New West: Famous bear death raises larger questions

Bullock, Gianforte debate in Big Sky

A glimpse into the 2016 fire season

Paddleboarding then and now

Inside Yellowstone Caldera

Plus:

Guide to mountain biking Big Sky
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ON THE COVER: Famous grizzly 399 forages for biscuitroot on June 6 in a meadow along Pilgrim Creek as her cub, known as Snowy, peeks out from the safety of her side. Less than two weeks later this precocious cub was hit and killed by a car in Grand Teton National Park. PHOTO BY THOMAS D. MANGELSEN

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“Iron is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.”
- Oscar Wilde

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Martha has been in real estate in Big Sky, Montana for approximately 20 years and she’s been a full time resident since 1988! She’s an entrepreneurial spirit and is Founder, Broker and Owner of Montana Living – Big Sky Real Estate – the top luxury boutique real estate firm in Big Sky, Montana. Her experience includes brokering the sales, marketing and launch of resort, residential, commercial and ranch sporting properties. Call Martha now and utilize her grass roots knowledge of Big Sky for purchasing or selling your real estate.
Fishing restrictions are in place on various rivers in southwest Montana, including the Gallatin, Madison and Jefferson rivers, as well as the Big Hole, Beaverhead and Ruby.

Each of these waterways is located in the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks’ Region 3, and is experiencing elevated water temperatures and low streamflows due to warm air temperatures and an early snowmelt runoff this year, according to Travis Horton, fisheries manager for FWP’s Region 3.

“In general, what I’ve heard is dry and hot [conditions], so I anticipate closures sticking around for much of the summer,” said Horton, adding that last year restrictions were imposed around this same timeframe. “We’re trying to err on the side of caution with the fish.”

If FWP starts seeing growing numbers of fish mortalities, full closures could be placed into effect, Horton added. But as of FWS press time on July 6, fishing in certain rivers in Region 3 is only restricted during specific hours.

Known as “hoot owl restrictions,” these regulations limit fishing hours by closing the waterways to anglers from 2 p.m. to 12 a.m. As of July 6, FWP had imposed hoot owl restrictions on the Gallatin from its confluence with the Madison River at Three Forks to Sheds Bridge (Hwy 84) near Four Corners.

Closures are in place on the Lower Madison River from Ennis Dam to the mouth at Three Forks, as well as the entire length of the Jefferson River.

Visit fwp.mt.gov/news/water/restrictions/waterClosure to stay up to date on current fishing restrictions around Montana.

Level 2 water restrictions in effect

As of July 1, Big Sky Water and Sewer District has Level 2 irrigation restrictions in effect for water users in the district.

This means irrigation hours are limited to 6-8 a.m. and from 9-11 p.m. every other day, and all watering must be done through a sprinkler—unattended open hose watering is not allowed.

On even calendar days of the month, even numbered homes and commercial properties, and all condominium and town home complexes south of Highway 64 may irrigate. On odd calendar days, odd numbered buildings and condo/town home complexes north of 64 may irrigate.

MDT gathers public input to establish priorities

The Montana Department of Transportation is updating the 20-year multimodal policy that guides the agency’s decision-making, and they’re seeking public input to inform that policy.

MDT is updating an existing policy that was originally adopted in 1995, and is calling it TranPlanMT. According to an email from MDT planner Charity Watt, the update helps the agency assess emerging priorities and trends.

Through Aug. 4, the public can weigh in by visiting tranplanmt.metroquest.com, and filling out a 10-15 minute survey that guides users to rate transportation objectives in order of importance and comment where desired.

Watt said the last update to the plan was in 2008 and TranPlanMT is not project-specific like the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan, which establishes funding obligations in 5-year blocks.

MT 64, the state roadway connecting Highway 191 with Big Sky Resort, has been of particular interest to the Big Sky community.

Over the past six months, there’s been discussion about several changes to the highway, including changing the speed limit, adding turn lanes at key intersections, installing a stoplight or roundabout at the juncture of MT 64 and Ousel Falls Road, and increasing signage to reduce motorist-wildlife collisions.

The next milestone after the survey closes is a release of the draft plan for public comment, which is slated for December.

Missing July Fourth hiker found in good health

A 62-year-old hiker reported missing after failing to return from a July Fourth afternoon hike was spotted on a ridge top on July 5 by a Search and Rescue helicopter at 1:15 p.m.

According to a press release from the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office, the hiker was found in good health and transported to a hospital to be evaluated by medical personnel.

Sergeant Brandon Kelly with the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office said 58 people participated in the search effort, which included dogs and two helicopters.

The hiker, a Yellowstone Club visitor from California, was reported missing at 6:30 p.m. July Fourth when she failed to return from a planned hike on the Cedar Loop Trail.

“She ended up somewhere she didn’t plan to be,” said Big Sky Fire Department Chief William Farhat. “She was planning on going up on one trail and ended up on another, which was the basis of her problem.”

The hiker spent the night in the mountains—temperatures dipped to 45 degrees in Big Sky in the early hours of July 5, and were presumably lower at the hiker’s location.

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.
Gallatin County recently hosted a wildfire expo to address preparedness in the county’s growing wildland-urban interface.

**Do you feel Big Sky is adequately prepared for a large wildfire?**

**Follow-up: Why or why not?**

**John Derby, Big Sky**

“I think it’s a huge deal when things burn. They haven’t really burned in a while … I see some tin roofs around here—it looks like some people know what they’re doing. The houses here have nice natural fire breaks [clear of vegetation], it feels like.”

**Chris Hill, Big Sky**

“It depends … Certain sections with homes in wooded areas [are at risk.] [Firefighters] might not be able to save some homes.”

**Zach Wolfe, Big Sky**

“I think that Big Sky would be prepared for it. Since I’ve lived here this last year, the fire department seems to be on top of emergencies. I always see them training.”

---

**Montana Wood Products Association says it did not endorse Gianforte**

When we sent Greg an email saying that an endorsement would be coming soon, we never said that the endorsement would be for him.
Letter to the Editor: Building inspections should be required countywide

As an electrician and electrical contractor for most of my 39 years here, I can say with certainty that there is a significant improvement in the general quality of construction in areas with building inspections compared to areas without.

Outside of incorporated areas, the only required inspection in Gallatin County is for electrical—we have three state electrical inspectors for the entire county and two are shared with neighboring counties. In addition, state plumbing inspections are not always required.

Single-family dwellings up to a five-plex are not required to have a building permit or inspection. For a six-plex and up, and all commercial construction, we have one state building inspector for a five-county area.

Montana does not require competency testing for general contractors. Consequently, jurisdictions with inspections have pushed questionable contractors into the county’s unregulated areas, and some lenders are now starting to require home warranty insurance for uninspected projects.

Big Sky has numerous examples highlighting that there is no limit to the amount of money one can spend and still get poor construction.

State law mandates that building permit fees can only be spent on the inspection program. So currently, county land prices are inflated to reflect the “savings” from a lack of permit fees and inspections.

In 2003 the county commission appointed a committee to consider this issue, and the decision for inspections failed by one vote. One member who voted no had previously tried to fake the state required electrical inspection for his new home.

My work is predominately troubleshooting and service work, so like many in the reputable construction industry, I know we need countywide building inspections. The current county commission is simply wrong to say we don’t.

Brian Leland
Candidate for Gallatin County Commissioner
Bozeman

Wildfire bits and pieces: Campfires

Was your last campfire cold to the touch before you left? Most of the human-caused fires on the Custer Gallatin National Forest start from campfires that were never properly extinguished. While most people touch their fire to see if it is cold, there are still those folks who do not.

As fire season creeps closer to our area don’t provide one more spark that could start a wildfire! Take responsibility like most of the folks here—drown, stir and touch your campfire before you leave it.

As of EBS press time on July 6, fire danger on the forest around Bozeman, Big Sky and West Yellowstone is moderate.
BIG SKY • MOONLIGHT BASIN • SPANISH PEAKS • YELLOWSTONE CLUB

PURE

MM 66 GALLATIN ROAD | $2,497,000
Beautifully situated in the heart of Big Sky, this expansive 7,000+ square foot residence offers breathtaking views of Lone Peak and Yellowstone National Park, just minutes away. The home includes five bedrooms and large outdoor decks.

3225 CROW KING ROAD | $1,695,000
Endless Business Park Possibilities! 25 acres in beautiful Gallatin Canyon along US 191, the main corridor between Bozeman, Yellowstone International Airport, Big Sky and West Yellowstone. Enjoy a mix of contemporary and rustic elements. Beautifully landscaped, this home provides close proximity to Big Sky Resort as well as displaced ocean views.

HOMESTEAD CHALETS 8 & 10 | $1,750,000
Endless Business Park Possibilities! 25 acres in beautiful Gallatin Canyon along US 191, the main corridor between Bozeman, Yellowstone International Airport, Big Sky and West Yellowstone. Enjoy a mix of contemporary and rustic elements. Beautifully landscaped, this home provides close proximity to Big Sky Resort as well as displaced ocean views.

3 BLACK MOON | $1,375,000
Beautiful ski-in/out mountain home situated on a premier lot with amazing 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 complete this residence.

SHOSHONE 1925 | $235,000
There are great views from this one bedroom, two bedroom, one bath ski in/ski out condominium, just steps from the ski lifts on the base area of Big Sky Resort. The comfortable unit sleeps six and features a separate living area and a full kitchen. Amenities include outdoor/indoor pools and other amenities.

PROCUPINE PARK 39 & 40 | $745,000 - $895,000
These 7.64 acres of open space and 13.16 acres with additional 22.9 acres of open spaces and 14.15 acres and accompanied by 957 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 yet are only minutes away from all of the wonderful outdoor activities the Big Sky area has to offer.

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3X EVENT OF THE YEAR
Explore Big Sky

Bullock, Gianforte debate at Big Sky Resort
Candidates spar over energy development, wages, public land access

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – During their first formal debate, Montana gubernatorial candidates Gov. Steve Bullock and Greg Gianforte fielded questions ranging from refugee resettlement to gun control, and raising wages in the state to lowering crime on Native American reservations.

The June 25 debate at Big Sky Resort was moderated by Ron Davis, chair of the Montana Broadcasters Association, during the organization’s two-day annual conference.

A panel of four Montana journalists asked the candidates questions in front of an invite-only crowd of approximately 120 people—this was the first televised debate prior to the November gubernatorial election.

Republican challenger Gianforte, who founded RightNow Technologies—which was acquired by software giant Oracle in 2011—grew to employ 1,100 people and make $15 an hour or less, and asked Gianforte about his plan for improving wages in the state and said more Montana coal has been mined under his administration than during the three previous decades combined. He added that opportunities to expand renewable energy sources like wind and solar should be explored.

“This current administration hasn’t stood up for natural resource industries,” Gianforte said in his rebuttal, citing recent economic hits such as last month’s announcement that Columbia Falls would lose about 200 timber industry jobs by the end of the year.

“I’m a businessman, not a career politician,” Gianforte said. “As governor, I’ll focus on bringing high-wage jobs to Montana. I’ll also work to bring innovation to education so our kids are prepared for the jobs of the future.”

Gianforte said Montana is 49th in wages and “dead last in income for our kids.” He said RightNow Technologies—which was acquired by software giant Oracle in 2011—grew to employ 1,100 Montanans making an average salary of $90,000.

Gianforte also said he would bring accountability, transparency and a culture of customer service to Helena.

By some accounts, crime on American Indian reservations can be 20 times the national average, Hillier noted in her next question. “How would your administration tackle this issue?” she asked Gianforte.

“I have an ‘A’ rating from the NRA. My opponent has a ‘C’ rating and he has, honestly, a lousy record in protecting our gun rights.”

Bullock in closing highlighted the value of Montana and on the reservations, is in creating better economic outcomes,” Gianforte continued. “There is very little private sector opportunity on these reservations.”

“There are some jurisdictional challenges, but I’m pleased that we’ve worked in a government-to-government relationship,” Bullock said in his rebuttal, before switching his focus to economic development and education.

Other debate topics included each candidate’s plans for funding infrastructure needs; closing Montana’s wage gap between men’s and women’s pay; and how the environmental cleanup in Colstrip will be handled if out-of-state companies leave Montana to foot the bill.

In his closing remarks, Gianforte reiterated his commitment to fiscal responsibility, and asked voters to think about “what kind of future we want for our state.”

Dates for future gubernatorial debates have not been locked in yet, but will likely be announced in the coming weeks.

Republican gubernatorial challenger Greg Gianforte and Democratic incumbent Steve Bullock debate June 25 at Big Sky Resort (PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT)

“I believe we can develop natural resources here in Montana and preserve the environment. We can do both,” Gianforte said, using a recent trip to Nye as an example, where he watched a dozen bighorn sheep graze within 15 feet of the Stillwater Mine entrance. He said there used to be a “cowboy West” mentality in the early days of mineral extraction, but rules governing mining are stringent now.

Gianforte said the state’s budget is “$2 billion in the hole,” and he reiterated he’ll “double down” on K-12 education. He also proposed to “return funds from audits.”

“The beauty is that’s a public right-of-way, I don’t need your permission,” Bullock said. “I have an ‘A’ rating from the NRA. My opponent has a ‘C’ rating and he has, honestly, a lousy record in protecting our gun rights.”

“Leaders to improve outcomes there,” Gianforte added. “I’m a strong proponent of our Second Amendment rights today, and always will be in the future.”

Gianforte responded, adding, “the [National Rifle Association] called me ‘courageous.’”

“There’s only one candidate up here that’s endorsed by the NRA,” Gianforte rebutted. “I have an ‘A’ rating from the NRA. My opponent has a ‘C’ rating and he has, honestly, a lousy record in protecting our gun rights.”

“I think the path to more prosperity, both for all of Montana and on the reservations, is in creating better economic outcomes,” Gianforte continued. “There is very little private sector opportunity on these reservations.”

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Grizzly killed by motorist near Big Sky

BY TYLER ALLEN
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – During the July Fourth holiday weekend, a young male grizzly bear was struck and killed by a vehicle on Highway 191 south of Big Sky.

