

Explore

Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

FREE

Big Sky

March 3 - 16, 2017
Volume 8 // Issue #5

**Affordable housing project
hits roadblock**

Lady Big Horns end historic season

Spotlight on acclaimed Crow artist Kevin Red Star

Ski Butlers begin serving Big Sky

Eddy Line:

Observing the trout bum in its natural habitat



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A bison takes a morning stroll in Yellowstone National Park, which celebrated its 145th birthday on March 1. NPS PHOTO BY JACOB W. FRANK

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Lady Big Horns end historic season

Affordable housing project hits roadblock



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Ski Butlers begin serving Big Sky



OPENING SHOT

A quiet December morning hike in Beehive Basin reveals unexpected beauty. In a winter sea of white, a little color can really catch the eye.
PHOTO BY GABE PRIESTLEY

Do you want to see your photography in the pages of EBS? Submit a maximum of three images via email to carie@outlaw.partners or use #explorebigsky on social media to be eligible. One photo per issue will be chosen for the opening shot.

CORRECTION: The story “Splitboarding Yellowstone’s Grand Prismatic Overlook Trail” published in the Feb. 17 issue of EBS said the Grand Prismatic Overlook Trail opened this winter. The new trail in Yellowstone National Park will open during the upcoming summer season.



NEWS IN BRIEF



Penny for Housing bill starts down the legislative pike

EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – On Feb. 24, a special meeting of the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board was held to request approval for a change in the language of the Penny for Housing bill.

Fielding concerns expressed by the Ennis School Board that the proposed resort tax increase of up to an additional 1 percent could be used to assist in the funding or creation of a Targeted Economic Development District (TEDD) supported by tax increment financing (TIF), bill sponsor Sen. Jeff Welborn of Dillon requested that restrictive language be included in the bill stating that the potential increase could not be used in that capacity.

The board, while not unanimously in favor of the Penny for Housing bill, voted unanimously in favor of the language change.

With official written support from all nine Montana resort areas, districts and communities, Bill LC743, or the Penny for Housing bill, will be presented before the senate taxation committee the week of March 6 or early the following week. Potential uses for additional funds that could be collected with the 1 percent increase extend beyond workforce housing to supportive services and community development.

BSRAD legal council, Mona Jamison, reiterated that putting the bill before the Senate and the House will not pass the increase of up to 1 percent but rather allow residents of those communities to vote for or against the increase. State law currently caps resort tax at 3 percent.

“This is not what they call self-implementing,” Jamison said to the board. “This is just giving you authority to put out the vote to the people.”

Ivan Doig named ‘Outstanding Montanan’

MSU NEWS SERVICE

The Montana Historical Society has named acclaimed author Ivan Doig to its list of Outstanding Montanans.

Doig (1939-2015) is the author of 16 works of fiction and nonfiction primarily set in Montana. His widow, Carol Muller Doig, awarded Doig’s archive to Montana State University in 2015. The university library has digitized the entire collection; it is now available to the public online as well as in print in the library’s Special Collections and Archives.

The Montana Legislature established the Gallery of Outstanding Montanans in 1979 to honor citizens who have made significant contributions to their selected

Microloans of up to \$10,000 available to Big Sky entrepreneurs

MONTANA WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER

Women entrepreneurs in Big Sky are eligible for non-traditional lending and no-cost business coaching thanks to a new partnership between Prospera Business Network, the Montana Women’s Business Center and the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation.

The new “Yellowstone Club Community Foundation Micro Loan Fund” is supported by a \$20,000 grant from the YCCF. This microloan program is for businesses that are at least 50 percent owned by a woman, or women. Businesses that are ready to start up, or already in business but need a financial boost, are eligible.

The business must be located in the Big Sky area and must be registered with the Montana Secretary of State. Loans will not exceed \$10,000 or a three-year term, and the interest rate will be 5 to 7 percent. The loans are subject to minimal filing fees of less than \$30 with no loan fees or closing costs. No collateral is required and loans will be issued based on character, credit score, and a personal financial statement. Clients must have a willingness to meet with a business counselor two times per year to keep the business on track.

Prospera, which has been involved in community economic development for more than 30 years, provides business technical assistance through the Montana Women’s Business Center and access to nontraditional capital through revolving loan fund programs.

The Yellowstone Club Community Foundation serves as a resource for nonprofits in the greater Big Sky and Gallatin Valley area. The foundation, which is supported by Yellowstone Club members and guests, as well as local community members, has awarded more than \$3 million since 2010.

Details can be found at prosperabusinessnetwork.org or by calling (406) 587-3113.

fields while epitomizing the unique spirit and character that defines Montana, according to the historical society.

Inductees into Montana’s hall of fame are rotated into the gallery on a biennial basis and are honored for an eight-year period. Honorees must have been born, raised or lived a significant period of time in Montana. All honors are awarded posthumously.

To view the Doig Collection online, visit ivandoig.montana.edu. For more information on the Outstanding Montanan honorees, see the historical society website at mbs.mt.gov/education/outstandingmontanans.

