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Big Sky

November 11 - 21, 2016
Volume 7 // Issue #23

Election 2016:
Gallatin County bucks state, national results

County commission meeting
TEDD back on table

LPHS notches historic volleyball season

Yellowstone Forever, from now on

Big Sky businesses with staying power



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. P A R T N E R S .

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ON THE COVER: Ben Tomlinson of Idaho Falls fishes recently on the Henry's Fork of the Snake River in Island Park, Idaho, at a new real estate development called Henry's Lake Village. PHOTO BY JOHN LAYSHOCK

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OPENING SHOT



An unknown fisherman stands in the middle of the Gallatin River just north of Big Sky on Dec. 30 of last winter. "Big Sky is just amazing in the winter," the photographer said. "The beauty of the snow-framed Gallatin is breathtaking." PHOTO BY KEVIN NOBLE

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3 men charged in connection to Hamilton wildfire

HAMILTON, Mont. (AP) – Three 18-year-old men have been released on their own recognizance after being charged with starting a wildfire near Hamilton that burned more than 13 square miles of forest land, destroyed 16 homes and 49 outbuildings.

KTMF-TV reports that Steven Banks, Tyler Landon Johnson and Cody William Knez made their initial court appearances Nov. 1 in Ravalli County Justice Court on felony and misdemeanor negligent arson charges.

County Attorney Bill Fulbright asked that they be released on their own recognizance. The judge said they could not bring or handle anything flammable on forest lands. Their District Court arraignments are set for later this month.

Prosecutors say the three Hamilton men and a 16-year-old girl failed to completely extinguish a campfire, sparking the Roaring Lion fire, which began on July 31 and led to the evacuation of around 600 homes. The girl is charged in Juvenile Court.

Can the Griz food drive competition continues through Nov. 19

The 17th annual Can the Griz food drive is an off-field competition between Montana State University and the University of Montana to see which school can collect the most donations for its local county food bank.

The competition began Nov. 5 and ends Saturday, Nov. 19, at the end of the first quarter of the “Brawl of the Wild” football game between MSU and UM, which will be held at UM. The winner of the competition will be announced during halftime.

Organizers of the drive ask that nonperishable food donations be taken to collection locations throughout Bozeman to support those in need in Gallatin County.

Bobcat supporters can designate their contribution to MSU by telling the Gallatin Valley Food Bank or collection location host that their donation is for the Can the Griz food drive.

Those wishing to donate are also invited to bring cans to the MSU football game versus University of California at Davis on Saturday, Nov. 12. Collection bins will be located at the stadium entrances and the Ressler Motors and Interwest Moving and Storage tailgates. Cans will also be collected at the men’s basketball games on Nov. 14, 16 and 18.

Monetary donations may be made directly to the Gallatin Valley Food Bank by visiting canthegriz.com. Participants can text “CAN” to 50555 to donate \$10. Each dollar donated counts as 1 pound of food.

For more information or to host a collection box, please contact the MSU Office of Student Engagement at (406) 994-2933 or email canthegriz@montana.edu. A full list of participating locations can be found at canthegriz.com.

2 defendants from the High on Life group plead guilty

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Five defendants from the Canadian group High On Life appeared on Nov. 1, before U.S. Magistrate Judge Mark Carman at the Yellowstone Justice Center in Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming. Hamish Cross and Parker Heuser pleaded guilty to violations in Yellowstone National Park and Death Valley National Park.

The remaining three defendants—Charles Ryker Gamble, Alexey Andriyovych Lyakh and Justis Cooper Price Brown—pleaded not guilty and will be appointed court attorneys.

The group was the subject of multiple investigations by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Cross pleaded guilty to charges in Yellowstone National Park that included disorderly conduct by creating a hazardous condition and foot travel in a thermal area. He agreed to pay over \$8,000 in fines, restitution and community service payments to Yellowstone Forever.

Heuser pleaded guilty to two violations in Death Valley National Park that included riding a bike in wilderness and taking commercial photographs without a permit. He will also pay collateral fines that stemmed from violations at the Bonneville Salt Flats. He agreed to pay more than \$1,000 in fines and fees.

Both individuals will be on probation for five years, which includes being banned from public lands managed by the U.S. Department of Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“The judge’s decision today sends a very clear message about thermal feature protection and safety,” said Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk. “Hamish Cross’s egregious actions damaged a world class hot spring and risked his own life coupled with the lives of responding rangers. We look forward to the outcome of the case regarding the three remaining defendants.”

David Diamond named executive coordinator of Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

David Diamond was selected to coordinate the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee executive managers and the ten GYCC subcommittees. Diamond brings a host of skills learned in more than 15 years of federal service with the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

As a presidential management fellow, Diamond served in the Secretary of the Interior’s office in Washington D.C. and the Idaho State Office of the Bureau of Land Management. In the Yreka office of FWS, he brought together diverse partners, including federal and state agencies, tribes, farmers, ranchers, and NGOs to solve complex natural resource issues in the Klamath River basin in Oregon and California.

“We are fortunate to have David facilitate the GYCC because of his deep experience in federal

David O’Connor of Buck’s T-4 Lodge chosen “Lodging Persons of the Year”

MONTANA LODGING AND HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION

David O’Connor of Buck’s T-4 Lodge in Big Sky received the Lodging Persons of the Year Award during the Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association’s annual awards banquet Oct. 25.

Steve Wahrlich, the chair of MLHA, presented the award to O’Connor and detailed his extensive record of achievements. He read portions of a nomination letter that stated, “David spent many years working his way up the Buck’s T-4 ladder to its pinnacle; a managing partner. At Buck’s he works tirelessly to both learn more from the constantly growing world of Montana tourism, and contributing his knowledge and experiences back to the hospitality and tourism industry selfishly throughout the state of Montana.

“David’s passion for tourism is immediately evident the moment you sit down with him. His efforts are unmatched in his participation in several organizations both in our community as well as around the state. He also possesses a relentless desire to learn how to better promote and provide great service to the endless supply of visitors.”

O’Connor is the former president of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and Big Sky Convention and Visitors’ Bureau. He sits on the Yellowstone Country Board and is a Rotary Club member. He is active in many issues that affect the Big Sky community, including tourism promotion, workforce housing, and economic development. In 2006, O’Connor was named Big Sky’s Tourism Person of the Year by the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce.

land management,” said YNP Superintendent Dan Wenk.

“He will bring a renewed emphasis on creative problem solving and community involvement in the Greater Yellowstone region,” said Richard Hotaling, BLM western Montana district manager and GYCC Chair.

The public is invited to attend a meeting of federal land managers within the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA), facilitated by Diamond, to help assess ecosystem issues and to build stronger relationships in the future. The meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 15 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Cody Public Library in Cody, Wyoming.

Additional information about the meeting can be found at fedgycc.org/meetings-and-events/ or by contacting David Diamond at david_diamond@nps.gov.

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Forum

Big Sky Resort recently unveiled its 2025 plan, including two lift updates that will debut this season.

What are you most looking forward to in resort upgrades over the next 10 years?



Tom Owen
Big Sky, Montana

"It seems like [the resort is] concentrating more on the mountain, and the lifts and the restaurants and all that kind of stuff. What's really important to me is not the restaurants or trying to get someone up to mid-mountain. It's really about improving the infrastructure of the town and dealing with employees, and staffing, and transportation. That's what I see as the more important thing."



Stephanie Lynn
Big Sky, Montana

"Well, I'm not really a resort skier. I mostly cross country ski and I'm starting to backcountry ski a lot. I'm not super excited for more resort development up there, because I kind of like to stay away from that. I think it's great that they're going to be updating the lifts, because there are a couple that are kind of scary. I think that it's much needed if they want to be known as a world class resort."



Leon Richards
Big Sky, Montana

"I'm probably most looking forward to the new chairs, and increased access to the resort. I'm most excited to be able to access Challenger [terrain] again."



Hanna Powell
Big Sky, Montana

"I'd probably say just them actually putting forth more money into this community, rather than taking it from what this resort makes and putting it into their other Boyne resorts. Especially since I've been here—this will be my 12th winter—I've never seen a brand new lift put in, so it's pretty cool to see them actually spending the money that it takes to make a world class resort... I'm pretty sure the only lift that I've seen them put in was Southern Comfort, but they bought that [used] from another resort."

Down at the polls.





News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

Built from the sagebrush up Big Sky PBR awarded fourth consecutive Event of the Year title

BY ERSIN OZER
OUTLAW PARTNERS MEDIA AND EVENTS DIRECTOR

Seven years ago, Big Sky PBR producers met in a rocky, sagebrush field and imagined how they could transform the vacant grounds into the perfect bull-riding venue.

Their vision was to bring the toughest sport on dirt to Big Sky without a bad seat in the house.

“You will buy a ticket for the whole seat, but really, you’ll only need the edge,” Andy Watson told our flagship publication, Mountain Outlaw magazine, in a 2011 interview. He and his wife Jacey Watson own Freestone Productions, co-producers of the Big Sky PBR with Outlaw Partners and Continental Construction.

On Nov. 4, Big Sky PBR producers met once again, this time on stage in Las Vegas, Nevada, in front of 20,000 fans during the 2016 PBR World Finals to accept their fourth consecutive award for Event of the Year.

The PBR bull riders themselves select the recipient of this esteemed honor. Big Sky has held its title four years running among hundreds of other reputable and established PBR events around the country.

This honor is largely thanks to you, the cheering fans who fill the seats with excitement and encourage the riders second by second, stomping your feet and laughing with entertainer Flint Rasmussen’s jokes—it’s you, the Big Sky community.

“You give [the riders] a great experience from the hospitality standpoint ... you’re putting on an experience, not just for the fans but for the athletes too,”

said Casey Lane, senior vice president of partnership marketing at PBR. “And look, you guys are cheating a little bit because you’re in the prettiest place on the earth.”

Thanks to the support of loyal sponsors, Big Sky PBR has grown from the sagebrush up, into a multi-day community event. It now brings thousands of people into town and attracts global attention from fans and athletes, who share Big Sky with the world when they return home and through social media.

“[The 2016] Big Sky PBR was a top-notch event and one of, if not our best of the year,” said Cory Wiese, ranch and rodeo marketing manager for Yeti Coolers, a Big Sky PBR sponsor. “It was fantastic for us to be able to partner up with a group of folks who are also on top of their game and be a part of the excitement. We’ve been looking forward to 2017 ever since this one ended.”

Our mountain community is turning heads on the PBR tour and the Outlaw Partners office has already been buzzing with phone calls from PBR fans—many of whom have never been to Big Sky before—asking about next year’s tickets.

“Awesome bull riding, great set of bulls, best riders, high level of event production ... [Big Sky PBR has] all the things that it needs to be successful,” Lane said.

This is a win for all of Big Sky, Montana.

Dates have been announced for the 2017 Big Sky PBR on July 28 and 29. Big Sky’s Biggest Week will commence with a music festival in PBR Arena featuring a top-billing headliner the weekend of July 22. Tickets go on sale June 1 at bigskypbr.com.



The Big Sky PBR team enjoys the spoils of their Event of the Year four-peat at the Built Ford Tough World Finals in Las Vegas. From left to right: Brandon Bates, Cord McCoy, Doug Hare, Amy Delgrande, Ersin Ozer, Eric Ladd, Jacey Watson, Andy Watson, two-time Big Sky PBR champion Nathan Schaper, Frank Newsom, Richard Jones and Flint Rasmussen. PHOTO COURTESY OF FREESTONE PRODUCTIONS

Local dentist finds need, hope in Nepal

BY TYLER ALLEN
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Dr. Peter Schmieding recently returned to southwest Montana from his latest humanitarian mission to Nepal. There he saw a country still struggling to put the pieces back together after two earthquakes brought the nation at the roof of the world to its knees—more than a year and a half ago.

The quakes in April and May of 2015 killed nearly 9,000 people, injured almost 22,000 and caused \$10 billion in damage. Nearly 800,000 homes were badly damaged or destroyed. Schmieding found tens of thousands of Nepalis still living in tarp structures in the country’s capital city of Katmandu.

But Schmieding’s latest mission was one of hope, which he found in the resilient people he’s helping. There have been no major earthquakes since the rumbling aftershocks of 2015 and money has finally been distributed from the prime minister’s relief fund.

The government recently released 50,000 rupees—the equivalent of \$500 U.S. dollars—to each qualified homeowner affected. While it’s a significant amount of money, it’s not enough for these stricken people to rebuild their homes.

“You can’t build anything with that, and they’re getting it piecemeal,” Schmieding said. “They will get more, but nobody is saving it.” In the village Dhakalkot, where his friend Raj Dhakal lives, only one of 147 damaged houses is currently under construction.



The 60 students Tsering’s Fund sponsors in Jugal Boarding School pose in the remote village of Chautara. Located three hours from Katmandu in the Sidhupalchowk Region of Nepal, this area is one of the worst in the world for child trafficking.

The Bozeman- and Big Sky-based dentist is trying to make an impact where the government is falling short, through his nonprofit Tsering’s Fund. The organization was originally created in 2007 to fund the education of Nepali girls, a demographic that faces numerous cultural and economic challenges to receive decent schooling.

After the earthquakes last year, Tsering’s Fund expanded its scope to include disaster relief in Nepal. Donors in southwest Montana have responded in kind, including an event that raised \$80,000 last summer at Big Sky’s Lone Mountain Ranch.

Schmieding says Dhakal and his family are still living in a shelter cobbled together from their damaged home, which is still standing, but unfit to live in. “It’s the Stone Age,” he said. The makeshift house has a dirt floor where they cook meals over an open fire—the same meal of steamed rice, sautéed vegetables and lentils they eat three times a day.



Dr. Peter Schmieding’s driver during his two-day trip to Raj Dhakal’s village enjoys the view from Dhakalkot, where Tsering’s Fund is rebuilding two schools. PHOTOS BY PETER SCHMIEDING

But Dhakal’s family occasionally adds chicken to the dish called dahl bhat, since they’ve turned their old home into a commercial chicken coop. Schmieding says they have several hundred chickens they sell for the equivalent of \$3 each.

He said the blueprints are finalized for both schools to be built near Dhakal’s village, financed through Tsering’s Fund, and construction should begin soon. A smaller, k-5 school was funded by a single \$20,000 donation and the larger school is about 90 percent financed, mostly from the Big Sky fundraiser last summer.

Schmieding brought two duffel bags with him, weighing 58 pounds each, full of gifts for children from their sponsors here in Montana. He said he spent days tracking down the kids because they were on school break. Despite the outpouring of financial help, he said the largest obstacle Tsering’s Fund confronts is getting annual sponsors for each child.

“Once we get those kids sponsored, it’s great to get them in school, but those tuitions are due every single year,” he said of the 150-plus kids they’re currently sponsoring. “We’ve never, ever sent a child home due to lack of funding. And we never will.”

The biggest challenge facing the country right now is coaxing visitors to return. His colleague Tsering Dolkar Lama, the woman whom the nonprofit is named after, told him tourism is down about 70 percent from pre-earthquake levels.



The “Sherpa Four” are siblings pulled out of Balmandir Orphanage and sponsored in boarding school by Big Sky donors through Tsering’s Fund. School was on break for a month and because they have no family they have to live there until school begins again.

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Inside the Big Sky

By Derek Lennon

What skis should I buy?

BY DEREK LENNON
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Trying to find the perfect ski? After looking through websites, checking the latest gear guides, reading online reviews, and browsing the ski selection at your local gear shop, do you feel totally overwhelmed? Picking the right ski can be challenging.

Everyone likes something different in a pair of skis. The best boards for the guy who skis 144 days a season and works at the tune shop are not going to be the perfect skis for a petite gal on her one-week-a-year ski vacation. Choosing the right ski is largely a personal choice.