The bear fit the description of a grizzly that has been frequenting the Big Sky area this spring and summer, according to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks bear biologist Kevin Frey.

The young bruin weighed just over 200 pounds and Frey estimates he was 2-and-a-half years old—this was likely his first year on his own.

Big Sky residents have been reporting sightings since late winter, when a small grizzly was spotted at Big Sky Resort while there was still snow on the ground. Frey received a handful of similar reports from the Big Sky Resort Golf Course to Lone Mountain Ranch, and other areas between the mountain and meadow.

In the week prior to the fatality, residents south of the Gallatin Riverhouse Grill spotted a young grizzly in this area, according to Frey. “A couple people reported they had seen trash cans knocked over and trash spread around. It’s highly likely this bear was getting into the trash cans.”

Garbage is the No. 1 attractant for bears in Big Sky, according to Kris Inman of the Wilderness Conservation Society, who coordinates the Bear Smart Big Sky program.

“We don’t want bears to die by being habituated to trash,” she said.

Inman estimates that 60-70 percent of Big Sky residents use bear-resistant trash cans, but much of that can be attributed to ordinances mandated by homeowners associations.

Currently, no HOAs along Highway 191 require residents to use these cans, she said, though some people in that area have purchased them voluntarily.

“Big Sky is in some of the best bear country in southwest Montana, and black bears have been the issue we’ve mostly been dealing with,” Inman said. “With grizzlies recovering and moving out of Yellowstone National Park ... it ups the stakes a little bit for being prepared to live with bears in Big Sky.”

Reducing bear-human conflicts here will require a community wide commitment to using bear-resistant trash cans, she says, but there’s a lot of confusion about the cost to upgrade since people choose different billing plans with Republic Services.

Typically, it’s an additional $1.40 per week or $6 per month to use the new cans, she said.

Bear Smart Big Sky is rolling out a new campaign this year to help inform both residents and visitors about strategies for living in bear country. In the coming weeks they’ll be distributing posters and fliers with information about how to reduce encounters while recreating; reduce attractants around your home; handle a bear encounter; and where to report a sighting or encounter.

Visit bscomt.org/bearsmart to learn more about Bear Smart Big Sky or to report a bear sighting.

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Building ‘firewise’ communities
Wildfire expo examines the importance of adapting to wildfire trends

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS STAFF WRITER

BELGRADE - According to one of the top fire suppression officials in the state, there are three troubling trends developing in the West: fire seasons are longer and more destructive due to climate change, building construction has increased in the wildland-urban interface, and the fire service is aging.

At the first-ever Southwest Montana Wildfire Expo held in Belgrade on June 15, Mike DeGrosky, chief of fire and aviation with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, spoke about these trends in hopes that education would lead to better wildfire preparation and greater safety for firefighting forces.

“We stopped fighting fire in November and we started fighting fire in February,” DeGrosky said of longer fire seasons in the West.

At the same time, the wildland-urban interface has seen a significant increase in construction.

“Let’s be honest, we in Montana are not known as a situation that young men and women in my 20 or 30 members in their 20s and 30s now look at the physically demanding task of battling wildfires. "Fire departments that used to have 20 years and a firefighter for 18, said it’s much easier to prepare a home for wildfire fire before there’s one in the area—and it’s better yet to remove vegetation around a home site before the house and utilities are in place.

He noted that cost-share grants are available through the state of Montana to help homeowners cover the cost of fuels treatments.

Dillon said he’s responded to fires where firefighters are “scrambling to [create] defensible space” with a fire rapidly approaching. “Fire folks should be working on the fire, not trying to do defensible space,” Dillon said, adding that he was once advised “if the fire service is unable to intervene.”

DeGrosky describes a fire-adapted community as that which “can survive a wildfire fire even if the fire service is unable to intervene.”

DeGrosky then spoke about last year’s deadly Twisp River Fire, which burned in a wildland-urban interface area of north-central Washington.

A Forest Service engine staffed by four firefighters drove through a canyon up a winding, narrow road while responding to the rapidly growing fire. They determined it wasn’t safe to engage it from that location and turned around to return to their safety zone.

Thick smoke enveloped the road, obscuring visibility causing them to crash their vehicle. The fire overran the firefighters, killing three and critically burning another.

“Thick smoke enveloped the road, obscuring visibility causing them to crash their vehicle. The fire overran the firefighters, killing three and critically burning another.”

DeGrosky is also concerned about aging volunteer fire departments charged with the physically-demanding task of battling wildfires. “Fire departments that used to have 20 or 30 members in their 20s and 30s now have eight or 10 members in their 50s, 60s, and often their 70s,” he said.

People affected by these trends aren’t without tools to mitigate their impact, however. At the expo, DeGrosky urged residential developers, realtors, landscapers, consulting foresters, architects, arborists and insurance agents to do their jobs with fire-adapted communities in mind.

In a post-expo interview, Patrick Lonergan, the Gallatin County Disaster and Emergency Services coordinator, said the last long-range prediction he heard called for an average season in the Northern Rockies. “We still have a lot of fires in an average season,” he added.

The area between Big Sky, Ennis and West Yellowstone has already seen a handful of wildfires this summer, including two actively burning in the Gravelly Range outside of Ennis, several small fires—both lightning- and human-caused—outside of Big Sky and four in Yellowstone National Park.

Lonergan said Gallatin County has been lucky that it hasn’t yet suffered something like Park County’s Pine Creek Fire of 2012 that burned more than 8,500 acres and claimed five homes.

That year, 1.1 million acres burned across the state and 462 structures were lost, according to the Northern Rockies Coordination Center.

Lonergan said the goal of the wildland fire expo was to motivate Montanans to take a proactive approach to fire readiness. “Wildfire’s really hard to mitigate when it happens,” he said. “When the fire starts and it’s heading toward your house, oftentimes it’s too late to do the work that could save [it].”

Resources for developing fire-adapted communities

firesafemt.org
Includes a firesafe construction guide that outlines ignition-resistant construction materials, fire-resistant plant species and fuels management programs

dncr.mt.gov/divisions/forestry/fire-and-aviation/fire-prevention-and-preparedness
Contains a number of guides about building and living in the wildland-urban interface for homeowners, planners and fire professionals.

firewise.org
An interagency organization that shares information with homeowners and fire and emergency personnel about how to protect homes and communities from wildfire, how houses ignite, and what you can do to prepare if a wildfire is quickly approaching.
In general, dry fly fishing tends to be best when clouds are present or in shaded areas of the river. One of the biggest reasons for that we believe is that the glare of the sun can be very hard on fish as they do not have eyelids. But that does not mean you can’t have great dry fly fishing on a sunny day. Some hatches thrive on heat and sun, which will force fish to the surface and the direction of the sun can work to your advantage in some cases.

Mornings can be great as there tends to be fewer anglers on the river and the sun is still low in the horizon. But insect activity tends to be more active in the afternoons and especially the evenings.

Water temps also play into the equation. When water temps are cold, as they are fall through spring, mid day is the time to fish when water temps are at their warmest. Also, the sun is lower in the horizon that time of year. Early summer when water temps start to warm up you can have great fishing all day long. But later in the summer as water temps start to lean towards the warm side of normal early and late in the day may be the best times to be on the water.

Know that this is all based on general observation and everyday we experience exceptions to what we thought we knew about fish and fishing. Learn to take a more scientific approach to your fishing and you should quickly start to reap the rewards. But every day is a good day to be on the water and catching fish should be thought of as a happy bonus.

Have fun out there, be kind to your fellow anglers and consider some of these factors next time you’re wondering why the fish are or are not feeding.
RECREATION - ART - WELLNESS - HISTORY
ENVIRONMENT - KIDS ACTIVITIES

Free guided hikes and activities throughout BSCO’s Community Trail System

Every Tuesday during the summer from 10-11 a.m.

Wildflower & Weed Identification
TUESDAY JULY 5
Ousel Falls Trail with Gallatin / Big Sky Weed Committee

Trail Workout
TUESDAY JULY 12
Uplands Trail with Lone Peak Fitness

Discovering Wetlands
TUESDAY JULY 19
Hummocks Trail with Montana State University Extension

Kids Hike: Animal & Plant Detectives
TUESDAY JULY 26
Hummocks Trail with Camp Big Sky

Mindfulness & Exploration
TUESDAY AUGUST 2
Ousel Falls Trail with Angela Marie Patnode

Water Quality & Restoration
TUESDAY AUGUST 9
Little Willow Way with Gallatin River Task Force

History Hike
TUESDAY AUGUST 16
Crail Ranch Trail with Historic Crail Ranch

Search & Rescue Canine Demo
TUESDAY AUGUST 23
Hummocks Trail with Big Sky Search and Rescue

Outdoor Portrait Photography
TUESDAY AUGUST 30
Uplands Trail with Becky Brockie Photography

Intro to Climbing
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6
Big Sky Community Park with Montana Alpine Guides

FOR RENT
Vacation Rental available during Big Sky PBR festivities. 2 bed/ 2.5 bath condo located in Big Sky Town Center. VRBO Listing # 423380. Contact Michele to look at michellemorrison@yahoo.com

GALLATIN COUNTY
Notice of Meeting
The Gallatin Canyon/Big Sky Zoning Advisory Committee (“BSAC”) will consider the following items at its monthly meeting on Monday July 11, 2016 at 9:30 AM, at the Big Sky Water and Sewer District office, 561 Little Coyote Rd, Big Sky, MT. The BSAC is an advisory arm of the Gallatin Canyon Big Sky Planning and Zoning Commission and invites the Big Sky Community to attend meetings and participate in discussions concerning Big Sky planning matters.

1. Public Forum (items not on agenda)

2. Pfeil/Lieberman Accessory Apartment CUP. Jeff Pfeil and Tim Lieberman application for conditional use permit approval for to allow for an accessory apartment, which is required in the R-MF-6,500 district of the Gallatin Canyon/Big Sky Zoning Area. The property is 0.25 acres in size, and described as Lot 4 of the Southfork Phase 5 Subdivision, located in Section 2, Township 7S, Range 3E, Gallatin County, Montana, generally located at the corner of Sprucecone and Big Pine Drive.

Questions and comments should be directed to the Gallatin County Planning Department, 466-582-2130 or e-mail to tim.skop@gallatin.mt.gov

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

Big Sky Build
Carpenters wanted for a Big Sky custom home builder. This is a full time position with benefit package. Minimum 5 years carpentry experience, vehicle, references, and a background check are required. Inquire by email only to info@bigskybuild.com

Big Sky Post Office – Help Wanted
The Big Sky 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.

Big Sky School District – Now Hiring
Big Sky School District is seeking candidates for a Business Manager/District Clerk. Please see www.bsisd72.org for full details and application process or email mgooke@bsisd72.org

Blue Ribbon Builders – Now Hiring
JOB OPPORTUNITY FOR JOURNEYMAN CARPENTERS. Benefits include: Health Insurance, Profit Sharing, 401K, Employee housing available. Apply online at www.blueribbonbuilder.com or call Blue Ribbon Builders at 406-995-4580

Highline Partners – Now Hiring
Highline Partners is looking to hire carpenters for work in Big Sky and the greater SW Montana area. Transportation provided from Bozeman to job sites. Excellent wages based upon experience. Compensation package available after probationary period includes Health Insurance, PTO (Paid Time Off), Paid Holidays, Retirement Plan, Costco Membership offset, and Verizon discounts. Interested parties should email resumes to robinh@highline-partners.com

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.

WorldMark by Wyndham – Now Hiring

FOR RENT
Vacation Rental available during Big Sky PBR festivities. 2 bed/ 2.5 bath condo located in Big Sky Town Center. VRBO Listing # 423380. Contact Michele to look at michellemorrison@yahoo.com
Biologists begin grizzly bear research trapping in Gallatin National Forest

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

As part of ongoing efforts required under the Endangered Species Act to monitor the population of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, pre-baiting and scientific trapping operations will occur on private and federal lands on and adjacent to the Gallatin National Forest.

Biologists with the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team will be in the following areas of the forest July 1 through Aug. 31: drainages associated with the southern end of Gallatin Crest, as well as the Northern Absaroka Range of the Gallatin National Forest.

Trapping operations can include a variety of activities, but areas where work is being conducted will have all major access points marked with warning signs.

Monitoring of grizzly bear distribution and other activities are vital to ongoing recovery of grizzlies in the Yellowstone ecosystem. In order to attract bears, biologists utilize natural food sources such as fresh road–killed deer and elk.

Potential trapping sites are baited with these natural foods and if indications are that grizzly bears are in the area, traps will be used to capture the bears. Once trapped, the bears are handled in accordance with strict protocols developed by the IGBST.

Whenever bear trapping activities are being conducted for scientific purposes, the area around the site will be posted with warning signs to inform the public of the activities occurring.

Be aware that the public needs these signs and do not venture into an area that has been posted.

For more information regarding grizzly bear trapping efforts call the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team hotline at (406) 994-6673.

MSU earns recognition for its scientific impact, collaboration

BOZEMAN – For the third consecutive year, Montana State University has received recognition in a respected ranking system for its scientific impact and collaboration.

The university earned a spot on the CWTS Leiden Ranking for 2016, which ranked the 842 universities in the world with the largest contributions in international scientific journals. MSU is one of only 173 U.S. universities to be included on the list, and is the only university in Montana to be recognized.

The ranking is based on universities’ scientific contributions published in scholarly journals, as well as the impact those scientific findings have on the international community. Impact is measured by the number of times the research is cited in subsequent articles published in scholarly journals.

MSU’s overall publication impact rank was 750, while its overall collaborations rank was 741. According to materials published by the Leiden Ranking, MSU had 1,178 published articles appear in the citation database it uses for the three years included in the 2016 ranking. In addition, about 10 percent of those articles were classified as “high-impact” under one of the system’s measures.

MSU Interim Provost Robert Mokwa said that while rankings alone are not able to tell the complete story, this recognition demonstrates the scientific contributions and research being conducted at MSU have global significance.

“That Montana State University continues to be ranked among the world’s top universities for its research and scholarly impact is meaningful to the state and region, and a point of pride for our institution,” Mokwa said. “Being one of just 173 universities in the country to make this ranking is a testament to the quality of research conducted by our talented faculty and students.”

