

Explore

Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

FREE

Big Sky

Sept. 4 - 17, 2015
Volume 6 // Issue #18

**Recycling leaves
Big Sky Oct. 1**

Back to school!

Politics and climate change

**Big Sky Softball wraps up
13th season**

Back 40:
The appeal of tiny houses



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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. Include: full name, address, phone number and title. Submit to media@theoutlawpartners.com.

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ON THE COVER: "Current Events" acrylic on canvas, 20x20 by Kelsey Dzintars

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Explore

Big Sky



What is this publication?

Explore Big Sky is the local paper for Big Sky, Montana, and a news and lifestyle journal for the Greater Yellowstone Region.



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CORRECTION: In an article on RTP grants in Montana, published in the Aug. 21 issue of EBS, Beth Shumate was quoted as saying that the Big Sky Community Corp.'s "...project rose to the top since RTP funds would help create both transportation and recreational funds for all ages and abilities." Shumate in fact said "...transportation and recreational opportunities."

"A river cuts through a rock not because of its power, but its persistence"

- unknown



MARTHA JOHNSON Owner | Broker
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Martha has been in real estate in Big Sky, Montana for approximately 20 years and she's been a full time resident since 1988! She's an entrepreneurial spirit and is Founder, Broker and Owner of Montana Living ~ Big Sky Real Estate – the top luxury boutique real estate firm in Big Sky, Montana. Her experience includes brokering the sales, marketing and launch of resort, residential, commercial and ranch sporting properties. Call Martha now and utilize her grass roots knowledge of Big Sky for purchasing or selling your real estate.



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MARTHA JOHNSON
Owner | Broker

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News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

What your logo is not doing for you

Brand identity systems explained

BY KELSEY DZINTARS
OUTLAW PARTNERS CREATIVE DIRECTOR

You already know the importance of having a logo for your business. You’ve gone through an extensive process with a graphic designer, pinning down the perfect Pantone value that sings your ethos, and the san serif font with a bézier curve on the capital “G” that your friends and family are drooling over.

So ... now what?

By itself, even the most genius logo can go only so far. A logo design is actually a single component in a three-tiered system; at the Outlaw Partners, we encourage clients to think past the logo design project, and develop a brand identity system that will ensure longevity and clear communication of your company’s image.

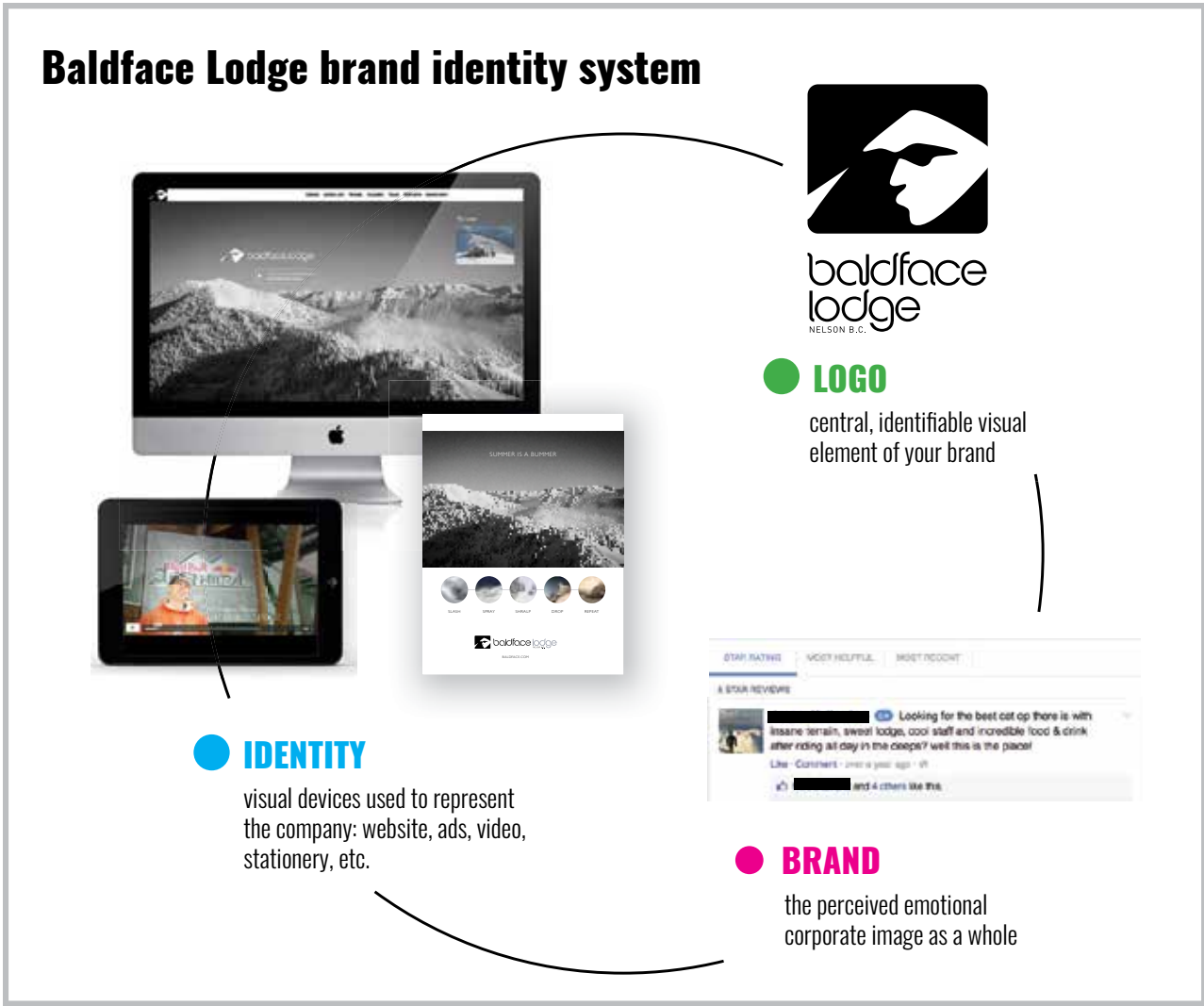
A brand identity system is comprised of logo design, identity design and branding. All these components have different roles, which together form a perceived image for a business or product. I like to think of it as a visual mission statement that clearly communicates your company’s goals, culture and values to both your employees and consumers.

Below are definitions and examples of each component of a brand identity system.

A **logo** is the central, identifiable visual element of your brand. It can be an icon, a typeface, or a combination of both. It serves as a launching point for your identity system, as colors and fonts are often established during this step.

Identity describes the visual devices used to represent the company, such as stationery, marketing collateral, packaging, signage, messaging and your website

A **brand (or branding)** refers to the perceived emotional corporate image as a whole, or how consumers view and respond to your company.



International best-selling author and marketing guru Seth Godin describes a brand as, “ ... a set of expectations, memories, stories and relationships that, taken together, account for a consumer’s decision to choose one product or service over another.”

Once the brand identity system’s components are established, the next step is to develop brand identity guidelines – a written manual that explains how a brand should be used both internally and externally.

Email ej@outlaw.partners for consultation about a brand identity system for your business.

Mountain Outlaw announces photo contest winner, call for entries



In the 2015 summer issue of Mountain Outlaw magazine, we asked photographers around the world to submit portraits with short captions that tell fascinating stories. Aside from our direction that the subject should be a human figure, we left the definition of “portrait” up to the artist.

Selected finalists’ photos were published in the magazine, and readers voted online for their favorite photo.

Photographer Richard Horst won the contest with his photo “Courage,” (at left) which received more than 3,000 votes out of the

nearly 6,000 votes cast. “Courage” featured Horst’s daughter with her pony. Horst wrote about the photo, “I’m in awe of her powerful gentleness; no uncertainty or hesitation by either her or the horses. She reveals emotion you can feel like thunder that echoes from the mountains.”

Horst will receive \$500 cash and a \$500 credit from the Outlaw Partners to use toward design, video or marketing services.

Mountain Outlaw is now accepting photo entries for the winter 2016 issue. For more information, contact kelsey@outlaw.partners or visit explorebigsky.com/outboundgallery. – K.D.

Recycling to leave Big Sky Oct. 1

BY MARIA WYLLIE
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Big Sky’s only recycling center is going away come October.

For more than five years, the recycling bins, which the Gallatin Solid Waste Management District provides and Four Corners Recycling services, have lived on a 60-foot road right-of-way on Aspen Leaf Drive in Big Sky Town Center. The Simkins family – developers of Town Center – owns the land.

The location is designated for parking and isn’t a place where one expects to see recycling bins, according to Town Center Project Manager Ryan Hamilton, who also noted looming development pressure with residential units planned for the adjacent land.

“We knew upfront it wouldn’t be the final resting place,” Hamilton said. “It’s in a residential zone. It worked for all these years because it’s been around vacant land, but that land will be built on soon.”

Town Center initially set a deadline of October 2014 for the bins to be removed, but extended the date to Oct. 1 of this year with hopes that local interest groups would identify a new site.

The Big Sky Natural Resource Council, which is a subcommittee of Big Sky Community Corp., works to provide sustainable solutions for natural resource issues in Big Sky. The group is searching for a landowner to host the site, and working to help facilitate funding that might be needed for site improvement and management, according to BSNRC member Emily O’Connor.

Jim Simon, district manager for the GSWMD, has met regularly with BSNRC and says they’ve been looking for alternatives for nearly two years without luck.

“We haven’t been able to get anyone to commit to hosting a site to move forward with a real development plan,” Simon said. “It’s unfortunate with the growth up there that there’s not a lot of options for us to move the site right now.”

A few options are still on the table though.

At the March 17 Big Sky Water and Sewer District board meeting, Simon proposed plans for a new facility on a 1.4-acre parcel of land near the water and sewer treatment plant, located along the east boundary of the sewer ponds.

Local developer Scott Altman owns the proposed land, and at the Aug. 25 BSWSD board meeting, he agreed to trade the lot in exchange for 30 Single Family Equivalent permits from the district. The SFE’s will



Big Sky’s only recycling center is currently located in a road right-of-way on Aspen Leaf Drive in Big Sky Town Center. The bins must be removed by Oct. 1, which means Big Sky residents must either haul their recyclables to Bozeman, or throw them away, until another option is in place. PHOTO BY MARIA WYLLIE

allow Altman to complete development with employee housing and commercial buildings behind the new ACE Hardware store being built on Lone Mountain Trail.

The board made a motion for BSWSD General Manager Ron Edwards to move forward with the exchange.

Board president Packy Cronin says the board needs to secure the land before deciding how it will be used.

“Right now, getting land on the table is monumental,” he said. “We’ll tackle the question of what to do with the land once we officially own it.”

As of EBS press time on Sept. 2, a timeline for the trade had not been determined.

Cronin says that while October is Town Center’s deadline for bin removal, it’s not the BSWSD board’s deadline.

“Our mission is to provide sewer and water services to our customers, not recycling services,” he said. “We get no help from the [Big Sky Resort Area District] tax board, so how do we even proceed with this? If the greater community wants these things to happen, maybe they need to start funding some of it.”

Should the BSWSD board approve the site for a recycling center, it wouldn’t be in place until summer of 2016, according to BSWSD General Manager Ron Edwards.

BSWSD would have to negotiate a lease with Gallatin County, install improvements to support the site, and collect funding – something Edwards says would most likely be contingent on resort tax. If BSWSD applies for and receives funding from the resort tax board, July 1 would be the first day it could spend the money.

While the site search continues, Republic Services, which currently offers trash pick up in Big Sky, is working with the community to offer a curbside recycling pickup service every other week.

Republic Services Division Manager Jason Veitch says the single-stream program – where the user places all recyclables together in one can – requires a minimum of 200 accounts to be financially viable. Price would be dependent on variables like number of accounts, commodity values, and processing costs, he added.

“We just need a trigger – a mechanism to gauge interest,” Veitch said. “Sending a truck up here for one or two people isn’t going to work.”

Like the trash program currently offered, curbside recycling would be subscription based and subscribers could cancel the service at any time. Veitch is urging those interested in a curbside recycling program to call Republic Services.

Once 200 people have shown interest, Veitch says it would take approximately eight weeks to start the program due to logistics including route planning and can delivery. February of next year is the earliest Republic Services could have something in place, he said.

In the meantime, residents must haul their recycling to centers in Bozeman or trash it, something Veitch says could create problems with bears and litter. If people do find themselves with more trash for pick up, he encourages them to ensure food waste is secure, and to leave items like cardboard out if there’s not enough room in the cans.

If there’s enough interest in curbside recycling, O’Connor and Veitch still hope someone will step forward and offer a site in the interim.

“The council’s hope is that once the bins go away, the community will realize what an asset we’re losing,” O’Connor said.

Republic Services can be reached at (406) 586-0606.



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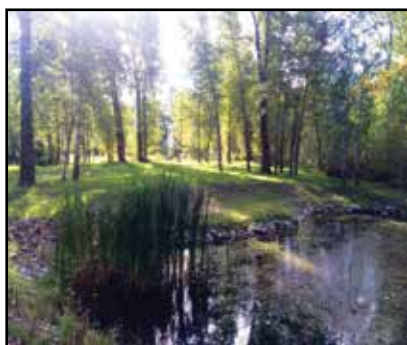
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LOCAL



Hole in One!

Ruth Smit, 74, from Sturgis, S.D., fired a hole-in-one from 89 yards on the 17th hole at Big Sky Resort Golf Course on Sept. 1. Smit is also a second-homeowner in Big Sky. PHOTO BY RENAE SCHUMACHER



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How important is recycling to you?

Follow-up: Recycling bins are leaving Big Sky Town Center Oct. 1. Who should be responsible for ensuring Big Sky residents can recycle?



Amy Gale, Big Sky, Mont.
Operations, Big Sky Sotheby's International Realty

"Recycling is super important to me. It's something we should do for our environment, for our kids. I recycle at home, I recycle here [at work]. It's a daily thing for me."

Follow-up: "It's usually the city that would take responsibility for it, but we're unincorporated. I'm grateful Town Center has done it for so long, but we need to come together as a community and make an effort. Maybe it's not one spot, maybe it's a couple so the burden doesn't fall on one group."



Steve Noland, Anaconda, Mont.
Owner, C and S Jewelry Design Studio

"We try to recycle everything we can, even our jewelry. It's pretty important – the world is already covered in plastic."