It's your responsibility to sort through all of the different options and choose the right ski based on your ability, your budget, the conditions, the terrain, and other variables. When you see how many ski manufacturers and models there are to choose from, it's easy to wonder where to begin.

Start by doing a bit of honest self-reflection:

What type of skier are you?

- Beginner? Intermediate? Advanced? Expert? Aspiring pro?

Where do you like to ski?

- Beginner terrain? Blue cruisers? Bumps? Trees? Terrain park? Big Mountain? Backcountry?

How many days do you ski a year?

- A week? A month? Every day of the season?

What type of conditions do you ski?

- Groomers? Bottomless powder? Variable crud? A mix of everything?

Based on your answers to these questions, focus on skis in one of the following ski categories:

All Mountain

- Ideal for groomed terrain, moguls, and tree skiing.

Big Mountain/Freeride

- Best for fast skiing in steep and technical terrain.

Powder

- Ideal for making turns in soft, deep snow.

Backcountry

- Skis designed for "out of bounds." Usually lightweight for earning your turns.

Carving

- Ideal for arcing precision turns inbounds.

Park/Freestyle

- Ideal for terrain parks and landing tricks.

Beyond the type of boards, every ski has its own set of variables—length, width, rocker, stiffness, camber, graphics, etcetera. You'll also need to pick bindings and boots too, but that's another topic.

In an ideal world we would all have a quiver of skis. Then we could select the best ski based on the conditions and our goals for the day, but that's a bit unrealistic and price prohibitive too. You're going to have to choose the right skis for you.

One great thing you can do at Big Sky and other resorts is to visit a shop where you can test demo skis. Then you can try different types of skis and find the one that you like the best before you buy.

Are you still wondering, "What skis should I buy?" Stop by any of the ski shops in Big Sky and ask their advice. Shops like Grizzly Outfitters, East Slope Outdoors, Gallatin Alpine Sports, Big Sky Sports, and Lone Mountain Sports are more than happy to help you find the pair of skis that's ideal for you.

Read more about how to choose the right ski for you on backcountry.com and evo.com.

Derek Lennon is a skier and writer who lives, works, and plays in the mountains of the world. He is based in Big Sky, Montana, where he lives with his wife Mia and two dogs.

A version of this story was originally published on the Visit Big Sky blog at <https://visitbigskymt.com/what-skis-buy/>. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at <https://visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/>.



Some of the hottest new models of skis for the 2016/2017 season found at Big Sky's Grizzly Outfitters. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

TEDD talk

County commissioners weigh TEDD pros and cons, talk infrastructure needs

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Discussion at a public meeting between Gallatin and Madison county commissioners on Oct. 27 focused on infrastructure needs that could help Big Sky diversify its economic base and become more of a year-round community.

Kevin Germain, a member of Big Sky Resort Area District tax board who's been active on infrastructure and housing issues, said one tool to add value-added industries in Big Sky and address infrastructure deficiencies is a Targeted Economic Development District, or TEDD, which would fund local infrastructure development by leveraging money raised by increases in property tax values.

"[With a TEDD], all the taxes that are paid now would continue to be paid and the objective is to create an environment where we can bring in new tax dollars [to] finance the very necessary public infrastructure," said Rob Gilmore, Executive Director of the Northern Rocky Mountain Economic Development District.

Although the targeted industries have not been nailed down yet, Germain and Britt Ide, the interim Executive Director of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, have zeroed in on two infrastructure development projects: expanding sewer access to Gallatin Canyon and increasing access to affordable high-speed broadband.

Approximately 40 residents of Madison and Gallatin counties and the three commissioners from each county attended the meeting.

Germain said Big Sky residents pay \$70 per month for 6 megabits-per-second of bandwidth and the statewide average is \$70 per month for 20 megabits per second. "Community-wide, we have really slow speeds and we're paying a lot of money for it," Germain said.

Gilmore said in order to attract telecommuters—a target market that's been identified for the TEDD—Big Sky will need increased bandwidth, and that would involve a partnership with 3 Rivers Communications and the business community.

Don Serido, Marketing Manager of 3 Rivers Communications, Big Sky's provider, confirmed Germain's figures and added that higher download speeds are available at higher prices. Customers can pay for 20 megabits per second of bandwidth for \$150 and 50 megabits per second for \$400.

Serido said 3 Rivers is planning to increase the download speeds for residential users in the near future and the company regularly expands its fiber infrastructure to Big Sky homes. When asked about large-scale broadband expansion to draw telecommuters and other tech-dependent industries to the area, Serido said, "I don't think our infrastructure is holding anything like that back."

Commissioner Skinner said he thought the purpose of the TEDD was to address affordable housing and he's concerned that it's going in a different direction now.

"There's an opinion we have that says you can use TEDD dollars for housing if it's for the industry you're attracting," Germain said. He added that he's still working on a legislative effort to enable Big Sky to vote up or down on a 1 percent Resort Tax increase that would collect funds designated for affordable housing.

Ide said increasing sewer capacity could have positive impacts for both affordable housing and industry.

"Don't get wrapped around the axle thinking you are unique with [workforce housing]," said Gallatin County commissioner Don Seifert. "When you look anywhere in Gallatin County there's a workforce housing issue."

Seifert said he supports what Big Sky is trying to accomplish with the TEDD, he's just anxious to see what the final product will look like. There will be hearings and resolutions on the matter before commissioners from both counties put it to a vote.

Ralph Walton, a consultant with CedarHouse Partners, has prepared a draft report on the impacts of a TEDD. A report should be ready for the commissioners' review by the end of the first quarter, according to Ide.

"Why not put businesses where you have the infrastructure, where you have the high-speed [Internet] already?" asked Skinner who, along with Gallatin County Commissioner Steve White, questioned the merit of paying for infrastructure development in Big Sky.

"I think the county commissioners are understandably concerned that others in their county are maybe opposed to [investment in Big Sky]," said Ide in a post-meeting interview. "The neat thing about this project is we're paying for the growth ourselves."

"Community-wide, we have really slow [internet] and we're paying a lot of money for it."

Ide added that any economic growth in Big Sky will be a boon to county coffers because it would increase tax bases.

The chamber is planning to use the Big Sky Resort Area District boundaries, according to Ide. Two districts would have to be created, one in Gallatin County and one in Madison County.

Even though this project dates back to 2014, there's still plenty of work to be done. Gilmore said it's been a grass roots effort and those working on it—notably the Chamber of Commerce—would appreciate community feedback on the initiative.

Last year the project received \$26,250 in state funding from the Montana Department of Commerce to supplement \$25,000 in private funding and a \$45,000 reallocation of resort tax funds granted to the chamber in 2014. The funding helped cover attorney and consulting fees, mapping, a third-party economic impact study, and an infrastructure deficiency report.

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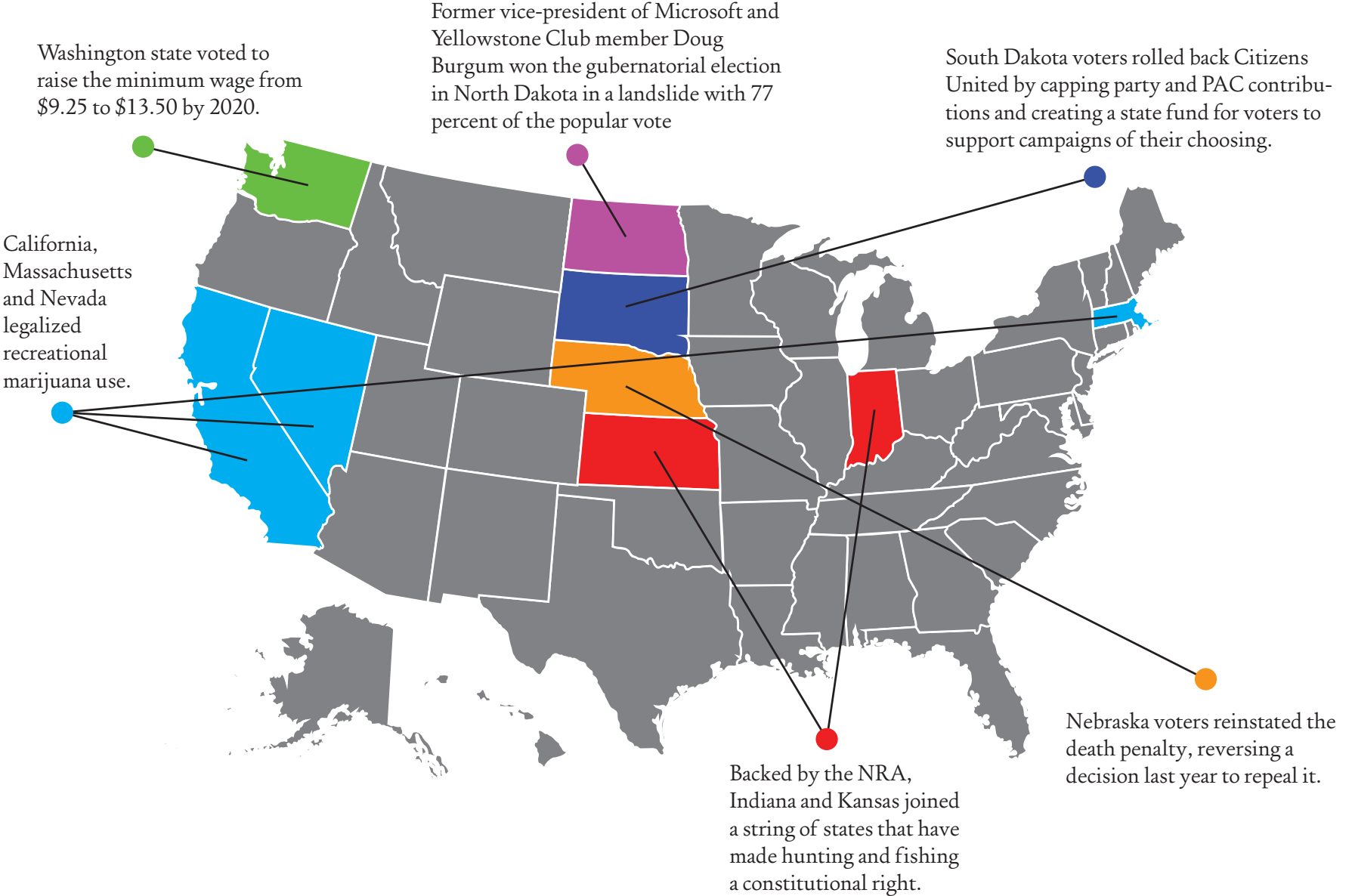
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Montana election results

How the Big Sky State voted

Unless you’ve just returned from a week in hunting camp, you’ve heard the news. Donald J. Trump is our president-elect after riding a wave of populism, the size of which stunned media outlets and pollsters. While larger news organizations are trying to explain how they got it wrong, we’re looking at a more granular version of the election.

Incumbent Montana Gov. Steve Bullock handed Republican Greg Gianforte a narrow defeat. Rep. Ryan Zinke easily overcame Denise Juneau though she won over the hearts of Gallatin County voters, the same ones that voted for Hillary Clinton. Medical marijuana proponents won the day statewide, alongside supporters of trapping on federal lands.

We’ve broken down the significant races statewide and in Gallatin County so you know how your fellow Montanans—and neighbors in the county—feel about each issue. – Tyler Allen

Voter Turnout



Governor of the State of Montana



Greg Gianforte



Steve Bullock



State Representative District 64

Kerry E. White vs. Chase Ellison



State Supreme Court Justice #3

Kristen Juras vs. Dirk Sandefur



Public Service Comissioner District 3

Roger Koopman vs. Pat Noonan



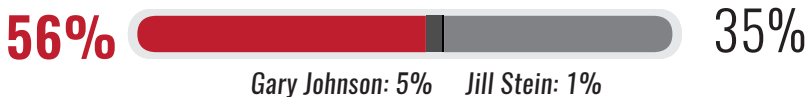
President of the United States



Donald Trump



vs. Hillary Clinton



U.S. House of Representatives



Ryan Zinke



vs. Denise Juneau



Ballot Issues

Constitutional Initiative No. 116

Ensure that crime victims' rights and interests are respected and protected by law.



Ballot Initiative No. 177

Prohibit the use of traps and snares for animals by the public on any public lands within Montana, with certain exceptions.



Ballot Initiative No. 181

Promote research into developing therapies and cures for brain diseases and injuries.



Ballot Initiative No. 182

Expand access to medical marijuana.





Gallatin Co. election results

How your neighbors voted

Voter Turnout



Governor of the State of Montana



Greg Gianforte



Steve Bullock



State Representative District 64

Kerry E. White vs. Chase Ellison



State Supreme Court Justice #3

Kristen Juras vs. Dirk Sandefur



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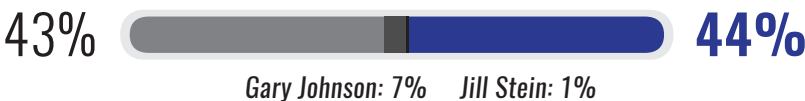
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U.S. House of Representatives



Ryan Zinke



Denise Juneau



Ballot Issues

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Ensure that crime victims' rights and interests are respected and protected by law.



Ballot Initiative No. 177

Prohibit the use of traps and snares for animals by the public on any public lands within Montana, with certain exceptions.



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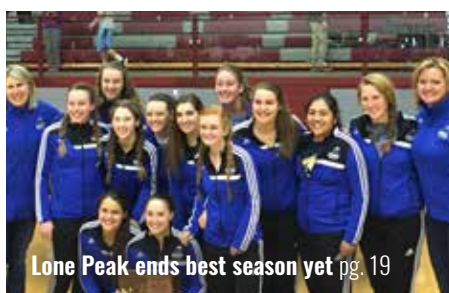


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Section 2: ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS & BUSINESS



Lone Peak ends best season yet pg. 19



Big Sky businesses with staying power pg. 24



From Jackie with love:
Type 2 diabetes pg. 30

‘Making America great again’ means what for the West?



WHAT EBY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

The sun still rose in the east, over the mountains and prairies of the wild West on Nov. 9, 2016, and the sight, especially for those left to ponder nothing else, was beautiful.

Now, at last, 21st century America finally knows the shock of what it feels like to be jolted wide awake.

While taking his hunting dog for a morning walk in southwest Michigan 1,500 miles away, Rob Sisson, as stunned as anyone by what happened at the polls on Election Day, was sharing a story with me over the phone.

Donald Trump’s triumph shocked even Sisson Tuesday night, winning Michigan by about 12,000 votes over Clinton with almost 5 million combined votes cast for the two. Libertarian Party candidate Gary Johnson notched 173,000 votes and Green Party candidate Jill Stein netted more than 51,000.

I’ve known Sisson for a long while and he’s a terrific, thoughtful guy. He spends a lot of time in the West, especially Bozeman and Jackson Hole, because he loves the wildness of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

A hunter, angler, hiker, avid wildlife watcher and father who raised his kids to cherish the healthy outdoors, Sisson is president of

No issue defines the West, its character, appeal, environment and people more than the presence and abundance of public lands.

ConservAmerica. The organization, whose origins date to 1995, is comprised of “Republicans, conservatives and independents who share a passion for the environment.”

Sisson had some things to say that might not sit well with Democrats and the environmental movement but it’s medicine, he says, they need to hear. Some liberals and the green organizations they run or support have portrayed—and continue to reinforce the notion—that unless you are a member of the political left, you don’t care about the environment or public lands remaining in public hands.

This condescending attitude, he notes, has alienated traditionally conservative hunters and anglers, it has angered Theodore Roosevelt moderates, and it has insulted a lot of people.