Renee Reijo Pera, MSU vice president for research and economic development, said the result shows that research and collaborations by MSU faculty and students continue to increase in output and significance.

“One of just two universities to receive recognition this year, this ranking is a testament to our research excellence, and region, and a point of pride for our institution,” Mokwa said. “Being one of just 173 universities in the country to make this ranking is a testament to the quality of research conducted by our talented faculty and students.”

MSU scientists were among contributors to an international project that earlier this year led to the first direct detection of gravitational waves, a discovery that earned the team a Breakthrough Prize.

Other significant recent research findings have the potential to impact the world’s food supply, decrease summertime temperatures, eliminate genetic diseases and further the understanding of how viruses spread.

Reijo Pera noted that MSU faculty and students publish research findings in numerous major scholarly journals, including Cell, Nature, Science, the Journal of Virology, Historical Biology: An International Journal of Paleobiology, the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, and the International Journal of Arts and Sciences.

MSU consistently exceeds $100 million in research annually, Reijo Pera said. The Leiden Ranking is based on 2011-2014 data from a leading bibliographic database, the Web of Science, produced by Thomson Reuters Corp.

Keep bears and people safe by being bear smart

While camping
• Do not store food in your tent
• Cook 100 yards from your tent
• Clean cooking area thoroughly
• Don’t sleep in clothes you cooked in
• Store food, trash, lotions, toothpaste, and deodorant in a hard-sided vehicle or bear-resistant container

While hiking or biking
• Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return
• Travel in groups of 3 or more and stay together
• Make sure everyone has bear spray
• Carry bear spray in an accessible location (hip or chest holster) and know how to use it
• Stay alert
• Always keep children & pets close & within sight
• Make noise to avoid surprising a bear

Bear conflicts are a community issue. It is important to work together to remove bear attractants.

For more information on bears in Big Sky, visit us online at bscomt.org/bearsmart

MSU NEWS SERVICE
Native Americans turn focus inward for political empowerment

BY BOBBY CAINA CALVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BROWNING, Mont. (AP) – Lea Whitford remembers the first time she set foot in Montana’s Capitol in Helena after a four-hour bus ride from the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. She and her high school classmates marveled at the ornate rotunda before entering a large office to meet one of the state’s most politically important men, the governor.

They took turns sitting at his desk, and Whitford sensed the power coursing through the grand building and big chair.

Now a state senator, she wants more of her fellow Blackfeet to let go of their indifference and discover the influence of politics—to experience government at work as she did 35 years ago.

“I wish they could feel the opportunity and the empowerment,” she said.

For generations, tribal nations fought to tear down the barriers that kept them from having a voice in the government. The U.S. Cavalry imposed upon the western frontier. Now, Native American activists are increasingly turning their focus inward, working to persuade their fellow tribal members to seize the ballot box as a weapon against oppression.

At powwows, advocates fan out with voter registration cards. Across reservations, tribal leaders implore their people to engage in the political process. In classrooms, they lecture their young about making a difference.

The Native vote could be especially crucial in Democrat Denise Juneau’s bid to become the first American Indian woman in Congress. Juneau, the state’s two-term superintendent of schools, is one of nine Native Americans running for Congress, state’s two-term superintendent of schools, is one

During the 2014 primary, about 30 percent of voters in Glacier County precincts with high concentrations of Native Americans cast ballots, according to data Monroe compiled. As a whole, turnout was 45 percent across the county.

At the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation, east of the Blackfeet reservation, it was even worse: In three predominantly Native precincts, only 81 ballots were cast out of 1,566—or just 5 percent of registered voters.

Native Americans account for about 8 percent of Montana’s 1 million residents, mostly hailing from the state’s 12 tribal nations. Only Alaska, Oklahoma, South Dakota and New Mexico have higher proportions of Native citizens.

But despite sizeable numbers, Native Americans in Montana are only beginning to exercise their political clout.

“It’s huge—if they activate it, and if that vote consistently votes in a bloc,” said David Parker, a political science professor at Montana State University.

The Native American population is growing faster than the white population. Over time, Parker said, the Native American vote could become even more influential.

But some, like Nathaniel Whitegrass, 28, who is unemployed, remain unconvinced.

“Elections, like voting for governor—it just doesn’t resonate with a lot of us at all,” he said at the Missoula powwow. “We’re just trying to deal with our own stuff. I just stay out of politics and government altogether.”

That frustrates activists like Tom Rodgers, a Washington, D.C., lobbyist who grew up in Blackfeet country.

“We have a substantial enough population that we can control the political outcomes in the state of Montana,” he said.

The Native American vote could become a political force in Montana, as more Native Americans have become more open to pro-coal Republicans.

As Baker spoke about wanting to see more Native Americans in power, Juneau emerged from a crowd and asked for his support. He agreed.

“Modernizers” — a group of Native communities that kept American Indians from the political process

In the 1990s, Native Americans from three Montana reservations. The lawsuit, brought under the federal Voting Rights Act, claimed the great distances and time needed to travel to elections offices put an undue burden on Native Americans.

Secretary of State Linda McCulloch helped counties establish 13 such offices in the weeks leading up to the June 7 primary. By her account, foot traffic at the offices was relatively slow. Nevertheless, activists said, the satellite offices helped register scores of new voters.

“Our challenge is to show that what goes on in Helena or Washington does affect their lives,” said Marcia McClanahan, executive director of Western Native Voice, a nonpartisan social justice group. That could take generations, she acknowledged. But Whitford, who represents the Blackfeet in the Legislature, believes that day will come.

“If we show up to vote,” she said, “we can make some pretty substantial changes—if we put forth an effort.”
Famous griz 399 loses her cub to hit-and-run

Global response reminds us why bears matter

BY TODD WILKINSON
ebs environmental columnist

“Snowy” the grizzly wasn’t nearly as well-known as his mother. But when he emerged at her side in May, trailing the whitish-blond flush of fur marking his face.

Part of the reason was his lineage, being the ursid son of 399, the most famous bear in the world, their home territory, the wild backyard of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem; to be more specific, the northern tier of Jackson Hole from the Tetons eastward to the Gros Ventre and southern Absaroka.

399 was scheduled to turn 20 years old in her den last winter—an ancient age for a mama grizzly to achieve in a dangerous world—though speculation was rampant she might have been poached.

One Wyoming agitator, who despises federal protection of wildlife, despises environmentalists, and, apparently, resents the public love of 399, claimed on the Jackson Hole News and Guide website that he gleefully killed her.

When the boasting threat proved not to be true and 399 showed up in her usual haunt this spring—a sweep of public land that includes Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest—her anxious adoring fans were ecstatic.

399 was scheduled to turn 20 years old in her den last winter—an ancient age for a mama grizzly to achieve in a dangerous world—though speculation was rampant she might have been poached.

Even better, 399 had a newborn at her side. The youngest was given the nickname “Snowy” by amateur wildlife photographer and retiree Bernie Scaife, owed to the whish-blonde flush of fur marking his face.

As crowds gathered to look for 399 and Snowy near the Grand Teton roadways—the mama griz, per her behavior, has demonstrated remarkable tolerance for people—cute photographs of the pair abounded only solidifying 399’s living legend.

It’s always perilsus for humans to anthropomorphize, to project our own emotions onto animals, to believe we “know” what another creature is “thinking.” However, it isn’t conjecture to recognize playfulness in other beings, or tender protectiveness, warm nurturing, and perhaps even joy expressed through the body language of parent and offspring.

Prominent ethologists like Dr. Marc Bekoff and Jane Goodall cite numerous studies showing that animals have their own inner architecture of emotions; in other words, they “feel” things, such as loss, and have a sentient awareness.

Our inability to understand that we cannot consciously know—yet—does not mean it doesn’t exist.

Some federal and state wildlife managers try to dismiss and diminish the value of individual animals, claiming that they are only concerned about species at the population level. They even make fun of people who develop a deeper connection to individual animals the more they observe them.

(Funny isn’t it, how humans are able to ascribe intelligence to pet dogs, cats, even livestock like horses and cows, but they deny that such acuity is innate with wildlife.)

However, as 399 has demonstrated, most people don’t relate abstractly to animals at the population level, as nameless, faceless critters inhabiting the backcountry.

Individual animals like 399 and her clan provide a window into how species survive at the population level, how it is the accumulation of smart, savvy and fertile individuals that add up to populations which possess greater resiliency in being able to withstand impacts threatening their persistence.

Indeed, 399 has been exceptional. With Snowy, she’s been responsible for 16 descendants (cubs and cubs born to cubs). Grizzlies, in fact, are some of the slowest reproducing large mammals on the planet.

Keep enough reproducing females like 399 alive in the population, and ensure that their daughters, which learn the skills of their mother, are given room to roam, and you’ll have stable numbers. Yet allow a dozen prime females grizzlies of reproductive age to be killed and a population trajectory can turn south.

Of those 16 brunos in 399’s bloodline, half have already perished, the vast majority in deadly encounters with humans, be it from illegal killing, being hit by vehicles, destroyed for coming into conflict with cattle on public land or removed and euthanized by wildlife managers.

On Sunday, June 19, the evening prior to the first full day of summer, 399 and Snowy were crossing the main Grand Teton highway just before dusk. A motorist ran into the cub, left him sprawled on the asphalt and then drove off, not alerting authorities or stopping to investigate.

It was a hit and run, according to the letter of federal code. As Snowy lay dead or dying, 399 went to the cub’s aid to investigate and when the little bear didn’t move, his mother dragged him off the roadway, remaining with his body.

Rangers arrived on the scene and were only able to recover Snowy’s carcass after 399 fled. Wildlife watchers noticed that 399 seemed anxious and confused. Meanwhile, no person came forward to claim responsibility.

Within 24 hours, word of Snowy’s death had encircled the globe. Only cynical folk would characterize 399 and Snowy as just another set of bears. I was interviewed by the BBC and wrote a story for National Geographic online.

People ask me, knowing that Tom Mangelsen and I have produced a book about 399 called “Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek,” if I feel responsible for enlarging the human spectacle that gathers in Grand Teton with thousands of people hoping to see the bears?

My response is this: In an age of pandemic nature-deficit disorder, when urban people feel disconnected from nature, when they are left anesthetized by electronic gadgetry and yet have a yearning for authentic sensual experiences in America’s backcountry, with real, wild, rare, charismatic animals like grizzlies, I’m thrilled that more people are enjoying 399’s story.

399 and all of the federally protected grizzlies in Greater Yellowstone belong to all of us. They are the beneficiaries of our willingness to give them space on landscapes becoming increasingly cluttered with development. They are examples of how and why the Endangered Species Act is important.

Just seeing people out there peering at bears and counting it among the most memorable experiences of their lives is inspiring. 399 is part of a legacy different generations can share together. That she’s visually accessible isn’t a bad thing; it’s an extraordinary thing.

Yes, it’s still possible, albeit a longshot, that 399, if she successfully navigates a gauntlet of elk hunters in Wyoming this fall, could emerge from the den again in 2017 with cubs. The oldest known grizzly mama to have cubs in Greater Yellowstone was 27.

But Snowy very well could be her last. Many believe that what they witnessed in her—people out there peering at bears, counting it among the most memorable experiences of their lives is inspiring—there’s a yearning for authentic sensual experiences in America’s outback, with real, wild, rare, charismatic animals like grizzlies. I’m thrilled that more people are enjoying 399’s story.

Why are people so rapt? What 399 represents is the opposite of apathy. She may not be long for the world but every day that she helps people rediscover their desire to embrace wilderness is a miracle.

Todd Wilkinson writes his New West column every week. He is author of the award-winning and critically acclaimed “Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek: An Intimate Portrait of 399, the Most Famous Bear of Greater Yellowstone” featuring 150 amazing photographs by Thomas D. Mangelsen. The book is only available at mangelsen.com/grizzly and when you order today you will receive a copy autographed by both author and photographer. Wilkinson also wrote a profile of Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk for the summer 2016 edition of Mountain Outlaw magazine, now on newsstands.
YOGA  |  MASSAGE  |  CHIROPRACTIC

SUNDAY  |  MONDAY  |  TUESDAY  |  WEDNESDAY  |  THURSDAY  |  FRIDAY  |  SATURDAY

9:00-9:45  |  DanceX  |  All Levels Yoga  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am
DanceX  |  9:00-10:15am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  8:15-9:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am
All Levels Yoga  |  11:00-Noon  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Core Focused Pilates  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00
Community Yoga (town center lawn weather permitting)  |  9:30-10:45am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Sukshma Vyayama-Fine Tune Your Circuitry  |  9:30-10:45am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  9:00-10:15am
6:30-7:45pm  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Kids Yoga (through summer break)  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  11:00-Noon
Yin Yoga  |  7:00-8:00am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  11:00-12:00  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  Gentle/Restorative Yoga

7:00-8:00am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  9:00-10:15am
PiYo  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Core Focused Pilates  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Level II Yoga
11:00-12:00  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Roll it out Pilates  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Gentle/Restorative Yoga
7:00-8:00am  |  8:15-9:15am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00
PiYo  |  Roll it out Pilates  |  All Levels Yoga  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am

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6:30-7:45pm  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Kids Yoga (through summer break)  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  11:00-Noon
Yin Yoga  |  7:00-8:00am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  11:00-12:00  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  Gentle/Restorative Yoga

7:00-8:00am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  9:00-10:15am
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DanceX  |  9:00-10:15am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  8:15-9:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am
All Levels Yoga  |  11:00-Noon  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Core Focused Pilates  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00
Community Yoga (town center lawn weather permitting)  |  9:30-10:45am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Sukshma Vyayama-Fine Tune Your Circuitry  |  9:30-10:45am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  9:00-10:15am
6:30-7:45pm  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Kids Yoga (through summer break)  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  6:30-7:45pm  |  11:00-Noon
Yin Yoga  |  7:00-8:00am  |  All Levels Yoga  |  11:00-12:00  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  Gentle/Restorative Yoga

7:00-8:00am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  7:00-8:00am  |  9:00-10:15am
PiYo  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Core Focused Pilates  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Level II Yoga
11:00-12:00  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Roll it out Pilates  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  All Levels Yoga  |  Gentle/Restorative Yoga
7:00-8:00am  |  8:15-9:15am  |  9:30-10:45am  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00  |  11:00-12:00
PiYo  |  Roll it out Pilates  |  All Levels Yoga  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am  |  9:00-10:15am

Bringing you closer to Santosha (contentment) today...
MSU scientist wins NASA fellowship to explore early life on Earth, other planets

BY EVELYN BOSWELL
MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – A Montana State University graduate student who wants to better understand early life on Earth and the potential for life on other planets has received a one-year, $30,000 fellowship from NASA, with the potential to renew it for two additional years.

