a wildfire.



AssuredPartners

Contact Rob Kerdasha for a complimentary review of your current homeowners policy.

843.706.2438 robert.kerdasha@assuredpartners.com



PREMIER LIFESTYLE CRAFTERS

406.995.4579 | BLUERIBBONBUILDERS.COM | EST. 1975



Big Sky Resort to open ski season on Thanksgiving Day, resume ticket and pass sales

EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – In a letter posted on the Big Sky Resort (BSR) website from General Manager Troy Nedved and COO and President Taylor Middleton, BSR announced the commencement of the 2020-2021 ski season scheduled for Thanksgiving Day with adapted health and safety measures in place.

“Like everywhere else, we are carefully preparing for the safety of our environment, but are confident that even with adaptations, the thrill of skiing at Big Sky Resort will be as exhilarating as ever,” the letter states.

The letter also noted that after the June 15 sales suspension of lift tickets and season passes, BSR plans to once again offer tickets and passes for purchase ahead of opening day, but an exact date has not yet been determined.

COVID-19 has prolonged the installation of the new D-Line lift—a six passenger chair lift intended to take the place of the Swift Current chair lift—to the summer of 2021. However, this summer BSR progressed with work for the D-Line lift’s foundation, ahead of next summer’s installation. Additionally, the resort began construction on another new workforce housing project this summer.

To view the full letter visit bigskyresort.com/looking-ahead-to-ski-season

Fall resort tax funding applications

BIG SKY RESORT TAX

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Resort Area District is accepting applications for the 2021 fall funding cycle beginning on Tuesday, September 1. As required by law, an applicant must be a legal entity formed under the laws of the state of Montana. All applicants must be capable of both legally and practically carrying out the purpose of the allocation and located within the Resort Area District. The applicant must be a governmental unit, corporation, or limited partnership with the capability of being legally bound by an agreement.

Applications and supporting documents must be completed using the online applications portal and must be submitted by Wednesday, September 30, 2020 to be considered for funding. More information can be found at ResortTax.Org/ Funding or by contacting the District Office at 406-995-3234.

Applications are public documents and shall be available for public inspection. All applications will be reviewed at two public meetings on Tuesday, November 10 and Thursday, November 12 at 5:30 p.m. The review meetings will be held virtually and the public can find details on attending the meeting, providing public comment and sharing letters of support on the District website. Full applications will be available for the public to view on the District website prior to the November meetings.

Gallatin River Cleanup on tap for end of August

EBS STAFF

The Gallatin River Task Force is partnering with the Gallatin Watershed Council for their second collaborative Gallatin River Cleanup event. This year, the event will take place between 12 p.m. on Aug. 27 to 6 p.m. on Aug. 30 and will be comprised of smaller group sizes and increased time for volunteers to participate throughout the weekend.

Volunteers will meet team leaders at various locations spanning from Yellowstone National Park to Belgrade along the Gallatin River watershed. The goal for this year’s river cleanup is to top last year’s total trash collection of over 1,000 pounds.

GRTF will coordinate the cleanup between Yellowstone’s boundary and Spanish Creek, while GWC will spearhead the cleanup efforts on the lower sections of the river. Individuals may also pick up trash independently along the Gallatin and drop their collected materials in Big Sky or the Gallatin Valley.

GRTF’s communications manager, David Tucker, explains the importance of this event for the overall health of the watershed: “The Gallatin River Cleanup connects our community to this invaluable natural resource. It is an opportunity to give back to the river that gives us so much, helping keep the Gallatin clean and clear.”

If interested in leading a team, please contact headwaters@gallatinrivertaskforce.org or bswc@gallatinwatershedcouncil.org. To RSVP to be a volunteer, email either david@gallatinrivertaskforce.org (Big Sky) or bswc@gallatinwatershedcouncil.org (Bozeman).

Gov. Bullock addresses voting, university reopening measures

EBS STAFF

HELENA – At an Aug. 6 press conference Gov. Steve Bullock updated the community on COVID-19 and discussed the subject of testing at Montana universities this fall with Commissioner Clay Christian.

In light of COVID-19, the Montana Association of Counties, the Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders and elections administrators asked Gov. Bullock to give counties the option to conduct the upcoming 2020 election by mail.

“I’m in agreement with election administrators, who have firsthand knowledge of the situation,” said Gov. Bullock. “We must protect a citizen’s right to vote while protecting their public health.”

He announced a directive, effective immediately, that will closely match the one implemented during June primaries, allowing people to vote by mail, vote early, or to cast their vote in person on election day if they prefer. The primary purpose of this directive is to give county election administrators the time and flexibility they need to effectively implement the best procedures given their local circumstances.

Additionally, the Directive extends the close of regular voter registration until 10 days before the election to minimize the need for in-person registration or lines. County election administrators will be able to make ballots available from Oct. 2 until the end of the election. Mail-in ballots will be sent on Oct. 9 and no postage will be required to return ballots by mail.

As schools reopen in the coming weeks, Christian discussed the state’s plan for welcoming university students back to campuses safely. Gov. Bullock has allocated \$20 million dollars from the state’s CARES Act to assist the university system in meeting its goals of keeping students on campus safe and prevent spread this fall.

The Montana University System is prioritizing rapid detection and isolation of new COVID-19 cases, and although they will not be testing every student upon arrival, tests will be available to those who need them. All students will be asked to wear a mask, socially distance and self monitor symptoms while attending school.

Bucks capture second straight state baseball crown

EBS STAFF

BOZEMAN – After finishing conference play with a final record of 21-3, the Bozeman Bucks class AA American Legion baseball team entered the state tournament seeking their second consecutive state championship.

Having secured a first-round bye, the Bucks played on the second day of the tournament, Aug. 6, defeating the No. 5 seed Billings Royals 11-0. The Bucks then took on the No. 2 seed Helena Senators the following day, winning 8-6, and punching their ticket into the championship game.

Following a tough 5-3 loss to the No. 4 seed Billings Scarlets on Aug. 8 in a cross-over game between the winners and losers brackets, the Bucks waited to find out their championship game opponent.

In a rematch of their previous matchup with the Senators, the Bucks put up five first inning runs en route and shut out their opponents the rest of the way to secure the state tournament championship.

“The bottom line is we did enough to win a state championship, which is not easy to do and feel really fortunate that we were playing Sunday and that we were able to come out on top,” said Bucks head coach Garrett Schultz.

THE BIG SKY REAL ESTATE CO.

Mountain living starts here.



EXCLUSIVE BROKERAGE OF:



T 406.995.6333 E INFO@BIGSKY.COM **BIG SKY.COM**

FOUR OFFICE LOCATIONS IN BIG SKY

25 TOWN CENTER AVENUE | 145 TOWN CENTER AVENUE | 66 MOUNTAIN LOOP ROAD | 181 CLUBHOUSE FORK

All information provided is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed and should be independently verified. Information and depictions are subject to errors, omissions, prior sales, price changes or withdrawal without notice. No governmental agency has judged the merits or value, if any, of the information contained in this advertisement or any real estate described or depicted herein. This material shall not constitute an offer to sell in any state or other jurisdiction where prior registration is required or where such an offer would be prohibited, and this shall not constitute a solicitation if you are working with another real estate agent. Nothing herein shall be construed as legal, tax, accounting, or other professional advice.



BSSD chooses blended learning model to begin school year

BY BRANDON WALKER

BIG SKY – At an emergency school board meeting on the evening of Aug. 6, a decision was reached by the Big Sky School District school board—the same decision being deliberated throughout the nation—to reopen school this fall. The board decided on partially sending students into the classroom once again while also including a virtual learning element.

By a unanimous vote, the school board selected a blended learning model recommended by the school district's coronavirus task force that calls for a rotating schedule—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Tuesday, Thursday over a two-week period—where 50 percent of students would be present on campus receiving in person instruction, while the other half learn remotely.

The first day of school is Aug. 31 and students can expect this school year to be an adjustment from the traditional school opening of years past.

“It’s a double-edged sword right. I mean you want to have 100 percent of kids in the school learning 100 percent of the time from your faculty and everybody feeling good and feeling normal and approaching school as school is supposed to be approached,” said BSSD superintendent Dustin Shipman. “... We feel good that there is a real move towards making it as most normal [an] environment for these students that we can at this time.”

BSSD has not released an official document outlining the entire learning model yet, but elements of the plan include: students and staff required to wear masks on campus, allotted time for hand washing and sanitization practices, social distancing in classrooms with roughly only 14 to 16 students permitted at one time, temperature checks via infrared cameras, frequent changing of air filters and requiring windows to remain open at all times among other protocols.

“I think that it’s a really good model for the context because it keeps students engaged in the learning process at a safe distance and it protects our students and our teachers in that process,” said BSSD sixth through 12th grade principal Dr. Marlo Mitchem.

All BSSD staff members will be tested for COVID-19 prior to the first day of school by Matrix Medical Network—the same health care company that helped advise the school district's coronavirus task force—through a donation made by the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation.

Some details of the current learning model are still being determined, including transportation methods and strategies and the rotating schedule for students. Athletics protocols and procedures are also still being determined while practices are scheduled to start on Aug. 14.

“I’m just looking forward to having us all back together in some fashion,” Mitchem said. “There’s a lot of work to do between now and then and so it’ll be a very busy time, but we’re going to make it you know the best opening we can in this context.”

While the blended learning model is the initial choice of the BSSD school board, it is not set in stone. The learning model will be under constant review as the COVID-19 climate shifts throughout Big Sky and Gallatin County and the school board could amend or adjust the learning model at any time, according to Shipman.

“We wanted to come up with the best, safest way to start school knowing what we know now,” he said. “Something could change between now and then. [With] that said, we’re going to be re-examining the model; The task force is continuing their work. We’re going to re-examine the model with the ability to move to a more conservative approach or a more open approach, the board has the ability to do that whenever.”

The school district's coronavirus task force devoted roughly 50 hours compiling various learning models that were presented to the school board as well as sent out to parents and staff for feedback in the form of a survey.

Of the 30 responses that BSSD received from staff members regarding which learning model they would select, nearly 44 percent chose the model recommended by the school districts coronavirus task force and approved by the school board.

In comparison, nearly 44 percent or 134 of 307 parents voted for a 100 percent on campus return to school with accompanying health and safety restrictions. The school board approved blended learning model ranked second among the four options, receiving 82 votes—more than 26 percent—from parents who responded to the BSSD survey.

Mitchem was grateful for the feedback and survey results BSSD received. “I think that whole process with open communication and empathy and listening is going to be really important this year you know to get through this together—to the other side,” she said.



The Big Sky School District school board voted unanimously to begin the school year utilizing a blended learning model of in-person and virtual learning methods. PHOTO BY TUCKER HARRIS



888-871-7856 • StayMontana.com

Your Home. Their Vacation.

Exceptional Hospitality and Unrivalled Service. We Offer Your Guests a VIP Experience Which Includes A Complimentary Shuttle Service From Your Doorstep To The Slopes

Low Start-Up Fees • No Long Term Contracts • Satisfaction Guaranteed

Totally Free Checking

At First Security Bank, Totally Free Checking really is FREE! Free of minimum balances and hidden weekly, monthly, or annual fees. We also have three great interest-bearing accounts to fit your every need.

Success. Together.



Division of Glacier Bank

OURBANK.com /// 406.995.2321



Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender 

Add an extra layer of protection to your most valuable assets - your human assets.



TTS-10
10"

TTS-15
15.6"

TTS-21
21.5"

Tauri temperature check tablets, available through Jereco Studios.

jerecostudios.com/tauri-temp-check-tablet
1-888-776-5582



Big Green Egg
The Ultimate Cooking Experience

GRILLING OUTSIDE THE BOX

KENYON NOBLE LUMBER HARDWARE

BOZEMAN | BELGRADE | LIVINGSTON
WWW.KEYONNOBLE.COM

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Montana Properties

BHHSMT.COM | 406.995.4060 | 55 LONE PEAK DRIVE, STE. 3 | BIG SKY TOWN CENTER



34 ULERYS LAKES ROAD | \$3,850,000
#348848 | DON PILOTTE

This Ulerys Lakes home features an open floor plan w/ several decks facing Lone Peak. Main floor master with a private deck leading to a hot tub & a landscaped yard and fire pit area.



30 BEEHIVE BASIN ROAD | \$2,800,000
#319865 | KATIE MORRISON

Sitting on 20± acres, live comfortably in a beautiful mountain setting within a couple miles of Big Sky Resort and Moonlight Basin. No covenants on property.



TBD COWBOY HEAVEN | \$925,000
#342619 | DON PILOTTE

Ski-in, ski-out property in Moonlight Basin Resort. The build site is on the south side of the property just above a ski trail, easy access to a build site due to an access easement across an adjacent property.



60 BIG SKY RESORT RD #10402 | \$635,000
#346481 | KATIE MORRISON AND JAMIE ROBERTS

Own one condo with three connected hotel rooms - all with a Lone Peak View: a studio suite w/ a murphy bed, a king jacuzzi suite, and a double queen room.



TBD TALUS TRAIL | \$599,000
#335211 | DON PILOTTE

Large, 21.82 acre property providing a lot of privacy, views and easy all season access, yet close to schools and businesses. A true end of the road property.



LOT 4 BEAVER CREEK WEST | \$499,000
#332275 | KATIE MORRISON

This spacious 20± acre lot is surrounded by incredible mountain views. Multiple opportunities available for a homesite to take in Lone Mtn., the Spanish Peaks and Gallatin Ranges.

DON PILOTTE BROKER, GRI, NCE, RRS, SFR 406.580.0155 | **ANDREW INCHES** SALES ASSOCIATE 406.581.6595 | **BRUCE WINTER** SALES ASSOCIATE, GRI 406.581.4658
JAMIE ROBERTS SALES ASSOCIATE 406.209.3069 | **KATIE ERBES** SALES ASSOCIATE 406.579.3639 | **KATIE MORRISON** SALES ASSOCIATE 406.570.0096
PETER MACKENZIE SALES ASSOCIATE 406.223.1195 | **TONI DELZER** SALES ASSOCIATE 406.570.3195

Big Sky School District, Habitat for Humanity housing project receives generous labor donations

BY BRANDON WALKER

BIG SKY – A Big Sky community member for 11 years, Whitney McKenzie has taught second grade at the Big Sky School District for the last four years. She recalled finding it challenging to attain housing when she first became part of the Big Sky community in 2009, after graduating from Montana State University with a degree in elementary education.

McKenzie noted that Big Sky's housing scene forces her to work anywhere from two to five jobs at any given time throughout the calendar year. "It's hard to live up here without having an extra income because of the cost of living, and just all of the things that come with living here," she said. "Everything's a little more expensive."

At an October 2018 local realtor association meeting, the BSSD teacher housing project was born. After BSSD Superintendent Dustin Shipman and Business Manager Corky Miller observed a presentation by Habitat for Humanity of Gallatin Valley Executive Director David Magistrelli, the discussions for the project ensued.

When construction began in the summer of 2019, the housing project became the first of its kind in the U.S., according to Magistrelli. "It's unique in the country in that this is different than other Habitat [projects] that have either purchased land from the school or exchanged housing for land with school districts," he said.

He excitedly described the project as a "joint venture" between BSSD and Habitat for Humanity, with the funding coming from a \$600,000 levy passed by voters of the school district and roughly \$400,000 in contributions acquired by Habitat for Humanity from the Big Sky Resort Area District, accounting for the more than \$1 million housing project budget.

When completed, the two triplex housing units can host up to 12 individuals within the six, 1,000 square foot units comprised of two bedrooms each, complete with a garage. Magistrelli anticipates the completion of the first triplex to be this fall, while the second triplex will be complete late spring or at the beginning of the summer in 2021.

COVID-19 has not helped progress on the units. Magistrelli noted that "caravaners" who typically travel from one Habitat for Humanity job site to the next lending a hand with construction aren't doing so as frequently this summer. He estimated that the amount of volunteer labor lost this year as a result of the coronavirus is between \$65,000 and \$75,000.

"We lost a substantial amount of volunteers from the end of May through now," he said. "... I would say now we are getting a little uptick in volunteers, especially from the professional community."

Magistrelli said since construction began a year ago that contractors have donated more than 500 hours of time assisting with the construction of the triplexes. He noted that businesses such as Blue Ribbon Builders, Alpine Custom Builders and Haas Builders have all lent a hand, among others.

"We've gotten a lot of support from the community from the contractors and because a lot of that stuff had to be done by contractors, it did limit the number of volunteers, however, with that, we have had regular volunteers from the school district," Magistrelli said. He continued to say that BSSD has even developed educational opportunities for students who wish to donate their time and assist with the construction.

Haas Builders, owned and founded by Big Sky local John Haas, has greatly assisted the construction efforts of late. Haas learned of the need for assistance at the job site and sprung into action, allocating a crew of four workers to frame the second triplex.

"An enormous community need is housing, especially for our educators," he said. Haas originally inquired about the status of the project and any assistance needed in May, and after coordination of materials with Habitat for Humanity, his crew began work at the job site at the end of July. After four weeks of donated time, Haas' crew will have completed the framing of the second triplex.

Haas hopes that community members will learn of the need for assistance at the construction site and lend a hand to help strengthen the community as a whole. He also believes the lack of assistance lately was due to the lack of exposure the project has received.

"I wanted to figure out how we are going to help the teachers and how we're going to get this project going," he said. "... Most importantly how we can get more teachers here and provide a better education for our children."

McKenzie has donated time to assist with the project. She's one of numerous volunteers who have collectively donated more than 1,000 hours to assist with construction, according to Magistrelli.

"The reason we're able to build affordable housing is because of the volunteers from the community and the businesses willing to support the building, so it's really a community effort and were just acting as facilitators," Magistrelli said.

McKenzie believes the teacher housing units will be a large benefit to the school district, the community and educators. "When a district tells you that you might have a house available, that eases so much of the pressure," she said.

While teaching isn't the most profitable career field, and even though she's had to work additional jobs, McKenzie wouldn't change anything.



One of the triplex housing units that will house BSSD staff members upon completion. PHOTO BY BRANDON WALKER

"I didn't go into teaching for the money. I went into teaching for the passion and the drive and the benefits that I reap from it, which are making connections with people and really just becoming ... part of this town," she said.

The cost of the units is dependent on the occupants according to Shipman. He said if two BSSD staff members live in a unit together, it will cost them collectively \$1,000 per month, while a BSSD staff member who occupies a unit with a spouse will cost \$1,500 per month.

Additionally, rental income may be used to assist in repayment of the levy and could effectively reduce the tax amount sought from district taxpayers over the remaining three years of the levy.

The allocation process to determine which BSSD staff members will occupy the units is yet to be determined, Shipman said, as the district would like to hear employee interest prior to any final determinations.

"I think it's going to be huge for retention for sure because it's stable housing," he said. He also detailed that other school districts within the state already have similar employee housing opportunities. "... They have built housing to make their community more attractable and desirable for candidates, whereas we're trying to make our community more livable for our faculty," he said.

Magistrelli agreed that the affordable housing is key to attract and retain educators as well as for cultivating relationships between students and faculty and keeping dollars in the local community.

Firelight, Water and Sewer District discuss early findings, next steps

BY BRANDON WALKER

BIG SKY – Last fall, Firelight Meadows and the Big Sky County Water and Sewer District No. 363 discussed the possibility of annexing Firelight Meadows into the water and sewer district. This proposition could take a step further at an Aug. 11 meeting when the Firelight Homeowners Association will host the water and sewer district to present details of early studies of groundwater and the possibility of annexation.

Constructed in 2003, Firelight Meadows was originally catered for second homeowners who were visiting while on vacation. Nearly 20 years later, the Firelights are host to a mix of year-round residents as well as vacationers. Due to increased usage as well as an uptick in biologic materials in its wastewater, Firelight Meadows wastewater treatment center has reached its max capacity, according to Firelight Meadows HOA President Matt Walker

“Now, you know so many of these units are set up as rentals, and so whether that’s long term or short term they’re both adding a lot more usage to our infrastructure than kind of what Firelight was originally designed for,” Walker said.

The annexation is thought to be beneficial for both parties as Firelight Meadows residents would see a reduction in their current water and sewer rates. Additionally, Firelight wastewater effluent would be treated to a higher water quality level than their current type two wastewater system allows, while also receiving treated effluent from the water and sewer district for irrigation purposes. Currently, Firelight Meadows utilizes clean water for irrigation.

In return, the water and sewer district hopes Firelight Meadows could handle year-round wastewater effluent discharge into their two on site drain fields, helping to alleviate increasing wastewater quantities as the community grows.

“It gets us into a very stable disposal option, [that’s] not weather dependent like we currently are with all this irrigation we do,” said water and sewer district General Manager Ron Edwards.

If annexed into the water and sewer district, Firelight Meadows would consume roughly 300 single family equivalents or SFE’s, according to Edwards. He said the annexation wouldn’t be possible if not for the expanded capacity generated by the construction of the new Water Resource Recovery Facility, scheduled to be completed in 2022.