In the hours after Trump’s decisive and historic election win, speculation began to run rampant. There were rumors that Trump might nominate Sarah Palin to become the next Secretary of the Interior. Another piece of buzz was that Trump, after his inauguration in January, will move to cede federal public lands to the control of Western states.

If one looks at the 11 states said to comprise the West, more than half are blue. On top of it, Clinton tallied nearly 2.5 million more popular votes across the West than Trump did—a total equal in population to five Wyomings.

Sisson sees the election of Donald Trump as being a double-barreled repudiation—a flat-out expression of the deep antipathy half of America felt for the Clintons, and a condemnation of Republican tactics in asserting that by doing nothing to help the government become a vehicle for addressing the woes of working class (mostly white) Americans, it was accomplishing something.

Patience for that attitude has long-since expired, Sisson said, and now the GOP faces a daunting task. Now it must govern. With control of the White House, both houses of Congress, and likely soon, prevailing in the ideology of the U.S. Supreme Court, the GOP has no one else to blame.

No issue defines the West, its character, appeal, environment and people more than the presence and abundance of public lands. Most of the 600 million acres of public land, outside of Alaska, is found between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean.

Sisson believes that any GOP initiative to transfer federal public lands to the states will backfire, and not only nationally. When Westerners realize how it would affect their lifestyles, access and common sense of ownership, it will lead to a revolt.

On the morning after Trump’s victory, Land Tawney, president of the Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, issued a statement from the organization’s national headquarters in Missoula, Montana: “BHA stands for the public lands sportsman, for conservation of important lands and waters, for continued public access to our most valuable of resources.

These values are not owned by any party, and they have historically been championed by leaders on both sides of the political aisle.”

Tawney, a Montana Democrat, shares more in common with Sisson than the issues dividing them. Tawney added, “Following an unprecedentedly contentious presidential election and many hard-fought congressional races, we look forward to returning to a set of shared values: our belief in America’s lands and waters, our outdoor traditions, and enabling every citizen to avail themselves of opportunities to enjoy our public lands.”

BHA National Board Member Mike Schoby, editor of Petersen’s Hunting magazine, interviewed Trump about his views on issues important to sportsmen. “When it came to hunters’ rights and federal land sales, Donald Trump didn’t waffle, stating that a USFWS director appointed by him would ‘ideally be a hunter’ and under his watch there would be no sale of public Western lands,” Schoby wrote in January 2016.

“Public lands, to me personally, are the important issue because they are what can unite us,” Sisson said. “There’s nothing more that I love than being in a national forest, national park or BLM area. To me, public lands are cathedrals, expressions of God’s creation, places where you can feel closer to the creator, a place to get back in touch with my soul and provide clarity of thinking.”

Todd Wilkinson writes his New West column every week, and it’s published on explorebigsky.com on EBS off weeks. 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 in time for the holidays.



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Lone Peak ends best season to date with 3rd place in divisional tournament

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – After a strong showing at the 10C District tournament, the Big Horns entered the Western C Divisional tournament in Butte riding a surge of momentum.

In the program's seven-year history, this was the first time that Big Sky's volleyball team made it so far in postseason play. "[At] Divisionals nobody knew who we were, which was awesome," said head coach Sarah Phelps. "They kept saying, 'Who is this Lone Peak?'"

The Big Horns were on a roll Nov. 3, putting up impressive numbers while handily defeating Arlee and Seeley-Swan. Lone Peak scored 43 kills to Arlee's 24 and posted an 11-2 win in the aces column. In the following match, Lone Peak logged similarly impressive stats, doubling both Seeley-Swan's kills with 56, and assists with 49.

"We were able to open up our offense and we hit the ball really, really well," Phelps said, adding that the Big Horns' sophomore middle blocker had a particularly good game against Seeley-Swan. "Solae Swenson busted the school record in kills. She had 22 ... which was unbelievable."

The next day, Lone Peak went head-to-head with the Ennis Mustangs, a team that was not to be beaten in the tournament. Lone Peak fell to Ennis 25-11, 25-13, 25-18 in the semifinals.

Phelps said the Big Horns couldn't find their rhythm during that game. Lone Peak struggled to compete with Ennis at the net on both offense and defense. The Big Horns had 17 assists to the Mustangs' 31; 19 kills to the Mustangs' 34; and were out blocked 16-0, a staggering number of blocks for a three-set high school volleyball game.

In the consolation bracket, the Big Horns squared off against Gardiner, their closest rivals this season and the team they lost to in the

championship game of the 10C District tournament the prior week. Phelps said the girls put forth a valiant effort in a high-pressure game, but they ultimately lost in four sets to the Bruins.

Even the Bruins couldn't defeat the Mustangs. A tall team with two players who are 6 feet 1 inch, and one who is 6 feet 3 inches tall, Ennis was undefeated in the tournament. They bested Gardiner by similar margins in the championship match, winning in straight sets 25-19, 25-14, 25-13.

Ennis claimed the state championship in 2009 and Gardiner captured it from 2012-2014. Gardiner will have the opportunity to avenge their Nov. 5 loss during the state tournament Nov. 10-12 at Montana State University.

Phelps said Lone Peak's volleyball program has taken huge strides this season. Their performance at Divisionals earned them a spot as one of the top 12 Class C volleyball teams in a pool of 107 programs statewide.

In addition, three Big Horns were voted to All-Conference teams by other coaches in the district.

Senior Luisa Locker earned the recognition for the third time in her high school career. Locker, a defensive specialist who consistently led the team in digs this season, was named First Team All-Conference.

Locker was joined by senior outside hitter Bella Butler, who put up strong numbers for aces and kills during the divisional tournament.

Junior setter Kuka Holder was named Second Team All Conference owing to her skillful assists and tips.

Phelps said she's pleased with the Big Horns' performance this year—Lone Peak posted a 12-3 record in regular season play and went 17-7 including the postseason. "This season was phenomenal," Phelps said. "I could not be more proud of the way this team performed."



The Big Horns took 3rd place at the Western C Divisional tournament in Butte Nov. 3-5 and closed the season with a 17-7 record. PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH PHELPS

The fight of our lives

Reflections on Lone Peak’s historic volleyball season

BY BELLA BUTLER
EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

As a high school senior, I often hear my classmates talking about what we take with us when we leave—the friendships, the connections, the memories. The unspoken part of this, though, is what we will leave behind.

I’ve pondered this many times, wondering who will remember me, and what they’ll remember. What have I done to change this place, and the people in it? As the beginning of the end commenced with the start of the school year in August, these questions began to appear. In addition to entering my final year of high school, I joined my fellow seniors Bianca Godoy and Luisa Locker for our last volleyball season as Big Horns.

“This is our year,” we told ourselves. The three of us had been together since we were freshman, and were fully prepared to put up the fight of our lives to go out with a bang. Our varsity team was strong from the start, returning the entire squad from last season, including three all-conference players.

We were also fortunate enough to acquire a promising new front-row sophomore, Madison Wagner, from Truckee, California. The “young, inexperienced team” excuse no longer existed, and we didn’t need it anyway.

Beginning in the spring, we put in countless hours of work. We pushed our physical and mental limits sweating the time away in the weight room. Our stamina and competitive instincts were tested in open gyms, which often didn’t end until long after dark, or until we had no energy left to play with.

In the summer, we practiced and attended a team camp and tournament at Montana State University. By mid-August, with the first day of practice behind us, there was no question that this indeed was our year, because no other option remained.

Throughout the season, our team tinkered with some changes, which were generally uncomfortable and never easy. We played with unfamiliar rotations, had long practices, and much needed discussions with our coaches. After our second loss of the season, we sat down before practice with our head coach Sarah Phelps, and were confronted with the truth that if we wanted to be as successful as we were capable of, we would have to be OK with playing a different game than we were used to.

We became adaptable and, oddly enough, gained stability in that. Without looking back, we finished the season with a historic record of 12-3 (7-3 conference). But as we entered postseason we knew none of that mattered—neither the wins nor losses—this is where we would battle; this is where it counted.

Our first test was Oct. 28 versus Manhattan Christian School, a strong team that we had beaten in both matches during the regular season, but that still posed a real threat. After a long night, we came out with our third victory against them, sending us on to our next game against Gardiner the following day, which we lost.

We were upset with the loss, but we didn’t let it distract us as we battled for our season during the fifth match of the year against Manhattan Christian. After losing the first two games, we found our pride and finished the match winning the next three games, ending The Eagles’ season and sending us to the Divisional tournament for the first time in Lone Peak history.

In the championship matchup that night, we beat the Gardiner Bruins, wrecking their undefeated season. This set up a final match with the Bruins to determine an outright champion, which began at 9:30 p.m., after we had already played three long matches that day. We ended Districts tired, sore, and in second place. I don’t know if I’ve ever hugged anyone for so long as I did my teammates that night.

In Divisionals, our team was highly underrated, but we used it to our advantage. Some people were happy that we had made it as far as we did, but I knew the girls I played with were hungry for more, and so was I.

We put up a tough fight and ended up third, and as one of the top 12 teams in the state. Our last loss of the season was against Gardiner (yes, them again). As we cried and embraced one another in the locker room, Luisa hopped up on the bench, raising the second plaque we’d won this season high over her head.

“We have got to be the happiest third place team ever!” she shouted, tears falling past her proud smile. I remember looking around at the faces of the girls that I’d played beside all season. The girls I’d lost with, won with, cried with, and laughed with. I knew Luisa was right, that we were the happiest third-place team we could possibly be. I was proud of what we had achieved, but I was mostly proud that we’d taken the journey together.

When I leave this place, I don’t know what I’ll take with me. June is a long ways away, and the future remains unknown. Something I do know is that no matter what, I will leave something behind. Not just as Bella Butler, part of the senior class of 2017, but as a member of the Lone Peak High School volleyball team that shattered expectations and found unity on the path to get there. I don’t think I could have planned a better legacy.



PHOTO BY MATTHEW MILLMAN

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Bobcats running out of time for first conference win

BY COLTER NUANEZ
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

The quest for any semblance of success comes down to the final two weeks of the 2016 season for the Montana State Bobcats.

Jeff Choate took over for Rob Ash, Montana State’s all-time leader in coaching wins, in December of 2015. Choate redefined the culture and personality of the Bobcats, turning a team that thrived off pizzazz and offensive fireworks the first half of this decade into a team built on toughness, physicality and competitive spirit.

The first-year MSU head coach galvanized and won over his team easily during spring drills. Over the summer, Choate added 34 new players to the roster as the Bobcats began what would become a stark rebuilding process. Exiting fall camp, cautious optimism defined the program.

In its season opener, Montana State took Football Bowl Subdivision team Idaho down to the wire before losing 20-17. The next two weeks, MSU dispatched of overmatched opponents Bryant and Western Oregon at home to enter Big Sky Conference play.

Even after a 17-15 home loss Sept. 24 to North Dakota, one of the preseason league title favorites, prospects for Choate’s first season looked bright. The Bobcats took their bye week the final week of October and November began with the same demons that have haunted Montana State all season.

The Bobcats turned the ball over five times in the UND loss, a trend that continued during Montana State’s sixth straight loss Nov. 5, a 38-21 defeat at Southern Utah to fall to 0-6 in league play (2-7 overall). MSU turned the ball over four times against the Thunderbirds, including three interceptions by true freshman quarterback Chris Murray.

The Bobcats now have 23 turnovers against Big Sky Conference competition. MSU is minus-19 in turnover margin during six league games, by far the worst mark in the conference. Montana State has turned the ball over at least four times in five of its six Big Sky games, including at least five turnovers three different times.

Montana State built a 17-14 lead just before halftime Oct. 22 against No. 3 Eastern Washington in Bozeman, the week before the Bobcats’ bye. But fumbles and missed opportunities combined with EWU’s ability to make plays offensively led to 27 unanswered points for the visitors in a 41-17 Eagles win.

Playing in Cedar City, Utah, for the first time since 2012, Montana State dominated the first half against the Thunderbirds. The Bobcats allowed just 11 rushing yards in the first half and with two minutes to play before intermission, MSU led 14-7. But Steven Wroblewski’s 40-yard reception set up Cameron Chambers’ 18-yard touchdown catch to steal the momentum with a little over a minute remaining before the break.

Murray threw two second-half interceptions, the Bobcats failed on a fourth down try and the Thunderbirds kept the momentum for the entire second half. MSU got a late touchdown—the first of wide receiver Keon Stephens’ career—with 55 seconds left, but the margin was too wide.

MSU now has just two chances left to avoid its first winless conference campaign since former head coach Mike Kramer’s first season in 2000. Montana State hosts struggling UC Davis (1-5, 2-7) for its final home game Nov. 12. The Bobcats close the season Nov. 19 against fierce rival Montana in Missoula.

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



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NOVEMBER

24 Opening Day

DECEMBER

2 \$29* Day
11 Carving for Cans
14 Madison Base Opening Day

JANUARY

14 & 21 Snobar
29 Bridger Ski Foundation Slopestyle

FEBRUARY

4 Dummy Jump
9-12 Big Sky Big Grass
18-19 Subaru Winterfest
25 Mad Wolf Relay

MARCH

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18 Shedhorn Ski Mo
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EYE ON THE BALL

Cubs win it all, break the curse



BY BRANDON NILES
EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST

Back in June, I wrote about the rise of the Chicago Cubs and said that President of Baseball Operations Theo Epstein and Executive Vice

President Jed Hoyer should add “curse breakers” to their resumes if they got the Cubs back to the World Series. Five months later, the title is official. Epstein and Hoyer: curse breakers. Chicago Cubs: World Series champions.

It seems fitting that the 108-year drought since their last World Series victory would come in such dramatic fashion.

After cruising through the regular season with the best record in baseball, the Cubs came into the playoffs with championship buzz already surrounding them. They quickly dismantled the San Francisco Giants in the National League Divisional Series in four games, using the ninth inning of Game 4 to score four runs and beat the Giants 6-5.

During the National League Championship Series, the Cubs faced a Los Angeles Dodgers team featuring a young core of hitters and one of the best pitchers of all time in Clayton Kershaw. After losing two of the first three games, the Cubs scored 10 runs in three innings of Game 4 and used the momentum to close out the series out in six games.

In the first World Series appearance for the Cubs since 1945, they faced the Cleveland Indians who haven’t won a World Series since 1948. Fans were treated to a matchup of underdogs and it seemed like no matter who won, we all won.

In true Cubs fashion, the Indians got off to a commanding lead. Cleveland star pitcher Corey Kluber pitched a brilliant first game shutout, going six innings and striking out nine batters. The Cubs came back in Game 2 with a convincing win, but then dropped the next two games, scoring only two runs combined in the back-to-back losses. The Cubs trailed the series 3-1 going into Game 5, and few people expected them to come back and win the seven-game series.

Closer Aroldis Chapman pitched an eight-out save in Game 5 to keep the Cubs alive. Then they brought an offensive bombardment in Game 6, including a grand slam in the third inning by shortstop Addison Russell that proved too much for Cleveland to overcome, and the Cubs tied the series with a 9-3 victory.

Game 7 was when Chicago fans started to believe again and Cleveland fans got worried. It was only a few months ago when the Cleveland Cavaliers came back from a 3-1 deficit against the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals. With the Cavs’ success fresh in their minds, Cleveland fans hoped their team could pull it off.

Cleveland got down early, with the Cubs holding a four-run lead going into the bottom of the fifth

inning. By the eighth inning, the Cubs were up 6-3 and Chicago fans were starting to celebrate. Then Chapman gave up an RBI double to pinch-hitter Brandon Guyer, followed by a home run by Rajai Davis that tied the game 6-6. It seemed as though the “Curse of the Billy Goat” might rear its head once again and doom the Cubs.

