Big Sky launches Explore Yellowstone: Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

May 29-June 11, 2015
Volume 6 // Issue #11

SPECIAL SECTION
Nepal: Assisting a nation in need

Big Sky memorializes loved ones

Bozeman’s Nectar revitalizing skin

PBR, CONCERT TICKETS ON SALE JUNE 1

Outlaw launches Explore Yellowstone

explorebigsky.com
We congratulate the LPHS class on their college acceptances to Stanford, Air Force Academy, Azusa Pacific, Boston University, Miami of Ohio, Carnegie Mellon, Colorado College, Montana State, University of Montana, Montana Western, Pepperdine, Washington University, Cornish, Gonzaga, St. Olaf’s, Northern Arizona, Lehigh University, Lafayette University, Michigan State, Puget Sound, University of Denver, Utah State, Whitman.

GRADUATING STUDENTS AND CAPSTONE PROJECTS

TEHYA BRAUN
Physical Therapy/Medical Clinic

TANNER BURTON
Concept Art

SAMANTHA FURGESON
Heart of the Valley

ANDREW GARCIA
Engineering Extravaganza

GABRIELLE GASSER
Journalism

SIMEON GOODE
Impossible Problems

MICHAEL HERR
Small Business/Hungry Moose

GRiffin HOUSE
Composing LPHS Alma Matter

QUINN HOUSE
Cooking for Athletes

TREVOR HOUSE
Student Leadership Cambodia/Local Composter

JANIE IZZO
Bird Rescue/Nonprofit

JUSTIN MAYSE
Wrestling Coach

JOSEPH MCGOUGH
Art History/European Museums

JUSTIN MCKILLOP
Chiropractic/Entrepreneurship

BENJAMIN MICHEL
Summer Guitar Camp

GABBY MICHEL
Geothermal Biology/Field Research

KARLIE PERRY
Property Management/Accounting

MICAH ROBIn
Filmmaking/Editing

ZOE ROSS
Big Sky Broadway/Art Teacher

RACHID SCHULTZ
Lighting Design/Technical Theatre

MOLLY SHARR
Dressember/International Justice Mission

COOPER SHEA
Athletic Director/Physical Education

TATE TATOM
Lessons of Life through Golf
**Optimist or pessimist**

The Big Sky School District has many students working hard to learn concepts, apply the daily lessons our teachers instill in them, and excel in all behaviors, academically and socially. It’s interesting to hear comments about our students and the school’s programs.

On one hand, I hear a pessimistic view that finds fault without stepping inside our classrooms, visiting a student production, or knowing the facts about our teachers’ and students’ success stories. It’s disappointing and sad to hear.

On the other hand, optimists understand the potential of a system. They have been in our classrooms, our performing arts center, and on the floor and fields where our students excel. Optimists see opportunities to share thoughts with others in an open conversation to improve processes.

Our elected School Board of Trustees conducts monthly public meetings, and on each agenda is an item for “public comment.” It’s an opportunity for community members to ask questions about the school system. All are welcome to attend.

We see many positive experiences within our K-12 school system. The current example we should be celebrating is the success of our graduating seniors. Some have spent all 13 years here in the system while others have been here for two or three years.

Twenty out of 23 seniors graduating on June 6 are going to colleges or universities across the country. That is a true mark of a school system that has taught the students well and spent the time to make them successful.

Jerry House
BSSD Superintendent
Big Sky

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**Celebrating teachers**

It’s hard to believe, but the 2014-2015 school year is coming to an end. As the Big Sky PTO moves toward electing a new board for next year, the current board has one last mission before we say farewell: Teacher Appreciation Night is Friday, May 29 at the Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, and we invite the Big Sky community to be a part of it.

This year has been full of surprises and through it all, we’ve had the teachers in Big Sky School District to keep us both grounded in reality and looking forward to the future. No matter what was swirling around outside, inside each classroom at Ophir schools and Lone Peak High School, there was a teacher keeping it real.

William Butler Yeats once said, “Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” The teachers in Big Sky School District have started bonfires! Our school community has seen students excelling in academics; pursuing athletics, arts and technology; and innovating, leading and caring about both their community and the world.

On any given school day, you’ll find teachers showing up early and staying late to provide extra help to those students who need it.

The PTO will provide complimentary buffet, and drink tickets will be available to purchase for your favorite teacher(s) starting at 3:30 p.m. Stop by and help us recognize the fantastic teachers in our district!

Sands Cunningham
President, BSPTO
Big Sky
Explore Yellowstone

BY JOSEPH T. O’CONNOR
EBS MANAGING EDITOR

In an effort to bring southwest Montana locals and visitors closer to the nation’s first national park this summer, Outlaw Partners is releasing “Explore Yellowstone,” a full-color, glossy-covered guide to what Theodore Roosevelt once called “The best looking country on earth.”

Complete with park news, tips, history, a wildlife-viewing guide and a kids’ page, “Explore Yellowstone” will give you more than just the beta you need to navigate this vast and colorful ecosystem.

Articles and beautiful photography compiled by Outlaw staff tell some of the amazing stories you’ll read including how to hike Electric Peak; the wonders of fishing in Yellowstone; and an explanation about what gives the park’s thermal springs their brilliant color.

“In our five years as a media company, we’ve published dozens of original stories about Yellowstone National Park,” said Senior Editor Tyler Allen. “This new publication is a way to guide our readers through the park and its gateway communities with compelling stories and our unique insight into the Yellowstone region.”

The media and marketing company is located just 26 miles from the park boundary, and some Outlaws have been in the area for decades. The team frequently visits the park and solicits contributing writers from around the Greater Yellowstone to submit articles for each of the company’s three publications: “Mountain Outlaw” magazine, the “Explore Big Sky” newspaper, and “Explore Yellowstone.”

A comprehensive business directory at the end of the guide will lead readers to area lodging options, restaurants, grocery stores, fishing outfitters, and more. Look for the publication in early June in businesses around the park, in gateway communities including Big Sky, Bozeman, Gardiner, and Red Lodge, as well as in Cody and Jackson, Wyo.

Join us this summer to take in some of the finest country America has to offer, and explore Yellowstone.
Community holds candlelight vigil for deceased

BY JOSEPH T. O’CONNOR
EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – Fire Pit Park in Big Sky’s Town Center was transformed the evening of May 19, as the community came together to remember 12 residents who passed away over the last year.

The impetus came when Betsy Rondeau posted to social media suggesting a memorial for Kerri McKinney, who died after being struck by a vehicle April 13.

Rondeau tagged Big Sky Town Center, and the development project’s Events and Social Media Manager Erik Morrison replied.

“I ran it by the team and we said we’d be happy to,” Morrison said. Then a week later Moonlight Basin founder Lee Poole passed. “We decided to have a dual vigil, [but] once word got out about what we were doing, requests began to pour in to include many of the other Big Sky community members we’ve lost recently.

“That’s when it really hit home.”

Approximately 80 people attended the candlelight vigil, according to Morrison, which was introduced by Bradford Lartigue, Chaplain for Big Sky Resort Ministries. The resort donated tables and tablecloths for the event and Big Sky Community Corp. provided frames that held photos of the deceased.

“Before we knew it we were up to 12 people,” Morrison added. “That’s when it really hit home.”

Approximately 80 people attended the candlelight vigil, according to Morrison, which was introduced by Bradford Lartigue, Chaplain for Big Sky Resort Ministries. The resort donated tables and tablecloths for the event and Big Sky Community Corp. provided frames that held photos of the deceased.

The vigil was scheduled to run from 9-10 p.m., but many supporters showed up around 8 p.m. and stayed well past the end. “People hung out for about two hours after that by the fire, talking and spending some time in thought or in prayer,” Morrison said.

