Real Estate Guide

The boom in Big Sky Town Center

Bugaboo owners pass the torch

Nepali fundraiser nets $80,000

Community member profile:
LMR’s Paul Robertson

BIG SKY PBR
Mutton Bustin’: An intro to rough stock riding

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BEAVER CREEK LOT - This 20 acre tract located half-way between the Meadow & Mountain Villages offers panoramic views of the Spanish Peaks & the Gallatin Range. If you want land that is easily accessible & pristine you’ll be enthralled by this property. $499,500   MLS 196234

NEW LISTING, BIG HORN 33 - This 3BR/3B Big Horn condo is in outstanding condition! This condo is an end unit with numerous upgrades, hardwood floors, new kitchen layout, a great floor plan, and plenty of storage space. Sold furnished. $599,000   MLS 205842

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MEADOW VILLAGE BLK5, LOTS 23 & 24 - These 2 side-by-side Little Coyote lots have million dollar views because they're located above the road at the top of the hill. Buy one lot or both & you'll have over 1/2 an acre with room for a terrific home. $168,900 (each) | MLS 188524 & 188525

LOST TRAILS - This 20 acre tract located half-way between the Meadow & Mountain Villages offers panoramic views of the Spanish Peaks & the Gallatin Range. If you want land that is easily accessible & pristine you’ll be enthralled by this property. $499,500   MLS 196234

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BY JOSEPH T. O’CONNOR
EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – In Jacob Osborne’s fall 2014 class at Yale University called “Advanced Nonfiction: At Home in America,” famed writer Gay Talese visited to discuss elements of covering Americana for nearly 70 years.

“He said that journalism is the industry with the fewest liars in it,” says Osborne, a 21-year-old rising senior. “It really stuck with me. I’m interested in telling stories, and telling stories that are true.”

Osborne, who hails from Thetford, Vt., aims to write these true stories this summer as editorial assistant, participating in the Outlaw Partners’ editorial internship in Big Sky. He’s begun with a piece on page 18, exploring the legacies of Bugaboo Café’s owners Paul and Kim Cameron as they hand over the keys to their business.

Through mid-August, Osborne will assist on every level of Outlaw’s editorial process, from editing copy to photography and from researching, reporting and writing stories, to posting on the company’s social media sites.

Osborne first heard about the Outlaw Partners through Outside Magazine, which in 2013 named the company among the “Best Places to Work” in the U.S. He then pitched a story to Outlaw’s editors about an excursion on which he was embarking.

In spring 2014, Osborne toured the Galapagos archipelago by boat then submitted a dual-profile on Montana writers Rick Bass and Doug Peacock, who were aboard the vessel. Mountain Outlaw magazine published the story in its summer 2014 edition.

“I felt lucky to be able to publish a story on a platform like Mountain Outlaw without having met any [Outlaws], and grateful for the opportunity to be observant during that trip and reflect deeply after it,” he said.

Through the internship, Osborne says he’s looking to hone his reporting skills and to get to know the area both politically and culturally. “I’d like to come out of the summer more oriented about where and how I want to live in the future,” he said. “I definitely have that easterner’s romantic tug to the West and this summer seemed as good as any to indulge that.”

Osborne’s love for the outdoors falls in lockstep with his goals for a summer in Montana, both inside the newsroom and beyond the Associated Press Stylebook. The self-proclaimed “pick-up basketball junkie” enjoys hiking and hopes to explore the trails in southwest Montana as much as possible, and to learn a new brand of American culture.

“I feel most calm and centered in the outdoors,” he said.

Osborne’s interdisciplinary American Studies major at Yale speaks to his interest in the fabric that weaves into a greater story about the country.

“I’m studying what I call ‘the American story.’ I’m interested in storytelling; what stories Americans tell and why we tell them. I think that narrative is probably the most common and significant way that humans make sense of the world.”

Welcome to the team, Jacob.
The boom in Big Sky Town Center

BY JOSEPH T. O’CONNOR
CBS MANAGING EDITOR

Big Sky is expanding rapidly and no place exemplifies this growth more than the Town Center. Fifteen buildings have been constructed in the last 10 years, and currently three major projects – housing six new businesses and nine residential spaces – are underway in the 165-acre section of the Big Sky community.

Town Center is approximately 30 percent built out and zoned for more than 335,000 square feet of retail and commercial space, according to Town Center Project Manager Ryan Hamilton. Additionally, the area is zoned for 491 single- and multi-family residential opportunities, including 120 residential units in the commercial district, Hamilton said. This downtown space also sees summer-long events like Music in the Mountains every Thursday as well as Wednesday night farmers markets, which include more than 100 vendors. The market kicked off June 24 and runs through September.

“Big Sky Town Center is the natural gathering place for the area where everyone comes together,” reads Town Center’s website.

From the recently completed Roxy’s Market and the forthcoming Big Sky Medical Center to the area’s first three-story building next to East Slope Outdoors, to a new brewery, CrossFit center and apothecary, Big Sky Town Center is growing by the season. Here’s an update.

Big Sky Medical Center

The Big Sky Medical Center, located on Lone Mountain Trail east of Roxy’s Market, is on schedule to open in early December. Complete with on-site imaging capabilities; a helicopter medevac pad; five in-patient beds; lab services; primary care clinic; pharmacy; and six-room emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department, the center aims to reduce the amount of patient transports to the emergency department.

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Peaks Building

Peaks Crossfit and Big Sky Athletics

Craig and Becky Bishop, who own the Peaks Building just south of Roxy’s Market, have a business both still manage. With the new Peaks Building came the opportunity Tara was waiting for.

The Cauldron Botanicals

Big Sky local Tara Gale has dreamed about opening an alternative medicine and holistic health store for years. That dream took a backseat while she and her husband Sean operated Gale Force Property Management in Big Sky, a business both still manage. With the new Peaks Building came the opportunity Tara was waiting for.

The Cauldron Botanicals will offer healthy smoothies and teas; a line of kombucha; all-natural skin-care products; and baked goods that will cater to those with paleolithic diets as well as people with celiac disease or certain food allergies such as gluten. Tara plans to offer natural health consulting within the year.

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continued on pg. 6
A current student of alternative medicine at the American College of Healthcare Sciences in Portland, Ore., Tara is looking forward to opening her storefront by the end of July.

“For 20 years I’ve wanted to do this,” she said.

**44 Town Center Avenue**

Local developer John Romney is making strong headway on his newest building, located at 44 Town Center Avenue next to East Slope Outdoors. It’s the first of its kind in Big Sky.

“It is the shape of things to come,” said Romney of the first three-story building in Town Center. “The majority of the buildings going along Town Center Avenue will be three stories. That’s always been the plan.”

Romney also developed the ESO building next door at 32 Town Center Avenue, as well as the Lone Peak Cinema Building and Tower Place on Ousel Falls Road. Tower Place houses Fercho Gallery & Elliott Design; Creighton Block Contemporary Gallery; Pure West Christie’s International Real Estate; and residential space on the second floor.

The ground floor of the new building will house 4,500 square feet of retail space and eight apartments for rent between the second and third floors. The mixed-use buildings Romney has developed in Town Center follow a pattern, and he says the designs will play a major role as the area continues to develop.

“I love the mixed-use residential and commercial. It helps create a vibrancy in town with a buzz of activity,” Romney said. “It doesn’t solve the housing problem, but it’s a step in the right direction.”

The building will be ready for occupancy Dec. 1, he said.

**Lone Mountain Land Company**

Lone Mountain Land Company is keeping busy, teaming up with Boyne Resorts and the Big Sky Community Corp. to build more than 30 miles of hiking and biking trails in Big Sky by 2016.

Among other operations, LMLC is the development arm for CrossHarbor Capital Partners’ projects outside of the Yellowstone Club. LMLC has purchased lots 1, 2 and 3 from Big Sky Town Center, and this fall plans to break ground on two buildings – one at the corner of Lone Mountain Trail and Ousel Falls Road, the other next to it, along Town Center Avenue.

A two-story, 16,000-square-foot building will occupy lot 1, with ground floor retail and food and beverage space, and LMLC development offices on the second floor.

Lots 2 and 3 will see a three-story, 30,000-square-foot building with retail space on the ground level and 16 two-bedroom residential units on the second and third floors, according to LMLC’s Vice President of Planning and Development Bayard Dominick.

“Our goal is to be able to attract top retailers and food and beverage businesses as well as [to provide] long-term rentals for people living in Big Sky,” Dominick said. “That Main Street of Big Sky is going to be an important piece to the future of Town Center.”

The yearlong project will be completed in fall 2016, according to Dominick.

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**Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides**

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager

Salmonflies, Golden Stones, Yellow Sallies, caddis and more!! Maybe this is wishful thinking, but I believe dry fly season is upon us. The big bugs are in full swing, the rivers are dropping and the water temperatures are getting to that sweat spot where bugs will fill the air and the bellies of the resident trout.

The Salmonflies and Golden Stones have been a whisper for the last couple of weeks, but by now they should be filling the air on the Gallatin and have possibly made it all the way up to $3 Bridge and Raymond’s Pass on the Upper Madison. For some the story of the “big bug” is a frustrating tale of long days of little to no fly. And for others (myself included) it is a reminder of why we fly fish! If you’ve ever had a day where fish were willing and eager to eat a #6 Sofa Pillow or Rogue Salmonfly you’ve probably been chasing this hatch for the past two weeks in search of your next big high!

There are no guarantees in fishing and certainly not with this hatch, but if you want to be successful you should consider a few things:

- The hatch typically moves upstream. This is probably due to water temperatures, as Salmonflies hatch at a specific water temperature and generally the further downstream you go the warmer the water gets.
- Because these bugs are so large trout can become gorged very quickly. If you find yourself beating your head against the trees trying to catch trout when there are hundreds of big bugs flying around your first suggestion would be to move up or downstream a few miles in search of trout that have not had the opportunity to gorge themselves or that have recovered from the initial smorgasbord. Sometimes bigger isn’t better. It is very common to get refusals or lots of short strikes on bigger patterns. If this is the case you may want to consider tying on a smaller Salmonfly or Golden pattern or even consider imitations of other insects like caddis or Yellow Sallies.
- Choose your water carefully. Sometimes the biggest fish are in 3” of water and will only eat if the bug is within an inch of the bank and others will eat in some of the fastest, gnarliest water that you wouldn’t usually give a second look.
- Strip it or twitch it...sometimes they just want to see it dance!

May the force be with you!

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**Gallatin River Guides**

Since ’84. Fine Purveyors of Fly Fishing Awesome-ness.
As July Fourth approaches, we’re asking people to reflect on the idea of independence. What does independence mean to you?

Darrell Manning, Big Sky, Mont.
Head Bike Tech, Gallatin Alpine Sports

“Independence is everything. It’s why we’re able to live the way we live, cross borders from state to state without restrictions, [and] speak our mind. Unfortunately, sometimes we have to listen to others speak theirs. But yeah, freedom means a lot.”

Brooke Botha, Sunset Beach, Hawaii
Ascending ninth grader at Mililani High School

“Being free and being able to do stuff on your own ...”

Chris Laucks, Shrewsbury, Mass.
Senior Vice President, Pioneer Investments

“At a high level it means being able to do what you want to do, within certain boundaries ... I think it’s the kind of thing, probably, I’ve very much taken for granted but I would really miss if it was gone.”
512 Old Farm Road

OLD RIVER FARM IN BOZEMAN

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4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms / 5,497 SQ FT. / 20+ ACRES

Offered at $3,250,000

~1/2 mile of river frontage on the East Gallatin

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Community member profile: Paul Robertson
Bringing balance to Lone Mountain Ranch

BY MARIA WYLLIE
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Paul Robertson has worked on eight different guest ranches since the age of 16, when he experienced the West for the first time working as a groundskeeper at the HF Bar Ranch in Saddlestring, Wyo. After several moves between Montana and Wyoming, and a short stop in Florida, Robertson planted roots in Big Sky.

“For me, at this time in my life, I feel like it’s the perfect fit,” said Robertson, now 44. The New Jersey native joined the Lone Mountain Ranch team as general manager in March of 2014, bringing a fresh perspective on how to build a stronger, more sustainable business while still preserving the century-old ranch’s historic character. But having managed so many guest ranches, Robertson wasn’t completely sold on the business model.

“They’re fairly volatile,” he said. “They change ownership, and Lone Mountain Ranch has the same story.”

LMR experienced a period of uncertainty for about five years before Makar Properties, a California-based hospitality company, purchased it in the fall of 2013. Makar’s owners were drawn to LMR’s authentic character and multi-seasonal nature, an unusual characteristic for a guest ranch. Its location in the heart of Big Sky added to its appeal.

At the time, Robertson was running a hotel in River Ranch, Fla., to gain hotel management experience in hopes of learning new, successful tactics he could bring back West. Sharing a similar goal, Makar Properties brought Robertson on as LMR’s general manager.

“It’s really a combination of putting in some hotel management practices into the structure of our business model, while at the same time maintaining an authentic guest ranch experience,” Robertson said.

While LMR offers the traditional, all-inclusive stays one might expect at guest ranches, it also welcomes the public to join the LMR family, whether enjoying the ranch trails, stopping by for lunch, or seeing music with friends in the ranch saloon.

“We would like the local community to know that we are open to them as much as our guests,” Robertson said. “We’re fairly volatile,” he said. “They change ownership, and Lone Mountain Ranch has the same story.”