After neither team scored in the ninth inning and a short rain delay, the Cubs managed to put up two runs in the 10th. A double by left fielder Ben Zobrist followed by base hits from Russell and catcher Miguel Montero had the Cubs up 8-6. Cleveland got another run in the bottom of the 10th off a Davis single, but it wasn’t enough and the Cubs held on to win 8-7.

This was a great win for the Cubs, but also a great win for sports fans. Parity helps to keep a wider fan base engaged in the sport, and seeing an underdog win a championship off the backs of exceptional management gives hope to fans of every MLB franchise.

Hope is what keeps fans coming back year after year, and as I root for my Seattle Mariners during the dog days of August I’m going to be repeating to myself, “Hey, the Cubs did it.” Congratulations Chicago!

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.



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Big Sky businesses with staying power

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Businesses open, close, move and change their hours with head-spinning frequency in this resort community—sometimes without fanfare, other times mourned collectively as the end of an era.

Some businesses, however, have stood the test of time, learning how to overcome, navigate, or simply hang on through the manifold challenges of operating a small business in Big Sky.

Horse of a Different Color

This home décor and gift shop in Meadow Village first opened in 2003. Jodee and Dan March bought it from original owners Peggy and Harry Ring—Big Sky residents for more than 40 years—in the spring of 2014.

Jodee began working at Horse of a Different Color upon moving to Big Sky from south Florida in 2013, thinking it would be a good start to rebuilding her interior design business. She worked in the shop for a year under Peggy Ring, who at 70, was preparing to retire.

“Peggy was ready to liquidate and I kept thinking what a shame it would be for the store to close,” March said. “It had been here for so long and people—tourists, second home owners, locals—just love it. There’s really no other store like it in Big Sky, and it would’ve left a big hole here.”

Ring started “pecking” March about buying the business, but without any retail experience March was hesitant.

“If Peggy hadn’t brought it up ... it wouldn’t have occurred to me,” March said. “Then they made me a deal that I couldn’t think of a reason to refuse.”

Since taking over the business, March has made some changes, namely bringing the store up to date in terms of computerization and bringing in more furnishings to augment the store’s inventory of “contemporary Western” rugs, bedding, jewelry, art, knick knacks and household goods. Horse of a Different Color’s offerings range in price from small \$5 gifts to \$2000 custom furniture items, many pieces designed by March herself.

She credits the business’ longevity with its long-standing reputation, having items that cater to every budget; and second homeowners, who might want to add a little accent to their home, but not want to go to Bozeman to go shopping. Despite the biggest stressor of finding the right employees, March is optimistic about the future of Horse of a Different Color.

“The store is doing really well,” March said. “Numbers are up, and we’ve had a great response to the changes we’ve made. I feel like it’s moving forward in ways I could never [have] planned for. And I think where we are in Big Sky with all the building, shoulder seasons getting shorter, and more and more tourists, I feel it can only get better.”



Horse of a Different Color owner Jodee March is optimistic about the future of her shop offering contemporary western home furnishings.
PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

The Country Market

The Country Market has been in existence since 1974. Current owners Lynne and Stephen Anderson purchased the store in March of 2002, when their last child of six graduated from high school and they could finally make a permanent move from Rhode Island to Big Sky, where they had vacationed since 1978.

Lynne Anderson didn’t have any experience in the grocery business but said she did plenty of shopping for her large brood and knew what hard work meant. Her husband has an MBA and that helped with the business side of things.



Stephen and Lynne Anderson take a rare break from The Country Market to Ousel Falls PHOTO BY S. CRAIG ANDERSON

When the Andersons took ownership, they expanded the selection of goods and, in 2008, built an addition that allowed them to be more than a slightly larger convenience store, Lynne said.

Their goal was, and continues to be, to provide a well-rounded market that caters to tourists’ tastes but never loses sight of the locals’ needs for decent quality at a decent price.

“We have a lot of transient workers here,” Lynne said. “A lot of them don’t have

a place to prepare meals—they want ramen, pizza, stuff that’s easy to prepare. We recognize that there’s not a single demographic in Big Sky and we try to meet as many of the needs as we can.”

Being an integral part of the community is one reason Lynne said they’ve been able to stay in business—from sponsoring a softball team to knowing their customers by name.

Four years ago, Lynne was fundamental in starting the Big Sky Community Food Bank, after she realized that people here were going hungry.

“I own a grocery store but wanted to open a food bank,” Lynne said. “It doesn’t make sense on paper but it does make sense for humanity.”

One thing Lynne said hasn’t changed since they moved to Big Sky, and works against them, is the culture of “going to town” to shop.

“It’s kind of like escaping the island,” she said of people shopping in Bozeman.

She also said it’s economically unfeasible to provide everything people want year-round, especially in a town with considerable fluctuations in population—ordering according to seasonality takes some finesse.

Staffing a business that stays open 14 to 16 hours a day, 365 days a year, remains an ongoing struggle although Lynne said they are thrilled with their current team of employees.

“I don’t know that we’ve overcome the challenges, we’ve just learned to work within them,” Lynne said.

“We can’t compete with Wal-Mart, Costco or Town and Country but we do the best that we can. We try to make it easy and reasonable for people to shop in Big Sky.”

Grizzly Outfitters

Andrew Schreiner and Ken Lancey founded Grizzly Outfitters in May of 1994. Schreiner joked that he and Lancey thought it'd be a good idea to open an 852-square-foot ski shop on the wrong (left) side of the street on the way up to a ski resort. During the holidays, Schreiner would don a Santa suit and wave a Rossignol ski flag to attract customers.

In 1998, Grizzly relocated to Meadow Village, and in 2005 moved into their current 4000-square-foot space in one of the first structures built in Big Sky Town Center, the RJS Tower building.

Schreiner attributes the success of Grizzly Outfitters with hard work (in the early years, Schreiner moonlighted as a bartender), treating employees extremely well, remaining passionate, cultivating a positive environment, and having a complementary business partner.

"The secret is hiring good people and taking really good care of them," said Schreiner, who provides myriad perks—this year to include employee housing—as incentives for employees. "And always be willing to work hard and keep a positive environment for your customers and employees. Be professional, respectful and constantly refining to bring something unique to this community."

Managing inventory is tricky for a business that can do a month's worth of off-season sales in a single day during the winter.

"It's all a challenge financially," Schreiner said. "We have to work really hard every year to polish things up to have a solid, successful year."

He also credits his 22-year partnership with Lancey—who manages more of the behind the scenes aspects of the business—with Grizzly's continued success. "We're yin and yang," Schreiner said. "We do two different things really well. There's no luck in having a good partnership—it's about making good choices, respecting each other and making sure everyone's really happy."



Owner Andrew Schreiner (at right) credits the success of Grizzly Outfitters in part to his partnership with Ken Lancey PHOTO COURTESY OF GRIZZLY OUTFITTERS

"...always be willing to work hard and keep a positive environment for your customers and employees. Be professional, respectful and constantly refining to bring something unique to this community."



Dave House (at left) and Devon White have kept The Corral open for business through thick and thin PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

The Corral

The Corral Bar, Steakhouse and Motel was built in 1947 and operated as a bar and dancehall for 15 years. After a string of nine different owners, David House and Devon White bought it in 1988.

House and White met in the mid '70s while working construction in Big Sky.

"The Corral was our hangout," said White, in between tossing dice and shots of peppermint Dr. McGillicuddy's.

"We'd spend a lot of time here," House added, "drinking beers, playing pool, chasing girls and having fun."

Twenty-eight years later, and barely on the other side of a 16-year lawsuit over land rights, both men take a beleaguered tone, tempered by playfully sarcastic senses of humor, when talking about the business and the barrage of challenges they've endured.

Individually both House and White said that finding decent help is their biggest hurdle. (White recently completed a 300-day stretch of working in The Corral's kitchen.)

They said they had to give up their employee housing to pay attorneys; they can't compete with the wages offered by the private clubs; and that millennials just don't have the same work ethic as their generation.

"Work my ass off—that's how we've stayed in business," White said. "This is not an easy business by any means. You've got five to six months in this town where you can do it, then you've got the other six where it's a break-even proposition. What have I learned? Don't get in the bar business."

Despite their good-natured dourness, The Corral remains a beloved hangout and one-of-a-kind watering hole for locals and tourists alike; and both House and White admit they probably wouldn't know what to do without it. After pressing to get a serious answer as to why their bar is still open for business, they say it's the true-blue Montana atmosphere and history of the place, their love of people and the community, and again, a successful partnership.

"You really gotta like what you do and you really gotta love the area," House said. "And then the people return the love. You really have to love people to be in this business—the good and the bad, though it's mostly good in my world."

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JLF Design wins prestigious Home of the Year award

WORD PR AND MARKETING

A contemporary homestead perched on a butte in the Teton Mountains proved to be the best example of high country architecture for the judges at Mountain Living magazine.

“Our Home of the Year judges fell in love with this project,” said Mountain Living Editor in Chief Darla Worden. The residence is winner of the magazine’s 22nd Home of the Year award, garnering a cover story in the magazine’s November/December 2016 issue.

Designed by the Bozeman-based JLF & Associates, the Jackson, Wyoming house was crafted through a collaboration of JLF’s architectural team of Paul Bertelli, Ashley Sullivan and Tyler Call, along with Big-D Signature construction, WRJ Design Associates interior design and Verdone Landscape Architects.

The turnkey design-build effort resulted in a house inspired by place and using rustic materials such as timber, stone and corten steel. Stone and glass are balanced in the framework of a homestead structure for an effect that is at once rooted in history, while punctuated by contemporary influences

“I have always thought that perfection is elusive and that the joy is in the pursuit of it,” said JLF principal Paul Bertelli. “On this design-build project, the surprise was



TOP: Using traditionally rustic materials such as stone, hewn logs, steel and glass in a contemporary application, JLF Design Build constructed a modern homestead between the towns of Jackson and Wilson, Wyoming.

BOTTOM: JLF Design Build worked with interior designer Rush Jenkins of WRJ Design to echo the natural palette of the architecture. PHOTOS COURTESY OF AUDREY HALL PHOTOGRAPHY

that by expanding the process of collaboration to not just the designers and owners, but to everyone—[subcontractors], craftspeople, managers, supervisors—it is extraordinary how close to perfection you can get. Thank you Mountain Living for recognizing that achievement; it has brought that joy to all of us.”

The award is a milestone for the architecture firm, highlighting the strong partnership with construction company Big-D Signature. The two firms work collaboratively as JLF Design Build, creating houses with

integrity in relationships with clients, craftspeople and the use of ageless materials in construction. The Home of the Year showcases an example of what JLF Design Build Vice President Jason Dunlop calls the firm’s best work.

“We are just honored to be recognized with this award,” Dunlop said. “JLF Design Build has built a lot of houses, but this particular project was a spectacular combination of an incredible building site, a client who was involved on every level and our effort as a team.”

Each year, Mountain Living magazine invites homeowners, designers, builders and architects of the high country to show off their projects for award consideration. This year, the judging committee received hundreds of entries from mountain communities in eight U.S. states and British Columbia. The entries were whittled down to just 48 finalists, with the promise that the winner would be featured in the magazine.

JLF Architects and Big-D Signature have delivered almost four decades of expertise through structures rooted in integrity and simple elegance. Based on trust and respect, the JLF design-build team uses distinctive solutions and materials to build place-based houses marked by the influences of landscapes from the Rocky Mountains to the Eastern Seaboard.

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DOCTOR'S NOTE

Two decades of medical education in Big Sky



BY DR. JEFF DANIELS
EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

The ski season is quickly approaching and this will be my 23rd Thanksgiving working on the first injuries of the winter at Big Sky Resort. When I first started back on Thanksgiving Day in 1994, with an office under the gondola by the Mountain Mall—the Summit Hotel now inhabits that space—I quickly became my first ski accident.

All was quiet that morning, and I was going to start my career here skiing every day, so I went up to the ticket booth and I remember John Kircher handing me my pass. My second run down Ambush turned that idea around when I fell, tumbled, and learned the hard way that landing on an outstretched hand was not very good for the wrist.

I sustained a Colles fracture, and after that first season was over I had to have surgery to fix my wrist. I've treated about 1,000 Colles fractures since then, and I've been lucky enough not to injure my wrists again.

This experience taught me that skiing is a sport very conducive to injuries, and based on the thousands of people skiing on a given mountain at any one time, accounts for more injuries than would occur on a football field or basketball court on a given day.

During a busy day in the middle of the ski season at the Medical Clinic of Big Sky, we might see 10 to 20 injuries. After a few years, I realized that this would be an amazing teaching and learning experience for me, having come from a teaching hospital in New York City, as well as for any student who could join our clinic for an elective month.

I decided to take that plunge when our current office on the mountain was built in the summer of 1998. With five exam rooms and an X-ray room to stage trauma, we could set up a "mini" teaching hospital that would be great for patients as well as for students.

In the summer of 1998, as I watched our office being built, I went on AOL and was able to get a list of websites of all the medical schools in the U.S. Each website was different, but I was able to find a connection to students who would be choosing what electives to do in their senior year of medical school.

I lined up 12 students to fill in the time between Thanksgiving and mid April, which meant two students at any time. I was able to arrange for ski passes, and even a very hospitable homeowner—one of her sons was in this group of 12, and another had worked with me at the clinic two years prior—to offer housing to the entire group of 12. She lasted through the first eight students, and then justifiably gave up playing housemother.

That first year worked out well, and word of this elective offered at Big Sky began to spread. I now receive about 200 requests to come and do this program in all months of the year, not only from medical students, but also from young doctors doing their residencies, and specialists in training for sports medicine. I've hosted American students and residents, as well as students and young doctors from Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Germany.

I can now staff my clinic at any given time with one or more very experienced emergency doctors, all about to finish their training and go out into practice in a couple of months. I've even had orthopedic residents coming through on a routine basis.

This year, we will pass 800 students, residents and fellows learning in Big Sky, and should make it to 1000 in a couple of more years.

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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AMUSE-BOUCHE

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

The Pumpkin: Not just a pretty face



BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

We associate things like fireworks, hot dogs and apple pie as being “American.” And while they are indeed rooted here, none of them spell red, white and blue as well as this orange fall rondure: the pumpkin.

We don’t give them much thought until the fall, when it seems as though they are everywhere: every grocery store, parking lot and roadside stand. We pick out the smoothest ones, scoop out the seeds for roasting and carve all varieties of faces in them. But pumpkins are more than just a pretty face. In fact, pound for pound, we’re chiseling away at one of Earth’s most perfect foods.

From the Greek word “pepon,” pumpkin, it turns out, is a fairly loose term. It changes depending on what country or part of the world you’re in since the pumpkin falls into a wider group encompassing many winter squash.

Though pumpkins are now grown on every continent but Antarctica, they were a staple of the Native American diet in particular. American Indians grew pumpkins for centuries and they became one of the most readily accepted foods of the new world colonists.

Much like bamboo is a useful tool and food in much of Asia, Native Americans ate pumpkins raw, roasted them, and essentially made the first pumpkin pie. They hollowed them out and roasted the seeds, much like we do today, poured a honey and milk mixture inside and baked it over smoldering coals.

In addition, they even dried cut strips of it to weave into mats.

But make no mistake: pumpkins also have a strong nutritional value. Right up there with canned tomatoes, canned pumpkin retains nearly all of its nutrients. Not many fruits and vegetables can make that claim.

Pumpkins get their deep orange color from carotenoids, a type of pigment found in certain vegetables and fungi, and are linked to the reduction of heart disease and diabetes while decreasing the risk of cataracts and macular degeneration.

They also provide fiber, which is a key player in the breakdown of carbohydrates and sugar, and allows our bodies to process sugar properly.