Follow-up: "There's got to be a community leader of some sort. That's who would be responsible. I would have a local vote and see what they want to do. If it was a larger community, it would probably be mandatory."



Richard and Cherie Crain, Helena, Mont.
Cherie: retired; Richard: Pastor, North Hills Missionary Baptist Church

Cherie: "I like recycling because it cuts down on waste, product containers, oil, tires, whatever, rather than going to landfills and polluting our oceans. Also, recycling can be used in other products: jewelry, clothing, materials for building, automobiles, and, as Seinfeld would say, "Yada, yada, yada."

Follow-up – Richard: "The first thing I'd think of would be the local government." (Upon being told Big Sky is unincorporated): "So you would be in a county. Out of curiosity, there [are] no city fathers here at all? I feel whatever the nearest to a government entity [would be responsible]. Recycling needs to be at the local level."



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The term “back to school” represents different things for different people. For me, growing up in Virginia, it meant I’d soon be walking home from school with friends, throwing the football back and forth among the “crunch, crunch, crunch” of brown, yellow and red fallen leaves.

Here at EBS, we remember this time of year, and we each have different memories. We wanted to mirror the same fresh approach to returning to school that students and teachers take into each new school year. We asked five people returning to their respective institutions to tell us what back to school means to them. Here are their stories. – J.T.O



DEVIUS PLOTS FOILED

I was 10 and it was my first day of fifth grade, a time when social nuances begin to develop: Your world perspective includes how others see you and how you fit into your social and academic hierarchy.

My parents owned a natural food store since the 1970s, and before healthy foods were “cool” like they are now, I had to eat them. Our bread was brown and had thick crusts coated with nuts and seeds. My yogurt was plain and wasn’t colored red or blue. My carrot sticks didn’t have a sidecar of ranch. My cookies were made from carob and honey not coated in rich frosting or packed with chocolate chips.

My parents wouldn’t spend money on a hot lunch so I was left with a decision. Battling a low self-esteem, while attempting to be the coolest kid in the classroom wasn’t happening. This brown-bagged healthy lunch thing was going to destroy my popularity.

I devised a plan that only later in high school was unraveled; it still gets laughs at family gatherings. I took the brown paper bags filled with healthy food in plastic ziplocks and tossed them in the tall grass near our bus stop at the end of our driveway. Ingenious right? Not even my parents, but least of all my classmates, would ever know I didn’t bring these lunches to school. My self-esteem was satisfied.

Years later my true, unscrupulous identity was uncovered when my father finally mowed the tall grass, only to find 157 Ziplock bags of rotten carrots, moldy whole wheat bread sandwiches, and spoiled organic yogurt.

Most lessons we learn much later in life. One I recognize and try to teach my fourth-graders is, “Be true to yourself, your friends (and family), and your work.”

– Jeremy Harder, *Fourth-grade teacher, Ophir Elementary*



THE COMMUTE

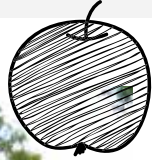
Growing up in an agricultural community in Helena, back-to-school day always represented an end to work for the summer, so my sister and I were more than obliged to tolerate my mother’s pictures, hair brushing, and insistence on being extremely clean for the first day.



The strongest memory I have of returning to school is the bus ride. For my entire school life, I rode the bus an hour and a half to school each way. We were just far enough out of the route that we were the first kids on the bus at 5:45 a.m. and the last dropped off at 5 p.m.

Interestingly, my sister and I were the only ones on the bus for nearly 40 minutes of that time. So the first day of school was always one of tiredness and transitioning to the daily three-hour commute. Unfortunately, we did not use that time wisely and always had homework when we returned. We squandered many commuting miles, a habit I still wrestle with today.

– Dustin Shipman, *Superintendent, Big Sky School District*



A LISA FRANK FRESH START

When I was younger, I looked forward to back-to-school shopping like it was Christmas. In August, the Sunday ads would start featuring folders and notebooks instead of flip-flops and beach toys, and I knew it wouldn’t be much longer before my mom announced the special day.

She’d take me to the store and I’d race to find the list for my class before setting out on a mission to find the coolest version of each item. Glittery pencils, a flexible ruler, scented markers, and anything Lisa Frank were all must-haves.

When we returned home I’d take my new supplies down to my room for processing and handling. After taking everything out of its package, I spread it all out on the floor around me to savor each item’s pristine perfection. I would then find homes for everything in my pencil box. After organizing them with precision, I’d take a final look at my treasures before burying them in my backpack, not to be seen again until the first day of school.

Everyone likes getting new things, sure, but for me it was more than that; these back-to-school items were symbols of a fresh start. The erasers had never seen mistakes, the crayons had never colored outside the lines, and the notebooks had never been scribbled on. They held the promise of a great school year.

Although I’ve traded markers for printer ink and notebooks for a laptop, I still get that feeling when I’m in the bookstore. A wave of excitement rushes through me and I’m ready to start again.

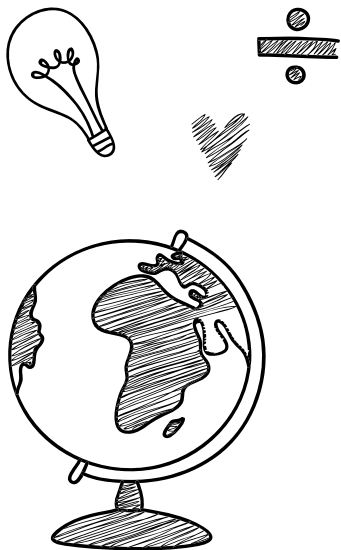
– Alexa Dzintars, *Senior, Montana State University*



PHOTO BY JILL BOUGH



PHOTO BY JILL BOUGH



THE AWAKENING

Back to school. Every year, sometime during mid-August, I start to hear these words and – I’ll admit it – I can’t help but cringe a little. Why? Preparing for school a few days ago, I asked myself this very question.

Why does going back to school have such a negative connotation? When I took the time to think about it, I realized what made me cringe was probably as simple as this: School has a stereotype of being routine and predictable, of lacking the exciting spontaneity of summer. This seems especially true in a small town. You’ve grown accustomed, or at least that’s what you convince yourself.



So, when Aug. 31 rolled around, I trudged off to school, the same backpack weighing on my shoulders, the boring box of No. 2 pencils in hand. I thought I knew what was coming. I thought I had everything down.

As I stepped through the doors of Lone Peak High School that morning – the door being held open by a bright-eyed fifth-grader – I was swept up in a whirlwind of excited voices, new dresses and clip-on bow-ties, and best of all: new faces.

Within the first half hour of class, I had introduced myself six times, peeked into new classrooms, memorized the names of new teachers, marveled at the new k-4 school and larger high school layout. I questioned my entire attitude toward school, and found myself feeding off of my peers’ excitement and regaining my own thirst for knowledge.

I had forgotten that learning is not only a joy, but a luxury. I don’t think I’ve ever experienced anything quite like the synergy on the first day of school. On Aug. 31, I didn’t merely wake up to a new day. I woke up to a new year.

– Dasha Bough, *Junior, Lone Peak High School*

ONLY 179 DAYS LEFT

The first day of school always seems like the most intimidating day of the year. You walk in, hands in your pockets, numb from your days spent sprawled out in the sun.

The first class seems like it’s never going to end. And you wait, in painful silence until the bell rings.

The school is always colder than necessary, and the kids are always louder



than you thought humanly possible, but at some point, it all seems bearable. You’ve got 179 days left, and memories to make and classes to take. So you sit down in your first class, and prepare yourself for the rest of your day, and for many more days to come.

– Ellie Quackenbush, *Junior, Lone Peak High School*

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GVLT raises \$250,000 for land conservation



BY MARIA WYLLIE
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BOZEMAN – Approximately 260 people gathered on Aug. 22 at Mark and Nanette Kehke’s East Gallatin Preserve for the “Evening on the Land,” a biannual fundraiser hosted by the Gallatin Valley Land Trust.

Attendees showed up for the cause, and by the end of the night GVLT raised \$250,000 for land conservation. The nonprofit grossed \$75,000 more than the last “Evening on the Land” held in 2013.

“People care tremendously – people who have been here for generations and people who are new to the area – about keeping the things that make this place special intact,” said GVLT Executive Director Penelope Pierce.

A nonprofit organization based in Bozeman, GVLT works with two primary focuses: creating trails to connect people, communities and open spaces; and helping private landowners conserve their land.

The fourth fundraiser focused on the latter.

“We want to celebrate that when people work together for private land conservation, it has a really large impact beyond each [parcel of] private property,” Pierce said, adding that connecting a 40-acre parcel with another 40-acre parcel, for example, has a cumulative effect.

“Having that continuity benefits wildlife habitats as well as farming and ranching,” she said.

GVLT staff worked with the Kehkes to secure their land as a conservation easement in December 2014.

Event cohosts that also gave GVLT easements along the East Gallatin River included Cowan and Skinner

Ranch Company, Kathy and Tim Crawford, Elyse and Bill End, and Yucca and Gary Rieschel.

The event featured a sit down dinner with locally sourced ingredients, music by DJ Missy O’Malley, a live auction and a cash call. Funds raised will go toward GVLT’s land conservation program with much of it covering costs related to conservation easements such as staff time and outreach.

Cash call money will be specifically earmarked for a fund allowing GVLT to pay for option agreements, environmental assessments and appraisals, should the group need to act quickly to secure land, Pierce said.

Auction packages included uniquely Montana experiences such as helping reintroduce trumpeter swans in the Blackfoot Valley by releasing one of the birds into the wild; dinner and fly fishing with actor Michael Keaton; and a golf package featuring five private courses in southwest Montana.

“They are experiences that could only be purchased at the event because generous people opened up their homes and private ranches as auction items,” Pierce said.

The \$250,000 GVLT raised represented the most money ever raised by the nonprofit at one event. Pierce attributes the leap in funds to more sponsors, creative auction packages, and foremost, generous people.

“The land, wildlife habitat, clean and healthy rivers, the agricultural heritage that define this valley – everybody values those qualities,” Pierce said. “It’s why people are coming and why people are staying.”

“People care tremendously – people who have been here for generations and people who are new to the area – about keeping the things that make this place special intact”



Top: Approximately 260 people gathered on Aug. 22 at Mark and Nanette Kehke’s East Gallatin Preserve for the “Evening on the Land.” Bottom: The event featured a sit down dinner with locally sourced ingredients, music by DJ Missy O’Malley, a live auction and a cash call. PHOTOS BY DIANA PROEMM

Yellowstone prepares for fall

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

The sight of steam rising up from the ground in the chilly morning hours; the sound of bulging elk in the crisp evening air; and the feel of fleece against your skin as you dress for a day hike – all herald the end of summer and the beginning of fall, which comes early to Yellowstone National Park.

In response to the change in weather and subsequent lower visitation, park facilities and services begin to wind down for the season. Autumn is a special time of year to visit the park, but be sure to check conditions before you start your trip, pack appropriately, and remember to keep your safety in mind at all times.

The park’s wildlife is also getting ready for the change in seasons. Some of the large animals begin migrating, others stock up on extra food to pack on weight before winter, and elk begin their fall rut. In many areas of Yellowstone– especially around Mammoth Hot Springs – the bull elk will soon be vying for female attention by bugling and sparring with other males. Bulls are much more aggressive this time of year and can be a threat to both people and property.

Elk damage several vehicles every year, and on occasion charge and injure visitors. A dedicated group of park staff and volunteers patrol the

Mammoth Hot Springs area when elk are present, attempting to keep the animals and visitors a safe distance apart. However, it’s important that people do their part as well: Park regulations require visitors to stay a minimum of 25 yards – the length of two school buses – away from elk, moose, deer, bison, bighorn sheep, and coyotes.

Yellowstone National Park is bear country. In the fall, grizzly and black bears usually move to higher elevations to feed on whitebark pine seeds, consuming the calories they need to sustain themselves during winter hibernation. But bears may still be encountered along roads or hiking trails throughout the park.

When hiking or backpacking, remember to travel in groups of three or more, make noise on the trail, and be alert for bears. All hikers should carry bear spray where it’s readily accessible – not inside a pack – and know how to use it.

Bear spray is highly successful at stopping aggressive bears and it’s sold at retail shops throughout Yellowstone, as well as in many stores in the surrounding communities. New this year, bear spray is available for rent at Canyon Village in a kiosk near the Canyon Visitor Education Center through late September.

Park regulations require people to stay a minimum of 100 yards – the length of a football field – away from bears and wolves at all times. If you

see a bear along the road, park on the shoulder and stay in your vehicle to watch the animal. Use your binoculars, telescope or telephoto lens to get a closer look rather than approaching the bear.

In addition to the change in animal behavior, fall also brings changes in the weather and you should come prepared for a wide range of conditions. Days gradually get shorter and temperatures drop rapidly once the sun goes down, often falling below freezing overnight.

At this time of year, it’s a good idea to pack plenty of layers, including insulating items as well as both sun and rain protection. Stop at a visitor center or ranger station for the latest updates on trail conditions and park regulations, and remember that you must obtain overnight backcountry permits if you plan to backpack.

As campgrounds and lodges begin to close for the season, those remaining open fill up early. Most park roads and visitor services remain open through September, but visit nps.gov/yell/plan-yourvisit for the latest information. Updated road information is also available 24 hours a day by calling (307) 344-2117.

Bozeman Deaconess Health Services announces new name

BOZEMAN HEALTH

BOZEMAN – During an Aug. 31 presentation on the state of its integrated health system, Bozeman Deaconess Health Services President and CEO Kevin Pitzer announced that BDHS has changed its name to “Bozeman Health.”

From its beginnings as a single hospital, Bozeman Health’s service area now extends throughout southwestern Montana. The health system is comprised of several specialty treatment centers; a network of physician and urgent-care clinics; outpatient treatment facilities; retirement and assisted-living facilities; as well as a new hospital in Big Sky opening in December.

“Bozeman remains prominent in our new name. It is where our health system was born and remains the nucleus of our regional service area and our system’s hub from which we reach out to other cities and towns across southwest Montana, as we are now doing in Big Sky, Belgrade and beyond,” Pitzer said, adding that the new name signals change and progress.

“We are now more than one hospital in one community,” he said. “Our service area extends throughout and beyond our eight-county region. As our service area has grown and evolved, so has our organization.”