Melody Lindsay, of Honolulu, Hawaii, said the Earth and Space Science Fellowship will allow her to continue sampling hot springs in the world-class laboratory known as Yellowstone National Park.

Lindsay met Boyd at an American Geophysical Union conference where she presented her undergraduate research on microbial life almost two miles below the surface of the earth in the gold, diamond and platinum mines of South Africa.

“I came to MSU because of the research Eric is doing, which is amazing,” Lindsay said.

Although she encountered a grizzly bear and two cubs on her first day as a graduate student and her first day in Yellowstone, Lindsay said the opportunity to study extremophiles in Yellowstone National Park is incredible.

“To continue in the same line of work would be phenomenal,” she added.

Boyd, who has many achievements of his own, was a NASA Early Career Fellow, won a NASA Astrobiology Institute Postdoctoral Research Fellowship and is deputy director of a $7 million NASA project to investigate the origin and future of life in the universe.

“He’s wonderful,” Lindsay said. “The opportunities he gives all his students are just insane. It’s amazing what he can do for his students, what he has done. Plus, he’s fun to work with.”

Boyd, who currently supervises five graduate students, said he remembers the frustrations of graduate school so he looks for ways to keep his students excited about their research.

Besides going to Spain and starting her NASA fellowship this summer, Lindsay will also travel to Alaska to conduct fieldwork on mud volcanoes in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Max Amenabar, another of Boyd’s students, spent six weeks in 2014 on a research ship best known for carrying researchers to the sunken Titanic. Amenabar was part of a team looking for microbial life in 3-million-year-old sediments beneath the floor of the North Atlantic Ocean.

Besides examining the influence of hydrogen on microorganisms that thrive in the extreme conditions of the Norris Geyser Basin and other thermal areas, she will use her fellowship to analyze and present her findings at the NASA AldSciCon conference and, potentially, other scientific conferences. The fellowship will also allow her to pay tuition and other expenses as a third-year doctoral student in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

Eric Boyd, Lindsay’s adviser and an assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, said the fellowship is extremely competitive. NASA’s Earth and Space Science Fellowship Program offers fellowships in four areas of research, and more than 700 people applied for the 2016 awards. Lindsay was one of 28 who received a fellowship in planetary science.

Boyd said the fellowship is another major achievement for Lindsay, who has already accomplished much in both science and music.

Lindsay, who grew up in Honolulu the daughter of a physicist and musician, was also one of 20 U.S. college students selected to attend a June 20-24 conference in Spain. The 2016 International Summer School in Astrobiology allowed her to learn from some of the world’s leading experts in astrobiology, a field that focuses on the origin, evolution, and future of life in the universe.

Lindsay is also lead author of a scientific paper accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of the journal Geobiology. The paper—her first as lead author—was the culmination of research conducted in one semester by 10 MSU graduate students who took a course last fall from Boyd and MSU Earth Sciences Professor David Lageson.

“This is a super phenomenal time in her life and her career,” Boyd said of Lindsay. “She is rising to the top, and it’s fun to watch. It’s fun to be a part of.”

Before coming to MSU, Lindsay earned her bachelor’s in ecology and evolutionary biology from Princeton University. A harpist as well as a scientist, Lindsay attended Princeton with a $50,000 fellowship from the Davidson Institute for Talent Development. Saying science won out over music, she nevertheless continues to play the harp for the Great Falls and Billings symphonies and occasionally plays a small harp while in Yellowstone for fieldwork. She has also performed on NPR, her first time at age 13.

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Researchers receive grant to address well water issues on Crow Reservation

BY ANNE CANTRELL
MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – Researchers from Montana State University and Little Big Horn College have received an approximately $500,000 grant to address well water issues on the Crow Reservation in southeastern Montana.

In conjunction with the Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee and Little Big Horn College, the researchers will use the funds to continue home well water testing, conduct surveys about well water uses and well head protection, and educate well owners about the quality of their well water and any associated health risks.

Additional grant funding will provide home water coolers for free to participating families with unsafe well water.

The researchers’ work is part of a collaboration with the University of New Mexico, which received a five-year, $5 million award from the National Institutes of Health and Environmental Protection Agency to open a Center for Native American Health Equity Research.

Through a consortium of institutions including MSU and Little Big Horn College, the center will work with local communities to better understand ways to improve environmental conditions for vulnerable populations. Specifically, it will examine how contact with metal mixtures from abandoned mines affects rural Native American populations through exposures related to inadequate drinking water infrastructure, reliance on local foods and other uses of local resources to maintain their traditional lifestyle and culture.

The new data researchers obtain from Crow will be added to current maps of well water contamination and will be connected to Indian Health Service data about well depths. In collaboration with colleagues from the University of New Mexico, researchers will analyze the information with a goal of providing a better understanding of which well locations are at risk from metals contamination.

Researchers will then present the information at public meetings held on the Crow Reservation. Findings will also be posted in public places and shared with tribal administrators, hospitals and community members.

Inequities in access to public water systems lead to reliance on unregulated drinking water, according to Mari Eggers, a research scientist with the MSU Center for Biofilm Engineering.

“The U.S. Geological Survey’s nationwide study found that 15 percent of our population lack access to regulated drinking water from public systems. For our tribal partners, Navajo and Cheyenne River Sioux, this rate can exceed 30 percent, and on the Crow Reservation, the USGS estimates well usage at 40 to 60 percent,” Eggers said.

“Our overall goal is to improve community health by educating families about the health risks of drinking and cooking with metals-contaminated well water, and by providing them with safer alternatives,” she added.

The multidisciplinary research is intended to mitigate and prevent health disparities driven by environmental causes. It is expected to focus on understanding the relationships between biological, chemical, environmental and social factors, Keil said.

“Exposures to harmful contaminants in low-income communities is an ongoing problem in our country,” said Michael Slimak, director of EPA’s Sustainable and Healthy Communities Research Program. “With the support of these centers of excellence, EPA is working to address this issue and protect human health.”

Human, bear conflicts on the rise in Northern Rockies

HELENA (AP) – Grizzly bears have rebounded from widespread extermination across the Northern Rockies over the past several decades. But conflicts with humans have been on the rise, and the death of a Montana man June 29 brings to at least seven the number of people fatally mauled by bears in the region since 2010.

An estimated 1,000 grizzlies live in and around Glacier National Park, and at least 700 in and around Yellowstone National Park. The last time a bear killed someone in Glacier was 1998, when three bears killed and partially ate a park vendor employee while he was hiking.

Here’s a look at recent fatal bear attacks in the Northern Rockies:

July 7, 2011 – Brian Matayoshi, 57, of Torrance, California, is killed after attempting to run from a female grizzly that he and his wife encountered while hiking the Wapiti Lake Trail in Yellowstone National Park.

August, 2011 – John Wallace, 59, of Chassell, Michigan, is killed by a grizzly while hiking alone on the Mary Mountain Trail in Yellowstone National Park. A female grizzly is later captured and killed after DNA evidence links it to the deaths of both Matayoshi and Wallace.

Sept. 4, 2014 – Adam Stewart, 31, of Virgin, Utah, is killed by a bear while alone conducting research for an ecological consulting firm in northwest Wyoming’s Bridger-Teton National Forest. Authorities are unable to say conclusively whether a black bear or grizzly bear was responsible.

Aug. 7, 2015 – Lance Crosby, 48, of Billings, Montana, is killed by a female grizzly with cub while hiking alone and off-trail near the Elephant Back Loop Trail in Yellowstone National Park. The female grizzly was later killed.

June 29, 2016 – Brad Treat, 38, of West Glacier, Montana, is killed by a grizzly while mountain biking with a friend just east of Glacier National Park.
### Big Sky Softball League

**FIELD #1**

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**STANDINGS: Wins-Losses**

1. Riverhouse 6-0
2. Yellowstone Club 5-0
3. Country Market 4-2
4. Cab Lizards 4-2
5. Michaelangelo’s 3-2
6. Yeti Dogs 4-3
7. Blue Mooners 4-4
8. The Cave 3-3
9. Montucky Moonshiners 3-3
10. Lone Mountain Land Co. 3-3
11. Black Bear 3-3
12. Hillbilly Huckers 2-3
13. Jarvis 2-3
14. CIA/Broken Spoke 2-3
15. Milkie’s 2-3
16. Big Sky Resort 0-6

*Standings as of June 29

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Boundary Expeditions operates under special use permits with the Salmon-Challis National Forest and Payette National Forest and is an equal opportunity provider.
BY BRANDON NILES
EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST

It’s been a while since the Colorado Rockies have had something to be excited about. The team hasn’t been to the playoffs since 2009, and that fantastic National League Championship Series in 2007 seems like a distant memory at this point. A year ago, the team traded Troy Tulowitzki, one of their best hitters, and it appeared that they were on their way to another rebuild.

But last season also saw Nolan Arenado hit 42 homeruns and have a breakout year. The 25-year-old third baseman from Newport Beach, California, finished the season with career bests in hits, homeruns, and a whopping 130 RBIs that was best in MLB. Arenado was drafted back in 2009 as a second round pick, eschewing college for professional baseball. After a few successful years in the minor leagues, the Rockies called him up in April 2013 and haven’t looked back since.

Arenado was immediately an impact defender. He was the first Rockies third baseman to win the Gold Glove award, and he’s won it each of his three seasons in the majors. He was already a big part of Colorado’s future and a fan favorite, but his offense remained a work in progress until his breakout 2015 season.

This year, Arenado is proving that last season wasn’t a fluke. As of EBS press time, near the halfway point of the season, he was tied for third in the league with 23 homeruns and ranked second with 69 RBIs. Even more impressive is his .290 batting average. He’s been a career .283 hitter during his first three years, and the closer he inches toward .300, the more the Rockies will count on him to be their future franchise player on offense as well as defense.

Brandon Niles is a longtime fan of football and scotch, and has been writing about sports for the past decade. He is a fantasy football scout for 4for4 Fantasy Football and is co-host of the 2 Guys Podcast.
Developing a consistent routine when approaching the golf ball can be just as crucial as a good swing is to hitting a successful shot.

First, always start behind the golf ball to get the best visual of your intended target line. Next, find an intermediate target that is somewhere between your golf ball and the target. This intermediate target can be an old divot, a broken tee, or discoloration in the grass, for example.

From there, follow the “CHEF” routine, an approach to the golf ball that I have used for many years:

Clubhead – Aim the clubhead at the target or better yet, at your intermediate target.

Hands – Place your hands on the grip with the clubhead still aimed at your target.

Eyes – With your hands on the club, look at your target.

Feet – Set your feet while looking at the target.

To recap, start behind the ball being very specific about picking your target. Then think “CHEF,” as you aim your clubhead, put your hands on the grip, and then look at the target while setting your feet: club, hands, eyes, feet, in that order.

Having a consistent routine when approaching the ball will lead to more consistent golf shots.

Mark Wehrman is the PGA Head Professional at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course.
LUKAS NELSON & PROMISE OF THE REAL

JULY 28 • 7 P.M. • TOWN CENTER PARK
FREE MUSIC IN THE MOUNTAINS SUMMER CONCERT
BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN
EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

As a holistic health coach and columnist, hearing about strategies that help us reduce or eliminate refined sugar from our diets lifts my spirits. An energy tablet company called Voke Tab is trying to do just that.

According to the “Vokenomics” on the company’s website, you will reduce your empty calorie consumption and potentially save money.

The health coaching school I attended, the Institute for Integrative Nutrition, calls this method of replacing an unhealthy choice with a healthier one, “crowding out.” It helps fill the void that is created when you eliminate unhealthy foods and/or habits.

Voke Tab founder and president Kalen Caughey never intended to create a product or start a company, but in his quest to find a healthy energy solution to use during freestyle ski competitions—something portable enough to carry in his jacket pocket—Voke Tabs were born.

The Hamilton, Montana, native set out to make energy lozenges and tested various active ingredients with help from his father.

“Fortunately my Dad is a biochemist and helped me hone in exclusively on ingredients with peer-reviewed scientific research, demonstrating physical and mental benefits,” Caughey said in a recent interview.

Caughey’s product attracted a team who continued to tweak the recipe over the following years. A Voke Tab now contains a moderate amount of green tea leaf caffeine—77 milligrams, roughly equivalent to a small cup of coffee—as well as 100 percent of your daily recommended vitamin C and a serving of organic guarana berry seed, which is reported to enhance mental focus. They were careful keep the recipe clean using no artificial sweeteners, colors or flavors.

Voke ambassadors and mountaineers Jimmy Chin and Conrad Anker, world-class kayaker Tyler Bradt, and other accomplished athletes were essential in product testing. Caughey began distributing to bike, ski and outdoor retailers, and eventually expanded into select grocery and convenience stores.

“Voke90 Challenge” is a potential solution to help you maintain your stamina while “crowding out” sugar.

Visit voketab.com to register for the Voke90 Challenge, or for more information.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach and Consultant, a public speaker and health advocate. Contact her at jackie@corehealthmt.com.
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HEBGEN LAKE

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Learn what’s causing your allergies this season

BY DR. JEFF DANIELS
EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Every year about this time many Big Sky residents suffer with severe allergies. It happens like clockwork, from the last week or two of June through July.

The same people come back to the medical clinic with the same complaints—many using relatively ineffective over-the-counter medication, and all seeking a cure for their sneezing, itching and congestion.

Why does this happen annually like clockwork? Well, we can blame Mother Nature for this because the natural world is full of phenomenon that happen like clockwork, without time pieces involved.