The pumpkin is a good source of Vitamin C and Vitamin E, which is a powerful antioxidant, helps balance cholesterol, repairs damaged skin, is a strong soldier in the battle against Alzheimer’s, and helps balance hormones.

Pumpkins contain potassium that reduces the risk of stroke and high blood pressure, while improving bone density, and wards off kidney stones.

Magnesium, an energy powerhouse, is also found in pumpkins and is essential for healthy bones while acting as a natural blood thinner, much like aspirin.

That all-star list of vitamins and nutrients in pumpkins is essential to our bodies, and oftentimes fewer than two of those are found in other foods. You would have to take a multivitamin to get a longer list of healthy nutrients.

Why this mini lesson in nutrition? Because pumpkins contain all of these healthy vitamins and nutrients, yet are affordable and accessible. So let’s all embrace the pumpkin.

Next year when you are carving a fun face into your orange winter squash, think about the benefits of this wonderful fruit.

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

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BUDGET AMENDMENT PROCLAMATION - BIG SKY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 72 GALLATIN COUNTY, MONTANA

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Big Sky School District No. 72, Gallatin County, Montana, held October 26, 2016 at 3:30 pm in the Ophir Elementary School Conference Room, the following resolution was introduced: WHEREAS, the Trustees of Big Sky School District No. 72, Gallatin County, Montana, have made a determination that as a result of an unanticipated enrollment increase, the District’s General Fund budget does not provide sufficient financing to properly maintain and support the District for the entire current school fiscal year; and WHEREAS, the Trustees have determined that an amendment to the General Fund budget in the amount of \$43,366.37 is necessary under the provisions of Section 20-9-161(1), MCA for the purpose of operating and maintaining the District, and WHEREAS, the anticipated source of financing the budget amendment expenditures shall be additional state assistance, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Big Sky School District No. 72, Gallatin County, Montana, proclaims a need for an amendment to the General Fund budget for fiscal year 2016-17 in the amount of \$43,366.37 for the purpose identified above, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Big Sky School District No. 72, Gallatin County, Montana, will meet at 3:30 pm in the Ophir Elementary School Conference Room on November 29, 2016 for the purpose of considering and adopting the budget amendment.

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Section 3: INSIDE YELLOWSTONE, OUTDOORS & FUN



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The Eddy Line: Wrestling with shoulder season pg. 39



Yellowstone Ski Festival pg. 41

INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Yellowstone Forever to elevate park conservation onto national stage

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY - Heather White's relationship to public lands started with childhood trips to the country's most-visited national park, Great Smoky Mountains, and has transitioned to advocacy for the world's first national park.

A native of east Tennessee, White moved this summer from Washington D.C. to Bozeman to take the reigns of Yellowstone Forever, a nonprofit that officially formed Oct. 2 when the Yellowstone Park Foundation and Yellowstone Association merged.



Yellowstone Forever CEO Heather White will oversee a \$20 million budget, 85 seasonal employees and more than 70 full-time employees. PHOTO BY DOUG LONEMAN/LONEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

"It's really a dream job," White said. "Every morning I get to wake up with this remarkable team to think about how we get to preserve Yellowstone and connect the next generation with it. It doesn't get much better than that."

White's directives will be guided by a 26-member board consisting of men and women who served on the boards of YPF and YA. Yellowstone Forever will keep offices in Bozeman and Gardiner and will remain dedicated to the missions of both organizations. Yellowstone Park Foundation has been

the park's nonprofit funding partner since 1996 and the Yellowstone Association has educated park visitors for more than eight decades.

White sees these two missions as co-equal goals that support each other.

"Through education we create opportunities for people to experience the wonderland of Yellowstone and make a deep connection," White explained. "Then they really want to care for it and see themselves as stewards. And that next level is making a commitment of time or financial resources."

"All the research says that if you have a good [experience] before age 11 that it builds a lifelong conservation ethic," White said. She wants young people to have an opportunity to visit the park and connect to something larger than themselves.

White then referenced Gary Ferguson, a Red Lodge, Montana-based author who has written about the draw of Yellowstone: "Gary says that one of the great things about Yellowstone is that it allows you to unhook from what you know, even for a minute, to connect to the magic and mystery that still surrounds us. That's the experience we want to create for the next generation."

White, who has a law degree from the University of Tennessee, also aims to elevate the newly merged organization to a national, rather than regional, nonprofit. She wants it to serve as a model of private-public partnerships focused on national park conservation.

Even though Yellowstone is considered the crown jewel of conservation as the world's first national park, it suffers from the budget constraints squeezing the National Park Service as a whole. Jonathan Jarvis, who directs the agency, has called the Park Service "chronically underfunded." Yellowstone itself is facing an estimated \$600 million maintenance backlog.

"We're filling in a really important gap," White said. "Those needs are only going to increase over time."

Although White has visited the park's major attractions, she's looking forward to immersing herself in the backcountry—with bear spray, she's quick to point out—and being with her 9- and 11-year-old daughters when they first hear a wolf howl.

White's also looking forward to the 150th anniversary of Yellowstone, which is just over five years away. She's been asking herself and others what the park should look like for that milestone. In addition to ecological applications—White studied conservation biology in New Zealand—that question includes visitor initiatives like mobility studies. Forever Yellowstone is helping the park find more effective ways to move record-breaking numbers of visitors around.

Productively channeling enthusiasm for the park to prevent it from being, in the words of naturalist and writer David Quammen, "loved to death," is perhaps the greatest challenge before Yellowstone Forever, White said. "How do we create that force of love to be one of preservation?"

Yellowstone Forever is hosting an event Nov. 18 at the Bozeman REI from 6-8 p.m. to celebrate the organization's launch. Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk and celebrated park photographer Tom Murphy will be in attendance.

Visit ypf.org or yellowstoneassociation.org for more information about Yellowstone Forever or the event. After the new website goes live on Nov. 16, details will also be available at yellowstone.org.

New study to uncover Yellowstone’s subsurface mysteries

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

A new study providing an unprecedented regional view of the earth’s crust beneath Yellowstone National Park began with a helicopter electromagnetic and magnetic (HEM) survey on Nov. 7.

Scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey, University of Wyoming and Aarhus University in Denmark hope to distinguish zones of cold freshwater, hot saline water, steam, clay and unaltered rock from one another to understand Yellowstone’s many hydrothermal systems. The flights will continue the next two to four weeks.

Although the park’s iconic hydrothermal systems are well mapped at the surface, their subsurface groundwater flow systems are almost completely unknown.

For example, research shows that the hot water spurting from Yellowstone’s geysers originates as old precipitation, snow and rain that percolates down into the crust, is heated and ultimately returns to the surface. This process takes hundreds—if not thousands—of years. Little, however, is currently known about the paths taken by the waters.

The HEM survey will provide the first subsurface view of Yellowstone’s hydrothermal systems, tracking the geophysical signatures of geysers, hot springs, mud pots, steam vents and hydrothermal explosion craters to depths in excess of 1,000 feet.

A low-flying helicopter, about 200 feet above the ground, will travel along pre-planned flight grids focusing on the Mammoth-Norris corridor, Upper and Lower Geyser Basins and the northern part of Yellowstone Lake. An electromagnetic system, resembling a giant hula hoop, will be suspended from the helicopter’s base. The equipment senses and records tiny voltages that can be related to the ground’s electrical conductivity.

These observations, combined with existing geophysical, geochemical, geological and borehole data, will help close a knowledge gap between the surface hydrothermal systems and the deeper magmatic system and guide future ground-based geological, hydrological and geophysical studies.



A helicopter outfitted with equipment for an electromagnetic and magnetic survey flies over Spirit Lake, near Mount St. Helens, Washington on Nov. 1. USGS PHOTO

Researchers use dead fish to kill lake trout embryos

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) – Dead fish are being used to kill lake trout embryos in an experimental method to combat a threat to a native Yellowstone Lake species.

Researchers successfully killed all the embryos in an experiment using hundreds of lake trout carcasses, reported the Jackson Hole News and Guide.

If the method proves viable on a large scale, it could be a key tool in the fight to help cutthroat stage a comeback and rebound to their historical numbers. In turn, park managers hope to restore a multi-level trophic cascade that could, in theory, result in grizzly bears eating fewer elk calves.

Yellowstone Fisheries Supervisor Todd Koel introduced the carcass experiment.

“We were just trying to create an extremely negative environment for lake trout embryos to survive, and one idea was to use carcasses,” Koel said. “They caught 350,000-plus this year, and we dump them back into the lake anyway.”

The method could be used on a larger scale depending on its success.

“We were killing the embryos at up to a 100 percent rate inside of three weeks,” Koel said. “It far exceeded our expectations.”

Chris Guy of the Montana Cooperative Fishery Research Unit says fungus from the dead fish may be what killed 100 percent of the embryos in the experiment.

“We tried killing embryos just with a tarp, and we couldn’t get the dissolved oxygen to go down enough,” he said. “Now we put the lake trout carcasses on and we get 100 percent mortality in about three weeks and that, to me, corroborates fungus.”

Researchers including Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center biologist Bob Gresswell are also trying to track where lake trout spawn.

“What we’re learning is that we’re seeing some very site-specific places, and it’s much more dispersed than I originally anticipated,” Gresswell said. “Certainly we’re coming close to knowing more where the general spawning areas are, but the specifics within those sites [are] a little trickier. That’s the \$64,000 question: Where are those spots? And can we develop some kind of technique that maybe is useful?”

RECYCLE

Enjoy our publication and please remember to recycle.

Visiting Fulbright scholar studies microbes found in Yellowstone National Park's hot springs

BY MICHAEL BECKER
MSU NEWS SERVICE

Matthew Stott is a stickler for workplace safety, which is good, considering that the New Zealander is spending four months studying microbes that live under extreme conditions in the hot springs of Yellowstone National Park.

Stott's fieldwork takes him to places where the water can be near-boiling with acidity levels varying between battery acid and ammonia base. He carries a meter that alerts him if the concentration of poisonous gases in the air is too great, and he always has to watch his footing.

"You can recognize the ground when it's rubbish and you don't want to go near it," Stott said.

Stott, a 41-year-old microbiologist working for the New Zealand government, is at MSU as a visiting Fulbright scholar. Each year, the Core Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program provides a chance for about 800 faculty and professionals from around the world to research in the U.S.

Stott works in conjunction with Eric Boyd, assistant professor in the MSU Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Stott's Fulbright project will compare the microorganisms living in Yellowstone's geothermal springs to those of New Zealand's Taupō Volcanic Zone.

"I'm interested in the geothermally heated soils and the bacteria that make a living in them," Stott said, "how they interact with their environment, how they grow, why they grow where they do and what sort of conditions help them grow."

Taupō, located in the central part of New Zealand's North Island, is near a subduction zone, where one of the planet's tectonic plates is sliding beneath another. Consequently, Earth's crust is thin there, only about 10 miles thick, and Taupō is rife with hot springs like those found in Yellowstone.

But, they are also unlike Yellowstone's hot springs, at least microbiologically speaking, Stott said. And that's what makes it interesting.

"In microbiology, you assume all microbes are everywhere and that environment is the main selecting factor," he said. "So the idea is if you have two identical hot springs on opposite sides of the world, they should have the same microbiology. In reality, they don't. My hypothesis is that while the microbiology won't be the same, the organisms might be expressing the same genes."

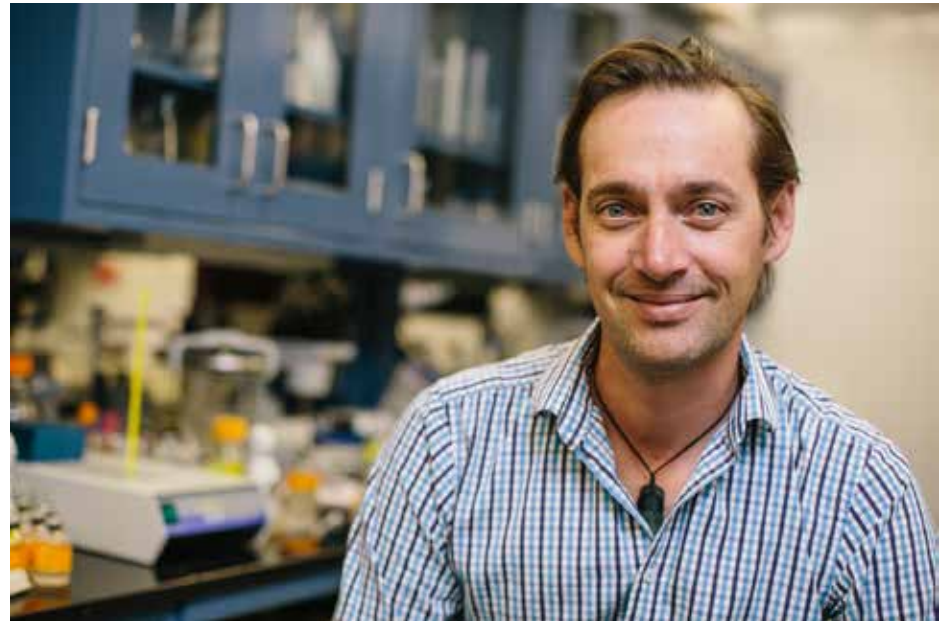
In other words, he's looking at how microbes on opposite sides of the planet have dealt in similar environments by finding unique evolutionary pathways to survival.

Stott said he's always been interested in microbiology and the environment, specifically in how the science can help clean up toxic spills and other such disasters.

"It's a passion, an absolute passion," he said. "Life has had 3.8 billion years to evolve and adapt to really unusual conditions on Earth. If you go searching hard enough and long enough, you'll find that life has sorted out a solution to many of the things we're interested in."

MSU, he said, was a natural choice for his Fulbright.

"The first place you come across if you're looking for work on extremophile organisms is MSU, absolutely," he said. "I've known about Eric's geomicrobiology and thermophile work for some time, so it was an easy decision to come and work with him at MSU. Eric's research is world-leading and I've learned a heap from him and his team already."



Matthew Stott, a visiting Fulbright scholar from New Zealand, is studying microbes in Yellowstone National Park's geothermal hot springs. MSU PHOTO BY ADRIAN SANCHEZ-GONZALEZ

When he returns to New Zealand in December, Stott will continue work on a project to look at the chemistry and microbial diversity of hot springs in Taupō, a project known as One Thousand Springs.

Boyd said Stott has fostered an extremely creative environment in the lab and has taught the MSU team new safety techniques for working in the field.

"He has great vision in hot springs geobiology and is doing extremely interesting research and as such has brought a unique perspective to our lab," Boyd said.

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On the Trail: Ulrey's Lake Loop Trail

Explore local hiking, biking and equestrian trails with Big Sky Community Organization's trail series.



Learn about the area's wetlands, wildlife and geology by reading the interpretive signs posted along Ulrey's Lake Loop, a trail through private property that is open to the public. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

BY CIARA WOLFE
BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ulrey's Lake Loop is a true Big Sky experience. From expansive views to crossing ski bridges and reading interpretive signs, this trail has it all. The trail is a 3.9-mile natural surface, intermediate-level loop with both uphill and downhill travel that winds around Ulrey's Lake. Start your trip at the trailhead located on the west side of the Moonlight Lodge parking lot. The trail is marked with a large map kiosk and signs for various trails and their distances.

Moonlight Basin is unique in our area, as it is the only private club that allows public access to trails on their private property. The Big Sky community is grateful for this as it adds additional mileage to the Big Sky Resort trail system that links to our community trail system.

You can hike or bike the loop in either direction, but I prefer to start to the right and immediately cross an 800-foot skier bridge. You then cross another skier bridge and two dirt roads as the trail meanders through Moonlight Basin residences. The trail ultimately leads downhill to the shore of Ulrey's Lake. At the lake there are some private club amenities you will see, including a dock, warming yurt and extensive tree fort. Continue your hike around the lake and begin the climb back up the trail. You will cross back over the dirt road which then zig zags through the forest and a handful of ski runs.