The updated organizational structure will include a new parent company that Bozeman Health’s existing community board of trustees created and will govern.

Pitzer says the name change and new organization is summarized by three basic purposes: to honor Bozeman Health’s mission by continuing to improve community health and quality of life through education and prevention; to improve convenience and access in communities across the region; and to promote quality, accountability, and reliability across its integrated health system.



The Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center under construction in June. The new hospital is slated to open in December. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

Under the new parent company, Bozeman Health is organized into five divisions: corporate services; Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital; Bozeman Health Medical Group; its real estate development corporation; and the Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center.

The integrated health system also includes Bozeman Health Hillcrest Senior Living with independent and assisted living facilities; a clinical research group; and two urgent care locations.

“Bozeman Deaconess Health Services has done a lot to improve access in West Yellowstone by bringing services closer and supporting [Community Health Partners,” said Pierre Martineu, the executive director of the West Yellowstone Foundation. “They’re helpful, progressive, and proactive; I’m confident this restructuring to Bozeman Health will lead to more convenient, accessible care in southwest Montana.”

Late blight discovered in Gallatin Valley

MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN - A disease of potatoes and tomatoes called late blight was discovered in the Gallatin Valley during the week of Aug. 17, according to Nina Zidack, director of the Montana State University Seed Potato Certification Program.

Late blight – caused by the pathogen *Phytophthora infestans* – is a very serious disease, Zidack said, and if left uncontrolled can cause tuber rot in storage.

Symptoms can appear on leaves as round, brown lesions, sometimes bordered by a light green halo, and infections can also invade the stem, ultimately infecting the tubers. In tomatoes, the fruit can be infected as well. Any infected foliage should be disposed of in plastic bags.

While late blight has been found very sporadically in other parts of Montana in the past, this is the first identification of the disease in the Manhattan area, where almost half of the state’s seed potatoes are grown, Zidack said.

“Since we live in a seed potato growing area, even small infestations in a garden

could produce a source of infection for neighboring potato fields. It is very important to properly identify the disease and remove infected plants,” she said, adding that samples can be sent to the Schutter Diagnostic Laboratory at MSU for proper identification.

The pathogen is spread by windblown spores and requires long periods of free moisture and high humidity for the spores to germinate. The disease is best controlled by fungicides, and epidemics are significantly slowed with the onset of warm and dry weather.

“Gallatin growers are very optimistic that they are catching this disease early, and with the dry, warm weather and imminent harvest, that they can avoid having disease issues in the potatoes,” Zidack said.

Home gardeners and those with market gardens should scout their potatoes and tomatoes, and if they see late blight, the best thing they can do at this point of the season is to harvest their potatoes.

Zidack pointed to usablight.org as an excellent online resource with detailed information on the disease and pictures of infected plants.



A brown late blight lesion on a potato leaf. PHOTO COURTESY OF NINA ZIDACK/MSU SEED POTATO CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



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Tester brings U.S. Homeland Security official to Montana

Discuss emergency response, border security, human trafficking



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OFFICE OF SEN. JON TESTER

HAVRE, Mont.
– Sen. Jon Tester wrapped up a two-day Montana tour with Department of Homeland Security Deputy Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on Aug. 26. During the visit, Tester and Mayorkas met with law enforcement and first responder officials as well as border security to discuss national and domestic security issues.

Tester, a senior member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, and Mayorkas began a tour of Helena on Aug. 25 with listening sessions on law enforcement and emergency response.

Tester heard from U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials about drug trafficking, as well as the communications and technical difficulties

local and state law enforcement agencies face when working with federal agencies.

On Aug. 26, they talked to professionals on the ground about border security, human trafficking and law enforcement issues.

Tester and Mayorkas flew along the Montana-Canadian border and visited the Ports of Piegan and Sweetgrass before hosting a roundtable on human trafficking in Havre.

“Everyone is always focused on the southern border, but what they might not know is that there are serious national security and law enforcement issues that need to be addressed along the northern border as well,” Tester said. “The information we gathered on this trip will help us get resources back to folks on the ground so they can keep our state and nation safe and secure.”

At the Ports of Piegan and Sweetgrass, Tester and Mayorkas witnessed the needs for increased staffing and equipment.

In Havre, Tester and Mayorkas heard from law enforcement officials about the challenges of fighting human trafficking. Mayorkas discussed DHS’s Blue Campaign, an agency effort to combat the illegal practice.

According to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, Montana has positively identified 112 victims of human trafficking since 2007.



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Section 2:
BUSINESS, PROFILE, SPORTS
AND HEALTH



The CORNER OFFICE

Jobanne Bouchard, a former high-tech marketing executive, is a leadership advisor to CEOs, executives and entrepreneurs, as well as an expert in corporate board composition and dynamics. Visit jobannebouchard.com to learn more or download her recently published eBooks “Board Composition” and “Board Basics.”

Nurturing a growing business



BY JOHANNE BOUCHARD
EBS BUSINESS COLUMNIST

There are steps you can take to maximize the opportunities to successfully grow your business.

As a company founder, recognize if you’re an asset or a liability to the growth of your business. No matter how proud you are of the business you’ve successfully launched, if you can’t grow it hire someone to step in. I’ve been brought in by many investors to mediate situations where founders weren’t effectively scaling a company. Identify relationships early that will create an optimal scenario for all stakeholders: you, as well as your employees, customers, investors and partners.

Focus. It’s imperative that you don’t diversify too early. Focus on growing the sectors that can build a sustainable business and brand recognition. Avoid constantly changing your positioning by reacting to the competition. While being fully aware of the competitive landscape, stay on course with a clear strategy.

Build your infrastructure and automate what you must. Regardless of the size of your business, the sooner you can implement the right systems to help you scale, the more efficient and effective you’ll be. I’ve seen too many companies confronted with the challenges of growing while trying to remain savvy regarding operational efficiency as they scale up.

Monitor. It’s important to actively track as much data as you can about your business during its early stages. Ideally, you’ve entered into this venture with a well-researched hypothesis about what it will take to thrive. Once your “doors are open,” you’re in an active testing period that requires careful monitoring. This should include:

- Meticulous financial record keeping, including detailed return on investment regarding all business costs
- An up-to-the minute database and customer relationship management of prospects
- Up-to-date, real-time inventory monitoring

Regular reviews of employee performance

You need to be in a position to take a “business pulse” and to have an accurate status report at any time.

Be flexible. If any aspect of your original hypothesis isn’t producing the expected results, you must have the humility to adapt. Many businesses fail because the people behind them refuse to reconsider their choices when something isn’t working. Don’t let stubbornness sink your venture!

Have comprehensive contingency plans in place. A fixation on “what ifs” can inhibit progress, but it’s important to consider them in business planning. Unexpected challenges should inform your choices regarding purchasing insurance; securing legal counsel and financial advisors; making succession plans for yourself and key staff members; maintaining files of back-up vendors who can meet unanticipated needs; and

purchasing emergency supplies like a back-up generator, for example. Know when your suppliers are unable to deliver goods, and be proactive in identifying services and products that can supplement your revenue stream.

Marketing never stops. If you’ve got money in the budget to promote the launch of your new business, but haven’t thought about promoting it post-launch, you’ve skipped an important step. The likelihood that your launch will be so successful that you’ll never have to actively market again is pretty slim.

Talk to someone who knows the landscape. If you’re new to business ownership, you can save yourself a great deal of “learning the hard way” by talking to a professional advisor about how to set up effective systems. And know when having an advisory board is right for you. The cost of doing it right from the beginning will pay dividends in the long term.

Remember, growth and operational efficiency are not mutually exclusive!

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To protect and serve

Profile of a small-town sheriff



Dan Birdsill has been working for the Madison County Sheriff's Department for more than 30 years.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ALLEN MORRIS JONES

EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Not sure why, but I've always been curious about small town cops, the work they do. Maybe it comes from a slightly wayward childhood in Livingston. I've never been arrested, never put in cuffs, but I've come thiiiiis close. Nothing serious, just the delinquent, late-night mistakes you make as a kid growing up in Montana. "Hey, guys! Watch this!" It turns out that God not only looks after drunks and small children, but teenagers with fake IDs as well.

My notions about law enforcement, then, during my early years – middle class and mostly well behaved, dipping the occasional toe over into truancy – were ... complicated. My folks had an art gallery. The burglar alarm would go off, the cops would show up within five minutes, lights flashing. That was good. They were always polite.

But then, late at night, sneaking a sixer with buddies and watching a city cop take a slow turn through the high school parking lot, spotlight swinging around... Of all the possible jobs a guy could choose, who would decide on this one? Protect and serve was stenciled on the car doors, but that seemed to me misleading. Protecting and serving...whom? Not me, not us, not the underage drinkers.

Who were those guys?

Fast forward 25 or 30 years, and Deputy Sheriff Dan Birdsill is showing me around his beat, around Madison County, Montana. I'm in the front seat, crowded by a rubberized laptop, staring at the radar assembly on his dash. The radar gun itself – about twice the diameter of a pop can – feeds into a modem-sized console that shows a readout of both our vehicle's speed as well as the speed of oncoming vehicles.

The box gives off a faint, feedback whine of an old computer trying to find a modem connection. My eye keeps catching it. Every third or fourth vehicle, predictably, is going at least 5 mph too fast. And all of these speeders – every single one – immediately kicks off the cruise control when they spot Dan. You want to think you're unusual, you want to think you're unique. Then you spend a day with law enforcement.

Madison County. Cupped by competing mountain ranges, this is God's country, unironically. Where Montana's written history got its start; where the state's first mining towns went boom and bust, where the first bandits took long drops on short ropes and the first of the state's politicians pounded their podiums.

These days, trophy homes overlook mine tailings, and roadside stands offer tourists a chance to pan for garnets. In the off-season, there's not quite 8,000 folks in the county, some of them miners, a good portion of them full-time recreationalists. If you're in law enforcement, it makes for a misleading calm. People from disparate backgrounds, different social and economic strata, jostling each other for a measure of position.

We start the day by taking a few turns around the tiny towns of Harrison and Pony. "I try not to make a habit of the same routine. People like to see you. Like to know you're about," says Dan, idling along, in no hurry one way or the other.

If you've spent time in Ennis or Virginia City, you've likely caught a glimpse of Dan. He's the K9 officer. His dog Shay, an 11-year-old Belgian Malinois graying around the face, rides in a kennel fashioned in the back of Dan's Ford Expedition. Dan's been with the department for more than 30 years, though his first 10 were part time. He's a genial man, amiably self-possessed, and drives the gravel streets with easy familiarity. "You get to know an area, you come to know what to expect."

“My dog and I try to be ambassadors,” Dan says, “try to say we’re the ones you run to, not the ones you run from.”

There is no drama here. This isn’t a story. I’m interested in who; less curious about why, when, where, and how. “My dog and I try to be ambassadors,” Dan says, “try to say we’re the ones you run to, not the ones you run from. I feel like that’s an important lesson for the younger folks ...” Coming out of Pony, dispatch interrupts. “25-4, 25-4, come in please.” Dan pulls over, clicks his radio’s handset. “Go ahead.”

“We have a call from Sheridan, verbal threats between neighbors. Both parties are still on site.” The voice passes along a name, address, phone number.

“Okay, I’m on the Madison now. I’ll make my way over there.”

“Roger that.”

He opens his laptop. Types a few lines. “In the computer system, this is a call for service. If it was a criminal case, we’d call it an incident.”

Dan grew up in Sheridan, born and raised, third generation. “The kids that grew up here, used to be, they’d stick around. They worked mining, lumber, whatever they could find. My dad, he spent his time in the service, in France and Germany in World War II. Came home to work the mines. He was a welder, and a shift boss at a phosphate mine for twenty years.”

Dan himself started out at the talc mine, a certified diesel mechanic, a certified welder, crane operator. But he quit after the mine first gave him permission to attend the law enforcement academy and then later tried to demote him for taking the time off.

“I went from making over \$20 an hour – and in 1993 that was a pretty good wage – to about half that for the sheriff’s department. And I didn’t regret it a minute. What’s your peace of mind worth?”



Boot Hill overlooks the town of Virginia City, with the courthouse and sheriff’s office conspicuous in the center of town.

Thirty years into the job, Dan seems to know the people he works for, the citizens of Madison County, as well as I know my own neighbors. Passing a young woman in a white Fiat, he says regretfully, “I’ve had to give her two different DUIs.”

During the course of the day, I watch Dan placate the warring neighbors (nodding sympathetically, letting them talk out their anger), do a welfare check on an elderly woman whose grandson was worried that she wasn’t answering her phone (Dan to dispatch: “Everything’s code 4 here. Her phone’s just been out of order.”), and chastise a local who’d been tossing debris out into the middle of the road to discourage speeders.



K9s like Shay receive enormous amounts of training before starting work as police dogs. Part of their training includes sniffing out illicit substances. As Shay’s trainer, Dan Birdsell had to become DEA certified – a process in and of itself – so he could legally possess the small amounts of narcotics used to train Shay.

Dan says at one point, “Boils down to it, there’s just too many people with not enough to do.”

What makes a good small town sheriff? It has something to do, I think, with well-intentioned service. The job of a peace officer is literally to maintain the peace. It’s not a euphemism. These guys serve at the pleasure of the public, answerable to anyone with a phone and the urge to dial 911. If it were me, I’m not sure I could handle it. Being accountable to ... everyone.

Dan says, “If you can’t be decent to people, you’re not doing the job for the right reasons.” He considers it, then adds, “I always tell the new guys, you have to ask yourself, am I doing the right thing at the right time in the right way for the right reasons?”

We are at a moment of crisis in the culture at large. Cameras on phones and YouTube in your hip pocket, the evidence of police abuse is only as far as the next hyperlink. If you let it, it’s enough to turn you jaded, sour. The bad eggs threaten to cast a shadow over an entire profession. But consider where we would be without the rest of them. The tens of thousands of folks who serve without any real recognition, commendation, or applause.

These days, holding my four-year-old’s hand, walking him toward the playground (keeping an eye out for speeders, broken bottles, swerving drunks), glimpsing a cruising patrol car lifts my spirits a bit. Who do these guys protect and serve? Me, you, us. I’m only sorry that it’s taken me this long to feel grateful for it.

A writer, editor, and photographer, Allen Jones currently lives and works just west of Bozeman.