“This doesn’t work without the new plant really, so that’s all part of it,” he said.

West Fork Utilities, a private utility company based in Bozeman, owns and operates the wastewater treatment building and equipment on Firelight Meadows property.

The wastewater effluent at Firelight Meadows is currently not compliant with Montana Department of Environment Quality water-quality treatment standards, Walker said. He continued to say that West Fork Utilities is working to once again become compliant with DEQ standards.

Between 2018 and 2019 Firelight Meadows installed flow meters on all housing units within the complex to monitor water usage of each. Prior to installation of the meters, Firelight residents

paid a flat rate for water and sewer, whereas now rates are determined based on usage.

Walker said that the meters were request by DEQ as Firelight Meadows works to become compliant once again. Walker added that usage has nearly quadrupled due to high occupancy rates.

Annexation into the water and sewer district would be another means to alleviate the compliance problem.

The water and sewer district contracted Bozeman engineering and consulting company AE2S to carry out groundwater studies at Firelight Meadows. AE2S then employed sub-consultant Western Groundwater Services, which began the study in April.

“The recent work I did kind of identified there appears to be treatment underground and so it basically brought that to light and that’s what spawned this monitoring program to further evaluate to what extent that treatment’s actually occurring,” said Western Groundwater Services Owner Mark Cunnane.

Cunnane utilized reported data from Firelight Meadows to translate what the water and sewer district could discharge into the drain fields at Firelight Meadows without increasing nitrogen levels based on their higher water treatment quality.

“That discharge I think is favorable,” Cunnane said. “But we’ve got to do this other testing to see you know what kind of natural treatment that [Firelight Meadows] is getting in the ground below their drain fields.”

If both parties decide to move forward, Cunnane said the next agenda item would be determining the amount of nitrogen that the Firelight Meadows wastewater plant adds into the groundwater each day by utilizing monitoring wells.

If the results show promise in allowing the water and sewer district to discharge wastewater at Firelight Meadows, Cunnane will then examine the exact discharge capacity that the drain fields are capable of handling. He also said that 2022 or 2023 is the earliest that any form of construction would begin, after the completion of the new WRRF.



One of the Big Sky County Water and Sewer District No. 363 storage ponds. Firelight Meadows and the water and sewer district are discussing a possible annexation that could benefit both parties. PHOTO BY BRANDON WALKER

OUTLAW™

News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

Town hall real estate panelists discuss growth with vision, purpose

EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – Big Sky is in a unique position to choose its own destiny, according to panelists on the 12th Big Sky Virtual Town Hall on the evening of Aug. 10. Hosted by Explore Big Sky, the town hall featured four speakers who offered perspectives into the current climate of the real estate market in Southwest Montana, including Robyn Erlenbush, Broker/Owner of ERA Landmark; Eric Ladd, Owner of L&K Real Estate/CEO; Ania Bulis, VP of Sales for Big Sky Real Estate Company; and Mike Magrans, Principal of Ernst & Young.

Bulis kicked the evening off, noting that Big Sky is following a trend that mirrors many other ski towns as people migrate from urban areas. She said buyers are more often making multiple offers on a single property when normally they wouldn't.

Ladd spoke of the cyclical nature of real estate and how COVID-19 has forced our market into an unexpected upswing after an unsure pause. He said that historically Big Sky trends 60 to 80 percent behind more mature markets such as Telluride, Colorado and Bend, Oregon, a pattern that held true this time around as well.

"All you have to do is look at the license plates here to see what's happened," Ladd said. He noted the "brother-sister" relationship of Bozeman and Big Sky, estimating that roughly 3,000 workers a day commute from Bozeman to Big Sky for their careers.

Ladd said Big Sky was built in reverse—first the resort and clubs were constructed, then the town itself followed suit. This provides the Big Sky community with the unique opportunity to create it's own destiny. Although the ski lifts spinning provides a reason to be here, Ladd believes we've grown beyond that singular attraction.

"We get to choose our own destiny," Ladd said. Of his hopes for the community in 20 years, he said: "I hope Big sky looks like the most

cutting edge, most well thought out, planned town in the Rockies because we have no excuse to not to execute that."

Erlenbush of ERA Landmark Real Estate, oversees branches in Bozeman, Big Sky, Ennis and Livingston and is a Montana native. She possesses great knowledge of the market and said that the behavior of buyers currently, mimics that witnessed after 9/11, as families in metropolises flee from density and are reevaluating what is important in their lives. As theaters and other entertainment amenities in cities remain closed, people are looking to the outdoors so naturally, they come to places like Big Sky, she explained.

Erlenbush recently finished co-chairing an \$18 million campaign for Bozeman Health called Caring Forward. She said when COVID-19 hit, the organization had unsolicited gifts of over \$4 million flow into the healthcare system allowing them to fast track ICU needs and finish constructing additional hospital beds at Big Sky Medical Center.

"We are starting to recognize how interconnected we are as one greater community," Erlenbush said of the generosity.

Magrans spoke of office spaces, and how COVID-19's stay-at-home orders have helped us as a society reevaluate the time we spent in an office setting and how to make that time more productive. The market is showing so far that companies are keeping workers remote except for team collaboration or client meetings. He says the market is driven not only by people's newfound lifestyle priorities, but also that interest rates are at an all time low and those moving out of cities have the cash to purchase homes in Montana.

All panelists provided the same insight to the Big Sky community—that we deserve a thoughtful, purposeful future. Whether we moved here because of the open spaces, wildlife, ski access or friendliness, those are the qualities we need to continue to carry forward into this growth.



Robyn Erlenbush, broker/owner of Landmark ERA - Bozeman, discusses the booming real estate market on the 12 session of the EBS Big Sky Virtual Town Hall on Aug. 10. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

OUTLAW™

News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

BIG SKY PBR announces cancellation of September event

Big Sky PBR to return to Big Sky July 22-24, 2021

OUTLAW PARTNERS

BIG SKY – Outlaw Partners recently announced the 10th annual Big Sky PBR which was re-scheduled for September 4-6, 2020 has been cancelled.

“We tried to hold out as long as possible to ensure conditions were right to hold a large-scale event like the Big Sky PBR,” said Eric Ladd, CEO of Outlaw Partners. “Unfortunately, COVID-19 cases have not flattened to allow for the next step in Montana’s re-opening phase, so for the health and safety of fans, athletes, sponsors and staff, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year’s event.”

‘Big Sky’s Biggest Week’ including Big Sky PBR will be back for 2021, and is scheduled for July 22-24.

Outlaw Partners and Freestone Productions, who co-produce the event, have been working closely with PBR corporate headquarters on next year’s event. Current Big Sky PBR ticket holders will be receiving refunds or have the option to transfer tickets direct to the 2021 event.

“We look forward to celebrating 10 years of Big Sky PBR in 2021, and already have big plans on tap to make it the most memorable yet,” Ladd said.

Since its debut in 2011, the Big Sky PBR event has grown to three days, earned seven-time PBR event of the year honors, raised over \$1 million for charity, and has an annual gross economic impact of \$3.4 million for the Big Sky community.



OUTLAW™

News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

L & K Real Estate expands, opens Bozeman office

OUTLAW PARTNERS

BOZEMAN – L&K Real Estate, based in Big Sky, Montana, is opening a second brokerage location in the Gallatin Valley later this month. Focusing on residential and commercial real estate along with development opportunities, the expansion cements the brokerage as an industry leader in southwest Montana.

As one of the fastest growing micropolitan communities in the country, Bozeman and the surrounding areas are seeing an increasing demand for real estate transactions. L&K's experience in the growing market of Big Sky has them poised to offer a full range of services for buyers, sellers, investors and developers in the Bozeman area, according to Eric Ladd, owner of L&K and also the publisher of this newspaper.

"We are excited to formalize the opening of an office in Bozeman with some incredible agents backed by the strongest marketing engine in the industry," Ladd said. "While we have been conducting real estate business across the state for years, this allows us to have a more centralized focus and team to execute transactions in the Bozeman valley."

L & K's Bozeman office features generational Bozeman natives EJ Daws and Ethan Stokes. The office will initially house Daws and Stokes, but plans are to hire additional agents by the end of 2020.

"Having grown up in Bozeman and seeing its healthy growth," Daws

said, "I'm looking forward to helping buyers, sellers and investors find their place here in the valley."

Daws feels the unique marketing relationship with L&K's sister company, Outlaw Partners, provides its buyers, sellers and investors a rare blend of marketing savvy and property expertise. Outlaw Partners, located in Big Sky, utilizes a full spectrum of media support to assist L & K's clients. Print and digital advertising opportunities, video marketing, photography, Matterport home tours, social media support, web development, graphic design, and a large geographic scope covering the greater Yellowstone region are readily available to the team at L&K Real Estate.

"This is a fast-moving market that demands cutting-edge resources combined with local knowledge and contacts to get deals done," Daws added.

With over 60 years combined experience and over \$2 billion in sales, L&K's personal approach and marketing influence is an ideal fit for the Bozeman and Gallatin Valley markets. Daws and Stokes, under the leadership of Ladd, understand all facets of real estate.

Their experience varies from consulting on international residential and commercial development projects, to representing luxury listings in southwest Montana including properties in the Yellowstone Club, Spanish Peaks, Moonlight Basin and Bozeman, to selling the finest ranch and recreation properties throughout the region.



WE'RE HIRING!

OPEN 7 DAYS/WEEK

APPOINTMENT NEEDED
— book at —
HairShopofBigSky.com
406.993.4511

Located in
Big Horn Center
48025 Gallatin Road, Big Sky



FREE CONSULTATIONS
Amy Woodger, LE

BIGSKYSKINCARE.COM
406.993.4511

*Located inside
Hair Shop of Big Sky*





SHORE TO SUMMIT
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

REACH YOUR FINANCIAL SUMMIT



Personalized Investment Portfolios
Comprehensive Investment Planning and Wealth Management
Retirement Income Planning
Retirement and benefit plan approaches for small businesses

(406) 219-2900 | www.shoretosummitwm.com

Investment products and services are offered through Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC (WFAFN), Member SIPC. Shore to Summit Wealth Management, LLC is a separate entity from (WFAFN)

Explore™

Big Sky

ONE MEDIA OUTLET 1 MILLION READERS

Want local news?

DAILY

EXPLOREBIGSKY.COM



EBS APP

Download at
explorebigsky.com



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL:

@explorebigsky & facebook.com/explorebigsky

5x PER WEEK



TOWN CRIER EMAIL
NEWSLETTER

Sign up at explorebigsky.com

EVERY 14 DAYS



EXPLORE BIG SKY
NEWSPAPER

Pick up at 300 locations in
Big Sky and Bozeman

explorebigsky.com

SECTION 2:
ENVIRONMENT &
OUTDOORS, ARTS &
ENTERTAINMENT



From the Red Plane pg. 18



What the heck is a double haul? pg. 27



Gina Daws paints in a world of color pg. 28

THE NEW WEST

How is industrial-strength outdoor recreation better than resource extraction it is replacing?



BY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

For 30 years, Ray Rasker has been on the leading edge of thinking about this amorphous thing we call “the New West” which, in obvious ways, is very different from both the natural resource extraction-based “Old West” and certainly from the indigenous “Old Old West” whose presence remains after 12,000 years.

Early on, Rasker astutely identified that places like Bozeman, Jackson Hole and more recently, Big Sky, had economies driven not by how many board feet of trees were cut from national forests, cattle run on the range, or fossil fuels and minerals pulled out of the ground; instead, these New West centers benefitted from an increasingly-mobile workforce settling in such places based upon lifestyle considerations most enjoyed by the economic elite.

“Footloose” entrepreneurs, Rasker noted, were one subset of a still-ongoing economic boom. Another were Baby Boomers and older (mostly white) folk able to exist on investment income. A third factor involved an emerging “service” sector not comprised solely of cheap minimum wage jobs in tourism but also health care providers, technology gurus and swelling non-profits.

A fourth, but not cited enough, is the construction and speculative real-estate industry which really functions no differently than mining boomtowns of old exhausting resources—in our case a finite amount of land and its correspondent aesthetic sense of place.

Some businesspeople, like K.C. Walsh of Simms fishing waders (founded by John Simms in Jackson Hole) pulled up stakes in distant cities, bought a company and grew it in Greater Yellowstone. There are actually many similar manufacturers that attract quality employees who are drawn to living closer to public wildlands.

This factor has figured prominently in Rasker’s more recent research—analysis that has elevated the Bozeman-based firm he founded, Headwaters Economics, to a national stage. Headwaters is renowned for innovatively creating databases that allow, for example, residents of every county in the West to better understand the forces at work in their local economies.

Headwaters has been at the forefront of examining the rising costs of Forest Service firefighting efforts and the problem that half of the agency’s multi-billion budget is exhausted trying to save private homes unwisely built in the wildland-urban interface that has a higher probability of burning.

For journalists like me, Headwaters has been a valuable “go-to” resource. And recently, the outfit updated an earlier analysis showing that as people continue to pour into Bozeman/Gallatin Valley—the fastest growing micropolitan urban area in America—southwest Montana is rapidly losing open space. But what are the non-economic consequences of that?

Here’s my criticism of Headwaters and it’s also aimed squarely at most conservation organizations, agencies like the Forest Service, every county and all of the high-growth communities in Greater Yellowstone. As many tout the economic prosperity of inward population growth and continue to push outdoor recreation, none are seriously addressing the transformative ecological impacts of more people using the landscape.

All of us love to play in the outdoors. It’s why most of us live here. It’s why we are more physically fit and healthier than the national average of most Americans. It’s the foundation for many businesses and job creators. And it’s why the overwhelming whiteness of the region has made it a target for questioning the motives of the conservation movement.

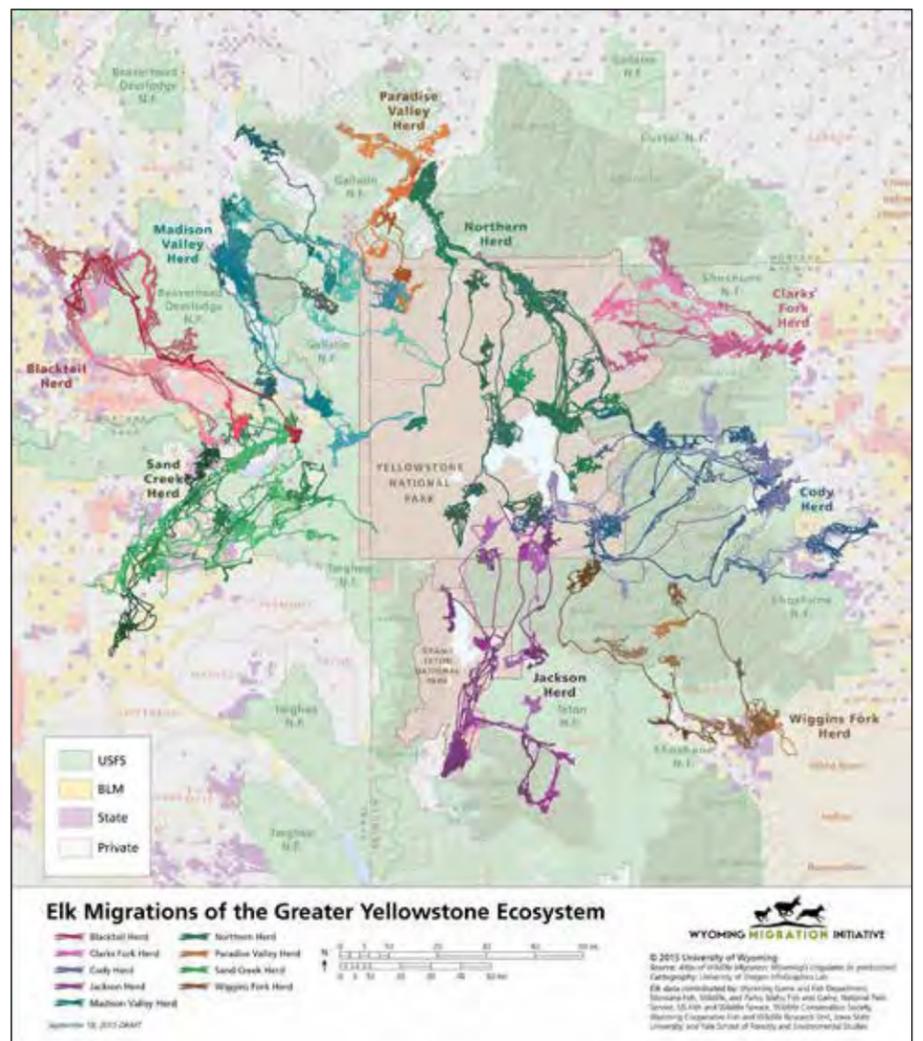
What’s lost in the latter, however, is what makes Greater Yellowstone unparalleled and which is part of a legacy that belongs to all Americans—its still-healthy populations of wildlife.

Amid all the cheerleading to create more access to the backcountry, more trails, filling the rivers with more floaters, and having state tourism bureaus spending many millions annually in advertising to promote our public lands, many of which are already crowded, no one is reflecting on the ecological toll being exacted.

How is the blind promotion of outdoor recreation any different from the colonizing forces of Manifest Destiny? I can provide readers with a list of prominent conservation funders that, for whatever reason, have been unwilling or resistant to discuss what many are calling the rise of “the outdoor recreation industrial complex”—a form of consumption that is as impactful as traditional resource extraction and likely more permanent.

COVID-19 is revealing many now-visible horrors of outdoor places becoming deluged with a flood of people on public lands that exceeds the carrying capacity of those places. No one is willing to discuss limits and the virtue of emphasizing quality experiences that protect wildlife and natural values against over-exploitation.

If conservation organizations, government agencies, elected community leaders, and philanthropic funders are truly interested in saving America’s last best wildest ecosystem in the Lower 48—as gauged by healthy wildlife and its corresponding sense of place—they need to engage now.



This map showing long distance migrations of a dozen different elk herds in Greater Yellowstone speaks to only one of reasons why this ecosystem is unparalleled in the Lower 48. The corridors only exist because they remain unfragmented by human development and large numbers of people using the landscape. Will they persevere given current development trends and outdoor recreation reaching industrial-strength levels? PHOTO COURTESY OF WYOMING MIGRATION INITIATIVE

The nature of Greater Yellowstone will not be saved based on the unchallenged conceit that the more people who use—or exploit—a resource the better. That’s not being elitist nor is it being exclusionary to people of color.

This, after all, is about understanding the destructive patterns of human population, of why and how most once-wilder places have been loved to death by mostly white people. Recreationists who reject wildlife conservation—and the environmental organizations enabling it to happen—need to acknowledge their role in creating a huge new New West problem.

Todd Wilkinson is the founder of Bozeman-based Mountain Journal and is a correspondent for National Geographic. He’s also the author of the book “Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek” (featuring photography by Thomas D. Mangelsen), about famous Jackson Hole grizzly bear 399.

From the Red Plane

Chris Boyer's aerial photography marries art and science

BY BELLA BUTLER

LINCOLN – In his essay “Two Minds,” author Wendell Berry suggests there are two types of human minds, what he calls the “Rational Mind” and the “Sympathetic Mind.” The Rational Mind is that which is mobilized by facts and operates analytically—some might call it the mind of science. The Sympathetic Mind, Berry writes, refutes a reality composed only of reason and objectivity; it is loving.



Chris Boyer, owner of Kestrel Aerial Services, cuts through the Montana sky in his Red Plane. PHOTO BY RYAN LUNDE

Hundreds of feet in the air, in a 1956 Cessna 172 airplane the color of a candy apple, Chris Boyer exempts himself from the dichotomized nature of the science and art worlds—or what Berry might label the Rational and Sympathetic.

Boyer is the owner of Kestrel Aerial Services, a documentary photography and survey mapping company. His vessel, which he simply calls the Red Plane, is equipped with a vibration-damped vertical camera mount that allows him to shoot wide-angle photos from the belly of the aircraft.

These photos and other information he gathers in flight are then used to create images and maps that provide intel on everything from the minutiae of a landscape like plant and wildlife communities and habitats to broader contextual material related to land use and other pertinent issues.

At the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, where Boyer keeps the Red Plane at a private hangar, he pumps the throttle three times. “Clear!” he shouts over the harmonious whizzing of the propeller and engine. He waits his turn on the runway before directing the plane onward and upward. His takeoff is smooth, well rehearsed.

Boyer started flying planes during graduate school at Oregon State University, where he challenged his former East Coast liberal arts degree by studying hydrology, political science and fluvial geomorphology—the study of the physical shape of rivers, sediment transport and the resulting landscapes. In an attempt to put the involuntary student activity fee to work, he joined the flight club and learned how to be a pilot. As an abstract learner, Boyer said he is convinced that the visual interpretation of the landscape flying afforded him got him through tedious graduate math classes.

“The aerial view was just as important at teaching me river process as the complex math I learned in the classroom,” Boyer wrote in an email to EBS.

