Independence Day
Your guide to southwest Montana events

Bullock in Big Sky talks open lands

Resort tax appropriations in
Board funds affordable housing

Missoula to Berlin:
UM documents Europe’s refugee crisis

Back 40:
Fireworks, behind the scenes
Inspired by Brandon Stanton’s “Humans of New York,” the Missoula to Berlin team created their own “Humans of Berlin” series. EBS will publish one photograph and caption from the series as well as one story from the project in each edition this summer. Read Alicia Leggett’s article on page 34.

"You’re only fluent in one language, and you can only speak three at all? If you count English, I speak five." This young refugee arrived in Germany with his family 10 months ago. He is pictured here in the workshop of Ruckenwind, an organization that builds bikes for refugees. PHOTO BY ALICIA LEGGETT

“Take the risk or lose the chance.”
- Anonymous

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39 Swift Bear
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39 Swift Bear Road is a stunning, one of a kind 5 bed 6 bath custom Durfeld log home in the Cascade Subdivision of Big Sky's Mountain Village! This exceptional ski in/ski out mountain home sits on 1.572 acres with a year round stream and is adjacent to open space. Main house contains 3 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. In addition there is a 1,500 square foot guest apartment with 2 bedrooms 2 baths plus a loft. Also has Tulikivi Finnish soap stone fireplace, gourmet chef’s kitchen, custom designed furnishings, outdoor hot tub and a beautifully landscaped yard!

180 Thomas Moran Drive - Big EZ Estates
Offered for $2,350,000
A custom built 4 bedroom/5 bath residence with over 5,000 square feet that encompasses the best that Big Sky has to offer. A handsome home located in a natural private setting that is still just a short drive to all the amenities offered at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club. (ski/social membership is available with this property). A luxurious Montana home that sits on 19 pristine acres located in the Big EZ Estates offering expansive mountain views that go on for miles.

Elkridge 33
Offered for $6,400,000
862 Elk Meadow Trail, an elegant 6 bed, 9 bath Spanish Peaks Mountain Club ski in/out country manor perfect for entertaining! Spectacular mountain views will be appreciated from every room of this majestic home. This residence is approximately 9,000 square feet and has 6 en suite bedrooms allowing comfort for both family and guests. Home theater, cigar room, chef’s kitchen, private office with hidden door to master bedroom, 3 laundry rooms, large outdoor hot tub, and a recirculating creek that circles the home are just some of the features of this one of a kind property! Club membership required.

Yellowstone Preserve
Offered for $39,900,000
Yellowstone Preserve is a collection of 9 homesites totalling 1580 acres with 2.5 miles of adjacent boundary with Yellowstone Club, 1.2 miles of the Southfork of the Gallatin River and over a mile of adjacent border with National Forest - all accessed off the private YC road. Recreate on your own property with private access into Gallatin National Forest. You can build an executive retreat or family compound and put the remaining densities into a conservation easement or sell each parcel individually - own it privately or pull together a consortium of your friends.

Anceney Ranch
Offered for $6,900,000
An original homestead in Big Sky and one of the finest sporting properties available in Montana, Anceney Ranch sits on 83 prime acres of forest, springs and meadows. With almost a mile of the legendary Gallatin River frontage and multiple spring fed trout ponds, this is the ideal place for the fishing enthusiast. The land is surrounded on three sides by the Gallatin National Forest. Anceney Ranch has 7 total bedrooms and 6 total baths with a main house, guest cabin and a caretakers’ home along with a horse barn. There aren’t enough adjectives to describe how incredible this property is!

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**Explore Big Sky**

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Famous bear cub killed by driver in national park**

**EBS STAFF**

On June 20, the National Park Service released a statement indicating that unknown drivers on the evening of June 19 had struck and killed two bears in Grand Teton National Park.

One bruin was an adult female black bear. The other was a grizzly bear cub that had become something of an icon among the bear-watching community in the park. Known as Snowy by local bear watchers, the cub was the only offspring born this year to a grizzly called 399, a 20-year-old sow that has been called the world’s most famous grizzly bear.

“These unfortunate incidents are an important reminder for all of us to slow down and be vigilant when we travel through the park,” said Grand Teton National Park Superintendent David Vela in the NPS statement. “Especially with the traffic levels that we are seeing during this busy season, it’s important to obey posted speed limits, maintain a safe following distance behind other vehicles, and be especially watchful around dawn and dusk when wildlife are more active.”

A total of 37 animals are known to have been struck by vehicles on park roadways in 2016, according to the statement. The collisions both occurred on U.S. Highway 89 in the park. Neither driver stopped or reported the incidents, the statement said.

**Custer Gallatin moves forward with forest plan revision**

**EBS STAFF**

The U.S. Forest Service is hosting three webinars as well as meetings in West Yellowstone and Bozeman to update the public on its forest plan revision and garner input that will guide changes to the plan.

The Custer Gallatin Forest Plan is a comprehensive overarching document that guides forest management, use and protection. It’s intended to provide broad direction, standards and guidelines for the Custer Gallatin National Forest.

The public is invited to attend a Tuesday, June 28 meeting from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the Pohat Commuity Center in West Yellowstone, and a Wednesday, June 29 meeting in Bozeman at Chief Joseph Middle School from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

The first webinar is scheduled for Thursday, June 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and there are two on Thursday, June 30—one from 12:30-3:30 p.m. and another from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

To connect by telephone, call (888) 855-9904 and use pass code: 2520873* for access. The URL to connect online is ust.adobeconnect.com/cffpr-500/. Mobile device users can connect through the Adobe Connect app.

**DEQ holds Belgrade public meeting on YC pond spill**

**EBS STAFF**

On June 16, at the request of Montana legislators in downstream communities, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality outlined factors leading to March’s Yellowstone Club wastewater pond spill. The DEQ also spoke about modifications to the pond design to address those issues and the spill’s environmental impacts.

Tom Livers, director of the Montana DEQ, said modifications to the pond include a monitoring system that will notify the Yellowstone Club when the water level drops rapidly and changes to the outlet pipe design to prevent ice from forming on it—one of the major factors leading to the pond failure.

Mike Supplee, DEQ water quality specialist, and Stephanie Lynn, education and communication coordinator with the Gallatin River Task Force, described the water sampling their respective organizations conducted. Ammonia standards were exceeded March 5 and turbidity levels “much higher than what you would see during a normal runoff” were documented from March 5-12, Supplee said.

Through late June, the Yellowstone Club will continue biweekly sampling of the affected watershed. After runoff concludes, they will reevaluate the frequency of their sampling program.

The Yellowstone Club has submitted a preliminary restoration plan to address the erosion that occurred during the spill. An enforcement action against the Yellowstone Club, which will likely include a fine, is in the works.

“It’s really too early to comment on an enforcement action, but we’ll be working on that,” Livers said, adding that the Montana DEQ is taking the lead on enforcement and that the Environmental Protection Agency would not be involved.

Questions asked by the approximately 20 people who attended the meeting at the Belgrade Community Library included whether or not the DEQ has access to the Yellowstone Club’s monitoring records—Livers said the DEQ would not routinely get them—and how we can keep this from happening again.”

**Chamber recognizes outstanding local businesses, entrepreneurs at annual dinner**

**EBS STAFF**

BIG SKY – A well-rounded mix of Big Sky locals were recognized for their contribution to the community at the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce’s annual dinner on June 15.

David O’Connor, chair of the chamber’s board of directors, presented awards to builder John Seelye, banker Marie Rapp, grocery store owners Jackie and Mark Robin, and Dr. Jeff Daniels.

John Seelye of Big Sky Build was recognized as Business Person of the Year. O’Connor commented on the loyalty Seelye demonstrates in his interactions with clients and employees alike.

Seelye quipped, “I actually heard when I came up here, ‘Don’t pull a Trump.’ So I’ll keep it short and sweet: Unexpected and appreciated. Thank you.”

While introducing Business of the Year, O’Connor said, “An owner-operated businesses like the Hungry Moose is the foundation of [any] community.”

Jackie Robin, who owns the Hungry Moose Market and Deli with her husband Mark, expressed her appreciation and love for Big Sky. Twenty-two years ago, the Robins started what is now the Hungry Moose Market and Deli as a roadside veggie stand.

Marie Rapp, a personal banker at American Bank, was recognized as Big Sky’s Outstanding Frontline Worker. “I love where I live, I love where I work,” Rapp said.

Dr. Jeff Daniels, who has been practicing medicine in Big Sky for more than 20 years, was recognized with the Chet Huntley Award Lifetime Achievement Award.

The nomination criteria for that award include “strength of character” and “a willingness to serve others with vision and purpose.” O’Connor noted Daniels’ commitment to patients and his reputation for compassion.

**Yellowstone visitor issued hefty fine for straying off boardwalk**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

A Chinese national was fined $1,000 and a $30 court processing fee for walking off the boardwalk in the Mammoth Hot Springs thermal area on June 14.

A visitor observed and reported that the individual walked on the terrace formations near Liberty Cap and collected thermal water. The visitor also reported seeing the individual break through the fragile travertine crust.

A park ranger took the witness’s statement, photos, and collected thermal water. The subsequent law enforcement investigation led to the violation.

The individual, who was visiting from China, was issued a citation for a federal violation and a mandatory processing fee for walking off the boardwalk in a thermal area.

A federal violation notice requiring a mandatory appearance in the Yellowstone Justice Center Court was issued for off-boardwalk travel in a thermal area.

Park employees call on all visitors to protect their park and protect themselves. Regulations to stay on designated trails and boardwalks in thermal areas exist for visitor safety and the safety of the exceptional park natural resources.

Without visitor cooperation, park natural wonders will continue to be damaged and more individuals may be injured or killed. It is a violation of federal regulations to collect any park resources.
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Big Sky Post Office - Help Wanted
The Big Sky Contract Post Office has two part time positions available. All applicants must be willing to work Saturdays. Please come to our front counter during our open hours for an application. Resumes and references are also appreciated.

Alliance Property Management – Now Hiring
Looking for a DYNAMIC Resident Manager Team for our Big Sky Property. Responsibilities include but not limited to Application processing, tenant relations, notices, maintenance, rent collection and snow and lawn care. Experience required. Resume and references to allisons@alliancepropmgmt.com

Puritan Cleaning – NOW HIRING

Moonlight Basin – Now Hiring
Moonlight Basin is now accepting applications for summer positions. Apply online for the opportunity to join our dynamic team, enjoy great pay, and work under the beauty of the Spanish Peaks Mountains! Hiring for - Line Cook, Steward, Banquet Server, Golf Maintenance Operator. Please visit www.moonlightbasin.com and click on the careers link to apply today.

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Last November, Gov. Bullock designated July as Montana Open Land Month. “Montanans take great pride in our outdoor heritage—a legacy we are entrusted with and must safeguard for future generations,” he wrote last December in a letter to the Montana Association of Land Trusts.

What’s your favorite piece of public land?

Ian Taylor, Big Sky

“Taylor Fork, mile marker eight is a cool [camping] spot. It’s pretty isolated, there’s no one else there.”

Zach Pytka, Bozeman

“The Bangtails are awesome for hunting and mountain biking [and] I think they’re in a little bit of tumult right now because there’s potentially land swaps going on. I heard that some of the Plum Creek Timber Co. land was going to go back into logging again ... It seems like more places are being closed off than opened up.”

Walter Ainsworth, Big Sky

“Ousel Falls Trail. [Big Sky Community Organization] did a great job on that trail and it was done locally. I think they do an outstanding job maintaining public land around here.”

Montana could see rival marijuana ballot issues this November

We want to remove the restrictions placed on the medical marijuana

We want to get rid of medical marijuana!

Montana citizens for I-182 collected 40,000 signatures to qualify for the ballot.

Safe Montana collected 30,000 signatures to qualify for the ballot.

Cycling for sensible drug policy collected 14,175 signatures and will not appear on the ballot.

Aw dude, we were really close like, only 10,000 to go. Then, tragically, we ran out of munchies and then it was like what’s the point.
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BIG SKY • MOONLIGHT BASIN • SPANISH PEAKS • YELLOWSTONE CLUB

MM 66 GALLATIN ROAD | $2,497,000
Double Bar X Ranch. Nestled in the heart of the Gallatin Valley, this expansive 50+ acre equestrian property with numerous paddocks, pastures and outbuildings offers unobstructed views of Lone Mountain and Gallatin Range. This is an opportunity to own a one of a kind private retreat. // ANNA LUDWIG | 406.307.1848

3225 CROW KING ROAD | $1,695,000
Beautifully situated in the heart of Big Sky, this expansive 7,000+ square foot residence captures extraordinary views of Lone Peak and Yellowstone. The open floor plan is accentuated by its many grand living spaces and includes five bedrooms and large outdoor decks. // ANIA BULIS | 406.580.6852

PORCUPINE PARK 39 & 40 | $745,000 - $895,000
Beautiful and private, these parcels are located in the Porcupine Park subdivision. Lots 39, at 23 acres plus an additional 22.58 acres of open space, and Lot 40, at 14.14 acres and accompanied by 847 acres of open space, give way to sweeping views to the south and east to the Gallatin Range and Porcupine Drainage. The parcels provide quiet seclusion and put you only minutes away from all of the wonderful activities the Big Sky area has to offer. // MICHAEL THOMAS | 406.307.1389

HOMESTEAD CHALETS 8 & 10 | $1,750,000
Experience Big Sky’s newest ski-in/ski-out neighborhood with stunning interiors, oversized windows, and ample outdoor living spaces. These 4-bedroom, free standing condominiums combine a mix of contemporary and rustic design. Located at the base of Lone Mountain, these chalets provide close proximity to the base area of Big Sky Resort as well as as accessible access to the White Otter chairlift. // SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316

3 BLACK MOON | $1,375,000
Beautiful ski-in/ski-out mountain home situated on a premier lot with stunning views and lots of trees providing privacy. This property would make an excellent vacation or rental home. 3,161 +/- square feet, four bedrooms plus bonus room, three bathrooms and newly remodeled kitchen completes this residence. Desirable open floor plan with vaulted ceiling and fireplace. Low association due. // JACKIE MILLER | 406.539.5003

SHOSHONE 1925 | $235,000
There are great views from this Spanish Peaks facing, one bedroom, two bath Shoshone condominium, just steps from the ski-lifts in the base area of the Big Sky Resort. This comfortable unit sleeps six and includes a gas fireplace and a full kitchen. Amenities include shared/sprawling and concierge services, spa services, valet parking, health club, restaurant and more. This is a great vacation property for you, your family and friends! // MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745

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Mutton Bustin’

Entertainment by Flint Rasmussen
BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – Twenty-six Cub Scouts between first and fourth grade are taking part in Big Sky’s first Boy Scouts of America troop. Herb Davis, Cub Master of Pack #3610, said the program is a natural fit for Big Sky.

“It mirrors what Big Sky is all about, as far as recreation and quality of life goes,” Davis said. “It’s great to see Big Sky have a program like this.”

The Cub Scouts on May 14 hosted their first big fundraiser, a gear sale held at Ophir Elementary School.

“We made a few hundred dollars net and got some exposure,” Davis said. “More importantly, there were some community members that were very generous in donating equipment like tents and packs—things you can always use as an organization. That in and of itself was a success.”

Boy Scouts work on outdoor proficiency—activities like knot-tying and knife skills as well as shooting, cooking and first aid. They also tackle experiments and projects that fall under the S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) umbrella.

During the program’s early months—the troop started in January—the Cub Scouts focused on soft skills that could be conducted indoors like teamwork and character building.

Now that the weather’s nicer, Davis is looking forward to spending more time in Montana’s wide-open spaces. “Just getting the boys outside is better for everybody,” Davis said, adding that they might go mountain biking one day and work on outdoor survival skills while hiking on the next outing.

“Our philosophy is to expose them to as many things as we can,” said Davis, who himself participated through Eagle Scouts, where he learned about climbing and mountaineering during a trans-Sierra backpacking trip.

Jennifer O’Connor, the den leader of the Webelo program and committee chairman for the troop, is working on establishing a co-ed Venturing Crew for ninth through 12th graders. Venturing crewmembers focus on high-adventure activities like sailing, hang-gliding, rafting, cave spelunking and mountaineering in addition to community service.

O’Connor encourages community members—male or female, with or without prior Boy Scout experience—to donate their time to the organization.

“We are short on volunteers and leaders and would love to find some community members interested in being leaders, committee members, guest speakers or to share their special skills,” O’Connor wrote in an email to EBS.

The Scouts held a cookout and flag ceremony at Buck’s T-4 Lodge on June 22. The older scouts cooked a Dutch oven meal, while the younger boys worked on sportsmanship and character fundamentals while playing challenge games outside.

The Rotary Club of Big Sky is Pack #3610’s charter organization.
BSSD Students of the Month: May

As part of its Student of the Month program, the Big Sky School District honored students in May for their commitment to being thinkers.

The students are honored during an assembly before teachers and fellow students. In addition, the k-4 honorees are rewarded with a burger from The Corral, and the chosen middle and high school students get pizza from Blue Moon Bakery.

Teachers typically choose two “students of the month” from kindergarten through fourth grades and two in middle and high school, recognizing them based on a different theme every month.

K-2 Students of the Month – Nick Hoadley and Zoe Luchini, kindergarten
Nick is a deep thinker and thinks about his actions before taking action. This quality allows him to make great choices and Nick also uses his thinking skills to solve simple problems around the classroom, and school, on his own. He is always thinking of others before himself.

Zoe is a true thinker and problem solver in our classroom. With her positive attitude and willingness to help her friends, she is someone we can count on to help other students solve problems and come up with solutions. Her fellow classmates know this about her and can often be found asking for her advice. When we’re learning something new Zoe is first to come up with an idea or a question—she is a real thinker.