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Through responsible fiscal management, a quality experience and high staff morale, Robertson aims to achieve sustainability and reestablish LMR as a tried-and-true destination – the way it’s always been known.

That needed balance is evident in Robertson’s own personality and lifestyle. Standing at 6 feet tall, the proud father of two has a commanding yet welcoming presence. Clad in the standard Western fashion, Robertson can typically be seen wearing a plaid button-down shirt and jeans fastened with a large LMR belt buckle.

A genuine enthusiasm for the outdoors and western lifestyle comes through as he recalls his time spent at the HF Bar one summer as a teenager and for another 10 years after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. An avid fly fisherman, Robertson built an Orvis-endorsed business in his 20s called Rock Creek Anglers, which catered exclusively to HF Bar guests.

During that time, he was also substitute teaching at nearby Buffalo High School in Buffalo, Wyo., and acting as the school’s assistant soccer coach. There, he met freshman student Hank Welles who would come to work for him as a fly-fishing guide off and on for 10 years.

“If you’ve done good by him, then he’s going to do good by you and help you get in a position to do better,” said Welles, who now lives in Bozeman and works as the general manager at Montana Angler. “He has a good heart.”

Although Welles worked under Robertson, he called him a friend, too. “Employee morale was always really high with him,” Welles said. “When it was work, it was work, but at the end of the day he was a good guy to hang out and BS with.”

In Robertson’s free time, you might find him angling on Montana’s creeks and rivers. In the winter, he straps into his snowboard, exploring the steeps of Lone Mountain. But as a self-proclaimed family man, he says his favorite part about living in the West is raising his two daughters – aged 9 and 13 – in the outdoors with his wife Susannah.

Robertson says life as a guest ranch general manager doesn’t always lend itself to normalcy, but LMR’s multi-seasonal nature makes for a more conventional professional environment. He adds that the Ophir School played a big role in their decision to call Big Sky home.

“LMR and Ophir Schools offer the best combination of a professional work experience and an unbelievable education for my kids,” Robertson said. “When I look at why I’ve moved around, I’ve either had a great job in a community with [poor] schools, or a community with great schools and not a good job. I wanted to put those two things together.”

In Big Sky, he seems to have finally found that.
Nepali fundraiser nets $80,000 for earthquake relief, education

BY TYLER ALLEN

BIG SKY – On June 14, one mountain community answered the call of distress from another mountain community, half a world away.

Nearly 250 people from Big Sky and Bozeman packed Lone Mountain Ranch’s lodge, saloon, and outdoor patio in support of the Nepali people. Two massive earthquakes on April 25 and May 12 devastated Nepal, killing nearly 9,000 people and injuring twice as many. Approximately 500,000 Nepalis were displaced from their homes, as the quakes destroyed entire villages.

Volunteers greeted attendees on the idyllic Sunday evening as they approached the century-old Big Sky guest ranch. Colorado musician Geoff Union picked traditional and contemporary bluegrass riffs on the outdoor patio, while people perused the silent-auction items indoors or gathered in small conversations in the saloon and on the shaded patio.

Before the night was over, nearly $80,000 was raised for the stricken country of Nepal.

The money raised was donated to Tsering’s Fund, a nonprofit formed in 2007 by Dr. Peter Schmieding, his wife Karen Fellerhoff, and their friend Tsering Dolkar Lama, a Tibetan woman who lives in Nepal’s capital Katmandu, and after whom the organization is named. Schmieding practices dentistry in Big Sky and Ennis, and flew to Nepal after the April 25 earthquake.

“Tsering’s Fund was originally created to fund education for Nepali girls, but quickly shifted its fundraising efforts toward earthquake relief after the disaster,” Dr. Schmieding said.

LMR’s General Manager Paul Robertson, Dr. Schmieding, Outlaw Partners CEO Eric Ladd (publisher of this newspaper); Andy Holm from Bozeman’s Venture Church; the Rotary Club of Big Sky; LMR’s General Manager Paul Robertson; Dr. Roger Schwer and Marjie Toepffer, 25-year residents of Big Sky and former ski instructors, said they spent $800 during the silent auction.

“Eric contacted me before he went [to Nepal],” Pensiiero said. “When he got back, he said he was doing a fundraiser … Nepal’s a long ways away and I don’t really trust any [relief organization] over there. He explained the initiative and it took me 10 seconds to say ‘yes.”

A Dutch auction – in which the auctioneer begins with a high asking price, and lowers it until someone is willing to accept the bid – followed the live auction. Mike and Nancy Domaille met the initial ask of $20,000 to build a school with an immediate paddle raise.

“We’ve always been strong supporters of educational opportunities for disadvantaged children, and believe that education is the differentiator between being a dependent of society, or being a contributor to society,” Nancy said. “That a school in rural Nepal can be built for only $20,000, made the decision … an easy one for us.”

Ladd then held up large-format photos of four children Dolkar Lama found in a Katmandu orphanage the Friday before. When the auction was over, the crowd had stepped up to fund at least a year of schooling for eight different Nepali orphans, and the rebuilding of two earthquake-damaged schools.

Roger Schwer and Marjie Toepffer, 25-year residents of Big Sky and former ski instructors, said they spent $800 during the silent auction.

“We know and admire Pete, [and] we’ve been donating to Tsering’s Fund for years,” Schwer said. “[This event] resonated with us,” Toepffer added.

With the auction closed, Nepali guitarist Diwas Gurung and his wife Mandy from New York City, along with Bozeman drummer Brett Goodell, set up in the corner of the dining hall. The first, searing licks from Diwas’ guitar and heavy thumping of Mandy’s bass made it clear the rest of the night was going to be one to celebrate.

“To see the community come out in such a generous fashion to support people on the other side of the planet that they’ll never meet,” Schmieding said, “is a testament to the generosity of the American people.”

In order for Nepalis to begin to fight [and] overcome their problems, more and better aid is required,” Adhikari said. “We are now in the phase of rebuilding our country. We choose to organize fundraising events to raise money to rebuild schools, and to support children through Tsering’s Fund.”

Adhikari then told the crowd about Jana Jagriti Primary School in the village of Pandurung, which his organization is committed to help rebuild. The cost, he said, is $16,000, and they had raised $4,000 to date.

Following Adhikari’s address, organizers screened a short documentary produced by the Outlaw Partners. Ladd and Outlaw videographer Wes Overvold traveled to Nepal shortly after Schmieding to deliver wall tents, among other supplies. The film featured aerial footage of the valley where the village of Langtang once existed before it was wiped out by a massive landslide, and images of Tsering’s Fund’s relief efforts in stricken villages. It painted a haunting picture of Nepal’s long road to recovery.

Schmieding then spoke about his organization – the work it’s done and the difficult work still to accomplish – and how every cent they raise is used on the ground in Nepal. Tsering’s Fund doesn’t spend any money on administrative costs, and Schmieding personally bankrolls every trip he makes to the country. He explained to the crowd how far the money raised in the U.S. could go in Nepal.

“It’s not like building in Big Sky,” he said, eliciting laughter from the crowd.

The live auction soon began with a fevered pitch. With the machine-gun prodding of the bid assistants, a cat-skiing trip to British Columbia’s Baldface Lodge quickly went for $7,000.

Jeff Pensiiero, owner of Baldface Lodge, said he hardly had to think about donating a cat-skiing trip once Ladd explained the effort to him.

“Eric contacted me before he went [to Nepal],” Pensiiero said. “When he got back, he said he was doing a fundraiser … Nepal’s a long ways away and I don’t really trust any [relief organization] over there. He explained the initiative and it took me 10 seconds to say ‘yes.”

A 16-day trek through Nepal – donated by legendary Everest guide Pem Dorjee Sherpa, a friend of Schmieding’s, Bozeman cinematographer David Devin, donated the airline miles for the successful bidders.

“I’d personally like to thank [the] Montana community for their support,” Dorjee Sherpa wrote in an email from Katmandu on June 24. “It is big for Nepal and so many girls who don’t have families, or [who are] not able to go school, will get [an] education.”

New York City-based, Nepali guitarist Diwas Gurung takes the roof off LMR’s dining hall.

A group photo at Lone Mountain Ranch before the June 14 Nepali Fundraiser began. PHOTOS BY BRIAN NILES
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Big Sky wins best tap water in North America

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

ANAHEIM, Calif. – The American Water Works Association announced in June that the Big Sky County Water and Sewer District won the eleventh annual “Best of the Best” Tap Water Taste Test.

The event was composed of 29 regional winners from water tasting competitions across North America – including a team from Puerto Rico – and was held at AWWA’s Annual Conference and Exposition in Anaheim, Calif.

The Big Sky County Water and Sewer District is a special-purpose unit of government organized to regulate and operate the town’s public water and sewer systems. Their source water is untreated groundwater. An esteemed judging panel rated each water system on its flavor characteristics.

Universal City, Texas, won second place in the competition and third place saw a tie between the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority and last year’s champions, the Boston Water and Sewer Commission. The People’s Choice award winner, as determined by the conference attendees, went to Champlain Water District of South Burlington, Vt.

The AWWA’s Annual Conference and Exposition, which brought an estimated 12,000 water experts to Anaheim this year, is the longest running water conference in the world, having first convened in 1881. The event features several hundred expert presentations and an exposition of more than 500 companies showcasing the latest innovations in water technology.

Established in 1881, the American Water Works Association is the largest nonprofit, scientific and educational association dedicated to managing and treating water. With approximately 50,000 members, AWWA provides solutions to improve public health, protect the environment, strengthen the economy and enhance our quality of life.
Montana State Parks RTP receives national award

MONTANA STATE PARKS

HELENA – On June 12, Montana State Parks announced that the Recreational Trails Program has received national recognition from the Coalition for Recreational Trails as the Outstanding State Trails Program for 2015.

The Coalition for Recreational Trails selects winners of the Tom Petri Annual Achievement Awards in recognition of outstanding RTPs and projects throughout the country.

Montana State Parks RTP annually awards federal grants through a competitive application process. Projects can range from construction and maintenance of trails and development of trailside and trailhead facilities, to ethics education, interpretive programs, and weed control.

Grants are awarded after review from Montana State Parks staff and the citizen State Trails Advisory Committee, with final approval made by the Montana State Parks and Recreation Board. Project diversity is important to the selection process and successful grant applicants represent all geographical areas of Montana, and provide both summer and winter recreational opportunities.

In 2014, RTP awarded approximately $1,600,000 in federal funds to 58 trails projects across Montana.

In addition to honoring Montana State Park’s RTP as Outstanding Recreational Trails Program, CTR selected The Montana OHV Trail Maintenance Project as winner of the award for Public-Private Partnerships Enhancing Public Lands Access and Use. This trail project is a partnership between Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association, the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. It was funded by a $90,000 Montana RTP grant to provide maintenance for motorized trails throughout much of western and southwestern Montana.

“Everyone is keenly aware of the vital role that trails play in our well-being, our economy and our communities,” said Beth Shumate, Montana State Parks Recreation Trails Program manager. “We’re building a healthier, more prosperous Montana.”

The CTR awards were presented at a special Capitol Hill ceremony in Washington, D.C. on June 10 as part of the celebration of Great Outdoors Month.

The Recreational Trails Program is an assistance program of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration. Montana State Parks administers the RTP federal program in Montana. These federal funds are completely separate from all Montana State Park revenues, camping fees, and related state funding sources.
Tester introduces bill to keep firefighters, land managers on job

OFFICE OF SENATOR JON TESTER

Before wildfire season flares up, Sen. Jon Tester wants to make sure experienced firefighters are on the front lines and can advance their careers.

Tester on June 17 introduced the Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act to allow temporary, seasonal wildland firefighters to compete for vacant permanent positions in the federal workforce.

Firefighters and other seasonal land-management employees are currently cut off from many career advancement opportunities available to permanent seasonal employees.

The bill removes barriers in the current hiring system that lead to higher training costs and a less safe workforce.

“When wildfires strike, Montanans want the best, most experienced men and women on the ground protecting our communities,” Tester said. “This bill will ensure that important agencies have the best possible workforce while also giving folks the chance to make a stable living for themselves and their families.”

Tester’s bill affects employees who work for the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; National Park Service; Fish and Wildlife Service; Bureau of Reclamation; Bureau of Indian Affairs. To be eligible, employees must accrue four seasons of work with good performance.

“Too many, including thousands of wildland firefighters, have been stuck for too long in dead-end jobs not because of a lack of merit on their parts, but because of flawed regulations that do not recognize their years of service,” said Mark Davis, Vice-President of the NFPE and past President of the NFPE Forest Service Council, which among other groups supports Tester’s bill.

“This common-sense reform honors and credits their service by giving them the same shot at career advancement that other federal employees have” Davis added.

The International Association of Fire Fighters also believes in the newly introduced bill.

“A 2011 wildfire burns in the Darby Ranger District of the Bitterroot National Forest, approximately 10 miles east of Hamilton. PHOTO COURTESY OF USFS

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“A 2011 wildfire burns in the Darby Ranger District of the Bitterroot National Forest, approximately 10 miles east of Hamilton. PHOTO COURTESY OF USFS

Electric System Work Will Boost Service Reliability

NorthWestern Energy is in the midst of a significant upgrade in electric service for the area stretching from Four Corners, through the Gallatin Canyon, to the Meadow Village area of Big Sky. This $40 million investment will provide more reliable service and meet the growing needs of residential and business customers all along the 37-mile project route.