While Boyer was at OSU, Geographic Information Systems mapping also was taking off. Digital creations conveyed variations in landscape using colors, symbols

and shading. “We got into such a race to abstract and simplify and symbolize the landscape that we kind of forgot what it actually looked like,” Boyer told me in the front seat of the Red Plane on a hazy July morning. This detached way of viewing the earth was a reflection of the flaws Boyer had discerned within the scientific world.

“Science has always had that issue that anything that is not quantitative should not be relevant,” he said. While necessary and purposeful, Boyer explained, the stiff expression of data acted as a filter for emotions, for humanness. Just as Wendell Berry argues that the Rational Mind creates a much narrower view of the world than what actually exists, Boyer believes that “landscapes as a manifestation of orderly data” are too small a format to capture the wholeness of rich systematic ecosystems.

“I feel like you’re just missing the boat somehow if you’re not awed ... by whatever landscape you’re working in; if you have to sort of filter out an emotional response to it,” he said. He pondered why lifeless figures were being used to tell the complex narratives of land and water. The landscape had appeared to Boyer as an array of stories, but to him they needed a better way to be told.

“We don’t suffer from a lack of data, we just suffer from a lack of good stories about the data,” he said, referencing a sentiment he’s shared in pitches and presentations for years, one that he found is nicely complimented by a Brené Brown quote: “Maybe stories are just data with soul.”

“The camera seemed to be such a natural way to tell that story,” he said.

Boyer always had an appreciation for visuals; he admitted you’ll find more sketches in his college notebooks than notes. When first embarking on his informal education in photography, he looked to “Family of Man,” Edward Steichen’s famous photography exhibition that first debuted at The Museum of Modern Art in 1955.

Boyer experienced an epiphanic moment when he realized that all the photos in the collection were familiar to him. The resonate power of the photographs had effectively taken root in his memory, a testimony to the withstanding impact of imagery.

He recalls the cathartic shift in tone when the photo of the Syrian child face down on the shore emerged on the front pages of newspapers around the globe. The conversation about refugees transformed from an abstract concept to a sympathetic and dire tragedy.

“It’s so easy to think of something as a statistic,” Boyer said. “If you don’t see its face, you can’t really learn its story.” Boyer hopes his photographs provide such



A small dam in an irrigation ditch diverts water into a section of the meadow, inspiring segmented green growth. Boyer said that people often describe photos such as this one as abstract, but in reality, they are far from it. This photo communicates a great deal of information, from the impact of the dam to the subtle ghosts that indicate where the water used to flow. PHOTO BY CHRIS BOYER

a face for the landscape—that they offer a window into its character—but he wouldn't be so bold as to say they accomplish this.

Pinched between the Mission and Cabinet mountains in the Swan Valley, Boyer flies the Red Plane over an imaginary grid above a conservation-based ranch near Condon, Montana. Each year, he maps a portion of the ranch to track swan populations and habitat.

Boyer says the maps he creates are tools that can be used for observing differential growth rates in crops, identifying plants and monitoring the condition of habitats. The conservation ranch uses Boyer's swan maps to track responses to management year over year.

Boyer traces the grid lines like brush strokes, artfully gathering both quantitative and qualitative information that will later be displayed in compelling visual formats. In order to survey, the plane must be low and nimble. Boyer makes tight turns, flipping the plane on its side so that the Cabinet Range appears vertical through the front windshield.

The warped landscape and jarring movements instigate a nasty churning in my stomach, but Boyer is unperturbable. I spare myself from notetaking for a moment and attempt to take in the fleeting scenes moving in and out of the cockpit view, afraid I won't be able to absorb each feature before returning to my small view of the world from the ground.

The camera, fixed into the floor, shoots photos in two-second intervals. In a former life, the hole where the camera lives held two inspection ports. When Boyer wanted to make the holes bigger, an engineer told him that the holes historically were occasionally enlarged so that newspapers could be delivered in rural areas. This allowed him to get a field approval from the Federal Aviation Administration to make a bigger hole for his camera.

"I think the meanders of a river is one of the most beautiful shapes in nature," Boyer remarks as we cruise over a stream cutting through a pasture of cows. He's right—there's something so inexplicably hypnotizing about the sweeping bends and breaks. From above, it's easier to see how rivers command the landscape. Everything yields to the water, yet its movement is more maternal than patriarchal, a quieter, providing force.

"The plane offers a very different perspective of nature and ecosystems," he wrote during one of our email exchanges. "[It] highlights the vastness and complexity which is inherently humbling ... [It] gives you an opportunity to see the whole from far enough away that in some instances you aren't reminded of the clutter of humanity."

Boyer's favorite work involves the conservation projects that share in his mission to employ emotion in science; to braid the Rational and Sympathetic minds, so to speak.



This photo is one of many pick-up truck interactions shot by Boyer to capture the essence of rural living. On the backroads of Montana, this scene is a common one, but when captured within a larger context, this moment becomes part of a larger narrative. PHOTO BY CHRIS BOYER

"[Imagery is] kind of an organizing structure around which you can drape complex information and recall it afterwards," he said. "It gives the landscape a character."

Existing at the sparsely inhabited intersection of art and science, Boyer's work is meant for everyone, not just those partial to exclusive jargon. "Scientists forget that the reason they're doing science is to manage it for all of us that don't understand science, so you have to compel people to understand what your research is about," he said.

In the present world of binaries, Boyer's survey mapping and documentary photographs seek to mend the fissure between the pragmatic practice of data and statistics, and the interpretive and esoteric creations of an artist in order to compel laymen to compassion and understanding for the diverse landscapes of the West.

Berry wrote: "...the safe competence of human work extends no further, ever, than our ability to think and love at the same time." From the Red Plane, statistics and lines overlay human experience and connection. Chris Boyer's photos are a permissive gesture to both think and love the landscape and perhaps gain a humbling experience.



An aerial view of the Golden Sunlight mine near Whitehall, Montana reveals colors often not available to the naked eye on the ground. Boyer shot a series of photos of the mine for a project he did for Trout Unlimited, but this particular image was shot out of personal interest. PHOTO BY CHRIS BOYER

www.horsebigsky.com

Meadow Village, Big Sky



LIVE WITH THE THINGS YOU LOVE
FURNITURE
DECOR
ART



BIG SKY REDESIGN

www.bigskyredesign.com



Shining a light on the future.

Making smarter decisions about renewable energy requires knowledge. NorthWestern Energy's solar projects throughout the state of Montana provide clean energy to the power grid – and they're shaping the future of renewable energy, too. We're working with local universities to better understand where solar energy belongs alongside a balanced energy mix. And that research is helping us build a brighter future for the next generation of Montanans.

NorthWestern
Energy
Delivering a Bright Future

View more of the story at
NorthWesternEnergy.com/BrightFuture



**Pretty
wildflower?
Think again!**

Musk Thistle is a biennial noxious weed and a prolific seed producer, as one plant can set up to 20,000 seeds! Because it reproduces only from seed, the key for successful management is to prevent seed production.

**Need help identifying & controlling
noxious weeds on your property?**

We provide free on-site landowner assistance!

406.209.0905

info@gallatinisa.org

www.gallatinisa.org



Working to protect Big Sky's natural resources
from the threats of invasive species.

*Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance
is funded in part by Resort Tax funds.*



\$15,000,000 | #362529

Trapper's Cabin Ranch

A complete alpine section of land (640± acres) totally surrounded by national forest and wilderness in a location that could never be duplicated. The building compound consists of numerous log homes, a manager's cabin, and a host of support improvements including an off-grid power plant.



\$7,750,000 | #321235

Riverstone Ranch

Riverstone is a first class sporting property set up to host small conferences and retreats. There is a recreational building, four, three bedroom guest homes and stocked fishing ponds on this 337± acre ranch, sited on the banks of the East and Main Boulder Rivers near McLeod, MT.



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Montana Properties

© 2018 BHH Affiliates, LLC. An independently owned and operated franchisee of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of HomeServices of America, Inc.® Equal Housing Opportunity.



BIGSKYBUILD.COM | 406.995.3670 | BIG SKY, MT USA

Water Wisdom

BY DAVID TUCKER
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Anyone who has spent time on the Gallatin River would agree it is among the finest waterbodies in the western United States. For whitewater enthusiasts, there's the Mad Mile, anchored by the iconic House Rock. For anglers, there's Baetis Alley, a dry-fly fisherman's dream and veritable bug factory. For wildlife watchers, there's the upper river, boasting moose, otter, bear and the occasional wolf sighting.

Indeed, there may be no river more deserving of our country's highest protections, and now, with the Montana Headwaters Legacy Act, we have the opportunity to grant the Gallatin that designation.

This made-in-Montana bill would conserve the Gallatin and 16 other rivers and streams under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. In addition to the Gallatin, the Taylor Fork, upper Madison, upper Yellowstone, Boulder, Smith and Stillwater, among others, would also be included and protected. Elsewhere in Montana, only East Rosebud Creek, 150 miles of the Upper Missouri River and the three forks of the Flathead River enjoy Wild and Scenic status, and it's high time we add to that list.

Even among Montana's iconic rivers, the Gallatin stands out for its recreation and scenic values. Easy access along the entire river corridor, from Spanish Creek to the Yellowstone National Park boundary, makes the Gallatin one of the most visited rivers in the state, which is saying a lot considering how much Montanans love their rivers.

A recent study conducted by the University of Montana concluded that almost 80 percent of Montanans support additional Wild and Scenic status for the Treasure State's aquatic gold mines. That is an overwhelming majority at a time when we have difficulty agreeing on anything, and a clear sign that protection is necessary.

This historic legislation is the result of over a decade of grassroots organizing from the Montanans for Healthy Rivers coalition, of which the Gallatin River Task Force is a member. MHR representatives have spent countless hours presenting at public meetings, meeting with elected officials, and connecting with business owners, landowners and federal agencies.

Through this outreach, one thing is clear: Montanans love rivers and want them protected. From mine operators to fisheries biologists, support for Wild and Scenic status is only growing, as pressure on our water resources increases. Angler days are on the rise; land development is booming; interest in water-based recreation is more

A Wild & Scenic Gallatin

popular than ever; and agriculture remains our largest economic sector and the hallmark of Montana's heritage.

These pressures are perhaps more evident on the Gallatin than anywhere else. River-access points are overflowing with vehicles. Previously empty stretches of water are now stacked with anglers. Kayakers on the Mad Mile resemble commuters on a Los Angeles freeway. Now is the time to protect this treasure before it is too late.

As a headwaters community, Big Sky's water resources are naturally fragile. Our supply is highly dependent on sensitive climate cycles that require cold, snowy winters and mild, wet springs. This cycle impacts the quantity and quality of fresh, clean water. Wild and Scenic status is one tool at our disposal that will help protect this fragile resource, and now is the time to wield it.

To support Wild and Scenic status for the Gallatin, visit healthyiversmt.org and endorse the Montana Headwaters Legacy Act. Call members of the Montana delegation to voice your support, and encourage friends and neighbors to sign on to the legislation, as well.

Visit healthyiversmt.org for more information about the Montana Headwaters Legacy Act and Wild and Scenic designation.

David Tucker is the communications manager for the Gallatin River Task Force.



The Gallatin River is one of several local waterways eligible for protection via the Montana Headwaters Legacy Act. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER TASK FORCE

KGLT

FM RADIO

NOW IN BIG SKY!

⚡ 91.9 FM ⚡

BOZEMAN 91.9 & 97.1

HELENA 89.1

LIVINGSTON 89.5

BIG TIMBER 90.5

GARDINER 107.1

KGLT.NET

SERVING **BIG SKY** for

46 YEARS

IN THE OF THE *Meadow Village Center*

Locally owned. Locally operated

OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR

Open 6:30am to 8pm • 406.995.4636

- Located in the Meadow Village Center next to Lone Peak Brewery
- Delivery Service
- Pre-arrival Fridge & Cupboard stocking

www.countrymarketofbigsky.com

If the water goes, the desert moves in



BY DAVE MARSTON
WRITERS ON THE RANGE

Paonia, a small town in western Colorado, with a handful of mesas rising above it, wouldn't green-up without water diverted from a river or mountain springs. The lively water travels through irrigation ditches for miles to gardens and small farms below. But this summer, irrigation ditches were going dry, and one, the Minnesota Canal and Reservoir Company, stopped sending water down to its 100-plus customers as early as July 13.

Drought was hitting the state and much of the West hard, but a local cause was surprising: Water theft.

Longtime residents who gather inside Paonia's hub of information trading, Reedy's Service Station, have a fund of stories about water theft. It's not unusual, they say, that a rock just happens to dam a ditch, steering water toward a homeowner's field. Sometimes, says farmer Jim Gillespie, 89, that rock even develops feet and crosses a road.

Once the ditch company "called" for its water as of June 8, only holders of patented water rights could legally touch the creek. Yet during three trips to the creek's beginning, starting in mid-June, and then in mid-July, I noticed that two ranches—without water rights—were harvesting bumper crops of hay. How could that have happened unless they'd illegally diverted water to their fields?

At first, no one would talk about the early-drying ditch except to hint broadly that this wasn't normal. Then one man stepped up: Dick Kendall, a longtime board member of the Minnesota canal company, and manager of its reservoir. "On July 5," he told me, "I saw water diverted from the creek onto one of the rancher's land. And I wasn't quiet about it."

Kendall reported what he saw to Commissioner Luke Reschke, who oversees the area's 600 springs, ditches, and canals. Reschke dismissed it saying, "The rumor mill is something else on Minnesota Creek. The only people who give me trouble are the new people who don't know how the system works." But people pointed out that four years back, Reschke's predecessor, Steve Tuck, investigated when locals complained.

Though it may not be neighborly, stopping any illegal diversion is important, said Bob Reedy, owner of Reedy's Station: "Without water, you've got nothing around here." Annual rainfall is just 15 inches per year, and without water flowing into irrigation canals from the 10,000-foot mountains around town, much of the land would look like what it truly is—high desert.

But it's not just a couple of high-elevation ranchers dipping into the creek. The West Elk Coal Mine runs large pumps that supply water for its methane drilling and venting operations in the Minnesota Creek watershed.

Mine spokesperson Kathy Welt, says the diversion is legal, and that they only take early-season water when the creek water isn't on call. That flood water, however, is what begins to fill the Minnesota ditch's reservoir.

There are about 400 ditch companies in Colorado like the one managing Paonia's water. Add another 386 in Idaho, 700 in New Mexico and more than 1100 in Utah and you get an idea of how testy things can get in time of drought.

The town of Jal, New Mexico is in a fight with Denver-based Intrepid Potash and Tulsa's NGL Energy Partners. The two companies spent \$146 million to buy ranchland to set up a fracking operation.

The city argues that if fracking operations are allowed to dramatically increase their supply of fresh water, it would totally deplete the town's only source of water. It also points out that the "state closed the Jal Basin to new permits years ago."

In Nevada, litigation between farmers, ranchers, mining companies is in court. Ranchers downstream have senior rights, but the water is first depleted by the gold mining operations. The lawyers for Nevada Gold Mines warn that if the ranchers with senior rights get their way, it "could impact mining in the Humboldt River Basin."

For the entire west, warming temperatures brought about by climate change could be the real challenge. What we are seeing now is almost certain to get worse.

Water—so precious to grow grapes, hay, organic vegetables, and grass-fed beef, and to keep the desert at bay—had vanished early on Lamborn Mesa above Paonia. Farmer Gillespie summed it up, "there's just no low-snow anymore, and it's not coming back."

David Marston is a contributor to Writers on the Range, (writersontherange.org), a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He lives part-time in Paonia.



THE BUCKHORN SESSIONS

Bringing the best of local music to you during these quiet times. Both a Live Show and an Online Event to Support Local Artists Hosted at The Buckhorn in Livingston, Montana. We will feature a different local band every other week through the Fall. This is an exclusive 50 Ticket First Come First Serve Event with a Full Bar. Your first Two Pints are included in the ticket price and all the proceeds support both Local Artists and the Creek To Peak Foundation a local Montana 501 (c) 3.

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 29, 2020
7-10 PM**

**Featuring Artist Dan Henry
A local Helena, Montana
Singer/Songwriter**

**BUY TICKETS NOW AT:
creektopeak.com/buckhorn**

**please bring your ticket receipt to the door to get in and get your two drink tickets the day of the show*

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



BIG SKY BUSINESS DIR

EAT

Bucks T-4

46625 Gallatin Road, Big Sky
(406) 581-3337
buckst4.com

Corral Bar, Steakhouse & Motel

42895 Gallatin Road, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730
(406) 995-4249
corralbar.com

Country Market

66 Market Place, Big Sky
(406) 995-4636
bigskygrocery.com

Lone Peak Brewery

48 Market Place, Big Sky
(406) 995-3939
lonepeakbrewery.com

Olive B's Big Sky Bistro

15 Center Lane, Big Sky
(406) 995-3355
olivebsbigsky.com

PLAY

Boundary Expeditions

PO Box 161888, Big Sky
1-888-948-4337
boundaryexpeditions.com

Grand Targhee Resort

3300 E Skihill Rd, Alta, WY 83414
(307) 353-2300
grandtarghee.com

Lone Peak Performance and Fitness

32 Market Place, Big Sky
(406) 995-4522 | lonepeakpt.com

Ozssage

2 Market Place, Big Sky
(406) 995-7575
ozssage.com

Santosh Wellness Center

169 Snowy Mountain Circle, Big Sky
(406) 993-2510
santoshbigsky.com

SLEEP

Bucks T-4

46625 Gallatin Road, Big Sky
(406) 581-3337
buckst4.com

SHOP

Architects Wife

23 W Babcock Street, Bozeman MT
(406) 577-2000
architectswife.com

Consignment Cabin

48025 #2 Gallatin Rd.
(406) 993-9333
stores.myresaleweb.com/consignment-cabin

Country Market

66 Market Place, Big Sky
(406) 995-4636
bigskygrocery.com

Gallatin Alpine Sports

169 Snowy Mountain Circle
(406) 995-2313
gallatinalpinesports.com

Dave Pecunies

Photography
33 Lone Peak Drive, Big Sky
davepecunies.com

Shelly Bermont Fine Jewelry

32 Market Place Suite 2, Big Sky
(406) 995-7833
shellybermont.com

SERVICES

Anderson Enterprises

(406) 995-2811
jimandersonenterprisesinc.com

Don Pillotte - Berkshire Hathaway

55 Lone Peak Drive, Big Sky
(406) 995-4060
www.donsmontanaestates.com

Big Sky Build

87 Lone Peak Drive, Big Sky
(406) 995-3670
bigskybuild.com

Big Sky Chamber of Commerce

55 Lone Mountain Trail, Big Sky
(406) 995-3000
bigskychamber.com

Big Sky Town Center

33 Lone Peak Drive, Big Sky
(406) 586-9629
bigskytowncenter.com

First Security Bank

55 Lone Peak Dr, #A, Big Sky
(406) 993-3350
www.ourbank.com

Blue Ribbon Builders

145 Center Lane, Big Sky
(406) 995-4579
blueribbonbuilders.com

Bozeman Health

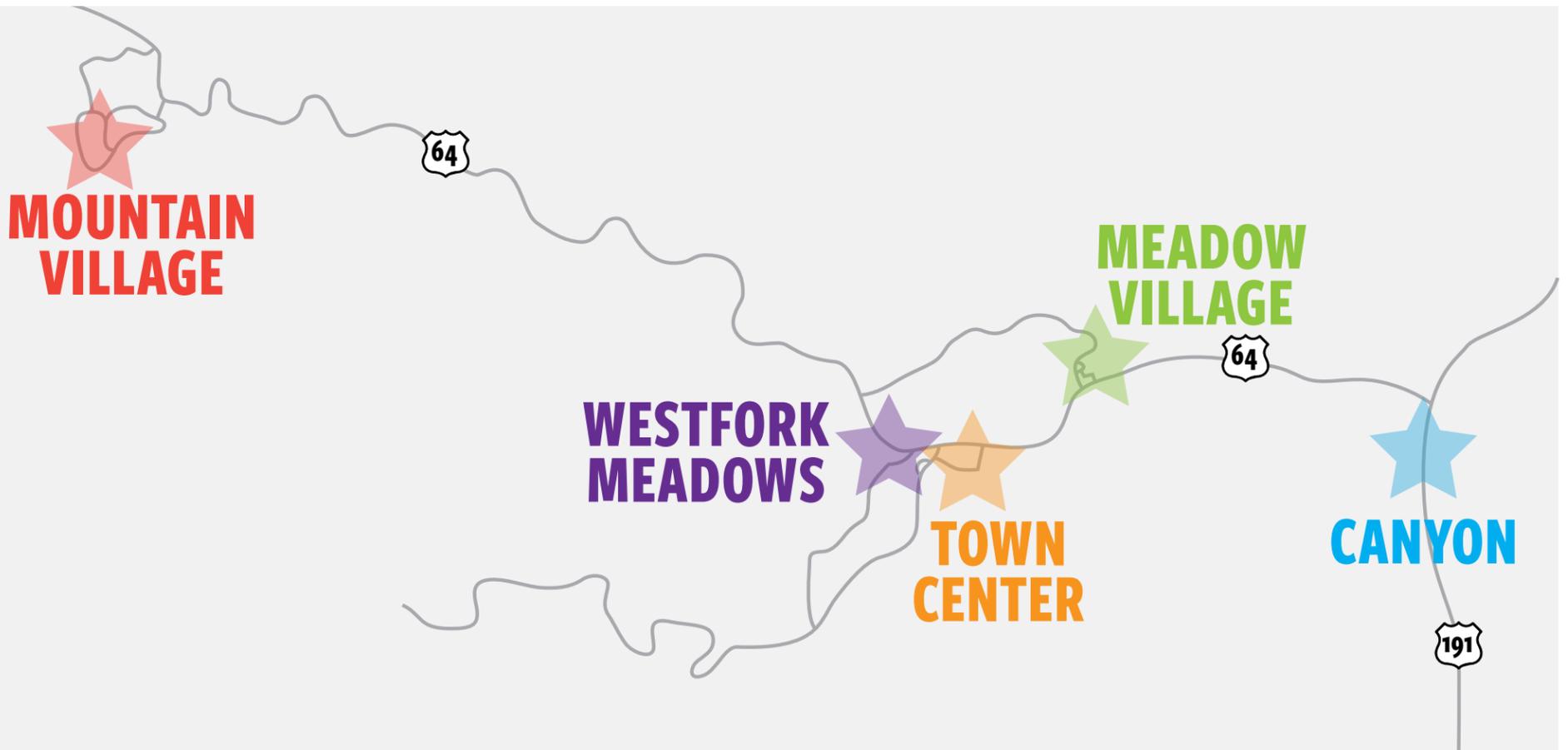
334 Town Center Ave, Big Sky
(406) 995-6995
bigskymedicalcenter.com

PAID ADVERTI

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION INCLUDED IN THIS DIRECTO

FACTORY |

LIST YOUR BUSINESS HERE! SPACE IS LIMITED.
INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS DIRECTORY?
CONTACT SAM BROOKS AT SAM@THEOUTLAWPARTNERS.COM



Holmes Construction

(406) 581-9427
jimholmesconstruction@gmail.com

L&K Real Estate

11 Lone Peak Drive #201, Big Sky
(406) 995-2404
lkrealestate.com

LTD Real Estate

81 Snowy Mountain Circle, Big Sky
(406) 995-2800
ltdrealestate.com

Martha Johnson-Big Sky Real Estate Co.