3-4 Students of the Month – the entire fourth grade
What does it mean to be a thinker? In fourth grade, students are asked to make their thinking visible. What does this look like in our classroom? Students practice skills like changing their perspective; trying new things; taking baby steps; using appropriate resources; asking questions; reflecting; making observations; creating vivid images; activating their senses; and exploring creative predictions.

Students express themselves best when they voluntarily work to achieve their own results or the results of the group. These are then used to apply to the classroom, school, community or greater society. In fourth grade, we try to carry this out through investigating the oddities of the natural world while making connections to our prior experiences, and creating new critical thinking skills through building a sense of autonomy. I would like to appreciate my entire class of 2016 for demonstrating those thinking skills!

Ophir Middle School Student of the Month – Cora Ide, sixth grade
Cora is actively engaged in classroom discussions and challenges herself by taking rigorous classes. She uses critical thinking skills to complete her work in an organized and forward thinking manner. Cora regularly thinks outside the box and is always anxious to do her best in her assignments.

Lone Peak High School Student of the Month – Bella Butler, 11th grade
Bella approaches all of her work and most other things she does in life with great critical thinking skills. Whether it’s on the volleyball court, basketball court or facing a tough assignment, she views a challenge from different angles until she finds success. Bella sets high goals for herself, and successfully completed four advanced placement classes this year. Congratulations Bella!
Bullock throws weight behind public lands at Big Sky Chamber dinner

BY AMANDA EGGERT

BIG SKY - As the keynote speaker at the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce’s annual dinner, Montana Gov. Steve Bullock championed the intrinsic and economic benefits of open land and promoted initiatives to strengthen its access.

Approximately 220 people—just over half of the chamber’s largest membership to date—attended the dinner at Big Sky Resort’s Huntley Lodge, an event billed as “the most important meal in town.”

David O’Connor, chair of the chamber’s board of directors, spoke about the organization’s efforts on affordable housing and transportation before presenting this year’s annual awards (see news briefs on page 4) and introducing Bullock.

Bullock opened the keynote address with a quip about his absence. “I haven’t been here since I ripped Meg O’Leary out of your community,” Bullock said. “It’s nice to be back.”

O’Leary joined the governor’s staff as the Montana Department of Commerce director in 2013; prior to that she was Big Sky Resort’s director of sales and marketing.

The governor also had several statistics at the ready to demonstrate the state’s strong economic footing. He touted Montana’s 4.2 percent unemployment rate, which is approximately one point below the national average, and the size of Montana’s workforce, the largest in the state’s history.

Bullock also mentioned a just-released study from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, which named Montana the fifth fastest-growing economy in the nation.

After hitting upon some promising trends in education, like the highest high school graduation rate in the state’s history, Bullock turned his attention to the role outdoor recreation and public land play in the state’s economy.

Referring to a study from the Outdoor Industry Association, Bullock said the outdoor recreation industry in Montana is directly responsible for 64,000 jobs. “This has a $6 billion— with a b—impact on consumer spending each and every year,” Bullock said.

“We have almost 12 million visitors each and every year [and] they ain’t coming for our Walmarts.”

Although he said Montana has “incredible access laws,” Bullock is working to address a number of issues with his recently unveiled public lands and access initiative.

As part of this four-part plan, Bullock is creating an Office of Outdoor Recreation; hiring a public access specialist to open “locked gates where locked gates don’t belong”; pledging support for the Habitat Montana program, which uses fishing and licensing fees for conservation efforts; and soliciting information on access issues and potential solutions via the keepitpublic@mt.gov email address.

In a post-speech interview, Bullock answered questions about the sale and transfer of public lands, the challenge of striking a balance between access for all and resource protection, and the most expensive governor’s race in the state’s history.

Bullock said Montana’s public lands “make our state like no other place on earth.” They provide a clean, healthy environment, economic growth, recreation opportunities, solace and inspiration, he said.

“They’re the things that we want to hopefully pass on to the next generation, and the generation afterward,” Bullock said, adding that his kids’ recent excitement for fly fishing is a welcome development. “Seeing them fall in love time and time again with the same things you share with your families... it’s inspiring.”

Possible solutions include working with groups like the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to open pathways to currently inaccessible land managed by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and other state and federal agencies.

Some believe Montana stands to benefit from transferring federal land under the jurisdiction of agencies like the Forest Service to the state, but Bullock disagrees. “I think the transfer of the federal lands movement is more about selling them off than preserving them for generations to come,” he said.

“While I’ll always work at times with the federal government and fight against them to make sure they’re managing their lands as well as we do ours, the answer isn’t, from my perspective, to take the lands back,” Bullock said. “Ultimately, [after] one fire season, we’d be selling off these lands. The state wouldn’t be able to afford them.”

Access to public land has become a hot topic in Bullock’s bid against Republican nominee Greg Gianforte, which is on track to be the most expensive gubernatorial race in the state’s history.

“I’m not pleased with the fact that this will be the most expensive governor’s race in our state’s history,” Bullock said of the $3.8 million he and his opponent have spent on the race through the June 7 primary. “I’m also not pleased [that] my opponent’s been putting in about $100,000 a week of his own money into this.

“At the end of the day, though, from my perspective, what’s important is people realize that their vote really is their voice in the system and people get engaged in the overall process.”

In regard to heavy visitation in places like Yellowstone National Park, where a number of safety and resource degradation issues have recently garnered national attention, Bullock said possible solutions include exploring ways for people to get around the park more effectively and spreading out tourism and its impact.

“Ideally there are some things that we could do to help folks understand all the great things between Yellowstone and Glacier national parks,” Bullock said. “It’s a good problem to have.”

A future governor could eliminate the newly created Office of Outdoor Recreation, but Bullock said he hopes such measures transcend politics. “It’s a reflection of Montana values, and it’s not Democrat or Republican.”
Resort tax board trims requests, funds affordable housing project

BY TYLER ALLEN

BIG SKY - The Big Sky Resort Area District tax board on June 20 nipped and tucked applications for fiscal year 2016-2017 to appropriate over $6 million to area nonprofits and organizations.

The board finished the evening appropriating more than $800,000 to its sinking fund, which held $1.3 million last fiscal year.

The meeting in Warren Miller Performing Arts Center began with young representatives of Big Sky’s Girl Scouts troop thanking the resort tax board members for their work in the community and handed each a box of cookies.

The public comment period continued with a number of community members stepping to the podium and stating their support for various groups and projects.

David O’Connor, chair of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce board of directors, addressed “the marching order” given by the board in its June 6 applican Q-and-A, for groups to refine applications due to constrained funds this year. O’Connor said the $250,000 requested for the chamber’s gateway monument project could be considered first as a reduction in order to emphasize the organization’s support for affordable housing, transportation and tourism projects.

Big Sky Fire Department Chief William Farhat said $64,000 earmarked for a new command vehicle could be delayed, and reduced from the department’s $722,850 request.

A number of community members voiced their support for the Big Sky Community Housing Trust’s $2 million request, with BSSD superintendent Dustin Dupuy and the school district recently lost candidates for open teaching positions due to a lack of workforce housing.

Later in the evening resort tax board member Genna Herrmann proposed the board fund the housing trust $1.05 million with seven conditions placed on the appropriation before releasing the funds.

After lengthy questioning of HRDC Community Development Manager Brian Gayer and discussion of the conditions—including a guarantee the donated parcel of land will be used for affordable housing and pending final plat approval—the board voted 4-0 to approve the application. Board member Kevin Germain abstained as an employee of Lone Mountain Land Company, the developer of the proposed project.

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In its largest grant announcement to date, the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation awarded in May nearly $200,000 to 27 organizations in the greater Big Sky and Gallatin Valley areas. This is in addition to the $148,000 that was distributed by the foundation during its fall grant cycle.

YCCF grants are awarded semiannually following the May 1 and Nov. 1 grant application deadlines. The foundation has awarded more than $2.7 million since its inception in 2010.

Grant recipients reflect the foundation’s commitment to area arts and education, community service and environmental conservation. Examples of YCCF support include the Summer Conservatory Program at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, as well as the Big Sky Classical Music Festival put on annually by the Arts Council of Big Sky.

Veterans are also a priority for the foundation this year, and during this grant cycle YCCF supported Warriors and Quiet Waters and The Station Foundation. With bases in Gallatin Valley, both organizations provide unique experiences for returning veterans and their families as they reenter civilian life.

“Yellowstone Club leaders and members see themselves as part of this community and are giving generously to enhance the quality of life and preserve the natural environment that draws us all here,” said Sam Byrne, president of the YCCF board of directors. “As well, we value the people and want to help local communities become even better places to live, learn and work.”

The foundation accepts donations from Yellowstone Club members, guests, and the local community. It also stages two major annual fundraisers, the summer Weiskopf Club golf event and the March Ski and Song Benefit.

“As contributions grow, so does the number of applications we receive,” said Casey Schwartz, YCCF executive director. “We’ve gone from as few as 10 proposals from local nonprofits to more than 50 this spring.”

Founded in 2010 as a resource to nonprofit organizations in the greater Big Sky and Gallatin Valley areas, YCCF is governed by a board of directors comprised of Yellowstone Club members.

The Yellowstone Club Community Foundation is a Montana charitable public benefit corporation and is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to the foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
500 registered Montana voters weighed in on public lands, resource development and conservation in a May 2016 telephone poll conducted by the University of Montana.

In the past year, have you visited:
- A National Park: 60% Yes, 40% No
- Other Public Land: 79% Yes, 21% No

Do you support or oppose giving state government control over national public lands?
- Strongly Support: 19%
- Somewhat Support: 22%
- Somewhat Oppose: 18%
- Strongly Oppose: 38%

Do you support or oppose new mining operations in Paradise Valley:
- Strongly Support: 16%
- Somewhat Support: 18%
- Somewhat Oppose: 19%
- Strongly Oppose: 41%

Public Lands Impact %
- Opportunities for kids to explore nature: 92%
- Wildlife: 87%
- Tourism: 86%
- Protecting clean water: 85%
- Maintaining what’s best about Montana: 83%
- Protecting our culture and heritage: 83%

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Judge rules Montana legislator can remain in office

BY MATT VOLZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANAconda, mont. (AP) — A Montana legislator can stay in office after a jury found he took illegal corporate contributions from an anti-union organization during his 2010 primary election campaign, a judge ruled June 13.

Instead, Republican Rep. Art Wittich of Bozeman was ordered to pay a $68,232 fine, plus court costs, for a total between $80,000 and $90,000. District Judge Ray Dayton stressed that he is only imposing the will of the Legislature through its laws and that he must be cautious with any discretion he has in interpreting the statute.

Commissioner of Political Practices Jonathan Motl’s request for Wittich be ousted and not allowed to run again until he paid $144,900. Afterward, Motl said he was satisfied with the ruling and was “satisfied with the ruling and was not the subject of the campaign finance investigation, his lawyers said.

Wittich lost to challenger Bruce Grubbs after jurors found the lawmaker took $19,999 in illegal and unreported in-kind contributions from the National Right to Work Committee. His is one of nine Republican candidates Motl has brought court actions against for coordinating with the National Right to Work Committee. His is the only one who has gone to trial.

State judges ruled against two other Republican candidates last year when they did not show up to defend themselves. Two others have settled out of court.

Wittich served one term in the Senate seat he won in the 2010 election where he was found to have taken illegal contributions. He was the Senate majority leader in 2013 and was elected in 2014 to the House.

Wittich is one of nine Republican candidates Motl has brought court actions against for coordinating with the National Right to Work Committee. His is the only one who has gone to trial.

If approved, the measure would lift the three-patient limit put in place until voters can weigh in on Initiative-182. The association on June 14 filed a motion with Montana’s 1st Judicial District Court in Helena for a stay until the U.S. Supreme Court takes action on an appeal or until the November election, when a proposed initiative expanding access to medicinal marijuana could be decided by Montana voters. Backers say they have collected more than the 24,175 signatures needed to place the measure on the ballot, pending certification by elections officials.

In February, the state Supreme Court affirmed key provisions of a 2011 state law restricting medicinal marijuana providers from selling the drug to more than three patients. The court later agreed to delay enforcement until August, but soon after the cannabis association asked the federal high court to reverse the state court’s ruling.

In a petition filed in May with the nation’s high court, the association argues that the underpinnings of the state court’s February ruling mistakenly assumed that marijuana is universally illegal under federal law. The group says that rationale led the court to uphold provisions in the 2011 state law limiting the number of patients marijuana providers can serve.

The federal court has yet to announce whether it will hear the case. It could do so by the end of June, when the court ends its current term—or wait until it reconvenes in October.

If the high court decides against taking up the case, medicinal marijuana backers argue that it would be prudent to delay enforcement until voters can weigh in on Initiative-182.

If approved, the measure would lift the three-patient limit put in place by Senate Bill 423, establish licensing fees to pay for administering the program and include post-traumatic stress disorders among the conditions permissible for treatment using medicinal marijuana. It would also require providers to be licensed and their dispensaries to undergo yearly inspections.

Over the past two months, the effort deployed 20 full-time field staff and some 100 volunteers to collect signatures. More than 22,000 signatures are being processed by county elections officials, said Morgan Marks, the field director for the initiative. On June 16, an additional 17,000 signatures were submitted, Marks said.

Routinely, more signatures are submitted than the number required in case some names are disqualified.

The Attorney General’s Office said it would not oppose a stay until the U.S. Supreme Court acts on the appeal but would not agree to a delay until the November election.

Medical pot backers seek stay on Montana court decision

BY BOBBY CAINA CALVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) – The Montana Cannabis Industry Association is asking a district judge to further delay enforcement of stringent new medicinal marijuana restrictions that are to go into effect Aug. 31.

The association on June 14 filed a motion with Montana’s 1st Judicial District Court in Helena for a stay until the U.S. Supreme Court takes action on an appeal or until the November election, when a proposed initiative expanding access to medicinal marijuana could be decided by Montana voters. Backers say they have collected more than the 24,175 signatures needed to place the measure on the ballot, pending certification by elections officials.

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Wildlife migrations are the lungs of Greater Yellowstone

BY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Arthur Middleton had just ridden out of the Thorofare on horseback. We were in a coffee shop off Sheridan Avenue in Cody talking about wildlife migrations, specifically the ancient pathways of elk.

Middleton is among a group of field researchers pioneering new ways of thinking about how big game animals use landscapes. And many regard him as a scientific rock star.

In the Thorofare’s rugged backcountry, he collaborated with Joe Riis, a photographer on contract with the National Geographic Society, and best known for rigging remote cameras to capture the discrete movements of antelope along the “Path of the Pronghorn” corridor between Jackson Hole and the Upper Green River valley.

This summer, the threesome, along with noted writer-artist James Prosek, have a special exhibition on migrations appearing at the Draper Museum of Natural History, part of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody.

Riis’ portfolio confirmed that peripatetic elk in western Wyoming embark upon dramatic seasonal journeys between distant winter and summer habitats. Half a dozen different wapiti herd segments, Middleton says, spiral into mixing zones in the southern reaches of Yellowstone National Park come late spring, then fan out to summer ranges and reverse course when the snow flies.

Middleton, affiliated with the University of Wyoming and Yale University, says the revelations fill him with awe. “What we’re learning is pretty amazing,” he said. His reference wasn’t only to wapiti.

Thanks to groundbreaking research conducted by biologists Hall Sawyer, Kevin Monteith, Matt Kauffman and Steve Cain, new mule deer migration passageways, too, have been identified flowing in all directions in and out of Jackson Hole, and between the Red Desert and Hoback.

The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is renowned for cradling the headwaters of three major river systems—the Snake-Columbia, Yellowstone-Missouri-Mississippi, and Green-Colorado. Their natal tributaries function as liquid arteries carrying crucial lifeblood, nurturing the richest zones of biodiversity.

What water represents as a circulatory system, wildlife migrations serve metaphorically as Greater Yellowstone’s cardio-pulmonary system, “showing how it breathes,” Middleton said.

Elk herds moving between seasonal ranges are akin to lungs inhaling and exhaling, he explained. GPS collars, genetic tools, overflights and remote cameras have helped open the eyes of scientists to better understand precisely how, why, and where animals utilize landscapes. Like the radio telemetry twin brothers John and Frank Craighead brought to grizzly bear tracking half a century ago, migration study is one of the next great frontiers of conservation science.

Save for caribou in Alaska and wildebeest on the Serengeti Plain, most mega-wildlife migrations on Earth have withered or gone extinct because human development impedes them, says Joel Berger, the Craighead Chair of Wildlife Biology at the University of Montana and a global migration expert with the Wildlife Conservation Society.

“Losing wildlife migration is like destroying a human language,” Berger says.

Keeping Greater Yellowstone’s spectacular migrations viable represents a major challenge for government agencies, private property owners, scientists and conservationists aware of the role they play in the health of iconic species.

Kauffman, who is overseeing the Wyoming Migration Initiative at the University of Wyoming, is compiling a “migration atlas” that catalogs and maps the newly discovered routes.

I thought about the research of Middleton, Sawyer, Berger, Cain, Monteith and Kauffman while reading Bridger-Teton National Forest’s record of decision for the Alkali Creek elk feedground in the Gros Ventre valley, the sixth wapiti feedlot to get re-permitted on the national forest in the last decade.

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Then acting B-T supervisor Kathryn J. Conant wrote in her approval of Alkali Creek that the Forest Service is committed to re-establishing lost migratory instincts in Jackson Hole elk, which today are bogged in unnaturally high concentrations over lines of artificial feed.

Conant confessed: “Elk feeding sites have been strategically placed on and near national forest system lands with the intent of preventing elk migration through private lands that are located in historic big game winter range.”

Not only do feedgrounds fuel high infection rates of brucellosis and, likely, deadly chronic wasting disease in elk, experts say, but by design they stymie the very kind of wildlife migrations that have been hardwired into Greater Yellowstone elk and factor into their long-term survival. Conant’s decision is perplexing.