Over millions of years, plants have developed their own internal clocks, based mainly on the amount of daylight that reach them, and they use that as a signal to release trillions of pollen grains into the air. Different groups of plants produce pollen at different times of the spring, summer and fall. As a rule, trees pollinate in the early spring, grasses in late spring, and weeds in the early fall.

We are all too familiar with the clouds of pine pollen that usually cover everything in Big Sky with a yellow dust. Each year this starts around June 20, but for some reason (global warming?) it began about two weeks earlier in 2016.

Believe it or not, this yellow pine pollen does not cause allergic symptoms. There’s something innately different in both yellow pine pollen and the pollen from the corn plant, compared to other grass, tree and weed pollens that make people miserable.

Corn and pine pollens, even if injected directly into the nose and eyes, will not induce true allergic symptoms. But here in Big Sky, the yellow pine pollen signals that within a week or two the grass pollens will arrive.

This year, the grass pollen came out en masse at its usual time, during the last week of June, although more than a few people felt symptoms earlier. Unlike the yellow pine pollen, you can’t see the grass pollen, and it doesn’t come from your lawn—grass grass doesn’t have flowers that pollinate—but it blows in from farmland grasses, as well as from several species of wild grasses.

There are basically two types of pollinating plants: ones that use the wind to spread their pollen, and plants that use the services of insects and other animals. A plant that depends on insects or animals—like a hummingbird, for example—to spread pollen from one plant to another must have flowers to attract the insect or animal, and must have sticky pollen to stick to the legs of bumblebees so that it can be transported directly to another plant. These pollens only cause allergies if you stick the plant up your nose.

Wind-pollinating plants are aerodynamically designed to take advantage of a breeze, so the pollen-producing parts basically dangle in the wind and discharge the light, invisible pollen into the air in such vast quantities that it is very likely to reach a similar plant for reproduction.

These plants have flowering parts, but we hardly notice them, because they were not designed to attract members of the animal kingdom, including us.

So now you know why you’re sneezing. If the symptoms are driving you mad, and over-the-counter or prescription medications are not helping, the medical clinic has what some of my patients call a “miracle” cure. Try it and you won’t have symptoms again until the following year’s grass pollen season.

Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2016 Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Chet Huntley Lifetime Achievement Award and 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.

Learn what’s causing your allergies this season

By Dr. Jeff Daniels

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Believe it or not, this yellow pine pollen does not cause allergic symptoms. There’s something innately different in both yellow pine pollen and the pollen from the corn plant, compared to other grass, tree and weed pollens that make people miserable.

Corn and pine pollens, even if injected directly into the nose and eyes, will not induce true allergic symptoms. But here in Big Sky, the yellow pine pollen signals that within a week or two the grass pollens will arrive.

This year, the grass pollen came out en masse at its usual time, during the last week of June, although more than a few people felt symptoms earlier. Unlike the yellow pine pollen, you can’t see the grass pollen, and it doesn’t come from your lawn—grass grass doesn’t have flowers that pollinate—but it blows in from farmland grasses, as well as from several species of wild grasses.

There are basically two types of pollinating plants: ones that use the wind to spread their pollen, and plants that use the services of insects and other animals. A plant that depends on insects or animals—like a hummingbird, for example—to spread pollen from one plant to another must have flowers to attract the insect or animal, and must have sticky pollen to stick to the legs of bumblebees so that it can be transported directly to another plant. These pollens only cause allergies if you stick the plant up your nose.

Wind-pollinating plants are aerodynamically designed to take advantage of a breeze, so the pollen-producing parts basically dangle in the wind and discharge the light, invisible pollen into the air in such vast quantities that it is very likely to reach a similar plant for reproduction.

These plants have flowering parts, but we hardly notice them, because they were not designed to attract members of the animal kingdom, including us.

So now you know why you’re sneezing. If the symptoms are driving you mad, and over-the-counter or prescription medications are not helping, the medical clinic has what some of my patients call a “miracle” cure. Try it and you won’t have symptoms again until the following year’s grass pollen season.

Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2016 Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Chet Huntley Lifetime Achievement Award and 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.
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- 388 Andesite Ridge Rd.
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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.

Was Old Mother Hubbard a chef?

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

“Old Mother Hubbard/ Went to the cupboard/ To get her poor dog a bone/ But when she came there/ The cupboard was bare/ And so the poor dog had none.”

The opening verse of the iconic 1805 nursery rhyme got me thinking the other day: Was Old Mother Hubbard a chef?

There is a misnomer that anyone associated with a chef eats amazing food every time they are in his or her presence. The general public also tends to believe that a chef’s cupboards and refrigerator are an endless cache of fresh produce; rich proteins; spices from all over the world; and all the best equipment to take you to your favorite restaurant right there in your chef friend’s personal kitchen.

There’s a saying that a mechanic’s car never runs, a carpenter’s house is never complete, and chefs never have any food in their house.

The reality is that chefs eat a large portion (no pun intended) of their meals either in the restaurant they work in or own, out where they know they can get a good meal, or at a new restaurant that piques their interest. We do cook at home, but mostly because we just want to unplug, shut down and decompress.

Kitchens are constantly filled with noise: hood fans running, people yelling in close proximity to each other, and many team members in your personal space all day long.

And by and large we bring ingredients home from our professional kitchens or purchase ingredients the day of preparation.

So you may be wondering what exactly is in a chef’s personal kitchen on a daily basis. While we’re all different—some are single and others have families—for the typical chef who is nearly always at work, let me describe what they most likely have in their refrigerator and cupboards right now.

They probably have a bottle of Sriracha, that classic American—yes, made in America—hot sauce. Sriracha was created in 1987 and the general public latched on to it about 10 years ago, but chefs have been using it much longer.

I had my first Sriracha experience in 1989 and never looked back. And while the general public is content to give the bottle a squeeze over nearly anything, chefs love it on eggs, in their favorite pork marinade, made into a fresh mayonnaise, or in their bloody mary.

There is also likely a growler of their favorite beer from a local brewery at all times.

Their freezer undoubtedly has some variety of bizarre or byproduct cuts of an elk they shot, or that a friend gave them—because who else would eat those, let alone know how to prepare them?

I promise you almost every chef has a bottle of truffle oil in his or her home right now. I would also wager a guess that most chefs I know have either a bit of saffron right now, or real Madagascar vanilla beans in their cupboard.

There is probably a “ripe” avocado in most chefs’ refrigerators right now that could play a larger stand-in during an old California Raisins commercial.

Sure they may have many other items—some interesting, and some mundane—but knowing our industry and chef lifestyle, my money’s on most items on this list.

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.
Critical coverage: The controversy between German media and the right wing

BY IAN STRAHN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

On a sunny June afternoon, around 60 flag-bearing Germans have gathered in the shadow of Berlin Central Station to take a stand against what they call the “Islamization of Germany.”

The demonstrators are members of Bärgida, the local offshoot of an organization known as Pegida. Translated, it stands for “Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West.”

Perched on a makeshift stage a greying politician named Manfred Rouhs greets the crowd with a toothy smile. He wishes the demonstrators a “happy Ramadan,” which elicits jeers and laughter.

In his speech, Rouhs references a recent newspaper article that depicted him and the participants of an earlier anti-refugee demonstration as neo-Nazis, and accused them of inciting violent attacks on refugee shelters. The audience boos, then begins to chant, “Lügenpresse,” German for lying press.

The next day, neither the local nor the German national media make any mention of Rouhs and the Bärgida demonstrators; after all, the event has become routine. Bärgida has been holding rallies like this every Monday for months.

In the wake of the current European refugee crisis, skepticism and mistrust of the media have become part of everyday discourse, and are no longer limited to the political fringes. Reporters in Germany face the challenge of addressing the politically charged, complex issues of flight, migration and integration while remaining unbiased. Many Germans believe that journalists have been unsuccessful thus far.

The term Lügenpresse has become commonplace in the modern German vernacular. It is used by right-wing organizations like Pegida to express the belief that the German press is beholden to Chancellor Angela Merkel’s pro-refugee policies.

Infamously wielded by Joseph Goebbels, the Reich Minister of Propaganda during the Nazi era, the term’s origins reach back to the 1800s. Once exclusive to the ideological fringes, the media skepticism it represents has recently established itself in the political mainstream.

A study conducted by the Dortmund-based Forsa Institute showed that 44 percent of respondents believed that the media either partially or wholly lies to the German public.

Cristina Gonzales, an American with a background in radio journalism, has been studying this phenomenon since 2015. Sipping a cappuccino in one of central Berlin’s historic cobblestoned courtyards, she says that even before the refugee crisis reached its peak, usage of the term “lying-press” was on the rise.

“In 2014, Lügenpresse was named the un-word of the year in German,” Gonzales said, suppressing a smile as she explained that linguists in Germany award this title to the most offensive, new or recently popularized term every year.

Gonzales’ findings, which she presented in May at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, indicate that the history of media manipulation in Germany has contributed significantly to media skepticism today.

During the Nazi era, the National Socialist propaganda ministry directly controlled the media. After World War II, American and British forces took over management of West Germany’s media outlets before handing over the reins to the Germans in 1949. On the east side of the Berlin Wall, Soviets continued the legacy of suppression and manipulation until the collapse of the German Democratic Republic in 1990.

Because of this history of media control, Gonzales said she believes many Germans are suspicious of close relationships between the media and the government. At the same time, they receive most of their news from television, which is dominated by two public broadcasting services: ARD and ZDF. Unlike American public broadcasters like PBS, which are funded primarily through donations, these channels follow the BBC model and are largely financed by a mandatory fee of $20 per month.

In her research, Gonzales often came across accusations that ARD and ZDF are producing left-of-center programming.

“In my opinion, this concept of one-sided coverage is somewhat accurate,” she said, adding that studies show those drawn to journalism tend to be liberal, whether in Germany or the U.S. Few agree with the positions of populist movements like Pegida, or share the concerns of the right.

Thomas Fuhrmann, the editor of ZDF’s popular morning news program Morgengazettein, argues that personal political orientation plays little role in his journalistic practice.

“I can distinguish between what I’m doing as a citizen of this country and what I’m doing as a professional,” he said. Media skeptics disagree with his assessment, and their criticism often takes a nasty or even violent tone.

Produced in an imposing office building in the center of Berlin, Morgengazettein features a mix of news and entertainment, comparable to ABC’s Good Morning America. Front and center are Fuhrmann’s two anchors, Dunja Hayali and Mitzi Sirin, whose parents immigrated from Iraq and Syria, respectively. Hayali has received overwhelming amounts of disturbing, and often threatening hate mail.

“I will pray every day that you die,” wrote one of her less vulgar critics.

Fuhrmann’s eyes light up in anger when the conversation turns to the insults against his team.
For the editor, much of what comes out of right field amounts to “prejudiced conspiracy theories.” Still, he says, “we have to show what is happening, and if something is not working.” He cites a 12-part series on the integration of refugees in the small town of Templin as an example for what he considers his program’s multidimensional coverage of the issue.

In one instance, Fuhrmann said, 12 refugees were offered internships in Templin but after just one day nine had already dropped out of the program. The ZDF team reported the information, despite the recognition that it might perpetuate negative assumptions about the work ethic of refugees.

“It might harm the cause of integration, but it’s not our job to always calculate whether it harms of not,” Fuhrmann said.

In an uncommon gesture for the German media, Morgenmagazin has also devoted considerable resources to give Merkel’s opponents a voice in the debate. Earlier this year, Hayali won the prestigious Golden Camera award for “Best Information” in recognition of a piece interviewing anti-immigrant demonstrators in East Germany.

But while Hayali’s work has encouraged a dialogue with citizens on the right side of the political spectrum, Fuhrmann admits that the German media’s portrayal of the refugee situation has not been an unmitigated success.

The dysfunction of the German media became clear on Dec. 31, 2015 when holiday revellers gathered before the iconic cathedral of Cologne to usher in the New Year. Jubilation abruptly turned to chaos when hundreds of women were sexually assaulted and robbed amidst the holiday mayhem. The perpetrators were primarily migrants of North African descent, a politically significant fact considering many Germans’ uncertainty about the future of refugee integration.

Invalidenstrasse in the Mitte district of Berlin. Nationalistic rap music is blaring from car speakers while passersby gawk at the spectacle.

Once the speeches end, BärGida demonstrators parade down shaded Invalidenstrasse in the Mitte district of Berlin. Nationalistic rap music is blaring from car speakers while passersby gawk at the spectacle.

Jonas Frykman’s institution, the Aktionsbündnis Brandenburg, is a nonpartisan organization devoted to combating violent extremism. Frykman has been studying the relationship between the media and the right wing since 2009.

“There are problems with how leaders of the racist movement are portrayed,” Frykman said, explaining that employees of the Aktionsbündnis Brandenburg only refer to people as neo-Nazis if they directly affiliate themselves with the National Socialism of Germany’s “Third Reich.” Others are more appropriately referred to as racists or xenophobes.

Because Nazism is so heavily stigmatized in modern German culture, many right-wing individuals, even those with more obvious ties to National Socialism than Gläser, are deeply offended by the label of neo-Nazi.

One significant factor contributing to media distrust among the political right is, therefore, the media’s misuse of terms associated with Germany’s Nazi past. Journalists who ostracize right-wing politicians and protesters with loaded characterizations are likely to be labeled as members of the “lying press,” thereby perpetuating media skepticism.

Once the speeches end, BärGida demonstrators parade down shaded Invalidenstrasse in the Mitte district of Berlin. Nationalistic rap music is blaring from car speakers while passersby gawk at the spectacle.

Though prone to generalization, racial stereotyping and conspiracy theories, BärGida and their ADV allies have made their mark by successfully pinpointing what they see as deficiencies in the media’s portrayal of the refugee crisis, and media skepticism is a product of this reality. Almost a year after refugees started pouring into Germany, journalists still struggle with covering all sides of the debate.

Since the attacks in Cologne, Gläser’s party has experienced a drastic increase in popular support, evident in their strong showings in three state elections in March.

Like many right-wing politicians, the 43-year-old journalist sharply criticizes media coverage of what happened on New Year’s Eve.