The evening hit a poignant note when Caroline Titmus, mother of Jason Titmus who was killed in a car accident on Lone Mountain Trail last October, shared a poem her son wrote. Lartigue read the poem.

“It really summed up the whole event and [highlighted] making the most of every moment,” Morrison recalled. “It was sad and inspiring all at the same time.”

Deceased honored at vigil:
- Brandon Anderson
- Jens Anderson
- Tina Barton
- Harbor DeWaard
- Scott Jones
- Colton King
- Kerri McKinney
- Merik Morgan
- Leah Parrish
- Marjorie Pavelich
- Lee Poole
- Jason Titmus

The applications received are posted at ResortTax.org. Members of the community and collectors of the tax, your input is important to us. Please review the applications and bring your questions to the upcoming meeting June 10th at 1:00 p.m. in the Big Sky Chapel Community Room. There will be a time for public comment at the beginning of the meeting and then funds will be appropriated.

Big Sky Resort Area District | info@resorttax.org | 406.995.3234
Celebrate Trails Day on June 6

BIG SKY COMMUNITY CORPORATION

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Community Corporation’s Trails Committee is inviting local volunteers to join in a fun day of family-friendly trails projects to improve the Big Sky community trails system in celebration of National Trails Day, Saturday June 6.

Every first Saturday in June, communities across the country participate in National Trails Day by supporting the volunteer efforts of local trails organizations. BSCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity that builds and manages more than 16 miles of public trails in Big Sky. Trails Day is a great way for the community to join together in an effort to enhance and preserve the local trails system.

Interested volunteers should meet at the Big Sky Community Park, located at 373 Little Coyote Road, by 9 a.m. to help with a variety of trail projects to suit all ages and abilities.

After a fun day on the trails, volunteers will meet back at the pavilion by 12 p.m. for a barbecue lunch. The event is free and open to the public. Volunteers should bring gloves, sunscreen, water bottles, and trail-friendly footwear and clothing. Some tools are provided, but additional shovels, rakes, and wheelbarrows are welcome.

Call (406) 993-2112 or visit bsccmt.org for more information.
Leah Virginia Ferris Burris, a longtime resident of Big Sky, passed away peacefully at the age of 90 on May 16 in St. George, Utah. She was surrounded by her family.

Leah was born Feb. 3, 1925, in Butte, to Aileen and Rolland Ferris. Shortly after her birth the family moved and homesteaded east of Choteau, Mont. Leah and her brothers Jim and Don and sister Kay all grew up and attended school in Choteau. Leah graduated from the University of Montana with a degree in psychology and philosophy in 1947. She worked for Hartford Institute of Living and Continental Airlines.

In 1953, Leah married Jack Campbell Burris of Omaha, Neb., where they lived and raised their two children, Gail and Rob. They moved to Big Sky in 1983 and later spent winters in St. George. She loved golf, bridge, the state of Montana, University of Nebraska football, and “Jeopardy.” Everyone knew her as “Little Leah.”

Leah was preceded in death by her husband Jack, and brothers Jim and Don. She is survived by her daughter Gail Cooksey, and Gail’s husband Robert, of Colleyville, Texas; her son Rob Burris and his wife Felicity, and grandson Shane Tali of Big Sky, who works in Haiti; and sister Kay Feist of Great Falls.

The family asks that memorials be sent in Leah’s name to Friends of the Big Sky Community Library at 45465 Gallatin Road, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730. No services were held.
LOCAL

May 29 - June 11, 2015

Heroes run for Harbor

BIG SKY – On May 24, the Big Sky community rallied for one of its own.

Six-year-old Harbor DeWaard died this January, and in a fundraising effort the Lone Peak High School National Honor Society held the first annual Harbor’s Hero Run. Proceeds will benefit Eagle Mount-Bozeman, a nonprofit that provides therapeutic recreation for people with disabilities and youth with cancer.

More than 200 residents and visitors signed up for the 5K, a “color run” where LPHS students tossed colored cornstarch powder on competitors throughout the course and at the finish line. While the high school National Honor Society members expected a large turnout, the size of the crowd on a Memorial Day weekend surprised event organizers.

“We ordered 200 name cards and ran out,” said Gabby Michel, President of the LPHS National Honor Society.

Another theme carried over from a celebration of life held at the Gallatin Riverhouse Grill on Jan. 18, where many attendees at the jam-packed event wore superhero costumes in DeWaard’s honor.

“We wanted to do this [run] to celebrate Harbor’s life,” said Michel, who added that the Honor Society hopes to make Harbor’s Hero Run an annual event. “We decided to have everyone be heroes for Harbor.” – J.T.O.

“We come to the Big Sky Town Center for Taco Tuesday”

-Wes, at Alberto’s Mexican Restaurant

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COMING SOON...
Big Sky Resort opens for summer season June 6

BIG SKY RESORT

BIG SKY – The 2015 summer season at Big Sky Resort begins on Saturday, June 6, including all facilities, as well as guided and self-guided activities, weather and trail conditions permitting. This season, the resort is introducing guided mountain bike tours and downhill mountain bike coaching.

Guided activities this summer include the Lone Peak Expedition, a tram ride to the top of 11,166-foot Lone Mountain; the Nature and Adventure zipline tours; the High Ropes Course; and guided hiking and downhill mountain biking.

Big Sky Golf Course opened May 22, and will host the Two Player Spring Draw on Saturday, June 13.

The Mountain Village area activities include the Scenic Chair Lift Ride; the bungee trampoline; the resort’s climbing wall; a giant swing; archery; miniature golf; Gemstone Mining; a jungle gym playground; and the sand volleyball court, among others.

All Resort lodging will open June 6, along with the swimming pools, hot tubs, spa, and the wellness center. New this summer is a plan to offer visitors some incredible vistas. All guests staying in Big Sky Resort-managed properties – as well as 2015-2016 winter season pass holders – will ride the Scenic Chair Lift free of charge. The scenic chair runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

“Since we’re located between Bozeman and West Yellowstone, our resort [has] always been a great home base for not only our summer activities, but [other] area excursions,” said Sheila D’Amico, Public Relations Manager at Big Sky Resort. “Our Basecamp to Yellowstone activity center offers a great variety of outdoor adventures families and friends can do together.”

The Basecamp to Yellowstone activity center will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. until June 29. During the peak summer season and Labor Day weekend the hours will expand to 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. From Aug. 30, until closing day on Sept. 27, hours of operation will return to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Various restaurants will be open for sit-down service, including Andiamo Italian Grille; Chet’s Bar and Grill; the Carabiner; Bunker Bar and Grill; M.R. Hummers; The Cabin; and Black Bear Bar and Grill. For quick bites before any adventure, try Mountain Mocha; Hungry Moose Market and Deli; Montana Smokehouse; Yeti Dogs; and Pizza Works Delivery.

Visit bigskyresort.com for more information.

The West had an unusually dry winter, and wildfire season is around the corner. What steps do you take to prevent forest fires when you’re in the backcountry?

Kelly Piccardo, Big Sky, Mont.
Buyer, Grizzly Outfitters Ski and Backcountry Sports

“I always put out my campfires and I clear around the fire pit to make sure nothing around it can catch.”

Ethel Fogelsong, Bozeman, Mont.
Plein-air painter

“I live in the [backcountry]. We make sure we have a fire list – it’s a list of everything in our house that we need to get out, so in case of a fire you don’t have to rack your brain. We were on evacuation warning for the Fridley Fire in Paradise Valley [in 2001].”

David Bird, Big Sky, Mont.
Manager, The Cave Spirits and Gifts

“I don’t know that I’ll take any special precautions this year as opposed to any other year. I’m always aware of the possibility of a fire starting in any condition … I make sure my campfire doesn’t get too big; I don’t smoke [cigarettes]; I try not to park in tall grass because, believe it or not, your catalytic converter can start a fire.”