A few years ago, Tom Roffe, then national chief of wildlife health for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, told me that knowingly promulgating disease in big game herds is no different than tolerating the dumping of toxic pollution into rivers. Serious ecological consequences are inevitable.

Greater Yellowstone’s unrivaled wildlife is telling us what we need to know, but are we listening?

Columnist Todd Wilkinson has been writing about the environment for 30 years and is a correspondent to National Geographic online and other publications. He is author of “Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek” about famous Jackson Hole grizzly 399 (only available at mangelsen.com/grizzly) and featuring 150 stunning images by Jackson Hole nature photographer Thomas D. Mangleisen. Wilkinson wrote a profile about Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk for the summer 2016 edition of Mountain Outlaw magazine, now on newsstands.
MSU doctoral student publishes research on microbial biofilms and carbon cycling on glacial surfaces

BY SKIP ANDERSON
MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – Bacteria may play a larger role in the melting of glaciers than previously suspected, according to a paper published by a recent Montana State University doctoral graduate.

A portion of Heidi Smith’s dissertation was published this month in the journal Nature Biofilms and Microbiomes under the title: “Biofilms on Glacial Surfaces: Hot Spots for Biological Activity.” Smith was a student in the Center for Biofilm Engineering and graduated in May with a doctorate from MSU’s Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture.

Smith’s paper takes a close look at how glacial carbon—a food source for bacteria—moves out of the ice and into the environment. Smith examined how microbial communities organized in biofilms both consumed and emitted carbon, which may result in causing their host glacier to melt faster.

“Scientists are always trying to account for how much carbon is on the planet, how it might be utilized by biological systems, how it gets moved around in ecosystems and how it might end up in our atmosphere or oceans,” said Christine Foreman, Smith’s adviser and an associate professor of chemical and biological engineering in the MSU College of Engineering and the MSU Center for Biofilm Engineering.

“Heidi’s work is important because she’s among the first to get direct measurements of biofilms on glacier surfaces,” Foreman said. “Heidi has shown that biofilms transfer and cycle carbon and other nutrients in these systems, and are ecologically advantageous for the survival of organisms in these extreme environments.”

Understanding the quantities of carbon contained within glaciers, as well as how much carbon is being transferred to other ecosystems, could help scientists better model climate change.

The quality and quantity of carbon within glacial systems can affect the rate at which they melt, Smith said, through a chain reaction that begins when microorganisms consume glacial carbon.

These organisms form a biofilm—a group of microorganisms that adheres to a surface—such as on sediment particles, located on the surface of the glacier. The biofilm ultimately impedes the ice mass’s ability to reflect sunlight.

“The glacier’s ability to reflect sunlight is important because if it’s darkened by biology or the accumulation of sediment, it causes more energy to be absorbed rather than reflected, thus increasing surface melt,” she said. “In other words, this biological process is hastening the melting of glaciers.”

Scientists have long known that organic carbon trapped for thousands of years in glaciers serves as a food source for microorganisms and is liberated as the ice melts.

However, Smith’s research shows that the fixation of inorganic carbon by microorganisms produces organic carbon that is rapidly used by neighboring microorganisms. “Fixing” inorganic carbon in this way is playing an important role in the lifecycle of these microbial communities on glaciers as they melt.

“We’ve shown that organisms capable of ‘fixing’ inorganic carbon are transferring carbon to nearby bacterial community members,” she said.

“It can be hard to convey the importance of microbes because people can’t see them, but they’re the most abundant organisms on Earth,” she added. “In addition to the melt and altering the ecosystems of oceans through runoff from the glaciers, there’s also an increase in CO2, which contributes to the rising temperatures globally.”

While at MSU, Smith earned a competitive three-year NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship and was a student associate with the MSU IGERT program in Geobiological Systems Science.

She also attended the Woods Hole Microbial Diversity summer course in Woods Hole, Mass., participated in an internship with the Max Planck Institute in Germany, spent four seasons conducting research in Antarctica and has mentored several undergraduate students.

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CONVERTING nitrogen into a form that people and plants can use can exact a heavy toll on the Earth, but a team involving two Montana State University researchers has discovered a much more eco-friendly method—a finding that has implications for food and alternative fuel production.

The new method combines light, nanomaterials and a natural enzyme that turns nitrogen into ammonia. Explaining their finding in one of the world’s most prestigious scientific journals, MSU professor John Peters, graduate student Stephen Keable and their colleagues recently announced that sunlight or artificial light can break down nitrogen with a much smaller carbon footprint than a century-old process used by industry to produce the ammonia found in fertilizers.

The Haber-Bosch process greatly increased the world’s food supply, but it uses high temperatures, high pressure and fossil fuels to convert nitrogen into ammonia, according to the research team. A second process occurs naturally when bacteria in the soil remove nitrogen gas from the air and turn it into ammonia.

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The new discovery could have large implications, Peters said. Not only does it relate to food production, but it also has applications for alternative fuels. It provides fundamental knowledge about nitrogenase, the bacterial enzyme that converts nitrogen into ammonia.

Keable’s involvement in the newly published study built on work he did in Peters’ laboratory, first as a technician and then as a doctoral student who received a 2015 Graduate Student Research award from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Science.

The award allowed Keable to conduct research at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn., as part of an overall effort to better understand the mechanisms of enzymes important for producing bioenergy.

Peters, among other things, heads up the Energy Department-supported Biological Electron Transfer and Catalysis Energy Frontier Research Center based at MSU. He and 10 other principal investigators from six universities across the country and the National Renewable Energy Lab launched the center in 2014. It is one of 32 Energy Department centers in the United States.
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Common running injuries

BY DR. JEFF DANIELS
EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Now that the weather is cooperative and the days are long, I’ve been able to get back into my jogging groove. I hesitate to use the term “running,” since at my age, a fast walker could outpace me.

Many of my patients are runners and it’s estimated that 20-30 percent of Americans participate in some form of running exercise. Two of my patients just completed half-marathons—one in Jackson, Wyo., the other in West Yellowstone—and both did very well in their age groups.

Some of us were made to be runners, but many others don’t have the knees or the stamina for a daily jog or a long distance run. There are many ways that running can take a toll on the body.

The average age of participants in road races is 40 years old and when I talk to people who have tried running but had to quit, it usually revolves around problems with the knee joint. For many people over 40, this involves osteoarthritis of the knee joint, due to wear and tear of the menisci and articular cartilage deep inside the joint.

But the most common cause of runner knee pain is patellofemoral pain syndrome, or PFPS. It results from the cartilage-covered back of the kneecap (patella) rubbing against the cartilage-covered notch at the end of the femur.

The pain starts insidiously around and under the patella, and examination can elicit a grinding feeling and pain when the patella is compressed as the knee is extended. Activity modification, strengthening of the quads and hamstrings, using a brace, and taping the patella are used to alleviate this condition.

The iliotibial band syndrome results in pain on the outside of the knee, which is tender when pressed, and is often associated with downhill running. It can take up to six weeks, but activity modification, stretching and hip strengthening are all utilized to get back to being pain free.

Stress fractures are estimated to occur in up to 15 percent of runners, and 50 percent of these occur in the lower leg bone (tibia). In the foot, the thick tarsal bones account for 25 percent of all stress fractures. Even the pelvis and femurs of runners can be affected by these small cracks in bone due to overuse.

Stress fractures in certain bones are more likely to be complicated by poor healing, nonunion of the bone fragments, or even avascular necrosis—the death of bone tissue due to a lack of blood supply. Luckily, tibial stress fractures are a low risk for complications.

X-rays are not very reliable for finding stress fractures—it’s estimated that they pick up only one in six of these injuries. An MRI has the best chance of finding a stress fracture, or disproving that one exists. Limited weight bearing helps most of these heal, but occasionally surgery is necessary.

The term “shin splints” refers to a stress reaction of the tibial bone, and occurs in up to 20 percent of runners. Other leg problems that occur in runners include plantar fasciitis, Achilles tendinosis, hamstring strain, and compartment syndrome.

After reading this article you might want to throw away your running shoes or never get into this great exercise in the first place. However, I believe the musculoskeletal, cardiac, and psychological benefits far outweigh the hazards.

And it really is a great feeling when you cross the finish line!

Dr. Jeff Daniels has been practicing medicine in Big Sky since 1994, when he and his family moved here from New York City. A unique program he implements has attracted more than 700 medical students and young doctors to train with the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.
The busy ski season is behind us. Summertime, with all its activity, is still to come. It’s the perfect time of year to see a doctor at Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center for a wellness visit. If you’re a Medicare patient, an annual wellness and preventive care visit is included in your plan. But whatever your situation, it’s a good idea to establish a primary care relationship with one of our doctors and see them for some basic tests and screenings and talk about healthy living.

Spring into good health—call Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center today and arrange a visit.

(406) 995-6995 | bozemanhealth.org | 334 Town Center Avenue, Big Sky
Imagine if the U.S. ranked as the No. 1 healthiest country in the world by 2036, one generation from now.

In 2014, despite having the most expensive health care system in the world, the U.S. ranked last in health outcomes among 11 industrialized countries studied by the Commonwealth Fund. The report ranked each country on measures of health system quality, efficiency, access to care, equity, and healthy lives of its citizens.

You’re an important part of getting us to No. 1, because there is tremendous power in each of us to individually and collectively improve the nation’s health. By changing lifestyle habits that are causing premature aging, inflammation, weight creep, and chronic diseases like diabetes and heart disease, we can turn this ailing ship around.

If you’re unsure how to get started, or hesitant due to failed attempts, read on. Perhaps most importantly, we must shift from a fixed mindset to one of growth. Know that change is possible and that you can do it.

Be in it for the long game. Quick fixes don’t work and often leave us worse off than when we started. Create long-term goals for two to five years from now and then set short-term goals—perhaps weekly or monthly—to keep you inspired and engaged along the way.

Get real. If you have several habits that need changing and you feel overwhelmed, start with the smallest, most achievable one first. From here, you can build on your success. If you want to cut back on drinking sweetened drinks and/or alcohol, pack healthy lunches, start exercising regularly and meditate everyday, begin with the one habit change that is easiest to implement right now.

Note positive associations and negative consequences. For example, if you choose to cut back on drinking sweetened drinks and/or alcohol, you might notice positive associations you’ve attached to them, including socializing, summertime or relaxation.

In this frame of mind, cutting back doesn’t make much sense—who wants to give up pleasure? In the heat of the moment, these positive associations can easily derail us and that’s why the next step is critical. Take a real look at the hidden dangers of sweetened drinks or alcohol. Chances are they’re causing belly bloat, brain fog, increased cravings and joint pain.

Keep your eye on the prize. If getting into a regular workout routine feels like a chore but you know that being sedentary is causing an ever-expanding waistline and listlessness, you’re in a kind of mental limbo. By shifting your attention to the benefits of exercise like more energy, increased sex drive and better muscle tone, you’re much more likely to stay motivated.

Recognize obvious and hidden triggers. Obvious triggers might be habits like when it’s lunchtime, you drink iced tea or when it’s happy hour you have a cocktail. What are some healthier choices you can make instead?

Be on the lookout for hidden triggers. An example might be that when you’re truly hungry you reach for the empty calories of a chai latte or beer instead of real food.

Get clear. Statements like “cutting back” or “doing more” are too vague. If you want to exercise more, what does that mean exactly? Do you want to walk 15 minutes every day no matter what? What time of day will you do this? Do you need new shoes or bear spray?

Have an accountability partner and tell them your plan. Ask them to encourage you along the way and offer support when you have a setback—we’re only human after all.

Americans are among the most industrious and hardest-working people in the world. If anyone can turn an ailing ship around, it’s us. You’ve got the power!

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach and Consultant, a public speaker and health activist. Contact her at jackie@corehealthmt.com.
As many of you know, golf is a very difficult game. I’ve been an athlete my entire life and I can assure you that no other sport requires as much concentration, practice, patience, and humility that golf does.

The golf swing is driven by mechanics and is very similar to an engine in that way. In order for you to develop an efficient swing all your mechanics must be sound and working together at the same time. An efficient swing is one that can repeat itself, especially under pressure.

The rotation of your torso, swinging of the hands and arms, and transferring of your weight must all happen at the same time so the “engine” doesn’t “miss” and works in the most efficient manner.

This is all easier said than done so the next time you go to play or practice, I want you to simplify your swing process by doing the following:

1. When addressing the ball, stick your butt out and don’t bend from the knees.

2. During the back swing simply turn your back to the target while reaching for the sky.

3. From the top of your backswing unwind your body towards the target, swinging through impact until you finish in a balanced position with your chest facing the target, club up by your head, and back heel off the ground.

By doing these three simple things you can simplify the golf swing to a point where your swing will be able to repeat itself more often, giving you efficiency in your game.

Mark Wehrman is the PGA Head Professional at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course.
Draymond Green’s foul play

BY BRANDON NILES
ESS SPORTS COLUMNIST

I really wanted to root for the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals this year. I like to see smaller market teams do well, and the dynamic backcourt duo of MVP Steph Curry and Klay Thompson make the Warriors an awfully fun team to watch.

In a league where teams from Boston, Los Angeles and Miami have been dominant over the past few decades, to see a team like Golden State win the title is encouraging for fans in other small markets.

Then Draymond Green happened.

The Warriors’ Draymond Green, the forty all-purpose forward who has been under fire throughout the playoffs, was assessed a flagrant foul after Game 4 of the Finals due to what the league called a “retaliatory swipe of his hand to the groin” of Cavaliers star forward LeBron James. The two had a heated exchange following the play, with James being issued a technical foul during the game.

Green was suspended for Game 5 as a result. Golden State fans were outraged, members of the media, including announcer Jeff Van Gundy, expressed disagreement with the suspension, and I officially became a temporary Cleveland Cavaliers fan as a result.

First, let’s get this straight. Draymond Green was suspended because this was his fourth flagrant foul of the postseason. The NBA has an established cumulative foul system that triggers an automatic one game suspension after four infractions.

This wasn’t a rule recently set up to doom the Warriors or hurt Draymond Green. Also, LeBron James had nothing to do with this established rule, despite being on the floor with James being hit in the groin, or act indignant about the suspension is dishonest. The NBA showed that no one is above the rules, and I applaud them for it.

To complain about the treatment of Draymond Green, criticize LeBron James for his role in pushing the limits throughout the playoffs—and season for that matter—is ridiculous.

The reaction from fans and media alike was baffling. It’s true that Green, arguably the third best player on the Warriors, is an invaluable member of the team and that his absence affected Game 5. However, to let the importance of the game gloss over the fact that Green has been pushing the limits throughout the playoffs—and season for that matter—is ridiculous.

During the Western Conference Finals against the Oklahoma City Thunder, Green hit opposing center Steven Adams in the groin on two separate occasions. While one could argue that these groin shots have all been unintentional, most observers would agree that each seemed egregious.

At the very least he has demonstrated a pattern of behavior, with three groin shots in the span of two playoffs series, and should be encouraged through disciplinary action to adjust his game accordingly.

The way the fans reacted made me hope their team would lose—and they did, in seven games. I still like Curry and Thompson. I still think they’re an awful lot of fun to watch.

But there seems to be a lack of understanding in sports fandom that duality is OK. It’s OK to acknowledge the negative aspects of your favorite player, while also rooting for them. It’s OK to think that Draymond Green did something wrong by targeting opposing players in the groin, while also liking what he brings to your favorite team.

To make excuses for this type of behavior is bad for sports in general. There’s a reason the NBA has a cumulative foul system, and that is to deter players from this type of behavior.

To complain about the treatment of Draymond Green, criticize LeBron James for being hit in the groin, or act indignant about the suspension is dishonest. The NBA showed that no one is above the rules, and I applaud them for it.

Brandon Niles is a longtime fan of football and scotch, and has been writing about sports in general. There’s a reason the NBA has a cumulative foul system, and that is to deter players from this type of behavior.

Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager

Fly fishing dreams are made this time of year. Rivers are dropping, bugs are hatching and dry fly fishing season is in full swing.

Fishing on the Gallatin is about as good as it gets this time of year. We’ll see great hatches of caddis, salmonflies and golden stones. A good dry fly combination to use is a Chubby Chernobyl with a Pat’s Rubberlegs dropped off about 2-4’ below. But be willing to match the hatch throughout the day. Dry fly fishing will fluctuate throughout the day, so if you like to stay busy catching it may be a good idea to switch to a nymph rig when fish aren’t readily fishing on the surface.

And the Yellowstone River is finally back in play! Same general bugs as the Madison and Gallatin.

Many clients book this time of year just to float the Upper Madison in the hopes that this year they will hit the salmonfly hatch just right. Could be you! But there are tons of other bugs that are very important like caddis, Yellow Sallies, goldenstones and more.

The Lower Madison has been a great call. One downside is the number of recreational floaters, so getting an early start or fishing below Black’s Ford are both good calls to avoid the crowds. Caddis, Yellow Sallies, PMDs and Green Drakes are some of the bugs you might see. Dry fly fishing will be limited to cloudier days and early and late in the day when the sun is low in the horizon.

Many more places to fish right now too. Lots of great opportunities like Yellowstone National Park, high mountain lakes and tributaries of all of our bigger rivers.

So many rivers, so little time. Hope you get to spend some quality time with your fly rods soon.