25 Town Center Ave, Big Sky
(406) 580-5891
bigsky.com

On Site Management

1283 N 14th Ave #101, Bozeman
(406) 586-1500
onsitemanagement.com

Quick Print of Big Sky

235 Snowy Mtn Circle #2, Big Sky
(406) 995-7884
qpbigsky.com

Big Sky Landscaping

PO Box 160273, Big Sky
(406) 995-2668
bslmt.com

Monica's Salon

11 Lone Peak Drive #203, Big Sky
(406) 995-2722
bigskyhair.com

Natural Retreats

11 Lone Peak Drive, Big Sky
naturalretreats.com
888-451-0156 or 406-995-4148

Elliott Interior Design

Big Sky, MT
(406) 551-3995
lorielliott123@gmail.com

SAV Digital Environments

47 Town Center Avenue C-1 Big Sky, MT
(406) 586-5593
savinc.net

Upgrade Option #1

111 Address Rd, Big Sky
(406) 995-xxxx
yourwebsite.com

YOUR LOGO HERE

Upgrade Option #2

111 Address Rd, Big Sky
(406) 995-xxxx
yourwebsite.com

SING SECTION

RY, CONTACT SAM BROOKS AT (406) 995-2055 OR SAM@THEOUTLAWPARTNERS.COM

My experience: A Trout Unlimited culvert study

STORY AND PHOTO BY KATE BATTAGLIA

BIG SKY – In March, Nathan Browne set out on a float trip on the Smith River west of Helena, not knowing where his passion might take him. Browne, an avid fisherman and a senior at Lone Peak High School, was accompanied by his father and members of the conservation group Trout Unlimited on the trip.

Browne was inspired by TU's conservation efforts, involving the preservation of aquatic environments within rivers. TU members on the float trip later placed him in contact with the group's Project Manager Jeff Dunn. Together Browne and Dunn crafted a service project allowing Big Sky community members to actively help aid in the preservation of aquatic ecosystems within Montana, specifically looking at fish and culverts, tunnels that carry river water under roads or bridges. This is where my journey with Browne and Trout Unlimited began.

Over the summer, I've sought out local community service opportunities to participate in. When I was presented with the offer to take part in Browne's culvert-restoration project, I was overwhelmed with excitement. This project granted us the unique opportunity to assess fish passage in 30 culverts on rivers throughout Big Sky.

Our mission was simple: "Helping point out problematic culverts," Browne said. "... The Trout Unlimited group can work to replace questionable culverts that would infringe on fish passage."

After Browne and Dunn created an online field map specifically used to assess culverts, Dunn provided a short survey on the app Survey123 that we used to record the measurements and other data observed at various culverts.

The ArcGIS map Dunn provided allowed Browne and I to locate culverts hidden along winding roads or concealed by thick shrubbery. Once we located a culvert or bridge, we loaded the required data into the survey app. The app then scored the culvert on a 20-point scale, either rating it as "good," "questionable" or a "possible barrier." The culverts scoring either "questionable" or "possible barriers" on the survey will be further assessed and, if needed, rehabilitated by TU.

Throughout the course of the project, beginning July 22 and concluding Aug. 4, Browne and I began to notice distinct patterns in the quality of the culverts. Our measurements began with culverts around Big Sky Town Center, where the majority ranged in quality from "good" to "questionable." We rarely faced any dilapidated culverts, making the measurement process simpler and more efficient.

After completing measurements in Town Center, we visited the Big Sky Base Area where our results varied greatly. The majority of the culverts we measured in the base



area were classified as "questionable" or "possible barriers."

"It was interesting to see the different qualities that make culverts problematic for fish passage," Browne said. "It's not just one issue."

Over the past 20 years, TU has crafted various restoration programs and other projects regarding the preservation of the aquatic environment within streambeds. They have built partnerships and collaborated

with many members of the agricultural community, discovering innovative ways to irrigate farmland without the use of environmentally disruptive structures such as dams. Similar to dams, the project Browne and I took part in gauged whether trout passage is aided or disrupted by the culverts we assessed.

Culverts have allowed the human population and stream-bed marine life—such as trout found within the nearby rivers—to coexist without any disruption. If the great sum of culverts we assessed were not built, many of the beloved activities and hobbies many Montanans hold dear, including fly fishing, would be changed for the worse.

From our observations so far, Browne and I won't need to record data any further data on the culverts. But questions, including "Will this project expand to other regions of Montana?" remain unanswered at this point. My hope is that I will be able to continue participating in similar projects with TU and help to preserve the natural environment within Montana.

The knowledge I have acquired from this experience not only lies in the beneficial effects of culverts but the overarching reason why the Big Sky ecosystem is so unique. Over the course of many years, this community has developed an unparalleled bond with its surrounding environment, allowing for both its human and animal inhabitants to exist coherently, benefiting from one another. I hope we can continue to coexist.

Kate Battaglia is a sophomore at the Episcopal School of Dallas, who, despite residing in a different state, is an active member of the Big Sky Community. She is also an aspiring journalist who enjoys writing about her unique experiences within the state of Montana.



Do you love Montana's open landscape?
Help support protecting it in perpetuity.

Contact Jessie Wiese at jessie@mtlandreliance.org for more information

Ad donated by supporters for open land | mtlandreliance.org | 406.594.1570

Cosmic Café & Catering Food Truck

SAFE DINING IN BIG SKY
Serving fabulous breakfast,
lunch and dinner.

COVID SAFE SERVICE
Contact free ordering, payment and
pick up. Spacious outdoor dining.

For location and hours call or check website
cosmiccafeandcateringfoodtruck.com
406-580-9762 Catering
406-599-7269 Truck





What the heck is a double haul? And, how it will make you a better angler.

BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

Even if I've fished the same run on the same spring creek on the same day each year for over 20 years, I swear I still learn something new every time I wade into the clear water. Sight-casting to snooty spring creek fish or presenting a fly to a pesky permit in a 20 mph wind are the norm in my angling world, but they haven't always been. There was a time when an upstream wind or a tailing fish outside of 30 feet made my knees shake.

Then, like a middle school boy finding his dad's "Playboys" under the master bedroom mattress, I learned to double haul and my angling went from coulda-woulda-shoulda to been-there-and-done-that. But learning the double haul didn't come easy. It took practice, patience, some failures, some more practice, but once I learned it my fishing success increased 10-fold.

What is a double haul?

A "haul" in its simplest form, is making a quick pull on the line with your line-hand during the casting stroke. A "double haul" is pulling on the line twice—once at the end of the backcast and again at end of the forward cast. When these two pulls are made during the casting stroke, the resulting increase in a faster flying fly line is called a "double haul."

How is it accomplished?

Practice, practice, practice—I first learned to haul as a kid. I was sitting in an airport waiting for my charter flight to a small bonefishing destination. My traveling companions were veteran anglers and when asked "how was my double-haul?" I responded, my "double-what?" They treated me like I'd never heard of Brad Pitt standing on a rock shadow-casting. But since part of being a good fly fisher is cherishing the ideal of sharing knowledge, they took the time to show me.

One of the oldest in the group sat me down in a chair. The rods were all packed in the back of the small plane, so we didn't have a rod to use. He then had me make fists and placed my two hands in front of my chest with my knuckles touching. He told me to make a back cast with my rod-hand, which I did.

Then, move my line-hand down to about my belly button, stop it, and then quickly bring it back up to my rod-hand—which was being held near my face where it normally would at the pause on my backcast. Next, he told me to come forward with my rod hand in my forward cast. After stopping on the forward cast, bring my line-hand down

again to about my belly button and then back up to meet my rod hand where it was stopped after my forward cast. "Back, down-and-up. Forward, down-and-up."

Another older angler brought a cold beer and said "with your line hand, be sure to always go back up, so then you can go back down on your next casting stroke." "Easy-peasy," said my initial friend. "Practice this without the rod the whole flight and when you next put a rod in your hand, you'll have it."

Why is the double haul so helpful?

Before learning the double haul, I had struggled and avoided some difficult situations. But, my friend who taught me was right—I practiced the "back, down-and-up. Forward, down-and-up" rhythm at length on the plane. Once on the flats, after a few minutes I was casting into the wind. This allowed me to fish through a variety of angling situations that I otherwise would have struggled with. A double haul generates more energy in the cast, producing greater line speed, which makes fishing easier.

Once back in Montana and still a young angler, I put my double haul to use. I immediately caught more fish on dry flies because by double hauling I could cut through the wind on the Madison and Yellowstone Rivers. In the fall, more big browns were brought to hand and less large woolly buggers were dinged off the back of my head because by double hauling, I had better control over where to cast a heavily weighted fly.

These days when I'm back on the spring creeks or chasing spruce moths on a remote freestone, a double haul is as important a skill as wading safely or reading the water. However, like many useful skills it takes a commitment to master. Learning the double haul may not be as appealing to the eye as shadow-casting on a large rock in the middle of the river, but, sure as heck is a lot more useful.

Patrick Straub has fished on five continents. He is the author of six books, including "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Fly Fishing" and has been writing the Eddy Line for eight years. He's owned a fly shop and was one of the largest outfitters in Montana, but these days he now only guides anglers who value quality over quantity. If you want to fish with him, visit his website, <https://www.dryflymontana.com/>.



Whether you plan to fish a spring creek, the Gallatin or a far off saltwater flats destination, mastering the double haul is crucial to getting more enjoyment out of your fly fishing. PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICK STRAUB



BE MONTANA AWARE.

We love our home and want to help keep it healthy. If you're planning to explore Montana, follow these safety measures and do your part to be Montana Aware.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- ① KNOW LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES BEFORE ARRIVING AT YOUR DESTINATION
- ② UNDERSTAND SOME SERVICES & DESTINATIONS MAY BE LIMITED
- ③ STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK

PROTECT OUR HEALTH

- WEAR A MASK
- MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE (AT LEAST 6 FT. APART)
- WASH YOUR HANDS & USE HAND SANITIZER
- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE
- COVER COUGHS & SNEEZES

Gina Daws paints in a world of color

Young artist experiences sudden success at the Big Sky Art Auction

BY MIRA BRODY

BIG SKY – As a 14-year-old girl, Gina Daws experienced the sudden passing of her 18-year-old brother. After her brother's tragic death, Gina's mother, Jamie Stevenson, picked up a paintbrush for the first time. With her brushes, Jamie immersed herself in this newfound artistic world of healing, a transformative power that Daws embraces today in her own artistic process.

"There's a lot of peace in it," Daws said. "I think I've struggled as much as anybody else and slowing down and being present was really hopeful for me."

She kicked things off with a bang—Daws only started painting last October and sold her piece "The Rambler," a striking 36-inch by 36-inch portrait of a sow grizzly, at the Big Sky Art Auction last month.

"The Rambler" is painted in Daws' unique style, forgoing the traditional color palette and instead utilizing every color of the rainbow. She approaches her paintings without much of a plan; she begins with a black and white photo and applies color where she feels the light invites it.

"I've made some really poor paint color choices in my house," Daws admits of her love for the color wheel. For her wedding, she dressed her bridesmaids in a spectrum of color and she joked on her first date with now-husband Dusty, that her favorite color was "the rainbow."

Her quick success and love for a colorful palette matches her enthusiasm. While she's dabbled in a variety of careers—from nursing to insurance, information technology and fitness—she never felt a calling quite like that of painting. She says with artwork, there was no question.

"I like that people aren't making me fit a certain mold," Daws said of being an artist. "I'm working a lot, but it doesn't feel that way ... the freedom of creating is such a really cool gift."

Her first painting, "Highland Cow," she posted casually on social media, unsure of where her newfound passion would take her. Among an onslaught of positive feedback, one customer immediately asked her to



"The Rambler" is a 35-inch by 36-inch acrylic on canvas original that sold at the Big Sky Art Auction on July 19. PHOTO COURTESY OF GINA DAWS

commission a piece. That's when everything clicked—this is what Daws wanted to do.

Taking grand leaps into something new has never been an issue in Daws' life—she moved to Montana from her home in Olympia, Washington 12 years ago to work on a dude ranch on Flathead Lake, and fell in love with the Bozeman area while visiting a friend. After finishing college, she got a job at Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital and relocated for good.

Of her instant success, she says it's unexpected, but a pleasant surprise. She credits her support system back to her mother, Jamie Stevenson, and husband. Daws is focusing her efforts on commission work at the moment, but you can see some of her original paintings on display in the Wine Gallery in Bozeman, as well as prints hanging at the Ridge Athletic Club and Urban Fitness.

When she's not in front of a canvas, Daws enjoys spending time with her family—her and Dusty have two kids, Mac, 3 and Davey, 5. They enjoy ski lessons in the winter and water time at their cabin on Canyon Ferry Lake in the summer.

While Daws knows from experience that artistic expression can act as a healing force, right now she says she doesn't have a heavy heart and is thankful for all she has—a sentiment that shines through in her vibrant work.

"If my paintings were going to portray a meaning, it would be to not take this too seriously—let's enjoy all of the color that God gives us," Daws said. "Let's remember what's good. Let's see the beauty, see the color."

You can see more of Daws' work on her website ginadaws.com, where she works under the name *Color of Ashes*, or her Instagram, [@colorofashes](https://www.instagram.com/colorofashes).



Gina credits her artistic inspiration to her mother, Jamie Stevenson, who began painting after her son, Gina's older brother, passed away as a way to heal from tragedy. PHOTO COURTESY OF GINA DAWS

My View: A glimmer of hope for independent Music venues

BY SAMUEL ORAZEM
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues and the prospect of further shutdowns looms over the country, people have slowly forgotten how integral certain activities used to feel. For me, one of those bygone pastimes is attending concerts.

Unfortunately, for those who own and work at music venues around Montana, the cancellation of nearly all live music performances is far more impactful than simply needing to find a new weekend hobby.

The live music industry has erupted in the past few decades as musicians and labels sought a suitable replacement for the revenue lost by the waning popularity of CDs. Montanans have been fortunate enough to share in the industry's explosive growth with a number of new venues cropping up across the state. The pandemic, however, has stopped that momentum in its tracks.

Montana's live music scene is comprised almost entirely of venues that are, in every sense of the term, small, locally owned businesses. These independent outfits lack the capital to survive an extended loss in revenue along with the ability to lobby the federal government for stimulus relief without substantial grassroots mobilization.

In March, the National Independent Venue Association, (NIVA) was formed to advocate for the interests of smaller venues across the U.S. as they attempt to weather the storm. NIVA currently has 1,300 members, including 25 in Montana and five in Bozeman, as well as the locally based Arts Council of Big Sky.

In an interview with Rolling Stone magazine, NIVA's President Dayna Frank said the future of small, indy venues is uncertain. "In surveys," Frank said, "we've found many venues aren't sure if they can operate beyond six months." That number, as high as 90 percent when polled in early May, paints a dire picture for the future of the recently booming industry since the return of concerts before 2021 appears increasingly unlikely.

NIVA has endorsed two pieces of federal legislation, the Save our Stages and the RESTART Acts, both of which would provide funding to its members. The Save our Stages Act was introduced by Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and John Cornyn (R-TX) and focuses specifically on independent music venues. The RESTART Act is a broader piece of legislation introduced by Michael Bennett (D-CO) and Todd Young (R-IND) that would provide funding to other hard-hit small businesses, such as bars and restaurants.

With negotiations over a second round of stimulus funding still in full swing as of press day on Aug. 12, time is of the essence to ensure that independent, Montana music venues can survive the pandemic.

It's easy to think that funding for luxuries like concerts is inessential as looming concerns like evictions, unemployment benefits and direct stimulus dominate the news cycle. However, these venues should be included in the discussion about supporting small businesses alongside retail shops, bars and restaurants.

The shuttering of independents venues is an imminent threat to both Montana workers and small business owners. Furthermore, if these venues are not given the support they desperately need, the things we most look forward to after the pandemic, including live music, will not be there for us to enjoy.

Visit nivassoc.org/take-action to voice your support for independent music venues.

Samuel Orazem is a political science student at UCLA with a passion for music, its contributions to cultural development, and its potential to empower social and political mobilization.

LET'S KEEP FIGHTING COVID-19

We've all got to do our part.

PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE 406



Wash Hands
Use Hand Sanitizer



Don't
Touch Face



Cover Sneezes
& Coughs



Keep Social
Distancing



Wear a
Mask

IF YOU FEEL SICK



Stay Home from
Work/School



Call Your
Medical Provider



Quarantine as
Instructed

*Montanans get it,
and we've got this.*



dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/covid



The Montana Land Reliance & Montana Chamber Music Society present:

Confluence 2020

*Online Auction & Musical Performance
Celebrating Over Four Decades Protecting Montana's Open Spaces*

**ONLINE AUCTION
AUGUST 19-28**

A collection of unique auction items from fishing, travel excursions, and golf to original art, music and wine. Auction begins August 19, final bids due by 10 pm August 28.

**VIDEO CONCERT
AUGUST 23**

(Shared Digitally)
A one of a kind musical performance by Montana Chamber Music Society artists: violinists Angella Ahn and Carrie Krause, bassoonist Kathleen Reynolds, cellist Sara Stalnaker, and alphonist William Scharnberg.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

Taunya Fagan Robyn Erlenbush

BIG SKY EVENTS CALENDAR

Friday, Aug. 14 – Thursday, Aug. 27

If your event falls between Aug. 28 and Aug. 27, please submit it by Sept. 10 by emailing media@outlaw.partners

FRIDAY, AUG. 14

Gallatin Valley Farmers Market
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

First Tap Friday
Lockhorn Cider, Bozeman, 12 p.m.

Best of 406 Market
The Marketplace, Bozeman, 4 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Club
EBS Facebook live, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 15
Saturday Sweat, Free Community Workout
Moving Mountains Big Sky, 8 a.m.

Plein Air Painting Workshop with Loretta Domaszewski
Arts Council of Big Sky, 9 a.m.

Cruisin' for a Cause: Online Showcase 2020
Register at downtownbozeman.org

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

Plein Air Painting Workshop with Loretta Domaszewski
Arts Council of Big Sky, 9 a.m.

Observational Drawing class
Sign up: selisa@centurylink.net, 9:30 a.m.

MONDAY, AUG. 17

GirlSing Summer Music Camp
Pilgrim Church, Bozeman, through Aug. 21

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

Virtual Small Business Coach
Register: NReiff@GrowGreatFalls.org, 10 a.m.

Pint Night at MAP Brewing
MAP Brewing Co, Bozeman, 4 p.m.

Bozeman Farmers Market
Lindley Park, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19

Hike Big Sky: Town to Trails Race Prep
Corner of Simkins and Aspen Leaf, 9 a.m.