Contact Outlaw Partners (406) 995-2055 or media@theoutlawpartners.com

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May 29 - June 11, 2015

11 LOCAL

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Study shows decline in Greater Yellowstone grassland productivity

BY EVELYN BOSWELL
MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN — The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem has gotten drier over the last four decades, causing a long-term decline in grassland productivity, according to Montana State University researchers.

By monitoring a mountain meadow northeast of Bozeman — analyzing plants and examining regional climate records — Jack Brookshire and Tad Weaver documented a sustained decline of more than 50 percent in native grassland productivity. They blamed it on increasing aridity, particularly too little rain late in the summer.

Summarizing more than 40 years of their own work and that of their students, the two researchers published their findings in the May 14 issue of the scientific journal “Nature Communications.” The journal is affiliated with the prestigious international journal “Nature,” and covers topics in physics, chemistry, earth sciences, and biology.

Brookshire is assistant professor of ecosystem biogeochemistry in MSU’s Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture. Weaver, who co-founded the study in 1969 and was the sole investigator until Brookshire’s arrival in 2009, is professor emeritus in the MSU Department of Ecology in the College of Letters and Sciences.

Weaver said he was especially surprised by two outcomes of the study: the long-term decline in yield, and the fact that late-season rains strongly affected those differences. The first was shown to be a result of increasing aridity.

“While control of production might have been expected to relate to growing season precipitation, it was more affected by late summer/autumn rainfall, as if production were determined by resources stored to support growth in the following year,” Weaver said.

From 1969 to 2012, MSU researchers visited a U.S. Forest Service meadow on a windswept ridge in the Bangtail Mountains northeast of Bozeman. The predominant grass at the site is Idaho fescue, and they measured the meadow production in unmodified plots, and in experimentally snow-supplemented plots. While elk and deer have access to the meadow, cattle haven’t grazed it since the 1930s, Brookshire said.

The researchers examined long-term climate records such as precipitation and temperatures for more than four decades. They also considered regional snowpack chemistry and long-term patterns in carbon dioxide concentrations and nitrogen deposition from the atmosphere.

“Our results demonstrate lasting consequences of recent climate change on grassland production and underscore the importance of understanding past climate-ecosystem coupling to predicting future responses to changing climate,” the scientists wrote.

Study shows decline in Greater Yellowstone grassland productivity

Jack Brookshire, Tad Weaver and students collect samples from grassland in the Bangtail study area north of Bozeman. PHOTO COURTESY OF BROOKSHIRE/WEAVER

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Public meetings scheduled to discuss bison management plan

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The State of Montana and the National Park Service in early June will hold three public scoping meetings in southwest Montana related to the development of a new Yellowstone-area Bison Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

Meetings will be held June 2 in Bozeman at the Hilton Garden Inn; June 3 in Gardiner at the Gardiner School; and June 4 in West Yellowstone at the Holiday Inn. The meetings will have identical agendas and run from 6-8 p.m.

An approval of the Record of Decision related to this new bison management plan is expected to in mid- to late-2017. Until then, bison management in the Yellowstone area will continue under the current Interagency Bison Management Plan.

The meetings will begin with a brief presentation on the history of bison management in the Yellowstone area, and the need for a new management plan. Following the presentation, there will be an open house during which time staff from the NPS and State will be available to answer questions. The meetings will also provide an opportunity for attendees to submit comments pertaining to the six preliminary alternatives and related issues set out in the public scoping newsletter.

This new bison management plan will replace the Interagency Bison Management Plan – implemented in 2001 – taking into account available science and agency experience in managing the animals. The new plan will serve as a management guideline aiming to conserve a wild and migratory population of Yellowstone-area bison. It will also attempt to minimize the risk of brucellosis transmission between wild bison and livestock.

The 90-day public scoping period closes June 15. At that point, the NPS and State of Montana will analyze and consider all feedback received and begin the preparation of the draft EIS.

Visit parkplanning.nps.gov/yellbisonplan to find more information, or comment on, the new Yellowstone-area Bison Management Plan.
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Nectar Studio raises the bar

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY MARIA WYLLIE
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BOZEMAN – At Nectar Organic Skin Care Studio, owner Lily Hawkins is offering her clients something special.

“My studio is completely private, and every client I have gets my undivided attention,” said Hawkins, 32, who is the studio’s sole esthetician and skincare therapist.

Nectar relocated this April to a bigger studio next to Bozeman Spirits and across the street from the Lark Hotel in downtown Bozeman. Hawkins says the new space is more comfortable and gives her room to grow as she adds more retail offerings and services.

While the beautiful new space undoubtedly enhances the Nectar experience, customers aren’t there because of the background music or the bright, pleasing atmosphere. They’re there because Hawkins is. More than just giving a clean wax or a relaxing facial, she gets to know the people who walk through her studio door.

And this doesn’t just mean friendly chitchat about weekend plans or what’s on TV. Hawkins aims to help customers achieve healthy, beautiful skin while also educating them with the tools that will make it last. She accomplishes this through a holistic approach in which she examines the condition of the skin, analyzes diet and lifestyle habits, and takes known medical conditions and allergies into account.

“I believe you can heal your body and your skin with plants,” said Hawkins, who’s been practicing this style of esthetics for nearly a decade. “Plants have been healing our bodies for thousands of years, dating back to Ayurveda, so I think it’s a tried-and-true method of healing.”

Hawkins finds intrigue and satisfaction in learning how different plants react to an individual’s constitutional makeup, and how that knowledge can be used to help the client solve other imbalances in the body.

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Having completed countless hours of research, Hawkins is also a resource for customers who might not understand why a night cream that says “all natural” might actually be bad for you. Products carrying this title can still be laden with chemicals and toxins, meaning a trip to the drug store could take 45 minutes instead of 10 if you try to sort through the good and bad.

“It’s scary to be putting synthetic chemicals on the skin,” Hawkins said. “Different studies have estimated that about 60 percent of what you put on the skin makes its way into the bloodstream. You don’t want to have that conversation about which 60 percent is making its way in.”

Apart from one-on-one consultations and facials, Hawkins also offers eyebrow and eyelash tinting and an extensive list of waxing services. While the quality of her treatments speaks for itself, Hawkins’ consistent, high level of customer service makes Nectar all the more worth visiting.

Walking into Nectar instills a feeling of comfort. You’re glad you don’t have to wait to be seen, and you’re glad you get to spend the next half hour or so with a fun, friendly professional who will help you look and feel your best. If you’re a repeat customer, you look forward to the quality of service Nectar provides. If you’re new, then you’re in for a treat. Lily Hawkins is raising the bar.
Follow-through: Not just for golf

BY JOHANNE BOUCHARD

I’m an avid golfer and look forward to practicing my swing these next few weeks, with the intention of improving my game and being consistent with my follow-through.

In a golf swing, as in life and business, following through equals completion and usually a better outcome. Halting your golf swing before it’s fully complete will affect the trajectory and distance of your shot. Similarly, failing to see decisions and actions all the way through in your business will likely affect the time, quality and cost to realize the desired outcome.

In previous columns, I’ve written about some basics of good business practices such as being on time, fully knowing your customers to better serve them, and providing employees with comprehensive training. Follow-through is another business fundamental to ensure you come across as consistent and reliable, and that you successfully achieve results.

Making a commitment to follow all the way through is something I see many business owners, entrepreneurs, and even top-level executives lose sight of when they’re busy, lacking focus or being overwhelmed. Being inconsistent with follow-through can lead to less-than-optimal outcomes and lower-than-anticipated results. In addition, your colleagues, management and employees can perceive you as unpredictable.

Here are three areas where follow-through is key:

- **Communication.** Return calls, texts and emails as promptly as possible, ideally within one business day or 48 hours at most. If you don’t have an answer right away, at least acknowledge the message and notify the sender that you’re planning to get back to them within a given timeframe.