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Pat Stroud; Montana licensed outfitter #7878
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PHOTO BY MATTHEW MILLMAN

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MASSAGE
ACUPUNCTURE

CHIROPRACTIC
AYURVEDA
THAI MASSAGE

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

9:00-9:45 DanceX Check the website for special classes and workshops!
7:00-7:45am DanceX
9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga
11:00-Noon Community Yoga (town center lawn weather permitting)
6:30-7:45pm Yin Yoga

7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga
8:15-9:15am Core Focused Pilates
9:30-10:45am All Levels Yoga
6:30-7:45pm All Levels Yoga

6:30-8:00pm PiYo
9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga
11:00-12:00 Sukhmani Vayama- Fine Tune Your Circuity
1:30-3:15 Kids Yoga (through summer break)

7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga
8:15-9:15am Roll it out Pilates
9:30-10:45am All Levels Yoga

7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga
8:15-9:15am Roll it out Pilates

7:00-8:00am PiYo
9:00-10:15am Level II Yoga
11:00-12:00 Gentle/Restorative Yoga

7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga
8:15-9:15am Roll it out Pilates
9:30-10:45am All Levels Yoga

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

#### Big Sky Softball League

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field #1</th>
<th>Teams</th>
<th>Ump.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, June 27</td>
<td>6:00pm&lt;br&gt;7:15pm</td>
<td>1 vs. 2&lt;br&gt;1 vs. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 28</td>
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<td>7 vs. 8&lt;br&gt;7 vs. 9</td>
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<td>Monday, July 11</td>
<td>6:00pm&lt;br&gt;7:15pm</td>
<td>4 vs. 3&lt;br&gt;5 vs. 3</td>
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### Field #2

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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 11</td>
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### Standings: Wins-Losses

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<th>TEAMS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Riverhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Club</td>
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<td>Country Market</td>
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<td>Cab Lizards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michaelangelo’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yeti Dogs</td>
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<td>Blue Moons</td>
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<td>The Cave</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montucky Moonshiners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lone Mountain Land Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Bear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillbilly Huckers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jarvis</td>
<td>2-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIA/Broken Spoke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milkie’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Sky Resort</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Standings as of June 17

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#### SUMMER MUSIC LINEUP

- **June 22, 5-8pm:** Fire Pit Park in Town Center
- **Every Wednesday, Sept. 28:** Live Music Local Produce Crafts Cuisine

**For info:** 406-570-6579 or bigskyfarmersmarket.com

---

**Big Sky Softball League**

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9.602 Acres | $8.9M
This ranch enjoys exceptional agricultural opportunities, 4 miles of trophy fishing on the Yellowstone River.

**Bozeman, MT**
442 Acres | $2.95M
Situated on ¾ mile of Bull Run Creek, this ranch offers excellent fly fishing and pleasant hunting.

**Battle Ridge Mountain Ranch**

With abundant wildlife and one mile of Cache Creek, this property makes the perfect sporting retreat.

**Stevensville, MT**
13.51 Acres | $1.415M
This property enjoys private fishing on the Bitterroot River and a 5,100-sq ft custom home.

**Bozeman, MT**
361 Acres | $2.275M

**Falls Creek Acreage**

An excellent big game hunting property, this ranch offers great views and agricultural offerings near the Shields River.

**Livingston, MT**
440 Acres | $1.475M

**Silverado Trail**

5 Bd, 6 ba, 6,663± sf., on 4.7± wooded acres, views of the Spanish Peaks and Lone Mountain. Attention to detail with carved mantels and wood floors, 6 fireplaces, 3 car heated garage.

**Contact Hammond Property Management**
(406) 580-7220 or email scott@hpmmontana.com to schedule a walkthrough

**SHOP SPACE AVAILABLE**
Located in the canyon area of Big Sky, MT

- Approx. 1200 sq. ft. with three office spaces and storage
- Two-bay spaces with separate garage doors
- Includes industrial air compressor, hot and cold water, and full-service bathroom

**SILVERADO TRAIL**

216± acres, heavily forested with meadows, approx. ¾ mile of Northfork flows through. Borders public land, great cross country ski property.

**FOURPOINT RD, ANTLER RIDGE LOT**

.35± acre ridge lot, great building site, views of Lone Mtn, Yellow Mtn, and canyon. One of the first lots sold when initially offered, rolling hillside topography with community W/S.

**SUMMIT VIEW PH 3, LOT 5**
One of 5 lots in private, gated, Summit View Phase III. This 4.5± acre lot is in a premier location in Big Sky Mountain Village and has views toward Lone Mtn and Beehive Basin.

**NORTHFORK ROAD**

260± acres, heavily forested with meadows, approx. ¾ mile of Northfork flows through. Borders public land, great cross country ski property.

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July 30, 2016

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Whether enjoying the vast recreational opportunities or utilizing the productive agricultural resources, this 2,669±-acre ranch offers many investment and lifestyle possibilities. Offered in tracts, combinations, or in its entirety.

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LiveWaterProperties.com
Yellowstone Ranch Preserve | West Yellowstone | $19.5M | 753 acres + Whiskey Jug Cabin with private marina on Hebgen Lake

Homestead at the Beacon | Butte, MT | $1.65M | Surrounded by mountain views with incredible elk hunting.
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River Runs Through It | Yellowstone Club | $13M
Largest ski-in, ski-out residence at Yellowstone Club

214 W. Pine Cone Terrace | Big Sky Meadow | $1.395M
Mountain modern style in a private location

NEW LISTING  Lot 175 Travertine Rd. | Yellowstone Club | $2.15M
Lowest priced lot at Yellowstone Club with spectacular views

Lot 148 Wilderness Ridge Dr. | Spanish Peaks Mountain Club | $545K
Biggest views in the Spanish Peaks Ranches neighborhood

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BIG SKY, MONTANA PROPERTIES

Diamond Bar 7, Big Timber
Productive cattle ranch, with two streams, 5 ponds and reservoirs, corrals, 3 bd, 3 ba owner’s residence and 2 bd, 1 ba second home. Over 400± acres irrigated, flood and pivot. Located in the foothills of the Crazy Mtns.. Balance between production & recreation. Privacy & good access.

$3,995,000 | #199287

Ellridge Creek Overlook, Livingston
54± acre legacy property in a secluded mountain setting between Bozeman & Livingston. Located with elk, it has 3 springs & over 7 miles of roads leading through stands of mature evergreens, 12 approved building sites & electronic privacy gates; ideal for a family compound or retreat.

$3,200,000 | #212896

MONTANA RANCH PROPERTIES

Bridger Canyon Spur Rd., Bozeman
Incredible craftsmanship in this custom home. 5 fireplaces, wine room, home theatre, custom bar, large dining area opening onto expansive deck, exercise room, walls open to outside in several areas. Guest suite, craft area and bunk room, heated 3 car garage. Pond, & more.

$7,800,000 | #207620

April Creek, Ennis
Magnificent Idaho Ranch, just over 200± acres of backcountry mountain property. 8± miles of trail, horse stables, and beautiful views of the Crazy Mountains.

$6,800,000 | #205048

Willow Creek Ranch, Augusta
Just out of Augusta, this working ranch offers some of the best views possible of the Rocky Mountain Front. Currently about 240 of 80± deeded acres are flood irrigated. It also has a state lease of 75± acres, a 3 bd, 2 ba ranch house and a good set of working improvements.

$1,595,000 | #212902

Cottonwood Camp, Yellowstone River
Yellowstone River frontage (1.3± miles), this 228± acre property is a sportsman’s dream. Mature cottonwoods and undergrowth, waterfowl, upland birds and big game. Building sites, privacy, public land across the river and 93± acres of irrigated farm ground.

$1,450,000 | #213121

Fourpoint Road, Antler Ridge Lot 149
The ridge lot has views of Lone Mountain, Yellowstone River and even looking east toward Ramshorn and the Gallatin Canyon. As a ridge lot, it is very sunny and has a great building site.

$240,000 | #140501

Tbd Big Buck Road
Located toward the west side of Beaver Creek West, this lot has a well with a building site near a mature forest canopy. Outstanding views Lone Peak and Spanish Peaks. Due to the location and topography of the property it will be easy to maintain views as the existing forest matures.

$475,000 | #209474

O’Dell Creek, Lima
Recreational property in the heart of the Centennial Valley – one of the most remote and beautiful high mountain valleys in the country. 3 bd, 3 ba log home, sited in a grove of mature aspens, sits on a knoll above O’Dell Creek. 187± deeded acres surrounded by public land on three sides.

$1,995,000 | #210374

Skycrest Condo
Ground level with walkout to lawn, great for pet owners, excellent views of Lone Mountains! This unit is furnished and is virtually new. Underground parking, additional storage in the garage area. Hot tub room, fireplace, sitting area, large sunny master bedroom.

$360,000 | #212326

Timberloft Road
120± alpine meadow overlooking Big Sky. Views of the resort and Lone Mountain. 3 selected home sites each on 4± acre parcels. Evergreens, rolling hills and lush grasses. A spring sends water through the eastern portion of the property. End of the road privacy with utilities.

$2,750,000 | #208466

Timberloft Drive
20± forested acres with views of Lone Mountain. Nice blend of alpine meadows with secluded forested building sites. Extremely private, end of the road property, access via private electronically gated road. Additional acreage available, up to 140 more acres.

$425,000 | #206527

North Fork Preserve
216± acre forested property in Big Sky. The North Fork flows through for 9±± mile. End of the road privacy, heavily wooded with meadows and views, borders public land. Access by paved road almost to the property. Great cross country ski property, several springs.

$1,800,000 | #209444

Tbd Big Buck Road
Located toward the west side of Beaver Creek West, this lot has a well with a building site near a mature forest canopy. Outstanding views Lone Peak and Spanish Peaks. Due to the location and topography of the property it will be easy to maintain views as the existing forest matures.

$475,000 | #209474

Fourpoint Road, Antler Ridge Lot 149
The ridge lot has views of Lone Mountain, Yellow Mountain and even looking east toward Ramshorn and the Gallatin Canyon. As a ridge lot, it is very sunny and has a great building site.

$240,000 | #140501

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AMUSE-BOUCHE / Amuse-bouche refers to an appetizer, and by French translation means, “to entertain the mouth.” It offers a glimpse into what you should expect from a meal. Also it’s free, compliments of the chef.

The restaurant kitchen: Peril lurks behind every stove

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

A restaurant kitchen can be responsible for some of the most pristine, sublime, delicious food you will ever eat. But it can also be responsible for some of the worst accidents and injuries you could ever imagine.

There are some extremely dangerous injuries to workers on an oil rig; steel workers toil under tremendous heat, not to mention handling dangerously hot liquids; cabinet makers and wood workers operate around sharp blades and saws. But a cook or a chef? We face each of those perils every day.

As a restaurant veteran of many years, I have both seen and experienced some remarkable and rather uncomfortable injuries.

I remember my third day in what became a fruitful, 11-year stint at Forepaugh’s Restaurant in St. Paul, Minn. A commercial box of aluminum foil can weigh 10 pounds, and as I pulled foil from the roll, the box slid off the counter.

Knowing that if the edge of the aluminum roll gets dented it will never again tear off quite right, I instinctively reached down to intercept it. Naturally the cutting edge lodged in my finger with the weight of the roll, and I instantly began bleeding heavily. In typical old French-chef fashion, and despite my serious cut, the chef simply looked at my finger, shook his head and walked away void of sympathy.

Common sense would dictate that a protective guard on any piece of equipment or tool is probably there for a reason. A coworker of mine many years ago (and not for very long for obvious reasons), decided it was a good idea to use his sharpening steel without the guard to sharpen his largest knife.

It didn’t take long to swipe the blade into his finger, causing a fairly serious laceration. The rest of us in the kitchen looked at each other without saying a word, yet held a conversation merely with our expressions of total shock that an individual could do something so, well, stupid. Imagine the visual exchange that took place between us when he did it again a few days later.

On the more obscure side of kitchen accidents, I once had an old whisk that had a small amount of moisture inside the handle. Unknowingly, I had placed the handle over a hot stove and when the water inside the handle got hot, it caused the end of the whisk to explode and shoot directly into my temple.

Knowing that if the edge of the aluminum roll gets dented it will never again tear off quite right, I instinctively reached down to intercept it. Naturally the cutting edge lodged in my finger with the weight of the roll, and I instantly began bleeding heavily. In typical old French-chef fashion, and despite my serious cut, the chef simply looked at my finger, shook his head and walked away void of sympathy.

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The kitchen was absolutely humming with service, yet we all stopped for what seemed like eternity and just looked at each other. No one knew what to say. But I was reminded of it the rest of the night every time I wiped from my temple a drop of blood mixed with sweat.

One time, I had a piping hot potato and dill gratin flip off my spatula, and just as my coworker Carl was rushing by me in the throes of a busy night, the potato landed in the back of his clog so as he stepped forward and down, he stepped right into it. He jumped in as much shock at the obscurity of such an occurrence as he did from the pain of having a hot potato stuck to the bottom of his sock.

Luckily he sustained no serious injury. The event lightened a tense mood the rest of the night and well into beers after work.

There are many more stories, some far too graphic to tell. But suffice it to say I have plenty, as does every seasoned cook or chef. Join me for a beer sometime and I may share some of them. It’s amazing any of us come out of a lifetime in the kitchen all in one piece.

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.
Mariya Alesh swung her leg over her new bike for the first time and started pedaling, shaky at first, then more confident. She pulled the brakes, a huge smile spreading across her face.

“I learned to ride a bike as a child, but I’ve never owned one,” she said, excitedly.

Alesh, 20, arrived in Germany from Syria with her new husband in 2015. From a friend, she heard about Rückenwind, an organization in Berlin that collects bikes and bike parts to give to refugees. She signed up for the program and waited two months. This summer, she finally had the chance to build herself a bike and take off.

Rückenwind is just one of many initiatives that sprung up in the German capital in response to the greatest migration of people in Europe since World War II. Its volunteers work with refugees to help them choose and repair bikes. The organization has only one paid employee; everyone else provides their time and services for free.

The project is the brainchild of Lukas Heidenreich, a young Berliner who describes himself as chronically overinvolved. A civil engineering student by day, he is also a booking agent for DJs in Berlin, unless he’s backpacking in Patagonia. He’s the type of person who sees an opportunity and takes action.

“It’s really hard for me to not get carried away,” he said.

Back in the winter of 2014, Heidenreich was one of the first Berliners to notice that the number of people seeking refuge in his city was rising dramatically. Online, he found a list of items that concerned German citizens might be able to provide to the newcomers.

It was drawn up by Moabit Hilft, a local nonprofit that later became instrumental in caring for thousands of people arriving in the German capital in the summer of 2015. The list included items like clothes, shoes, food and bicycles.

For refugees aching to start over in Germany, bikes have the potential to boost mobility—especially for those who take a proactive approach to their future. Rather than having to rely on public transportation, they can cycle to their asylum-related interviews and appointments. They are also more flexible when it comes to attending German classes in places where mass transit is less frequent, especially in the evenings.

Alesh, who lives in a refugee shelter just outside Berlin, takes German lessons at Fachhochschule Potsdam, a college of applied sciences in a smaller city in the state of Brandenburg. Two trams run to the school, but they are often overcrowded, and she finds them nearly inaccessible during rush hour. She’s also wary of unscheduled delays.

“Sometimes you just have to be somewhere on time,” she said.

When Heidenreich saw that refugees needed bikes, he rallied his six best friends and together they started their initiative, which they named after the German term for tailwind. Rather than just handing out old bikes, at Rückenwind volunteers and refugees work together, building partnerships in which people from different cultures can learn about each other.
“It’s something where you can show each other with your hands what to do,” Heidenreich said. “So even if you don’t speak the same language, in the end you share a big success.”

The founders’ idea was popular. They won around $9,000 in a nonprofit contest, allowing them to rent a space for their workshop from the organization Refugio, which houses refugees and runs a café in Berlin. Soon after, Google held a competition for local tech projects with social applications. Rückenwind was a runner-up and received another $11,000. Then, private donations started to arrive and business took off.

In its first year, Rückenwind provided 365 bicycles for refugees. In a country that saw 1.1 million asylum seekers cross its borders in 2015, that may not sound like many bikes. But for a tiny organization that, in its infancy, can only open its doors two days each week, fixing an average of one bike per day for a year was an impressive feat.

Success, however, brought new challenges. Running the organization was expensive, and as full-time students, the project’s founders simply didn’t have the time to serve everyone as quickly as they wanted to, so the waiting list grew. In the summer of 2016, it contained about 400 people, and Heidenreich estimates it will take the organization at least nine months to provide a bike to each person. They have temporarily stopped accepting new applicants.

“If any more refugees come, it would just be—I don’t know—too sad to tell them, yeah, you can come to our shop in one year,” Heidenreich said.

In order to address this challenge, Jakob Schult, a Berliner who met the Rückenwind founders while traveling in Thailand, is developing an app that will record where in Germany there is a need for bicycles, and where bikes are accessible. Since similar initiatives exist all across the country, the app will help direct refugees who need bikes to workshops that have the resources to provide bikes and labor without too long a wait.

“I think it might be a nice way to better settle out the demand and supply,” Schult said, “in order to fix all the bikes as soon as possible for the refugees.”

The app is just one example of how young nonprofits can extend their reach without becoming too big for their own good. Another is to spread and share concepts and knowledge.

Dennis Hoenig-Ohnsorg, who leads the corporate responsibility team for Zalando, a fast-growing e-commerce company based in Berlin, says organizations should seek to replicate the systems they know work.

“You should try to scale your solution, which doesn’t necessarily mean you have to scale the organization,” Hoenig-Ohnsorg said.

Rückenwind is working on a guide to help similar organizations succeed while avoiding some of the trials and errors it experienced. It also hopes the new app will create a network between the groups, which will in turn help them all become more efficient by directing the demand for bikes toward the supply.

Though one is still a volunteer while the other has arrived in the corporate world, Heidenreich and Hoenig-Ohnsorg share characteristics that have shaped a startup culture that separates Berlin from the rest of Germany. They are problem solvers. They also think creatively and constantly look for opportunities.

Mariya Alesh fits right in with this startup generation. She doesn’t wait for life to happen to her. Instead, she takes action.

Last year, in just one week, she decided to marry her then-boyfriend and board a small boat across the Mediterranean to escape the war in Syria and start a new life in Europe.

Today, she can’t wait to become proficient in German, so she can then take academic classes that prepare her for university. For Alesh, the promise of an independent future is embodied in one blue bike.