Community Yoga for Equality
Santosha Wellness Center, 10:30 a.m.

Big Sky Farmers Market ft. Kira Fercho
Big Sky Town Center, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

Farmers Market
Bodhi Farms, 5 p.m.

Chalk-Tail Party
Dry Hills Distillery, Bozeman, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUG. 21

Best of 406 Market
The Marketplace, Bozeman, 4 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Club
EBS Facebook Live, 5 p.m.

Steph Yeager Live Music
The Baxter Hotel, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 22

ARTventures: Action Art!
Arts Council of Big Sky, 10 a.m.

Big Mountain Enduro: Big Sky
Big Sky Resort, 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, AUG. 23

Observational Drawing class
Sign up: selisa@centurylink.net, 9:30 a.m.

MONDAY, AUG. 24

Bozeman Brookies Fall Splash Camp
Bozeman Swim Center, Aug. 24-27

TUESDAY, AUG. 25

Bozeman Farmers Market
Lindley Park, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26

Big Sky Farmers Market
Big Sky Town Center, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUG. 27

Gallatin River Cleanup
Big Sky Park Pavillion, Aug. 27-30



PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG SKY RESORT

BIG MOUNTAIN ENDURO AT BIG SKY RESORT

Saturday, Aug. 22 and Sunday, Aug. 23

This year's anticipated Big Sky Big Mountain Enduro will showcase some of the best enduro tracks in the northwest right here at Big Sky Resort. Racers can expect three to four stages per day and upwards of 7,500 feet of descending, most of which will be lift accessed. True to any BME event, there will be some pedal transitions equaling roughly 3,000 feet of climbing over both days. True to its gnarly terrain, the terrain at Big Sky Resort is steep and technical and sure to leave you grinning ear to ear.

The day the music died

COVID-19 has live music on a low note

BY TOM MARINO

On any given night, winter or summer, Big Sky establishments offered a wide variety of live music. From solo crooners playing favorite covers to original alternative bands like Dammit Lauren and the Well; from up top to down the canyon, it was easy to find live music.

That all changed March 15, 2020 when Big Sky Resort announced it was closing and the county soon followed by closing all bars and restaurants. While some establishments have started to offer a smattering of live music, it's currently far from the good old days.

EBS sat down with Brian Stumpf from Dammit Lauren and the Well to get a sense on what it's like to be a working musician in these unprecedented times.

Tom Marino: *Between your gigs with the band and your various solo and duo dates, how many gigs were you playing a year before COVID-19?*

Brian Stumpf: In the winter with ski season, I'm playing at least five times a week. In the summer, the last couple of years, three or four times a week at least. That was my career, it's all over now. (laughs)

T.M.: *How are the streaming gigs going? It's a relatively new way to perform in our digital world. What are the pros and cons?*

B.S.: It was so cool in April then it got nice out. People were super generous [but] it's not the same. I think YouTube livestream stuff I have been seeing is not as popular as it once was. ... It has lost its luster a little bit. People want to go to a real show now.

T.M.: *As the primary booking agent for the band, what kind of feedback are you getting from managers and owners who book live music?*

B.S.: No one knows. We got the Pine Creek [Lodge] gig because we had been working on a run through Red Lodge. It was mellow. That was the first week of July. That was when things were still calm. We ended up getting cancelled at Snow Creek [in Red Lodge] as we were packing up the gear because they had to have seated people and they didn't want to do that. Everything changes every week as far as what you're allowed to do. We were supposed to be in Whitefish tonight and Sandpoint tomorrow. The Sandpoint gig said we can only pay you half, and the Whitefish people said people really can't dance. So we shut it down.

T.M.: *It sounds like you guys have been busy writing new material. How many new songs have you written since March and what have you been inspired by in these times?*

B.S.: The focus right now for the band is to write. I think we have six new songs. Four of those have been written in lock down. We need to get another five or six tunes and go into the studio. Really it's nice not to be distracted by gigs in that sense. The way that we do it is I usually put chords together and I record it on my phone on the couch and send it to Lauren, and she puts melody and lyrics to it. Then we bring it to the group and start messing with that, and the four of us get together and try to add to it and get it dialed.



Brian Stumpf, lead guitarist for the Big Sky-based band Dammit Lauren and the Well, and lead singer Lauren Jackson perform their new track, "Electric Restlessness." PHOTO/VIDEO BY CHRIS KAMMAN

T.M.: *What is your favorite chorus in the new batch of songs?*

B.S.: Lauren wanted to call this tune "Electric Restlessness." And I thought that was too much of a tongue twister to have as a chorus. Somehow she made it sound super cool and perfect for the chorus.

T.M.: *I recently played a gig and folks were telling me how good it was to hear live music again. Do you see the live music scene coming back stronger than ever post COVID-19?*

B.S.: I mean I have no idea when. One thing I have kind of noticed is [live music] does mean a lot to people. People tend to slash the entertainment budget first. And that may well still be the case but I think for those that are willing to invest in it, as they get the go ahead, people will show up. As an expert in après ski culture, it behooves the local establishments to continue to have live music for our valued guests and visitors.

T.M.: *What do you know about the new music venue being built in Town Center?*

B.S.: [That] should ensure that live music continues to be a part of the nightlife experience in Big Sky, maybe even take it to the next level. I'm pretty sure it will be open by the ski season and hold about 300 people or so. The stage and sound system will be top notch and will help our local acts get some more experience as well as invite national touring acts to our town. We have some great stages in this town, and I've loved working with these different venues over the years, but as the town has gotten busier, these establishments have had to focus more on f-and-b, understandably.

T.M.: *How many days did you ski last winter?*

B.S.: I'm going to plead the fifth on that one. I have a reputation to uphold. (laughs)

Visit explorebigsky.com for the digital version of this story and an exclusive video of the new track, "Electric Restlessness."

Tom Marino is an IT specialist and musician. He has been singing songs all around Big Sky since 2005.

Bozeman and Greater Montana Properties

UNDER CONTRACT



380 Mountain Man Trail | Montana Ranch | \$325K
20.8 +/- ACRES



Rocking S7 Ranch Lot 4 | Bozeman, MT | \$650K
20.232 +/- ACRES



Homestead at the Beacon | Butte, MT | \$1.65M
640 +/- ACRES

L&K
Real Estate

Call us today!

LKRealEstate.com | 406.995.2404



All information given is considered reliable, but because it has been supplied by third parties, we cannot represent that it is accurate or complete, and should not be relied upon as such. These offerings are subject to errors, omissions, and changes including price or withdrawal without notice. All rights reserved. Equal Housing Opportunity. If you currently have a listing agreement or buyer broker agreement with another agent, this is not a solicitation to change. ©2016 LK REAL ESTATE, LLC. lkrealestate.com



Personalized mortgage options to fit your financial strategy

At U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management, we tailor the home financing experience to fit your needs.

Customized mortgage options include:

- Residential one to four units, fixed, adjustable or interest only mortgage options
- Mortgage priority process, products and scheduling to meet your loan closing date
- Primary, second home, condominium, co-op and investment one to four unit properties
- Residential single close construction, lot loan, renovation & expansion options
- Ability to hold title in an approved Trust, LLC, LLP, Corp or other non-operating entity
- Conforming, jumbo and super jumbo loan size availability
- Lending in all states (some loan types are limited to specific states)

Get started today. Contact your Private Wealth Advisor to find out more about residential mortgage options.



Gina Marshall
Wealth Management
Mortgage Banker
1460 N 19th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59718
Direct: 406.522.3293
gina.marshall@usbank.com
NMLS#: 489006



Jim Wentzel
Wealth Management
Mortgage Banker
817 Colorado Ave. Ste 203
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Direct: 970.404.3393
jim.wentzel@usbank.com
NMLS#: 91413

privatewealth.usbank.com

**US Private Wealth
Management**
U.S. Bank



Loan approval is subject to credit approval and program guidelines. Not all loan programs are available in all states for all loan amounts. Interest rates and program terms are subject to change without notice. Visit usbank.com to learn more about U.S. Bank products and services. Mortgage and Home Equity Products are offered through U.S. Bank National Association. Deposit Products are offered through U.S. Bank National Association. Member FDIC. ©2019 U.S. Bank.

UNPLUG.



BOUNDARY
EXPEDITIONS

5 NIGHT + 6 DAY RAFTING TRIPS ON THE
MIDDLE FORK OF THE SALMON RIVER



THIS IS OUR MORNING
NEWS FEED. JOIN US TO
RELAX AND RECHARGE.

A FEW LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE FOR AUGUST 2020

RESERVE NOW AT

BOUNDARYEXPEDITIONS.COM OR (888) 948-4337

Boundary Expeditions operates under special use permits with the Salmon Challis National Forest and Payette National Forest and is an equal opportunity provider.

**OPEN FOR SAFE DINE IN
11 AM - 9 PM, THURSDAY THRU MONDAY**



Located in the Meadow Village Center. 48 Market Place. 406-995-3939
Menu Online at lonepeakbrewery.com

SECTION 3: BUSINESS, SPORTS, HEALTH & FUN



Golf tips from a pro pg. 34



Contact tracing pg. 36



Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital pg. 39

A tie goes to the runner

BY AL MALINOWSKI
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

“A tie goes to the runner.” For emphasis, just in case everyone didn’t hear it the first time, the voice echoed once more, “A tie goes to the runner, doesn’t it?” The words shouted by a parent or fan recently during a little league baseball game in Bozeman. The players were 10 years old.

The umpire properly ignored the comments, though they were intentionally stated loud enough for him to hear. The umpire’s action made me realize two things: He was fully aware of the rule in baseball that if a runner reaches base at the precise time a thrown baseball is caught by the baseman with his foot on said base, then the runner is safe, and there was no point in arguing that rule with a fan since it wasn’t applicable—the runner was out by a full step in this instance.

What should have gotten the attention of the crowd at that moment was the beautiful double play that was flawlessly executed on the field. The top seeded team in the tournament had the bases loaded with one out in the bottom of the first inning. After giving up four runs in the top of the first inning to the lowest-seeded team, they were looking to score a few runs and get back in the game.

That’s when the batter drove a pitch up the middle that was headed for center field. The pitcher snagged it after one hop and without hesitation turned and threw to the shortstop as he covered second base. The shortstop then gunned the ball to first base, completing the double play to end the inning. Fans of either team should have appreciated the fundamentals the kids displayed with that play. Did I mention that the players were 10 years old?

Unfortunately, it has become common for officials to take the blame whether they make the correct calls or not. We more easily accept that players make mistakes, coaches make poor decisions, and fans can take liberties with the rules to fit their desired outcome, but our officials are expected to be perfect. Otherwise the outcome of the game is the official’s fault.

A pivotal moment in this development likely occurred on June 2, 2010 in a professional baseball game between the Cleveland Indians and Detroit Tigers. Tiger’s pitcher Armando Galarraga was exceptional on this day, retiring the first 26 batters in order, and needing the next out to pitch a perfect game. For context, Major League Baseball currently recognizes only 23 perfect games in its long history. With one more out, Galarraga’s would have been the 24th.

Cleveland’s batter, infielder Jason Donald, hit a ground ball to the right side of the infield, which Tiger’s first baseman Miguel Cabrera fielded and threw to Galarraga at first base for the final out, and what appeared to be a perfect game. However, first base umpire Jim Joyce called Donald safe. Replays showed that Donald should have been called out.

How did Galarraga react: Only with a smile. Once Joyce—a veteran, respected umpire—had the opportunity to see the replay, he immediately accepted responsibility for the mistake. Recognizing the impact of the mistake to Galarraga, Joyce met with him so he could apologize.

The next day, Galarraga was sent to home plate by Tigers Manager Jim Leyland as his pre-game replacement with the Tiger’s line-up card, so the two men could shake hands as a public example of moving forward from the mistake. Without a doubt, Galarraga was disappointed with the outcome, but he found a way to accept that Joyce made a mistake.



The author’s son Ryan (catching) competes during a recent Little League Baseball game. PHOTO COURTESY OF AL MALINOWSKI

Major League Baseball, in response to outcomes such as the Galarraga “imperfect” game, as well as other professional sports leagues reacting to their own missed calls have implemented the use of instant replay. If teams who have instant access to replay believe a mistake has been made, there are methods to challenge the decision, and to change the call on the field or court if originally called incorrectly.

If the Galarraga play occurred today, he would have his perfect game. While instant replay has reduced the human error in professional and collegiate sports, I can’t help but wonder if an unintended consequence is an unrealistic expectation of perfection for the officials in our middle school, high school and recreational leagues.

I am privileged to have coached basketball in Big Sky for over 20 years. During that time, I have gotten to know many of the officials that work our local middle school and high school games, and even learned what motivates them to deal with fan abuse that unfortunately comes with being a referee.

The simple answer is they love being a part of the game. Unlike the coaches, players and fans, who come to the game with a predetermined outcome in mind, the officials appreciate the competition for what it is and enjoy giving back to their communities.

Most officials have full-time jobs such as police officers, electricians or pastors. Some are college students looking to stay involved in athletics after their playing careers have ended. In my experience, they take great pride in their second job, and are extremely knowledgeable of the current rules and points of emphasis. They don’t care who wins, but they strive to make the correct calls and let the players performance determine the outcome. But like everyone else in the gym or at the field, they make some mistakes too.

I’m not advocating for instant replay in middle school or high school sports—or even the Big Sky Softball league—but without the tools that have helped the professional ranks achieve greater accuracy, is it realistic to expect perfection from those who officiate our kid’s games?

Some of the best coaching advice I ever received was to spend more of my time focusing on doing my job, coaching, and less time trying to referee. I realized that at times, especially as a younger coach, I paid too much attention to what the referees were or weren’t doing, at the expense of coaching my players. I also realized that I’d make a terrible referee.

Now that I find myself in the bleachers more often, I have discovered that I enjoy the experience much more when I have a similar tolerance for official’s mistakes as I have for the players, who are still learning the game. And when the next spectacular play is made by either team, I’ll be sure to see it.

Al Malinowski has lived in Big Sky for over 25 years. He has coached middle school and high school basketball at the Big Sky School District for 22 of those years. He believes participation in competitive athletics has been critical in establishing his core values.

Golf tips from a Pro: The importance of a pre-shot routine

BY MARK WEHRMAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Do you have a pre-shot routine? If so, do you stick to it thoroughly? All golfers seem to understand just how much golf is a mental game. As the old adage goes, "Golf is a game played in the six inches between your ears." I truly believe that having a sound pre-shot routine and not varying it will help you be more consistent. I also believe that if you change your routine that it will get in your head and now you will be second guessing yourself while standing over the ball—a recipe for disaster.

So, what constitutes a pre-shot routine? When thinking about my personal routine it starts once I have selected my club. I always begin behind the golf ball, picking my target and deciding how I want to flight the ball. Once I have defined a target and pictured in my mind of the type of shot that I want to play, I place my hands on the grip with the club up in the air so I can be assured that my grip is correct. I now approach the ball.

I'm not one to take practice swings, instead I set my clubface behind the ball, aiming at the intermediate target I have chosen when standing behind the ball. I am a big believer of using an intermediate target, which is defined as something that is on the ground in front of the ball and in line with my overall target. It is much easier to aim at something that is maybe five to 15 feet away versus 150 plus yards away.

Once I have aimed my clubface, I focus my eyes on the target and set my feet in a manner that my body lines are aimed parallel to the left of my target line. Now that I am set over the ball, I take one last look at my target, again reminding my brain where I want to hit it. Once my eyes come back to the ball, it is time to make my swing.



The author's pre-shot routine. PHOTOS BY TOM CONWAY



The author's pre-shot routine. PHOTOS BY TOM CONWAY

I also have a consistent routine when I am putting. Again, I like to start by crouching down behind the ball and surveying the contour of the green. This is where I choose the line that I will attempt to roll my putt. Now, I approach the ball and leaving myself plenty of room, I take two practice strokes while I am looking at the hole.

I do this so I can allow my eyes to tell my brain how hard I need to stroke the putt. Personally, I believe that if you are not looking at the hole when making your practice swings then you will have no idea how hard you need to hit it. Finally, I step up to

the ball and place my putter face behind the ball so it is perpendicular to the line I have chosen. I take one last glance at the hole and when my eyes return to the ball I make my stroke.

Because of the detailed explanation this might seem like a very elaborate process, but in reality the entire routine takes maybe 45 seconds, which for reference, is the maximum time allowed for a golfer to hit their shot on the PGA Tour.

If your routine takes longer than that you should consider trimming the process to help speed up play. I never advocate for taking more than one or two practice swings or strokes because of the additional time entailed, effectively slowing down the pace of play. So, moral of the story is to find a routine that works for you, while not prolonging play and make it as consistent and repeatable as possible. In time I bet you will find more confidence when over the golf ball.

Mark Wehrman is the Head Golf Professional at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course and has been awarded the PGA Horton Smith Award recognizing PGA Professionals who are model educators of PGA Golf Professionals.

BAR • STEAKHOUSE • MOTEL

OPEN AT 9AM

PATIO DINING OPEN
BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER

DINE IN / TAKE OUT • THURSDAY THRU MONDAY

5 miles south of Big Sky • HWY 191 Mile Marker 43
Menu online www.corralbar.com 406.995.4249

CONSIGNMENT CABIN OF BIG SKY

FIND YOUR TREASURES HERE!

ANTIQUES-ARTWORK-SPORTING GOODS-COLLECTIBLES-MONTANA GIFTS AND MUCH MORE!

CALL KERRI AND KEVIN FABOZZI 406-993-9333
OPEN 6 DAYS/WEEK
LOCATED IN BIG SKY, MT
IN THE BIG HORN SHOPPING CENTER



CASCADE RIDGE 211 | \$4,195,000

- 6 bdrm | 6.5 bath | 4,548 +/- SF | 2-car, attached garage
- Premier, upper-tier location just 3 doors down from the exclusive Cascade Ridge Lodge
- Enjoy some of the best ski-in/ski-out access in the neighborhood, expansive views, and more

SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316



499B SPRUCE CONE | \$749,000

- 3 bdrm | 2.5 bath | 1,813 +/- SF | 1-car, attached garage
- Peaceful getaway in South Fork with proximity to all Town Center and Meadow amenities
- Offered tastefully furnished, this condo would make for a great rental or year-round home

MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745



TBD TWO GUN WHITE CALF | \$350,000

- 1.55 +/- acres
- Beautiful build site with old-growth trees and a slight slope on a quiet cul-de-sac
- Enjoy proximity to all Meadow amenities from this highly desirable neighborhood

SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316

BIG SKY • MOONLIGHT BASIN • SPANISH PEAKS • YELLOWSTONE CLUB



104 ROSE BUD LOOP | \$1,444,000

- 4 bdrm | 3 baths | 2,577 +/- SF | 1-car, detached garage
- Meticulously upgraded kitchen, bathrooms, lower-level family room and deck ski lockers
- Offering direct ski-in/ski-out access, commanding mountain views, and lower-level hot tub

MICHAEL THOMAS | 406.581.2400



SHOSHONE CONDOMINIUM 1984 | \$525,000

- 2 bdrm | 3 bath | 1,312 +/- SF
- Corner, end unit location for privacy with Million Dollar Views and many amenities
- Immediate proximity to Big Sky Resort's Mountain Village shops, restaurants, and chairlifts

LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848



2250 OUTLOOK TRAIL | \$395,000

- 2.051 +/- acres | Stony Creek 5-lot Minor Sub
- Private lot ready for your new home with driveway and homesite excavation started
- Includes a set of architectural house plans and geotechnical report; well already in place

MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745



PureWest

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Visit us at either of our locations:

Town Center | The Exchange

406.995.4009

www.BigSkyPureWest.com

All information contained herein is derived from sources deemed reliable, however, is not guaranteed by Pure Real Estate, LLC., Managing Broker, Agents or Sellers. Offering is subject to error, omissions, prior sales, price change or withdrawal without notice and approval of purchase by Seller. We urge independent verification of each and every item submitted, to the satisfaction of any prospective purchaser.