- Most of us are aware that the messages we send via modern technology are delivered immediately, and while we can’t be expected to respond instantaneously, we need to show courtesy by being responsive. We must be mindful that each action or inaction - sends a message about our character. A timely reply shows that you’re respectful and trustworthy, and that the other party is important to you.

- Dependability. If you’ve made a commitment to be somewhere, to meet a deadline, to get back to someone, or to act on a task, do it. Not keeping promises shows a lack of discipline, poor communication, and disorganization. We’re all busy these days, and prioritizing your schedule over the people depending on you is disrespectful and can have major negative impacts.

- Be mindful of your contribution to the bigger picture and how your inaction, procrastination or lack of follow-through can affect your expected results. Ask for help from management and colleagues if you can’t honor a commitment. It can often be humbling, but at least you demonstrate awareness of the consequential ripple effects, and you enable others to change priorities.

**Expectation.** The truth is we all have much to accomplish these days, and sometimes it’s just not possible to respond quickly or meet deadlines. Making an effort to manage the expectations of people dependent on you gives everyone an opportunity to readjust or to consider alternative scenarios. Managing expectations conveys that you’re mature, responsible and have a sense of duty.

The Firehole should be fishing well with the park re-opening recently. Caddis, baetis and midges are usually the dry flies du jour or swinging soft hackles and little streamers like the Sculpzilla can produce very well when fish aren’t on the surface. Maybe some White Miller Caddis soon...

- **The Upper Madison has been great with nymphs, streamers and some dry action. Nymphing is by far the most productive, but there has been some decent dry fly fishing from time to time and the streamer bite has been strong.** Pat’s Rubber Legs, Prince Nymphs, Lightning Bugs, Pheasant Tails, Worms, Zebra Midge, etc. Most of the dry action in the walk wade section has been with baetis and midge patterns and streamer chuckers are doing well with Olive and White streamers.

- The flows on the Yellowstone have been up and down, but we’ve had some great days over there when the river is down and there is 3+ feet of visibility. Mostly big uglies, but you may still get some caddis action in.

- So many options, so little time...Yellowstone National Park and the Upper Madison are now in play and fishing has been great!

- The Gallatin is fishable most days, but still big and dirty. Wading is a challenge, so finding the right spots to walk the banks is ideal. Big uglies like Pat’s Rubber Legs, Princes and worms are the way to go most days. If you find some soft water you may be able to find a few fish eating caddis or baetis on the surface.

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**Bridger Canyon Masterpiece, Bozeman**

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**LUXURY PROPERTY COLLECTION**

- Buck Ridge Lodge / Big Sky / 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms / 4,144 SQ FT / $899,000
- **SOLD**
- 208 Andesite* Yellowstone Club
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  - Ski-in, Ski-out
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BIG SKY – On a cloudy and cool Montana afternoon at the Big Sky Community Park ball fields, former professional baseball pitcher – and now coach of Big Sky’s Cal Ripken Little League Pirates – Matt Morris nearly bounced the season’s opening pitch to catcher John Romney.

But he didn’t, and the May 26 pitch signified the first for the area little league season, now in its ninth year.

“We have over 40 kids in the league now,” said Romney, who shares league commissioner duties with Scott Hammond. “Participation has definitely grown – we have real baseball fields and real uniforms.”

The players, ages 5-10, are divided into seven teams in two divisions with kindergartners and first graders in the “minors” and second through fifth graders designated as the “majors.”

Before the opening pitch, Ophir Middle School seventh grader Emma Flach belted a moving version of the “Star-Spangled Banner,” as each team lined the first and third baselines.

While the league focuses on teaching kids fundamentals of America’s pastime, Romney says keeping the game moving with the league’s new pitching machine and maximizing participation take a backseat to the essence of baseball.

“The most important thing for us is that the kids have fun,” he said.

The Big Sky Cal Ripken Little League holds games each Tuesday and Thursday right after school lets out from now until June 11. – J.T.O.
BOZEMAN – Grab your lightsabers and power up the Millennium Falcon – it’s time for the Gallatin Roller Girlz’ second bout of the 2015 home season. The “Return of the Jammer” roller derby bout will set GRG’s Mountain Mayhem against Wyoming’s Cheyenne Capidolls on Saturday, June 13 at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds Haynes Pavilion.

Garb and accoutrements of the rebels, jedis, stormtroopers, Vader, Leah, Amidala, Luke, Han, Obi, Yoda, Ewoks, Droids and other Star Wars heroes, villains and characters is encouraged for this Star Wars-themed event. Costumed attendees 18 and older get first crack at limited trackside seating (aka “suicide” or “nose-bleed” seats). A halftime costume contest will award a prize for the best-dressed fan.

This family-friendly event features food by Bubby’s, a no-host bar by Bar IX, raffles, games and prizes. Halftime fire-spinning entertainment is provided by Fire in the Attic, and DJ Chachi will spin tunes.

Advanced discounted tickets for Return of the Jammer are available online at grgderby.com, and paper tickets are available at Cactus Records and Gifts and at tart in the Emerson – full-priced tickets available at the door. Kids 10 and under enter free of charge. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the bout starts at 7:30 p.m. A portion of the proceeds from this event will benefit the Bozeman Help Center – more info at bozemanhelpcenter.org. An after-party at Bar IX will follow the event.

The Gallatin Roller Girlz are a 501(c)(3) federal nonprofit and achieved WFTDA (Women’s Flat Track Derby Association) apprenticeship designation this past year. This bout is a “mock-sanctioned” WFTDA bout, part of the process required of the Gallatin Roller Girlz to become a full member WFTDA league, and allowing for ranking at national and international level.

June 1, 2015

“PUBLIC NOTICE - COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE”

3 Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., filed with the Federal Government, a Compliance Assurance in which it assures the Rural Utilities Service that it will comply fully with all requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Agriculture issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, sex, age, color, or national origin, or on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in its program and the operation of its facilities.

Under the Assurance, this organization is committed not to be discriminate against any person on the grounds of race, sex, age, color, or national origin, or on the basis of handicap, in its policies and practices relating to treatment of beneficiaries and participants including rates, conditions and extension of service, use of any of its facilities, attendance at or any participation in any meetings of beneficiaries and participants or exercise of any rights of such beneficiaries and participants in the conduct of this organization.

“Any person who believes himself or herself or any specific class of individuals, to be subjected by this organization to discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Act and the Rules and Regulations issued thereunder may by himself or herself, or a representative, file with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or the Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20209, or the organization, or all, written complaint. Such complaint must be filed no later than 90 days after the alleged discrimination, or by such later date which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Rural Utilities Service extends the time for filing. Identity of complainants will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purpose of the Rules and Regulations.”

3 RIVERS TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. (Logan P. Good - Secretary)

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<th>Model</th>
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Yoga: Take a ‘seat’  Learning flexibility of body and mind

BY ALEXIS DEATON  EBS STAFF WRITER

Yoga is a practice of uniting the mind, spirit and body. In the most basic sense, this is achieved by using various breathing techniques or “pranayama” meditation and postures, or “asanas.”

The most commonly conjured image of asana is a person, completely unfazed, with a leg wrapped behind their head. This image leads to a common, determining thought: “I’m not flexible enough to do yoga.”

However, there’s no need to be physically flexible, vegan, or even Buddhist to practice yoga. You only need to be mentally flexible, open enough to receive its benefits.

“Just slowing down your brain and nervous system, to create a bit of inner calm, is yoga,” says Jen Avery, a certified yoga instructor and owner of Big Sky’s Yoga Stone studio. “If the desire is there to incorporate poses, you can increase strength, flexibility and balance. This integrity of the body, in conjunction with peace of mind, assists us in the face of our demanding and challenging lives.”

In today’s seemingly relentless chaos, bringing in more peace of mind is a welcoming thought.