Alicia Leggett is a reporter for Missoula to Berlin, a project of the UM School of Journalism. Visit missoulatoberlin.atavist.com to hear audio by Autumn Barnes-Fraser accompanying this story, and to read more about the project.
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BIG SKY, MONTANA
As a veteran fly-fishing guide (translation: someone too lazy to survive in the corporate world) I’m constantly asked what my favorite Montana river is. When I first started guiding in the 1990s I often thought about my answer—taking into account things like average fish size, biggest waves, or the nearest bar for meeting co-eds—today my answer is simple: the Yellowstone River.

From its source in the wilderness south of Yellowstone National Park to where it meets the Missouri River in North Dakota, it’s the Lower 48’s longest free flowing, undammed river. Home to its namesake species of native cutthroat trout and arguably the most accessible river in the West, any serious angler has or desires to fish the mighty “Roche Juane”—the original name given to it by French trappers and traders.

Oh yeah, and the next few weeks the river is in prime shape to give up its trout. Here’s some information to enjoy it that much more.

Safety first. We all want to be on the river as soon as possible and a big lure of the Yellowstone is it has the longest runoff cycle of all Montana streams. The river rises as the mountain snowpack in Yellowstone National Park begins to melt in May and by late June the river begins to drop and the fishing potential increases.

As the river becomes fishable its flows are still high and fast. If you’re on foot, fish with a partner or be very cautious when wading. During this post-runoff stage the water along the banks is the place to fish anyway as the trout are holding near bank-side structure feeding on stonefly and salmonfly nymphs.

Montana’s longest and largest salmonfly hatch. The Yellowstone River is home to Montana’s largest habitat for salmon- and stoneflies. These river-dwelling insects hatch en mass as runoff subsides and the trout respond by binge feeding for days to weeks during the insects’ emergence.

From the water near Livingston, upstream to Yellowstone Lake in the park, it’s not uncommon to have two to three weeks of big dry-fly fishing using salmonflies or golden stoneflies. These hatches typically start in late June, which means local fly shops and guides now have salmonflies on the brain. When fishing this hatch use shorter, stouter leaders and focus on fishing the banks.

Accessibility. From its source to where it enters Montana, the river is accessible via public lands. Once it exits the park, multiple Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks access sites provide opportunity to float or walk-and-wade the river. Camping is also allowed at many of these access sites.

Once the river nears Columbus access points are fewer and farther apart, but are available about every 10 to 15 miles.

Fish species. The river is home to native Yellowstone cutthroat trout, native Rocky Mountain whitefish, brown and rainbow trout, and a few other non-game fish. The Yellowstone cutthroat is a subspecies of cutthroat trout found only in the Yellowstone River drainage. Anglers from around the world travel here just to catch this subspecies.

If you choose to target these beautiful trout, spend your time on the water above Emigrant. If you do catch one, practice proper catch-and-release techniques as these fish are too special to catch just once.

Anglers and floaters need to relearn the river yearly. Since a dam does not impede the river, its course often changes from year to year. As the high flows of runoff carve out new channels or close off existing ones, the river is always changing.

Your first float or wading experience after runoff can feel like an exploratory mission. Despite the river’s relative popularity, I’ve walked and floated through channels where I know I was the first to fish the water in months.

The Greater Yellowstone region is home to the planet’s highest concentration of trout waters. For the next week or so choosing where to fish can seem overwhelming: walk-and-wade the beautiful Gallatin Canyon, fish the riffles of the majestic Upper Madison, or get the heart pumping on the big and bold Yellowstone.

For this washed-up veteran the choice is easy.

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

Mike Peterson demonstrates the potential of a late June day on the Yellowstone River with this rainbow trout caught above Emigrant. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN
Family fun in Yellowstone

BY WENDIE CARR
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

The world’s first national park is a great place to explore and learn together as a family. But once you see Old Faithful and tour the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, where do you go from there? From spectacular hikes to private tours and from Mud Volcano to pristine picnic spots, here are some fun and educational park activities for you and the brood once you’ve tackled the usual suspects.

Mammoth area
At under a mile, round trip, Wraith Falls is a perfect hike for families with younger children, and holds a picturesque waterfall as the final destination. The trail is relatively flat, with a slight uphill at the end.

Older kids will enjoy “peak bagging” Bunsen Peak, an 8,564-foot mountain just south of Mammoth Hot Springs. Take your time on this 4-mile round-trip hike and soak in the 360-degree views of Swan Lake Flat and the surrounding area. When you reach the top, enjoy lunch while scanning the vistas for wildlife.

Yellowstone Lake area
Storm Point is a favorite for everyone in the family. Walk through wildflower-covered meadows and old-growth forest on this easy, 2.5-mile round-trip walk that rewards hikers with views of Yellowstone Lake along the way. Look for marmots racing through the grass or sunning themselves on rocks, and kids will enjoy exploring the expansive shoreline.

Canyon area
Kids of all ages will love exploring the boardwalks surrounding Mud Volcano, a thermal area that features oozing, bubbling mudpots. Check out Dragon’s Mouth Spring, with a steamy cave that sounds like a dragon hissing, gurgling, and roaring as it spits out water. Bison are often spotted roaming in this area, too.

Old Faithful area
Avoid the crowds at Old Faithful and hike—or travel by bike—to Lone Star, a beautiful backcountry geyser. Pack a picnic lunch, and set out on a scenic hike or ride alongside the Firehole River (approximate 5 miles round trip; trail is flat and mostly paved). Lone Star geyser erupts approximately every three hours, shooting water up to 45 feet high.

Private tours
Looking for a more in-depth way to experience Yellowstone? Help children fall in love with the park on a Yellowstone Association Institute tour, exploring both iconic and out-of-the-way places. Build your own adventure on a private tour, and choose from four options (wildlife watching, hiking, geology, history) that can be tailored to the interests of your family. Private tours include transportation for the day, and institute instructors will even help children work on their Yellowstone National Park Junior Ranger patch.

Park-wide
Kids can create their own nature journals detailing the flora and fauna they see in Yellowstone. Buy an inexpensive notebook and encourage them to write down or draw what they see. Older kids can take photographs of wildlife they spot, as well as any tracks these animals leave behind. Not sure what you saw? Stop by a visitor education center and ask a ranger.

Before you go
Practice “leave no trace” principles: Pack out all trash and food, and leave things along the trail as you found them.

Yellowstone National Park is bear country. Carry bear spray and know how to use it. Park regulations require that you maintain a distance of 100 yards from bears and wolves, and 25 yards from all other wildlife.

Be sure to stop by the nearest visitor center for current information about hiking conditions and closures before you hit the trail.

Wendie Carr is the marketing manager for the Yellowstone Association, Yellowstone National Park’s official educational partner. Call (406) 848-2400 or visit yellowstoneassociation.org for more information about their educational programs, tours, products, and membership program.

This story originally appeared in the current issue of Explore Yellowstone, on newsstands around the region.
EBS STAFF

From the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River, visitors gaze upon the same vistas that helped persuade Congress to preserve Yellowstone as the world’s first national park nearly 145 years ago.

A $250,000 grant from Partners in Preservation would rehabilitate historic stonework at the Brink of Upper Falls Overlook, one of 10 overlooks around the canyon, to ensure future generations witness the dramatic perspective of Yellowstone.

As part of the National Park Service’s centennial, Partners in Preservation is hosting a voting contest where 20 different national park units are competing for $2 million in grants for historic restoration projects.

Created by American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Partners in Preservation campaign has committed $16 million in support of historic places across the country.

Partners in Preservation seeks to increase public awareness about the importance of historic preservation, while conserving America’s historic and cultural treasures. The program also hopes to inspire long-term support from local citizens for historic places at the heart of their communities.

The public can voice their support by voting once a day for up to five parks through July 5 at voteyourpark.org, where they can also enter a sweepstakes for a chance to win a trip to Yellowstone National Park sponsored by National Geographic. In addition, they can show their support by using #VoteYourPark and tagging @savingplaces on Instagram and Twitter.

Visitors enjoy the view from Brink of the Upper Falls Overlook in the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. NPS PHOTO

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As iconic as Lone Peak itself, Ousel Falls Trail and its surrounding park is a favorite for both locals and visitors from around the world. This 1.6-mile hike, which crosses a ravine over the South Fork of the West Fork of the Gallatin River and meanders through the woods before ending at a 100-foot waterfall, is an impressive hike worth visiting any time of year.

However, early summer can provide one of the most memorable hikes along the trail. This time of year, you are likely to see an abundance of wildflowers along the trail and run into wildlife, like the Ousel bird (more commonly known as the American Dipper) dipping in and out of the river. Additionally, spring runoff is occurring; rising temperatures and melting snow make Ousel Falls that much more powerful.

So grab your camera, a water bottle and your bear spray—you, a grizzly sow and cubs have been spotted in this area recently—and head out for a hike that will deepen your appreciation for nature and Big Sky.

BSCO is a local nonprofit that connects people to recreational opportunities by acquiring, promoting and preserving sustainable places and programs for all. For more information about Big Sky’s Parks, Trails and Recreation programs visit bscomt.org.
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FREE MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS SUMMER CONCERT
Jackson Hole celebrates opening of Skyline Trail, kicks off Run to the Summit trail running series

EBS STAFF

After 10 years, Jackson-based Friends of Pathways is announcing the opening of the 6.3-mile Skyline Trail, a multi-use trail that follows Skyline ridge east of Snow King, connecting Ferrins Saddle to Cache Game Divide.

FOP celebrated the opening on June 22 with a kickoff party and is hosting a “Dig Day” on July 2. Interested parties can meet at the base of Snow King at 9 a.m. and ride a lift to the top or bike or hike to the top of Ferrins saddle. Volunteers can expect scenic views of Jackson, the Tetons and the Gros Ventre Wilderness. FOP will provide coffee, lunch and tools.

June 25 marks the first event in the 2016 Run to the Summit, a series of three short but brutally steep races sponsored by Teton County Weed and Pest District and Play, Clean, Go.

Participants can partake in one, two or all three races. Those who complete the trifecta will cover more than 7,500 feet of elevation gain over 11 miles. Run to the Summit finishers will receive a series prize and be entered to win raffle prizes following the last race, the Rendezvous Mountain Hill Climb.

Visit friendsofpathways.org/skyline-trail for more information on the Skyline Trail and tetonparksandrec.org/races/2015-run-to-the-summit-series for more information on the trail running series.

Friends of Pathways supports a vibrant community by promoting sustainable transportation and healthy recreation in Jackson Hole.

The 2016 Run to the Summit Series:

Wrun for Wray/Targhee Hill Climb
Saturday, June 25
2.9 miles and 1,840 feet of elevation gain

Snow King Hill Climb
Saturday, July 23
2.3 miles and 1,571 feet of elevation gain

Rendezvous Mountain Hill Climb at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort
Saturday, August 6
6.1 miles and 4,250 feet elevation gain

Chris Owen and Erik Jacobson survey the views from a stretch of Skyline Ridge, which will accommodate hiking, biking and equestrian uses when the 6.3-mile Skyline Trail is complete. PHOTO BY MIKE PIKER

Racers at the starting line of last year’s Wrun for Wray, the first of three events in this year’s first annual Run to the Summit series. The race will take place on June 25 at Grand Targhee Resort. PHOTO BY WRAY LANDON

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and more

more info: cmathews@creightonblockgallery.com
GEAR REVIEW

Here’s how you put the YETI Tundra 45-quart cooler to the test:

1.) Fill it up with a variety of drinks and ice. For this test I used chocolate milk, Hiball energy drinks, Alta Palla lemonades, and some local microbrews. The Tundra 45 claims a 26-can capacity, we fit 30 cans plus three bags of ice.

2.) Load in car and drive 150 miles across the state on a 75-degree sunny day. YETI’s Coldlock gasket seals keep cold air from escaping while locking out warm air, no matter the temperature outside.

3.) Arrive at destination and place cooler outside in the grass. The dual polyester handles are burly and molded into the body of the cooler, making it easy to lift this bad boy even when packed full.

4.) Open the cooler six hours later. If your ice hasn’t melted and your chocolate milk is still glacier cold after exposing your YETI to hours of muggy outdoor temperatures (plus two hours of drive time in the back of a warm car), your cooler passed the test with flying colors.

Conclusion: Believe what you’ve heard and go get your own. YETI coolers are the best on the market for any activity whether it’s a day of yard work, a camping trip or a day on the water.
– Ersin Ozer

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YETI Tundra 45 Cooler
PHOTOS BY ERSIN OZER

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PHOTOS BY ERSIN OZER

Here’s how you put the YETI Tundra 45-quart cooler to the test:

1.) Fill it up with a variety of drinks and ice. For this test I used chocolate milk, Hiball energy drinks, Alta Palla lemonades, and some local microbrews. The Tundra 45 claims a 26-can capacity, we fit 30 cans plus three bags of ice.

2.) Load in car and drive 150 miles across the state on a 75-degree sunny day. YETI’s Coldlock gasket seals keep cold air from escaping while locking out warm air, no matter the temperature outside.

3.) Arrive at destination and place cooler outside in the grass. The dual polyester handles are burly and molded into the body of the cooler, making it easy to lift this bad boy even when packed full.

4.) Open the cooler six hours later. If your ice hasn’t melted and your chocolate milk is still glacier cold after exposing your YETI to hours of muggy outdoor temperatures (plus two hours of drive time in the back of a warm car), your cooler passed the test with flying colors.

Conclusion: Believe what you’ve heard and go get your own. YETI coolers are the best on the market for any activity whether it’s a day of yard work, a camping trip or a day on the water.
– Ersin Ozer

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Life on the road with PBR’s Aaron Roy, Jess Lockwood

OUTLAW PARTNERS PBR COVERAGE

BIG SKY — Aaron Roy travels to so many Professional Bull Riders events it’s easy to lose count.

He predicts he’ll compete in 50-60 events by the time the season is up and a $1 million bonus has been awarded to the overall PBR World Champion in Las Vegas this November.

Roy’s been riding bulls long enough that he doesn’t often get scared in the chute gates anymore—he followed three older brothers into the rodeo arena when he was 11 years old and regularly traveled to events by age 16.

“I’ve been on so many bulls, I’m never nervous,” Roy said. “If it’s a big show or you’re riding for a whole bunch of money, you get a little bit of nerves, but I wouldn’t say it’s scared nerves. I would say it’s more of excitement nerves.”

He acknowledges he felt a bit of fear about a year and a half ago, when he climbed on a bull after a 16-month hiatus due to a broken back he sustained at the Calgary Stampede. The injury, a break near the base of his spinal cord, could have easily ended his career.

“The first [bull after the injury] was a little nerve-wracking because I didn’t know what to expect, [but I was] back into it right after that.”

Jacey Watson, vice president of Freestone Productions, says she admires the grit it took for Roy to reenter the arena.

In conjunction with Outlaw Partners and Continental Construction, Watson and her husband Andy produce Big Sky PBR, and she’s been following Roy’s career as the 29-year-old has climbed through the ranks. “He’s got that will, the determination to have his history [written] the way that he wants,” Watson says.

His performance the past couple of years bears that out; Roy, who’s been competing in PBR events since 2006, claimed the 2014 PBR Canada National Finals title his first year back from injury.

Despite a travel schedule that might put him in New York, Oklahoma and California within a three-week stretch, Roy tries to spend as much time as possible at home in Yellow Grass, Saskatchewan between events.

Watson said some of the smaller events in the summer allow PBR riders to change pace and

In February, Lockwood opted to leave his family’s ranch in Volborg, Mont., and go the homeschool route so he could work with PBR founder Cody Lambert and two-time PBR champion Justin McBride at Lambert’s Texas ranch.

Lockwood already knew how to ride when he moved to the ranch—he won his first Montana High School Rodeo Association bull riding title as a freshman—so Lambert and McBride have been focusing on the mental component of bull riding.

“They put winning on you,” Lockwood says. “They teach you not to make excuses and hold yourself accountable for whatever happens. It makes a big difference when you start doing that.”

Evidently, the training—both in and out of the arena—is paying off: Lockwood, who was ranked 15th in the world as of EBS press time, has won more than $90,000 this year and taken home wins at a couple of big events, including a first-place finish at an April Built Ford Tough Series stop in Billings.

Both Lockwood and Roy are planning to compete in the Big Sky PBR.

Roy estimates he’s come to every Big Sky PBR except the year he was injured. “It’s one of the best events to go to all year, in my opinion,” Roy says. “You’ve got the outdoor atmosphere in a great location [and] the crowd right on top of you.”

When July 29 rolls around and Roy awaits the opening of the gate, he’ll try to put the crowd out of mind, though. He says the best piece of advice he’s ever gotten is to have fun and avoid over thinking things.

“You’re not there to beat anybody else,” Roy says. “You’re just up there riding against yourself and the bull.”

The Big Sky PBR is offering opportunities to sponsor bull riders at this year’s event, including the Cowboy Angel Package that includes two Golden Buckle tickets for July 29 and covers a rider’s entry costs. Purchase of this package will help a hard working cowboy afford coming to Big Sky, while you get to enjoy the luxuries of the Golden Buckle hospitality tent and seating.

Visit bigskyprb.com for tickets and more information, and email evans@outlawpartners for more bull rider sponsorship opportunities.
**Big Sky**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24**

*Explore Big Sky*

**MONDAY, JULY 4**

*If your event falls between July 8 and July 21, please submit it by July 1.*

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**Big Sky Kids Field Day & Picnic**

**Big Sky Community Park, noon**

Wyatt Harts
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

David Bowie Dance Party
Love Peak Cinema, 7:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 27**

**Monday Night Pig Roast**

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

Wyatt Harts
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

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**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**

**Alabama Albert**

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

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**THURSDAY, JUNE 30**

**Visit Big Sky Board Meeting**

Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 a.m.

**Ribbon Cutting: The Trow West Meadow Village, 4:30 p.m.**

**Music in the Mountains: Blitzin' Tramps**

Big Sky City Center Stage, 6 p.m.