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.

A menu and the moment of discovery



BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

For a chef, there's nothing more poignant than that moment when a new idea or vision hits you; when you see a new dish in your head.

For years, Food Arts magazine periodically featured a department its editors called "Hits and Flops." In each issue, it profiled half a dozen chefs who described dishes they created that were huge hits, and those that were complete flops.

When asked about the flops, almost every chef had the same response: that those were the dishes with the most time and passion invested, and that guests had no idea how much thought went into a dish only to have it dismissed.

Inevitably, when I read the flop dishes aloud to my staff or peers, comments like "I would so order that!" were common. So therein lies the challenge of a chef: creating a menu that you and your team of like-minded professionals find interesting, and one that will also sell. They're not always the same thing.

Many factors such as atmosphere, quality of service, and décor, give a restaurant its identity. But the menu is at the heart of every eatery. It's the most important factor for creating identity. However, creating that menu is different for every chef.

Some chefs create a menu – a heart – that evokes their personality, namely the items they want to cook or eat. But that method comes with limitations. Not everyone wants to eat what a chef does.

Others base their menu on what is available and seasonal. But that, too, comes with its own set of challenges. What's available in California or even the south of France is not always available – or affordable – in the mountains of Big Sky.

Immensely skilled chefs, like Marcus Nilson of the popular PBS series "Mind of a Chef," create dishes based on the seasons and landscape despite his remote northern Sweden outpost. Not many chefs possess this skillset.

Eric Ripert, chef at Le Bernardin in New York City's borough of Manhattan, holds weekly research and development meetings just for menu items. He breaks his team into groups and has them spend a portion of every day developing new dishes.

Personally, my head is already swimming with winter ideas by June.

Denise, one of my pastry chefs, once compared me to the professor in "Back to the Future" when I suddenly ran off mid-sentence, started rambling, interrupted myself twice, and frantically looked for something – anything – to write on, as I was determined to not let this potential duck dish slip through my proverbial fingers.

Most of us chefs in Big Sky are virtually handed the perfect schedule for menu changes, since fall and spring are considered shoulder seasons and are typically not as busy as winter or summer.

These "breaks" allow us time to experiment, seek out new products, and build new relationships. Our busy seasons give teams enough time to master a dish and then move on to the next one when trees start to bud or the first snowflakes begin to fall.

In the end, the moment of discovering and the journey of creating new dishes are as rewarding as the final result.

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



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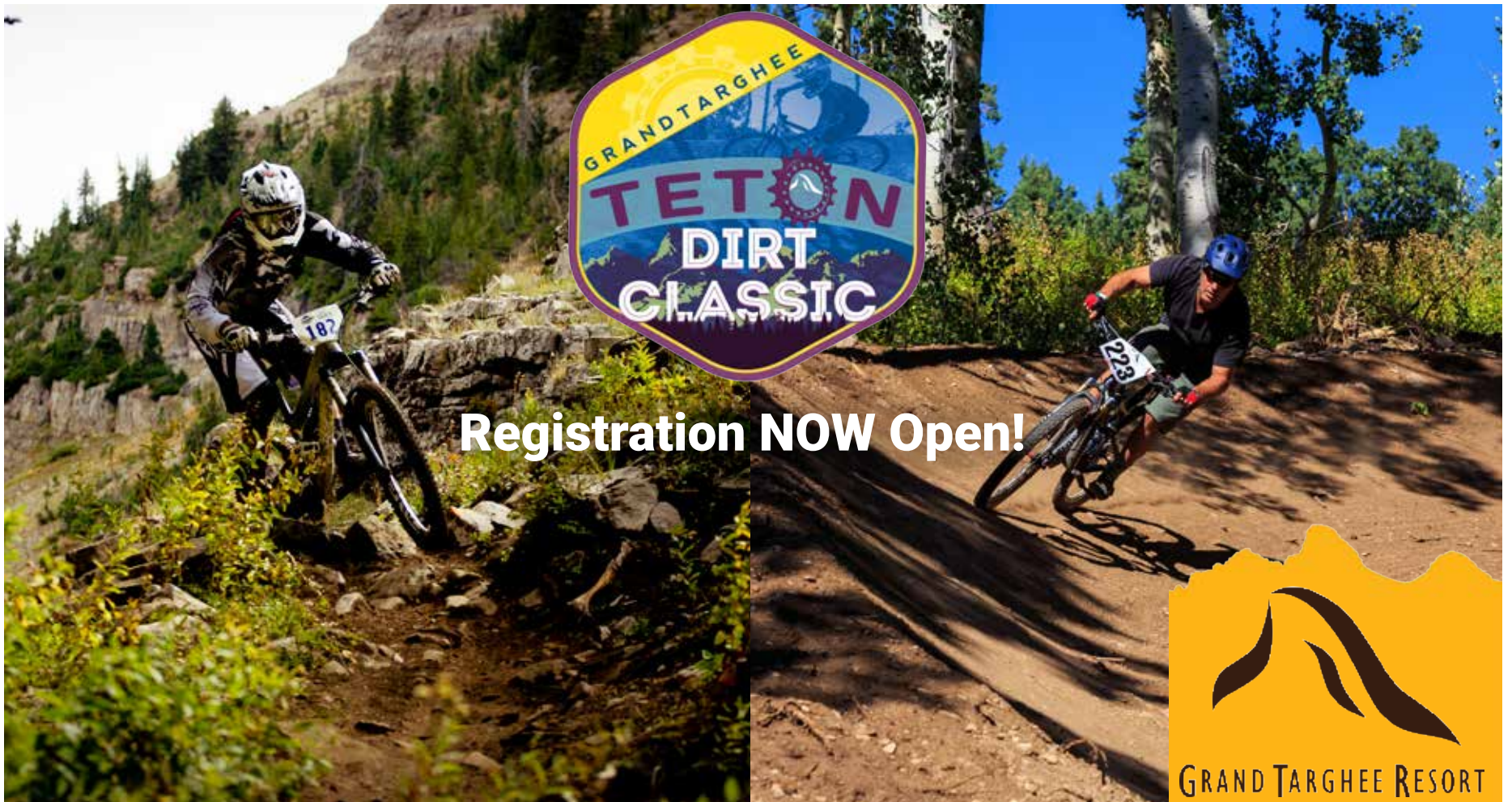
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GOLF TIPS FROM A PRO

Uphill, downhill, and sidehill lies



BY MARK WEHRMAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Avoid big numbers on your scorecard by mastering uneven lies. Knowing how to setup, and where to aim, when playing the ball off uneven ground will prevent you from wasting strokes on the course.

Uphill and downhill

The rule of thumb is to always play the ball towards your higher foot. For a right-handed golfer, you will position the ball off of your front foot with an uphill lie, and off of your back foot for a downhill lie. Next, lean with the slope – uphill lies will require you to lean back a bit, while downhill lies will require you to lean forward. Also, try to match your shoulder angle to the slope.

The ball flight for an uphill lie will be high with a right to left shot trajectory, so you should aim right of your target. The ball flight for a downhill lie will

be low with a left to right shot path, so you want to aim left of your target. If you plan on this type of shot shape you have a higher percentage of succeeding from these lies.

Sidehill

With the ball above your feet, choke down on the grip and make your swing more rounded. To do this, you must try to swing the club around your body more, which will flatten your swing path. This will keep your swing path from getting too steep and prevent you from sticking the club into the ground before it strikes the ball. The ball flight should move from right to left.

With the ball below your feet, stand closer to your lie and flex your knees more than you would typically. You want to make your swing path more up and down to ensure crisp contact with the ball. The ball flight should move from left to right.

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

Uphill Lie



Downhill Lie



Sidehill Lie

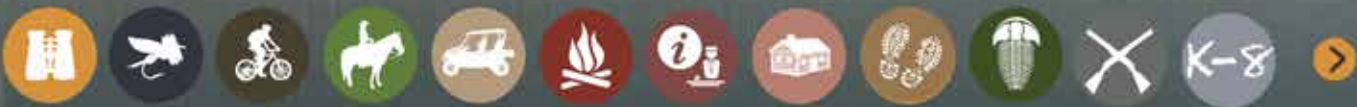


The sidehill specialist demonstrates proper body and ball position when approaching uphill, downhill and sidehill lies, respectively. PHOTOS BY TYLER ALLEN



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The crack of the bat

Big Sky softball finishes off year 13

BY JOSEPH T. O'CONNOR
EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Softball League ended its 13th regular season on Aug. 26 when Country Market upended the Hillbilly Huckers 26-10 to take home the coveted season trophy. The following weekend, the traditional season-ending softball tournament brought hundreds of fans to the Big Sky Community Park ball fields with grills, coolers and cowbells to root-on their favorite clubs.

It's a spectacle Jean Palmer, the official scorekeeper since the league's 2002 inception, can't get enough of.

"The camaraderie of the working community was so special," said Palmer, also the Big Sky Post Office manager. "People always ask how's your team doing, [and] 'Are you still doing that?' When they hear the roar of the crowd they know [we're] having fun."

And fans heard the roar over the two-day tournament, when 14 teams played more than 30 combined games. Some teams beefed up their rosters; others flew players from outside the region to play.

When the dust settled on field two after the tourney championship game, Country Market was again left standing, this time with a 12-11 nail-biter over the Yellowstone Club, and this time holding the tournament trophy high over their champagne-soaked heads.

The season overall was a smashing success, according to first-year league commissioner Lee Horning.

"We had a few new rules that have made the games more competitive and move along," Horning said, referring to a three-homerun limit and a coed walk rule wherein a female player can opt to take first base if the male who batted before her was walked.

"The highlight of the year [was] the numerous competitive games that [went] down to the wire, with fewer blowouts," Horning said. "The talent level and softball knowledge is increasing and competitive play is a result of that."

Scores of volunteers, along with the Big Sky Community Corp. staff, made this season one for the ages. And the throngs of softball fans kept players hustling around the bases and the stands full.

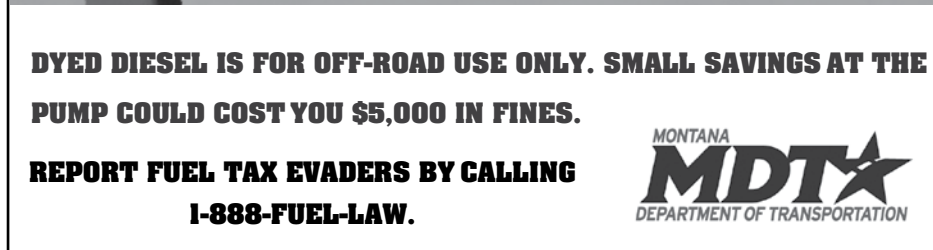
And that's what makes Big Sky softball such a success: the fans.

"It's the aunts and uncles and families that come to visit, and it's the residents," Palmer said. "That's what community is about."

Baseball, and by default softball, is a game that allows fans to relax and put to sleep the daily grind; to ease back in a seat and soak up the sun along with some hard-fought innings of America's pastime; to hear the crack of the bat.

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Bobcats set sights high this season



Bobcat Stadium was at capacity to see MSU beat Central Arkansas 43-33 on Sept. 13, 2014. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTOS

BY COLTER NUANEZ
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

If an off-season full of promising change can come to fruition, the Montana State University Bobcats look primed to make a run at a national championship that's eluded them for more than three decades.

Change was not a defining factor for the Bobcat offense that returns fully loaded after setting a school record for season points in 2014. But the Bobcat defense couldn't capitalize on the fact that quarterback Dakota Prukop and his arsenal of weapons were lighting up scoreboards across the West. A season ago, MSU scored more than 40 points on seven different occasions. The Bobcats lost two of those games, both at home and against key opponents.

The final loss was a heartbreaking 47-41 defeat to South Dakota State University, in a driving Bozeman snowstorm during the first round of the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs last December. The defeat was the final straw.

In the off-season, head coach Rob Ash put longtime assistant Kane Ioane in charge of the defense. The Bobcat Hall of Fame player has coached linebackers for a decade and will now call the plays as MSU's defensive coordinator. Former standout players Michael Rider and Jody Owens joined the staff as well, coaching cornerbacks and linebackers, respectively.

On the field, the Bobcats brought in seven transfers to bolster a unit searching for nine new starters. The group has worked with a slew of returning Bobcats as they try to master Ioane's multi-faceted, aggressive scheme.

Despite an off-season of change, the arsenal of weapons on the other side of the ball has the bar set high. The Big Sky Conference coaches named MSU the favorite to win the league, and the Bobcats were one vote away from being the favorite in the media poll.

"I don't know what everyone else thinks, but we expect to not lose a game and go all the way," said MSU senior captain defensive tackle Taylor Sheridan. "That adds pressure but at the same time I think we have the team to do it and that takes the pressure away."



The Bobcat defense looks to step it up this season under the leadership of new defensive coordinator Kane Ioane.

Sheridan will anchor a defensive line that includes senior tackles Connor Thomas and Nate Bignell. The linebacker unit had to replace five seniors, including All-American Alex Singleton now with the NFL's Seattle Seahawks. But Grant Collins, a redshirt freshman from Bozeman, and Mac Bignell, Nate's sophomore brother, look primed to step up.

In the backfield, senior cornerbacks Bryson Keeton and Trace Timmer look to fill the void left by the graduation of first-team All-Big Sky pick Deonte Flowers. At safety, University of Alabama-Birmingham transfer Des Carter seems to have emerged as a leader.

Much of the optimism stems from Prukop, an electric dual-threat quarterback who was a Walter Payton Award semifinalist in his first year under center last fall. Despite suffering a knee injury 10 games into the season, Prukop still totaled 3,525 yards of total offense and accounted for 31 Bobcat touchdowns, including 13 rushing scores to go with his nearly 1,000 yards on the ground.

Prukop is bolstered by the return of seven players who caught at least 10 passes last season, including senior captain slot receiver Mitch Griebel. Mitch Herbert, Justin Paige and Jayshawn Gates combined to catch 10 touchdowns during breakout freshmen seasons.

The pass game adds 6-foot-6-inch tight end Beau Sandland – a University of Miami transfer – and speedy wide receiver Brandon Brown, a Baylor University transfer who played high school ball with Prukop in Austin, Texas. In the backfield, junior captain Chad Newell and junior big-play threat Gunnar Brekke will be the main weapons in MSU's spread option offensive attack.