Throughout the summer and into early fall, crews will be doing timber clearing and line construction in the Gallatin Canyon area. Much of the work will be near U.S. Highway 191. Motorists should watch for detours, land closures and reduced speeds. Please be alert for work crews. Recreationists should be aware that there could be temporary Forest Service road and trail closures. Thanks for your patience while this necessary, vital work takes place. For more information, please visit NorthWesternEnergy.com.

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**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-out site, Broker owned

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$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

**149 FOURPOINT RD, ANTLER RIDGE LOT**
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Medical center center receives donations, plans for MRI unit

BY JOSEPH T. O’CONNOR
EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – Knee injuries in ski towns are as ubiquitous as moguls midseason. Since 1973, Big Sky Resort skiers needing medical imaging for injured knees or other maladies were transported to Bozeman Deaconess Hospital some 60 miles north through Gallatin Canyon.

Now, more than 40 years later, and thanks to over $1 million in donations since January, that could change.

Winter 2015-2016 will see a new area medical facility, the Big Sky Medical Center, set for completion in early December. In 2015 alone, donors have given the nonprofit Bozeman Deaconess Foundation $1,035,000 to assist in completing Phase 1 of Big Sky’s 43,000-square-foot facility, which will include a six-room emergency department; primary care clinic; pharmacy; medevac helicopter-landing pad; laboratory services; a four-bed inpatient unit, and an imaging center.

Contributions from Boyne Resorts along with private donations have helped fund Phase 1 construction costs, but one major contribution will help BSMC’s five newly hired physicians determine if some patients – including those with certain knee injuries – need transport to Bozeman Deaconess Health Services, the health system that’s managing BSMC.

An $850,000 donation spearheaded by Steve and Robin Stephenson will support a permanent, state-of-the-art magnetic resonance imaging scanner, or MRI, to allow doctors to diagnose damaged ligaments, tendons or other soft-tissue injuries.

Given in the form of a “challenge grant” through the Charles and Peggy Stephenson Family Foundation, the Stephensons are hoping other donors will step forward to help make the dream a reality. Their donation covers approximately half of the $1.7 million needed to completely fund MRI services, according to a recent press release.

“Both Steve and I feel passionate about being in Big Sky,” said Robin, a retired special education teacher who moved from San Diego to Big Sky in 2006. “We have pledged an initial payment for the cost of the MRI and to build out the space [and] hope others will join us.”

The MRI suite is being built in the center of the facility adjacent to a CT scan area. The stationary MRI suite is part of Phase 1 and replaces original plans to house a mobile MRI scanner at the back of the hospital.

“Both imaging capabilities are essential to proper patient care, according to Dr. Phil Hess, who will assume his position as BSMC’s medical director in early August.

“Having that MRI between the emergency department and the clinic will improve both patient care and workflow for our medical staff,” said Jason Smith, executive vice president of BDF.

Both imaging capabilities are essential to proper patient care, according to Dr. Phil Hess, who will assume his position as BSMC’s medical director in early August.

“The new machine will have a higher magnetic field than the mobile unit, providing better image quality for accurate diagnoses, Hess said. And having the unit stationary ensures patients will have access to medical imaging when they need it.

“A permanent MRI machine is always here,” Robin said. “You don’t have to wait until next Tuesday for it to show up.”

BDF’s Smith says he hopes the Stephenson’s generosity – as well as that of other corporations and individuals who made financial commitments – will be contagious in the Big Sky community.
BIG SKY – On July 1, Big Sky’s Bugaboo Café will become the proud memory of one chef, and the promising future of another.

Paul and Kim Cameron, longtime owners of the beloved restaurant, are selling the Bugaboo after more than a decade of operation. In addition to the logistics of passing on their business, however, the Camerons are leaving behind a legacy that is close to their hearts – when they first opened the café in 2004, they were fulfilling a shared dream.

“We had always wanted to own our own restaurant, so we just decided to jump into it,” Paul said. “We put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into this place.”

A decade later, Paul still clocks in every morning as the Bugaboo’s head chef, and plans to cook until the last day of June. Though Kim is now working full time to develop the eatery at Big Sky Town Center’s Roxy’s Market, she has remained heavily involved in the management and upkeep of the café. The couple is stepping away from the business the same way they first approached it – as a team.

“All good things come to an end,” said Kim, who cooked alongside Paul at the Yellowstone Club before they both left to open the Bugaboo.

Identifying the restaurant’s next owner was a personal and meaningful matter for the Camerons.

“I would feel weird if I had to give it to somebody who wouldn’t really appreciate what we’ve done here; what we’ve accomplished,” Paul said.

Fortunately for him, there was an heir-apparent working a brief stint in northwest Montana who already knew and loved the Bugaboo, and was looking for a reason to return. When the Camerons decided to sell, Geoff Calef was the first person they called.

Calef fell in love with the restaurant business 23 years ago while washing dishes in a Pennsylvania café, and has worked in kitchens ever since. He moved to Big Sky in 2008 and cooked at the Bugaboo for five years before spending the last two at the Whitefish Lake Restaurant, some 350 miles north.

When Calef’s friends and former employers offered him the chance to move back and carry on what has become a Big Sky institution, he took it.

“It’s nice to know [the restaurant] is going into good hands,” Kim said.

While the new chef suggested that his personal culinary influence would emerge over time, he’s not trying to fix anything at the Bugaboo that isn’t broken.

“We’re definitely going to be keeping the menu,” Calef said. He ensured that classics like the Southwestern, the Ranchero, the Hot Turkey, and – his personal favorite – the Corned Beef Hash wouldn’t be going anywhere. “I’m going to be concentrating on keeping those [dishes] good.”

As July approaches, Calef is mostly trying to refresh his memory. He can be found each day in the Bugaboo’s kitchen chopping, frying and plating next to his old friend, Paul. In a fitting changing of the guard, the two chefs will be filling orders side by side until Paul works his final shift on June 30.

Though the outgoing owner has job offers from several restaurants, he says, he’s waiting until July to decide what’s next. Calef, on the other hand, will be working for himself for the foreseeable future.

“It’s been a lifelong dream of mine to own my own restaurant,” Calef said. “It’s good to be home.”

While July 1 marks the beginning of a new chapter for the Bugaboo Café, the eatery will continue to be what it always has been – a dream come true. For now, the only thing changing is the dreamer.
Salary negotiation 101

BY JOHANNE BOUCHARD
EBS BUSINESS COLUMNIST

For many people, asking for a pay raise isn’t easy. I’ve coached many clients in negotiation, encouraging them to do their homework, rehearse with me, and develop the trust in their skills to go for it. People who don’t negotiate are usually inhibited by fear or a lack of negotiating skills. Here are some basics you can apply to salary discussions:

Know what you’re worth. Learn the current pay rate for your role in the industry and in your location. Speak to recruiters who know what people with your skillset should be paid, talk to vendors and companies who recruit people in your capacity, and do online research. Be aware of how you compare to others. Be clear about the value and contribution you bring to your employer.

Put it in writing. Knowledge is one thing but documentation is another. Make a list of your accomplishments: quotas met and exceeded; testimonials and awards you’ve received; as well as endorsements from colleagues, customers and management. If someone compliments you verbally, kindly ask him or her to put it in writing and email it to you.

Timing is everything. Before entering a negotiation, organize your thoughts and have your facts ready. Don’t plan to talk money when you aren’t composed and prepared, or if the other party is in a hurry.

Face-to-face is best. In-person negotiations are ideal. If that’s not an option, video-conferencing is the next best option, then phone, and lastly email.

Have a firm number in mind. The first number you mention is the most important in the negotiation. Know what the compensation ranges are for your position, and ask for the top pay to end up with a salary that is satisfactory to you. Ask for more than you want to get and have a bottom line number you’re willing to accept.

Listen. Although you should be clear and firm, you should also enter negotiations with an open mind and a desire to understand the priorities of your counterpart. Be aware of the economic climate and be reasonable about what you’re asking. This approach shouldn’t deter you from asking for what you’re worth, but it should influence how you ask.

Prioritize your requests. Come to the table with your priorities in order, including salary, healthcare benefits, vacation time, performance, and signing bonuses. This will set the stage for creating mutually beneficial trade-offs. Be prepared to counter, and don’t forget the word “no” – it’s part of the process.

Assess your value regularly. Scrutinizing your worth to the company often means you’re prepared to negotiate if you get a job offer, and you’re prepared to ask for a raise any time. Don’t wait until your performance review to ask for a salary increase, because it’s likely been decided before then. Set your employer’s expectations early so you’re included in the budget decisions.

Keep it professional. Stay away from mentioning personal needs, such as rent or childcare. You’re worth more when you focus on your performance.

Be willing to walk away. If you’re as good as you claim to be – and your requests are appropriate and presented reasonably – it’s OK to walk away from an unsatisfactory offer. This, of course, is easiest to do when you come to the negotiation with viable alternatives lined up.

Don’t let inhibitions deter you from mastering the art of negotiation. Knowing your worth and asking to see it reflected in your wages is not greedy, it’s a sign of self-respect. Prepare, rehearse and be courageous. Then ask!
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Why cooking shouldn’t be scored

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

Most of the time, I do not enjoy cooking competitions. So why are there so many of these culinary contests? In 2005, we saw two cooking competitions on TV: “Iron Chef America” and “The Next Food Network Star.” By 2014 there were 16.

We have a fascination – now more than ever – with watching cooks and chefs compete on television. Ratings show that cooking competitions receive the highest ratings on the Food Network and also that the “sport” of cooking drives culinary contest viewers.

I admit it’s fun. My former chef, Marcus Samuelsson, has even competed on “Iron Chef America” twice. But are we really entertained by yet another person with tattooed arms, a bandana headband, and a big T-shirt being told, “Well done chef!” because in 20 minutes they made an entrée out of duck breast, ketchup, and cotton candy? The ratings tell us we are.

In an area where kids should compete, we’ve softened them. They don’t run up the score on the opposing team, everyone gets to play and gets a trophy, and we don’t always keep score. We love cooking competitions so much that we now watch children of the same age competitively cooking on TV on Master Chef Jr. and Kids Baking Championship.

I recently competed as part of a five-chef team against another lineup in an “Iron Chef”-style competition in Missoula. Despite our disinterest as chefs for these types of events, we were happy to participate in this particular comp in support of the big picture: a fundraiser for a new culinary school in that town.

We had a lot of fun, and the camaraderie and gifts shared between our two teams were bountiful. But in the end, we joked about the distaste we have for these events and why we’re constantly asked to participate in them. Why are people so interested in watching us run around, nervously altering our game plan, when presented with a “secret” ingredient?

Despite watching them, you may be curious why chefs don’t like participating in cooking competitions. First and foremost, the kitchen is already a stressful place – we have enough deadlines, challenges and obstacles as is. Between the daily clock and calendar, that’s enough stress.

Second, we simply do not feel that our trade merits competing against one another. It doesn’t make sense to us because cooking is subjective and can be illusory. In the same vein as two different brewers producing the same pale ale recipe, two chefs will have different takes on preparing fish.

Even using the same ingredients, what one chef does with a beautiful piece of fresh Alaskan halibut may contrast with what another chef does. Which one is better? They may be equally as tasty, just different. How would you judge two competing artists whose task was to paint their interpretation of a Picasso from his later years?

It’s generally pretty clear what a free throw, a home run, or a hockey goal is – an objective way to gain a leg up on another team. But touchdowns or home runs are, by nature, visual. True, we do eat with our eyes first, but in the end that piece of molten chocolate cake is food to be tasted.

Yet when you watch a culinary judge on the Food Network cut into beautifully seared foie gras, you wouldn’t know because you can’t taste it.

Consider if auto mechanics, for example, had a list of repairs to make before a lifted car slowly lowers to the ground. Oh, and another mechanic gets to randomly take away certain tools.

Keep competition where competition belongs: outside the kitchen.

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. 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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* Lease details: 36-month lease for 10,000 miles per year. Total amount due at signing includes all fees, on approved credit. See dealer for details. Offer ends 6/30/15.

2015 Subaru Outback 2.5i
Retail: $26,364
Lease for $269/month* 
S45332 FDB-01

* Lease details: 36-month lease for 10,000 miles per year. Total amount due at signing includes all fees, on approved credit. See dealer for details. Offer ends 6/30/15.

2015 Subaru Legacy 2.5i Premium w/Moonroof Package
Retail: $26,410
Lease for $251/month* 
S45442 FAD-12

* Lease details: 36-month lease for 10,000 miles per year. Total amount due at signing includes all fees, on approved credit. See dealer for details. Offer ends 6/30/15.