Tom Mastro
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

**The Riot Act**

Choppers, 10 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**

**Summer Kick Off Party w/ Jessica Lynn**

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 8 p.m.

Trivia Night
Love Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**

**The Sugar Daddies**

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 3**

**3rd Party**

Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 4 p.m.

**MONDAY, JULY 4**

**BS&G 4th of July Celebration**

Big Sky Community Park, 8:30 a.m.

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**Bozeman**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24**

**Touch a Truck Event**

Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

**M.L. Murchok Charitable Trust**

The Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture, 10:30 a.m.

Claudia Williams
Kountry Korner Café, 5:30 p.m.

**Traveling School Passport Party**

The Baxter Hotel, 6:30 p.m.

Alex & Dan Gutter Duo
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks
MSU Duck Pond, 8 p.m.

Don’t Close Your Eyes
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25**

**Jim Bridger Trail Run**

Gallatin Valley Farmer’s Market
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

Bob Britton
Kountry Korner Café, 5:30 p.m.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks
MSU Duck Pond, 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 26**

**Buck’s T-4, 5 p.m.**

Punk Show: All Ages
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Weston Lewis
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

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**Livingston & Paradise Valley**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24**

Little Big Horn Reenactment
Garytown, MT, 7 p.m.

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 26**

**MT BBQ Cook Off**

Absarokee, MT, noon

Little Big Horn Reenactment
Garytown, MT, 7 p.m.

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**MONDAY, JUNE 27**

**Dan Dubeau**

Neptune Brewery, 5 p.m.

Johnny Dang
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.
**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**
Beer for a Cause: Leadership 49
Katabatic Brewing, all day

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29**
WSE’s Livingston Farmers Market
Sacagawea Park Bandshell, 4:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 30**
Aaron Barkfeld
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.
Heather Lingle Band
Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
Chad Okrusch
The Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**
Livingston Rotary Club Art on the Fly
North Main Street, 5:30 p.m.
Brit Bagwell
Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
2016 Beast Benefit
Banovich Art Center, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago
The Shane Center, 8 p.m.
Band of Drifters
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.
Under the Bleachers
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**
Festival of the Arts
Livingston Depot Center, 10 a.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 3**
Festival of the Arts
Livingston Depot Center, 10 a.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**
Forest Plan Revision Meeting
Povah Community Center, 4:30 p.m.
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
Water Aerobics
Holiday Inn, noon

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**
Forest Plan Revision Meeting
Povah Community Center, 4:30 p.m.
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29**
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 30**
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**
Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
West Yellowstone, 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**
Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
West Yellowstone, 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 3**
Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo
West Yellowstone, 8 p.m.

**MONDAY, JULY 4**
Celebrate America
Povah Community Center, all day
Yoga for Everyone
Povah Center, 6:15 p.m.
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
Yoga for Everyone
Povah Center, 6:15 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**
Explore Big Sky
** EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT **
June 24 - July 7, 2016 51

**RECURRING EVENTS:**
- West Yellowstone Historic Walking Tour
- West Yellowstone Historic District, daily

**EXPERIENCING WILDLIFE IN YELLOWSTONE:**
- Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone
  West Yellowstone Visitor Center, daily, 9:30 a.m.
- Afternoon Talk with a Yellowstone Park Ranger
  The Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center, daily, 2 p.m.
- Thunder Mountain Traders Show
  Public Library, daily
- Explore Yellowstone! With a Yellowstone Park Ranger
  West Yellowstone Visitor Center, daily, 9 a.m.

**FIESTAS:**
- 2016 Beast Benefit
  Banovich Art Center, 7:30 p.m.

**MEDITATION:***
- Meditation Week
  West Yellowstone, 7 p.m.

**RECREATION:**
- Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
  West Yellowstone School Gym, 7 p.m.
- Adult Co-Ed Basketball
  West Yellowstone School Gym, 6:15 p.m.
- Under the Bleachers
  Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.
Southwest Montana has some of the best Fourth of July celebrations around. What better way to make the most of your holiday weekend than commemorating Independence Day, Montana style? From farmers markets, 5K races and golf tourneys to music, rodeos, fireworks and parades, here’s the EBS guide to your July Fourth weekend.

**JUNE 29TH - JULY 3RD**

**BIG SKY FARMERS MARKET | JUNE 29**

**FIRE PIT PARK | 5-8 p.m.**
- 105 diverse vendors
- Children's activities
- Live music

**MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS | JUNE 30**

**BLITZEN TRAPPER | BIG SKY TOWN CENTER STAGE | 6 p.m.**
- Free music
- Food and beverage vendors

**SUMMER KICKOFF PARTY | JULY 1**

**GALLATIN RIVERHOUSE GRILL | 8 p.m.**
- Music by Jessica Lynn
- Johnny Dango and Cornbread opening

**JULY THIRD CELEBRATION | JULY 3**

**GALLATIN RIVERHOUSE GRILL | 4 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.**
- Live Music: Wyatt Hurts
- Live Music: Milton Menasco & the Big Fiasco
- Outdoor activities
- Great drinks and awesome food!

**JULY 4TH**

**BSCO 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION**

**BIG SKY COMMUNITY PARK | 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**
- 5K race
- Disc golf tournament
- Kids activities
- 3-on-3 basketball tournament
- Home run derby
- Skate park jam

**FIRECRACKER OPEN**

**BIG SKY RESORT GOLF COURSE | 10 a.m. SHOTGUN START**
- $80 to enter
- To sign up, call the golf shop @ (406)-995-5780

**MONDAY NIGHT PIG ROAST**

**320 GUEST RANCH | 5-8 p.m.**
- $15 per person, first come, first serve
- Local Montana $2 draft beers

**MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS: THE TINY BAND | BIG SKY TOWN CENTER STAGE | 6 p.m.**
- Free music
- Food and beverage vendors
- Kids activities

**FIREWORKS**

**BIG SKY TOWN CENTER | 10 p.m.**

**WILD WEST YELLOWSTONE RODEO**

**JUNE 29 - JULY 3**

**WEST YELLOWSTONE, MT | 8 p.m.**
- Purchase tickets at www.yellowstonerodeo.com
- Ride a horse to the rodeo! Details online.
- Bareback Bronc Riding, Barrel Racing, Bull Riding, Team Roping, Breakaway Roping, Saddle Bronc Riding, and a Calf Scramble

**CELEBRATING AMERICA | JULY 4**

**PIONEER PARK | ALL DAY**
- Parade at 5:30 p.m.
- Free music in the park
- Pie on the Porch
- Bullwinkles hot dog eating contest
- Buffalo Chip Chuck
- Fireworks at 10 p.m.
JUNE 29TH – JULY 3RD

THE JOURNEY HOME GOLF TOURNAMENT
JUNE 30 & JULY 1
RIVERSIDE COUNTRY CLUB | 5-8 p.m.
• Dinner and live auction Thursday
• David Feherty, Keynote Speaker
• Golf Tournament Friday
• Benefits combat and wounded service members and veterans
• Sponsored by Warriors and Quiet Waters

THRIVE: SUMMER FUN IN THE PARK
JUNE 30
BOGERT PARK | 10-11 a.m.
• Fun activities, summer crafts, and healthy lunch
• Meet other parents while your kids play
• Pre-register at www.allthrive.org

MUSIC ON MAIN: THE CLINTON’S | JUNE 30
MAIN STREET | 6:30-8:30 p.m.
• Presented by the Downtown Bozeman Association
• Main Street between Rouse Ave. and Black Ave.
• Kids activities in front of First Security Bank
• Food Vendors along the south side of Main St.
• Open container waiver applies within perimeters

GALLATIN SPEEDWAY: MIKE’S OFF ROAD
JULY 1
GALLATIN SPEEDWAY, BELGRADE | 5:30 p.m.
• Adults $10, Seniors $8, 13-17 $8, 12 and under FREE
• IMCA Modifieds, WISSOTA Super Stocks, WISSOTA Street Stocks
• More information at www.gallatinspeedway.com

GALLATIN VALLEY FARMERS MARKET
JULY 2
GALLATIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
• Homemade food, handmade crafts, and locally grown produce
• Every Saturday until September 10th
• Supports programs that service the community
• More information at www.gallatinvalleyfarmersmarket.com

JULY 4TH

REACH INC. RACE FOR INDEPENDENCE
REACH INC. WORK CENTER | 5-8 p.m.
• 1K, 5K, or 10K run or walk
• Trails north of Bozeman
• All proceeds benefit Reach Inc, a local non-profit that helps adults with developmental disabilities to lead more independent, fulfilling lives.
• More information and registration at www.reachinc.org

ICE CREAM SOCIAL
MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES | 2 p.m.
• Ice cream, historic games and crafts
• Traditional Fourth of July festivities
• Heirloom Garden will be in full bloom

FESTIVAL OF THE FOURTH
GALLATIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS | 6:30 p.m.
• Presented by The Bozeman Symphony and The Gallatin Empire Lions Club
• A patriotic evening of music and celebration
• Bozeman Symphony Orchestra performing at 9 p.m.
• Free to the public

FIREWORKS
GALLATIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS | 10:30 p.m.
LIVINGSTON FARMERS MARKET | JUNE 29
Sacagawea Park | 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Live music from 7 - 9 p.m.
- Fresh produce, flowers, herbs, and handcrafted items.
- Workshops, youth booths, massages and more!

ART ON THE FLY | JULY 1
NORTH MAIN STREET | 5:30 - 8 p.m.
- Fine fare, music and art
- Watch an artist create a piece of art
- Live auction & silent auction

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS | JULY 2 & 3
LIVINGSTON DEPOT CENTER | 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Featuring nearly 100 skilled artists and craftsmen

91ST ROUNDUP RODEO | JULY 2 - 4
PARK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS | 10 a.m.
- 2013 and 2014 rodeo of the year in the MT circuit
- Saddle Bronc Riders, Team ropers, barrel racers and more!
- Live auction Sunday at 7:45 p.m.
- Kiddie Rodeo Monday at 3 p.m.
- Crowning of Miss Livingston and Fireworks Monday Night

ROUNDUP PARADE | JULY 3
DOWNTOWN LIVINGSTON | 3 p.m.

LIBERTY DASH | JULY 4
SACAJAVEA PARK | 8:15 a.m.
- 1 mile run run, 5K or 10K
- Sponsored by Landon’s Lookout

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Sacagawea Park | 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Live music from 7 - 9 p.m.
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SACAJAVEA PARK | 8:15 a.m.
- 1 mile run run, 5K or 10K
- Sponsored by Landon’s Lookout

LIVINGSTON INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND EVENTS

Why: They are the most important part of your life.
Who: Your most cherished people in your life.
What: Local artist Kene Sperry capturing your families true nature.
When: Now (nothing more important than the present moment).
Where: Big Sky, Montana, the place we all love.

Family Lifestyle Photo Session
eyeinthaskyphotography.com
406-581-2574
The Bozeman Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Maestro Matthew Savery, will perform a program of patriotic and pops favorites at 9 p.m. on July 4, leading into the traditional fireworks display at 10:30 p.m.

This is the 20th year the Lion’s Club has put on the event, and the fifth year that the Bozeman Symphony has collaborated with the Lion’s Club.

The orchestra will be seated under an acoustical tent with lighting and special effects, and the program will feature a live narration of a piece titled “I am the American Flag” written by composer Jim Beckel.

“We have some compositions that we play that are choreographed to fireworks and with a narrator, so it’s just very unique and not typical [of] what you would see elsewhere,” said Emily Paris-Martin, director of marketing and operations for the Bozeman Symphony.

Paris-Martin said approximately 5,000 people attended the first collaboration and they’re expecting between 8,000 and 10,000 attendees at this year’s event.

“We’ve been compared to the Chicago Symphony and the Utah Symphony,” Paris-Martin said. “It’s a nice surprise for people who aren’t really sure what to expect from a community orchestra from our area.”

The event, held at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds, is free and open to all ages. Seating is available on a first-come-first-served basis.

For more information, contact the Bozeman Symphony at (406) 585-9774 or info@bozemansymphony.org.

The Bozeman Symphony and Symphonic Choir is dedicated to preserving musical excellence as a living part of our community, now and for future generations, through performance, education and community partnerships, while maintaining a vigilant devotion to artistic and fiscal integrity.
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bigskydiscoveryacademy.org
Big Sky Town Center – 175 Aspen Leaf Dr.
406.993.2008 | nettie@bigskydiscoveryacademy.org
The Clintons kick off Music on Main June 30

DOWNTOWN BOZEMAN ASSOCIATION

The Downtown Bozeman Association presents the 16th annual Music on Main summer concert series in historic downtown Bozeman.

Thursday evenings from June 30 to Aug. 18, attendees can enjoy free music on Main Street between Rouse and Black avenues from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The Clintons, a longtime local favorite band, will kick off the first concert on June 30. The Clintons started in 1999 at a frat party on the upper floor of the Story Mansion in Bozeman.

Since then, they’ve played almost 1,000 shows and toured the western half of the U.S., sharing the stage with acts like Dierks Bentley, Barenaked Ladies, Blackhawk and the Kentucky Headhunters.

The “Kids’ Zone” on South Bozeman Avenue will keep kids entertained from 6:30-8 p.m. with bouncy houses, face painting and hula hooping.

Grab a bite to eat from one of the food vendors, stop by some of the local non-profit booths, or step into a few of the downtown stores that stay open late before or after checking out the live music.

Stop by the City of Bozeman’s water bottle fill station parked each week on the side of First Security Bank to fill your reusable water bottle for free.

The DBA, the City of Bozeman and the Bozeman Police Department would also like to inform the public of the rules and regulations regarding open containers for Music on Main.

An open container waiver will allow anyone over the age of 21 to have an open container of alcohol in the event area during the Music on Main event from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday nights from June 30 to Aug. 18 only. Anyone with an open container outside these perimeters will be subject to a $100 open container ticket.

Dogs, coolers, and glass and aluminum containers are not allowed in the event area. Music on Main is now a smoke- and vapor-free event; smoking is only allowed in designated areas outside the event.

Music on Main is a free community event hosted by the Downtown Bozeman Association and nearly 100 percent funded by business sponsorships.

For more information, visit downtownbozeman.org/events or call the Downtown Bozeman Association at (406) 586-4008.

Upcoming Music on Main dates and times

June 30 – The Clintons
July 14 – John Roberts Y Pan Blanco
July 21 – Swagger
July 28 – The Tiny Band
Aug. 4 – Randy McAllister
Aug. 11 – Kris Lagger Band
Aug. 18 – Gipsy Moon

The AHI philosophy is about creating for the family rather than imposing a personal preference for a trend or style. It’s a malleable approach to decorating, perfect for clients seeking a partner in crime rather than someone who will make all the decisions for them. After years of working in the industry, AHI has built a portfolio that reads more like a family album than a company prospectus.

The team at AHI has also created the Architect’s Wife, Bozeman’s destination for furniture, lighting, and decor. The Architect’s Wife services AHI clients, customers in the Gallatin Valley and beyond, and other interior designers and industry professionals looking to snag the perfect piece on the spot.

23 West Babcock Street Bozeman, Montana
406.404.1330
abby@hetheringtoninteriors.com
BY DOUGLAS HARE
EBS STAFF

Jim Harrison passed away almost two months ago of cardiac arrest, pen in hand, finishing a poem at his desk in Patagonia, Ariz. The renowned writer spent winters there, and summers near Livingston, Mont.

Harrison was 78 and had been at his craft since discovering his vocation at the age of 14. The literary world mourned the loss of a giant: a poet, novelist and screenwriter of international acclaim who lacked pretense or concern for his critics.

When I saw his obituary called “Mozart of the Prairies,” in The New York Times, I happened to be reading his 1991 book “Just Before Dark,” a collection of nonfiction—Harrison was a journalist, essayist, and literary critic as well.

The author of 14 collections of poetry, 21 works of fiction, a memoir and a children’s book, Harrison was so prolific for so long that it’s hard to know where to begin.

Some writers have recommended his first novel “Wolf: A False Memoir,” which has stood the test of time. Or “Legends of the Fall,” a collection of novellas for which he is most famous. As for his poetry, “Letters to Yesenin” and his last collection, “Dead Man’s Float,” have been universally praised.

But “Just Before Dark” is worth its slot on any bookshelf. You can pick it up on a whim and read piece-meal or devour it whole. In this collection, Harrison’s prodigious gifts, memory and erudition are on full display. The book is divided into three sections: Food, Travel and Sport, and Literary Matters.

“An artist ... consciously or unconsciously takes a vow of obedience to awareness,” Harrison wrote in the first section. His vow was a conscious one, and he continued to refine his powers of perception throughout his lifetime.

He was undeniably a man of large appetites. “Small portions are for small and inactive people,” he wrote in “Consciousness Dining.” A gourmand at heart, Harrison writes about cooking, eating and drinking with passion that sometimes blurs the distinction between nourishment and sexual gratification.

Whether discussing French cuisine, the absurdity of ice fishing, his passion for bird hunting, playing bar pool, or taking a long walk at twilight, Harrison had an uncanny ability to transform the mundane into the profound within the span of a few pages.

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The whole collection is infused with such raw autobiographical insight that the reader can’t help but see a portrait of an artist growing old.

“Just Before Dark” offers an intimate exploration of a man who wrestled with his own human foibles, limitations, and excesses. It documents the inherent absurdities of society with dark humor and sharp wit that, combined with an indefeasible joie de vivre, kept Harrison from becoming cynical or defeated in old age.

He lived and wrote deliberately and exuberantly. Even when suffering from gout and shingles during the dusk of his life, just before dark.

Jim Harrison passed away almost two months ago of cardiac arrest, pen in hand, finishing a poem at his desk in Patagonia, Ariz. The renowned writer spent winters there, and summers near Livingston, Mont.