"Our goals are to win the Big Sky, beat the Griz, and win the national championship," said Griebel, referring to MSU's in-state rival the University of Montana Grizzlies. "The thing that has been missing is our swagger. We lost that for a couple of years. We thought it didn't take as much hard work as it did to win the Big Sky and I think we are back on track."

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

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From Jackie *with love* Eight powerful questions to get you unstuck



BY JACKIE RAINFORD
CORCORAN
EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

Most of us have areas in our lives where we feel stuck and we repeat the same patterns, despite knowing that they are detrimental to our well-being. Have you ever looked at a situation in disbelief and asked, “Why do I keep finding myself here?”

This is a critical question and we should always be acutely aware when we ask it of ourselves. This question and others like it – “Why am I such a failure?” for example – do not help us get unstuck. In fact, they often cause us to beat ourselves up emotionally and make the problem worse. Instead, let’s bring empowerment to the challenging aspects of our lives by asking more compelling questions that will bring solutions.

Each of us has tremendous potential to grow and thrive throughout our lives. As a health coach, I see common areas where we get stuck and our potential becomes obstructed.

Common themes include: habitually eating unhealthy foods; drinking sweetened drinks or alcohol excessively; a sedentary lifestyle; engaging in hurtful communication; participating in toxic relationships; chronic worrying; thinking thoughts that lead to negative self speak – the way you talk about yourself –and/or despair; and always being late and over-committing, which causes a sense of overwhelming.

By changing the way we think, we can change our behavior. We start this process simply by noticing what’s going on in the mind, without emotional attachment and judgment. Then, we can re-frame the scenario by asking and answering these eight powerful questions:

1. Why is it important for me to get unstuck and change this pattern once and for all?
2. How do I feel when I find myself back in this pattern?
3. What do I commonly tell myself when this happens?
4. What triggers this pattern?
5. When did it start?
6. Why do I continue to fall back into this pattern?

7. What new strategy can I put in place right now so that I can behave differently the next time this pattern is triggered?

8. What would be different about my life in five years if I broke this pattern for good today?

Getting unstuck is vitally important for growth. Every time we fall back into old habits, our self-esteem is affected. If you’re feeling trapped in an area of your life, take control by thoughtfully and lovingly writing down the answers to the questions above. And then take a new course of action the next time your pattern is triggered.

When you succeed at this, give yourself as much enthusiastic encouragement as you would criticism when you’ve felt that you failed. You deserve a standing ovation when you get unstuck.

Most of us are far more gifted and capable than we give ourselves credit for; now is the time to tap into that unutilized power.

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@thetabealth.com, or find more information at thetabealth.org.

Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



As we move into the last few weeks of summer we’re noticing some changes in the air. Days are getting shorter and nights colder, trees are starting to change colors and most of the dry fly fishing has turned to terrestrials and attractors.

Fishing pressure has decreased significantly on the Gallatin and Madison Rivers, which lends itself to fish that are more willing to participate in the game we call fly fishing. Most of our summer hatches are about over with a few lingering caddis and mayflies, but terrestrial activity is picking up pace. Small hoppers, ants and attractors like Royal Wulffs and Peacock Trudes.

Though good dry fly fishing can be had, nymphing will generally produce the most numbers. With few insect hatches to use as a reference it can be challenging to choose the right flies. This time of year it’s good to have a wide selection and change flies often if you aren’t having success...or stick to the flies you have faith in. Pat’s Rubber Legs, Lighting Bugs, Pheasant Tail variations, Hare’s Ears and Prince Nymphs are all good options to consider. This is also a great time of year to start swinging and dead-drifting a variety of streamer patterns like Zonkers, Sculpzillas, Buggers and more. As bug life slowly wanes you will find fish become more eager to chase down a ribeye to earn some calories!

The Yellowstone is starting to get a little more attention this time of year as anglers hope to take advantage of the “hopper hatch”. The Yellowstone is surrounded by dry grasslands this time of year, which makes it a great habitat for grasshoppers. The hopper-dropper rig is a great way to go with a Pat’s Rubber Legs, Clouser Crayfish, or your favorite nymph as the dropper. East of town will usually increase your trout to whitefish ratio, whereas in the valley the whitefish to trout ratio is significant.

Some are still taking advantage of some nocturnal stones, the streamer junkies are starting to warm up for fall and the whispers of chasing big browns on the Madison in YNP has begun.

Happy fishing!

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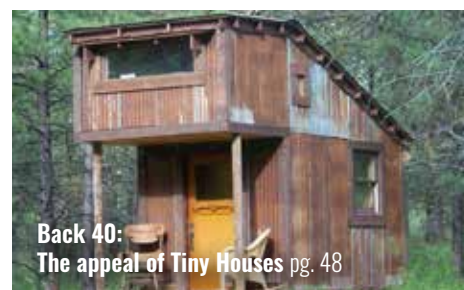
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Section 3: ENVIRONMENT, EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT, OUTDOORS



Politics and climate change

BY TYLER ALLEN
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – President Barack Obama on Aug. 31 began a three-day trip to Alaska and touched off his visit with a blunt warning about human-caused climate change.

“Human activity is disrupting the climate, in many ways faster than we previously thought,” Obama told an international conference on the Arctic, at Anchorage’s Dena’ina Civic and Convention Center. “The science is stark. It is sharpening. It proves that this once-distant threat is now very much in the present.”

The president spoke about the effects of a warming globe on the country’s only Arctic state, including a fire season that’s a month longer than it was in 1950; how more than 5 million acres of Alaska had burned this summer; and that during the past six decades, “Alaska has warmed about twice as fast as the rest of the United States.”

The speech was the president’s gravest warning about climate change to date, and he continued his trip the following day in Seward, speaking to reporters with the Exit Glacier as a backdrop. The iconic, 2-mile-long glacier has retreated more than 800 feet since 2008, according to satellite data.

Big Sky resident and glaciologist Twila Moon also uses satellite data, studying the ice sheets atop Greenland and Antarctica as she creates a new dataset to document their ice loss. The two

landmasses are home to the only two ice sheets on the planet, while the rest of Earth’s persistent ice is found in ice caps and glaciers, like Alaska’s Exit Glacier.

Ice sheets are so massive that their movement isn’t controlled by the terrain beneath them – like glaciers and ice caps – rather their interactions with atmospheric and ocean temperatures, as well as gravity. Satellites are the only viable way to study them on a global scale, along with their effect on rising sea levels.

If all Greenland and Antarctica’s ice melted, global sea levels would rise approximately 66 meters. While that may be centuries away, if ever, projections are virtually standard in the scientific community that a 1-meter average rise in global sea levels is likely by 2100.

“The good thing is that there’s more than one way to measure how much ice there is, and how much we’re losing,” said Moon, a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow at the University of Oregon. “We want to be able to measure it more than once – it gives us a lot of confidence in knowing how much we’re losing and how quickly.”

On May 30, 2013, data from the Landsat 8 satellite became available to Moon and other researchers around the globe. A partnership between NASA and the U.S. Geological Survey, the mission acquires high-quality data for observing land use and change, according to the USGS website.

“This satellite has the ability to image everywhere on earth every 16 days,” Moon said. “Previous data has been limited to how much of the ice sheet we can image and how often.”

Moon works with data from NASA’s ICESat (Ice, Cloud, and land Elevation Satellite), which was the benchmark of its Earth Observing System mission from 2003-2009 measuring ice sheet mass balance as well as collecting data on topography and vegetation characteristics, among other things. The ICESat was decommissioned in August 2010, but ICESat-2 is scheduled for launch in 2017.

“There are tens or hundreds of thousands of researchers around the world using different satellites,” Moon said. “There’s a lot of sharing of this data between countries [and] collaboration between researchers around the globe.”

“There’s a lot of concern in the science community that with reduced [federal] funding we’ll see fewer satellites going up,” she said.

The concern seems to be warranted, especially in U.S. where the Republican-held Congress has been working to slash NASA’s Earth studies budget.

“Scientists denounced the Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives’ NASA budget proposal that would take money away from Earth studies, including those of climate change, and funnel it toward space exploration, a move critics

Continued on pg. 34



Alaska’s Muir glacier; at left: photo by Ulysses William O. Field in 1941; at right: photo by Bruce F. Molnia in 2004. PHOTOS COURTESY OF GLACIER PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION, NATIONAL SNOW AND ICE DATA CENTER/WORLD DATA CENTER FOR GLACIOLOGY

continued from pg. 33



Satellite images from Landsat 7 of Greenland's Petermann Glacier. At left: June 26, 2010; at right: Aug. 13, 2010. An iceberg more than four times the size of Manhattan broke off the glacier – the nearly vertical stripe stretching up from the bottom right of the images – along the northwestern coast of Greenland. IMAGE COURTESY OF USGS LANDSAT MISSIONS GALLERY, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND NASA EARTH PORTAL

say could hinder the space agency's ability to better understand global-warming trends," wrote Phillip Ross in a May 3 International Business Times article.

The House passed a budget that would cut funding of Earth science by more than \$300 million – an 18 percent decrease from fiscal year 2015, and a 26 percent decrease from the White House request for 2016. The Senate has yet to pass its version of a budget for fiscal year 2016.

Ross also cited a May 1 op-ed published in the Washington Post by Marshall Shepherd, a former scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

"Cuts in the \$300-500 million dollar range as proposed literally take NASA's

earth science program from the 'enhanced' smart phone era back to the first-generation 'flip' phones or maybe the rotary phone," Shepherd wrote.

"Climate science is a political issue which is a travesty," Moon said. "We have to embrace this issue as one not of politics, but one of morality." Pope Francis argued this in his groundbreaking encyclical earlier this year, and the leader of the world's second-largest carbon emitter echoed the sentiment on Aug. 31.

"We don't want our lifestyles disrupted," Obama said. "In countries where there remains significant poverty, including here in the United States, the notion is, can we really afford to prioritize this issue? The irony, of course, is that few things will disrupt our lives as profoundly as climate change."



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	STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTION – R 5:30 & 8:30	SUN. SEPT. 13 – THURS. SEPT. 17
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	MAZE RUNNER: SCORCH TRIALS 9/18	STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTION – R 5:30 & 8:30
	TGR PARADISE WAITS 9/24	

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Rocky Mountain Bighorn: *Ovis canadensis canadensis*



Did you Know?

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, there were more than **1.5 million** bighorn sheep in North America. Today, there are less than **70,000**. The Big Sky Spanish Peaks herd is one of the few native herds in Montana and has an estimated population of **150**.

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THE BENEFITS OF BIKES

Large cities get most of the credit for increases in bicycle commuters across the country, but biking is on the rise in most small and midsize cities as well. In 2012, Portland, Ore., led all large U.S. cities – those with a population more than 250,000 – with 6 percent of commuters riding their bikes to work. However, smaller cities are seeing equal or even more impressive numbers: Davis, Calif. (19 percent), Boulder, Colo. (12 percent), Corvallis, Ore. (11 percent), and Missoula, Mont. (6 percent).

With the expansion of bicycling infrastructure – including lanes, trails and bicycle sharing systems – spreading throughout the country, the cycling industry seems destined to grow. A continual focus on making cycling safe, convenient and enjoyable provides citizens a healthier, more active travel option; helps improve the sustainability of America's transportation system; and is a force against climate change. - *Taylor-Ann Smith*

ECONOMIC



THE AVERAGE ANNUAL OPERATING COST OF A BICYCLE IS \$308 versus \$8,220 for the average car



BICYCLING FUELS ECONOMIC GROWTH IN MOUNTAIN WEST STATES (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY)

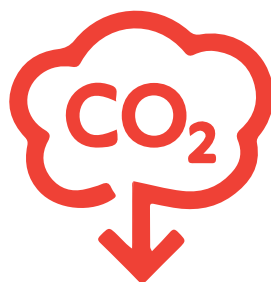
- Contributes \$6.2 billion annually to the regional economy
- Supports more than 60,000 jobs across the region
- Produces nearly \$4.1 billion annually in retail sales and services

The mountain states are home to more than 4 million bicyclists – **27% of the adult population.**

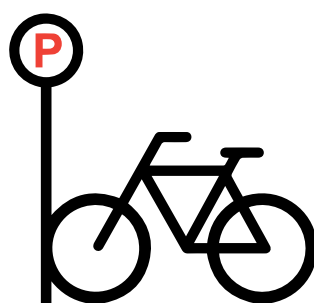
ENVIRONMENTAL

U.S. Motor vehicle emissions represent:

- **31% of total carbon dioxide**
- **81% of carbon monoxide**
- **49% of nitrogen oxides**



BIKING CONTRIBUTES 0%



BIKE PARKING TAKES UP 8X LESS SPACE THAN CARS

HEALTH



Daily commuters lose an average of 13lbs in their first year of cycling to work



1 in 2 Americans breathe highly polluted air daily.

15% of all asthma cases are linked to living close to major roads.

THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF REGULAR CYCLING INCLUDE:

- increased cardiovascular fitness
- increased muscle strength and flexibility
- improved posture and coordination
- decreased body fat levels
- a 50% reduction in the risk of heart disease on average

SOURCES

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STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO BUYING A HOME

01

DEFINE A BUDGET

Financing? Get pre-approved for financing prior to looking at homes



02

HIRE A REAL ESTATE AGENT

Working with a buyer agent typically does not cost the buyer anything, the seller pays the commission



03

FIND THE PERFECT PROPERTY

Stay up to date on new listings that fit your criteria with an L&K's Custom Market Watch



04

SIGN A CONTRACT

A buyers agent will not only help negotiate price and terms, but also will walk you through the contingency process until closing



05

DUE DILIGENCE

Work with your agent to research any potential issues with the property



06

PURCHASE YOUR NEW HOME

Sign all closing documents with confidence and move in to your new home!