“Aloha, monkeys! Who’s ready to bend?” asks Tara Michelle, today’s instructor. Michelle is a certified Hatha Yoga teacher and knows the art of bringing ease and joy to the studio. After greetings and introductions, Michelle settles in, her boisterous energy taking a back seat.

Everyone in attendance is seated, ready for instruction. Michelle starts the class with the idea of taking your “seat,” not only in practice as a student, but also as a student of life. In the seat – or role we occupy – we’re given the opportunity to learn, grow, observe, and honor the seats of others. Our seat changes from moment to moment, but these opportunities are constant and ever-present.

Propped up on a block, I take a seat on my mat. Sitting still for a few breaths I hone in on my intention of being more flexible. Closing my eyes, this intention whispers around in my mind. I hear the sounds of additional mats rolling out, and the audible calming breaths of others fill the studio.

As the food

“Just slowing down your brain and nervous system, to create a bit of inner calm, is yoga.”

BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN  EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

Living in southwest Montana means most of the food we eat travels long distances to our tables.

Rich Preg, associate director of Iowa State University’s Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, estimates that produce travels roughly 1,300 miles from farm to table depending on where you live and the time of year. That’s one reason why I love when summer rolls around and I get to participate in our local CSA.

CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture. Typically, a community financially supports local farms by paying them a specified amount of money at the beginning of the growing season, in return for the food they grow during the summer. This enables the farm to ready their equipment and farm for the season and frees them up from marketing to customers while they’re working 16-hour days.

Every week at a pre-arranged location you pick up your box, bag or basket of food that was harvested that day. Outside of growing your own food, this is as fresh and delicious as it gets.

In our home, we like supporting people we have a relationship with. We have been members of the Gallatin Valley Botanical CSA for six years. Owners Matt and Jacy Rothschiller operate an organic farm in Bozeman. Matt is Pam Flach’s brother, and Pam owns Big Sky’s By Word of Mouth with her husband John – BYMOM is a restaurant where my husband and I have both worked and still frequent. Since we’re only cooking for two, we split our CSA with neighbors. This ensures that each week someone is available for pick-up and when we go out of town the food doesn’t go to waste.

Every CSA is different and they’re evolving as the demand for locally grown and raised food increases. Some CSAs offer eggs, baked goods and meats; some are cooperatives of several vendors; and others offer produce in the fall and winter.

The farms also bring their food to farmers markets regularly, so even if participating in a CSA isn’t a good fit for you, you can still buy local, fresh, organic foods weekly.

To find a CSA or farmers market anywhere in the U.S., visit localharvest.org and type in your location. They have an extensive list and offer key information to help you find exactly what you’re looking for. This is also helpful when you’re traveling.

If you want to eat healthier foods but can’t bring yourself to buy carrots at the farmers market because the organic ones at Costco are cheaper, ask yourself where you might cut corners in your regular food spending: expensive coffee or alcoholic drinks, processed snacks, deserts, meals out.

If cutting costs is not the issue, then doing your best and eating fruits and veggies grown without toxins – even if they’re frozen, wherever they may come from – works too. The key is to keep eating lots of plants.

The food system in the U.S. has become a giant industrial machine. As the food we eat is becoming increasingly toxic to our bodies and it’s production hard on the environment, it’s proving to be difficult to sustain.

An excellent way to take action is to stop supporting it with our dollars whenever possible, and start spending our money on food that is grown locally with love, using the best farming practices.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach, an NASM Certified Personal Trainer, a public speaker and health activist. Contact her at jackie@thethahealth.com, or find more information at thethahealth.org.
BIG SKY – Big Sky’s event of the summer just got bigger.

The Big Sky Professional Bull Riders event, held on July 30 and 31 in the Big Sky Town Center, is adding a third day onto the bull-riding festivities, and one that will have you cutting loose in your Laredos.

Saturday, Aug. 1 will feature a three-band concert with headliner Robert Earl Keen closing out the evening. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., local bluegrass band Two Bit Franks and bluesy rockers the Jamie McLean Band will open for the legendary Keen.

New York City-based Jamie McLean Band will get the crowd jamming, featuring McLean on guitar and vocals, Brian Griffin on drums, and Ben Mars on bass. After leaving the famous New Orleans Dirty Dozen Brass Band in 2006, McLean formed the Jamie McLean Band, which has toured with Gregg Allman, Susan Tedeschi, Drive By Truckers, and Blues Traveler, among others.

Two Bit Franks are comprised of John Lowell on guitar; Tom Murphy on mandolin, Russ Smith on bass, Jeff Shouse on banjo; and Kevin Fabozzi playing mandolin and mandocello, an eight-stringed member of the mandolin family.

“It’s the plucked version of the mandolin,” Fabozzi said. “We put the band together for Big Sky Big Grass in 2010. Now it’s five years later and I can’t live without [the mandocello].”

Fabozzi says the Two Bit Franks are looking forward to the evening’s atmosphere and that his band’s veteran sound will fit right in with the other two acts.

“[The concert] fits into that Americana category,” he said. “Robert is going to do his thing and it’ll have a festival feel for sure. It’s going to be a blast.”

An eclectic singer-songwriter with roots spanning from country to rock to folk to bluegrass, Keen has 18 albums under his belt and was inducted into the Texas Heritage Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2012.

To see Keen under the shadow of Lone Mountain will be a major summer highlight, said Outlaw Partners CEO Eric Ladd.

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**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29 – THURSDAY, JUNE 11**

*If your event falls between June 12 and June 25 please submit it by Friday, June 5.*

**Big Sky**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**
Live Music: Osulet & Spur, 9-11 p.m.

**SATURDAY, MAY 30**
Art Party: Osulet & Spur, 5-7 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2**
Cooking Class: Bacon, Bacon, and more Bacon! Gourmet Gab, 6-8 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4**

** Donation-based Yoga Class & Fundraiser for Healing Yoga Stone, 8-10 a.m.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 5**
Live Music: Osulet & Spur, 9-11 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6**
BSR Summer Season Opens

**Bozeman**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**
Mental Health First Aid Bozeman Public Library, 6 a.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**
Bathtub Night Beall Park Rec. Center, 6:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**
Dharma Movie Night: A Zen Life Bozeman Dharma Center, 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**
Wes Sleight Wild Joe’s, 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**
Writing the West w/Rick Buss The Elfin, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, MAY 30**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4**

**Ladies Night: Cocktails & Canvases The Baxter, 6-8 p.m.**

**Fans Night**

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**

**MONDAY, JUNE 11**

**SGS Softball League Games**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**

**DONATION-BASED WARRIORS FOR HEALING YOGA STONE, 8-10 A.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**

**NATIONAL TRAILS DAY**

**BIG SKY COMMUNITY PARK, 9 A.M.**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 11**

**Darrell Scott & Friends The Songs of Ben Bullington The Ellen, 8 p.m.**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 12**

**MONDAY, JUNE 15**

**SGS Golf Clinics Begin**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16**

**GALILLAN CANYON WOMEN’S CLUB ENRICHING THE LIFE OF BIG SKY FAMILIES 141 SCENIC DRIVE, 1 P.M.**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 14**

**NEPAL FUNDRAISER LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH, 6 P.M.**

**EVENTS**

**explorebigsky.com Explore Big Sky**
**SUNDAY, JUNE 7**  
Virginia Wolf  
Blue Slipper Theatre, 3 p.m.

Kite Flying Day  
North Side Park Soccer Fields, 4  
p.m.

**WYOMerica Caravan**  
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**  
**WYOMerica Caravan**  
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**  
Beer for a Cause:  
Park County Cubs  
Katabatic Brewing, 4 p.m.

Taco Tuesday w/Swingley Jazz  
The Mint, 6:30 p.m.