Harrison was 78 and had been at his craft since discovering his vocation at the age of 14. The literary world mourned the loss of a giant: a poet, novelist and screenwriter of international acclaim who lacked pretense or concern for his critics.

When I saw his obituary called “Mozart of the Prairies,” in The New York Times, I happened to be reading his 1991 book “Just Before Dark,” a collection of nonfiction—Harrison was a journalist, essayist, and literary critic as well.

The author of 14 collections of poetry, 21 works of fiction, a memoir and a children’s book, Harrison was so prolific for so long that it’s hard to know where to begin.

Some writers have recommended his first novel “Wolf: A False Memoir,” which has stood the test of time. Or “Legends of the Fall,” a collection of novellas for which he is most famous. As for his poetry, “Letters to Yesenin” and his last collection, “Dead Man’s Float,” have been universally praised.

But “Just Before Dark” is worth its slot on any bookshelf. You can pick it up on a whim and read piece-meal or devour it whole. In this collection, Harrison’s prodigious gifts, memory and erudition are on full display. The book is divided into three sections: Food, Travel and Sport, and Literary Matters.

“An artist ... consciously or unconsciously takes a vow of obedience to awareness,” Harrison wrote in the first section. His vow was a conscious one, and he continued to refine his powers of perception throughout his lifetime.

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MSU faculty, staff, alumni and MontanaPBS win regional Emmy awards

BOZEMAN – MontanaPBS and Montana State University faculty, staff and alumni won Emmys for local productions at the 53rd annual Northwest Regional Emmy Awards held recently in Seattle.

Winning entries included a documentary about a local ultra-runner, a MSU institutional commercial featuring graduates who worked on the documentary “Unbranded,” and an episode of the popular MontanaPBS series, “11th and Grant with Eric Funk,” featuring violinist Angella Ahn.

The Northwest Emmy Awards are a division of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Entries in the contest came from the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and Montana.

A MSU institutional commercial that highlighted the work of the MSU film graduates, faculty and staff who made the popular mustang documentary “Unbranded,” won the Emmy for single spot commercial. Julie Kipfer, MSU director of marketing, who also won an Emmy as the executive producer, said she believes it is the first time that an MSU institutional product has received an Emmy.

The show won an Emmy for best audio. Jeremiah Slovarp, who is an MSU graduate and also teaches in the MSU School of Music, was cited. The episode also won for best arts/entertainment program in the Northwest. It is the fourth year running that the show has received the top award in that category. In addition to Funk, who is artistic director, those cited include: Scott Sterling of MontanaPBS, director; Pruitt, executive director; Paul Gomez Routhier, producer and Slovarp, audio director.

“The content being produced by Montana State University is encouraging and these awards are a wonderful example of how strong the film and television industry is in the state of Montana,” Slovarp said.

Other Montana winners included “On the Mountain,” a production of KXLF in Butte about the Our Lady of the Rockies statue outside the city. The show won two Emmys. Shawn Newton and Carley Rainey won in the director post-production category. The show also won in the historical documentary category. Newton (writer, producer and editor) and Rainey were cited as well as producer Andrew Preston, executive producer James Sally and Matthew Wheat, director of photography. All of the KXLF staff who won Emmys are also MSU graduates.

“We had at least three generations of MSU faculty and alumni winning Emmys this year,” Aig said. “It is a great testimonial to the quality of professional film and television training MSU offers.”
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July 12, 5-6pm with BBQ following
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Don’t forget your gloves!
More info @ www.bigskyweeds.org
Event partners: Big Sky Community Organization, Big Sky Owners Association, Gallatin Count Weed District, and Yellowstone Club
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Food, fun and friends
320 Guest Ranch hosts community pig roast series

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

GALLATIN CANYON – Each Monday night this summer, food and entertainment await those willing to make the 12-mile drive south on Highway 191 from the intersection with Big Sky’s Lone Mountain Trail.

Concentrated along Buffalo Horn Creek and its confluence with the Gallatin River, and tucked within the Gallatin National Forest with Ramshorn Peak as a backdrop, 320 Guest Ranch is well worth the visit.

Beyond its picturesque setting, 320 is home to the annual Monday Night Pig Roast, where locals and travelers alike come together weekly to enjoy the ranch over a locally sourced meal and live music from area musicians.

Entrance is $15 per person, and guests may help themselves to slow-roasted pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, and coleslaw—all made in the 320 kitchen. Later in the evening, sit around the bonfire, or perhaps test your skills swinging a lasso at the roping dummies set out on the lawn.

Heading south on 191, the 320 sign will be on the left, on Buffalo Horn Creek Road, and white letters read, “320 Guest Ranch. Lodging. Conference Center. Open To The Public Year-Round.”

Turn here and you’ll rumble across a wooden bridge and drive along a stand of jack-leg fence which then leads to a number of green-roofed log cabins situated at the base of mountains, hills and trees. This is where the night’s activities commence.

John Richardson, the ranch’s general manager, makes it a point to help out the staff and interact with guests. He welcomes visitors as they walk in from the parking lot or he may be found bussing tables, hands full of dirty dishes.

The pig roast dinners started nine years ago, and like anything, they evolved.

“They turned into exactly what we were hoping,” Richardson said. “The pig roasts are a weekly gathering for locals of all stripes, as a low-key, fun, community event.”

An average of 300 to 350 revelers come out each Monday night, and the roasts are held rain or shine. With threats of rain, the ranch moves the dinner and music indoors, but if the weather is good all activities are outside in the mountain air.

Providing a space for relaxation and fun is important to 320, which places emphasis on community. “Local” is a key word at the ranch, whether it is locally grown food, local musicians, the local public, or pairing with local partners.

“We all live here, we all work here, we all play here,” Richardson said. “It is important for us to give back to organizations that allow us to sustain our lifestyle.”

At the June 6 pig roast 320 met this desire to give back in a big way. Continuing its partnership with Ophir Middle School last year, the ranch donated $5 per plate to the eighth grade class and their May 2017 trip to Washington, D.C. to study the U.S. government.

Students worked during the event, clearing plates and helping 320 staff, and in return the ranch donated almost $900 to Ophir’s D.C. cause. The eighth graders plan to attend the 320 pig roast later in the summer as a second fundraising event.

Tony Coppola, a social studies teacher at Ophir and facilitator for the trip, said this kind of outreach is critical to the community.

“Businesses such as the 320 and many others throughout Big Sky are invested in the future,” he said. “They want to see Big Sky prosper.”

The 320 Guest Ranch pig roasts are held each Monday night through Sept. 12, from 5-8 p.m.
BIG SKY – Throughout Big Sky, people are talking about Music in the Mountains—which bands they are most excited to see or vying to get a coveted Thursday night off from work.

The Arts Council of Big Sky has been presenting music since 1989, but it wasn’t until Brian Hurlbut became involved with the nonprofit in 2001 that the summer music series began the steady evolution into the highly anticipated, free Thursday night event it is today.

In its early years, Music in the Mountains consisted of three to four “headliner” concerts a year, with the likes of Merle Haggard, The Band and Taj Mahal booked by an outside contractor.

Eventually Hurlbut, a lifelong music lover and drummer—you may remember him from Big Sky’s country rockers The Cropdusters—proposed that ACBS let him take over booking the series.

By 2005 he had convinced the arts council to book more, smaller acts because he never felt that big, ticketed concerts were aligned with the arts council’s values. In 2008 the shows became free and in 2010—having been crowded out of Big Sky Community Park by additional sports fields and a skate park—the concert series moved to its current location in Town Center Park.

“That’s when the whole thing blew up,” said Hurlbut, now executive director of ACBS. “We had this killer new venue; free concerts all summer; Big Sky was booming, and it just took off. Now it’s really a centerpiece of the summer in Big Sky.”

Hurlbut got rave reviews for last summer’s Music in the Mountains series, and he was feeling the pressure when lining up this season’s roster.

“It’s a lot to live up to,” he said. “But I think I did it. I think it’s right up there with last summer in terms of what’s coming.”

Hurlbut’s mission is to present a variety of acts that will appeal to the wide demographic of Big Sky concertgoers.

On one end of the spectrum are The Black Lillies—who performed June 23 after EBS went to press—described by Hurlbut as “a country-ish Nashville folk rock band.” On the other would be Deadphish Orchestra, a hippie jam band that plays only Grateful Dead and Phish covers.

Bringing an international flair to this year’s lineup, are bands like Todo Mundo, a world music outfit with a Latin reggae bent; and The Iguanas, who fuse the sounds of Mexico with the funky jazz of their New Orleans home.

“You don’t see a lot of that kind of music up here,” Hurlbut said. “It might not be my favorite kind of music but I know it’s going to go over really well.”

Hurlbut was excited to land Austin’s The Band of Heathens, performing on July 7, after attempting to book them for five years. Another standout for him—in addition to one of his favorite bands, Blitzen Trapper—is singer-songwriter Amy Helm, daughter of the late, great Levon Helm, drummer for The Band and one of Hurlbut’s idols.

If Hurlbut had to pick a headliner of the entire season it would be Lukas Nelson, son of Willie and lead singer of Promise of the Real, Neil Young’s backup band and recording partners. For the second consecutive year The Tiny Band—a Motown cover band comprised of some of Bozeman’s best musicians—takes Town Center Stage for the July Fourth celebration, which last year attracted close to 5000 attendees.

“One reason I think we’ve been successful is that we treat the bands really well,” Hurlbut said. “We pay them well; we feed them well; we put them up at [Big Sky Resort] … word travels. It used to be I had to scrounge for bands; now I have to turn bands away.”

Hurlbut is pleased with the Music in the Mountains series, but is always trying to make it better. This year, he’s lengthened the season by two concerts. He’s also bringing in more vendors, adding Lone Mountain Ranch and The Emperor of Ice Cream, a brand new mobile soda fountain, to past fixtures like The Wrap Shack, By Word of Mouth, Totally Tasty and Uncle Dan’s Cookies. Bozeman’s Cosmic Pizza, LaFolley Wood Fired Oven pizza and Thai Basil will also be providing food this season.

“Our main goal is to ensure people have fun,” Hurlbut said. “But I’d also like to believe that people will become more interested in the Arts Council and realize we do much more than put on free concerts.

“And obviously we couldn’t do this without the support and involvement of the community,” he added. “It proves that it really is a community event and a win-win for Big Sky.”
Someone told about a blind man who stood at a busy intersection, waving toward all the passing cars. When asked why he did that, he said that there might be someone in one of those cars whom he knew and he didn’t want to miss the opportunity. Peter Everwine, a California poet, here gives us another such waver, from his book “Listening Long and Late.”

The Girl on the Bullard Overpass

By Peter Everwine

The girl on the Bullard overpass looks happy to be there, getting soaked in a light rain but waving her hands to the four o’clock freeway traffic in which I’m anything but happy.

You might think she’s too dumb to come in out of the rain, but rain or shine, it doesn’t seem to matter. She’s there most every afternoon, as if she does this for a living.

Some living, I’d say. Doesn’t she ever get bored, or wish someone would stop and say, “Where to?” and her life would change?

That’s how I’d be, hating the noise, the stink of exhaust, the press of people.

I can’t imagine what her life is; mine is confused and often fretful. But there’s something brave about standing alone in the rain, waving wild semaphores of gladness to impatient passersby too tired or preoccupied to care.

Seeing her at her familiar station I suddenly grin like a fool, wave back, and forgive the driver to my right, who is sullen and staring as I pass.

I find her in my rear-view mirror, then head for a needed drink and supper. I don’t know where she goes, but I hope it’s to a place she loves. I hope the rain lets up. I hope she’s there tomorrow.

American Life in Poetry: Column 587

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

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We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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When Big Sky bombs burst in air
Behind a July Fourth fireworks display

BY BRIAN HURLBUT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Here we are, just a short time away from the Fourth of July, one of the biggest celebrations of the year.

In Big Sky, the party that the Arts Council has put on for more than 15 years has swelled to become our largest event—last year close to 5,000 people gathered in the Town Center to listen to music and watch one of the best fireworks displays in Montana.

Of course, July Fourth is synonymous with fireworks, and a big part of my job is to make sure the show in Big Sky goes off without a hitch.

Planning for a show of this caliber starts several months before the event. First, I secure a contract from Big Sky Fireworks, an operation based in Helena that put on 63 displays last year on July Fourth alone, in communities throughout Montana, Wyoming and Idaho.

I tell them how much we have to spend, and they design a show to our budget.

For comparison, shows in Butte, Helena and Bozeman are nearly double the amount we spend in Big Sky.

This year our budget is $13,500, about $1,000 more than last year. While the Arts Council writes the check, this funding comes directly from the Big Sky Resort Area District tax—if the board didn’t approve our request, this show might not happen, and we’re grateful for their support.

Selecting a location to blast off 755 shells—yes, that’s the exact number—in a crowded area like the Town Center is another challenge.

From 2010 until 2014 we set up on Town Center Drive between East Slope Outdoors and Roxy’s Market, but this area is now developed and provides critical access during busy events. Now, we set up on Simkins Drive between Golden Stone Lane and Pheasant Tail Lane. It’s actually a better location being closer to the park and providing a better viewing angle directly over the stage.

This year, Big Sky Fireworks has a new, state-of-the-art firing system and an improved rack that allows for more creativity in show design, which is specific for each community.

On the day of the show, we close the road and the crew starts staging the spectacle. Shells ranging from 3 to 8 inches are lined up. Throughout the day I check in with the crew several times to ensure it’s progressing as planned.

Who actually fires the show? In Big Sky, the crew is headed up by Ross Titilah and Rob Wood, both longtime Big Sky Resort pro ski patrollers during the winter, and certified explosive experts. As blastoff approaches—usually around 10:15 p.m.—I’m in constant communication with Titilah and Wood.

Having done this for five years, we have it dialed. We typically time the first shell during the “bombs bursting in air” part of the Star-Spangled Banner. It helps when you have a singer like Jeni Fleming, a member of The Tiny Band who will perform this year and who can belt out our national anthem as well as anyone.

While most people are watching the shells explode in the sky, I’m sweating the details, hoping nothing goes wrong and nobody gets hurt. I rarely even watch most of the show, and post up backstage making sure the band is taken care of. They take a short break during the display but get right back on stage to close the night with more music.

For me, the night is fun in its own way. I’m working on July Fourth—it’s a 14-hour day—so it’s hard to relax during the fireworks. Do I enjoy it? Of course. I think I have the best job around.

But it’s not about me. If we put on a great show people will remember it forever, and that’s worth celebrating.

Brian Hurlbut is the author of the “Insider’s Guide to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks” and “Montana: Skiing the Last Best Place.” His writing has appeared in the Montana Quarterly, Montana Magazine, Big Sky Journal, Mountain Outlaw, and Western Art and Architecture, among others. He lives in Big Sky, Mont., with his wife and two children.
Poised upon a hilltop overlooking Big Sky Resort, Cascade Ridge offers luxury ski-in, ski-out, free standing condominiums with a private lodge and concierge services.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CASCADE RIDGE

Read more on page 6.
WHY BIG SKY?

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Big Sky Resort:
- 5,800 acres of skiing
- 18-hole Arnold Palmer Golf Course
- Mountain bike trails and zipline course

Gallatin Canyon / Big Sky
- Gallatin River fishing, rafting, and kayaking
- Big Sky Community Park
- Hiking and biking trails

Lone Mountain Ranch:
- Horseback riding and fishing
- All inclusive dude ranch
- Nordic ski trails

PRIVATE CLUBS

Yellowstone Club:
- 2,200 acres of private skiing
- 18-hole Tom Weiskopf Golf Course
- Concierge services

Spanish Peaks Mountain Club:
- Private skiing
- 18-hole Tom Weiskopf Golf Course
- Concierge services

Moonlight Basin:
- Combined skiing with Big Sky Resort
- 18-hole Jack Nicklaus Golf Course
- Concierge services

SMALL TOWN CHARACTER

Events:
- Summer farmers markets
- Annual Big Sky PBR
- BSCO Annual Gala
- Music in the Mountains concert series
- Snobar at Big Sky Resort
- TEDxBigSky

Health / Education / Arts
- Bozeman Health Medical Center
- Lone Peak High School and Ophir schools
- Warren Miller Performing Arts Center

LOCATION

- 20 minutes from Yellowstone National Park border
- Tucked between the Gallatin and Madison ranges at the base of Lone Mountain
- 1 hour from Bozeman, Mont.
- Proximity to Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport
<$500K
Lack of inventory continues to push the lower end of the market. In 2011 single family homes made up 41% of this market sector. Now in 2016, it only makes up 1% of this market share due to limited availability, highlighting the difficulty for primary residents to purchase homes in Big Sky.

$500K-$1M
This sector of the market is showing the strongest growth of the three categories, on pace for the highest number of sales within this price range in the past 5 years. Additionally there has been a moderate 7% increase in median price from 2015-2016.

$1M+
$1M-
The luxury home market remains steady compared to 5 year trends, but has a slower pace due to a higher inventory. It also has had a slight drop in average sale price in the past year.

Historical trends by number of sales

Current inventory for sale

2016 YTD sales + pending contracts

Village Center #280 | Big Sky | $395K
621 SQ FT / 1 bedroom, 2 bathroom
Incredible location in the base area of Big Sky Resort

Buck Ridge Lodge | Gallatin Canyon | $839K
4,144 SQ FT / 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms
Enjoy Montana lifestyle on 20 acres with prime motorized access to forest service trails

388 Andesite Ridge Rd* | Yellowstone Club | $6.45M
4,852 SQ FT / 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms
Ski-in, ski-out residence with incredible views

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To some people, Montana invokes Big Sky Resort or one of the other ski areas in the state. To others it’s a small city like Bozeman or a wide spot in the road such as Ringling. But often it’s the land and its characteristics that draw people to a Montana location.