Gov. Bullock congratulates U.S. Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke, orders special election to fill open House seat

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR STEVE BULLOCK

Gov. Steve Bullock congratulated Ryan Zinke on becoming U.S. Secretary of the Interior and ordered a special election to fill the vacancy of Montana’s lone representative in the U.S. House.

“I congratulate Ryan Zinke on his confirmation as Secretary of the Interior. Montanans know how important this post is to protecting our public lands, outdoor recreation, tourism, and natural resource industries—and the thousands of good-paying Montana jobs that rely on them,” Bullock said. “I will work closely with Secretary Zinke to ensure our state’s interests are reflected in Washington, D.C., and I will hold him accountable to Montanans and to the values we place on our outdoor heritage.”

Montana Code Annotated 13-25-203 requires the governor to immediately set a date for a special election upon the creation of a vacancy in the U.S House of Representatives. With only one seat representing Montana, Bullock has ordered the special election to occur on the soonest possible date allowed by law, Thursday, May 25.

“Since being nominated, Ryan Zinke has not been actively participating in the deliberations of the House,” Bullock said. “There are a lot of important discussions being had in Washington, D.C. right now and we must do everything we can to ensure Montanans have a seat at that table as soon as possible.”

Under the U.S. Constitution, there can be no temporary appointment by the governor to fill the vacant position. Political parties fielding candidates will have their own separate nominating conventions to select their candidate for the special election.



March is Women’s History Month.
If you could sit down and have a conversation with any female figure, past or present, who would it be and why?



Anthony Overbeeke
Bozeman, Montana

“Susan B. Anthony, just to get that one-on-one connection time to dig down and get to the heart of those issues she really stood for.”



Trevor Hiles
Big Sky, Montana

“Hilary Clinton and I’m not a democrat and I don’t really like Hilary Clinton. I just think she has been in a position of power for so long that she would know so many important things.”



Jennifer Boutsianis
Big Sky, Montana

“Jeanette Epps because she’s the first black woman to go to the [International] Space Station. I’d want to chat with her to see what obstacles she faced and where she found her strength to persevere.”



Paige McAllister
Eugene, Oregon

“Michelle Obama. I think she is a really great representation of the modern American woman ... I would ask her what drives her as a human being. I would like to know more about her personal struggles being a career woman and caring for her family, and also about being the first black woman in the White House.”



There were 190 traffic fatalities on Montana roads in 2016. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, wearing seat belts would prevent more injuries and death than any other change in driving habits. www.BLITZINK.WEBSTARTS.COM

Letter: Support ‘Penny for Housing’

My name is Jeremy Harder and I teach fourth grade at Ophir Elementary School. I’ve been living and working in the district for 17 years and have watched our school and community grow tremendously. The Big Sky community has been making great strides to be educational innovators, tourism role models, and ecological leaders in our state and it’s time we also become pioneers for the decisions we make on behalf of our unincorporated town.

Please consider strengthening our effort for the “Penny for Housing” bill. With your support, we can make a difference in the lives of Big Sky residents. As we continue to build a strong community in Big Sky, we struggle with affordable housing for a majority of the workforce. Many people who support our local tourism, through service to visitors, work several jobs a year—to be able to live in the area and raise a family—due to the burden of expensive housing costs.

Equally important is Big Sky’s financial contribution to the state through tourism. It would be detrimental to Montana’s tourism industry to lose Big Sky’s heavy contribution if we lose our principal workforce. As well, many of the components that help make this community stronger often work on the frontline but are recognized “behind the scenes.” These include firefighters, ski patrollers, service industry members, educators, and the police force, among others.

My family and I appreciate your time and consideration in helping us support the Penny for Housing bill to strengthen our community.

Jeremy “JJ” Harder
Big Sky, Montana

Obit: Fred L. Weschenfelder

Fred Weschenfelder was a man born in Montana with a heart the size of the Big Sky. Many of his friends and friends with special needs can attest to that. The parties thrown down by the river for these children with special needs added to his depth.

On Feb. 22, 2017, Jesus, with his expertly tuned diesel, came and took Fred home.

Fred’s immediate family includes his son Fred, daughter Bonnie, and sister Joyce Krueger (Dennis). Grandchildren include Jessica Smith (Brent), Luke Weschenfelder, Billy McKenzie, Aaron McKenzie and one great grandchild Parker.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents Fred and Mary and his brother Robert.

Fred was the proprietor of Castle Rock Inn from 1967 to 2013. He loved the river, the people, and the big outdoors.

His somewhat grumpy but comedic fast wit loved by most will be missed for many years. We will not soon forget you.

The viewing will be Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 5-7p.m. The funeral will be Wednesday, March 1 at 10 a.m. Both will be held at Smiths Funeral Chapel in Laurel, Montana at 315 East 3rd Street.

Donations in memory of Fred can be made to Reach Inc. in Bozeman, which can be reached at (406) 587-1271.