As you make your way back to the trailhead, you'll notice a bench with views of Wilson Peak. Make sure to check out the interpretative signs along the route with information on area wildlife, geology and wetlands. You'll know you're nearing the trailhead again once when the trail starts weaving through private residences. The entire trail is marked with blue flagging on trees and there are signs posted at all intersections and road crossings.

Enjoy this beautiful hike with some of the best views of Beehive Basin and the Spanish Peaks that you can find in Big Sky. Please note that Moonlight Basin is growing and some portions of the trail may be closed certain times of the year due to construction. Bear sightings are often reported in this area, so be bear aware when recreating on Ulrey's Lake Loop Trail. Stop by the Tavern, a restaurant located in Moonlight Lodge near the trailhead, for a snack or drink to complete your experience.

For more information about Big Sky's parks, trails and 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.

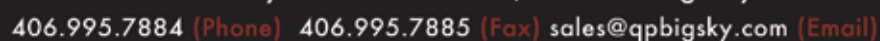


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TRAIL STATS

Distance	Uses	Difficulty	Elevation Gain	Surface
3.9 mile loop roundtrip	Hike, trail run, bike, snowshoe	Moderate	275 ft	Dirt

Directions: Drive west toward Big Sky Resort and Moonlight Basin on Lone Mountain Trail. Continue 1 mile past Big Sky Resort until you come to the entrance gate to Moonlight Basin. Pass through the gate and head straight through a roundabout following signs to Moonlight Lodge. After driving past several private residences, the road winds up at the lodge. Once you enter the Moonlight Lodge parking lot, park on your right along the tree line near the trailhead.



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BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

Author's note: I will be chasing bonefish and permit the next two weeks, so I have rewritten a column from November 2013. This is my way of dealing with shoulder season.

From fishing high mountain streams to chasing the last of the October caddis, fishing this time of year is both rewarding and bittersweet. It's like the days before college graduation—there's no need to wake until the crack of 11 a.m. and lurking in the underbelly of impending graduation is the question that's always asked: "So, what are your plans after graduation?" It's the same for fly fishers here in Big Sky. Or at least until the ski hill opens. "What are your plans in November?"

I know many fishing guides and die-hard anglers flee west or north to chase steelhead. This has never appealed to me—standing in the same run for countless hours methodically, almost as if in meditation, casting and drifting, casting and drifting, and casting and drifting. Then it happens ... a steelhead is hooked on the 2,871st cast and it all makes sense. The immeasurable pull of a steelhead and its pace and determination to end the fight is felt throughout your entire body. The nights spent sleeping on the ground, cooking 23 meals with a JetBoil, and losing a girlfriend or two are forgotten with the first run of a hooked steelhead.

For anglers without the steelhead or saltwater addiction, the prime spots on our local waters are a little easier to occupy during the shoulder season. If a steelhead or saltwater adventure isn't in your

Wrestling with shoulder season

Enjoy the down time because ski season is around the corner

cards, by choice or obligation, here are a few local options to fish before it's time to wax the boards and chase the freshies.

Hatches of Blue Winged Olives and midges on the Paradise Valley spring creeks.

A little over an hour and half from Big Sky are three world famous walk-wade fisheries: DePuy's, Armstrong's/O'Hair's, and Nelson's spring creeks. In winter the fee is only \$40 per rod and you'll have minimal company. Head to the creeks on a day with little wind and you'll find fish eating tiny dry flies. If little or no hatch occurs, fish size 18 or 20 midge nymphs below a very small indicator and you should have success. If you want a head start or wish to learn more about these fisheries, consider hiring a guide for a day.

Upper Madison between the lakes or above Lyons Bridge. As the lure of trophy bull elk keeps many people in the woods, the potential for large brown trout and solitude exist on the Upper Madison. Dead-drifting or slowly stripping large streamers is the most often used method, however hatches of midges are often a daily occurrence. If you like techie dry fly angling and you can easily spot tiny flies, be sure to carry along some size 18 or 20 dry flies. Watch the forecast because an overcast day certainly will bring more fish to net as Upper Madison trout are not fans of bright sun.

Gallatin River near Big Sky. And ... of course the Gallatin River right here in Big Sky. Talking about the consistency of the Gallatin as a winter fishery is good and bad: you want people to know it's damn good, but not so good that it feels crowded. Hatches of midges can occur, but most success will be had with tandem nymph rigs using an indicator. For Big Sky locals the Gallatin is ideal—you can get in a few hours of fishing during the best time of day and still have

time to work, make a supply run to Bozeman, or in the case of a fishing guide in his or her downtime ... take a nap.

For many of us, these next few weeks are special—summer tourists are gone, skiers and riders are not here yet; it's the heart of big game hunting season; and for anglers who either hit the road or stay close to home, the options are unique and varied. Enjoy this respite before snow reports trump fishing reports.

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, he is co-director of the Montana Fishing Guide School, and co-owns a guide service on the Missouri River.



November is not a time to rest your casting arm. In fact, the next few weeks can offer up some great fishing as you transition from fall to winter.
PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

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Immerse yourself in all things Nordic at the Yellowstone Ski Festival

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For more than 30 years, cross-country skiers from across North America and around the world have traveled to the Yellowstone Ski Festival to begin their Nordic ski season on the Rendezvous ski trails in West Yellowstone.

The Yellowstone Ski Festival takes place Nov. 22-26 and features a full daily lineup of Nordic skiing clinics as well as biathlon races, an on-snow gear demo, an indoor ski show, and a variety of presentations, classes and social mixers. The intention of the festival is to jump-start the Nordic ski season with instruction, exercise, and immersion in the cross-country ski culture.

Both the beginning skier and experienced racer will have the opportunity to participate in ski clinics coached by former Olympic athletes and lifelong Nordic skiers; test and purchase the latest ski gear and accessories; and enjoy the Rendezvous trails with skiers of all skill levels.

Attendees will also be able to sign up for Yellowstone Ski Festival’s XC Ski Camp, where a professional coaching staff will provide techniques, tips, tools, drills and feedback to promote efficiency and strength throughout the upcoming ski season. The coaching staff comprised of elite cross-country ski professionals combined with the Rendezvous trail system makes West Yellowstone an ideal place to transition from dryland training to on-snow skiing.

All ability levels can sign up for single or multi-day clinics focusing on topics like waxing, tuning, skate skiing, classic cross-country skiing and touring.

Throughout the week, there are lectures by wildlife artists and keynote speaker Ruff Patterson, former coach of the U.S. Ski Team; historical presentations, film screenings and local whiskey and beer tastings; and daily naturalist programs for children and adults at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center.

Whether “first tracks” means just you and the corduroy, or it’s your first time on skis this season—or your first time on skis, period—you are likely to garner practical tips and tools and get amped for the winter at the Yellowstone Ski Festival.

Some classes and races require pre-registration. For more information and a full schedule of events, visit skirunbikemt.com/yellowstone-ski-festival.



Young skiers enjoying Yellowstone Ski Festival events. The long-standing annual festival will be held in West Yellowstone Nov. 22-26. PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER DANIEL

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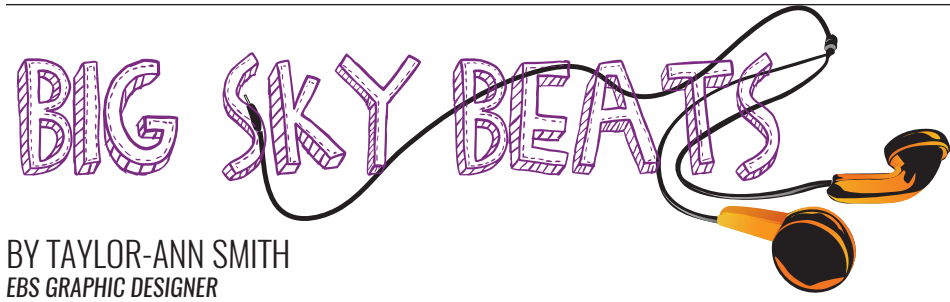


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BY TAYLOR-ANN SMITH
EBS GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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

I recently visited San Diego for the Adobe MAX conference and had a free day to explore the city. “Top Gun” is unquestionably my favorite movie—I’ve always wanted to fly an F-14 Super Tomcat—so instead of going to the beach, I went to check out the USS Midway aircraft carrier to satisfy my inner aviation nerd.

Commissioned a week after the end of World War II, the USS Midway was built as a “Montana-class” aircraft carrier—which was a larger, better-armored version of battleship design. The ship operated for 47 years, including through the Vietnam War, and it was the flagship in Operation Dessert Storm in 1991.

The USS Midway was also the largest ship in the world until 1955, and the first aircraft carrier too big to pass through the Panama Canal.

In case you haven’t seen the film, or you need to get into the “danger zone,” here are some songs featured in “Top Gun”:

1. “Top Gun Anthem,” Harold Faltermeyer, Steve Stevens
2. “Mighty Wings,” Cheap Trick
3. “Playing with the Boys,” Kenny Loggins
4. “Great Balls of Fire,” Jerry Lee Lewis
5. “You’ve Lost that Lovin’ Feelin’,” The Righteous Brothers
6. “Through the Fire,” Larry Greene
7. “Take my Breath Away,” Berlin
8. “Danger Zone,” Kenny Loggins

Visit explorebigsky.com/beats for a sampling of the playlist.

American Life in Poetry: Column 607

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Dana Gioia is the Poet Laureate of California. For six years he served the nation as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. His new book, “99 Poems: New & Selected,” has just been published by Graywolf Press. This beautiful poem remembers his first son, Michael Jasper, whom Gioia and his wife, Mary, lost in infancy.

Prayer
By Dana Gioia

Echo of the clocktower, footstep
in the alleyway, sweep
of the wind sifting the leaves.

Jeweller of the spiderweb, connoisseur
of autumn’s opulence, blade of lightning
harvesting the sky.

Keeper of the small gate, choreographer
of entrances and exits, midnight
whisper traveling the wires.

Seducer, healer, deity or thief,
I will see you soon enough—
in the shadow of the rainfall,

in the brief violet darkening a sunset—
but until then I pray watch over him
as a mountain guards its covert ore

and the harsh falcon its flightless young.

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

4		8	5				2	
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	1	3		2		5	7	
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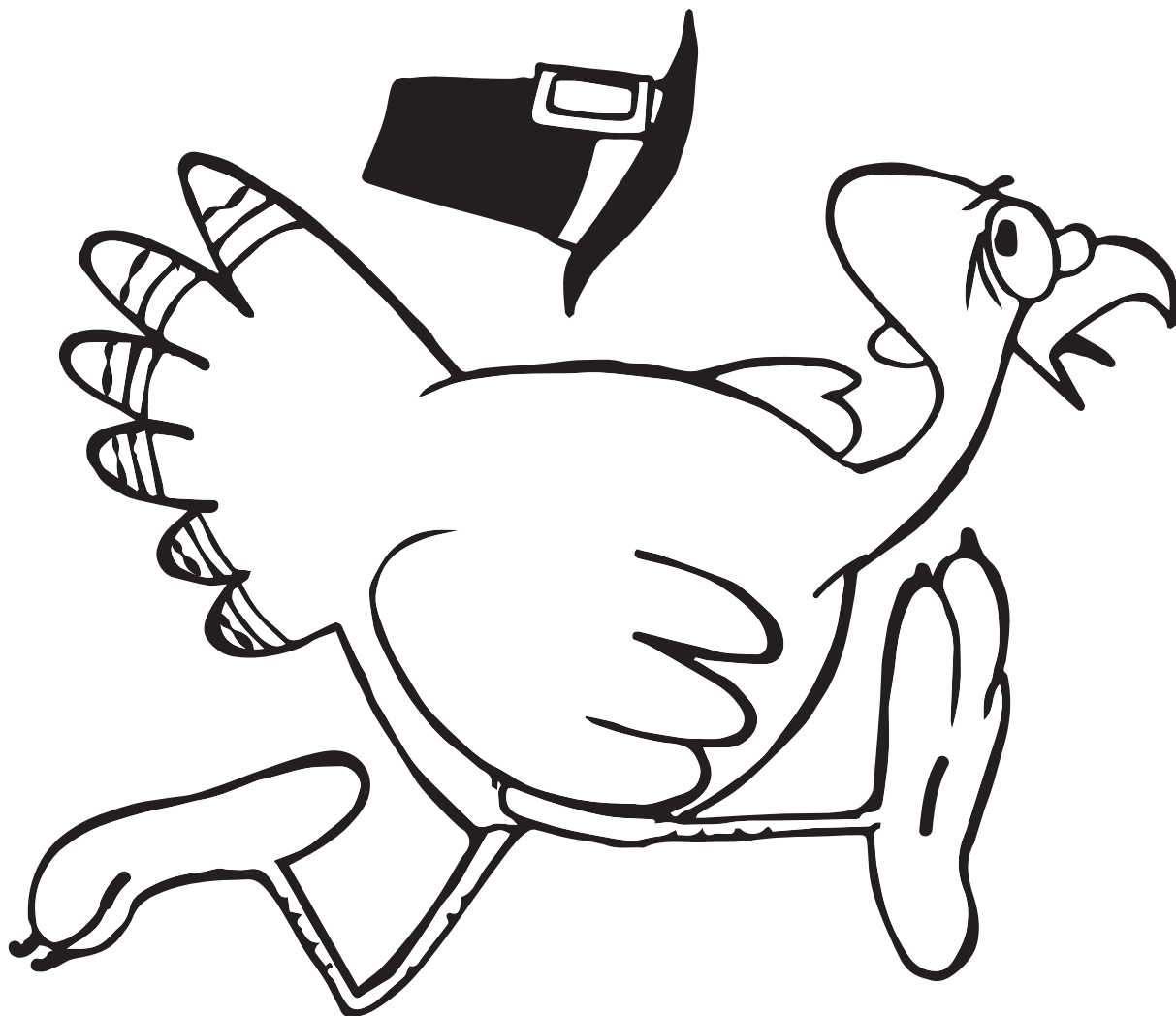


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Section 4: EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT, BACK 40



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Cowboy's Quill:
Memoir of the original ski bum pg. 52



Back 40:
The universe in ABC order pg. 56



Entrepreneur finds renewed inspiration in Montana

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Frank Gazella Jr.—the founder of Creek to Peak Wear, a new Bozeman-based outdoor apparel brand—exudes an enthusiasm that is nothing short of infectious. A natural entrepreneur, Gazella's passion and drive has served him, but is not self-serving. Rather, his energy is buoyed by a genuine desire to help other small startups make their vision a reality alongside his own.

Gazella grew up in Scranton, Pennsylvania, immersed in an Italian family of self-made business owners. Acknowledging that school was not for him, Gazella dropped out of University of Kansas his junior year and joined the Marine Corps. He said the experience prepared him to be a small business owner. It made him focus, brought out his drive and ignited a “no quit” attitude.

A year out of the Marines, Gazella, then 24, and a friend started what would quickly become a wildly successful pierogi (the savory polish potato dumpling) distribution company out of their apartment in Kansas City.

Before long, “Pieroguys,” was touring with NASCAR and distributing to Hersheypark, Donald Trump's golf courses and more than 100 grocery stores.

“We got so big we couldn't pinch them fast enough,” Gazella said of making the dumplings.

Their exponential growth led Gazella and his partner to hire a dubious manufacturer, which marked the beginning of the end for Pieroguys and their lucrative nine-year run. Gazella said the ensuing lawsuit should be resolved by the end of this year.

Gazella was floundering after the sudden collapse of his business in 2013 and decided to take a month-long road trip.