2015 Subaru XV Crosstrek 2.0i Premium
Retail: $24,780
Lease for $274/month* 
S45566 FRC-12

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2,124sf | 3BR | 2BA | 3.69Ac
$849,900 | Web ID: 201448

Gallatin Canyon Home
Rare Acres with Gallatin River Frontage
$789,000 | MLS ID: 197085

Gallatin River Frontage
2,792sf | 3BR | 5BA
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Moonlight Penthouse 1
New Developer Offerings - starting at $525,000 | 206001, 206005, 206011

Sun West Ranch on the Madison
2,466sf | 3BR | 3BA | .28Ac
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  - $789,000 | MLS ID: 197085

- **Gallatin Canyon Home**
  - 2,124sf | 3BR | 2BA | 3.69Ac
  - $849,900 | Web ID: 201448

- **Moonlight Penthouse 1**
  - 2,792sf | 3BR | 5BA
  - $2,150,000 | MLS ID: 205999

- **Meadow Village Home**
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  - $625,000 | MLS ID: 206294

- **Southfork Home**
  - 2,760sf | 2BR | 3BA
  - $580,000 | Web ID: 205849

- **Gallatin Canyon Home**
  - 2,792sf | 3BR | 5BA
  - $2,150,000 | MLS ID: 205999

- **Sun West Ranch on the Madison**
  - New Developer Offerings - starting at $525,000 | Web IDs: 206001, 206005, 206011

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## 2015 BIG SKY SOFTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE

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<th>Home</th>
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**STANDINGS: Wins-Losses**

- Yellowstone Club: 6-0
- Scissorbills: 4-0
- Montucky Moonshiners: 5-1
- Country Market: 5-1
- Riverhouse: 3-1
- Black Bear: 3-1
- Broken Spoke: 3-2
- Hillibilly Huckers: 2-1
- Blue Mooners: 2-3
- Lone Mountain Land Co.: 2-3
- Milkie's: 2-4
- The Cave: 3-2
- Yeti Dogs: 1-2
- Cab Lizards: 1-3
- Jarvis Custom Builders: 1-4
- Big Sky Beavers: 0-4

*Standings as of July 23*
Sunscreen: The basics of sun protection

By Alexis Deaton

Standing in the sunscreen aisle can be overwhelming. Since there are so many options, understanding the basics of sunscreen is essential to protecting yourself and your family.

Sun Protection Factor, or SPF, helps determine how long it takes before your skin starts to burn. To calculate this, multiply the SPF by the time it normally takes your skin to get red without protection. For example, if you start to burn in 15 minutes without any protection, using a sunscreen with SPF 30 will allow you to be in the sun for 450 minutes.

Does this mean going with the highest SPF is best? Not necessarily. SPF 100 is not twice as effective as SPF 50, and according to Consumer Report’s Sunscreen Buying Guide, it’s only an increase of 1 percent in actual protection - SPF 50 blocks 98 percent of UVB rays, while SPF 100 blocks 99 percent.

Also, keep in mind that SPF only refers to ultraviolet B (UVB) rays, while SPF 100 blocks 99 percent of UVB rays, while SPF 100 blocks 99 percent. Since the Food and Drug Administration does not believe you’ll receive additional protection from anything above SPF 50, your best bet is to stay between SPF 30 and 50.

By following a few basic steps – usually listed on sunscreen packaging – you can maximize the labeled SPF on the sunscreen. Apply at least two tablespoons for your entire body, and at least 15 minutes prior to sun exposure. Since sunscreen’s efficacy begins to diminish after an hour or two, reapply at least every two hours, and more often if you’re sweating or in the water.

What are the differences between UVB and UVA rays? Both types of rays can increase your risk of skin cancer, the most common form of cancer in the U.S. According to WebMD’s article titled “Sunscreen Safety,” UVB rays cause the most visible damage to your skin such as tanning and wrinkles. These are the rays we’re most exposed to since they can penetrate windows and clouds.

If you’ve ever been sunburned, UVB rays were responsible. UVBs are most intense from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the spring and summer months, at high altitudes, and they also bounce off reflective surfaces. Two categories of sunscreen ingredients are physical blockers, which scatter the sun’s rays, and chemical blockers, which react with the sun’s rays to prevent skin damage.

Common physical blockers are mineral-based ingredients such as titanium dioxide and zinc oxide – they can cause white streaking and may not have as an effective SPF as listed on the packaging. To prevent the white streaking, physical blockers that have been modified with nanoparticles are being used in some sunscreens. Studies have shown nanoparticles – after having made contact with water – are toxic to the various microorganisms in the environment, and may be small enough to penetrate our skin.

Common chemical blockers include oxybenzone and octinoxate one, and studies indicate they can be disruptive to our endocrine system. Most sunscreens with chemical blockers also have inactive ingredients, which are unnecessary and may be harmful.

But don’t let these concerns scare you away from using sunscreen. The benefits from any sunscreen above SPF 15 outweigh any potential harmful effects. A landmark study published in 2010 in the “Journal of Clinical Oncology” sampled 1,621 Australian adults and found 50 percent fewer melanomas – the most dangerous form of skin cancer – in those who had unlimited access to SPF 16 sunscreen.

The bottom line with sunscreen is to be knowledgeable about your options and stay simple: Slick with non-nanoparticle, mineral sunscreen lotions with SPF 30-50, with minimal inactive ingredients, and follow the label’s directions. Here’s to a skin-friendly, sun-filled summer.

Know What’s Inside Before Going Outside

To reap the benefits of sunscreen and avoid potential side effects, avoid these dubious ingredients before slathering up this summer.

Oxybenzone

This penetration enhancer undergoes a chemical reaction when exposed to UV rays. When your skin absorbs oxybenzone, it can cause an eczema-like allergic reaction that spreads beyond the exposed area and lasts long after you’re out of the sun. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 97 percent of Americans have this chemical circulating in their bodies.

Octinoxate

One of the most common ingredients found in sunscreens with SPF, octinoxate is readily absorbed by our skin and helps absorb other ingredients more readily. While allergic reactions from octinoxate aren’t common, hormone disruption is: The chemical’s effects on estrogen can be harmful for humans and wildlife, should they come into contact with the chemical once it gets into water. Though SPF products are designed to protect skin from sun-induced aging, octinoxate may actually be a culprit for premature aging, as it produces menacing free radicals that can damage skin and cells.

Retinyl Palmitate

Just like the vitamin A we eat, retinyl palmitate is an antioxidant. As an ingredient in sunscreen, it functions to improve the product’s performance against the aging effects of UV exposure. When exposed to the sun’s UV rays, retinol compounds break down and produce destructive free radicals that are toxic to cells, damage DNA, and may lead to cancer. FDA studies have shown that retinyl palmitate may speed the development of malignant cells and skin tumors when applied to skin before sun exposure.

Paraben Preservatives

Associated with both acute and chronic side effects, parabens (butyl-, ethyl-, methyl-, and propyl-) can induce allergic reactions and hormone disruption as well as developmental and reproductive toxicity. Butylparaben was reported to be non-carcinogenic in rats and mice, but has been previously suspected that parabens and other chemicals in underarm cosmetics may contribute to the rising incidence of breast cancer.

Homosalate

This UV-absorbing ingredient helps sunscreen penetrate your skin. Once the ingredient has been absorbed, homosalate accumulates in our bodies faster than we can get rid of it, becomes toxic, and disrupts our hormones.

Octocrylene

When this chemical is exposed to UV light, it absorbs the rays and produces oxygen radicals that can damage cells and cause mutations. It’s readily absorbed by your skin and may accumulate within your body in measurable amounts. Plus, it can be toxic to the environment.
Environmental Protection Agency warns that, of the mainland was in a drought as of April, the U.S. Drought Monitor reports that 37 percent of the 32 pesticides routinely used by major lawn service companies, 100 percent pose a threat to the environment, including water supplies, aquatic organisms, and non-targeted insects; 13 percent include known or suspected endocrine disrupters; 22 percent include known or suspected reproductive toxins; 41 percent include ingredients that are banned or restricted in other countries; and 53 percent include possible carcinogens. According to a 2011 study by the EPA – looking at the impact of fertilizer on our water supplies – turf grass covers an estimated 50 million acres of the country, and we spend approximately $2.2 billion a year attempting to reverse the damage fertilizers cause to our water.

We are witnessing major cultural shifts in our country: Fewer teens are smoking cigarettes, children request sunscreen before going outdoors, and drinking and driving is in decline. One cultural shift I’d like to advocate for is an updated look at the American lawn.

Green lawns are pretty and they’re great to walk barefoot on during hot summer days. But we’ve created an imbalance – we’ve turned our landscape into a giant monocrop. The Oxford English Dictionary defines a monocrop as, “A cultivated crop that does not rotate with other crops in a particular field or area.” This type of agriculture depletes our soil and damages our water supply, and it’s bad for our health.

Let’s take a closer look at the impact of an overly turfed country:

Our lawns consume too much water. While the U.S. Drought Monitor reports that 37 percent of the mainland was in a drought as of April, the Environmental Protection Agency warns that, “Nationwide, landscape irrigation is estimated to account for nearly one-third of all residential water use, totaling nearly 9 billion gallons [of water] per day.”

We use toxic chemicals to grow and maintain our lawns. Bill Chameides, a former Dean of the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University, reported in 2008 in “Statistically Speaking: Lawns by the Numbers,” that approximately 3 million tons of inorganic fertilizers are spread each year. This not only poses health risks with human contact, but watering and rainfall cause fertilizer runoff which wreaks havoc on our water supply from our wells to the ocean.

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We grow grass in place of native plants and edibles. Every year we engage in an outright assault on the dandelion. Dandelions were brought to the U.S. in the 17th century for medicinal purposes. Among many other virtuous traits, dandelion leaves have anti-inflammatory and antioxidant – or cancer preventing – properties. If we can change the way powerful tobacco companies with deep pockets market their products, we can certainly shift our cultural mindset into reinventing the American yard. While we can’t uproot our turf over night, we can begin by making small changes like fertilizing only when our yards need it, composting to make our own natural fertilizer and incorporating more native species into our landscape.

Let’s make our yards non-toxic environments where we work in harmony with nature rather than against it. It’s a perfect classroom for teaching our children invaluable lessons about life on this precious planet.

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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@thetahealth.com, or find more information at thetahealth.org.
AUGUST 1, 2015

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JAMIE MCLEAN BAND AND TWO BIT FRANKS

A portion of all Aug. 1 ticket sales to benefit the Big Sky Community Food Bank

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in the Meadow Village, Big Sky

Ground Floor Retail/Office space available starting October 1, 2015
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1213 Sqft starting at $15 sqft + Triple Net
Private Bathroom
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SUMMER MUSIC LINEUP

JULY
7.1 Mathias
7.8 Julia Roberts
7.15 Brian Stumpf
7.22 Yamama
7.29 Jeff Bellino

AUGUST
8.5 MSU Mountains & Minds String Camp Touring Orchestra
8.12 Missy O’Malley
8.19 Lauren Regnier
8.26 Tim Fast

SEPTEMBER
9.2 Gallatin Grass Project
9.9 The Riot Act
9.16 Kevin Fabozzi
9.23 Missy O’Malley
9.30 DJBones

For info: 406-570-6579 or bigskylfarmersmarket.com

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JULY 17-18
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7TH ANNUAL
BIG SKY MONTANA
FARMERS MARKET

SECOND ANNUAL
OLD FAITHFUL OPEN GOLF SCRAMBLE
July 14, 2015 • 12 noon
Black Bull Golf Community • Bozeman

FEATURING:
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- Moonlight Basin Mountain Home: $2M price range
- Yellowstone Club Ski Access lot: $2.5M price range
- Yellowstone Club Condo: $4M price range
- Bozeman home with Bridger views: $1M price range

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Celebrating America in southwest Montana

Big Sky Community Corp. Fourth of July Celebration
Big Sky Community Park
Come down to the community park from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on July 4 for a number of activities suitable for the whole family including a 5K race; kids activities such as a 1K fun run, arts and crafts, games and face painting; basketball and tennis tournaments; a skate-park jam; Home Run Derby; and a dunk tank. A barbecue lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. All proceeds go to support BSCC's Parks Committee.

Schedule:
7:30 a.m. – Information and registration desk opens
8:30 a.m. – 5K race starts
9 a.m. – Disc golf
9:30 a.m. - Kids activities
10 a.m. – 3-on-3 basketball tournament
10:30 a.m. – Tennis tournament
11:30 a.m. – BBQ Lunch
12 p.m. – Skate-park jam
1 p.m. – Home Run Derby

Firecracker Open
Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m.
The Firecracker Open has a shotgun start at 10 a.m., and the entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, range balls, lunch, flag prizes and awards. “This is a great way to kick off the Fourth of July weekend prior to the live music in Town Center with the evening of fireworks,” said Sheila Chapman, PR Manager at Big Sky Resort.

Music in the Mountains: The Tiny Band
Town Center Park, 6 p.m.
What better way to celebrate our country’s birthday than with a dance party! The Town Center Park’s biggest concert of the summer is on July 4 with the Bozeman-based Tiny Band. The park opens at 6 p.m., with kids activities, food and beverage vendors and the band starting at 7 p.m. A fireworks show is scheduled for 10:15 p.m. to celebrate America’s birthday.

The Tiny Band’s repertoire is a blend of Motown, rock, soul and pop standards that will keep Town Center Park pulsing. Since July 2010, they’ve entertained guests at weddings, parties and special events with hits ranging from Stevie Wonder to the Beatles, and Michael Jackson to Adele. The Tiny Band brings big vocals, high energy and anything but tiny sound.

Bozeman

8th Annual Reach Race for Independence
Reach Inc., 8 a.m.
Celebrate the independence of our country and the people served by Reach Inc. by joining them for a 1K, 5K or 10K run or walk on the trails of north Bozeman. Event proceeds will go to Reach Inc., a local nonprofit that helps adults with developmental disabilities to lead more independent, fulfilling lives.

Gallatin Valley Farmers’ Market
Haynes Pavilion at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
The Gallatin Valley Farmers’ Market provides an opportunity and location for local vendors of homemade food, handmade crafts and locally grown produce to market, display and sell their goods to promote economic well being and support the development of home-based businesses.

Ice Cream Social
Museum of the Rockies, 2-4 p.m.
Celebrate an old-fashioned Fourth of July at the Museum of the Rockies' Living History Farm. Step back in time and enjoy ice cream, games, crafts, the Heirloom Garden and traditional Fourth of July activities.