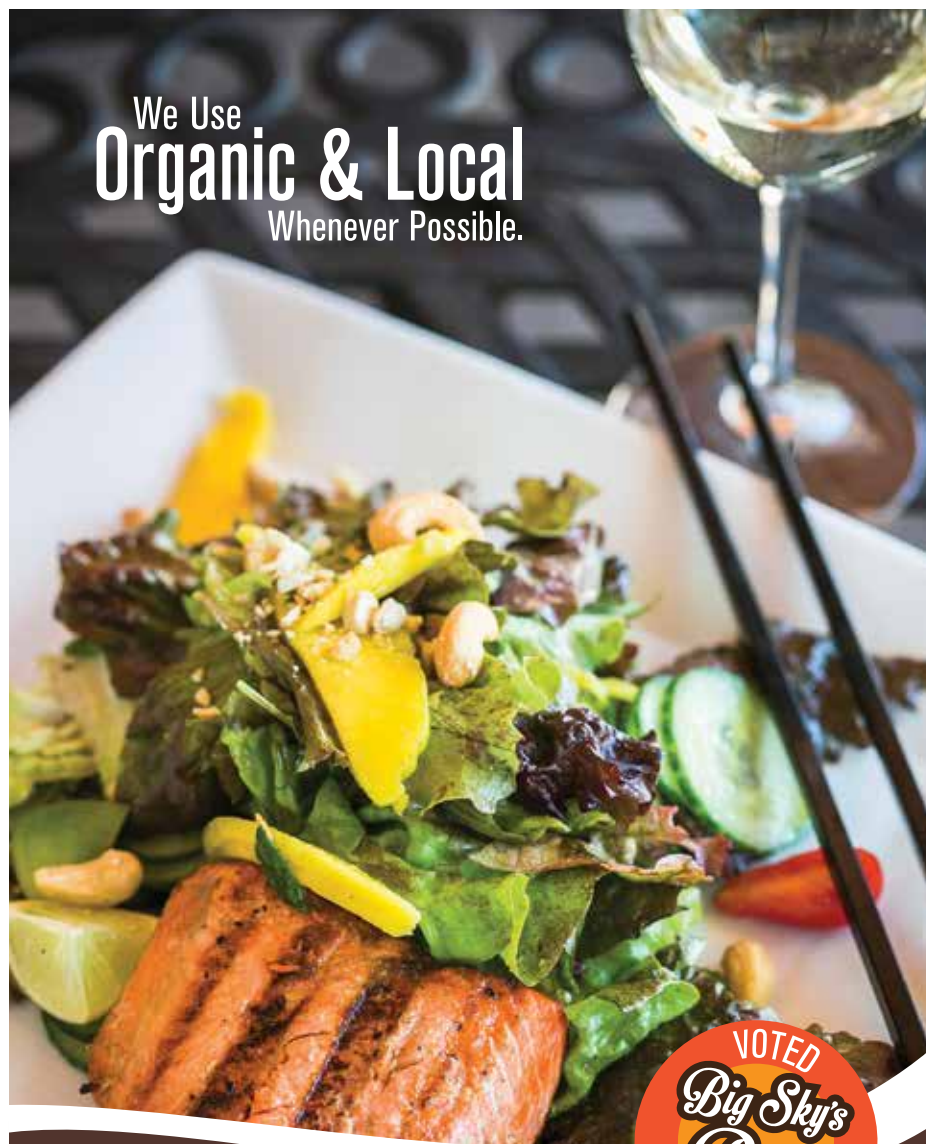
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'Meru' tells story of obsession

BY TYLER ALLEN
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BOZEMAN – The opening scene in “Meru” pans over a windswept, snowy expanse of granite where a portledge is tethered in a milky abyss. The first sounds that fill the theater are tortured exhalations from the three-man team inside, looking drained and defeated.

The Bozeman Film Society on Aug. 29 hosted two sold out showings of the feature film, screened at the historic Ellen Theatre on Main Street. Expedition leader and Bozeman resident Conrad Anker introduced the film with his wife Jennifer Lowe-Anker, who told the crowd before the 7:30 p.m. showing that they raised \$10,000 that evening for the Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation.

The ALCF has supported numerous nonprofits in the Himalayas since its founding in memory of Alex Lowe – the renowned Bozeman alpinist, Anker’s former climbing partner, and Lowe-Anker’s late husband.

“Meru” documents Anker, Jimmy Chin and Renan Ozturk during their 2008 and 2011 attempts to conquer the Shark’s Fin on India’s Mount Meru. The 21,850-foot peak is crowned by a 1,500-foot granite wall that’s considered one of the hardest climbs in the world and hadn’t been previously summited.



“Meru” debuted in Bozeman during two sold-out screenings Aug. 29 at The Ellen Theatre. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

“Meru is the anti-Everest,” says Jon Krakauer, author of the book “Into Thin Air,” which documents the 1996 mountaineering disaster on Mount Everest. “There’s no one to carry your stuff.”

During the film, the team spends 20 days on the mountain during their 2008 attempt, marooned four days in the portledge waiting out a punishing storm. They began the trip with seven days worth of food. Ozturk describes his relief that they’re turning back as the bad weather relents. Anker and Chin have other ideas.

“There was some confusion from Renan that we were going up,” Chin says.

The team pushes on, roasting tiny morsels of cheese over a propane stove for dinner each night.

“Next week we’ll be eating our boots,” Chin tells the camera.

Nearly out of food and fuel, the team stops 100 meters from the summit. Chin returns to the U.S. in a wheelchair, unable to walk for weeks due to frostbite and trench foot – a painful condition that can afflict climbers after long immersion in cold, sweaty climbing boots. “Maybe this thing just wasn’t meant to be climbed,” he says before their retreat. “But I’m not coming back.”

The world’s best alpinists have short memories, however, and Anker convinces Chin to return in 2011. In the meantime the film documents Anker’s loss of his best friend and climbing partner Alex Lowe; the solace – and eventual romance – he finds in Jennifer; and a catastrophic injury to Ozturk, who may not walk again.

Ozturk not only gets back on his feet, he trains like a man possessed. Despite the risk of him having a stroke at altitude because of damage to his vertebral artery, and protests from friends and family, Anker decides to take him back.

The remainder of the film is a stirring account of three climbers’ fortitude, friendship and obsession as they once again confront the mountain that “wasn’t meant to be climbed.”

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EVENTS CALENDAR

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**FRIDAY, SEPT. 4 –
THURSDAY, SEPT. 17**

***If your event falls between
Sept. 18 and Oct. 1, please
submit it by Friday, Sept. 11.**

Big Sky

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

Pickleball
Community Tennis Courts,
8:30 a.m.

Gallatin River Quarterly Sampling
Post Office, 9 a.m.

**The Rut VK
Big Sky Resort, 3 p.m.**

Tom Marino
Riverhouse, 7 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

**The Rut 25K
Big Sky Resort, 8 a.m.**

Pickleball Tourney
Community Tennis Courts

Grand Opening Celebration
BSSD New Lower School, 10 a.m.

Rocky Mountain Pearls
Riverhouse, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6

**The Rut
50K @ 6 a.m.
11K @ 8 a.m.
Big Sky Resort**

Teddy Roosevelt
Crail Ranch Museum, 1 p.m.

Texas Hold-Em
Riverhouse, 6 p.m.

James Salestrom Jr.
Riverhouse, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 7

Gallatin River Pebble Counts
Post Office, 9 a.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

HR Workshop:
Documentation & Separation
First Security Bank, 11:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

Community Yoga
Town Center Park, 11 a.m.

GCWC Annual Business Meeting
& Potluck
Big Sky Chapel, 12 p.m.

Big Sky Farmers Market
Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

Live Music
Ousel & Spur, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 11

Chamber Golf Tourn.
BSR Golf Course, 11 a.m.

Milton Menasco & the Big Fiasco
Riverhouse, 8 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

**Morningstar Garage
Sale, 8 a.m.
Celebration Party, 5 p.m.
Town Center Park**

Milton Menasco & the Big Fiasco
Riverhouse, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

Texas Hold-Em
Riverhouse, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 14

Pickleball
Community Tennis Courts,
8:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

Community Yoga
Town Center Park, 11 a.m.

Big Sky Farmers Market
Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

Piemonte Wine Dinner
Andiamo, 7 p.m.

Live Music
Ousel & Spur, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17

Business After Hours
TBD, 5 p.m.

Bozeman

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

Film: Cinderella
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
6:30 p.m.

Gallatin Speedway Races
Gallatin Speedway, 7:35 p.m.

DJ
Legion, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

**Gallatin Valley
Farmers Market
Haynes Pavilion, 9 a.m.**

Summer Reading Challenge Party
Country Bookshelf, 1 p.m.

MOTH & Satsang
Filling Station, 9 p.m.

DJ
Legion, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6

Film: Furious Seven
MSU Procrastinator Theater,

12:30 p.m.
Ghosts of Bozeman's Past
Sunset Hills Cemetery, 2 p.m.

Film: Cinderella
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
3 p.m.

Bridger Mountain Big Band
Eagles, 7 p.m.

Open Mic
Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 7

Open Mic
Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

Bogert Farmer's Market
Bogert Park, 5 p.m.

Black Uhuru
Faultline North, 8 p.m.

**All Dogs + Tiny Band
Filling Station, 8 p.m.**

Film: Avengers: age of Ultron
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

Open Horse Riding
Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds, 3 p.m.

Fall Wonderlust Reception
Country Bookshelf, 5 p.m.

Gallatin History Museum Lecture
Pioneer MT Mtn Pilot
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

Pickin' in the Parks
Story Mansion, 6:30 p.m.

Jackyl
Faultline North, 9 p.m.

Open Mic
Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 10

Campus Farm Stand
MSU SUB, 3 p.m.

Film: Cinderella
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
6:30 p.m.

Author Event w/John Vaillant
Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

West Coast Swing
Townshend's Teahouse, 7:30 p.m.

BFS presents: Mr Holmes
The Ellen, 7:30 p.m.

Jeremy Morton
14 North, 8 p.m.

Karaoke
Eagles, 8:30 p.m.

Youth Lagoon + Foul Weather
Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Film: Avengers: Age of Ultron
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
9 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 11

MOR 5th Annual TwoFly
Fundraiser
Yellowstone, Madison, Gallatin &
Jefferson rivers (and Sat.)

Exhibit Opening: Slyvae
The Emerson, 5 p.m.

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

Film: Cinderella
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
6:30 p.m.

An Evening w/Anam Thubten
Rinpoche
Pilgrim Congregational Church,
7 p.m.

Tahouse Tango
Townshend's Teahouse, 7:30 p.m.

Free Concert: "American Spirit"
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse,
7:30 p.m.

Gallatin Speedway Races
Gallatin Speedway, 7:30 p.m.

Mike & The Moonpies
Live From the Divide, 8 p.m.

Beatles Weekend
Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Film: Avengers: Age of Ultron
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
9 p.m.

Bigsby Jones
Eagles, 9 p.m.

Red Red Glow Buffalo
Legion, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

MOR 5th Annual TwoFly
Fundraiser
Yellowstone, Madison, Gallatin &
Jefferson rivers

Gallatin Valley Farmers Market
Haynes Pavilion, 9 a.m.

Play: the Adventures of Tom
Sawyer
The Verge, 2 p.m.

Cinema Circus West
Bozeman Public Library, 2 p.m.

Conference of Extreme Montana
Metal
Faultline North, 4 p.m.

For The Love of Horses Benefit
The Emerson, 5 p.m.

Community Dance Project
The Ellen, 6:30 p.m.

Gallatin Roller Girlz Bout
Haynes Pavilion, 7:30 p.m.

Beatles Weekend
Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Bigsby Jones
Eagles, 9 p.m.

Red Red Glow Buffalo
Legion, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13

Tea Tasting
Townshend's Teahouse, 12 p.m.

Farm Harvest Festival
Museum of the Rockies, 1 p.m.

Ghosts of Bozeman's Pat
Sunset Hills Cemetery, 2 p.m.

Bridger Mountain big Band
Eagles, 7 p.m.

Open Mic
Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 14

Open Horse Riding
Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds, 3 p.m.

Beyond Microbeads:
How Plastics Are Changing The
World's Waters
REI, 6:30 p.m.

Open Mic
Townshend's Teahouse, 7 p.m.

Film: Pitch Perfect 2
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
9 p.m.

Open Mic
Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15

Yoga For All
Bozeman Public Library, 11 a.m.
& 12 p.m.

Building for America's Bravest
Fundraiser
Gallatin Valley Furniture Carpet
One, 3 p.m.

Bogert Farmer's Market
Bogert Park, 5 p.m.

Bozeman Magazine 100th Issue
Celebration & Ribbon Cutting
Eagles, 5 p.m.

**Hops & History
Museum of the
Rockies, 5:30 p.m.**

Robin Mark
Willson Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**16th Pecha Kucha
The Ellen, 7:20 p.m.**

Untying the Knots that Bind Us
Hope Lutheran Church, 7:30 p.m.

Todd Snider + Elizabeth Cook
Filling Station, 8 p.m.

Film: Pitch Perfect 2
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16
Open Horse Riding
Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds, 3 p.m.

Pickin' in the Parks
Story Mansion, 6:30 p.m.

Martin Sexton
Faultline North, 7 p.m.

Author Event w/Mary Sheedy
Kurcinka
Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

16th Pecha Kucha
The Ellen, 7:20 p.m.

Sex and the City of God
Hope Lutheran Church, 7:30 p.m.

Open Mic
Haufbrau, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17
Campus Farm Stand
MSU SUB, 3 p.m.

Extreme History Project Lecture:
Chinese in Montana, 6 p.m.

Rising Appalachia
Eagles, 7:30 p.m.

American Zion
Hope Lutheran Church, 7:30 p.m.

Jeremy Morton
14 North, 8 p.m.

Karaoke
Eagles, 8:30 p.m.

Bart Crow Band + Break Even
Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Film: Pitch Perfect 2
MSU Procrastinator Theater,
9 p.m.

Livingston & Paradise Valley

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4
The Max
49er Diner, 9 p.m.

Tom Catmull's Radio Static
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Strangeways
Chico Saloon, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5
Last Best Fest Weekend

UIL: Spare Change Open House
UIL Draft Horse Sanctuary,
10 a.m.

Steele Horse Stampede
Motorcycle Rodeo & Run
Park Co. Fairgrounds, 2 p.m.

Shakespeare in the
Park
The Shane, 6 p.m.

The Bird Dogs
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Strangeways
Chico Saloon,
9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6
Last Best Fest
Weekend

Steele Horse
Stampede
Motorcycle Rodeo
& Run
Park Co.
Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

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

Labor Day Street Dance w/Red
Elvises
Chico Saloon, 5 p.m.

Sweet Wednesday
Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 7
Shields Valley Farmers Market
Clyde Park, 4 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9
Farmers Market
Miles Park, 4:30 p.m.