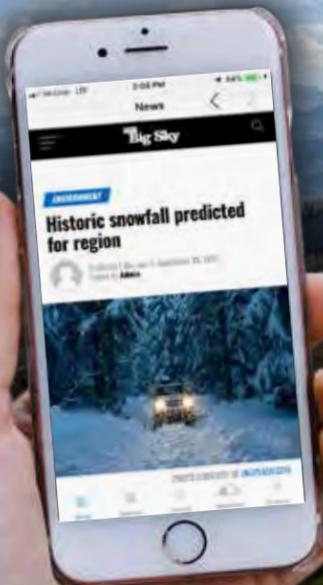
Explore™

Big Sky

Montana at your fingertips

Download the new EBS App

Culture • Local News • Events

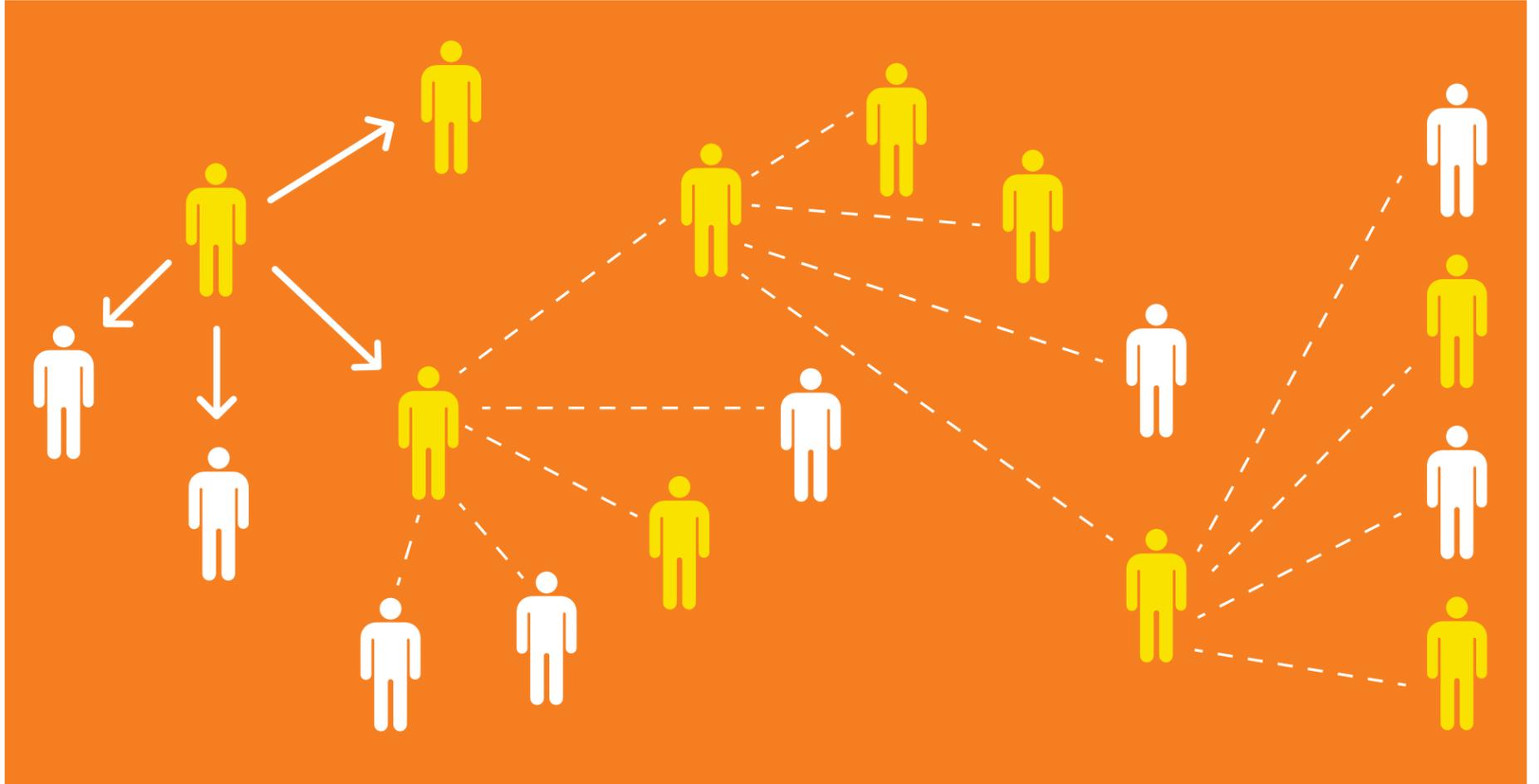


SCAN QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD
MARKETING | MEDIA | EVENTS
explorebigsky.com



Tracing a pandemic

Inside the detective work of contact tracers



BY MIRA BRODY

Editor's note: Tracing a pandemic is a complicated task. While this story covers one component of many, the complexities of testing for and tracking COVID-19 continue to arise. This is the first in a series in which we uncover the intricacies of this pandemic in the Big Sky community.

BIG SKY – The closest thing Sophie Walder can compare her experience with COVID-19 to is surviving the destruction and upheaval of an F5 tornado, which she experienced while living in Tuscaloosa, Alabama in 2011. The contrast between those who can relate, and those who cannot, she says, is isolating.

Driving up to the Big Sky Medical Center triage clinic to get tested back in June, Walder was the only car there, and the gravity of the situation hit her. By her side, however, the team of health department officials, doctors and nurses called to check on her daily, to ensure her symptoms were not taking a turn for the worse and reassure the 30-year-old local bartender.

These phone calls, sometimes multiple per day, are part of a process called contact tracing.

While the term may be new to many, for Cindi Spinelli it's just another day on the job. As communicable disease and immunization program manager at the Gallatin City-County Health Department, Spinelli and her staff of five are using contact tracing to track COVID-19 cases.

Contact tracing is a detective-style method used to manage a variety of communicable diseases, everything from salmonella to chlamydia, and is a key strategy for preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Spinelli and her team had a strong infrastructure in place before the pandemic hit, so they were able to scale up the volume of cases they could intake as COVID-19 struck Gallatin County. With the support of the county's health department staff, who help make initial patient phone calls, and by working longer hours, they began tracking cases and zeroing in on patients and their contacts.

Spinelli says right now her department is working seven days a week to monitor all daily active cases.

"We have really good people," she said. "Our team are all nurses and in my opinion I think nurses are super well trained in this. They have a lot of the right education—you have to be able to distill down signs and symptoms and communicate that with healthcare providers."

The process of contact tracing is triggered by a positive test. A contact tracer will then be assigned the case, and call the patient for an initial interview to identify their exposure to the public, starting with their household and workplace contacts. That is the first phone call Walder received after her positive test results were returned on June 17, 24-hours after she began experiencing symptoms.

Since she was one of the first people in town after the stay-at-home order was lifted to test positive, Walder says for the first few days she was fielding calls from representatives from BSMC, Bozeman Hospital and the county health department representatives.

"I had lost my sense of smell and taste," said Walder, who tends bar at Brothel Bikes, a combination pub and bike shop in Big Sky. "It's so distinct and the craziest thing I've ever experienced, not having two senses."

Testing for COVID-19 largely takes place in drive-through and triage clinics, as Walder's did, so a contact tracer is often the first person a patient speaks to after receiving a positive test result. Spinelli's team also ensures patients don't need immediate care. If they do, her staff will help them connect with their healthcare provider.

In the initial interview, contact tracers will look back 48 hours from when a patient began exhibiting symptoms and will identify close contacts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention define close contacts as anyone within six feet of a patient for 15 minutes or longer.

In Walder's case, the contact tracers reached out to her employer and contacted those who were at risk of contracting the virus. When a workplace cluster is suspected, the contact tracing team will work directly with the business, assign sanitarians and quarantine as needed to reduce further transmission.

"If I could shed any light or knowledge on this experience it's that if you were in contact with someone who tested positive, the health department

or your employer is going to reach out to you and the first question they're going to ask is 'Were you wearing a mask?'" Walder said, "which is the most appalling thing about people not wanting to wear a mask. That is the number one rule."

In addition to masks, another key element to eliminating transmission is distance. Mask or no mask, Spinelli says, keeping a six-foot radius or more will prevent the spread of airborne germs.

"Walking by someone in a store does not count as a close contact," she said. "But people in your household, those would be close contacts."

After the initial interview, the patient is instructed to quarantine for 10 days from when their symptoms began, the last three days of which must be devoid of fever without the use of medication. The contact tracing team then moves swiftly to contact all those within that 48-hour exposure window—a task that can range from a single household to 30 people. Walder says she was asked to recount her social activities day by day from the time she had symptoms.

Phased reopening precautions set in place by state and county health officials make this stage of a contact tracer's job significantly easier—Spinelli uses gymnasiums as an example.

"A lot of the gyms have set up their areas where they can have people exercise individually, so if we get someone who went to an exercise class but all those six-foot precautions were in place, then none of those people were at risk," she said. "That's satisfying."

All those in contact with the initial case are then tested and moved through the same process. If a contact tests positive but it not yet symptomatic, a contact tracer will check on them daily and instruct them to remain isolated for 10 days.

Walder was sick for seven days, and she says each day her symptoms were different, from headaches, to lost senses, to extreme fatigue and fever. Each day, the contact tracer nurses would call to check on her.

"That's the other thing people aren't realizing because we do live in a bubble extracted from the real issue," said Walder. "People aren't understanding how bad the virus really is. They have this nonchalant attitude."

Another important data point Spinelli and her team watch closely is wastewater testing. So far, most spikes of COVID-19 in wastewater have mimicked the number of active cases in their respective communities. Spinelli says if no cases paralleled with a spike in wastewater data, her team would test heavily in that area to understand why those numbers were so high.

Walder says an unfortunate stigma exists surrounding COVID-19 patients, and while some communications she received after testing positive were intrusive and rude, she says she is thankful for the group of friends she refers to as her "quarantine group" who kept in touch throughout. She's also thankful for the nurses and doctors who talked her through the sometimes overwhelming experience.

"I definitely broke down a few times," Walder said. "It's so unknown we don't really know anything about this virus. Personally, I think they did as best of a job that they could. The whole time I was sick, I couldn't move, they were really helpful. I definitely felt like I was in good hands." The lack of resolution is a theme we've all had to come to terms with during this pandemic. Spinelli's experience is that there's no solution she



Driving up to the Big Sky Medical Center triage clinic to get tested back in June, Sophie Walder was the only car there, and the gravity of the situation hit her. Since she one of the first people in town after the stay-at-home order was lifted to test positive, for the first few days she was fielding calls from representatives from BSMC, Bozeman Hospital and the county health department. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

can offer to her patients. But, as she knows all too well, with the right tools uncertainty is a bit easier to navigate.

"That's the unsatisfying thing," she said. "When we do contact tracing for other diseases we can offer them a treatment. Right now, we don't have anything to offer except finding other people who were exposed."

On the patient side, Walder's frustration stems from working for a living wage in Big Sky and the pressure one can feel to show up to work and not let your coworkers or employers down.

"Employees are in a very difficult place right now in this town because if they test positive, they could have just screwed over the whole workforce," Walder said. "It's a change in times. We've never seen this town so busy."

Stay tuned to EBS and explorebisky.com for the next installment of this contact tracing series where we look into the impacts of quarantine on local businesses.

Life 101

What makes your tail wag?



BY LINDA ARNOLD
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

I just watched the ending of the movie, “A Dog’s Purpose,” again. Bailey, the dog in the movie, sums up his purpose in three simple words: Be here now.

When a dog wags its tail, there’s no mistaking the happiness that goes along with it. That got me thinking about all the heaviness in our world right now. Understandably, many of us may have forgotten what makes our tails wag.

While you may feel like the weight of the world is on your shoulders during this pandemic, it could help to take some life lessons from our canine friends.

Happy Dance

“Allow me to be the kind of person my dog thinks I am,” reads a refrigerator magnet in my kitchen. No matter what’s taking place in the world, our pets tend to have an exalted opinion of their humans.

Even if you don’t have a pet, I’ll bet you can relate to some of the characteristics that may make you wag your tail a little more. For starters, how about that happy dance that occurs from a pet every time its human walks through the door—whether it’s been 10 minutes or 10 days. Do your own version of a happy dance, at least once a day.

Life Lessons

While the love of a dog is unconditional, humans are very conditional according to Cesar Milan, the original dog whisperer. You can look horrible, but your dog only connects with the essence of your soul.

If you want lessons in unconditional love, don’t look up to a role model, says author Renee Heiss. Simply look down—and consider the following lessons.

Loyalty

Dogs are the most loyal creatures in the world. They will gladly walk beside you for as long as you need them.

The lesson: Loyalty is a two-way street. Make sure you’re loyal to yourself and your values and walk next to your partner wherever life leads you. Mutual loyalty helps your paths flow. It takes work, but it’s definitely worth it.

Enthusiasm

The tail wags, the body jiggles and the tongue hangs out. The dog is enthusiastic about his human, and enthusiasm is contagious.

The lesson: You don’t need to jiggle your body and let your tongue hang out when you greet yourself in the bathroom mirror each morning, but make sure you take time to say a kind word to yourself.

And, if you live with a partner—and he or she is returning home—make sure you turn down the TV, get up from the computer and put down that smartphone. Nothing says unconditional love like undivided attention.

Those first two minutes of any encounter set the stage for the rest of the day—as well as the ongoing quality of your relationship.

Acceptance

You have a lot of errands, but not once does the dog go into canine rage because he or she is temporarily ignored.

The lesson: When you’re aware that other agendas need equal attention, everyone’s needs are met. This is especially challenging in our stay-at-home pandemic period with family members. The important thing is a give-and-take attitude.

Treats

Do you give your dog more treats than you give yourself? Treats—whether we give them to ourselves or to others—only take a small amount of time and effort, and talk about return on your investment!

Wag More, Worry Less

So, there you have it, a joyful approach to lightening our emotional loads these days.

Be here now. Focus on what you want. Do a happy dance. Remain loyal to yourself and others and be enthusiastic and accepting. Lastly, don’t forget the treats!

©2020 Linda Arnold Life 101, all rights reserved. Linda Arnold, M.A., M.B.A., is a syndicated columnist, psychological counselor and founder of a multistate marketing company. Reader comments are welcome at linda@lindaarnold.org. For information on her books, go to www.lindaarnold.org or Amazon.com

WE ARE OPEN!

Our Yoga Studio is Open with Protocols in place to keep everyone Safe and Healthy!

Pre-registration required (plus some classes may move outside weather permitting)

YOGA
MASSAGE
AYURVEDA
THAI MASSAGE
SPRING & FALL CLEANSES

SPRING & FALL CLEANSES
CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY
ACUPUNCTURE
FACIAL REJUVENATION
BEMER TREATMENTS

406-993-2510 • 169 Snowy Mountain Circle • Big Sky, Montana
SANTOSHABIGSKY.COM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10:00-11:15am All Levels Yoga 5:00-6:15pm Virtual Raja Vinyasa Yoga 8:00-9:00pm Warm Yin Yoga	9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga 12:00-1:00pm All Levels Yoga 4:15-5:15pm All level Yoga	7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga 10:00am-11:00am Get Your Qi On in Community Park 5:30-6:45pm Heated Flow 7:00-8:15pm Virtual Raja Vinyasa Yoga	7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga 10:00-11:00am Community Yoga in Town Center Plaza	7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga 11:00am-12:15pm All Levels Yoga 7:00-8:15pm Virtual Raja Vinyasa Yoga	9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga 12:00-1:00pm All Levels Vinyasa Flow Yoga 5:30-6:45pm All Levels Yoga	9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga 5:00-6:15pm All Levels Kundalini Yoga



Making it in Big Sky: Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital

BY BELLA BUTLER

Nearly two years ago, Dr. Sydney Desmarais opened Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital at the gateway to Big Sky. With experience in emergency veterinary services, she brings unique and necessary services to a community filled with pets. Before moving to Montana, Dr. Desmarais, a Rhode Island native, worked at a veterinary hospital in Portland, Oregon, for eight years alongside more than 20 other doctors. Today, she enjoys running her single-doctor practice, the only veterinary hospital in Big Sky.

Explore Big Sky: *How does servicing the Big Sky community differ from other communities in which you've provided care?*

Sydney Desmarais: I think it is actually a lot more fun, but how it's probably different is that I know most of my clients and their dogs. I think there is a lot of value in the fact that you get to know who you're working with, which allows you to communicate with them better.

EBS: *What is one of the most memorable moments you've had as a resident or business owner in Big Sky?*

S.D.: It was helping a family in treating their dog with cancer, from the diagnosis to the treatment, seeing the dog super happy post-surgery and then being there when they had to say goodbye with their whole family. So being able to be a part of a big health ordeal from the very beginning to the very end and being able to help with every piece and being able to see all the happy moments and then be able to help with the sad ones. In Big Sky that's something I really value is that you get to be there for everything.

EBS: *Where do you see your business in 10 years?*

S.D.: My hope would just be as the town expands that we would have two doctors, but my goal would be to actually keep it still very small. To have two doctors and to have more equipment. My hope would be over 10 years that it grows to having everything that Big Sky residents need so that they don't ever have to drive the canyon.

EBS: *What is it about Big Sky that compels you to stick it out through the hard times?*

S.D.: I came from a city, so definitely a sense of community and knowing everybody and feeling more valued in helping people in a smaller community get the resources that they need. Also, my quality of life. I run, I bike and I ski, so it's knowing that it's right there.

EBS: *What are the biggest obstacles in operating a small business in Big Sky?*

S.D.: It's the distribution of medical supplies. Oxygen is only delivered one day a week, even when I try and overnight something it might take two or three days. I think it's the fact that we're small, and then it just has to do with getting medical supplies delivered remotely.

EBS: *What is the best piece of business advice you've received?*

S.D.: Practice from your heart and practice high quality medicine. Be honest with people and you'll make it.



Dr. Sydney Desmarais and her canine companion. PHOTO BY BELLA BUTLER

EBS: *How have your life experiences prepared you for owning a business in Big Sky?*

S.D.: They prepared me by the fact that realizing no matter how challenging and scary things may get, and no matter how many things you work through that you don't know, usually it works out in the end. I did a lot of research and did a lot of travelling in developing countries [doing infectious disease research], and stuff would always go really wrong before it went right. That aspect of roll with it, get through it and figure out what you need to do and keep moving forward.

EBS: *What have you found to be the most successful way to reach community members?*

S.D.: I honestly feel like it's word of mouth and putting yourself out there for community events. Just saying hi; I go to talk to people when I see them at music [or other events].

EBS: *What are the advantages of people to bringing their pets to you instead of providers in Bozeman?*

S.D.: I think being the only doctor in the practice is an advantage because it's continuity of care. Also not having to drive the canyon because cats get really stressed out in the car. I think one of my personal strengths is trying to work really hard to communicate to people and give them all sorts of treatment options.

EBS: *What is the craziest pet injury you've seen in your career?*

S.D.: It was probably a black lab that got stuck in a coffee table. The firemen in Oregon had to bring me the dog in the coffee table because they couldn't get it out. That was the [funniest] one because everything worked out fine.

Editor's note: A version of this story was originally published on EBS.com in June 2019.

MAKING IT IN BIG SKY IS BROUGHT
TO YOU BY THE **BIG SKY CHAMBER**

As the **VOICE** of Business, the Big Sky Chamber **CHAMPIONS** a healthy economy and works collaboratively to **CONVENE** community stakeholders as a **CATALYST** to improve the overall quality of life in the region.

OUR COMMUNITY. OUR BUSINESS.

The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce is a 501 (c)(6) nonprofit, membership organization

Join Today!