The outdoor recreation opportunities and privacy offered by a property play a large role in the real estate selection process. And more recently, agricultural production as well as return on investment is becoming more critical in the purchase of a ranch or recreational property. However, that is not to say that price, proximity to an airport or town, amenities, ease of access or property improvements have decreased in importance.

Pricing for recreational/ranch properties are closely tied to commodity prices, privacy, inventory and the “neighborhood.” Parcels located in high-demand locations such as the Rocky Mountain Front—as well as the Gallatin, Madison and Yellowstone valleys—are often listed at, and sell at, higher prices than the statewide averages.

The market for recreational or ranch properties has generally been improving since 2009—which was the recent low point in the market—both in terms of sales volume and amount of land sold. According to Southwest Montana Multiple Listing Service, in 2013 there were 14 reported sales of properties in excess of 200 acres, with a sales volume of nearly $30 million.

In 2014, there were 21 reported sales with a volume just over $51 million; during 2015, 19 sales generated close to $39 million. Keeping in mind that most ranch or recreational transactions occur in the summer and fall, 2016 appears to be off to a strong start with nine reported sales totaling about $15 million.

Research into a statewide database for similar properties shows approximately $28.5 million in pending sales at this time.

In evaluating ranch and recreational sales pricing, properties with high amenity values such as “private” fishing water or abundant big game still tend to sell at the highest values on a per acre basis. If a property has high caliber fishing amenities—though it can be a challenge determining where that influence begins and ends—the value increase can range between $7,000 and $20,000 per acre.

Montana is an arid state, so the value of water for agriculture—whether that production is in the form of cattle, hay or grain production—also creates higher per acre prices. Pivot irrigation typically adds between $3,000 and $5,000 per acre, which on average is twice as valuable as flood-irrigated land.

If a property can cover all of its costs of operation, and kick back some cash at the end of the year, the property will generate more interest from the widest spectrum of potential buyers.

Over improvement on a ranch or recreational property tends to generate less interest from buyers as that “dream-come-true” residence. A barn, skeet range or tennis court can quickly become a nightmare with many potential buyers, when those improvements do not meet their dreams or expectations.

For more information or to discuss ranch/recreational opportunities statewide, contact Don Pilotte at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Montana Properties in Big Sky at (406) 580-0155, or email don.pilotte@bhhsmt.com.

The O’Dell Creek property in the Centennial Valley is 187 acres offered at $1,995,000, bordering public land, with remote fishing and hunting. PHOTOS BY DON PILOTTE.

Cottonwood Camp on the Yellowstone River is 228 acres of ideal upland, waterfowl and big game hunting listed at $1,450,000.

The Diamond Bar 7, a 2000-acre working ranch just north of Big Timber, Mont., is offered at $3,995,000.
NEW OFFERING!

For the first time, Cascade Ridge is offering a single Family Home adjacent to the Cascade Ridge Lodge! Home purchase includes full Cascade Ridge Lodge membership with concierge services.

Cascade Lot 71A / $3,495,000 / 6 bedrooms / 9 baths / 5987 +/- sq.ft.

NO DETAIL IS OVERLOOKED IN THIS EXQUISITE, PRIVATE HILLTOP COMMUNITY.

AVAILABLE PROPERTIES

PHASE II All featuring en-suite bedrooms.
102 / Jefferson / $1,695,000
5 bedrooms / 6 bathrooms / 3089 +/- sq.ft.
207 / Jefferson / $1,745,000 (under contract)
5 bedrooms / 6 bathrooms / 3089 +/- sq.ft.
208 / Jefferson / $1,745,000
5 bedrooms / 6 bathrooms / 3089 +/- sq.ft.
206 / Yellowstone / $2,395,000
6 bedrooms / 7 bathrooms / 4548 +/- sq.ft.

PHASE I
202 / Madison / $1,775,000 Fully Furnished
4 bedrooms / 4 bathrooms / 4202 +/- sq.ft.

Contact a listing agent for additional information:

William Feher
Listing Agent / General Manager
WILLIAM@CASCADEHD.COM
406-600-0275

Sandy Revisky
Listing Broker, CRS, GRI, ABR, EFR
SANDY@CASCADERIDGE.COM
406-539-6316
Fishing in Montana is something akin to heaven. From majestic rivers and lakes to crystal-clear alpine streams, the vast amount of fishing in southwestern Montana is almost unfathomable. You can hopscotch from one waterway to another, and never run out of fishing holes. Each area is unique and none less beautiful than the other.

Madison River

One of the select rivers in the U.S. with the blue-ribbon designation, the Madison River begins in Yellowstone National Park at the confluence of the Firehole and Gibbon rivers. The Madison flows out of Yellowstone into Hebgen Lake, then into Quake and Ennis lakes before continuing through the narrow gorge of Beattrap Canyon. It then meanders 140 miles until it quietly ends at the confluence of the Missouri River in Three Forks, Mont.

Trout fishing in the Madison is exceptional with large browns and rainbows, and anglers can easily access the river via boating or wading. The Upper Madison has additional catch-and-release protocols to the standard Montana regulations, in order to maintain the wild trout populations, and you can easily access the river from the towns of West Yellowstone, Big Sky and Ennis.

Gallatin River, Gallatin Range and Spanish Peaks

Beginning at Gallatin Lake in the high mountains of Yellowstone National Park, the Gallatin River runs 115 miles to the Missouri in Three Forks. The majority of the river is closed to float fishing, which gives rise to some of the finest wade fishing waters in Montana and less fishing pressure.

The scenery along the Gallatin is spectacular. Where it flows through Gallatin Canyon, towering rock walls and national forest land surround you. The river opens up below the canyon and skirts west of Bozeman, where you’ll find a variety of accesses and scenic mountain ranges all around you.

The Gallatin Range and Spanish Peaks are riddled with mountain lakes and hungry fish. You’ll find good-sized cutthroats, the occasional golden trout and even some Arctic grayling—a beautiful and rare species with a shimmering blue dorsal fin.

These lakes are generally accessed by hiking; some are a short out and back, while others could entail multiple-night backpacking trips. Some of the more popular lakes in this area include Hidden Lakes, a series of eight beautiful waters; Golden Trout Lake, which true to its name is full of golden trout; Lava Lake is home to some good-sized cutthroat; and Deer and Diamond lakes require more challenging hikes, but are well worth the effort.

You’ll also want to check out Dudley and Albino lakes, which are accessed by more friendly hikes.

No matter if you’re a spin, fly or bait fisherman, casting into these world-class rivers and lakes will not disappoint.

We can help you make southwest Montana home. Call any of the Big Sky Sotheby’s International Realty listing agents above for details on these properties.

Visit bigskyss.com or call (406) 995-2211 for more information.
Settlement Cabin #18  
5 BR/6.5 BA Settlement Cabin in the exclusive Spanish Peaks Mountain Club. The rustic exterior is timber sided with log accents, a true Montana dream cabin.  
Offered for $2,350,000

180 Thomas Moran  
4BD/5BA residence with over 5,000 sq. ft. of living space. A custom log home in a private setting just a short drive to the amenities offered at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club.  
Offered for $2,250,000

3225 Ousel Falls Road  
This 4 bedroom + bunk room/4.5 bath custom home has been beautifully crafted and features 360 degree panoramic views and is surrounded by 80 acres of open space.  
Offered for $540,000

307 Wildridge Fork  
Fully furnished and exquisitely decorated 6 bedroom, 6.5 bath home. Offers open living room layout, large chef’s kitchen and elegant master bedroom.  
Offered for $3,950,000

363 Low Dog  
The ideal ski-in/ski-out mountain home. This home has 4 bedrooms and 5 full baths plus a large family/TV room on the lower level with a separate kitchen.  
Offered for $2,895,000

Black Eagle 14, 20 & 23  
Ski-in/ski-out properties in the heart of Big Sky Mountain Village. 4 BR/4 BA units built in 2014 with a mountain contemporary design and many upgraded finishes.  
Offered from $1,290,000

Saddle Ridge I-2  
Being sold fully furnished, this attractive and well maintained 3 bedroom/2.5 bath townhome also has a hot tub off the lower level deck and BBQ on the upper level deck.  
Offered for $469,900

39 Swift Bear  
This exceptional ski in/ski out mountain home sits on 1.572 acres with a year round stream and adjacent to open space. It boasts stunning and inspiring views of Lone Peak.  
Offered for $3,582,000

These listings are subject to errors, omissions, prior sale, change, withdrawal and approval of purchase by owner. All information from sources deemed reliable but are not guaranteed by Montana Living - Big Sky Real Estate. Independent investigation is recommended. For properties being purchased at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club approval for membership is required prior to closing. If you are represented by a real estate agent, this is not intended as a solicitation. Montana Living is a registered trademark of Newwest LLC.
Settlement Cabin #18
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363 Low Dog
The ideal ski-in/ski-out mountain home. This home has 4 bedrooms and 5 full baths plus a large family/TV room on the lower level with a separate kitchen. Offered for $2,895,000.

584 Autumn Trail
This spacious 3 level custom home located in the charming Aspen Groves sub-division boasts superb high end finishes. Offered for $1,378,000.

Yellowstone Preserve
1,580 acre collection of 8 mountain ranches being sold in its entirety. This rare property borders national forest, the Yellowstone Club, and Gallatin Preserve. Offered for $39,900,000.

180 Thomas Moran
4BD/5BA residence with over 5,000 sq. ft. of living space. A custom log home in a private setting just a short drive to the amenities offered at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club. Offered for $2,250,000.

Black Eagle 14, 20 & 23
Ski-in/ski-out properties in the heart of Big Sky Mountain Village. 4 BR/4 BA units built in 2014 with a mountain contemporary design and many upgraded finishes. Offered from $1,290,000.

795 Karst
A lovely Montana Homestead that features a main home with 3 bedrooms and 4 baths as well as a guest cabin with 1 bedroom and 1 bath on 1.41 acres. Offered for $759,900.

Yellowstone Club Lot 404
A 2.25 acre homesite with breathtaking, dramatic mountain views. Lone Peak is literally in your back yard. Offered for $2,975,000.

Spanish Peaks North Homesite #41
A wide open south facing homesite with exceptional views of the Gallatin Range on 3.91 acres. Offered for $359,000.

Gallatin Preserve
In the heart of Big Sky, Montana the Gallatin Preserve offers a rare opportunity to own a 160 acre ranch in the middle of one of the fastest growing resorts in the country. From $3,500,000.

3225 Ousel Falls Road
This 4 bedroom + bunk room/4.5 bath custom home has been beautifully crafted and features 360 degree panoramic views and is surrounded by 80 acres of open space.

Saddle Ridge I-2
Being sold fully furnished, this attractive and well maintained 3 bedroom/2.5 bath townhome also has a hot tub off the lower level deck and BBQ on the upper level deck. Offered for $540,000.

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307 Wildridge Fork
Fully furnished and exquisitely decorated 6 bedroom, 6.5 bath home. Offers open living room layout, large chef’s kitchen and elegant master bedroom. Offered for $3,950,000.

39 Swift Bear
This exceptional ski in/ski out mountain home sits on 1.572 acres with a year round stream and adjacent to open space. It boasts stunning and inspiring views of Lone Peak. Offered for $3,582,000.

Blue Grouse Hills Unit #14
A well maintained, tastefully furnished 3BR/2.5 BA with single car garage with privacy and convenience. Offered for $469,900.

Rocking S7
An exceptional 50 acre parcel situated 25 minutes from Bozeman along the western side of the Bridger Mountains, adjoining large ranches and the closely held Dry Creek drainage. Offered for $1,375,000.

These are only a sample of our many listings. A full MLS is available at BigSkyRealEstate.com

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Building #1 Units A and B are both under contract
Building #2 is available (Unit A is being offered at $1,150,000 and Unit B $1.1M)

To learn more, contact us at 406.209.3069 or info@thefairwaysatbigsky.com
On a frigid February morning in Big Sky, Mont., the sun begins to rise and your home starts to come alive. Prior to waking, the house adjusts to your preferred climate using radiant floor heating and smart thermostat technology to ease you into the brisk morning.

You reach for the keypad on your nightstand and press the “Wake Up” button. With one touch, the coffee begins brewing and your favorite TV channel turns on—its audio playing from the bedroom and bathroom speakers. The lights begin to turn on at a low level and gradually brighten as you get ready to start the day.

After making your way downstairs for the morning coffee, you walk over to the in-wall kitchen touch panel to read the Big Sky weather forecast and mountain snow report while planning your ski day.

Carving through some fresh powder later that morning, you suddenly remember you forgot to arm your home’s security system. With the touch of a button on your cell phone, you hit the “Away” button from your mobile app and your home is now armed and secure.

Exhausted and content after a long day on the hill, you arrive back home at the ski room entry and enter your personalized code on the smart lock. The security system disarms immediately and you’re greeted by the warmth and pleasant ambiance of the ski room fireplace.

A day of mountain adventures means an evening of comfort and relaxation is in order. Before exiting the ski room you walk over to your lighting keypad and press the “Hot Tub” button. The pathway is now illuminated from the ski room, through the mudroom and proceeding out to the hot tub patio. This single button also turns on the hot tub jets and has begun playing your favorite music playlist through speakers on the patio.

When bedtime arrives, you reach for the same nightstand keypad with the “Wake Up” button and push the “Good Night” setting. With a single tap, the system shuts down the lights, fireplace and hot tub, arms the security system, and begins to prepare itself for the day tomorrow.

Smart home technology is more than convenience and comfort in your home. It’s about enhancing your lifestyle by integrating all of the home’s controls to fit your needs. It also means spending more time enjoying vacation and less time relearning how to gain control of your home.

Visit Smart Home Systems, Inc. on Facebook or at shs-mt.com for more information on the latest smart home technology and to stay up to date with industry trends.
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- #2184 4BR/4.5BA/2840 SF
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**LONE MOOSE MEADOWS CONDO 101D**
- 4BR/3BA/2600 SF
- Ski-in/ski-out
- Fully furnished
- Listed at $1,295,000

**ALPENGLow CONDOS**
- New Construction
- 3-4BR/4BA/2596-2662 SF
- Lone Mountain views
- From $649,000 to $669,000

**MINOR SUB 227C, CEIL DRIVE**
- Lone Mountain Views
- 6+ acre Home Site
- Limited covenants
- Listed at $395,000

**DIAMOND HITCH HOME**
- 4BR/6BA/2 Master Suites
- Fully Furnished & Turn-key
- 3 Stone Fireplaces
- Listed at $3,195,000

**MONTANA CLUB SUBDIVISION**
- 4 Single Family Residential building sites
- Only Residential lots on Lone Mountain
- Great ski access
- From $975,000 to $1,200,000

**RIVERVIEW RANCH – BLACK WOLF RIDGE**
- 20 Acres Home Site
- Spectacular Views
- Perfect Horse Property
- Listed at $495,000

**66 SLEEPING BEAR ROAD HOME**
- One of a kind log home and land
- 3BR/3BA/3 Levels/2,394 SF
- 2+ acres
- Listed at $865,000

**FAIRWAYS CONDOS**
- New Construction
- #2184 4BR/4.5BA/2840 SF
- #2188 4BR/3.5BA/3043 SF
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The Knolls at Hillcrest
A 55-plus, active adult lifestyle community

Conveniently located overlooking Bozeman and the surrounding mountains, The Knolls at Hillcrest may be a perfect solution for baby boomers embarking on a quest to “right-size” their lifestyle—if their current living space is no longer satisfactory. The Knolls offers many upscale features and finishes, along with forward-thinking amenities to make life easier for active adults.

Key features in each home include: spacious great rooms that provide creative options for intimate seating arrangements; generous dining and entertainment space; open access to the kitchen; and private courtyards that extend the indoor/outdoor living options. Homes are designed with no-step accessible entries, enabling individuals to access its main rooms without navigating stairs.

Other accessibility features include spacious walk-in showers; creative, accessible toilet rooms; natural lighting on all four sides of the home; and attached garages. Many floor plans offer offices, studios, and “flex” spaces. Wide entryways and hallways create spacious, comfortable living areas.

The overall architectural concept has built-in flexibility for interior design styles as well. Any floor plan can easily accommodate a range of design choices from traditional, rustic, country, contemporary, or an eclectic style depending on an individual’s interior finish selections. The living space in the homes at The Knolls complements and supports a healthy, vibrant lifestyle in an aesthetically pleasing home design.

The Knolls is designed for easy living to enhance the lifestyle and well-being of its community residents. Footpaths from the doors lead to health care facilities, shopping, dining, spa, and social activities. Those same paths connect to an extensive corridor of Bozeman’s hiking and biking trails, as well as parks that showcase tranquil streams and serene fields with awe-inspiring vistas.

While retaining a small town feel, the Bozeman community offers activities and programs throughout its vibrant downtown and at nearby Montana State University. Cultural amenities rival those in larger metropolitan areas and include opera and ballet; summer art walks; live theater like Montana Shakespeare in the Parks; and Museum of the Rockies, a world-famous dinosaur museum.

Combined with a wide array of outdoor recreational opportunities—such as fishing, skiing, mountain biking, hiking, rafting, and golfing, among others—it’s easy to understand why Bozeman ranks as one of the nation’s most livable cities and one of the best for retirement.

The Knolls is a maintenance-free community that provides scheduled lawn care, a landscaping maintenance service, snow removal, and best of all, the freedom to “lock and leave”—a home check-in and security program for absentee owners or active travelers.

ERA Landmark Real Estate offers these homes for sale. Contact sales associates Mark Meissner and Doug East at theknollsathillcrest.com and on Facebook at facebook.com/TheKnollsAtHillcrest.
DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES

ERALANDMARK.COM

Stay a week... or a lifetime®

RIDGEVIEW ESTATES  4 Br/4.5 baths, 5,100 SF  $2,995,000

CABIN SPLENDOR  4 Br/3 baths, 2.5 acres  $1,064,000

NATURALLY MONTANA  3 Br/2 baths, 2,396 SF  $1,025,000

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