Kristen Ford  
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**  
Farmer’s Market  
Music by Little Jane & the Pistol Whips  
Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

Bingo Night  
The Mint, 6 p.m.

Joe & Vicki Price  
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11**  
Business After Hours  
Paradise Valley Equine, 5:30 p.m.

Katyn Beasley  
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

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**West Yellowstone**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**  
Water Fitness Class  
Holiday Inn Pool, 6:45 a.m.

Tessy Lou & The Shotgun Stars  
Wild West Saloon, 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 1**  
Yoga for Everyone  
Penland Community Center, 6:15 p.m.

Karaoke Night  
Wild West Saloon, 8:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2**  
Community Frisbee Football  
Pioneer Park, 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3**  
Club Night  
Wild West Saloon, 10:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4**  
Knit Night  
Send It Home, 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6**  
National Trails Day  
Rendezvous Ski Trails  
Jameson & The Sordid Seeds  
Wild West Saloon, 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**  
Karaoke Night  
Wild West Saloon, 8:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**  
**Community Frisbee Football**  
Community Park, 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**  
**Wild West Saloon,** 10:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11**  
**Knit Night**  
Send It Home, 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13**  
**Yellowstone Half Marathon & 5k**  
The Old Airport, 7 a.m.

**RECURRING EVENTS**

Mary Poppins  
Playmill Theatre, nightly, Mon. – Sat.

Historic Walking Tour  
Historic District, self-guided, daily

**Explore Yellowstone!**  
With A YNP Ranger  
Yellowstone Park, daily

Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone Workshops  
30 Yellowstone Ave., 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. daily

**Yellowstone Nature Connection Programs**  
Smokejumper Program, 10 a.m. & 3 p.m.  
Naturalist Program, 1 p.m.  
Reading in the Garden, 4:30 p.m.  
10 Yellowstone Ave., Mon. – Fri.

**Early Season Hebgen Lake Fishing Contest**  
Kirkwood Resort & Marina (thru June 15)

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 7**  
**Virginia Wolf**  
**Blue Slipper Theatre,** 3 p.m.

**Kite Flying Day**  
**North Side Park Soccer Fields,** 4  
p.m.

**WYOMerica Caravan**  
**Murray Bar,** 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**  
**WYOMerica Caravan**  
**Murray Bar,** 8:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**  
**Beer for a Cause:**  
**Park County Cubs**  
**Katabatic Brewing,** 4 p.m.

**Taco Tuesday w/Swingley Jazz**  
**The Mint,** 6:30 p.m.

**Kristen Ford**  
**Murray Bar,** 8:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**  
**Farmer’s Market**  
**Music by Little Jane & the Pistol Whips**  
**Miles Band Shell Park,** 4:30 p.m.

**Bingo Night**  
**The Mint,** 6 p.m.

**Joe & Vicki Price**  
**Murray Bar,** 8:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11**  
**Business After Hours**  
**Paradise Valley Equine,** 5:30 p.m.

**Katyn Beasley**  
**Murray Bar,** 8:30 p.m.

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**West Yellowstone**

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**  
**Water Fitness Class**  
**Holiday Inn Pool,** 6:45 a.m.

Tessy Lou & The Shotgun Stars  
**Wild West Saloon,** 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 1**  
Yoga for Everyone  
**Penland Community Center,** 6:15 p.m.

Karaoke Night  
**Wild West Saloon,** 8:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2**  
Community Frisbee Football  
Pioneer Park, 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3**  
Club Night  
**Wild West Saloon,** 10:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4**  
Knit Night  
Send It Home, 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6**  
National Trails Day  
Rendezvous Ski Trails  
Jameson & The Sordid Seeds  
**Wild West Saloon,** 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**  
Karaoke Night  
**Wild West Saloon,** 8:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**  
**Community Frisbee Football**  
Community Park, 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**  
**Wild West Saloon,** 10:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11**  
**Knit Night**  
Send It Home, 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13**  
**Yellowstone Half Marathon & 5k**  
The Old Airport, 7 a.m.

**RECURRING EVENTS**

Mary Poppins  
Playmill Theatre, nightly, Mon. – Sat.

Historic Walking Tour  
Historic District, self-guided, daily

**Explore Yellowstone!**  
With A YNP Ranger  
Yellowstone Park, daily

Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone Workshops  
30 Yellowstone Ave., 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. daily

**Yellowstone Nature Connection Programs**  
Smokejumper Program, 10 a.m. & 3 p.m.  
Naturalist Program, 1 p.m.  
Reading in the Garden, 4:30 p.m.  
10 Yellowstone Ave., Mon. – Fri.

**Early Season Hebgen Lake Fishing Contest**  
Kirkwood Resort & Marina (thru June 15)
BOZEMAN—During Bozeman’s June 12 Art Walk—the first of the summer—Altitude Gallery is holding a reception from 6-8 p.m. for local artist Kaetlyn Able whose new work is featured in the gallery. The walk will also showcase an artist demonstration in front of the Main Street gallery.

Able’s botanical portraits are inspired by her collection of antique photographs. These intricate drawings and paintings explore the human connection to nature, the tension between natural and man-made worlds, and the passage of time. Able juxtaposes the formality of the subjects’ restrictive clothing, stiff poses, and solemn expressions against wild, vibrantly detailed botanical elements to evoke the secret lives she imagines for them.

After learning that Montana’s Native American tribes once called the Gallatin Valley the “Valley of Flowers,” Able began a “flowerly house” series. The series represents her vision of a floral ghost town where the flowers that once ruled the landscape begin to reclaim the city.

Born and raised near Boston, Mass., Able majored in studio art at Wellesley College and earned an MFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in 2004. Her work has been exhibited widely throughout the Northeast, and many of her paintings can be found in private collections in New England and New York.

Able moved from the east coast to Libby, Mont., with her husband and two young sons in 2011. A year later, they relocated to Bozeman. Today she works out of her home studio while her two little boys make their own art alongside her.

Visit altitudegallerybozeman.com for more information.
American Life in Poetry: Column 531

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Many of the poems that have survived the longest are very short. Some are multiple thousands of years old. They have somehow managed to perfectly catch life in just a few words and we can still feel those long-ago lives within them. Glenna Luschei, who lives in California, tells us a great deal about comfort in this exemplary poem. Her latest book of poetry is "Leaving It All Behind," (Presa nPress, 2011).

Home
By Glenna Luschei

Dog at my pillow.

Dog at my feet.

"Another First Dance," Kris Clone Band
"Kashmir," Zoso (or Led Zeppelin)
"Moby Dick," Zoso (or Led Zeppelin)
"The Road Goes on Forever," Robert Earl Keen
"I Been Low," Jamie McLean Band
"Country Living," Jamie McLean Band
"Wake Up Call," Two Bit Franks
"Wild Jack," Two Bit Franks

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The Eddy Line
‘Tis the stonefly season

BY PATRICK STRAUB
ERS FISHING COLUMNIST

The transition from spring to summer in mountain country is defined by change. The snow line creeps up, rivers are full and often dirty, and the fly-fishing community is gearing up for summer. When I’m not on the river, I’m checking streamflows and weather reports to find stable, or dropping, rivers. With the anxiety of runoff season, a little sweat equity can result in finding some of the best fishing of the year.

If finding fishable water is the challenge, fortunately your fly choice and fishing methods are often simple. High and dirty rivers mean stoneflies are on the move. Plecoptera is the Latin name for the order of stoneflies, but with more than 3,500 species worldwide, we don’t have room in our fly boxes for them all. Stick to the common names of stoneflies and you’ll be able to talk the talk.