“The media tried for three or four days to sweep it under the rug,” he said.

In his view, the mainstream German news did not begin reporting about everything until after online reports brought the issue to the political forefront.

As a journalist himself, Gläser’s understanding of media practice is slightly more nuanced than that of others in his political camp.

While reporting for Junge Freiheit, Gläser said that at least once a month he begins research on a story that turns out to be based in rumor or utterly false. Gläser maintains that these stories are never published.

“Every journalist has the problem that they produce biased things,” he said. “Everyone makes mistakes, but our assumption is, of course, that our colleagues in the Lügenpresse consistently report falsehoods.”

Gläser is unapologetic when it comes to his racist convictions. He believes that if an open-border policy is pursued for the next 50 years, Germany will become “a third-world country,” and one that’s unrecognizable.

He cites France, which, due to its colonial history, already counts a large number of North Africans among its population. “[North Africans] are, as a result of their cultural heritage, not as successful and capable as us white, middle Europeans,” he said. “We don’t want to see this in Germany.”

Do these convictions make individuals with anti-foreigner sentiments like Gläser neo-Nazis? One expert on right-wing extremism who has been fighting racism for years says no.

“Do these convictions make individuals with anti-foreigner sentiments like Gläser neo-Nazis? One expert on right-wing extremism who has been fighting racism for years says no.

The German media has not been completely transparent in its coverage of the refugee crisis, and media skepticism is a product of this reality. Almost a year after refugees started pouring into Germany, journalists still struggle with covering all sides of the debate.

Ian Strahn is a reporter for “Missoula to Berlin,” a project of the University of Montana School of Journalism. Visit missoulatoberlin.atavist.com to read more about the project.

BärGida demonstraters express dissatisfaction with Angela Merkel's liberal refugee acceptance policies. Approximately sixty protesters took part in the 72nd BärGida rally in Berlin's Washingtonplatz in early June. PHOTO BY ADAM MCCAW
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Better fishing through chemistry
Understanding the fly floatant mystery

BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

Most of our local fly shops have a similar layout: they have extensive fly selections, racks filled with fly rods from the utilitarian all the way up to high-end; clothing and wading gear for nearly every stream and every condition; and then there’s the tackle and tippet sections.

In the tackle and tippet sections there are numerous little bottles of chemicals—floatants, powders, sprays, gels and liquids. When you look at these tiny vials, you think fly fishing today is no longer your grandparents’ pastime.

But using chemicals in fly fishing isn’t a new phenomenon. In fact, before plastics were commonly used to coat fly lines, anglers needed to continually apply mucilin to their lines to keep them floating.

Here’s some help in navigating today’s angling accessory rock garden.

Fly floatants are essential. If you fish in Montana, and especially for the next few months, using a chemical to help your fly float is crucial. Flies are tied with hooks and hooks sink. Therefore, flies will eventually sink and you want your dry fly on the surface.

Know the difference. Concentrations of fly floatants perform differently. A liquid floatant will perform better on larger, fuller flies such as Chubby Chernobyls or stimulators. A liquid floatant will do fine on small flies, but a gel floatant is best suited for smaller flies such as a Hi-Vis Caddis or Parachute Adams. Because liquid floatants often contain silicone or wax, in colder weather these floatants often congeal. Most gel floatants are less temperature sensitive.

Drying agents are your best friend. These aren’t just for shoeboxes any more. In the past few years the desiccants, or drying agents, available to anglers has grown.

From powders to granules, there is a time and place for them all. Despite its effectiveness, gone are the days of amadou—a soft, leather-like patch—for drying your fly. Amadou worked well, but today it’s easier to carry a few bottles of powder, and they are more effective.

Powders are ideal for small flies or flies with CDC. Powders work best on dry flies that have hackles tied into them or that are tied with CDC, or cul-du-canard—which translates to feathers from a duck. These feathers are naturally waterproof and are used more and more in smaller dry flies. Gel floatants are not ideal for CDC flies, but powders are.

A powder helps coat the CDC in a shade of white, making them easier to see. When fishing smaller flies or flies with CDC, you have to dry the fly with the powder more often, but a few shakes is usually all it takes. Powders tend to have a long shelf life, so splurge on the best one and always be sure to keep a tight lid on the container.

Granules work best on big flies. Granular desiccants are just that—tiny particles in a bottle that extract water from a wet fly. When a large fly is saturated, shaking it in treated granules will restore its buoyancy. Buy these in small doses, as granules tend to lose potency over time.

Pretreat your dry flies before fishing. Ideally you apply gel or liquid floatants several hours before you venture out, and then again just before fishing. But this is often impractical because you may not always know what body of water you will be on, and what the fish may be eating. Even if you can’t pre-treat flies prior to fishing, after streamside application always allow time for the floatant to sink into the fly or for any excess floatant to be removed. These two things are often accomplished with a few false casts.

Five-step method. Follow this five-step method and your flies will be hanging high:

1. Pre-treat properly: pre-apply floatant, or at the very least allow floatant time to coat the fly before casting.
2. Dry during fishing: between drifts make a few false casts, which allows the fly to dry off.
3. Blow dry your fly: before shaking and reapplying floatant, dry your fly by blowing on it, or if you’re really into it carry a small can of compressed air.
4. Shake it off: use granules or a powder and shake the fly dry.
5. Reapply the appropriate floatant and get back to fishing.

Fishing is often what we do to get away from things like science and technology. However, when it comes to getting the most out of your flies, using a little bit of chemistry can be beneficial in bringing more fish to hand.

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.
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Little Willow Way is Big Sky’s premier river walk. Enjoy a leisurely walk, run or bike ride along the West Fork of the Gallatin River on the 1.6-mile trail.

Little Willow Way is perfect for all ages and abilities, known for excellent views of Lone Mountain, moose sightings and beautiful river access spots to play, wade or fish in the meandering river.

This time of year the sound of the river combined with bountiful wildflowers like Indian paintbrush, wild rose and lupine provides a sensory experience that cannot be beat.

We recommend this trail as an excellent place to take novice hikers, young children, or your dog for a walk. For those looking for a bit more of a challenge, this trail also connects to our Black Diamond Trail, which provides an additional .8-mile stretch of moderate-level terrain.

For more information about Big Sky’s Parks, Trails & Recreation Programs visit bscomt.org. The Big Sky Community Organization is a local nonprofit that connects people to recreational opportunities by acquiring, promoting and preserving sustainable places and programs for all.

Little Willow Way starts at the Big Sky Community Park and follows the West Fork of the Gallatin River. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

Little Willow Way starts at the Big Sky Community Park and follows the West Fork of the Gallatin River. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

Directions:
From Meadow Village, head north on Little Coyote Road, go past the Big Sky Chapel and pond and take the first road on the right. Look for the Big Sky Community Park entrance sign and park near the picnic pavilion next to the playground area in the park. The trail starts at the pavilion.
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Big Sky is home to several public access trails, many of which are open to mountain bikers. Whether you’re a newbie to mountain biking, or you’ve been doing it for years, there is a trail that suits every skill level. The trails listed in this guide are for public use, so get out there and give them a ride!

### UPLANDS TRAIL
A short loop with a smooth climb
- 2 mile loop
- 460' elevation gain

*From Town Center, take Aspen Leaf Drive east for 1/2 mile. The trailhead will be on your left.*

### PORCUPINE CREEK
A long scenic loop with varied terrain
- 6.5 mile loop
- 650' elevation gain

*Drive south on Highway 191. Turn left on Porcupine Creek Road and follow a short distance to the trailhead.*

### MOUNTAIN TO MEADOW
An icon of the Big Sky experience
- 6 miles one way
- 1700' elevation loss

*Head east on the access road just above the bottom of the Ramcharger chairlift to the Upper South Fork Trail.*

In addition to these trails, there are six easy, 11 moderate, and seven strenuous public access trails in Big Sky, according to the Big Sky Community Organization. These trails are maintained by Big Sky Resort, BSRO, and the U.S. Forest Service. For a detailed trail map, visit bscomt.org

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**GEAR & GUIDE**

### HELMET
Mountain biking is fun, but can also be dangerous. Protect your head!

### GLOVES
Gloves aren’t 100% necessary, but are helpful in case of a crash.

### TIRE PUMP & REPAIR KIT
Punctures are inevitable, but won’t slow you down if you’re prepared.

### HYDRATION PACK
Stay hydrated while on the move! Also great for storing other gear.

### SUNGLASSES
Protect your eyes from dirt, the sun’s rays and errant branches.

### MULTI-TOOL
You never know when you’ll need to carry out a quick trailside repair.

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**HARDTAIL VS. FULL SUSPENSION**

Full suspension bikes have shocks in both the front and back, whereas hardtails only have shocks in front. Full suspension bikes handle variable terrain better, whereas hardtails tend to be less expensive and are typically lighter.

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**MODERATE**

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Grand Targhee offers a bevy of mountain bike events this summer

EBS STAFF

Whether you’re looking for pro tips to sharpen your riding, a race to test your legs and lungs, or a festival to connect you with like-minded enthusiasts, Grand Targhee has something to tickle your fancy this summer.

On July 23-24, Amanda Carey, winner of the 2010 and 2011 National Ultra Endurance Series, will lead a women’s mountain bike camp at Targhee. Carey’s clinics—there’s another one July 30-31—will take place in familiar terrain; the Level Two International Mountain Bicycling Association instructor with a master’s degree in sports psychology lives in Victor, Idaho.

In addition to mastering fundamentals like cornering, body position, clearing small obstacles and braking, campers will learn basic bike repairs like dealing with flats on the trail, fixing broken chains, and making small brake and shifting cable adjustments.

Aug. 6 is the Pierre’s Hole 50/100 Bike Race, which winds through and around Grand Targhee’s single track. Riders have three races to choose from—there are 100-mile, 100-km and 50-km options. The 100-mile and 100-km races qualify for the National Ultra Endurance Series Marathon Championship.

The end of August brings The Grand Enduro, the last race of the Montana Enduro Series. This is the second year the Enduro Series has dipped into Wyoming to take on Grand Targhee’s award-winning terrain. On Aug. 27-28, Grand Enduro racers will ride 4,600 feet of timed descent on this five-stage, 18-mile course.

Finally, Sept. 2-5 is the seventh annual Wydaho Rendezvous Teton Mountain Bike Festival, a four-day celebration of all things bike related with clinics, group rides, demos of top 2017 models, live music and a rotating selection of beer on tap.

Visit grandtarghee.com and tetonbikefest.org for more information.

GEAR REVIEW

My closet is full of shirts. Most of them have hung there for years. The few that I wear most often earn that right by being comfortable both in fit and feel with an endurable style.

Two new shirts by Flylow have found their way into my repertoire, and they are passing the test.

The Handlebar Tech Flannel is at home in the mountains of Montana. Combining the wicking properties of a baselayer with the classic flannel look, the Handlebar will let you look good and feel comfortable whether you’re hiking the “M” trail in Bozeman or roasting s’mores by the campfire.

Complementing the Handlebar’s versatility is my other new go-to shirt: Flylow’s Anderson SS. On hot summer days, this short-sleeved looks great at work and will allow you to get out on a quick bike ride during your lunch break.

The highlight of this shirt is that it’s made with antimicrobial bamboo and wicking polyester, so you won’t need to take a shower after your ride. As Flylow says on its website, the Anderson SS is “stink- and guilt-free.”

From distinctive coloring to stylish stitching, snaps and buttons, Flylow seems to have a knack for making casual look sharp.

Perhaps best of all, their durable quality means I’ll be pulling them both from my closet for years to come. A favorite shirt is hard to find. Fortunately, through quality materials, slick design, and a comfortable feel, Flylow has figured it out. Twice. – Mike Overvold

Handlebar Tech Flannel: $90  Anderson SS: $60  flylowgear.com

Flylow
Add these two shirts to your closet

PHOTO COURTESY OF TAIT TraUTMAN PHOTOGRAPHY
Picture Yellowstone this summer

Visitors to Yellowstone National Park’s Old Faithful area are in for a new treat this summer. Picture Yellowstone at the historic Haynes Photo Shop opened Memorial Day weekend, and you won’t want to miss it.

From retro selfies, to painting classes and daily photo contests, this collection of fun activities and interactive exhibits offers an all-ages exploration of art and photography in Yellowstone.

**Take a retro selfie.** Step into the Haynes Photo Booth to create a very special memento: your photo in front of a giant historic Haynes postcard.

**Enter the “Digital Darkroom.”** Share your photo, browse National Park Service social media photos, and stay up-to-date on geyser eruption times.

**Check out exhibits.** Learn about F. J. Haynes’ exploration of early photography in Yellowstone.

**Paint Yellowstone.** Take some time out for a free, family friendly watercolor activity led by Picture Yellowstone staff. Under the shade of trees, imagine your own Yellowstone with watercolor pencils, and then bring home your artwork for a one-of-a-kind souvenir. (Offered daily at 2 p.m.)

**Take photos, win prizes.** Have a great photo of the park taken on a mobile phone or tablet? Share your image on social media through #PictureYellowstone to win daily prizes and enter our weekly and annual competitions.

**Relax.** Unwind in our rocking chairs with a glass of water or lemonade.

**Recharge.** While you take in the view, feel free to plug in to a recharge station and give your phone a boost.

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**Photos from an Insider**

Steven Fuller has lived in Yellowstone National Park since 1973, when he was hired as the Canyon winterkeeper. Since the 1880s, winterkeepers have been employed as caretakers to shovel snow off roofs of hotels closed during the long Yellowstone winters. Fuller captured these photos of a male bison and bull elk in the park’s Hayden Valley during the last week of June.

PHOTOS BY STEVEN FULLER
The Yellowstone Caldera is a volcanic caldera and supervolcano located in Yellowstone National Park, also known as the Yellowstone Supervolcano.

The major features of the caldera measure about 34 by 45 miles and it was created by a massive volcanic eruption approximately 640,000 years ago. Its rim can best be seen from the Washburn Hot Springs overlook, south of Dunraven Pass. Gibbon Falls, Lewis Falls, Lake Butte, and Flat Mountain Arm of Yellowstone Lake are part of the rim.