Montana was on his mind. He had been obsessed with the state since he was a little kid. It was the state he chose to do a report on in the fifth grade; it was where his favorite movies were set, and it was one of seven states he hadn't visited.



Creek to Peak Wear founder Frank Gazella shows off the look of his new brand. The company name and tagline “wear your adventure” were inspired on a ridgeline hike in the Bridgers. PHOTO BY CLAYTON ADCOCK

On his way back to Kansas City from touring the West, he stopped in Bozeman and never left.

“As I was coming through Whitehall, I got this overwhelming feeling that I should just be here,” Gazella said. “I'm thinking this is crazy ... but it just felt right.”

After a year of working odd jobs and wading through discouragement, Gazella was struck by another lightning bolt of inspiration while hiking the Bridger Ridge Traverse—and the idea for Creek to Peak Wear was born.

“That was the day Stella got her groove back,” Gazella said. “I realized I'm always out having these adventures and I'm always wearing my favorite blue Kansas Jayhawks T-shirt—and that's when I thought of [Creek to Peak's tagline] ‘wear your adventure.’ And I knew I was on to something.”

This past September, a year after his ridgeline epiphany, Gazella launched the website for Creek to Peak Wear. His clean, graphic logo is featured on trucker hats, beanies, hoodies, and the signature T-shirt that started it all—guaranteed to be the most comfortable you ever put on your back.

Without investors, Gazella is starting out small with his line of apparel and is still in the research phase of opening a storefront, but the Creek to Peak brand is only one component of a grander vision. He wants his company to be a platform for other small businesses with a similar model to get their product to market.

He has already partnered with Montana's Voke Tab (natural energy tablets), Brook Fishing Equipment, Colorado Glasses, LifeStraw (developer of a personal water filter), and the backpacker-friendly Paleo Meals To Go, all of which are offered on the Creek to Peak website.

Gazella also facilitates printing, packing, shipping and distribution logistics for new businesses so they can focus on sales and marketing.

“I know there are a thousand kids with awesome ideas that don't know how to go about getting it out there,” Gazella said. “I know how hard it is; I know what it's like to sit on an idea and not know what to do with it—and I want to help those people. Everything we use, everything we touch, was someone's idea. Maybe we can help bring out the next big thing.”

Gazella isn't looking to be the next North Face or Patagonia and he doesn't have any interest in carrying big name brands. He's motivated by an enjoyment of the creative process, the love of the challenge, and the satisfaction of seeing an idea become a reality.

“I'm not in it for the money,” Gazella said. “I just want to create a cool brand and see someone wearing my shirt, loving it and having a good time. I'm just trying to be me and create something I'm proud of and—the main thing—to love what I do.”

Visit creektopeakwear.com to learn more.

EVENTS CALENDAR

PLANNING AN EVENT? LET US KNOW! EMAIL MEDIA@THEOUTLAWPARTNERS.COM, AND WE'LL SPREAD THE WORD.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 –
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

***If your event falls between
November 21 and December 8,
please submit it by November 16**

Big Sky

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scholastic Book Fair
Big Sky Library, 8:30 a.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Bingo Night
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill,
6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Glow from Within
Santosha Wellness Center,
6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

Business After Hours
Big Sky Chamber of
Commerce,
5 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Alchemy of Alignment with
Anna Ourusoff
Santosha Wellness Center,
2 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Skyline Bus Winter
Schedule Begins
Big Sky, all day

Bozeman

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Walk for the Health of It
Peets Hill, noon

Christy Hays
Wild Joe's Coffee House, 5 p.m.

Artists' Gallery
November Art Event
Emerson Cultural Center, 5 p.m.

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

Paint & Party
Sacajawea Hotel, 5:30 p.m.

O Magnum Mysterium
Willson Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Bingo at The Baxter
The Baxter Hotel, 7 p.m.

Bozeman Symphonic Choir
Holy Rosary Church, 7 p.m.

The Sounds of Bozeman
Spring Hill Church, 7 p.m.

Veteran's Day MSU Bands
Concert
Reynold's Recital Hall

Random Acts of Improv
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

Loom in Essence + Ampathy +
Illumination + Knight Rider
The Filling Station, 8 p.m.

The Mighty Flick
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

M.O.T.H.
American Legion, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

2016 Girls for a Change Summit
Montana State University,
7:45 a.m.

2016 Outstanding Agricultural
Leader: Jim Hagenbarth
MSU's South Gym, 10:30 a.m.

Silly Moose Comedy Improv
Verge Theater, 2 p.m.

**10th Annual Bozeman
Bluegrass Festival
The Emerson Center for
the Arts & Culture, 6 p.m.**

The 15th Annual Elise Event
MSU Black Box Theater, 7 p.m.

Great Beginnings Montessori
School's 13th Chocolate
Moose Fundraiser
Faultline North, 7 p.m.

Film: Dirty Dancing
The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Random Acts of Improv
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

Fresh & Kilo's Tailgate Party
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

The Mighty Flick
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

M.O.T.H.
American Legion, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

O Magnum Mysterium
Willson Auditorium, 3 p.m.

Bozeman Symphonic Choir
Holy Rosary Church, 3 p.m.

9 Energies 1-Year Celebration
9 Energies Center, 3 p.m.

Lang Termes
Outlaw Brewing, 4 p.m.

10th Annual Bozeman
Bluegrass Festival
The Emerson Center for the
Arts and Culture, 4 p.m.

Kate & the Alley Kats
MAP Brewing Co, 6 p.m.

Bridger Mountain Big Band
Eagles Lodge, 7 p.m.

Left on Tenth
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Montana Code Girls
Belgrade Community Library,
4 p.m.

MSU Men's Basketball vs. UL
Lafayette
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Parent & Tot Aerial Arts
Series
The Emerson Center for the
Arts & Culture, 10:30 a.m.

Erin & The Project
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Cribbage Night
Eagles Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

MSU Cello & Guitar
Ensembles Concert
Reynold's Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Dynamite Dads: Explore the
Villas of Oplontis
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

The Fundamentals of
Successful Investing
MSU Gaines Hall, 6:15 p.m.

Jeff Peterson
Lockhorn Cider House, 7 p.m.

MSU Men's Basketball vs.
Rocky Mountain College
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

MSU Percussion Ensemble
Fall Concert
Reynold's Recital Hall,
7:30 p.m.

Brothers Gow
The Filling Station, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Leadership Mentoring Series
Baxter Hotel, 2:30 p.m.

**Ladies Night
Downtown Bozeman, 5 p.m.**

The Vibe Quartet
406 Brewing, 6 p.m.

Distinguished Lecture:
Introduction to Ancient Coins
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

Art on the Rocks: Seasonal
Sips & Paper Mache Pumpkins
The Emerson Center for the
Arts & Culture, 6:30 p.m.

Kenny Diamond
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Meet the Author: Allen Jones
Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

Guest Artist Recital
Reynold's Recital Hall,
7:30 p.m.

Broad Comedy
The Emerson Center for the
Arts & Culture, 8 p.m.

Paper Bird + Satsang
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Walk for the Health of It
Peet's Hill, noon

TRiO SSS Concert Event:
Jasmine Tate
Reynold's Recital Hall, 1 p.m.

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

Wax
The Zebra Cocktail Lounge,
7 p.m.

MSU Men's Basketball vs.
James Madison

Brick Breeden Fieldhouse,
7 p.m.

The High Country Cowboys
The Story Mansion, 7:30 p.m.

MSU Jazz Ensembles Concert
Reynold's Recital Hall,
7:30 p.m.

Broad Comedy
The Emerson Center for the
Arts & Culture, 8 p.m.

Astronautalis
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, 9 p.m.

Cure for the Common + John
Adam Smith
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Cabin Fever Band
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, 9 p.m.

Quenby
American Legion, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Bozeman Winter Farmer's
Market
Emerson Ballroom, 9 a.m.

**15th Annual Holiday
Bazaar
Emerson Ballroom, 9 a.m.**

Silly Moose Comedy Improv
Verge Theater, 2 p.m.

Festival of Trees
Best Western Grantree Inn,
5:30 p.m.

The Pilot's
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Frances Stewart Quartet
Cikan House, 7 p.m.

Film: Die Hard
The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Broad Comedy
The Emerson Center for the
Arts & Culture, 8 p.m.

Rockin' Around The Christmas
Tree
Live from the Divide, 8 p.m.

Shook Twins with Rabbit Wilde
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

Cabin Fever Band
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

Quenby
American Legion, 9 p.m.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

High Tea with Clara
The Baxter Hotel, 10 a.m,
noon & 3 p.m.

The Cook's
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Wild Joe's Coffee Spot Grand Re-
Opening with Tsunami Funk
Wild Joe's Coffee Spot, 6 p.m.

Bridger Mountain Big Band
Eagles Lodge, 7 p.m.

The Dirt Farmers
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Montana Code Girls
Belgrade Community Library, 4 p.m.

Matt "Mathias" Nunberg
Outlaw Brewing, 6 p.m.

STEM Fun Night
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

The Jews are Back!
The Shul of Bozeman, 7 p.m.

Improv on the Verge
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

RECURRING EVENTS:
Pints with Purpose
Bridger Brewing, Mondays at 5 p.m.

Burgers & Bingo
Eagles Lodge, Friday Nights at
5:30 p.m.

Open Mic Night
The Haufbrau, Sundays, Mondays, and
Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m.

Monday Metamorphosis
Mountain Yoga Bozeman,
Mondays at 4 p.m.

Karaoke
American Legion, Mondays at 9 p.m.

Music & Mussels
Bridger Brewing,
Wednesdays at 5 p.m.

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

Bluegrass Thursdays with The
Bridger 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.

Bowl for Kids' Sake
Bozeman Bowl, Fridays at 4 p.m.

Learn to Skate Classes
Haynes Pavillion, Sundays at noon

Livingston & Paradise Valley

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Denny Earnest
Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Macbeth
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts,
8 p.m.

Erin & The Project
Pine Creek Lodge, 9 p.m.

One Leaf Clover
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

The Max
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Donnie Elliott Band
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Macbeth
Shane Lalani Center, 8 p.m.

Taylor Scott Band
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

The Max
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Macbeth
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts,
3 p.m.

Livingston Film Series presents Spotlight
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts,
7 p.m.

The Max
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

Jay's Lounge
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Kalyn Beasley
The Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16
Songwriters Night with Luke Callen
& Trap Kit
The Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Network Live!
ERA Western Landmark, 5:30 p.m.

Danny Bee
The Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Seth Morman
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Virginia Warner
Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

The Fossils
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Wesley & The Revolving
Pine Creek Lodge, 9 p.m.

Denny Earnest
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Senior Center Holiday Bazaar
Park County Senior Center, 9 a.m.

After Shipping Celebration
Elks Lodge, 7 p.m.

The Bird Dogs
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Denny Earnest
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
The Max
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

Jay's Lounge
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Old Sap
The Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

West Yellowstone

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11
West Yellowstone Annual Ski Swap
Drop Off
Rendezvous Trailhead Building, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12
West Yellowstone Annual Ski Swap
Rendezvous Trailhead Building,
8 a.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Knit Night
Send it Home, 6 p.m.

Yoga For Everyone
Povah Center, 6:15 p.m.

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
West Yellowstone School Gym, 7 p.m.

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

Ennis

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Live Music
Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Dunnagan and Koukov
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Neil Filo Beddow
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Ian Thomas
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
MVHA: Memories of 1960 "The
Cowboy Legend"
First Madison Valley Bank, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Live Music
Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Russ Chapman
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Trap Kit
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20
Aaron Williams
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

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Bozeman Winter Farmers' Market

Providing Montana produce all winter long

BOZEMAN WINTER FARMERS' MARKET

The Bozeman Winter Farmers' market offers more than traditional winter staples like potatoes and onions. At each market, Gallatin Valley Botanical, Amaltheia Organic Dairy, Strike Farms and Three Hearts Farm offer a variety of vegetables and greens including spinach, arugula, mizuna, herbs, carrots, parsnips, beets, winter squash, shallots, garlic, cabbage, turnips, leeks, and more.

Now in its ninth season, the Bozeman Winter Farmers' Market has grown due to an increased demand for a direct producer-to-consumer experience that extends beyond the typical summer market season. The market was created by farmers for farmers, and while the focus is on food and agricultural products, the approximately 30 vendors also sell local grass-fed meats, cheeses, farm fresh eggs, fermented vegetables, kombucha, honey, baked goods, syrups, preserves, grains, oils, wool, locally grown and blended teas, ethically sourced coffee, fresh juice and hot breakfast.

In addition to food and live music, each market features coloring for kids and drawings for tote bags filled with products from featured vendors. The market is continuing its Farmers' Market Fan Cards program. Shoppers who fill their card with twelve stamps by the last market on Saturday, April 30 will be entered into a drawing for prizes from market sponsors, farms and vendors.

Generally held every other Saturday through April, the next markets are Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 from 9 a.m.to noon in the ballroom at The Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture in downtown Bozeman.

For a complete season schedule visit bozemanwintermarket.wordpress.com.



The Bozeman Winter Farmers' Market offers a bounty of Montana grown and locally sourced produce, meat, cheese, bread, and more two Saturdays a month in the Emerson Center ballroom.
PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN FARMERS' MARKET

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Restaurant News

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Buck's T-4 hosts the 20th annual Madrigal Dinner on Dec. 5

ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

The Arts Council of Big Sky presents the 20th annual Madrigal Dinner in Big Sky on Monday, Dec. 5, at 5 p.m. in the Montana Room at Buck's T-4 Lodge. This event is considered by many as the traditional opening of the Christmas season and a highlight for the Big Sky community.

Tickets for the Madrigal Dinner, which historically sells out, include a three-course dinner prepared by Buck's T-4 chefs, as well as festive music from the Montana State University Montanans, the MSU Brass Quintet and the MSU Chorale.

The evening begins with a no-host bar at 5 p.m., followed by seating for the dinner promptly at 6 p.m. in preparation for the ceremonial procession of the lord and lady of the manor and their guests. "Olde English" customs are the theme throughout the evening, including fanfares introducing the ceremonial procession, the wassail bowl and Christmas toast, the boar's head procession and the flaming pudding dessert.

The MSU Montanans serenade guests throughout the evening and the MSU Chorale presents a concert finale. The dinner closes with the audience joining the musicians in singing familiar carols. This year marks the 51st annual Madrigal Dinner, produced by the MSU School of Music, and the 20th year the production has traveled to Big Sky.

Tickets are by advanced reservation only. Call (406) 995-2742 or visit bigskyarts.org for further information.

Third annual 'Nutcracker' features guest dancers from Atlanta Ballet

ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

The Arts Council of Big Sky presents a production of Montana Ballet Company's "The Nutcracker" at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 4 p.m.

MBC's production of "The Nutcracker," set to Tchaikovsky's beloved score, is one of the largest artistic collaborations in the region featuring the work of accomplished dancers, local and national level choreographers, guest artists, live musicians, seasoned stage technicians, lighting and costume designers and a host of dedicated volunteers.



Guest artists Rachel Van Buskirk and Christian Clark, principal dancers with the Atlanta Ballet, will be appearing in the Big Sky performance of "The Nutcracker" at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center on December 4. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA BALLET COMPANY

For this special performance at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, a live chamber orchestra will perform the music and local dancers will participate as mice and angels.

Montana Ballet Company is thrilled to welcome guest artists Rachel Van Buskirk and Christian Clark, principal dancers with the Atlanta Ballet, who will be appearing in the Big Sky performance. Both guest artists have notable careers and have danced professionally throughout the United States and abroad.

They will share the stage with MBC's own company dancers and local dancers from the Big Sky community. Also featured in the cast is Soren Kisiel, co-director of Broad Comedy, who will once again dance the role of Drosselmeyer.