406.995.3000 | BIGSKYCHAMBER.COM

MEMBERSHIP@BIGSKYCHAMBER.COM



BIG SKY CHAMBER
(Est. 1986)

SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB



Royal Coachman Ranch
160 ACRES / \$5.9M

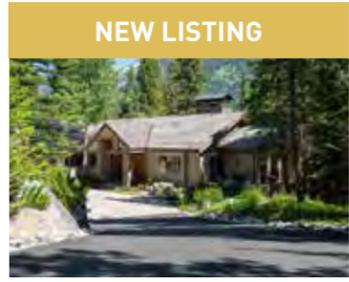


Lot 38 Bitterbrush Trail
1.27 ACRES / \$890K

BIG SKY



2005 Upper Chief Joseph
7,690 SQ FT / \$4.3M



3735 Pinewood Drive
6,544 total SQ FT / \$4.95M

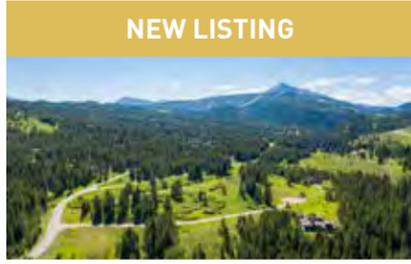


64 Lodgepole
6,160 SQ FT / \$3.895M

BIG SKY - LAND



The Ranches at Yellow Mountain
2A-1B
526 Acres / \$5.8M



Moosewood Lots 3 & 4
Lot 3 / 6.9 Acres / \$1.4M
Lot 4 / 5 Acres / \$1.1M



The Ranches at Yellow Mountain
Tract 3B-1
23 Acres / \$875k



The Ranches at Yellow Mountain
Tract 1A-1
21 Acres / \$795k

COMMERCIAL



Rocking S7 Ranch Lot 4
Bozeman, MT
20.232 ACRES / \$650K



988 Meagher
Bozeman, MT
2232 +/- sq ft / \$499K



380 Mountain Man Trail
Montana Ranch
20.8 ACRES / \$325K



223 Town Center Avenue
Big Sky, MT
2882 SQ FT / 1601 SF Patio
\$1.525M



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

RECENTLY SOLD



Yellowstone Ranch Preserve
List Price: \$19M



13285 Dry Creek Road
Bozeman, MT
7448 SQ FT Total / \$5.95M



Mountain Meadows
120 Acres / \$3.495M

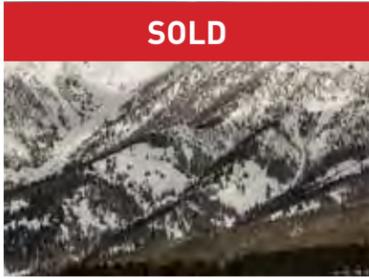


Big Sky Corner Property
List Price: \$3.24M



78 Meadow Village
Dr. Big Sky, MT
4,769 SQ FT / \$2.1M

RECENTLY SOLD



Lot 44 Diamond Hitch
1.25 ACRE / \$699K



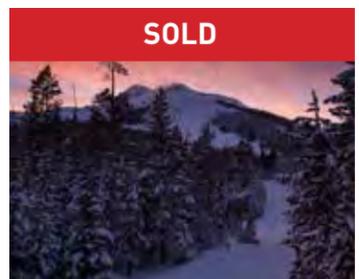
211 B Pheasant Tail
\$692K



Hidden Village
15 Blue Flax Place
2,788 SQ FT / \$599K



Summit 911/912
List Price: \$595K



Lot 39 Diamond Hitch
1 ACRE / \$595K

L & K
Real Estate

How can we
Call us today for stats, market up
20+ years of experience in Southwest



All information given is considered reliable, but because it has been supplied by third parties, we cannot represent that it is accurate or complete, and should not be relied upon as such. These offerings are subject to errors, omissions, and changes including



8 Little Thunder
4,321 SQ FT / \$2.975M



49820 Gallatin Road
3,677 SQ FT / \$1.895M



Gallatin Foothills
Call for more information



NEW LISTING
Lodges at Elkhorn Creek
2,060 - 2,203 +/- Sq. Ft.
\$1M - \$2.25M

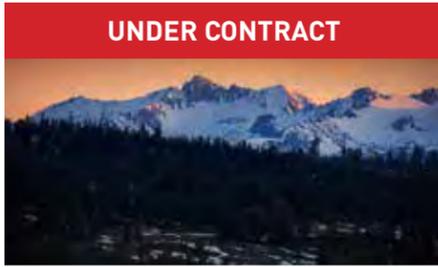


Hill Condo 1313
440 SQ FT / \$219K

BOZEMAN & GREATER MONTANA



Big EZ
Lot 42: \$339K / 20 ACRES
Lot 43: \$375K / 20 ACRES
Combined: \$699K



UNDER CONTRACT

Lot 2 Big Buck Road
20 ACRES / \$480K



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



UNDER CONTRACT

705 E Orange
Bozeman, MT
2,200 SQ FT / \$915K

BUSINESS



UNDER CONTRACT

Marketplace Unit 202
Big Sky, MT
966 SQ FT / \$389K



UNDER CONTRACT

50 Ousel Falls
Big Sky, MT
Call for details



Lone Peak Cinema
\$140K / Big Sky, MT
Call for details

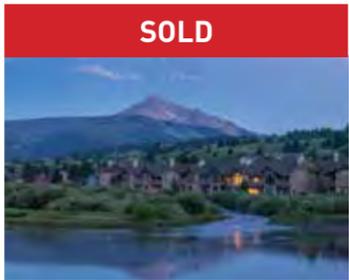


Airport Garages
Bozeman, MT
\$29.9K per unit
Taking reservations for building G



NEW LISTING

Terranaut Adventure Vans
Bozeman, MT
Call for details



SOLD

Crail Ranch Unit 40
List Price: \$1.35M



SOLD

2078 Little Coyote List
List Price: \$1.079M



SOLD

Ski Tip Lot 10
List Price: \$975K



SOLD

81 Pheasant Tail Ln. Unit 2
2,707 SQ FT / \$839K



SOLD

Lot 64 Goshawk
1.04 ACRES / \$775K



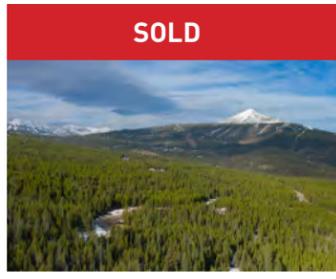
SOLD

Cottonwood Crossing Unit 5
1854 SQ FT / \$565K



SOLD

Lot 119 Old Barn Rd.
3.13 Acres / \$490K



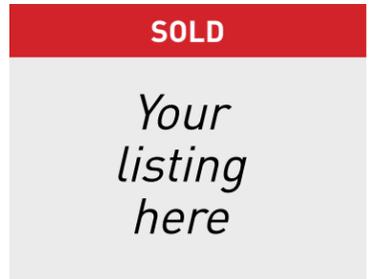
SOLD

Lot 71 Morning Glory
3.65 Acres / \$375K



SOLD

COS 2071 Tract 1 Gallatin Road
3.14 Acres / \$299K



SOLD

Your listing here

ve help you?

updates and additional information
st Montana | **\$1.8 billion +** in sales

LKRealEstate.com
406.995.2404



MONTANA VEIN CLINIC

MINIMALLY INVASIVE | OUTPATIENT | FAST RECOVERY

Bozeman's expert varicose vein treatment center.
Most insurances accepted — including MediCare.

Vein problems can cause:

Aching | Heaviness | Swelling
Throbbing | Itching

If this describes your legs, call us!

Promoting Healthy Legs... for Life



Andrew W. Grace, MD, FACS

- Diplomat of the American Board of Venous and Lymphatic Medicine
- Diplomat of the American Board of Surgery



BOZEMAN HEALTH
MONTANA VEIN CLINIC

Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital
925 Highland Blvd., Suite 1200
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 414-5037
MontanaVeinClinic.com

ANDERSON

ENTERPRISES

BIG SKY'S TEXTILE CLEANING

SPECIALIST

SINCE 1988

Carpet Cleaning • Soil & Stain Protectants • Spot Cleaning
Upholstery Cleaning • Leather Cleaning
Fine Area Rug Cleaning • Tile & Grout Cleaning
Hardwood Floor Cleaning & Conditioning • Odor Removal

IICRC CERTIFIED FIRM

406.995.2811



COURTNEY COLLINS
FINE ART

DUKE BEARDSLEY "PARLEE"

72H X 108W | OIL ON CANVAS

32 Town Center Ave. C1 | 406.581.3092 | courtney@coloristhemedicine.com

Enjoying the Ride: Borrowing from Sallie to pay for Johnny



BY SCOTT BROWN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

As if 2020 has not been challenging enough, many parents are now faced with the reality that their children are likely not returning to school as normal this fall. Around the country there are many different school reopening models. With the exception of a few private schools, kindergarten through graduate and beyond will likely not be normal. As daunting as this is for many families, imagine if you have a child heading into their senior year of high school and you haven't properly planned to pay for or at least assist with your child's college tuition. Yikes! If this is you, while your high schooler is belting out lyrics from Third Eye Blind's Graduate "Can I graduate?!" Or Green Day's "Good Riddance." "So take the photographs, and still frames in your mind/ Hang it on a shelf in good health and good time." You're having sobering flashbacks of your favorite scene from Animal House. My advice to you is to start drinking. Heavily.

Let's hope this isn't you and therefore it is not too late to review and research the different avenues you and your children have to consider when it comes to covering the cost of college. As a point of reference, the average cost of tuition and fees for the 2019-2020 school year was \$41,426 at private colleges, \$11,260 for state residents at public colleges and \$27,120 for out-of-state students at state schools, according to data reported to U.S. News in an annual survey.

Thankfully, there are many ways to cover the cost of a college education. These include but are not limited to, 529 Plans, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, UGMA's, UTMA's, federal grant programs, federal work-study programs, federal loan programs, (Federal student loans, offered by the government, are based on your financial and family situation, as provided in your FAFSA), state aid, institutional/university assistance, private student loans (Sallie Mae), scholarships, corporate or employer based assistance, traditional savings accounts or even paying for the expenses out of cash flow. One very helpful resource is the website www.savingforcollege.com. For scholarships information consider visiting www.unigo.com and of course a best practice would be to talk to your student's guidance counselors or even consider hiring an independent college advisor.

I'd like to focus on the most common college savings solutions, 529 plans. College savings plans are the most common type of 529 plan. They work much like a 401(K) by investing your contributions in mutual funds or professionally managed investments. The plan will offer you several investment options from which to choose. Your account will go up or down in value based on the performance of the particular options you or your advisor select.

Using an advisor means you get the benefit of advice and expertise of an investment professional, although be aware that this may mean you pay sales charges or incur

other fees that are used to compensate the advisor. The contributions to 529 plans are made with after-tax dollars but depending on the state you live in as well as your gross household taxable income you may qualify for a state income tax deduction. Most importantly, the earnings on your investments will grow tax-free assuming the distributions from the plan are used for higher education related expenses.

Another type of 529 plan is the prepaid tuition plan. These plans let you prepay all or part of the costs of an in-state public college education. They may also be converted for use at private and out-of-state colleges. It is important to note that only a handful of states offer prepaid tuition plans. Similarly, there is also a private college 529 plan that is available to consumers nationally.

Some other attractive feature of 529's are the special exception for scholarship recipients who have 529 plans, the ability to use funds to pay off up to \$10,000 in student loans and qualified expenses related to apprenticeship programs, approved by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Fair or not, there are no restrictions on the income level of the contributors to a 529 plan and over 30 states offer a state tax benefit for contributions to a 529 plan. It is important that you research and compare plans before you simply use your state plan, assuming your state offers a 529 plan. Finally, there is no annual limit on the amount that may be deposited into a 529 plan.

Some quick facts about the ESA's include annual maximum contributions are \$2,000, account funds can be used for primary and secondary schools. Of course, these funds are also eligible for higher education as well. One potential hurdle to ESA's is that they are only available to families that fall under a designated income level. Also, upon the beneficiary reaching age 30, any remaining funds in the ESA must be disbursed, unlike a 529 plan. Lastly, it is permissible to have a 529 plan as well as an ESA for the same beneficiary.

One of my No. 1 rules with clients is that you should never mortgage your retirement for your child's education.

You can't borrow to pay for the costs of your retirement and long-term health care needs. Don't make the mistake of stretching to pay for "Johnny's" school and then end up becoming a financial burden on your children or someone else later in life.

My second rule is to make sure your child's education will equate to employment and a career path so they can pay back their student loans. In these unprecedented times I hope you are spending time with your family, friends and loved ones and that you are enjoying the ride!

Scott L. Brown is the cofounder and managing principal of Shore to Summit Wealth Management. His wealth management career spans more than 25 years and he currently works and lives in Bozeman, MT with his wife and two sons.



We have fur coats, jackets, vests, capes, mens furs, & accessories

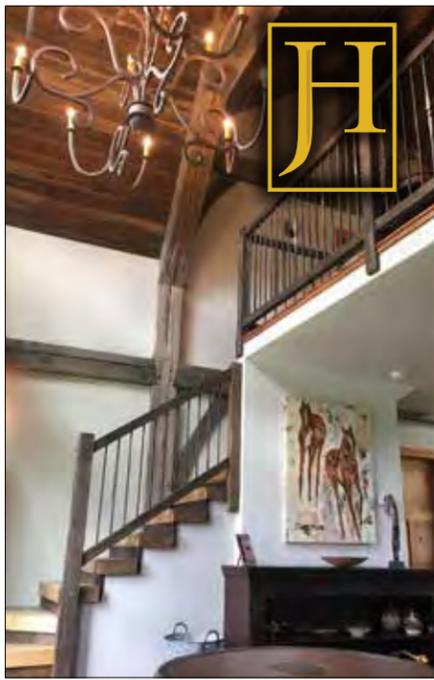
**INVENTORY REDUCTION
SALE
JULY 1ST - SEPTEMBER 30TH**

**25% off all fur coats, jackets,
vests and capes.**

**Get a ticket in store for a chance to
win a monthly prize. Winners choice
of a fur coat, jacket or vest.**

**For a private showing,
call for an appointment**

**Open Daily from 10am-6pm | 406.995.4705
99 Town Center Ave. Unit A7 behind the new Wilson Hotel**



WHATCHA' GOT GOIN ON!

**HOLMES
CONSTRUCTION**
JIM HOLMES
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

(406) 581-9427

NEW CONSTRUCTION
REMODELING
KITCHENS & BATHS
ADDITIONS
DECKS
SKIDSTEER & GRADALL
TILE
ALL TYPES OF HOME REPAIR

LICENSED AND INSURED
JIMHOLMESCONSTRUCTION@GMAIL.COM
BIG SKY, MT

CLASSIFIEDS



**BIG SKY
BUILD**
— EST. 1997 —

HIRING

Experienced Carpenter wanted for a Big Sky custom home builder. F/T position with benefit pkg.

Wage D.O.E. Vehicle, References, and a back-ground check required. Inquiry by email only to:
brian@bigskybuild.com

LEGAL NOTICE

This is a Notice of Completion, by Lone Pine Builders, for work completed on 5/28/2020, at 538 Eagle View Trail, Big Sky, Montana, Madison County

BIG SKY PRINT & SHIP
IN WEST FORK MEADOWS

WE PACK **WE SHIP** **WE PRINT**

Graphic Design • B&W & Color Copies • Business Cards • Envelopes • Rack Cards
Large Format Printing • Brochures • Newsletters • Postcards • Laminating • Bindery • Envelopes
Carbonless Forms • Bulk Mailing • Reservation Books • Rubber Stamps • Posters • Menus

235 Snowy Mountain Circle 406.995.7884 (Phone)
Suite 2 • Big Sky, MT 59716 406.995.7885 (Fax)
HRS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 5PM sales@bigskyprintandship.com (Email)

INSURANCE IS OUR PASSION

We represent: **Allied Insurance** **The Hartford** **TRAVELERS** **MetLife** ...and many more

With offices in **Big Sky and Ennis**

INSURANCE Agency DIVISION

BuzzBallz®
Cocktails

NEW! **WOMEN OWNED** **GF** **MADE WITH Real Fruit Juice**

BuzzBallz® Cocktails
STRAWBERRY RUM JOB
PREMIUM RUM WITH STRAWBERRY & BANANA JUICE, COCONUT CREAM, & NATURAL FLAVORS ADDED
ALC 15% BY VOL • 200 ML

BuzzBallz® Cocktails
CHOC TEASE
PREMIUM VODKA, ORANGE WINE AND CREAM WITH NATURAL FLAVORS
ALC 15% BY VOL • 200 ML

BuzzBallz® Cocktails
TEQUILA RITA
PREMIUM TEQUILA, VODKA & TROPIC SOFT WITH NATURAL FLAVORS, CERTIFIED COLORS, AND FD&C
ALC 15% BY VOL • 200 ML

BuzzBallz® Cocktails
PEACHBALL
PREMIUM VODKA WITH PEACH JUICE, NATURAL FLAVORS & CITRUS FLAVORS
ALC 15% BY VOL • 200 ML

15% Alc by Vol

©2020 BuzzBallz, LLC, Carrollton, TX. Please Enjoy Responsibly.

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.

Total recall



BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

It's one of the least desired pieces of mail we receive—the recall letter telling you there is an issue with your vehicle's airbag, or maybe the brake system. You dread having to deal with it, yet you know it is paramount to the safety of you and anyone else who may be riding with you.

But all facets of our society deal with recalls on a daily basis. Last week, the country saw a recall of red onions, which seems benign enough, after all, it isn't a component to your 5,000-pound vehicle zooming 80 miles per hour down I-90. But the potential for mass illness is often less than 48 hours away.

For years, I received emails from the U.S Food and Drug Administration as well as other sources which kept me updated on recalls of foods and food products—there is a distinction. The number of these I received weekly would surprise you, I'm sure, and the mass majority of them the public never hears about.

While I have my criticisms of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the FDA, the response time and critical path to public recalls is unbelievable. The fact that virtually every one of these products never sees a grocery store shelf or inside of a restaurant before the general public is aware is truly amazing. And if they do make it onto a shelf, it isn't for long.

Here is a breakdown of steps and critical control points that are carried out often times before the public has any idea there is an issue.

A manufacturer or producer discovers the issue—this is usually learned or documented through a government required Hazzard Analysis Critical Control Point plan. Most food producers are required to have one by state and federal law, and though they are painstakingly tedious to create, they are an invaluable tool that ultimately saves lives.

Once discovered, the issue is reported to either the FDA or the Food Safety and Inspection Service. Next, inspectors from either the FDA or FSIS or even both agencies are dispatched as quickly as possible to the believed source of the contamination.

At this point, the food item in question is tested to determine if is contaminated or not. If it is not contaminated by the scientific results of the FDA and the FSIS, the owner or producer may ultimately choose to recall the product regardless—either to avoid potential bad press or simply for peace of mind.

If the food in question fails the food safety test, again, either the FDA or FSIS begin notifying individual health departments, starting on the local level, and progressing through counties, states, and eventually on a national stage.

Simultaneously, as these notifications spread through the larger and larger health organizations, those health departments are notifying the CDC.

Ultimately, and here's where you can see both the silly irony and the thoroughness of the process, the CDC notifies the FDA or FSIS again, bringing the informational loop full circle. Then they begin to notify the public, as well as the media, depending on the breadth and severity of the contamination.

And as of the passing of the Food Safety Modernization Act in 2011, the FDA can intervene at any point of this process if it deems the situation calls for drastic action.

In recent decades, this process has become both cumbersome and over-protective. But this is largely due to the E. coli outbreak of 1993, traced back to Jack in the Box ground beef, where it turned out to be a matter of life and death for a handful of children.

My recommendation? Always follow the advice provided during food recalls.

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.



Big Sky, Montana

Open for the Summer Season!

COME UP AND ENJOY SLOPESIDE AND
DECK DINING AND COCKTAILS

7 nights a week, 6:00pm - Close

Dine In and Take Out Available
406-995-4244



Arrowhead Mall 3rd Floor, Mountain Village

LONE PEAK
PERFORMANCE

IT'S NOT ABOUT BEING BETTER
THAN ANYONE ELSE. IT'S
ABOUT BEING BETTER THAN
YOU WERE YESTERDAY.

SERVICES

1:1 PERSONAL TRAINING
METABOLIC TESTING
VO2 MAX TESTING

BIKE FITTING
RACE COACHING
RUNNING ANALYSIS

LONEPEAKPERFORMANCE.COM



DID YOU KNOW?

500 years ago, at least 30 million bison roamed the plains. That number is now less than 30,000. The depletion of free range bison has been attributed to:

- Decades of over-exploitation
- Decline in genetic diversity
- Habitat loss
- Human Interaction

Yellowstone National Park boasts the nation's largest free range buffalo herd, but only two others remain - the Henry's Mountains and Book Cliffs herds, both in southern Utah.

RESPECT.PROTECT.CHERISH.

Paid for by the animals in your backyard.

Prevention is key. Clean. Drain. Dry. Every time.



Remove mud, water, and vegetation from your gear and clean with water and a stiff brush. There is no need for chemicals.

Drain any water from your equipment (including bait buckets) at your access point. Use a sponge for items that can't be drained.

Dry your equipment thoroughly. The longer you keep your waders and other equipment outside and in the hot sun between trips, the better.

The health of the Gallatin depends on you.

CLEAN.



DRAIN.



DRY.



OZssage Therapeutic Spa



Massages, Body Treatments & Facials

Looking after Big Sky for 20 years

Your safety is our main concern,
please visit our website to view all
we are doing!

Booking on line or call

Tuesday - Saturday

32 Market Place, Big Sky

406-995-7575 www.ozssage.com



American Life in Poetry: Column 803

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

Emily Ransdell, a poet from Washington state, touches upon this phenomenon in a poem that's about much more than memory.

Everywhere a River

I do remember darkness, how it snaked through the alders, their ashen flanks in our high-beams the color of stone. That hollow slap as floodwater hit the sides of the car. Was the radio on? Had I been asleep? Sometimes you have to tell a story your entire life to get it right.

Twenty-two and terrified, I had married you but barely knew you. And for forty years I've told this story wrong. In my memory you drove right through it, the river already rising on the road behind us, no turning around. But since your illness I recall it differently. Now that I know it's possible to lose you, I'm finally remembering it right. That night, you threw that car in reverse, and gunned it. You found us another way home.

We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2019 by Emily Ransdell, "Everywhere a River," from New Letters (Vol. 86, nos. 1 & 2, 2019). Poem reprinted by permission of Emily Ransdell and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2020 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.

Corner Quote

“As I’ve told you many times, I’m split in two. One side contains my exuberant cheerfulness, my flippancy, my joy in life and, above all, my ability to appreciate the lighter side of things. By that I mean not finding anything wrong with flirtations, a kiss, an embrace, an off-color joke. This side of me is usually lying in wait to ambush the other one, which is much purer, deeper and finer.”