Yellowstone is one of the largest known volcanoes in the world and is the largest volcanic system in North America.

The giant caldera is the product of a large-scale collapse of the crust after three supervolcano eruptions—large explosive events that released several hundreds to thousands of cubic kilometers of magma. These eruptions took place 2.1 million, 1.3 million, and 640,000 years ago.

Yellowstone National Park contains half of the Earth’s geothermal features.

More than 300 geysers in the park make up two-thirds of all of the planet’s geysers.

The last eruption was approximately 174,000 years ago and created what is now the West Thumb of Yellowstone Lake. The last lava flow was about 70,000 years ago.

Earthquakes—1,000 to 3,000 per year—reveal activity below ground from crustal stretching created by the expansion of granitic magma.

The park’s many hydrothermal features were created from the caldera’s impressive heat.

If another caldera-forming eruption occurs, it’s estimated that the explosion would be equivalent to a force 1,000 times more powerful than the Mount St. Helens eruption of 1980.

Current geologic activity at Yellowstone has remained relatively constant since monitoring began more than 30 years ago. Another caldera-forming eruption is theoretically possible, but is highly unlikely in the next 1,000 or even 10,000 years. Scientists have not found any indication of an imminent smaller eruption of lava either.

**SOURCES**

- www.nps.gov/yell/learn/nature/volcanoqa.htm
- www.volcanodiscovery.com/yellowstone.html
- traveltips.usatoday.com/interesting-yellowstone-volcano-102611.html
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Park begins major canyon rim rehabilitation project

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

A major initiative to repair and improve overlooks, trails, and parking lots along the rim of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River began the week of June 20. The current area closures are the first step in a major rehabilitation project that will take place over the next four years, with completion scheduled for 2020.

The project will re-route trails away from dangerous areas with stone barriers; connect historic overlooks with new walkways; create safe, accessible viewing areas with new informational signage; and use natural materials to integrate the infrastructure into the canyon’s spires and cliffs.

Current closures include:

- Inspiration Point is closed until fall 2016.
- A section of the North Rim Trail between the Brink of Upper Falls and the Brink of Lower Falls is closed until July 23. The Brink of Upper Falls and Brink of Lower Falls are still accessible from their respective trailheads.

Areas impacted over the four-year period include:

- Brink of Upper Falls
- Brink of Lower Falls
- Uncle Tom’s trails and overlooks
- Inspiration Point
- Red Rock Point
- Crystal Falls
- Sections of the North Rim Trail that connect these areas
- Parking areas at the Brink of Upper Falls and the Uncle Tom’s area are being reconfigured to increase parking and the flow of pedestrian traffic.

Stay informed about current and future area closures at go.nps.gov/canyonprojects.

This project will be funded by the Yellowstone Park Foundation through private donations and federal fee dollars, and construction will be managed and contracted by the Federal Highways Administration, with oversight by Yellowstone National Park. A crew of students from Montana Conservation Corps is assisting the National Park Service trail crew with work on the North Rim Trail.

Yellowstone deputy superintendent receives high honor

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Steven F. Iobst, deputy superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, received the Department of the Interior’s Meritorious Service Award during a recent event at Old Faithful.

As the second highest honor bestowed by the Secretary of the Interior, the Meritorious Service Award is given to employees who make exceptional and continuing contributions to the department or one of its bureaus.

National Park Service Director Jonathon B. Jarvis noted that Iobst, “made significant and ongoing contributions to both facility and park management issues … and led efforts to improve the visitor experience while protecting the resources of the park.”

Iobst took his first permanent position as a civil engineer in 1974 at the Denver Service Center, after receiving a bachelor’s in civil engineering from Virginia Tech.

As a designer and construction supervisor he was responsible for facility improvement projects in more than 40 parks, which included short-term assignments at Shenandoah, Yosemite, Acadia and the Virgin Islands, among other national park sites.

Iobst practiced engineering in Yellowstone beginning in 1979 in maintenance and concessions management, and he worked directly for the superintendent overseeing planning and development. He left Yellowstone in 1988 to take the position of chief of facility management for Rocky Mountain National Park, and in 1996 served as the acting chief of facility management in Washington, D.C.

In 1997, Iobst returned to the greater Yellowstone area as assistant superintendent of Grand Teton National Park and served there as acting superintendent from November 2000 to February 2002.

Iobst was appointed deputy superintendent of Yellowstone in August 2011, where he directs day-to-day operations, supervising the largest park operations program in the Park Service.

During his tenure at Yellowstone, Iobst has lead partnerships with leadership in the Federal Land Highways Program and with local and state governments in order to develop road improvements, including the Beartooth Highway.

In conjunction with the Yellowstone Park Foundation and their corporate donors, Iobst has improved operations and sustainability for park facilities. These efforts resulted in the installation of a micro-hydro electricity plant; reduced carbon energy sources at the historic Lamar Buffalo Ranch; installation of energy efficient windows in government facilities throughout the park; and improvements in the energy efficiency of Yellowstone's vehicle fleet.
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Exploring the thrill and risk of roughstock riding, thrill and risk are relative, mathematically speaking. These animals are dead set on getting kids off their backs.

Consider this: A 170-pound cowboy clinging to a 1,800-pound bull is as terrified and determined as a 60-pound child gripping the wool on a 150-pound sheep. It’s big time.

Just ask Sebastien Barry, a two-time mutton buster who’s considered a wily veteran by ewe-riding standards. The cutoff age is 6, and Barry’s been in training since his first event last summer.

“Now I know it’s better to hang a little off to the side instead of trying to hold on straight down around the sheep’s neck,” said 6-year-old Barry. “My little brother Miles is riding, too. He’s 3 and a half. We practiced on daddy’s back on our trampoline at home in Florida.”

During breaks in the bull-riding action at this summer’s sixth annual Big Sky Pro Bull Riders event on July 29 and 30, the tradition of mutton bustin’ will continue its skyward trajectory. Mutton bustin’ is a favorite among PBR fans, according to Gretchen Fellerhoff-White, who has provided ewes from her Gallatin Gateway farm for the Big Sky PBR since its 2011 inception.

“The fans really understand the excitement,” said Fellerhoff-White, also owner of the wool hat company Ewe Hoo Designs. “The kids are always little buckaroos and it’s always amazing to see what buckaroo will win.”

Fellerhoff-White has been raising sheep for three decades, and chooses her ewes based on age and size. All are just over a year old, and weigh approximately 140-180 pounds.

She first saw mutton bustin’ at the White Sulfur Springs, Montana, Labor Day Rodeo, and when Big Sky PBR producers approached her as a stock contractor, she jumped at the chance.

Since the early ’80s, as legend has it, kids have taken to the backs of sheep during breaks in rodeos to test their mettle by holding on as long as possible. Mutton bustin’, or wool riding as it’s known in some parts, is a test of sheer will.

It’s also a unique opportunity for young cowboys and cowgirls to gain roughstock riding experience, says Brenda Brown, whose horse-training business, Brenda H. Brown’s Performance Horses, is the official sponsor of the 2016 mutton bustin’ event.

“It’s a good place for them to get started and learn how to have some competition and have a good time,” said Brown, a reining and working cow horse trainer with more than 30 years under her belt. She plans to award trophies to mutton bustin’ winners and plaques for the other young competitors.

At the Big Sky PBR, kids ages 3-6 and weighing under 60 pounds will hold onto these plucky sheep as long as they can. Each young wrangler will get a chance to prove they’re the best in the west. Or at least in Big Sky.

As of press time July 6, a limited number of spots are open for each night of the Big Sky PBR. Email Ersin Ozer at ersin@theoutlawpartners.com to reserve a spot, and visit bigskypbr.com for tickets.
**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**FRI, JULY 7 - THURSDAY, JULY 13**

**FRIDAY, JULY 7**

- Big Sky Fireworks
  - Big Sky Resort, 8:30 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 8**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Live on the Rocks
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 9**

- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 8 a.m.
- $28 Tuesday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Laugh a Lotta Mondays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, JULY 10**

- Big Sky Fireworks
  - Big Sky Resort, 8:30 p.m.
- The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Live on the Rocks
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 11**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Live on the Rocks
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- $28 Tuesday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Laugh a Lotta Mondays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 12**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Live on the Rocks
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- $28 Tuesday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Laugh a Lotta Mondays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 13**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Live on the Rocks
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- $28 Tuesday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Laugh a Lotta Mondays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 14**

- Big Sky Fireworks
  - Big Sky Resort, 8:30 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 15**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Live on the Rocks
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- $28 Tuesday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Laugh a Lotta Mondays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 16**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, JULY 17**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 18**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 19**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 20**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 21**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 22**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 23**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, JULY 24**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 25**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 26**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 27**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 28**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 29**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 30**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.

**MONDAY, JULY 31**

- Mountain Music
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Explore Big Sky
  - Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.
- Red Knee Tuesdays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Range Fridays
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
- Free Spirit Friday
  - The Haufbrau, 9 p.m.
EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

RECURRING EVENTS:
- Pints with Purpose: Bridger Brewing, Mondays at 5 p.m.
- Improv on the Verge: Verge Theater, Mondays at 7 p.m.
- Burgers & Bingo: Eagles Lodge, Friday Nights at 5:30 p.m.
- Open Mic Night: The Hauftbrau, Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m.
- Karaoke: American Legion, Mondays at 9 p.m.
- Music & Musicals: Bridger Brewing, Wednesdays at 5 p.m.
- Pickle’ in the Parks: The Shony Mansions, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- Bluegrass Thursdays with The Bridge Creek Boys: Red Tractor Pizza, Thursdays at 7 p.m.
- Karaoke: Eagles Lodge, Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.
- Yoga for All: Bozeman Public Library, Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.
- Open Mic with Eric Bartz: Lockhorn Cider House, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.
- Bingo: American Legion, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
- Free Friday Nights: Children’s Museum: Children’s Museum, Fridays at 5 p.m.
- Food Truck Fridays: Architects Wife, 11:30 a.m.
- Raman Fridays: Museum of the Rockies, Fridays at 10 a.m.
- Food Truck Fridays: Architects Wife, 11:30 a.m.

Livingston & Paradise Valley

FRIDAY, JULY 8
- Ashley Holland: Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 7 p.m.
- Someday Miss Pray: Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- Chicago: The Shane Center, 8 p.m.
- The Bus Driver Tour: Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.
- Big Ol’: The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 9
- Seth Morman: Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.
- The Haslers: Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- Chicago: The Shane Center, 8 p.m.
- The Bus Driver Tour: Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.
- Skian cascade: The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 10
- Live and Let Livingston Vegan Potluck: Park County Senior Center, 4:30 p.m.
- Joe Knopp: Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.
- Danny Bee: Pine Creek Lodge, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 11
- Kalye Bradley: The Murray Bar, 5 p.m.
- Bluegrass Jam: Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.
- Too Slim & The Taildraggers: Chico Hot Springs, 6 p.m.
- TUESDAY, JULY 12
- Beer for a Cause: Yellowstone Gateway Museum: Katabatic Brewing, 4 p.m.
- The Young Dubliners: Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- THURSDAY, JULY 14
- Keith Scott: Katabatic Brewing, 6:30 p.m.
- Keith Scott Blue's: The Murray Bar, 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 15
- Summer Fest: Miles Park, 4 p.m.
- Art Walk: Downtown Livingston, 5:30 p.m.
- Brian & Katie Earnest: Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 7 p.m.
- The Jayhawks: Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- Russ Nascet & The Revoltators: Chico Hot Springs, 5 p.m.
- Stahlhoie’s Proctorhe Club: The Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 16
- Ashley Jane: Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.
- The Cold Hard Cash Show: Pine Creek Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- Super Blues: The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 17
- Keith Scott: Pine Creek Lodge, 6 p.m.
- Parashend: Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 18
- Dan Dubuque: The Murray Bar, 5 p.m.
- Bluegrass Jam: Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 19
- Beer for a Cause: St. Mary’s School: Katabatic Brewing, 4 p.m.
- Brian Ernst: The Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20
- Livingston Farmers Market: Sacagawea Park, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 21
- Roundhouse Roundup: Livingston Depot Center, 5:30 p.m.
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.

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SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVALS

Summer is about a variety of outdoor activities: fishing, hiking, mountain biking, boating and summer music. So pack your tent and cooler and take a road trip to see live music. Whether you’re in the Mountain West or on the road, here are some of the top music festivals in Montana and beyond.

MONTANA

June 23 - September 2
Music in the Mountains
Big Sky, MT

July 8 - 10
Montana Folk Festival
Butte, MT

July 15 - 16
Moods of the Madison
Ennis, MT

July 28 - 31
Red Ants Pants
White Sulphur Springs, MT

August 5 - 6
Magic City Blues
Billings, MT

August 12 - 14
Big Sky Classical Music Festival
Big Sky, MT

Wyoming

July 4 - August 20
Grand Teton Music Festival
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

July 15 - 17
Targhee Fest
Alta, Wyoming

July 17 - 25
Frontier Days
Cheyenne, Wyoming

August 7 - 8
Rock’n The Railroad
Sheridan, Wyoming

August 12 - 14
Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival
Alta, Wyoming

Lexington, MT

August 12 - 14
An Ri Ra Irish Music Festival
Butte, MT

August 26 - 27
River City Roots Festival
Missoula, MT

July 14, 21, 28 / August 4, 11, 18
Music on Main
Bozeman, MT

AND BEYOND

July 22 - 24
Capitol Hill Block Party
Seattle, Washington

July 22 - 24
Newport Folk Festival
Newport, Rhode Island

July 28 - 31
Lollapalooza
Chicago, Illinois

July 29 - 31
Mountain Home Country Festival
Mountain Home, Idaho

August 5 - 7
Pickathon
Happy Valley, Oregon

August 12 - 13
Das Energi Festival
Salt Lake City, Utah

August 19 - 20
Sawtooth Valley Gathering
Stanley, Idaho

September 3 - 4
Made In America Festival
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

September 23 - 25
Life Is Beautiful
Las Vegas, Nevada

September 20 - October 2
Austin City Limits
Austin, Texas

COLORADO

July 17 - 25
Reggae on the Rocks
Morrison, Colorado

July 22 - 24
Divide Music Festival
Fraser, Colorado

July 29 - 30
Bass Center
Commerce City, Colorado

August 5 - 7
ARISE Music Festival
Loveland, Colorado
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**Soul Fest / Saturday, July 23**

Sista Otis, Donny White, Izzy Taylor

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**Pre-tournament Auction**

7pm Kickoff
Cocktails & hors d'oeuvres
Raffle, Live & Silent Auctions
Talus Room at the Summit Hotel, Big Sky Resort

**Monday, July 18th, 2016**

**Golf Tournament**

11am Shotgun Start
Lunch and dinner provided
Big Sky Golf Course

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**Enthusiasm, Integrity & Hometown Service**
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Gallatin County is once again hosting an annual celebrity golf tournament and fundraiser at Big Sky Resort’s Arnold Palmer Golf Course.