Tickets are available at warrenmillerpac.org. For more information call (406) 995-2742 or visit bigskyarts.org.

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Warren Miller: Memoir of the original ski bum

BY DOUG HARE
EBS STAFF

Warren Miller might be skiing's greatest ambassador. For over six decades, his films have been a harbinger of winter. So it comes as no surprise that he's been called the "godfather of adventure sports film." With the publication of his autobiography, "Freedom Found: My Life Story," we now have a chance to take a closer look at the man behind the lens.

Miller grew up in Southern California during the Great Depression in a dysfunctional family; even today, at 91 years old, he still eats a peanut butter sandwich everyday. With a disarmingly candid narrative, Miller recounts how the hardship and failure of his early childhood helped develop his work ethic and value system.

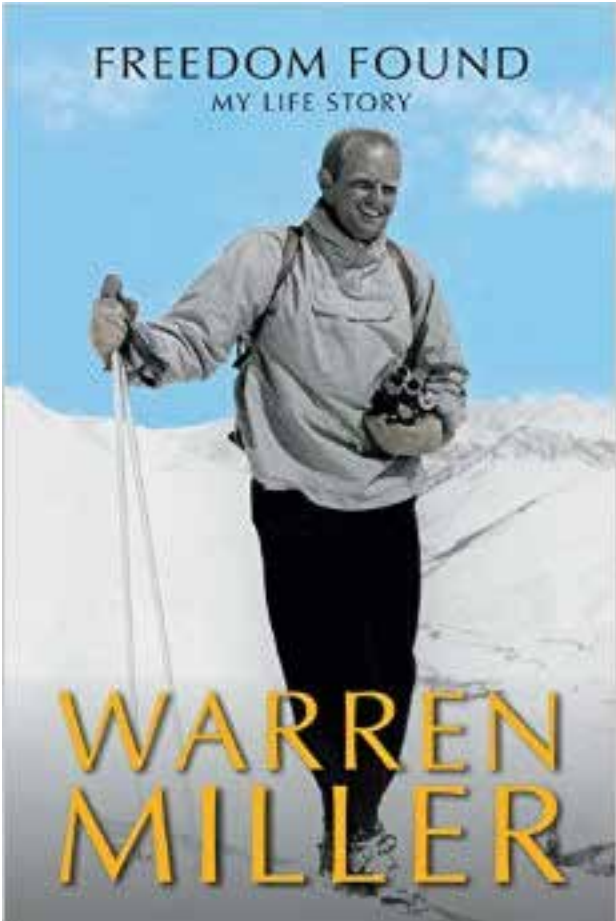
It was this work ethic and these values that helped Miller go from selling \$1 tickets to his first movie, "Deep and Light," in 1950, to becoming a filmmaking mogul and universally recognized name in winter sports.

Although Miller's personal journey closely parallels the evolution of winter activities and the birth of an industry, this isn't just a book for skiers and snowboarders. On a deeper level, it's a story about how a kid with a scofflaw father making a few pennies a week managed to bootstrap his passion for the outdoors into an empire. It's a tale about adventures, mistakes, betrayals, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy.

"Freedom Found" holds an appeal even for those who don't ski 100 days a year. His irrepressible drive is an inspiration to anyone who has struggled with life's setbacks; his integrity as a businessman is an example for those aspiring to be successful.

The most enjoyable parts are the anecdotes. Whether he's skiing with the best riders in the world off an active volcano or surviving a sinking ship amidst a typhoon during WWII, Miller's vivid recollection of his odyssey from beatnik pioneer to ski icon is as enjoyable as any of his 58 films.

Doug Hare is the Distribution Coordinator for Outlaw Partners. He studied philosophy and American literature at Princeton and Harvard universities.



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Popular game nights in the offseason

Looking for a fun way to spend a night during the offseason in Big Sky? Try your luck, or knowledge, at one of these local favorites.

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER
EBS STAFF

Bingo night

Tuesday nights at
Gallatin Riverhouse
Grill, starting at 6 p.m.

Grab your favorite dauber and your lucky rabbit foot and head down to the Gallatin Riverhouse Grill for an evening of good old-fashioned bingo.

This event draws locals both young and old, creating a diverse and lively bunch. This affordable affair allows for a chance to win big while also knowing your funds are benefitting a great cause, Big Sky’s American Legion Post 99.

Drink specials and great food—I’m a sucker for their Moscow Mules and famous grilled chicken wings—not to mention a chance to win cash and prizes from local Big Sky businesses, make for a festive time at this popular, Western-themed saloon on the Gallatin River.

B I N G O				
12	27	39	47	61
7	22	41	54	70
9	19	FREE SPACE	49	63
10	30	36	58	73
4	23	32	52	75

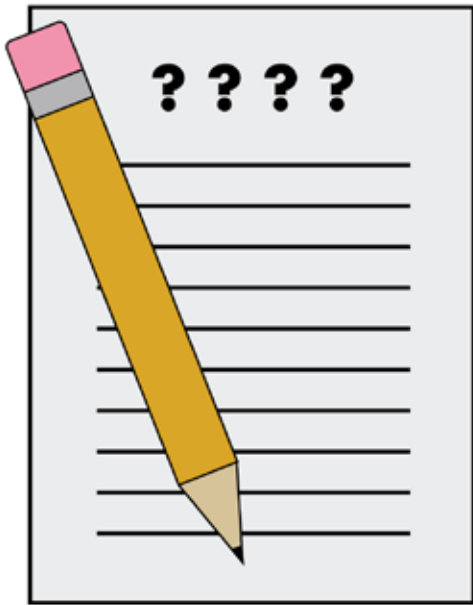
Trivia night

Friday nights at Lone
Peak Cinema, starting at
8 p.m.

You may think you’re pretty sharp, but the crew at Lone Peak Cinema never fails to bust out a category that has even the most seasoned Trivial Pursuit player scratching their head.

Grab three friends to create a team of four, and put your heads together during four rounds consisting of 10 questions each at the Big Sky Town Center cinema. The movie theater has a full bar, so you can indulge in an adult beverage or two while digging through the back of your brain for the right answers.

Each round has a prize, often a pitcher of beer or bottle of wine from behind the bar, and the winning team after four rounds takes home the grand prize, which varies from week to week.



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19th Annual Big Sky Christmas Stroll

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

5:30 TREE LIGHTING WITH SANTA CLAUS & THE DICKENS CAROLERS
In front of Big Sky Owners Association in Meadow Village Center

5:45 PHOTOS WITH SANTA CLAUS AT FIRST SECURITY BANK
Meadow Village Center

6:30 MAGIC SHOW
Upstairs at Lone Peak Brewery in Meadow Village Center

6:30 LIVE MUSIC & EVENTS
At Fire Pit Park & throughout Town Center

8:15 FIREWORKS SHOW
Center Stage & Fire Pit Park in Big Sky Town Center



Also

OPEN HOUSES AND MERCHANT ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY GINGERBREAD HOUSE
Hosted by Big Sky Sugarbuzz in Westfork Meadows

SLEIGH RIDES
Meadow Village Center & Town Center

ICE SKATING AND BROOM BALL
Big Sky Town Center - weather permitting

ILLUMINATED PATHWAYS
NORDIC SKI & BIKE TRAILS
Between Meadow Village Center and Big Sky Town Center

BONFIRES AND S'MORES
Meadow Village Center & Town Center

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BACK 40

For Explore Big Sky, the Back 40 is a resource: a place where we can delve into subjects and ask experts to share their knowledge.

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

The universe in alphabetical order

BY CHRYSTI M. SMITH
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

“A dictionary,” wrote Nobel Prize-winning French poet and novelist Anatole France, “is the universe in alphabetical order.”

Discovering that universe requires a patient mind and a tolerance for solitude. Like most writers, I spend a lot of time alone while I work, surrounded by dictionaries and other wordbooks whose pages I ruffle over and over as I explore their universes. It is arduous, delightful work.

In 1989, I developed a radio series called “Chrysti the Wordsmith” at KGLT-FM, Montana State University’s campus radio station. Since its 1968 debut, KGLT has instructed hundreds of students and community members in broadcasting. It may also be the only radio station in the country that would allow a young student with no experience to launch an untried radio show about words and dictionaries.

My goal in developing Chrysti the Wordsmith was to create an environment in which I’d be challenged to learn more about the stories hidden within the English language, and to share that knowledge with anyone who cared to listen. KGLT staff and generous mentors helped me realize that goal, teaching me to write graceful sentences for radio scripts and training my voice to dance with the microphone.

Seeking material for the radio series has sent me again and again to the pages of my serviceable Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Turning the pages, I’ve met some hard-working pragmatists: “fish,” “code” and “boom;” exotic adoptees: “chateau,” “howdah,” “zeitgeist” and “keiretsu;” and technical polysyllables: “duopoly,” “panleukopenia” and “characterological.”

My Merriam-Webster’s, like any good compendium, includes each word’s definition, pronunciation and inflected forms. Best of all, though, this dictionary provides each term’s etymology, or its particular linguistic biography.

Etymology traces a word as far back as possible in the English language, and along that journey stories emerge. Take the word “zeitgeist,” which is borrowed wholesale from the German term literally meaning “time-spirit” and refers to the general intellectual, moral and cultural climate of an era. In English, we might call this concept “the spirit of the times,” but it seems that by 1835, English speakers agreed to adopt the more economical German term.

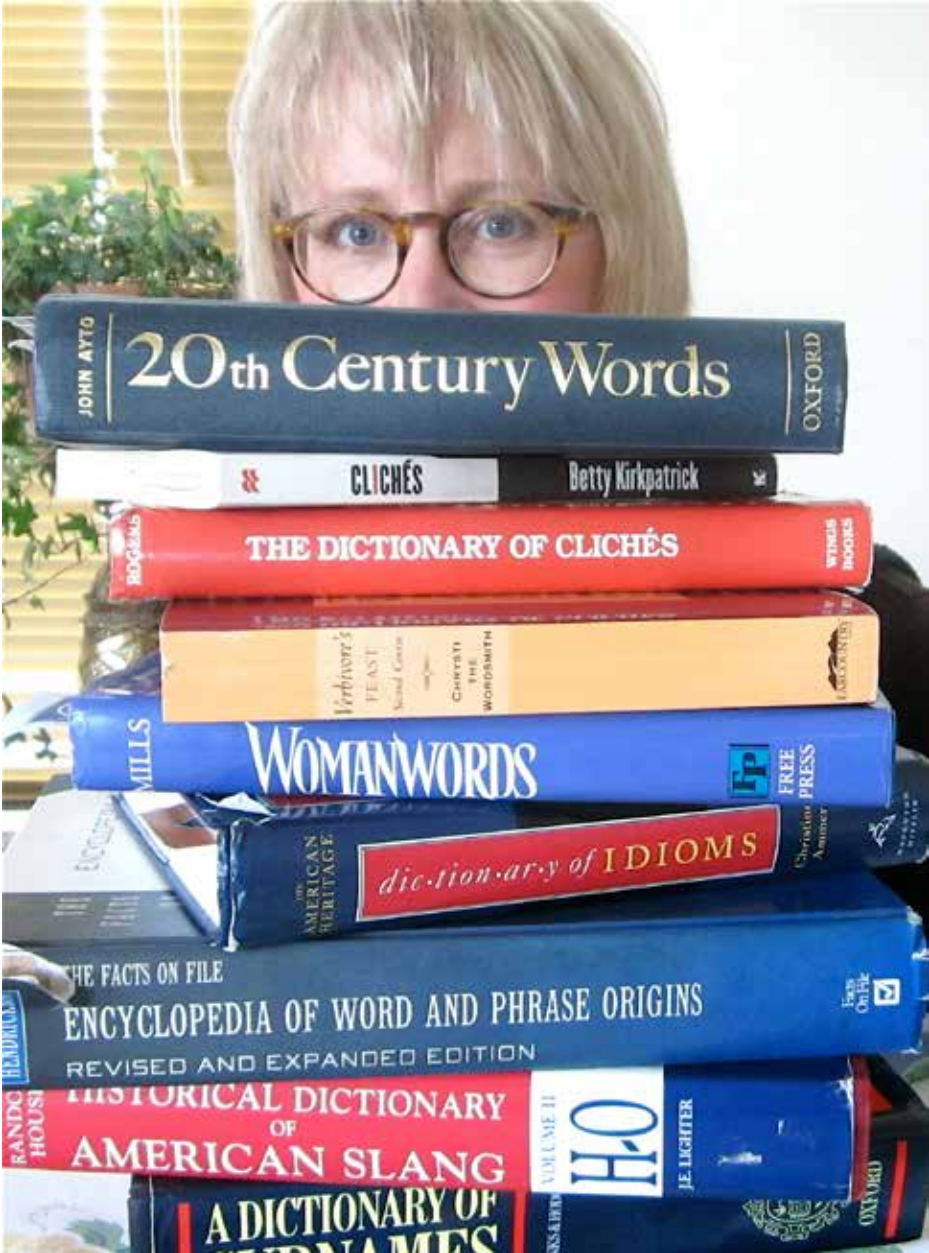
This kind of information thrills me to the core, and I’ve spent more than 25 years in pursuit of this bliss. After gleaning such stories from the pages of hundreds of dictionaries and related wordbooks, I craft this etymological information into a narrative manuscript of approximately 225 words. With evangelical zeal, I then broadcast the word over the radio waves.

Among my favorite words to research are “eponyms,” people’s names that have become common terms. There are hundreds of these words in the English language, giving me a nearly inexhaustible supply of material. Eponym studies also involve the life histories of both words and people, a winning combination for storytelling. These common terms were inspired by the lives, deeds and names of people throughout history: “diesel,” “Fahrenheit,” “Braille,” “sandwich,” “masochism,” “boysenberry,” “maverick” and “Stetson.”

Other word lovers are also fascinated by such name-words, and have compiled books of eponyms with titles such as “The Dictionary of Eponyms;” “Marvelous Monikers;” “Word People;” and “Medicine, Literature and Eponyms.” These books have provided delightful, valuable information for many Chrysti the Wordsmith episodes.

To hear stories about words, people and the universe as found in dictionaries, tune in to Chrysti the Wordsmith locally on KGLT-FM, 91.9, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at noon and 6 p.m, and Yellowstone Public Radio, 102.1 (Bozeman) and 95.9 (Big Sky) Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m. Chrysti the Wordsmith is also syndicated on KCPR in Salt Lake City.

This story originally appeared in the Sept. 5, 2014 issue of Explore Big Sky.



Chrysti M. Smith, aka Chrysti the Wordsmith, surrounded by the tools of her trade.
PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRYSTI M. SMITH

This is a script from the Chrysti the Wordsmith radio program that was first broadcast in 2007.

Boycott: A boycott is an organized protest in which the participants abstain from buying or using products from, or dealing with, a particular organization.

There is a long list of high-profile boycotts throughout history. In the early 20th century, Mahatma Gandhi encouraged a boycott of British made goods throughout India to protest colonial rule of the country.

The term boycott is an eponym, or a word derived from a proper name, and the story behind its coinage is well documented.

In 1880, retired English military captain Charles Cunningham Boycott was appointed to manage some British-held estates in County Mayo, Ireland. The local farm tenants, organized under the Irish Land League, requested that landlord Boycott reduce their exorbitant land rents.

When Boycott refused, he was harassed and ostracized. The Land League forced Boycott’s personal servants and laborers to abandon his property. Local stores refused to serve him, his mail went undelivered and his livestock escaped through mysteriously opened gates. Finally, when the landlord and his wife were hanged in effigy, Boycott fled back to England.

So dramatic and successful was Boycott’s ostracism and expulsion, that within months his name became associated with this form of protest. The verb and the noun “boycott” are now common in many European and Asian languages.