Bozeman Symphony and the Lions Club present Festival of the Fourth
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.
This all-ages event will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a fundraising barbecue at the Haynes Pavilion. A portion of ticket sales from the barbecue will support the free concert and festival, and an anonymous donor will match 50 percent of the donation.

The Bozeman Symphony will perform a program of patriotic favorites at 9 p.m., leading into the traditional fireworks display at 10:30 p.m. The concert and fireworks are free and open to the public.

The Gallatin Empire Lions Club has presented the Festival of the Fourth for 18 years, providing free entertainment and fireworks to the greater Bozeman community. This is the fifth year the symphony and Lions Club have collaborated presenting this community event, attracting over 5,000 attendees from southwest Montana.

Contact the Bozeman Symphony at (406) 585-9774 or info@bozemansymphony.org to purchase barbecue tickets.
FOURTH OF JULY

**Livingston / Paradise Valley**

**JULY 2**  
Roundup Parade  
Downtown Livingston, 3 p.m.  
This family event is free to the public. Leave your pets at home and no parking is allowed on 2nd & Main Streets from 2 p.m. until the parade ends.

**JULY 2-4**  
28th Annual Festival of the Arts  
The Depot Center, 10 a.m.  
The Livingston Depot Center’s Festival of the Arts will be held in the Depot Rotary Park, adjacent to the Depot Center, in downtown Livingston, Thursday through Saturday, July 2-4, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. This popular annual event is open to original artists and craftspeople in all media.

Roundup Rodeo  
Park County Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.  
The Livingston Roundup Rodeo has been a popular local event in this area since 1924. Every year on July 2-4, sop rodeo cowboys and cowgirls from across North America compete in multiple events. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., the rodeo starts at 8 p.m., and fireworks close out the event each night.

**JULY 4**  
Liberty Dash 5K & 10K  
Sacajawea Park, 8:15 a.m.  
Monty Python’s “Spamalot”  
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts, 8 p.m.  
“Spamalot” is the award-winning comedic musical adapted from the 1975 film “Monty Python and the Holy Grail.” Funnier than the Black Death, “Spamalot” revisits the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table as they encounter scantily-clad showgirls, bovine projectiles, flatulent Frenchmen and killer rabbits.

Peculiar Patriots  
The Murray, 9 p.m.  
“Mix New Orleans Jazz, soul, blues and a hint of some low down dirty funk, and you have the Peculiar Patriots. Based out of Laramie, Wyo., each member lays down their part as if they were the only one on stage, and the front-man harness’ his inner Sachmo so well, if you closed your eyes, you would think you were back in a ’20s speakeasy.” – 107.9 The River

Strangeways  
The Mint, 9:30 p.m.  
Strangeways is a rowdy, irreverent three-piece power trio, featuring Kevin Toll on guitar, Steve Palmer on drums and Jordan Jarosky on bass. The band’s home-grown Livingston sound is aptly referred to as “non-genre.” They fill the night with electrified Americana sounds riddled with songs of outlaws, whiskey and women. A mix of original music compliments their range of songs from Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan, to Prince and Jimi Hendrix, and everything in between.

Denny Earnest & The Resonators  
Chico Saloon, 10 p.m.  
At the heart of Denny’s style is his trusty vintage 1930s Dobro that’s painted like a Campbell’s Soup can. From Paradise Valley, Earnest concentrates on music for TV and film and playing in and around Bozeman with his band “Denny & The Resonators.” The band’s rootsy blues music always draws a packed dance floor.

**West Yellowstone**

**JULY 3**  
Caldera Music Festival  
Pioneer Park, 1 p.m.  
Kick off the July Fourth weekend early by enjoying some free music during the first Caldera Music Festival at Pioneer Park in West Yellowstone.

Lineup:  
12 p.m. – Thread Only Left  
1 p.m. – CowTown Crisis  
2 p.m. – Justine Marie  
3 p.m. – Tales of Ghost Town  
4 p.m. – Erin Harp & the Delta Swingers  
6 p.m. – Dave Walker Band  
8 p.m. – John Gospodarek Band

**JULY 4**  
Pie on the Porch  
Union Pacific Depot, 1-5 p.m.  
Gather on the porch of the historic Union Pacific Depot for a homemade slice of pie from some of the best bakers in Montana to celebrate Independence Day in West Yellowstone. Proceeds from this annual fundraiser support the Yellowstone Historic Center Archive Program. Get there early for your favorite pie by the slice!

Buffalo Chip Chuck  
Union Pacific Dining Lodge, 3-4:30 p.m.  
Be the first to say you flung the dung! The Buffalo chip toss competition on the west lawn of the Union Pacific Dining Lodge is fun for the entire family. Rubber gloves will be provided. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Library and is a fundraiser for the West Yellowstone Public Library.

Celebrating America  
West Yellowstone, 5:30 p.m.  
The Fourth of July celebration this year includes some "down home" fun with a hometown parade, music in the park and fireworks – conditions permitting. The parade lines up at 5:30 p.m. and starts at 6:30 p.m. Fireworks start approximately at 10:15 p.m.

Free Music in the Park  
Pioneer Park, 7 p.m.  
Join the town of West Yellowstone for a great night of free music in the park featuring Jamel Boast and The Adam Ezra Group. The Adam Ezra Group’s live performances are sweaty, passionate affairs that have been compared to those of Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band. Having toured with Rusted Root, The Wailers, Blues Traveler, among many others, the Adam Ezra Group has graduated from the local Boston scene to the national level with a momentum that is catapulting them towards being one of the country’s most talked about bands.
Big Sky Resort to host 10th annual Brewfest

BY SHEILA CHAPMAN
BIG SKY RESORT PR MANAGER

BIG SKY – Big Sky Resort is tapping the kegs for this summer's 10th annual Brewfest, one of the largest events of its kind in the state. On Saturday, July 11, Lone Mountain will again become the backdrop for a day of live music, kid’s activities, and more than 35 breweries showcasing their best microbrews and national beers.

The resort plans to set up two beer garden tents near the base of Swift Current chairlift in the Mountain Village area. Good Time Travelers will perform their soul-folk sound in a nearby outdoor venue, alongside several other bands that will be announced closer to the event date.

“The Brewfest is a great way to try new beers, talk to the brewers, and enjoy being outside in the mountains,” said Brandon Bang, Sales and Marketing Director for Big Sky Resort.

“With the live music and the kids activities of a bouncy house, face painting, and games, our Brewfest has really become a family fun day or weekend getaway.”

The Brewfest is open to all ages and will take place rain or shine. Guests must be 21 and over to enter the beer garden pavilion areas, and the tasting fee includes 10 tasting tokens and a souvenir tasting glass.

Delicious barbecue bratwurst, spectacular Montana Wagyu Cattle Company brisket, and tasty creations from a burger bar will all be available for purchase.

The roster of confirmed breweries from outside Montana includes Iron Horse Brewing and Elysian Brewing Company from Washington; Pennsylvania’s North Slope Brewing Company; New Belgium Brewery from Colorado; and California’s Stone Brewing Company.

Montana breweries from across the state are converging in Big Sky as well, and you can expect The Front Brewery; Madison River Brewing Company; Lone Peak Brewery; Lewis and Clark Brewery; Big Sky Brewing; UberBrew Brewing Company; Outlaw Brewing; and Draught Works Brewery.

Tickets are available at bigskyresort.com/brewfest starting June 15.
Luxury Suite 1B*/Moonlight Basin / 3 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms / 2,563 SQ FT. / $1,600,000

River Runs Through It* Yellowstone Club
7 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms
13,149 SQ FT.
$15,000,000

214 W. Pine Cone Terrace
Aspen Groves
4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms
4,268 SQ FT.
$1,500,000

PRICE REDUCED
Spanish Peaks
Club Condo #44
Big Sky Meadow
2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms
2,140 SQ FT.
$549,900

Elk Ridge Ranchette #28 / Gallatin Canyon / 39 ACRES / $399,900

Lot 338 Bristlecone* Yellowstone Club
14.6 ACRES
$4,950,000

NEW LISTING
Seclusion Point 156*
Spanish Peaks Mountain Club
3.36 ACRES
$545,000

Ranch Lot 107*
Spanish Peaks Mountain Club
2.48 ACRES
$395,000

NEW LISTING
Seclusion Point 156*
Spanish Peaks Mountain Club
3.36 ACRES
$545,000

Elk Ridge Ranchette #28 / Gallatin Canyon / 39 ACRES / $399,900
Sons of Bill to make first Big Sky appearance July 2

BIG SKY – The Arts Council of Big Sky is pleased to announce another amazing summer of free Music in the Mountains. Between June 25 and Aug. 27, Town Center Park’s Center Stage will serve as the setting for 13 free events, including the fifth annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival. The park opens at 6 p.m. and music starts at 7 p.m. Attendance is free, and food and drink will be available from several local vendors at the park.

On Thursday, July 2, the Arts Council welcomes Sons of Bill to Town Center Park for the band’s first Big Sky appearance.

“This is a record that takes me back to some of the creative heights we achieved in Wilco,” said producer Ken Coomer about Sons of Bill’s latest LP, “Love and Logic,” which the group released in September. “I’m only interested in making records that are still going to be relevant ten years from now, and this is one of them. It’s unmistakably the real thing.”

Rolling Stone magazine calls the album “lush and beautiful … a classic roots rock album for the modern age.” The magazine also listed the band’s tour as a “must-see” event of the summer.

This is an ambitious album for the three brothers Sam, Abe, and James Wilson, who collaborated on the singing and songwriting to produce 45 minutes of deeply introspective lyrics. As for the record’s sound, the players’ Virginia roots clearly run deep: The Wilsons feature dreamy pedal steel, banjo, and three-part harmonies that only could have been learned at church. But the music moves into enough layered pop productions and rock ‘n’ roll bravado throughout to keep you guessing as to who these boys are, and what they’ve been listening to.

Though Sons of Bill became more than Charlottesville’s best-kept secret with the 2012 release of “Sirens,” a brash rock and roll record that debuted on the Billboard top 200, “Love and Logic” marks a distinct evolution for the brothers — their new sound is more sober, and reflective, like that of a band coming into its own.

Other Music in the Mountains events this summer include the Tiny Band on July 4; Incendio on July 9; The Suffers on July 16; the Whiskey Gentry on July 23; Montana Shakespeare in the Parks on Aug. 2; Corb Lund on Aug. 6; the Big Sky Classical Music Festival Aug. 7-9; Royal Southern Brotherhood on Aug. 13; the Brothers Comatose on Aug. 20; and Euforquestra on Aug. 27.

Visit bigskyarts.org for more information.

The Tiny Band’s big sound
Bozeman artists to play Fourth of July

BY TYLER ALLEN
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – The Arts Council of Big Sky will bring some new blood to Center Stage for its July Fourth extravaganza, when The Tiny Band plays one of its rare public appearances in Big Sky Town Center.

The Bozeman-based band has been delighting wedding parties with their high-energy, horn-driven sound since their first performance in July of 2010, and now steps into Big Sky’s Independence Day spotlight after a five-year run by Seattle’s Freddy Pink.

The Tiny Band was formed to play at vocalist Krista Barnett’s wedding reception — she sang a few songs in her party attire — and has been lighting up the summer nuptial circuit ever since. They’ve played only a handful of public appearances, but bring a polished repertoire to one of Big Sky’s signature summer events.

Their eclectic catalog ranges from funk and soul to rock ‘n’ roll and pop, and Barnett says they’ve been working on some new material this summer — concert-goers could be treated to Kenny Loggins’ “Footloose” and Al Green’s “Take Me To The River.”

Barnett has played the Music in the Mountains series twice before — with the Dave Walker Band in 2011 and Pinky and the Floyd in 2012 — and says she’s excited to get that exposure and then some for The Tiny Band.

“All of the Music in the Mountains [shows] are pretty well-attended, but the Fourth of July gig is Pink because of the reaction from the crowd,” Hurlbut said.

“The thing I learned from [Freddy Pink] is the style of music they play is really appealing to a lot of people,” Hurlbut said, noting he had heard reviews from The Tiny Band’s New Year’s Eve performance at the Yellowstone Club this winter. “I talked to people who were at that show who said they blew the roof off.”

In addition to Barnett, The Tiny Band brings seven other musicians to the stage, including vocalist Jeni Fleming; saxophonists Ryan Matzinger and Jake Fleming; John Sanders on bass guitar; guitarist Sean Lehmann; drummer Drew Fleming; and keyboardist Chris Cundy.

The band’s name derives from original member David “Tiny” S nutaga, and it remains a tongue-in-cheek moniker for an eight-person band.

“We kept the name because we loved Tiny … and thought it’s ironic because we have anything but a tiny sound,” Barnett said.

The music will start at approximately 7 p.m., Hurlbut said, and will continue at least until the fireworks are launched at about 10:15 p.m. Center Stage Park will cater to families with at least six food and beverage vendors, and activities for kids including a bounce house and climbing wall.
FRIDAY, JUNE 26 – THURSDAY, JULY 9
*If your event falls between July 10 and July 24 please submit it by Friday, July 3.

**Big Sky**
FRIDAY, JUNE 26
Mary Poppins
WMPAC, 7 p.m.

Groovin’ on the Gallatin Fundraiser
Lone Peak Brewery, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 9
Broken Spoke, 9 p.m.