Salmonflies are the first stoneflies to hatch, followed by golden stoneflies, and yellow stones and sallies later in summer. Despite their differences, all stoneflies hatch in similar ways – by crawling to bankside structure and shedding a nymphal “shuck,” or shell, and emerging as flying adults. We’re still several weeks away from the emergence of adult salmonflies, but if you want to catch fish before the salmonflies, but if you want to catch fish before the hatch, you’ll need to adjust your tactics. If you don’t want to do that, I’m sure there’s a bowling league near you that you always wanted to know about fly fishing.”

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

Bank on it. Stoneflies need structure to hatch. With very few exceptions, they crawl from the water onto rocks, sticks or other shoreline objects. As these nymphs are migrating to shore, hungry trout gobble up as many of them as possible. It’s as if the fishing gods created this hatch so we could fish during runoff – since the trout’s main food source is near the bank, we can still fish during high-water periods. With rivers that are bank-full, wading into swift current is unsafe. It’s a good thing that nearly all your fishing should occur while standing near, or even on, the bank.

Shorten and strengthen the system. Since the fish are close to the banks, decrease the length of your leader and increase the strength of your tippet. Additionally, a shorter leader will be easier to cast larger, heavier flies. The occasional branch snag will occur, and a stronger tippet ensures you’re more likely to keep your flies. Increasing the strength of your tippet helps if you get snagged on the bottom as well, since dirty water makes it difficult to see underwater structure. A stouter tippet also comes in handy when you hook that trophy trout and need to land it in fast current.

Weight for it. Even though fish are tight to the banks this time of year, the current is often strong and fast. Adding weight to your fly or your leader is essential. This fly is similar to a Girdle Bug or Bitch Creek and imitates a stonefly nymph. I tie weight into these flies, typically wrapped on the hook shank during the tying process. Adding weight to the leader in the form of putty or split shot may be helpful as well. Start with as little weight as possible then add weight as needed if you’re not getting deep enough.

Double the pleasure. Fish two flies at all times to increase your odds for a strike and for a little more weight in the rig. The second fly can be tied directly off the bend of the hook of the first fly using a clinch knot.

Strike on anything. Using a strike indicator is helpful when stoneflies are on the move. An indicator serves two main purposes: it allows you to detect a strike and it holds your flies at the right depth. If you see it move in any erratic motion, set the hook. A good rule of thumb is to place the indicator twice the depth of the water above the first fly. However, this varies based on current speed, flies on your leader, and your ability to mend effectively. I use indicators I can move easily, such as the AirFlo AirLock.

Tout eat stoneflies year round, but as spring fades into summer stonefly nymphs become more active until their emergence into adults and subsequently dry-fly fishing begins. Until the adults flitter about, you’ll need to adjust your tactics. If you don’t want to do that, I’m sure there’s a bowling league somewhere that needs a few more rollers.

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BACK 40
For Explore Big Sky, the Back 40 is a resource: a place where we can delve into subjects and ask experts to share their knowledge. Topics include regional history, profiles of local artists and musicians, snow and avalanche education, how-to pieces for traditional or outdoor skills, and science.

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

Amuse-bouche
The real history of food

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

In America, we tend to have a myopic view of food and its origins, but as a nation comprised mostly of non-indigenous people, it stands to reason we have adopted ingredients and cuisines from all over the globe. But every place tells a similar story about food origins. Here are a few misconceptions:

U.S.: There may be no cooking method that garners more pride right here in America than barbeque. The method of indirect heat and smoke using any variety of flavored woods creating that succulent, smoky rib, brisket, or other protein you may find regionally, is a source of much pride.

Having lived in Texas for three years, I feel there is no other cuisine that possesses a greater facade of being homegrown in the red, white and blue. But this method of cooking has roots that run centuries deep. The Spanish and Portuguese took the barbecue idea to Brazil and Argentina. And, sorry Texas, Florida was the first state to see what became barbeque, as we know it.

Italy: Stop anyone on the street and ask him or her what foods define Italy. They’ll probably mention items like pasta and tomatoes.

We associate the tomato with Mediterranean cuisine and Italy probably tops that list, but this fruit is actually native to the Andes. The tomato moved through South America and was introduced to Europe via the Spanish Revolution. In fact, Italians regarded the tomato as poisonous – it’s a member of the nightshade family like potatoes and eggplant – for centuries.

Pasta didn’t originate in Italy either. Historians widely believe that Italian explorer Marco Polo brought it back from China on his more than two-decade exploration of Eastern Asia.

Ireland: Here’s some news: Ireland is not the original home of the potato. South America is rich in flavor – spices, chilies, roots, and vegetables – and it’s also native to many of the world’s staples that we now see commonplace in other cultures and continents, including the potato.

How did the spud make its way from the Peruvian Andes Mountains to Ireland and elsewhere? Most South American peoples were prolific farmers but not conquerors, so rather than exploring and taking their native foods and practices with them, foreign explorers, merchants, soldiers and traders actually took these foods from them. In this case, Spanish and Portuguese conquistadors brought the potato back to Europe.

Africa: Peanuts are entrenched in Western African diets, as well as in many Vietnamese and Thai dishes. The peanut is almost commonplace in Southeast Asia, yet its provenance is actually quite lengthy.

Peanuts made their way from South America across the Atlantic to Asia, then back again to North America with some stops along the way, including Western Africa. Peanut butter first appeared in the U.S. at the St. Louis World’s Fair in 1904, and my grandfather said peanut butter was a commonly issued food for the troops in World War II.

New Zealand: The kiwifruit (in New Zealand, to simply refer to a “kiwi” is to refer to the bird, not the fruit) is yet another food native to China. Originally called the Chinese gooseberry, it initially made the trip to New Zealand in 1906. Oddly we never see kiwifruit in, or associated with, Chinese cuisine. The kiwifruit was also introduced to the U.S. via the 1904 World’s Fair in St. Louis. And, despite the relatively recent flight of the kiwifruit from China’s nest, this little green gem is now commonly eaten from the U.S., to Canada, Chile, France, and Greece.

Germany: Schnitzel is a German and Austrian tradition, no doubt, but ironically it’s prevalent on Israeli menus from Tel Aviv to Brooklyn. This is a prime example of how cultures readily adopt not only foods, but also dishes, no matter their history.

Studying foods and their history can be incredibly interesting, just make sure you’re sitting next to a globe or a map of the world.

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.
SPECIAL SECTION

NEPAL
ASSISTING A NATION IN NEED

This special section of EBS was produced as an opportunity for one mountain community to help another. The Outlaw Partners will donate 100 percent of the ad sales generated by this section to Tsering’s Fund, a nonprofit dedicated to the continued earthquake relief effort in Nepal.

One of four orphaned Sherpa children whose father was killed in the April 25 earthquake. Her mother was forced to forfeit them to an orphanage in Katmandu due to the emotional stress of the disaster; and Tsering’s Fund is hoping to sponsor the siblings’ education through donations.

PHOTO BY WES OVERVOLD

100% OF AD REVENUE FROM THIS SECTION WAS DONATED TO TSERING’S FUND
VISIT TSERINGSFUND.COM AND CLICK THE “DONATE” BUTTON TO CONTRIBUTE TO TSERING’S FUND EARTHQUAKE RELIEF.
Nepal earthquakes
Never forget

BY ERIC LADD
EBS PUBLISHER

On April 25, avalanches cascaded off Mount Everest, small farming villages throughout Nepal were leveled, and the capital city of Kathmandu was thrust into a state of panic by the 7.8-magnitude earthquake.

Already one of the world’s poorest countries – lacking infrastructure, organization or any type of plan to handle this sized disaster – Nepal was rocked by a second, 7.3-magnitude earthquake on May 12. The two tremors have left more than 8,500 people dead and many unaccounted for.

Some Nepalese question the karmic reasoning for one of the poorest countries on the planet being shaken to the ground. Sitting on a bench inside the Boudhanath Stupa in Kathmandu, an elder Buddhist monk described how mankind is treating the planet so badly and doing so much damage, that this earthquake is a sign. “We need to change our behavior’s before it’s too late,” he said.