Little Jane
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

Chad Okrusch
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 10
Business After Hours
Delta Signs, 5:30 p.m.

Walter Sala-Humara
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 11
7th Annual Night Owl
Run & Walk
Sleeping Giant Parking
Lot, 6:20 p.m.

Western Electric
Murray Bar, 9:30 p.m.

Downtime
Chico Saloon, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12
Senior Ctr. Potluck & Jam
Session
Senior Citizens Center, 1 p.m.

Hawthorne Roots
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

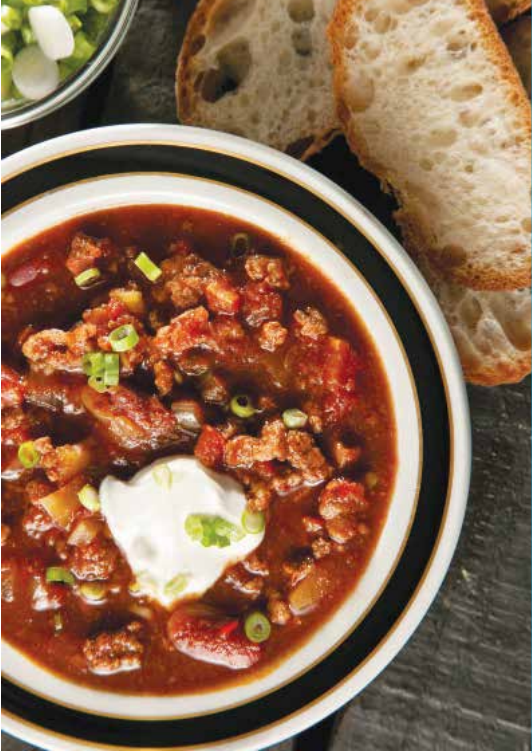
Sean Ashby
Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Big Sky

SEPT. 19
Big Sky Community Food Bank's 2nd Annual Chili Feed

Live music, free entrance,
canned food donations welcome

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill,
3-8 p.m.



Downtime
Chico Saloon, 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13
Brewfest w/Sean Ashby
Chico Front Lawn

Megan Burt
Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 14
Shields Valley Farmers Market
Clyde Park, 4 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

Samantha Crain & Small Houses
Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15
Beer for a Cause:
MEIC: Save the Smith
River
Katabatic, 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16
Farmers Market
Miles Park, 4:30 p.m.

Jacob Cummings
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17
Business After Hours
The Office, 5:30 p.m.

Aaron Williams
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

Quenby & WOW Band
Wild West Saloon, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6
Knothead Jamboree
Union Pacific Dining Hall (thru
Mon.)

MONDAY, SEPT. 7
Yoga for Everyone
Povah Community Center,
6:15 p.m.

Knothead Jamboree
Union Pacific Dining Hall

TUESDAY, SEPT. 8
Pick Up Ping Pong
Community Protestant Church,
7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9
Live DJ
Wild West Saloon, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 10
Knit Night
Send It Home, 6 p.m.

Yoga for Everyone
Povah Community Center,
6:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12
One Leaf Clover
Wild West Pizza, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13
WYSEF Golf Tourn.
Big Sky Golf Course,
10 a.m.

Yoga for Everyone
Povah Community Center,
6:15 p.m.

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

MONDAY, SEPT. 14
Yoga for Everyone
Povah Community Center,
6:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15
Pick Up Ping Pong
Community Protestant Church,
7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16
Community Painting Class
Povah Community Center,
6:30 p.m.

Club Night - DJ
Wild West Saloon, 10:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17
Knit Night
Send It Home, 6 p.m.

Yoga for Everyone
Povah Community Center,
6:15 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS
Historic Walking Tour
Historic District, self-guided, daily

Explore Yellowstone!
With A YNP Ranger
Yellowstone Park, daily

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

Yellowstone Nature Connection
Programs
Smokejumper Program,
10 a.m. & 3 p.m. (daily)

Naturalist Program, 1 p.m. (daily)

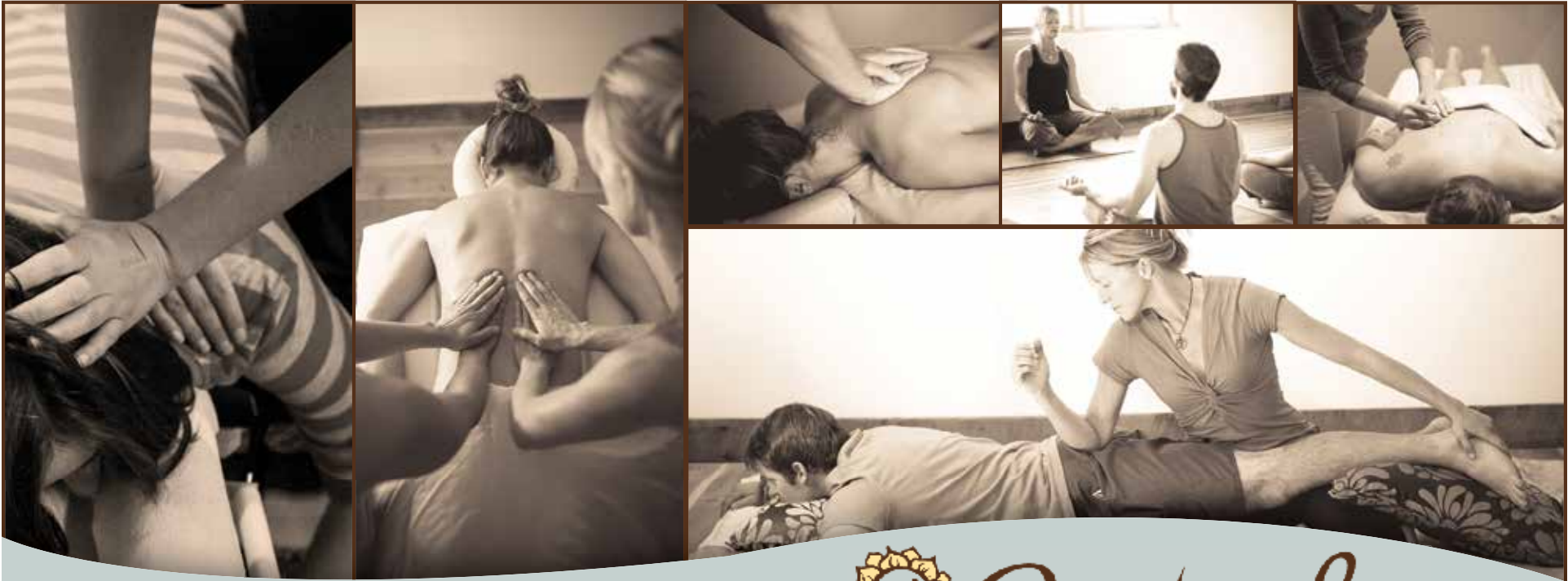
Reading in Nature, 4:30 p.m.
(Thursdays)
10 Yellowstone Ave.

Live Performances at the Playmill
Theatre
Mon. – Thurs., 6:30 p.m.
Fri. – Sat., 6:30 & 8:30 p.m.

West Yellowstone

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4
The Shambles
Wild West Saloon, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5
Knothead Jamboree
Union Pacific Dining Hall
(thru Mon.)



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SUMMER SCHEDULE

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6-7:15pm Ebb & Flow (All Levels Yoga)	9-10:15am All Levels Yoga 5:30-7pm All Levels Vinyasa Flow 7:30-9pm Yoga Therapy/ Yoga Nidra	7-8am All Levels Yoga 8:15-9:15am Core Focused Pilates 9:30-10:45am All Levels Yoga 6:30-8pm All Levels Yoga	7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga 9-10:15am All Levels Yoga 11am-12pm Community Yoga Class (All Levels, Outside in Town Center)	7-8am All Levels Yoga 8:15-9:15am Roll it Out Pilates 9:30-10:45am All Levels Yoga	8:30-9:30am Level II Yoga 10-11:30am All Levels Anusara Yoga 5:30-7:30pm The Practice (1st and 3rd Friday of the month)	9-10:15am Ashtanga Flow



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Cedar Creek #45 | Big Sky, MT

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms / 868 SQ FT

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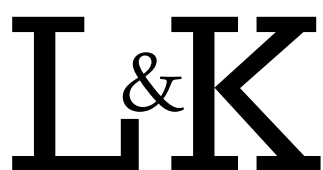


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5 bd, 4 ba, 6,663 +/- s.f., on 4.76 +/- wooded acres
Hand carved mantels, fir beams, expansive views
of Spanish Peaks and Lone Mtn.; wine cellar, 3 car
heated garage, 6 fireplaces



10 ROSE BUD LOOP

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4 bd, 3 ba, 2,567 +/- s.f., Mtn Village custom cabin
Furnished Powder Ridge Condo, excellent rental
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Full walk out basement, detached 1 car garage



36B ALPENGLOW CONDO

\$649,900 • #203211 • Call Stacy or Eric
3 bd, 3.5 ba, 2,583 +/- s.f. furnished condo
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Gourmet kitchen with S.S. appliances
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YELLOWTAIL RD, PARK CONDO #297

\$599,000 • #207174 • Call Stacey or Eric
3 bd, 4 ba, 2,844 +/- s.f. furnished condo
Right on the 9th hole of the Big Sky Golf Course
Ground floor, one level with best views in Big Sky
Spacious master with fireplace; HOA private pool



61 WOODBINE PLACE

\$382,000 • #207186 • Call Don
3 bd, 3 ba, 1,928 +/- s.f. Hidden Village Condo
Partially furnished unit with great views of Yellow Mtn.
Upgrades to kitchen and master bathroom
Located at the end of Woodbine Street - very quiet

Land Listings:



TIMBER RIDGE RD, LOT 2, MOONLIGHT BASIN

\$1,350,000 • #208218 • Call Stacy or Eric
20.46 +/- spectacular Moonlight Basin lot
Views of Fan Mtn, Lone Mtn & Madison Drainage
Easy access to skiing and Reserve Golf Course
Private deeded road access to Ennis



BIG BUCK RD., BEAVER CREEK WEST

\$799,900 • #203656 • Call Don
33.95 +/- acres with outstanding views of Mountains
Several great building sites; owned by developers' partner
Lot has never been on the market previously
No worry of tree growth impacting Mtn and valley views



BEAVER CREEK WEST, LOT 13

\$499,000 • #195161 • Call Don
20 +/- acres, lot 13 w/ spectacular views
Located on a gentle slope, private driveway
Ideal for a new home, well is drilled
Short distance to NFS land/Trails



71 LITTLE THUNDER ROAD, LOT 71A

\$329,000 • #200167 • Call Stacy or Eric
1.33 +/- acre ski-in, ski-out lot
Unobstructed, breathtaking views to Lone Mountain
Utilities in place, ready for development
Rarely available ski-in ski-out site, Broker owned



34 LOW DOG ROAD

\$280,000 • #199205 • Call Stacy or Eric
1.1 +/- acre Mountain Village lot #345
Ski-in, Ski-out directly to/from Big Sky lift(s)
Spectacular views and privacy to rear of lot
One of the few remaining unimproved lots near base



LITTLE COYOTE ROAD, LOT #37

\$210,000 • #200028 • Call Stacy or Eric
.28 +/- acres Meadow Village lot
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Kids with grit

Adventure games return to Big Sky Resort



J. Kyan Smit, the author, and his brother Colter celebrate their success at the second annual Kids Adventure Games at Big Sky Resort.
PHOTOS BY AMY WIEZALIS

BY J. KYAN SMIT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – The second annual Kids Adventure Games were held at Big Sky Resort on Aug. 29, when 136 kids competed in two-person teams in a race against the clock. The event is an intense series of outdoors obstacles that test the competitors' limits.

Racers ages 6-14, had to mountain bike, slack-line, swim, jump, crawl, climb, run, shoot blow darts, and ride a mega slip 'n slide to complete the course. The event tested competitors' athleticism, team working skills, and above all, their grit.

In 2014, I competed with my younger brother Colter, when the race was shortened due to cold and rainy weather. This year, the weather allowed organizers to add new obstacles and water events and I competed with my friend Miles Hoover as the Big Sky Strikers. Colter raced with Ryken Daugaard on team Big Sky Billy Bears.

The most intense event was the Darwin Dash in Lake Levinsky. Teams worked together to cross a series of giant floating pads and swim an inner tube back to shore. Our strategy was to pull the ropes connecting the pads and jump. The water was so cold, I could barely breathe. As we kicked from our inner tube, our sneakers felt heavy as they became water-logged. Back on land, my legs were completely numb, but we had to keep testing our limits.

After pushing ourselves so hard, we were excited and nervous to get our times and results. They announced the second and third place finishers in my category, Boys 12-14, and the suspense was huge. My team – the Big Sky Strikers – won first place, and had the fastest time overall. Hoover and I were ecstatic.

It was great to win, but the best part was having fun with friends and meeting other kids who love the outdoors. Hoover was a great partner, and really kept me going throughout the race. I'm also proud of my brother's team that won third place in the largest division, Boys 8-9.

Much credit is due to the event organizers, as well as all of the kids who took part. This year's Kids Adventure Games were incredible, and I can't wait to defend our title next year.

J. Kyan Smit, 11, is a Big Sky native and sixth grader at Ophir Middle School.



The winning team overall, the Big Sky Strikers, set out on mountain bikes to ride through the "mud pit" on their way to Lake Levinsky.

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16 Woodbine Place 1/8 Fractional
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3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths

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On behalf of myself and our company, thank you for the great winter and summer in real estate. Your loyalty and consideration has been really appreciated throughout the years. I look forward to working with you again.



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Designer Abby Hetherington has opened a retail space that showcases the breadth and energy of her inimitable design aesthetic. Abby's eponymous design firm is connected to The Architect's Wife, giving customers the option to tap into her signature style. Design services are available through Abby Hetherington Interiors. 406.404.1330 | abbyhetheringtoninteriors.com



THE EDDY Line

Transition time on our local waters



BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

The next two weeks are a love-hate dilemma in the world of southwest Montana fly fishing.

As summer vacations across the country come to an end, we see the masses of traveling anglers and tourists – along with their wallets – dwindle to manageable numbers. But as the summer fades, fall begins to arrive – nighttime low temperatures drop to trout-friendly levels, angling restrictions start to lift, and talk of the hard-core fall angling traffic begins.