**Bozeman**
FRIDAY, JUNE 26
Sweet Factory Fridays
Museum of Rockies, 10 a.m.

Gallatin Dog Club: Agility Trials
Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds, 2 p.m.

London Calling:
Bozeman Invades England
Wild Joe’s, 7 p.m.

Movie Night:
Monk w/a Camera
Bozeman Dharma Center, 7 p.m.

DJ Rhone Dance Mixes
Locknorn Elder House, 7 p.m.

Film: The Cowboys
The Ellin, 7 p.m.

Tea House Tangos
Townshend’s Teahouse, 7-30 p.m.

Shakespeare in the Parks
Cyrano de Bergerac
MSU Grove, 8 p.m.

Lily Tomlin
The Ellin, 8 p.m.

Live Radio Theatre
Don’t Close Your Eyes
The Verge, 8 p.m.

Sista Otis w/Voodoo Horse-shoes
Filling Station, 8 p.m.

Milton Monasac & The Big Fiasco
Eagles, 9 p.m.

Red Velvet, Buddha, Monda-dAeon
The Zebra, 9 p.m.

Jake Ryan
Haufbrau, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27
Jim Bridger Trail Run
Springhill Sed Farm, 7:30 a.m.

Gallatin Dog Club: Agility Trials
Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds, 8 a.m.

Gallatin Valley Farmer’s Market
Haynes Pavilion, 9 a.m.

GVLT Discovery Walk:
Railroad History w/MOR
Gallagator Linear Trail, 10 a.m.

Jeremiah & The Red Eyes
Wild Joe’s, 7 p.m.

Joseph James CD Release Show
Faultline North, 7 p.m.

Balboa Social Dance
Townshend’s Teahouse, 7 p.m.

Contra Dance
Bozeman Senior Social Center, 7:30 p.m.

Shakespeare in the Parks
Cyrano de Bergerac
MSU Grove, 8 p.m.

The Ellen, 8 p.m.

Lily Tomlin
The Ellin, 8 p.m.

Live Radio Theatre
Don’t Close Your Eyes
The Verge, 8 p.m.

Bearcat 9000 + The Permians
The Verge, 8 p.m.

Bearcat 9000 + The Permians
The Verge, 8 p.m.

Bearcat 9000 + The Permians
The Verge, 8 p.m.

Bearcat 9000 + The Permians
The Verge, 8 p.m.
**MONDAY, JULY 6**
Open Mic Night
Hauftaur, 10:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 7**
Bogart Farmer's Market
Bogart Park, 5 p.m.

Cronin's & Coliffs Community Bozeman Deaconess Hospital, 5:30 p.m.

Music Tuesdays
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

Author Event w/Thomas C. Rust
Lost Fort Ellis: A Frontier Bozeman History
Country Booksheft, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8**
Lunch on the Lawn
The Emerson, 11:30 a.m.

Art Show - DeYoung, Matsuda, Fisheyeguy
406 Brewery, 5 p.m.

Book Discussion: Mister Owista's Guide to Gardening
Country Booksheft, 7 p.m.

Chamber Music Festival
Elk River Books, 5:30 p.m.

Music on Main: Whitewater Ramble
Downtown Bozeman, 6 p.m.

Karaoke
Eagles, 8:30 p.m.

**LIVINGSTON & PARADISE VALLEY**
FRIDAY, JUNE 26
Livingston Art Walk
Downtown, 5:30 p.m.

Art Walk Book Signing: Literary Butte
Elk River Books, 5:30 p.m.

Spamalot!
The Shane, 8 p.m.

Sim-Bitti
The Murray, 9 p.m.

Jeremiah & The Red Eyes
The Mint, 9:30 p.m.

Western Electric
Chico Saloon, 10 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27**
Bluegrass Festival
Pine Creek United Methodist, 12 p.m.

Rotary Water Park Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening
South G Street, 1 p.m.

In Walks Bud
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

Spamalot!
The Shane, 8 p.m.

Sim-Bitti
The Murray, 9 p.m.

Strangeways
The Mint, 9:30 p.m.

Western Electric
Chico Saloon, 10 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28
Spamalot!
The Shane, 3 p.m.

The Holy Broke
The Murray, 8:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 29**
Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 30
Liv. Elks 3rd Annual JR Golf Camp
Liv. Golf Course, 8 a.m.

Beer for a Cause:
Liv. Mental Health Center, 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1
Farmer's Market
Music by The Weir Brothers & Derek Ivester
YES Kids Day
Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

Walirck
Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 2
29th Annual Festival of the Arts
The Depot Center, 10 a.m.

(Thru Sat.)
Beer Garden w/Katabatic & Neptune’s 100 Block N. Main St., 1 p.m.

Roundup Parade
Downtown, 3 p.m.

Milton Mensaco & The Fiasco
Katabatic, 5:30 p.m.

Roundup Rodeo
Park Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.

Leo Rondoue
The Murray, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 3
28th Annual Festival of the Arts
The Depot Center, 10 a.m. (Thru Sat.)

Roundup Rodeo
Park Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.

Spamalot!
The Shane, 8 p.m.

Skavocado
Chico Saloon, 10 p.m.

Denny Earnest
Chico Saloon, 10 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 4
Liberty Dash 5k & 10k
Sacajawea Park, 8:15 a.m.

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

28th Annual Festival of the Arts
The Depot Center, 10 a.m.

Roundup Rodeo
Park Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.

Spamalot!
The Shane, 8 p.m.

Peculiar Patriots
The Murray, 9 p.m.

Strangeways
The Mint, 9:30 p.m.

Denny Earnest
Chico Saloon, 10 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 5
Spamalot!
The Shane, 3 p.m.

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

 Joey Leone Band
Chico Saloon, 8 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 7**
Reading: Go Wild w/Richard Manning
Elk River Books, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8**
Roundup Rodeo
Park Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.

Joey Leone Band
Chico Saloon, 8 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 9**
Roundup Rodeo
Park Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30 p.m.

Free Music in the Park
James Roast, Adam Ezra Group
Pioneer Park, 7 p.m.

**MONTANA OPEN LAND MONTH**

Officially recognized by Gov. Steve Bullock, July 2015 is Montana Open Land Month. This month-long celebration is a chance to honor all that open land represents: our agricultural heritage, vast outdoor recreational opportunities, clean water, diverse wildlife habitat, scenic splendor, tremendous economic benefits, a $4 billion tourism industry, freedom to roam and so much more! Visit openlandmt.org to learn more.

**ONGOING EVENTS**

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

Historic Walking Tour
Historic District, self-guided, daily

Explore Yellowstone! With A YNP Ranger
Yellowstone Park, daily

Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone 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.

Yellowstone Nature Experience in Yellowstone Workshop
30 Yellowstone Ave., 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. daily
JULY 30-AUG 1, 2015  BIG SKY TOWN CENTER

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7/31 - bullriding + zoso
8/1 - ROBERT EARL KEEN
WITH JAMIE MCLEAN BAND & TWO BIT FRANKS

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**PBR mutton bustin’**

**An intro to riding rough stock**

**BY MARIA WYLLIE**

**EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR**

BIG SKY – On July 30 and 31, a handful of tykes with dreams of becoming the next bull-riding legend will get a feel for the sport during the Big Sky Professional Bull Riders’ nightly mutton bustin’ competitions. Each night between 10 and 12 aspiring cowboys and cowgirls will climb atop sheep to see how long they can hang on.

Returning as title sponsors this year are Big Sky Resort, Moonlight Basin, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, and the Yellowstone Club.

“(We’re) proud to be a sponsor of the Big Sky PBR for our fourth year,” said Hans Williamson, vice president and general manager of the YC. “Our Members and the entire Yellowstone Club team look forward to the event as it is a huge summer highlight and every year seems to be bigger and better. We hope it will once again be named the PBR Event of the Year.”

Highline Partners joined the action this year as the official 2015 PBR mutton bustin’ sponsor.

Mutton bustin’ offers kids ages 3-6 and weighing less than 60 pounds a softer introduction to rough stock sports like bronc and bull riding. Inside the arena chute gates, the young competitors – without ropes, spurs or saddles – are placed atop multi-colored Lincoln crossbred sheep weighing 150-200 pounds.

During the competition, photos of the participants are beamed on the big screen, as event announcer Brandon Bates states each child’s name, age and weight and his or her sheep’s name, which is picked by every rider.

As the chute gate opens, the sheep sprints out, and the rider must hang on for dear life. On average, most kids manage to stay on for 3-4 seconds. The rider who holds on the longest is deemed champion and interviewed front and center by Bates.

Competitors are supplied with vests and helmets for protection, and mutton busters are encouraged to wear boots, long sleeves and jeans.

The little sheep riders don’t have cash prizes hinging on their performance like the bull riders, but their emotions are arguably just as intense.

For some, fear strikes at the last minute, and mom or dad must remove their child from the sheep before the gate opens. Others are in tears because they fell off too soon, and they want another chance. But most have the time of their lives, determined to return the following year for another go at the title.

Five-year-old Frankie Seelye is one of those riders. On June 1, the day registration opened, Frankie signed up for another go at the mutton bustin’. But most have the time of their lives, determined to return the following year for another go at the title.

Five-year-old Frankie Seelye is one of those riders. On June 1, the day registration opened, Frankie signed up for another chance.

Frankie, whose favorite part about the competition is interacting with the animals – whether she’s petting or riding them – has already named her sheep Madame Butterfly.

Frankie offered a few words of advice to first-time mutton busters: “It’s OK to fall off the sheep, and it’s OK if the sheep knocks you down,” she said.

“Kids on the farm have been doing this for centuries,” Fellerhoff-White said. “Sheep don’t buck – they’re not made to.”

Big Sky local Jerry Pape’s grandson Ryan Wenger rode in the mutton bustin’ competitions in 2013 and 2014, and has a 4-year-old granddaughter Peyton Wenger is signed up to ride this summer.

As the owner of a Hot Heels steer – a big, plastic steer on wheels – Pape’s grandkids might have a leg up.

“I pull it around with a four-wheeler and that’s how they learn how to mutton bust,” Pape said. “I taught Ryan how to hold on. There’s a technique to it.”

“**This is cowboy country and it’s nice for the kids to understand what rodeo is all about.**”

Pape, 76, who owns Triple Creek Realty is a PBR Golden Buckle sponsor, as well as a sponsor of the Montana State University Rodeo Club, and he still participates in team-roping events. He says rodeo produces kids who know how to work and who grow up with a sense of responsibility for animals.

“This is cowboy country and it’s nice for the kids to understand what rodeo is all about,” Pape said, noting that when it comes down to it, he signs his grandchildren up because, first and foremost, they have fun.

The mutton bustin’ rosters are full for both nights, as both new and returning riders signed up quickly. And although there’s only one champion each night, all participants will receive award certificates and prizes presented by Highline Partners.

“(The PBR) is a great community event where kids are in the limelight, smiling and having fun,” said Todd Thesing, cofounder of Highline Partners.
BOZEMAN – Celebrating 20 years of performing theater in the Gallatin Valley, Montana TheatreWorks presents “Fiddler on the Roof,” opening July 10 for a three-week run at The Ellen Theatre in Bozeman.

This family-favorite musical tells the story of a small Russian town in 1905, where time-honored traditions are both embraced and challenged by a man and his family as their simple world goes through an extraordinary transition.

Originally produced in 1964, “Fiddler on the Roof” became the longest-running Broadway musical in history, highlighted by iconic songs such as “Sunrise, Sunset,” “If I Were a Rich Man” and “Matchmaker, Matchmaker.”

Musical Director Frederick Frey leads an orchestra featuring a number of local musicians, and the production is directed by Montana TheatreWorks co-founder Mary Jo Ladin. Frank Simpson performs the role of Tevye and heads a cast of 30 singers and dancers.

There are 10 opportunities to see “Fiddler on the Roof” at The Ellen Theatre, with the final performance set for Sunday, July 26. Thursday, Friday and Saturday showings start at 8 p.m. while Sunday matinees begin at 3 p.m. Wine, beer and other refreshments – which may be brought into the theater – are available one hour prior to show time.

Call The Ellen Theatre at (406) 585-5885 for more information or to purchase tickets over the phone. Tickets may also be purchased at theellentheatre.com or at the box office.

BOZEMAN – On July 10, Bozeman printing company A Thousand Arms presents a night of artistic collaboration, as part of the Bozeman Art Walk. The event begins at The Foundry on South Tracy Avenue, with a curated gallery opening featuring the work of more than 20 artists. In their respective mediums, artists will be interpreting the theme of “Night & Day.”

The gallery event runs from 6-8 p.m., and the night continues upstairs in the Masonic Temple ballroom with music beginning at 9 p.m. Bozeman bands the Ranges, Modern Sons, and LIV will perform original music written and recorded specifically for this event.

The music venue has a limited capacity and tickets are available at Cactus Records. Bridger Brewing and Sidecar Catering will be providing refreshments.
Dry-fly season hits local waters

BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

A longtime Yellowstone River guide once admitted to me his disdain for the salmonfly hatch. “It’s so anticlimactic, overblown, and over-hyped,” he said. “It’s after the salmonflies hatch that I love,” my friend continued. “[It’s] golden stoneflies, yellow sallies, pale morning duns, caddis, and spruce moths that get my blood pumping.” He’s got a good point.

The salmonflies are done on our local waters and the golden stoneflies are waning, but that doesn’t mean it’s time to put away the fly floatant and go back to the “chuck and duck” indicator rigs. The coming weeks are perhaps the best of the year for catching trout on dry flies, so be sure to have some of the following patterns in your vest or pack, or stuck in your ball cap.