Religious beliefs aside, it’s hard not to give some merit to the elder’s opinion. Nepal’s receding glaciers act as the headwaters to rivers that feed India’s massive population, air and water pollution is at an all-time high, and population growth and land disputes over mineral rights are stressing finite resources.

Four weeks after the first Nepal earthquake, aid groups are starting to pack up and head home, leaving behind limited resources from the world’s wealthier nations. As of May 19, there were just 15 helicopters in use in all of Nepal, and the U.S. Agency for International Development announced its “completion” of Nepal relief efforts on May 22.

It’s not all peril – Nepal is home to a hearty culture with strong faith. The Nepalese are eager to rebuild and attract tourism again, but they will need your help.
Located on the outskirts of Katmandu lies the tiny Hindu village of Belawu. This subsistence-farming community is etched into a steep bamboo-covered hillside, and a place where families have lived in harmony with nature and provided food for the region for hundreds of years. Belawu’s residents built homes with mud, bricks and stone. Nearly all of them were demolished in the April and May earthquakes.

The Bhandari family was settled into their home, set amongst small rice paddies fed by hand-dug water canals, when the April 25 quake struck. With a shortness of breath, shaking hands and tears in her eyes the mother, Goma Bhandari, recounts the earthquake. She describes how the dirt floor of their home shook and opened up, consuming the grain stacked above it. Hot water came out the earth, burning some of the family members’ feet as they ran for safety.

Six hours after the tremor settled, the hot-water crack closed and disappeared, leaving behind a destroyed home and a family life thrust into a refugee state. This farming family was forced into becoming builders, utilizing poorly crafted tools to construct a shelter of worn-out tarps, and beds supported by two wooden pallets. The leaky tent is no more than 12 feet by 14 feet and contains the kitchen and sleeping area, where all seven family members – ranging in age from 5 to 60 – sleep together on the dirt floor.

In the corner of the tent the sleeping blankets are neatly stacked, providing room for the youngest boy to play with a rice bowl, which doubles as his only toy. Goma sighs and shakes as she expresses her fear of the coming monsoons and her ailing husband who has diabetes, now forced to work as a laborer building the new home.

Gaining some composure, Goma offers tea to a group of volunteers. By divine intervention this family was chosen to receive a stack of donated sheet metal from Tsering’s Fund, providing cover for the long monsoon season ahead.

This $150 stack of metal has given the family a glimmer of hope, for now.
BIG SKY – Colton Stiffler, a Bozeman-based engineer and photographer, was in the Nepali city of Pokhara, 14 kilometers from the epicenter of the April 25, 7.8-magnitude earthquake.

“There was a low grumble that kept building for 30 seconds,” said Stiffler, who was in a fourth-floor restaurant at the time. “I realized it was a quake, grabbed my stuff and ran. The walls were cracking and I was sure the building was going to fall.”

Despite Pokhara’s proximity to the epicenter, the structure he fled withstood the 90-second tremor along with most of the buildings in the city.

Two days later Stiffler boarded a bus to Katmandu and realized how lucky he was to have been in Pokhara during the quake. When he arrived at the road leading from the capital to the Chitwan District, Stiffler saw that traffic was backed up 20 miles. “It was a mass exodus, we saw tens of thousands leaving Katmandu,” he said.

Stiffler spent his last three days in the country documenting the relief effort and damage to Katmandu’s historic places – some reduced to rubble – that he had photographed at the start of his trip.

“It was really sad to go back and see these places where so many people had died,” Stiffler said. “I saw the Japanese [aid] team pull out five bodies in front of me in four hours.”

The destruction to Katmandu was extensive, but in some rural Nepal villages, it was complete.

Continued on p. 38
NEPALI FUNDRAiser

SUNDay, June 14 • 6PM • LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH, BIG SKY
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Nearly all 200 residents of Langtang perished during the April quake as a massive avalanche of rock and ice wiped out the small town. The remote village of Chyangba was damaged during the April earthquake, but was leveled by the 7.3-magnitude quake that followed on May 12.

Dr. Peter Schmieding, who lives in Bozeman and practices dentistry in Big Sky, was in Kathmandu when the second major earthquake hit. Schmieding arrived in Nepal on May 3 to help the relief effort in rural villages through his nonprofit Tsering’s Fund, an organization originally created to finance the education of Nepali girls. He was having lunch on an outdoor patio with Tsering’s Fund co-founder and namesake Tsering Dokar Lama on May 12.

“I bet you the entire city emptied every building in less than a minute,” Schmieding said. “Everybody was so uptight to begin with, but starting to sleep indoors again … and then people are back to sleeping in tents.”

Schmieding returned to Montana on May 23 and described how Nepal’s physical and psychological recoveries will take years. A major issue that won’t be addressed by the relief effort, he said, is Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Schmieding has three adopted Nepali daughters living in the U.S. and spent time with their birth mother while in country.

“The mother of my kids won’t sleep indoors and her apartment building was fine,” Schmieding said. “I didn’t think about it until I was there, and spoke to the people – [some Nepalis] have a perfectly good home and are sleeping outdoors.”

Despite the devastation wrought on the country, Schmieding was overcome by the Nepalis’ generosity and pride during his three weeks in the country. People were asking him what they could do to help.

“We were in so many villages and met so many people that had lost everything, and not one time did somebody ask us for anything,” Schmieding said. “They didn’t ask us for money or supplies. The only thing they asked us was to come in and have tea with them.”

Schmieding raised more than $14,000 while he was on the ground through Tsering’s Fund. That money was spent on building supplies like corrugated roofing and staples like rice that Schmieding could often buy at wholesale through Dokar Lama’s extensive network in Kathmandu. The nonprofit purchased mosquito nets for some of the city’s orphanages – which are filling up quickly because so many parents were killed in the quakes – and shoes for children in the Bal Mandir orphanage.

The next phase of Schmieding’s relief effort begins here at home. He’s identified one long-term project to rebuild the schools of his friend Raj Kumar Dhakal’s village. The walls of the secondary school were destroyed and the foundation cracked, but the roof, metal trusses, doors and windows were salvageable. Tsering’s Fund will raise finances to pour a new slab and build new walls once the monsoon season is over in August or September.

In addition to the ongoing fundraising campaign by Tsering’s Fund, Big Sky’s Lone Mountain Ranch will host an earthquake relief fundraiser on Sunday, June 14 at 6 p.m. Members of Montana State University’s Nepalese Student Association will be on hand to speak about their home country.

The event will include a barbecue, silent auction and presentations from Outlaw Partners’ CEO and publisher of EBS Eric Ladd, as well as a slideshow and video from Outlaw’s Videographer Wes Overvold. Ladd and Overvold flew to Nepal in mid-May to deliver supplies to Schmieding and document the relief effort.

Visit tseringsfund.com and click the “donate” button to contribute to Tsering’s Fund earthquake relief. Call Lone Mountain Ranch at (406) 995-4644 for tickets and more information about the June 14 fundraiser.
2.8 MILLION PEOPLE DISPLACED FROM THEIR HOMES

8,617 PEOPLE KILLED
16,808 INJURED
THE UNITED NATIONS AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS HAVE REQUESTED

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$88.2 MILLION HAS BEEN RECEIVED

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MT Fish Co. confirms delivery

Before leaving Big Sky, MT Fish Co. finds a new shipment of a kayak that needs to go to Bozeman

MT Fish Co. claims the kayak, picks it up, delivers it to Sarah in Bozeman & is paid

Sarah, excited about DropTrip, posts a shipment for a couch that needs to be delivered to Missoula

Joe, a DropTripper from Billings, who is traveling to Missoula, sees Sarah’s post, claims the shipment & coordinates a pickup

Shipment is delivered to recipient & Joe is paid

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