– Anne Frank’s final diary entry on Aug. 1, 1944, from “Anne Frank: The Dairy of a Young Girl”

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Recombinant letters</p> <p>4 Ancient Egypt. city</p> <p>8 Weep</p> <p>11 Alternating current/direct current (abbr.)</p> <p>13 Noun-forming (suf.)</p> <p>14 Honey</p> <p>15 Exclamation of disdain</p> <p>16 Chine</p> <p>18 Polishing material</p> <p>20 Fungal disease</p> <p>21 Not moving</p> <p>23 Honshu bay</p> <p>24 Civil Aeronautics Board (abbr.)</p> <p>25 John, Irish</p> <p>27 Husband of Jezebel</p> <p>31 Variation (pref.)</p> <p>33 Grain</p>	<p>34 Czarist Russ. council</p> <p>35 Ran</p> <p>36 Fertilizer ingredient</p> <p>38 Wire measure</p> <p>39 Pronoun contraction</p> <p>41 Narrate</p> <p>43 Degrade</p> <p>46 Bid</p> <p>47 Arouet</p> <p>49 Fr. month</p> <p>52 Amer. Standard Version (abbr.)</p> <p>53 Moselle tributary</p> <p>54 Country bumpkin</p> <p>55 Genetic letters</p> <p>56 Fr. pronoun</p> <p>57 Thus (Lat.)</p>	<p>ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE</p> <p>MAMA FARE BOT</p> <p>SNEE ALEC ABR</p> <p>TUAN IPIL RIO</p> <p>NEATH ALBAN</p> <p>ATTACH XII</p> <p>GEIST MARIMBA</p> <p>AAM TAT APT</p> <p>GRENDL PICOT</p> <p>EAN DONKEY</p> <p>TIEUP PARS I</p> <p>ABC HAEC UNCO</p> <p>PAC NIDI LAAP</p> <p>ANE ELIA ACLE</p>
---	--	--

<p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Fish with bait on the surface</p> <p>2 Noncommissioned officer (abbr.)</p>	<p>3 Cute</p> <p>4 Of fat</p> <p>5 Anatomy (abbr.)</p> <p>6 Interstate Commerce Commission (abbr.)</p> <p>7 Civil War commander</p>	<p>8 Inclement weather</p> <p>9 Wine (pref.)</p> <p>10 Decay of overripe fruit</p> <p>12 Confabulate</p> <p>17 Money</p> <p>19 More!</p> <p>21 Wound crust</p> <p>22 Lofty</p> <p>23 Meddle</p> <p>26 Berne's river</p> <p>28 Risible</p> <p>29 Afghan title</p> <p>30 Esth</p> <p>32 Poet</p> <p>37 Amer. Expeditionary Forces (abbr.)</p> <p>40 Annoy</p> <p>42 Fruit</p> <p>43 N. Caucasian language</p> <p>44 Boatswain</p> <p>45 Edison's middle name</p> <p>46 Uttered</p> <p>48 Adjective-forming (suf.)</p> <p>50 Where (Lat.)</p> <p>51 Detective</p>
--	---	--

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11			12		13			14		
15					16			17		
		18		19			20			
21	22					23				
24			25		26		27	28	29	30
31			32		33			34		
35					36		37		38	
			39	40		41	42			
43	44	45			46					
47					48			49	50	51
52					53			54		
55					56				57	

©2020 Satori Publishing A126

BIG SKY BEATS

“Highwayman” by The Highwaymen

“Highwayman” was originally written by Jimmy Webb and today, it’s possibly best known for the version performed by Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings and Kris Kristofferson, otherwise known as the “Highwaymen.” The four heard the song before but the idea of a cover became a reality. It didn’t stick until they were working on their first album in the late 1980s, when they also adopted the band name the “Highwaymen.”

They thought it was a perfect name for them because they were always on the road and all four had the image of being outlaws in the country music realm. In the Highwaymen’s version of the song, each of the four verses was sung by a different performer: first Nelson as the highwayman, then Kristofferson as the sailor, Jennings as the dam builder, and finally Cash as the starship captain. Webb’s reaction to hearing his reincarnated single: “I don’t know how they decided who would take which verse, but having Johnny last was like having God singing your song.”



L&K Real Estate

The Lodges at Elkhorn Creek Luxurious Mountain Retreats



The Lodges at Elkhorn Creek | Big Sky, MT

2101 - \$1,395,000, 2,203 +/- sqft, 5 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms

2203 - \$1,295,000, 2,038 +/- sqft, 4 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms

2301 - \$1,995,000, 3,095 +/- sqft, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms

2201 - \$1,249,000, 2,203 +/- sqft, 5 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms

2202 - \$1,098,000, 2,060 +/- sqft, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms

Unrivaled top quality construction, finished with luxurious mountain modern style.

At L&K Real Estate we represent clients purchasing and selling the finest luxury residential and commercial properties in *Montana*. We love this beautiful place and are passionate about helping others find their own connection to it.

Call us today for all the details

LKRealEstate.com | 406.995.2404



All information given is considered reliable, but because it has been supplied by third parties, we cannot represent that it is accurate or complete, and should not be relied upon as such. These offerings are subject to errors, omissions, and changes including price or withdrawal without notice. All rights reserved. Equal Housing Opportunity. If you currently have a listing agreement or buyer broker agreement with another agent, this is not a solicitation to change. ©2016 LK REAL ESTATE, LLC. lkrealestate.com

Explore™

Big Sky

SPECIAL EDITION

SECTION 4: REAL ESTATE TOP 3 LAND LISTINGS

Moosewood Lots

Lone Peak Views, gorgeous land opportunity and minutes to Big Sky Town Center

Lot 3 | 6.9 Acres | Offered at \$ 1,400,000.00

Lot 4 | 5 Acres | Offered at \$ 1,100,000.00

Michael Pitcairn | 406.995.2404 | michael@lkrealestate.com

Top Southwest Montana property listings

The opportunity of wide open spaces

For generations, Americans have moved West in search of a more agrarian lifestyle and a slower, quieter pace of life. The same migration is happening today as people value recreation and health over the amenities that metropolises have to offer.

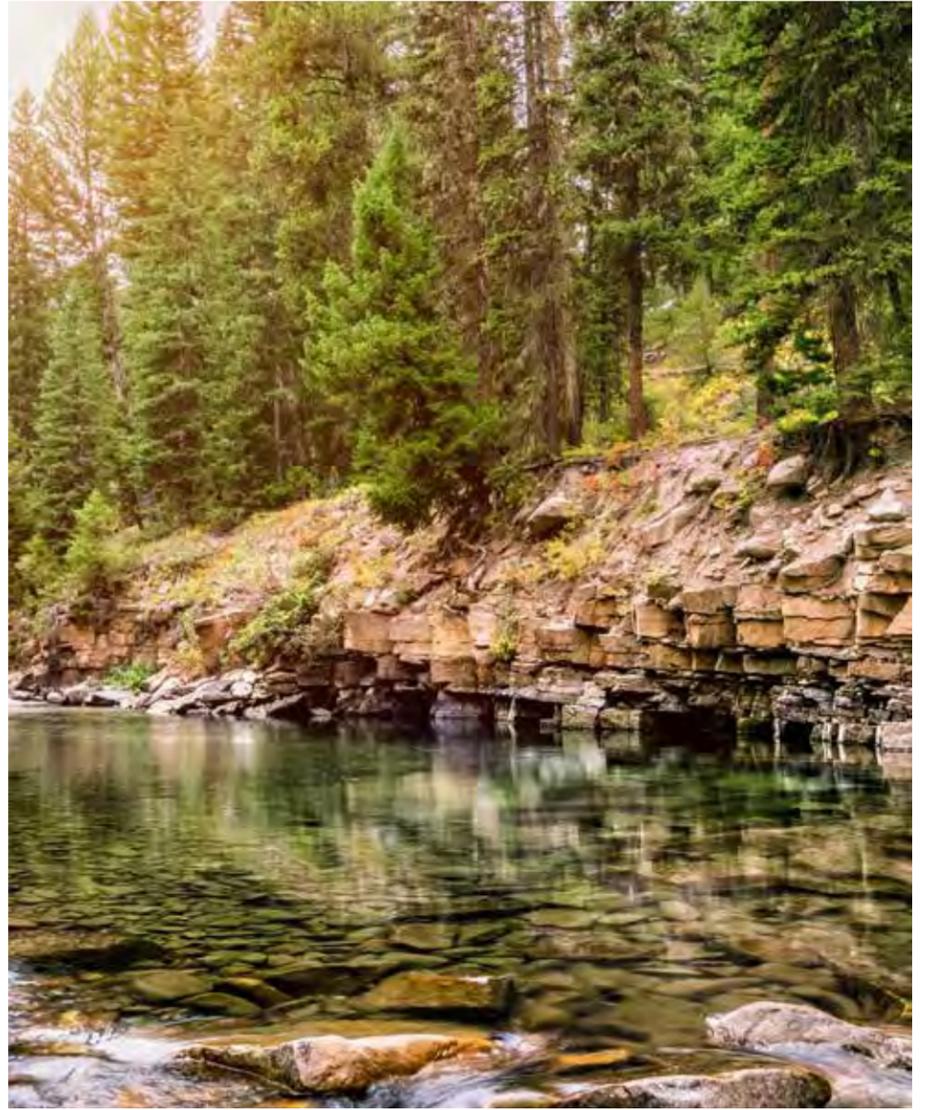
Even as real estate across the country slows, in Southwest Montana it isn't. The appeal for wide open spaces is growing as the great western migration gains momentum—snag your piece of paradise before it's gone.

1 Gallatin Preserve Tract 1

Listed by Martha Johnson with The Big Sky Real Estate Co.

A stunning 189-acre tract with a 10-acre building envelope of which you can identify a 5-acre building site. Rolling meadows, old growth forests and views of the mountains that go on forever! Home to elk herds, moose, bear, deer and nesting cranes to name a few of mother nature's creatures that call this home. The property hosts Spring Creek tributaries and the Southfork of the Westfork of the Gallatin River (one of the most secluded blue ribbon trout streams of the world). Gallatin Preserve is the best of both worlds as you have your ranch in Montana with privacy, views and access to the river, yet restaurants, shopping, movie theater, and grocery stores are just two miles down the road in the Big Sky Town Center, and this property borders the Yellowstone Club! A Golf or Ski Social Membership at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club comes with each property but is not required.

Listed by Martha Johnson | 406.580.5891 | martha@bigsky.com



2

Cottonwood Bench Ranch

Listed by Claire Gillam with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Montana Properties

With a 360° panoramic view on top of the world, this pristine property reveals a spectacular view of each mountain range that surrounds the Gallatin Valley: the Bridgers, Hyalites, Spanish Peaks and the Tobacco Roots. Clear, icy water flowing from the Hyalite mountains with 1866 water rights, provides productive hay and wheat fields along with verdant fields for grazing. There are three cascading tiers of terrain lined with massive Cottonwood Groves, created by the three waterways flowing across the land. This 253.44-acre property at the base of Cottonwood Canyon is conserved and is adjacent to two other conservation easements to provide incredible privacy. This land has it all: beauty, productivity and privacy along with the luxury of easy access to both vibrant Bozeman and all of Big Sky amenities. There are two gorgeous building sites to choose from. You can build your dream home or just enjoy walking, riding horses or cross country skiing on this special property. This property is listed for \$3,300,000 by Claire Gillam with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Montana Properties, MLS # 344451.

Listed by Claire Gillam | 406.581.4070 | claire.gillam@bbhsmt.com



3

Rocking S7 Ranch Lot 4 Listed by L&K Real Estate

Amazing views within a shared lifestyle community. Just northwest of Bozeman, Montana is the Dry Creek Drainage, an area known for abundant wildlife, meandering creeks and streams, and commanding views of the Bridger Mountain Range. The Rocking S7 Ranch is the ideal combination of outdoor recreation and proximity to one of the West's most appealing communities. Whether your passion is fly fishing for wild trout, upland bird or big game hunting, hiking, biking, Nordic skiing or just relaxing, the Rocking S7 Ranch provides a superb home base. With spectacular views in every direction, this

home site at the Rocking S7 Ranch lives large, while maintaining proximity to Bozeman. As part of a shared lifestyle community, owners enjoy recreational benefits including a pond and creek for fishing, as well as managed agriculture which offsets association dues. This is a superb opportunity for anyone looking for space and acreage but also the desire to be close to in-town amenities. Contact listing agent Ryan Kulesza with L&K Real Estate at 406-995-2404.

Listed by Ryan Kulesza | 406-995-2404 | ryan@lkrealestate.com



OSM Construction

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT

Moon Dance Ranch

Wide-open spaces and a spirit of adventure are the lifestyle of northwest Wyoming. Shoshone Native Americans, trappers, and ranchers all discovered a life of rustic experiences in Jackson Hole. Today, Jackson blends the original frontier spirit with an elegance and affluence rarely found elsewhere.



The Moon Dance Ranch in Wyoming lies in a tranquil valley surrounded by towering peaks and lush forests. The home showcases a responsible enhancement of the property's creeks and pond, including a creek flowing through the home then meandering gently into a trout-filled pond. PHOTO BY AUDREY HALL

It is here, in the unique 3 Creek Ranch, that OSM created the Moon Dance Ranch. The home sits quietly between towering cottonwood and evergreen trees and features a fly fisherman's dream come true of a restored pond and enhanced creek.

"A river truly runs through it ... the house that is, not just the ranch," says OSM Wyoming's Managing Director and Principal Mark Pollard. "The homeowner enjoys evenings watching native cutthroat trout rise as the sun sets behind Wyoming's towering peaks. Fish can be caught or simply watched."

Moon Dance Ranch's inspiration stemmed from European farmhouses. The construction is a pleasant respite from the timber and stone of so many homes in the area. This elegant simplicity is complemented by the creation of the ranch's unique water features—the result of combining the passion of the homeowner with the talented team at OSM. Like the ranchers who call the area home, these enhanced water elements pay tribute to the agrarian heritage of Jackson Hole.

"Because so much water flows underground in the Jackson Hole area," says OSM CEO and Principal Peter Belschwender, "we had to work with the homeowner to combine inspiration with practicality."

OSM built specially designed pillars and walls in the crawlspace to allow for the enhancement of the creeks and pond without creating any risk of water damage. The front of the house gazes outward to the pond while the creek runs through the house itself, reminiscent of an age-old European water mill, epitomizing the juncture of old-world traditions with new West ingenuity.

The homeowner, an avid fly fisherman, wished to blend reclamation of the creeks into an exhilarating component of the home. As the creek water flows underneath a walkway and through a reclaimed irrigation draw, it tumbles through an enhanced meadow and into the pond.

Like the pioneers before them in this valley, OSM and the homeowner inspired to create a truly unique château. The expansive detail and design invested into the water features combine and truly set Moon Dance apart from the many other large western ranch homes.

Birch Creek Ranch

Montana's Madison Valley is known for grandiose beauty. Backdropped by three mountain ranges—the Madisons, Tobacco Roots, and Gravelles—it is fitting that a family's long search for a mountain retreat ended with the building of a home featuring breathtaking views of Ennis Lake and the mountains of the Madison Valley.

Birch Creek Ranch is the perfect blend of mountain rustic and contemporary sophistication. The home melds into the natural landscape and appears modest, nestled amongst the pines and aspen. The exterior centerpiece of this custom home by OSM is an enhanced creek, pond and wetland.

Because of a desire for easy access to water, the homeowners chose a site adjacent to existing marshland. For many builders this would pose enormous challenges. But for Belschwender, OSM's CEO, it provided inspiration to create a union of an outdoor sanctuary with a contemporary western ranch home.

OSM, along with senior designers at JLF Architects, designed a glass- and steel-lined bridge over a small portion of the wetland. The bridge connects two living spaces and a small creek runs between them, linking a reclaimed wood-sided master bedroom en suite with a modern looking stone-based structure home to a guest house and the main living spaces. Walking across the bridge is akin to walking outside as the floor-to-ceiling glass panels bring the outdoors in.

"I can hear the creek running," says the homeowner.

"We had to build foundations on both sides of the creek," Belschwender says. "But we had to do it in a way that wouldn't harm it. We built a temporary bridge across the stream and then built two foundations on either side and then finished the glass- and steel-lined bridge."

The home's sanctuary adjacent to an invigorating natural water feature allowed OSM to design a foundation as unique as the topography. The foundation is technologically designed to function in the alpine wetland environment. The dining room is built on concrete and steel piers, the master bedroom and kitchen foundations are heavily waterproofed.

Birch Creek Ranch may be high in the wilds of Montana's mountains, but it is the perfect place to drift away from the bustle of everyday life.



Overlooking Ennis Lake and the Madison Range, Birch Creek Ranch blends mountain rustic and contemporary with the homeowners wish to have natural water a defining element. With its own creek separating the master suite and the main house, natural beauty abounds. PHOTO BY AUDREY HALL

NONSTOP HEALTHCARE

Big Sky Medical Center
334 Town Center Avenue
Emergency Department 24/7/365

Family Medicine Clinic
Monday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Retail Pharmacy
Weekdays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



BOZEMAN HEALTH
BIG SKY MEDICAL CENTER

406-995-6995 | BigSkyMedicalCenter.com

ITEM OF THE WEEK:

WORLD DESIGNS
Unique finds from around the world

This one of a kind bookshelf is made from antique Indian doors and reclaimed wood. Once these doors graced the front of somebody's home, and now they are built into this exceptional piece of usable furniture with a story!

\$3400
USE THE CODE
"OUTLAW"
FOR YOUR 10% DISCOUNT



WORLDDDESIGNSMT@GMAIL.COM TO SCHEDULE YOUR PRIVATE SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

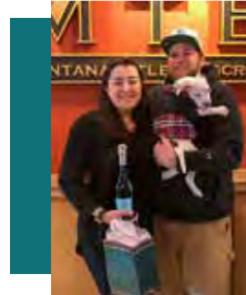
Live Where You Work



MeadowView project aims to provide affordable homeownership opportunities to year-round employees. To qualify, applicants must have worked in Big Sky more than two years and have a household annual income that is less than \$110,000. Visit bigskyhousingtrust.com for more information.



Mary Wheeler, Broker, GRI, CRS, ABR, SFR
Pure West Christie's International Real Estate of Big Sky
406-539-1745 | mwheelerbigsky@gmail.com



"We feel so blessed to call MeadowView home. The location is incredible and the sense of community is refreshing. We truly love where we live." - **Jennifer Boutsianis and Adam Getz.**

bigskyhousingtrust.com | 406.995.3696 | info@bigskyhousingtrust.com



BEEHIVE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



Locally Based. Exceptionally Delivered.

When you join our team, you join our family. We believe in creating long-lasting genuine relationships with our clients and guests. Our standards set the pace for the local vacation rental and property care market. Our practices ensure your home is being cared for as if it were our own, an unmatched precedence within the local market. Our top priority is to create ease in the lives of our clients. We commit to creating a stress-free experience and by doing so help families make their Big Sky dreams come true.

47520 #1A Gallatin Rd · Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730 · (888) 571-0119 · info@beehivemanagement.com

BIG SKY CHAMBER

OUR MISSION: Serving as the **VOICE** of Business, **YOUR** business, the Big Sky Chamber **CHAMPIONS** a healthy economy and works collaboratively with community stakeholders as **CONVENER** and a **CATALYST** to improve the overall quality of life in the region.

BECOME A *Member* & GROW **YOUR BUSINESS**

ANNUAL BASE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP **STARTS AT ONLY \$350!**



CONSTRUCTION & REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY BENEFITS **AT \$1,500 ANNUALLY**

Join Today!

"WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME AND MY BUSINESS?"

- NETWORKING WITH 450 MEMBER BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS
- OPPORTUNITIES TO MARKET YOUR BUSINESS IN BIG SKY
- INFORMATION AND INSIGHTS ON HOW BIG SKY OPERATES

BIGSKYBIZ NEWSLETTER • INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES • NAVIGATING BIG SKY FOR EMPLOYEES



TO JOIN, CONTACT:

ANNA JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
ANNA@BIGSKYCHAMBER.COM | 406-995-3000

TO FIND OUT MORE GO ONLINE: [BIGSKYCHAMBER.COM/OUR-BUSINESS](https://bigskychamber.com/our-business)

BECOME A *Leader* IN BIG SKY & GROW **YOUR SELF**



**Due to COVID-19, this upcoming cohort will be practicing masking and safe social distancing*

There is nothing standard about doing business in Big Sky. As a census-designated place straddling two counties, it is up to the hard work and creativity of our 7 special districts, numerous nonprofits, and local business leaders to assist Big Sky in its evolution from a destination ski resort to a sustainable community.

In working to **Create a Positive Business Climate**, the Big Sky Chamber created this Leadership Development program, as an 8 month in-depth look at all of the people, organizations, and hard work that come together to build our town one block at a time. Joins for our second cohort starting this fall to learn the facts, look behind the scenes, and network with the players.

\$750 FOR MEMBERS // \$1500 FOR NON-MEMBERS

TO FIND OUT MORE & TO APPLY ONLINE GO TO: [BIGSKYCHAMBER.COM/LEADERSHIPBIGSKY](https://bigskychamber.com/leadershipbigsky)

OUR COMMUNITY. OUR BUSINESS.