Chubby Chernobyl, or variations such as the Super Chubby or Fat Frank.

Created to imitate a large stonefly or grasshopper, this foam-bodied fly floats high and is easy to see. It can imitate a golden stonefly, a yellow sally stonefly, or a large caddis. Many anglers will use this fly as an attractor dry fly – in other words, one that can be seen – and tie a smaller dry fly behind it as a floating dropper.

Blooms HiVis Parachute Caddis.

This fly has eclipsed the Goddard in popularity for a fast-water caddis. But the fly’s creator, Dave Bloom, honed this pattern on the technical waters of the Missouri River. Because its roots lie with picky tailwater trout, this fly takes the bacon for the must-have caddis pattern on the Gallatin, Madison, and Yellowstone rivers. It floats well and its parachute post is tied in a variety of colors, which makes it easy to see in low-light conditions.

RS2 emerger in PMD or yellow.

The RS2 was created more than 30 years ago by Colorado angler and fly-tier Rim Chung. The name is short for “Rim’s Simuland No. 2,” since it was the second in a series of flies he designed. As our rivers drop and clear, Pale Morning Duns will hatch and this summer-season the mayfly will inhabit shallow, riffle-run water. A first impression suggests this fly is meant to be fished subsurface or in the surface film, which can be effective. However, if your eyesight allows you to see a size 16 or 18 RS2 surface, you stand a very good chance of more hookups when PMDs are hatching. If you have subpar eyesight, tie an RS2 as a dropper off a Bloom’s HiVis Parachute Caddis.

Rubberleg Stimulator or Stimi-Chew Toy.

These two patterns’ roots lie in Randall Kaufmann’s original Stimulator. As a kid, I rarely fished anything other than a yellow Stimulator. Today, a Stimulator will catch fish in some situations, but with the addition of rubber legs and an underwing on the Chew Toy, these two patterns are the #1 fly to my old analog. Tied to mostly imitate golden stoneflies and yellow sally stoneflies, the Stimi-Chew Toy in size 14 and 16 is ideal for mimicking a spruce moth.

Parachute Adams.

Perhaps the most time-tested dry fly ever tied – imitating a mayfly dun – the Parachute Adams is a must-have. The white post is easy to see, it can be tied in a variety of colors, it floats well, and it catches fish. Get some.

Spruce moth patterns.

On many of our local rivers, especially the Gallatin and Upper Madison between Windy Point and Pine Butte, anglers are noting an increase in spruce moths. Be sure your dry-fly box has plenty of spruce moths. A caddis at its core, once a spruce moth lands on the water’s surface, a nearby trout doesn’t take long to notice. Some favorite patterns are the Snowshoe Spruce and the Elk Hair Spruce Moth; focus on sizes 14 and 16.

LaFontaine’s Emergent Sparkle Pupa.

A list without a Gary LaFontaine pattern? What do you think I am, a nymph fisherman? LaFontaine was passionate about flies and trout food, and he spent countless hours studying insects and creating their imitations. Similar to the RS2, this fly can serve double duty. When fished as a dry fly, only put floatant on the elk hair, allowing the fly to float on the surface while the dubbed body – or mix of hairs attached to the hook shank – helps to hold air by creating a bubble. LaFontaine surmised that as caddis hatch from a pupa to an adult they create a small air bubble. Good thing he enjoyed looking at caddis butts, because without this pattern a lot fewer fish would be caught.

In Norman Maclean’s masterpiece “A River Runs Through It,” a father tells his two sons – one of which is Norman – that Christ’s disciples were fishermen, and that John was Christ’s favorite. Why? Because John was a dry-fly fisherman.

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.
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American Life in Poetry: Column 534

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

I love richly detailed descriptive poems, and this one by Barbara Crooker, who lives in Pennsylvania, is a good example of how vivid a picture a poem can offer to us. Her most recent book is “Selected Poems,” (Future Cycle Press, 2015).

Strewn
By Barbara Crooker

It’d been a long winter, rags of snow hanging on; then, at the end of April, an icy nor’easter, powerful as a hurricane. But now I’ve landed on the coast of Maine, visiting a friend who lives two blocks from the ocean, and I can’t believe my luck, out this mild morning, race-walking along the strand.

Every dog within fifty miles is off-leash, running for the sheer dopey joy of it. No one’s in the water, but walkers and shellers leave their tracks on the hardpack. The flat sand shines as if varnished in a painting. Underfoot, strewn, are broken bits and pieces, deep indigo mussels, wheels of whelk, chips of purple and white wampum, hinges of quahog, fragments of sand dollars. Nothing whole, everything broken, washed up here, stranded. The light pours down, a rinse of lemon on a cold plate. All of us, broken, some way or other. All of us dazzling in the brilliant slanting light.


Sudoku

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Patient Care Coordinator: For over 2 decades we have been the dominant health care provider in the Big Sky area. If your resume includes empathy, critical thinking and intellect, consider becoming part of our front office health care team. Reply to @medclinictcf@gmail.com

Crystal Images is hiring photographers at the Big Sky Resort this summer. Work daily photographing resort guests on the Big Sky Ziplines. Job includes selling photos at sales desk. Housing available. Email resume to janiceskis@aol.com.

By Maria Wylue

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.

This summer’s hot ticket is the Grateful Dead’s “Fare Thee Well” mini-tour at Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif. on June 27-28 and Soldier Field in Chicago, Ill. on July 3-5. The run will be the original members’ last performances together.

Even if you’re not a Dead Head, there’s no denying the band’s strong influence in the jam-band world and beyond over the past 50 years. Their beautiful, often metaphorical lyrics paired with controlled, yet experiential instrumentals can soothe the soul.

Paring down a list of thousands of songs and recordings to just 10 was a difficult task. Live recordings of entire shows can be found via online archives, as well as on Dick’s Picks—a series of 36 volumes of live Grateful Dead music released from two track master tapes in the band’s vault.

I’ve only picked a few of my personal favorites here – songs that speak to me; songs that I could listen to on repeat over and over. Listening to the Grateful Dead’s music always puts me in a better mood and mindset about life. I hope these recordings will do the same for you.

One of my favorite lines from the song “Franklin’s Tower” says it all: “If you get confused, just listen to the music play.”

1. “Cold Rain and Snow” – Berkeley Community Theater, 8/25/72
2. “Pey-G-O” - The Palladium, 4/30/77
3. “Mississippi Half-Step Up Down Toodlelou” - Oakland Coliseum Stadium, 10/9/76
4. “Chain Cat Sunflower I Know You Rider” - Old Renaissance Faire Grounds, 8/27/72
5. “Sugarfoot” - Alexandra Palace, 9/11/74
6. “New Speedway Boogie” - Fillmore West, 6/7/70
8. “Franklin’s Tower” – Golden Gate Park, 9/28/75

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Classifieds
Prepping for kids’ first camping trip

BY BRYN HUNTPALMER
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Do you remember your first camping experience? If you’re like me, you’ve grown up tent camping and exploring public lands. If you haven’t already taken your kids camping, they may have some anxiety and questions about their upcoming adventure.

If your family doesn’t spend a lot of time outdoors, your children’s first camping experience might be a shock. They may not be excited about sleeping in a tent with bugs and dirt close at hand. Work your way up to spending an entire night out in nature by exploring the outdoors beforehand – make regular trips to a nearby park or go on a half-day hike as a family. The idea is to work your way up to a full night away from home.

Once your kids are comfortable hiking or having a picnic outside, then you’ll know it’s time for them to get the fully integrated camping experience. It’s also important to instill in your kids an appreciation for nature. Spend a few hours a week interacting with nature instead of looking at computer, phone or TV screens. This habit will also make the lack of technology easier to cope with when they spend a few nights in the wilderness. Here are some fun tips to prep the kiddos for their first camping experience.

Set up a campsite at home
A simple way to expose your kids to camping is to set up a tent indoors. Familiarize your kids with flashlights, sleeping bags, and other equipment you plan on using while camping. Add some excitement by allowing your kids to invite friends over, and encourage them to sing camp songs and make s’mores in the microwave or over a supervised backyard fire. Once they’ve mastered the indoor camping experience, move things outside and spend the night in a tent. You can also use this opportunity to teach them about campfire safety by lighting a fire pit.

Anticipate fears
Kids may have specific fears about camping, so talk to them and find out what they may be anxious about. Are they scared of bears attacking them in their sleep? Are they nervous about sleeping in the woods? Have they been around a campfire before? The best way to prepare your kids for their first camping experience is to explain in detail what the trip will entail. Let them know they may hear new noises in their tent and that there will likely be bugs. But you can put their fears to rest by letting them ask questions about the trip before you go. If you anticipate the fears they may have, you can reduce any negative reactions once you’re in the great outdoors.

Engage with your kids
Get them excited by packing for the camping trip together. Use this time as a teaching opportunity and show your children the importance of being prepared. Let them pack their own backpack and quiz them on what items they need for the night or two away. It’s important to allow your kids to take ownership of their belongings so they’ll be comfortable while sleeping outdoors. If there’s a special blanket your daughter loves, let her bring it. You can also plan meals together that revolve around your children’s favorite foods to make it more exciting.

If you prepare them properly, your kids’ first camping experience can begin a lifelong love for the outdoors. So get out there and make some amazing memories with your children.

Bryn Huntpalmer is a mother of two young children living in Austin, Texas where she works as an editor for modernize.com. In addition to regularly contributing to home decor and design websites, her writing can be found on lifehacker.com, about.com and on her blog “Her Own Wings.”
Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, Big Sky’s ski and golf community, strikes a perfect balance of activity, community and scenery for those looking to find their piece of heaven in the mountains. Learn more about ski-in, golf-out opportunities in Spanish Peaks Mountain Club on page 15. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA LIVING, BIG SKY REAL ESTATE
Big Sky: An ‘active and vibrant’ market

BY TYLER ALLEN EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – From foundations to finishes and real estate to remodels, southwest Montana is experiencing rapid growth. One need only look out the window of this newspaper’s office to see the vertical development of Big Sky Town Center, as an example.

Town Center’s first three-story building, currently under construction, is expected to open at 44 Town Center Avenue in early December. The Big Sky Medical Center is also slated to open in December and the Peaks Building, south of Roxy’s Market, will house four new Big Sky businesses this summer.

Paradigm Contractors, based in Cedar City, Utah, opened an office in Bozeman earlier in June due to labor demand. They framed Roxy’s Market last year, as well as the 44 Town Center Avenue building this winter. Paradigm’s senior estimator, Brian Barlow, said they have 15-20 laborers currently working in southwest Montana including five or six local hires.

“We have a lot of opportunities before us between Big Sky and Bozeman,” Barlow said. “It’s surprising how much potential work there is in Big Sky. I’ve had a lot of calls this year about both residential and commercial development.”

On Site Management, a luxury home and ranch builder based in Bozeman and Jackson, Wyo., is currently constructing seven homes in the Big Sky area, primarily in the private Yellowstone Club.

“I don’t know any builders [who are complaining],” said John Barkow, one of OSM’s principal owners. Barkow said the majority of their current projects are in the Jackson Hole Valley, but the two markets are comparable.

“Both markets are very strong right now,” he said, noting that OSM caters to the higher end of the spectrum for new construction and is noting a progression in its clientele’s design tastes. “We’re seeing a shift to ‘mountain modern’ [with] more glass, more windows, and lighter finishes on the interiors.”

Big Sky’s Creighton Block Gallery is experiencing a similar trend in its clients’ affections.

“There’s an explosion of contemporary architecture and interior design in the Yellowstone Club, Spanish Peaks [Mountain Club], Moonlight Basin, and other homes for high net-worth folks in our area,” said Creighton Block owner Colin Mathews.

“Having seen that [trend] a year-and-a-half ago, we acquired additional gallery space and artwork to meet the demand for such work,” Mathews said, noting he opened his contemporary gallery in February across Ousel Falls Road from his Western gallery, and has since sold 12 paintings from the new space.

Eric Ossorio, a broker for Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Montana in Big Sky, is currently constructing seven homes in the Big Sky area, primarily in the private Yellowstone Club.

“Ever since we acquired the Western gallery, and has since sold 12 paintings from the new space.

On Site Management, a luxury home and ranch builder based in Bozeman and Jackson, Wyo., is currently constructing seven homes in the Big Sky area, primarily in the private Yellowstone Club.

“Big Sky is an ‘active and vibrant’ market,” Ossorio said, noting positive pressure on the marketplace. “Inventory is continuing to be taken off the market by purchasing and we’re not seeing a lot of new inventory getting put on the market.”

He compared the current climate favorably to the high-water mark of 2004-2006, before the recession. The area is seeing less speculative purchasing since fewer buyers now are obtaining multiple units in hopes to re-sell some at a higher price. L&K Real Estate Broker Ryan Kulesza agrees there’s optimism to be seen in the current landscape.

“Southwest Montana is an attractive platform to be buying and selling real estate as our values are fair, and the quality of life is amazing,” Kulesza said. “In general, the market has recovered most of its loss [from the recession].”

“We’re not post-holing through the snow right now,” Ossorio said, in reference to the last real estate boom. “More buyers are saying, ‘Wow the values in Big Sky are supported.’”
Ania Bulis, Christie’s International Real Estate: Pure West

Why Big Sky?