But don't get too excited just yet. Despite a chill in the morning air, the transition from high-summer angling to early fall fishing can be difficult. Before the frosts begin and the leaves start to change, here's some help during a potentially challenging time.

Manage your expectations. You don't need to lower your expectations, but do have a realistic approach to current conditions. Just because the calendar says September doesn't mean you're going to be seeing hatches of Blue Winged Olives and October caddis, or that big brown trout will be on the prowl. Early September weather is more similar to August than October. Before fall mayflies and October caddis arrive, and brown trout become opportunistic, substantial weather changes must occur – nightly frosts and daytime highs in the 50s and low 60s. Stick to your current strategies and you won't be disappointed. If we get an early frost or cold front, you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Carp 'e diem. If you haven't tried fly fishing for carp, now is prime time. Our local carp waters – mainly the Jefferson and Madison rivers near Three Forks and the Missouri below Toston dam – are low and clear. Carp are the biggest river-dwelling fish you can hook on a fly rod, but catching one isn't easy – utilizing a boat to access these waters increases your odds. Several local guides are very adept at this unique fishery and if you've never been, consider going.

Tweak your strategies.

Your thinking doesn't need to be entirely outside the box, but consider blurring the lines a bit. If you're a floating angler, think about shorter stretches while thoroughly fishing the best water – or longer floats hot-spotting the best water. If you're on foot and want to target larger fish, think like a predator: Fish early and late in the day and fish less utilized sections of a river. For example, on the Gallatin River avoid the "Mad Mile" below House Rock due to the plethora of rafters and kayakers.

Take a hike. Within an hour's drive of Bozeman exist more than a dozen trailheads accessing high mountain lakes. Since most of the recreational tourists are gone, you're likely to have many of these pristine waters to



Despite not being considered a glamorous game fish, carp fishing is a great option for late summer and early fall fishing. But be sure to hone your angling skills, as these big fish do not give themselves up easily. PHOTOS COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

yourself. Expect hungry trout as they prepare for a fall that comes a little earlier than at our lower elevation waters. Solitude and hungry fish make for a fun adventure. If you go alone be sure to tell someone your plan and it's never a bad idea to pack a bottle of bear spray along with your small dry flies and beadhead nymphs.

Be a report groupie. Conditions change daily, so use the resources of our numerous local fly shops and read their fishing reports regularly. They have guides and shop staff fishing every day who will know if trout are still eating 'hoppers on the Yellowstone, or if you're better suited sticking to dead-drifting streamers and zebra midges on the Upper Madison.

Keep your fishing simple. Until our fall hatches begin, my focus is more on finding the fish rather than exactly what they'll eat. Since no single food source is prevalent or obvious, my problem-solving technique is targeting water where they will hold and hope a few are willing to eat what I'm offering. This time of year I focus on riffles, the shelves below riffles, and any drop-off or hole near moving water. Fish will congregate near, or in current, as that's the likeliest soup line.

Fishing right now is like a preseason NFL game: The big guns come out to play for sure, but only for a limited time. The overall feel at the end of a fishing outing is satisfying, but the thought of better things to come lingers.

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



The Moonlight Community Foundation would like to thank all of the attendees, donors and sponsors who helped make the 2015 Ski Bridges of Madison County our most successful event ever!



MOONLIGHT COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Over \$30,000 was raised to support our current programs (Camp Moonlight scholarships, Camp Moonlight educational programs, educational trail signs for the Hummocks and Uplands trails near the Big Sky Town Center, elementary school library, children's reading center at the new Big Sky Medical Center, high school football uniforms, to name a few). Thanks to you, the Moonlight Community is having a positive impact on the greater Big Sky community!

Thank You!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
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| John & Jennifer Hamlin | Lone Mountain Land Co |
| Jeff & Marje Helms | Montana Trout Stalkers |
| Bill Baer & Nancy Hendry | Monicas Hair Salon |
| Ben Holst | Solace Spa Big Sky Resort |
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| Bruce Klein | Creighton Block |
| John & Harriet Lerch | Yellowstone Club |
| Brad & Melissa Levine | |

There's a pioneer in all of us.

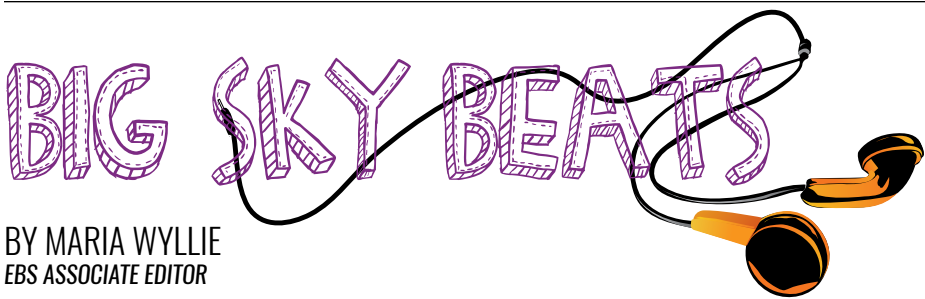
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BY MARIA WYLLIE
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Find out what tunes we’re bumping! In Big Sky Beats, Explore Big Sky staff and guests offer suggested tracks for your next playlist. Whether you need to freshen up your music library, want to expand your collection, or just need some tunes for the next backyard barbecue, we’ve got you covered.

MTV’s 32nd annual Video Music Awards took place on Aug. 30 in Los Angeles. As the name suggests, MTV – or Music Television – used to be all about the music. However, the channel’s growing emphasis on reality TV was made apparent at this year’s VMAs.

Highlights included Kanye West’s 14-minute long speech in which he made a joking (let’s hope) announcement that he’s running for president in 2020; Nicki Minaj’s catty confrontation with host Miley Cyrus; and finally some music.

Taylor Swift was the only artist to win multiple awards, with two of her videos winning in two categories each. Her music video “Bad Blood” won Video of the Year and Best Collaboration, and her video for the song “Blank Space” was a double winner in the categories of Best Pop Music Video and Best Female Music Video.

The list below includes artists that won categories including Artist to Watch, Best Female and Male videos, Best Collaboration, Best Video with a Social Message, and more. Odds are you’ve heard most of these songs, as they are at the top of the charts, but the videos are worth watching too. Swift didn’t take home four wins for nothing.

1. “Bad Blood,” Taylor Swift (feat. Kendrick Lamar)
2. “Trap Queen,” Fetty Wap
3. “Blank Space,” Taylor Swift
4. “Uptown Funk,” Mark Ronson feat. Bruno Mars
5. “One Man Can Change the World,” Big Sean feat. Kanye West & John Legend
6. “She’s Kinda Hot,” Five Seconds of Summer
7. “Anaconda,” Nicki Minaj
8. “Uma Thurman,” Fall Out Boy

American Life in Poetry: Column 545

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

How could we publish a column about American Life in Poetry without including a poem about a high school reunion? This is from Barbara Crooker’s “Selected Poems.” She lives in Pennsylvania.

25th reunion
By Barbara Crooker

A quarter of a century
since we left high school,
and we’ve gathered at a posh restaurant.
A little heavier, a little grayer,
we look for the yearbook pictures
caught inside these bodies of strangers.
Some of our faces are etched with lines,
the faint tracing of a lover’s touch,
and some of our hair is silver-white,
a breath of frost. And some of us are gone.
But he’s here, the dark angel,
everyone’s last lover, up at the microphone
singing Save the last dance for me;
he’s singing a cappella, the notes rising
sweetly, yearningly toward the ceiling,
which is now festooned with tissue flowers,
paper streamers, balloons.
And we’re all eighteen again,
lines and wrinkles erased, gray hairs gone,
our slim bodies back, the perfect editing.
A saxophone keens its reedy insistence;
scents of gardenias and tea roses float in the air
from our wrist corsages and boutonnieres.
No children or lovers have broken our hearts,
it’s just all of us, together,
in our fresh young skin,
ready to do it all over again.

American Life in Poetry does not accept unsolicited submissions, and is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2015 by Barbara Crooker, “25th Reunion,” from “Selected Poems,” (Futurecycle Press, 2015). Poem reprinted by permission of Barbara Crooker and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2015 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction’s author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Greek letter

4 Eastern bishop's title

8 Indian music

12 Handle

13 City on the Rhine

14 Stench

15 Camel hair cloth

16 Trave

18 Olive color

20 Ger. dive bomber

21 Witless chatter

23 Boys' author

27 Elide (2 words)

32 Killer whale

33 Buddhist column

34 Nape

36 Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)

37 Anatomy (abbr.)

39 Channel islands

41 Bless: Yidd.

43 Central nervous system (abbr.)

44 Enamel (Fr.)

48 Abstract being

51 Lamia (2 words)

55 Brown

56 Card

57 Norse epic

58 Vanity

59 Circular motion

60 Thoroughfare

61 Cut

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

L A M A T O O A B I B

A B I A A M C P R A E

T R E A T I S E B I G A

E I N I N K L E T O M

S A M A N C U R I A S S

G R I N H R S G N A T

D Y N A M I C T R Y M A

S P A C H R O N A Y E

A I N E W I L D P L U M

I M A M A C U W E R I

N A O S Y E S O C T A

DOWN

1 Interpret

2 Jap. pit viper

3 Monkey

4 Amer. Kennel Club (abbr.)

5 Round Table knight

6 Stigma

7 Korean apricot

8 Tropical fish

9 "Fables in Slang" author

10 Port. colony in India

11 Limb

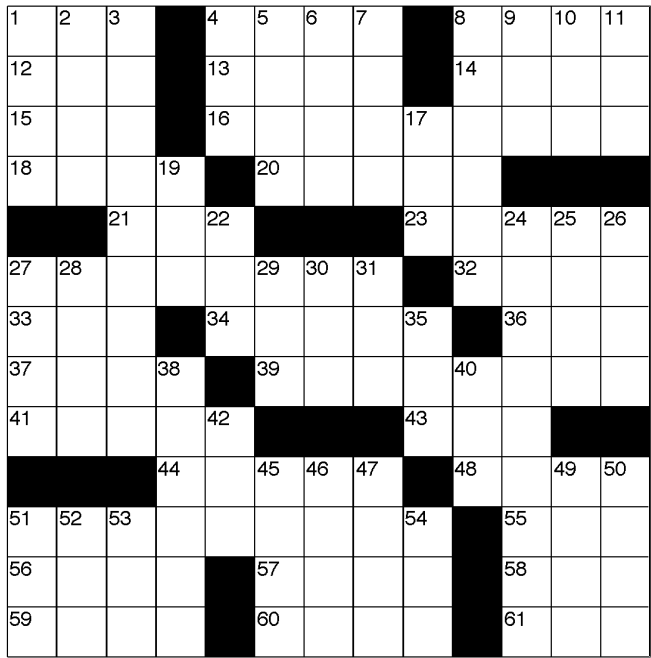
17 Jamaican dance music

19 Lug

22 Kidney bean

24 Culm (2 words)

25 Lo (Lat.)



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”

Tiny homes and the happiness quotient

When less is more in home building

BY CHARLES FINN
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“Small rooms or dwellings set the mind in the right path, large ones cause it to go astray.”
– Leonardo de Vinci

As a builder of tiny homes, I get asked a lot of questions about floor plans and loft heights, using reclaimed materials and composting toilets. All good questions, and all-important things to consider, but here’s what I tell people first.

As a young boy growing up in the small town of Waterbury, Vt., I would sit in the evenings with my family at the dinner table and listen to my father tell stories about his day. My father was town clerk, a mid-level, bureaucratic paper-pusher, and for reasons that escaped me – and still do – he loved his work. I mean loved it.

Time and time again, at the end of some boring story about land titles or tax codes, he’d smile, look around the table at his family and say with true feeling, “I love my job! Just love it.” As a teenager interested in creative writing and the arts, this made no sense to me, but I wasn’t so dense as to let the real meaning of his words escape me.

My father, who made half of what my friends’ fathers’ did, had won. Flat out won. More than any other lesson I learned in my youth, my father’s example of being successful is the one that stayed with me. Whatever I was going to do in life, it was going to make me happy.



The living room of the author's cabin; it's diminutive size encourages him to spend more time outside. PHOTO BY TOM ROBERTSON

Since 1950, the size of an average home in the U.S. has nearly doubled. The same can't be said for happiness. As our homes have grown, the degree to which they bring fulfillment into our lives hasn't kept up, and in some cases done the opposite.

The tiny house movement, if it can be called that, is a backlash against the status quo, the “Super-size me” mentality that has infected everything from our hamburgers to our houses. One part practical, one part emotional, the idea of owning a tiny house taps into a deep-seated chord in the American psyche that understands having more may in fact mean having less.

Tiny homes, without question, cost less to build, own and maintain. Additional savings accrue when water, heating and power bills are mirrored in their diminutive size. But tiny homes are also affairs of the heart, a desire to live a more ecologically sensitive, intimate, and responsible life.

I've never spent more time outdoors than when I lived in a tiny house. I've never felt more economically safe or proud either. In this way, the interest in tiny houses is a lot like the back-to-the-land craze of the 1960s and '70s. Once again, the idea of the “American Dream” is being called into question.

The definition of tiny is, of course, relative. You can go ultra-small as I have, and live in less than 100 square feet, or maybe 400 square feet is more suitable. Either way, a tiny house offers intimacy, cost savings – not the least of which is getting out from under a mortgage – and getting back to a healthy relationship with nature and the outdoors.



The author's cabin in Potomac, Mont., built completely out of reclaimed lumber, metal siding and other materials from Bonner, Mont.'s Heritage Timber. PHOTO BY CHARLES FINN



Looking down from the loft into the living space of Finn's tiny house. PHOTO BY TOM ROBERTSON

My father, a product of his times, may not have fully understood my desire to live in a tiny home, but he would have been proud of me for following my dreams and carving out a lifestyle that reflected my values.

I could be wrong, but I believe each generation needs to learn that contrary to what the popular culture tells us, more is in fact less and less is indeed more. I can say this because in my experience, living in a tiny home hasn't take away from my happiness, but added to it. In this way, I am proud to say I am very much my father's son.

Charles Finn is the editor of High Desert Journal and the author of “Wild Delicate Seconds: 29 Wildlife Encounters.” His woodworking and tiny home business A Room of One's Own can be found at finncharles.wix.com/a-room-of-ones-own.