The event begins Sunday, July 17 at 7 p.m. with a pre-tourney kickoff auction including live music and a live and silent auction at Big Sky Resort. This year’s live auction will consist of three major items including a custom oil painting by Tom Gilleon, Rockstar Parking & Ski Valet at Big Sky Resort, and a trip anywhere in the world donated by Boyne Resorts. Many local merchants have graciously donated to our silent auction as well.

Our BBBSGC Celebrity Golf Tournament tees off on Monday, July 18 at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start that includes a four-player team paired with a celebrity. Celebrities this year include world-renowned artist Tom Gilleon, former NSYNC entertainer Chris Kirkpatrick, and local NCAA golfer Dorsey Addicks.

This event has raised more than $450,000 in its 15-year history and has helped BBBSGC serve over 30 kids in the Big Sky area this year. The Big Sky Branch of BBBSGC has participants in both the community- and school-based programs at Ophir Elementary and Lone Peak High School.

For more information about BBBSGC’s programs and events, visit bbbs-gc.org.
2016 EVENTS

JULY 12  4th Annual Big Sky Weed Pull
5 p.m. @ the Community Park

JULY 21  Native Plant Tour Fundraiser
Join us in celebrating native plants with a tour of Montana State University, Westscape Nursery and a private garden. Lunch included. Details online.

AUGUST 9  Wildflower & Weed Walk
10 a.m. at Beehive Basin

NOXIOUS WEED INFORMATION

CONTROL & IDENTIFY
Need help identifying and controlling noxious weeds on your property? We can help!

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- Resources to connect landowners to services
- Various educational opportunities

Visit www.bigskyweeds.org for:
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Strive to be a good neighbor.
As Montanans, we have an ethical & moral responsibility to control noxious weeds. As landowners, we have a legal responsibility to control noxious weeds on our property.

Visit us every Wednesday night at the BIG SKY FARMERS MARKET
Bring unidentified plants to the experts at our booth

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES IN YOUR TRACKS
Help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals

- Arrive with clean gear
- Burn local or certified firewood
- Use local or weed-free hay
- Stay on the trails
- Before leaving, remove mud and seeds.

Landowners can have a long lasting impact on neighboring private and public lands.
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BECOME A MEMBER
We invite all those who love the native flora and fauna of Big Sky to join us in protecting it. Details on our website.

www.facebook.com/bigskyweeds
Archie Bray 65th anniversary features benefit auction and 1950s-themed Brickyard Bash

BY RACHEL HICKS
ARCHIE BRAY COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

HELENA - Join Archie Bray as it celebrates its 65th anniversary on Saturday, July 23 with silent, live and cup auctions and a 1950s-themed Brickyard Bash that will take party goers back to the beginning of the foundation.

Bring your poodle skirts, blue suede shoes and muscle cars and get ready to kick off the next 65 years of ceramic excellence at the Archie Bray Foundation. Relive the decade that gave rise to Elvis Presley and Little Richard, TV shows like “I Love Lucy” and “Leave it to Beaver”; hot rods and drive-ins; and Barbie, hula hoops and Play-Doh.

Now in its 20th year, the annual Bray Benefit Auction includes work by more than 120 artists who have contributed to the live, silent and cup auctions. The live auction artwork will be on display in the North Gallery beginning May 20, and bidding on the cup and silent Auction items will begin on Thursday, July 16 in the Warehouse Gallery. The live auction and close of the cup and silent auctions will take place on Saturday, July 23 in conjunction with the Brickyard Bash.

All auction proceeds benefit the Bray’s international resident-artist program, which supports artists by offering rent-free studios, subsidized material and firing costs, as well as direct funding through fellowships and stipends.

Missoula artists the Big Sky Mudflaps, with special guests from Salsa Loca, will play live music. Appetizers, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be served during the auction and a no-host beer and wine stand will be open during the Brickyard Bash.

The Brickyard Bash began in 1984 to celebrate the purchase of the Bray family brickyard and to thank the community for its support. Under the direction of Kurt Weiser, the acquisition of 25 acres allowed for new studios, improvements to the clay business facilities, and opportunities for the residents to, in the words of Weiser, “stretch out and do things they never did before.”

Visit archiebray.org for more information on the event, to view the auction artwork, or to find out more about the bidding process.

The Archie Bray Foundation is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the enrichment of the ceramic arts, located at 2915 Country Club Ave. in Helena, just 1/3 mile west of Spring Meadow Lake. Galleries are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sundays 1–5 p.m.
JULY 15 - 17, 2016

moe. • Drive-By Truckers • Grace Potter
JJ Grey and Mofro • Hot Tuna Electric
Bettye LaVette • Jamie McLean Band
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Jerry Joseph and the Jackmormons

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‘Oliver!’ comes to Ellen Theatre July 15

THE ELLEN THEATRE

There is nothing quite like a well-crafted musical to bring together a community. Opening Friday, July 15, “Oliver!” brings a talented cast of 33 and a live orchestra to The Ellen Theatre stage. Presented by Montana Theatre Works—producers of last year’s sold-out hits “Fiddler on the Roof” and “White Christmas”—this beloved classic is based on “Oliver Twist.”

The magical world of Charles Dickens leaps from the page to the stage - and into your heart. You’re sure to be tapping your toes and humming along to Lionel Bart’s award-winning score with such favorites as “Consider Yourself,” “Food, Glorious Food,” “I’d Do Anything,” “Pick a Pocket or Two” and “As Long as He Needs Me.”

As this is an adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel, there are some darker themes and parental guidance is suggested. “Oliver!” is recommended for ages eight and up. Make plans now to visit 1830s London and consider yourself part of The Ellen family with “Oliver!”

Performances start at 7:30 p.m. on July 15, 16, 21, 22, 28, 29 and 30. There are three matinee performances beginning at 3 p.m. on July 17, 24 and 31. Beer, wine and other refreshments will be for sale in The Ellen lobby starting one hour before each performance.

Visit theellentheatre.com for tickets or more information. For questions, or to order tickets over the phone, please call the box office at (406) 585-5885.

Pinky and the Floyd play Paradise Valley

EBS STAFF

Pinky and the Floyd, known as the Northwest’s hottest Pink Floyd tribute band, is playing an outdoor concert, 12 miles south of Livingston at Pine Creek Lodge on July 22.

Originally formed in 2007, Pinky and the Floyd has enjoyed a notable increase in popularity. The past three years, nearly every show they’ve played has sold out. The 10-member, Montana-based band has developed a reputation for balancing intimacy and intensity in their live performances.

Pinky and the Floyd will play Pine Creek’s newly remodeled outdoor arena from 7-10 p.m. at an all-ages show. Camping and lodging is available at Pine Creek, as well as other campgrounds and lodges in the area. Follow ‘Yer’ Nose, a food joint from across the valley in Emigrant, will serve up southern barbecue at the concert.

Tickets are available at Cactus Records in Bozeman and at Pine Creek Lodge. Call (406) 222-3628 or visit pinecreeklodgemontana.com for more information.
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David James Duncan is best known as the author of “The River Why,” a novel about fly fishing, romance and the rivers of Oregon and Montana, and “The Brothers K,” a Dostoyevskian tale about family, baseball and religion.

He is less well known for his essay collections “My Story as Told by Water” and “God Laughs & Plays,” his most recent book about politics and Christianity, published in 2006.

Duncan is passionate about running waters and despite being raised as a Seventh Day Adventist, his own religiosity resembles the Nez Perce tribe’s reverence for the coho salmon as a sacred animal. “A salmon river is a prayer wheel,” the author once said.

But with equal adeptness the author can channel the humility of St. Francis of Assisi, the tranquility of a Zen Buddhist monk, or the anger of an Old Testament prophet.

I was planning on reading one of the Missoula-based writer’s novels when I came across “River Teeth” on a friend’s bookshelf. In the introduction, Duncan explains how since childhood he has called the last knots of old growth trees disintegrating in fast moving waters “river teeth.”

“There is life in rivers, and strength,” Duncan writes, “there are countless grinders and sanders: in a relic the waters have shaped so long, why wouldn’t we begin to glimpse the river’s mind and blind artistry?”

While “River Teeth” is a collection of both fiction and nonfiction stories, it’s difficult to know where one medium begins and the other ends. I can only assume the blurring between the autobiographical and the fantastical is intentional.

Duncan blends an environmental ethic, a love of baseball, and his own brand of Eastern mysticism in tightly wrought vignettes and longer-form short stories. He somehow manages a balancing act between his activist inclinations and his own contemplative tendencies.

“The Mickey Mantle Koan” is unquestionably one of the finest pieces in the collection. At the same time, it’s a magnificent contribution to sports literature and one of the most moving eulogies I have ever read.

“On Not Rocking the Boats” is an unforgettable hilarious story about an irritable fly fisher who laments the commercialization of his craft. For anyone who has had a transcendental experience at a music concert, “My One Conversation with Collin Walcott” will hit all the right notes.

Whether Duncan is channeling Ralph Waldo Emerson or Wendell Berry, he has earned himself the reputation as an American sage and bard of the Pacific Northwest. Pick up one of his books, let the flow of his prose wash over you and you will be entertained and enlightened by the musings of a mystical wordsmith.

Doug Hare is the Distribution Coordinator for Outlaw Partners. He studied philosophy and American literature at Princeton and Harvard universities.
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American Life in Poetry:
Column 588
BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

There’s an old joke about a truck with a five-ton license and 10 tons of canaries on board. The driver had to keep getting out and banging his fist on the side to keep half the canaries flying. Here Jane Mead, who lives in northern California, gives us another truck full of birds. This keenly observed poem appeared in “The Autumn House Anthology of Contemporary American Poetry, 2015.” Mead’s most recent book is “Money Money Money/Water Water Water” (Alice James Books, 2013).

Passing a Truck Full of Chickens at Night on Highway Eighty
By Jane Mead

What struck me first was their panic. Some were pulled by the wind from moving to the ends of the stacked cages, some had their heads blown through the bars—and could not get them in again. Some hung there like that—dead—their own feathers blowing, clotting in their faces. Then I saw the one that made me slow some—I lingered there beside her for five miles. She had pushed her head through the space between bars—to get a better view. She had the look of a dog in the back of a pickup, that eager look of a dog who knows she’s being taken along. She craned her neck. She looked around, watched me, then strained to see over the car—strained to see what happened beyond. That is the chicken I want to be.

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The original Spanish Peaks SUPers

BY ANNE MARIE MISTRETTA
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Engage the core. Flex the knees. Reach, catch, power through.

First time stand up paddleboarders at Big Sky Resort’s Lake Levinsky marina occasionally struggle for balance on the placid waters. But they need only look to local history to find inspiration from those who pioneered the sport in the Spanish Peaks more than a century ago.

Log drivers, as they prepared for their riotous passage delivering logs down the Gallatin River—and perhaps log driver wannabes—tested their surefootedness in local mountain lakes, such as Jack Creek Lake (now called Ulery’s Lake).

Thousands of years ago, watermen on many continents guided their crafts while standing up to improve fishing, travel and stealthy invasion outcomes. Today’s stand up paddleboarding—also known as SUP—most likely has its roots in the Hawaiian surf culture. Locally though, during the early 1900s these same athletic skills were so valuable that men were imported to this area for their abilities.

So who were those log drivers, and why were they here? Once the Northern Pacific Railroad chugged through Bozeman in 1883, the Gallatin Valley craved wood. The upper Gallatin watershed and its tributaries had plenty of it, and timber harvesting became an important local industry. Backed by Helena money, Walter Cooper formed the Cooper Tie Company in 1904 and set up a tie hacker camp in Eldridge on the Taylor Fork to supply the Northern Pacific with ties for the railroad beds.

But Cooper had a logistical problem: His timber was at the other end of the unimproved and treacherous Gallatin Canyon road, about 50 miles south of its ultimate destination in Salesville—now known as Gallatin Gateway. Once there, the timber would be hauled off to mills in the Gallatin Valley.

Enter the log drivers, recruited from Oregon and Canada to guide the logs downstream. Timber felled in the upper Gallatin forests in fall and winter was retained in dammed streams along the Gallatin River. At peak snowmelt runoff, the log drivers broke the dams, sometimes dynamiting them, and rode the logs downriver, hopping from log to log, prodding them with a pike pole to minimize jams.

“It was a colorful, boisterous operation,” according to Michael Malone, a former Montana State University president and Montana historian.

Log drivers were so nimble they were coveted by ladies as dancing partners. In fact, you can catch 40 seconds of impressive original footage of log driving at youtube.com/watch?v=upsZZx3vx8, followed by the recording of a ditty called “The Log Drivers’ Waltz.”

The shapes of today’s stand up paddleboards have greatly improved aerodynamics over logs. The staff of Big Sky’s Geyser Whitewater—which operates the SUP operation at Big Sky Resort—reports that most people who try stand up paddleboarding actually master the balance fairly quickly. Plus, Levinsky is a calm lake without motorboats to cause balance-affecting waves.

Stand up paddleboarding in the Spanish Peaks is a great way to spend a day on water, while you imagine the log drivers of a century ago preparing for their rowdy journey down the Gallatin.

Anne Marie Mistretta is the chair of the Historic Crail Ranch Conservators who operate the Crail Ranch Homestead Museum on Spotted Elk Road in Big Sky.