It’s a question I’m often asked when I meet a client for the first time: Why Big Sky? We discuss everything from what brought me here to why I stayed and, ultimately, to why they should buy real estate in this scenic corner of Montana. They assume I’m outdoorsy – I wasn’t before I moved here – or that I’m a good skier – my 8 year old shamelessly beats me down the slopes.

In truth, it’s mostly a state of mind: The ability to let my kids roam the way I did as a child; knowing that I’m just minutes from the nearest hiking trail; or that I can go skiing, even for a few hours, on any given day of the week. It’s a sense of freedom and a throwback in time, and it appears to be what most people are searching for in this increasingly digital and highly automated era. What Big Sky has to offer is not man-made, but it’s here for the taking.

But Big Sky is growing. Real estate communities such as Yellowstone Club, Moonlight Basin and Spanish Peaks continue to thrive alongside Big Sky Resort. A wider array of services and amenities is emerging, not the least of which is the much-anticipated opening of the Big Sky Medical Center. New businesses are laying down foundations, while older, more established ones are seeking ways to expand.

Town Center has become a vibrant epicenter of our community, especially during the summer months with its Wednesday farmers markets and Thursday night concerts. There’s even an organic juice and coffee bar that feeds my daily juice addiction. Make no mistake: Ski-in, ski-out properties will always be in high demand, but the desire to be near Town Center is taking on a life of its own.

Independent of one another, these changes might not amount to much, but as a whole, and coupled with all that Big Sky has to offer, lead me to ask another question: Why not now? The skiing is magnificent. The scenery is spectacular. The opportunities for recreation are limitless, and the people are unassuming and friendly. So, why not now?

Big Sky is a dynamic place where you can still find a million-dollar view for a fraction of the price. Values have appreciated steadily over the last few years, but remain a far cry from their previous highs. Construction costs may have increased, but in doing so provide buying opportunities on vacant land that has not experienced the same type of appreciation as built product. Lastly, new construction projects are available for the first time in years.

All the while, Big Sky manages to maintain it’s natural beauty and charm: the rivers and streams; the rocky mountain peaks; the opportunity for outdoor activities; the sheer vastness of the landscape; and the serenity it affords in a world that gets busier by the minute.

So, why not Big Sky and why not now? It’s only getting better. My hunch is you’ll be glad you came along for the ride.

Visit realestateofbigsky.com for a complete list of Big Sky real estate opportunities, or call Ania Bulis at (406) 580-6852.

Moose Ridge Condominium located near Big Sky Town Center. PHOTO BY PEAK PHOTOGRAPHY

Silvertip development, Moonlight Basin’s newest residences. RENDERING BY REID SMITH ARCHITECTS

The view from Elkridge Homesite 15 overlooks the golf course at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club. PHOTO BY PEAK PHOTOGRAPHY
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Michelle Horning, Associate
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<th>Property Name</th>
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<th>Bedrooms</th>
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Building a new home is an exciting and sometimes stressful experience – being an active participant in the building process is important. Open communication with your builder and diligent decision-making will make the process of building your home flow smoothly, and ensure you end up with your “dream home.”

Here are a few things to keep in mind prior to beginning the building process:

**Lot due diligence**
Due diligence on a lot, if not already completed, includes a boundary survey, Geotechnical Investigation Report, and sometimes a septic soil test. In addition, verify what utility lines are present and how accessible they are. You should also review the architectural guidelines and covenants for the area where you’re building, to make sure you’re comfortable with any rules and regulations.

**Program of the home**
An important part of the building process is determining the overall program of the house. Establishing your team – including architect, builder, and interior designer – at the start of the project will be an important part of the process to see that your vision is well thought out, with professional guidance. Some important questions to ask yourself are: How will the home be used? Will it be a permanent or vacation residence? What specific features are desired and needed, such as a large laundry facility, walk-in pantry, or mudroom with lockers?

**Realistic budget**
Keeping a realistic budget in mind is very important, and with the guidance of the architect, builder, and interior design team you can trust that their experience will guide you through the budget process. We can also assist in any financing recommendations with institutions that have experience in our area.

**Sensitivity to surroundings**
Building a home in Montana requires sensitivity to the surrounding natural area and wildlife, since we all want to take care of the area that we so enjoy and have come here for.

**Hiring a builder**
Finding the right builder for your home should be an extensive process. Do some research and check references to make sure the builder you choose is reputable. Check the references of their subcontractors. How long has the builder been in business? How many homes do they build per year? Do they have references? What is their billing process?

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That sure is an odd way to introduce ourselves. Then again, we’ve already met. Prudential Montana Real Estate has become Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Montana Properties.
Big Sky Town Center
Bringing a heart to downtown Big Sky

It’s been 10 years since Big Sky Western Bank opened its doors, taking the distinct honor as the first business to open in Big Sky Town Center. With it began the implementation of the Simkins family’s vision to build a thriving, pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use commercial and residential development anchored by parks, trails and a thriving downtown.

In the last decade, Town Center has truly become an important central gathering place for the community, and has hosted events such as homecoming parades, running races, farmers markets, ice skating, concerts, the Professional Bull Riders event, and many more. These events and activities help give this mountain community a tangible heart.

“We appreciate all of our businesses, especially the early visionary business owners and entrepreneurs who took a leap of faith on our vision,” said Bill Simkins, a Bozeman native and member of Town Center’s master development team. “We feel that the best is yet to come.”

This vision has taken root as the Town Center continues to grow with purpose. The most notable recent growth has been the addition of Roxy’s Market, a 17,000-square-foot, full-service grocery store with a large variety of natural, organic, local, and specialty foods, as well as Big Sky’s largest selection of beer and wine.

Additionally, Bozeman Deaconess Health Services will open the Big Sky Medical Center this fall. The hospital will offer state-of-the-art emergency services 24 hours a day, and will significantly upgrade emergency medical care in Big Sky. This facility will feature a full-service emergency room, X-ray and screening capabilities, as well as full MRI services and a retail pharmacy. A primary care clinic and physical therapy services will also be on-site.

Both Roxy’s and the Medical Center are proving to be important additions to Big Sky, offering much-needed jobs and services to the growing community.

Town Center’s founding vision of “Where Big Sky Comes Together” has been realized over the past decade, and many aspects of the development have been designed with an active community at its center.

The development of Fire Pit Park and Center Stage has also been central to the growth of Town Center’s vision. These venues are now home to some of Big Sky’s most beloved events and activities. The Big Sky Farmers Market was one of Town Center’s first major events, and it’s now celebrating its seventh season in Fire Pit Park. Today, the market boasts more than 100 vendors who attract over 1,000 visitors per market, uniting residents in a shared vision for the community that they love and are helping to shape.

Center Stage has played an equal role in keeping Town Center’s downtown vibe alive and active. From the free Thursday night Music In The Mountains concert series and the annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival, to the ice rink in the winter, this venue has enhanced the intimacy and feel of this tight-knit community.

Commercial and residential development opportunities are available in the Big Sky Town Center, which can be reached at (406) 586-9629 or bigskytowncenter.com.
Have you ever visited someone’s home and felt like you could easily live there because you absolutely loved everything? We all have different emotions tied to the interior design style that most pleases us.

What made that home feel so comfortable to you? Was it the colors, furniture, finishes, layout, the artwork, or the view from the windows? These are all important details when planning your home design – many decisions need to be made, and it can be quite overwhelming.

Hiring a professional interior designer can simplify the process and ensure your home not only looks great, but functions well too. Lori Elliott is this interior designer.

Elliott is a professional member of the American Society of Interior Design, has her National Certification of Interior Design Qualification, and is a certified color consultant. Her interior design career spans 20-plus years in both residential and small-scale commercial projects. Elliott specializes in space planning, as well as color and finish selections. Working with architects, contractors, and property owners she enjoys both new and remodeling projects.

“Each project and client [is] so unique, it continues to make designing new and exciting,” Elliott says, adding that she enjoys helping clients work through their living or workspace to understand how it will function.

It’s important to address how lighting, colors, ceiling heights, textures, and more make a difference in how the space will feel when completed. Elliott addresses many details to ensure the environment feels and functions the way each client envisions their individual style.

Elliott opened Fercho Gallery & Elliott Design last year in Big Sky Town Center, with Montana artist Kira Fercho. Because art and interior design work hand in hand, Fercho and Elliott created a business plan to benefit their clients. Combining an environment of art and interior design offers clients the opportunity to discuss their project in a much broader scope, while visualizing colors, textures and finishes in an attractive space. With all the beautiful artwork in the gallery it’s important to note that 70 percent of Fercho’s work is commissioned, ensuring clients receive the appropriate color scheme and sized piece for their space.

A Montana native, Fercho is best known for her impressionistic Western oil paintings, including tipis and aspen trees. It’s easy to feel her spontaneity and the vibrant emotions that run through her and into the paint.

When you first meet Fercho, her talent and her storytelling will charm you. In the past five years, she’s become one of the youngest artists to impact the Western art scene. Because of her youth and skill, collectors and art lovers have taken notice.

Both Fercho and Elliott share an entrepreneurial drive and deep-rooted passion for the arts. The gallery and design-center space is not only a place of commerce, it’s also a celebration of Western art and contemporary furnishings.

Fercho Gallery & Elliott Design is located at 88 Owl Falls Road in Big Sky Town Center. Visit ferchoelliott.com or call (406) 551-3995 to learn more.
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Montana Living, Big Sky Real Estate
Ski-in, golf-out at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club

This Big Sky ski and golf community provides something very few, if any, private communities can boast: Land, homes and cabins that have ski trails – alpine and/or Nordic – in the front yard and fairways in the back.

As the Broker for Spanish Peaks Mountain Club – and previously Club at Spanish Peaks – Martha Johnson, Broker/Owner of Montana Living, Big Sky Real Estate has represented the club for almost a decade.

“There are many great ski and golf communities in the Rockies, but nowhere do they blend together as seamlessly as they do at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club in the heart of Big Sky,” Johnson said. “Our award-winning golf course, blue-ribbon trout stream and ‘Biggest Skiing in America’ combination is exceptional and makes it difficult to compare when looking at mountain real estate.”

The community itself sits on the southern boundary of Big Sky Resort and the eastern boundary of the Yellowstone Club. The centerpiece of Spanish Peaks is the Settlement, the area around the clubhouse that includes homes, chairlifts, as well as the first tee and 18th green. The clubhouse offers 32,000 square feet of community gathering space and also serves as the basecamp for golf and skiing.

“With an attractive mountain elevation for all ages, and activities that embrace all seasons, Spanish Peaks is wonderful whether you’re a winter or summer enthusiast,” Johnson said. “The perfect recipe for mountain real estate is to be ski in/out, on the golf course, and [having] a trout stream within walking distance to wet a line – all with stunning mountain views. Spanish Peaks checks all of these boxes.”

Furthermore, the community is only minutes from the Big Sky Town Center and all of its shops, restaurants and activities.

During the summer, the Spanish Peaks Mountain Club offers one of the finest golf courses in the Rocky Mountains. Designed by Tom Weiskopf, this course is a masterpiece of mountain golf design. Multiple elevated tee boxes offer breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding mountains, allowing all levels of golfers to enjoy a round. Many courses utilize less than 150 acres in the layout, but at Spanish Peaks more than 300 acres were developed to offer an exceptional golfing experience.

In the winter, ski and snowboard trails are perfectly groomed and offer phenomenal powder runs on your way to Big Sky Resort.

No matter the season, the Spanish Peaks Mountain Club is in a phenomenal location with exceptional amenities. The Montana Living, Big Sky Real Estate team knows the club and have personally spent thousands of hours researching this community, its bylaws, and its neighborhoods, and some are even members.

Visit bigskyrealestate.com to learn more.

The Spanish Peaks Mountain Club has a perfect Big Sky location, with access to world-class skiing and a Tom Weiskopf-designed golf course.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MONTANA LIVING, BIG SKY REAL ESTATE

A five-bedroom, 6.5-bath home conveniently located in the heart of Spanish Peak Mountain Club’s Settlement, with easy access to the golf course, member clubhouse, and ski trails.
Big Sky Real Estate Market Study

**Yellowstone Club**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rack Sales</th>
<th>Land Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$75,110</td>
<td>$1,156,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$82,440</td>
<td>$1,370,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$90,770</td>
<td>$1,568,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$78,500</td>
<td>$1,480,920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An amazing value

XM Anderly
3 bedrooms, 6 baths
6,521 SQ FT
$5,971,000

**Spanish Peaks Mountain Club**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rack Sales</th>
<th>Land Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$80,260</td>
<td>$1,230,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$87,590</td>
<td>$1,448,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$95,920</td>
<td>$1,663,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$83,150</td>
<td>$1,509,700</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Longest-pocked lot

Bunch Lot 257
View of the Gallatin Range
4.06 ACRES
$307,000

**Moonlight Basin**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Rack Sales</th>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$78,500</td>
<td>$1,053,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$85,830</td>
<td>$1,270,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$93,160</td>
<td>$1,488,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$80,490</td>
<td>$1,305,000</td>
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</table>

**Big Sky**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Land Sales</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$90,770</td>
<td>$1,649,920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$98,100</td>
<td>$1,864,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$105,430</td>
<td>$2,079,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$92,760</td>
<td>$1,794,800</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Largest pocked lot

Big Ridge Ranchette C15
Located in Gallatin Canyon
79 ACRES
$359,900

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Interested in buying a property?
We can help you find opportunities.

Interested in listing your current property?
We want to sell it.

L&K
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L & K Real Estate, LLC
Real Estate, Ranch, Crop, and Development

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[Image of a house and a landscape]