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PHOTO BY MATTHEW MILLMAN

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Please call 995-2742 for ticket reservations



The first session of the Ophir Elementary Ukulele Club

Ophir Elementary School students participated in the first session of the nascent Big Sky ukulele club on Feb. 15, made possible by distinguished musician Jim Salestrom, founder of The Grateful Music Foundation and its local donors. The foundation, formed to bring music, instruments and instruction to Big Sky schools, donated 10 ukuleles to Ophir in Salestrom's hopes of "building a fire in children with an aptitude or affinity for music." For more information about how to get your Ophir student involved, contact Big Sky School District music teacher Tim Sullivan at tsullivan@bssd72.org. To learn more about The Grateful Music Foundation email jim@jimsalestrom.com. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

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THE HOMESTEAD CHALETs | \$1,750,000

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60 CRAIL RANCH ROAD | \$1,145,000

Beautifully situated in the heart of the Big Sky Meadow Village, this immaculate condominium is a rare find! Tucked in the center of the development for maximum privacy, the residence features four bedrooms, four baths, den, two decks, balcony, lower level walk out to the stream and pond and a heated 2 car garage. Walking, biking and cross-country ski trails are all close by as well as all Meadow Village amenities. // **MICHAEL THOMAS | 406.581.2400**



1C RED CLOUD LOOP | \$1,135,000

Fantastic Powder Ridge cabin with convenient ski-in and out access from the adjacent White Otter ski lift! This 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 3 level cabin sleeps 14+ people, so you may bring multiple families and friends to enjoy America's Biggest Skiing at the Big Sky Resort! This furnished cabin includes a 1 car detached garage, wood burning fireplace in the great room and a propane fireplace in the lower level family room, a hot tub and much more! // **MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745**



ULERY'S LAKES LOT 7 | \$985,000

Located within the gated community of Ulery's Lakes of Moonlight Basin, this 20 acre home site maximizes privacy and views. Drive through majestic Lodge Pole Pines to an open meadow offering incredible views of Lone Mountain. Enjoy fishing across the street and hiking, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing in your own back yard. A short drive will take you to the Moonlight Lodge, ski hill, golf course and Big Sky Ski Resort. // **LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848**



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Inside the Big Sky | By Derek Lennon

Test your mountain skills during Shedhorn Skimo at Big Sky Resort

BY DEREK LENNON
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Lone Mountain is known for technical skiing and big mountain terrain. People from around the world flock to Big Sky Resort to test their skiing and riding ability on the steep slopes accessed by the Lone Peak Tram, but if you really want to test your skills, you need to sign up to race in the third annual Shedhorn Skimo.

The race will be held on Saturday, March 18, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Big Sky Resort. This technical ski mountaineering race is organized by the COSMIC Ski Mountaineering Series and attracts some of the top skimo athletes from across the country. This race is designed to test mountaineering, skiing and endurance skill sets.

After the race's debut in 2015, the Shedhorn Skimo race has quickly gained popularity. This year there will be two possible courses depending on conditions. The course will cover 16 to 18 miles with 8600 to 9500 feet of elevation gain at altitudes ranging from 7200 to 11,166 feet. During the race, athletes will test their skills via:



The 2015 first-place female finisher Michela Adrian braves the gusty winds on top of Lone Mountain.

- Alpine climbs over exposure
- Knife-edge ridge climbs
- Steep bootpacks on 50-plus degree terrain
- Four alpine ski descents in big mountain terrain

The Shedhorn Skimo race is no joke, this is the real deal. Do you have what it takes to compete? Register today at cosmicski.com/event/shedhorn and give this technical ski mountaineering race a try. Double check that you have all of the necessary gear before you register—a gear list can be found at the end of this article.

If you're not ready to compete, that's not a problem. Spectators are welcome to come and are encouraged to hoot and holler while supporting these athletes as they compete on one rowdy skimo course.



David Hoffman rips the skins off his skis at the top of Lone Mountain during the inaugural Shedhorn Skimo in 2015. PHOTOS BY MIKE QUIST KAUTZ

Required gear for the Shedhorn Skimo 2017:

- Skis: Minimum length for women: 150 cm; men: 160 cm
- Bindings: Toe and heel pieces must be same brand
- Poles
- Skins: At least one pair
- Three upper body layers, one layer must be a wind proof layer
- One lower body layer
- Beacon: Conforms to standard EN 300718, 457kHz frequency
- Shovel: No snow claws, minimum length 50 cm
- Probe: Minimum 240 cm (no probe poles)
- Helmet: Must meet UIAA 106 or CE EN 12492 standards
- Gloves
- Pack
- Eye protection
- Ice axe: Tentatively required
- Crampons: Tentatively required; must conform to UIAA standard 153 with at least 10 spikes
- Whippet: Tentatively required

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/shedhorn-ski-mo-2017/>. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at <https://visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/>.

Big Sky's second stoplight set for summer installation

BSCO seeks nearly \$1 million state grant for pedestrian tunnel project

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – If two big projects, a stoplight installation on Highway 64 and a pedestrian tunnel to run underneath it, continue to move forward as intended, Big Sky stands to make significant headway in its struggle to make a community intersected by a highway safer for pedestrians and motorists.

The installation of the stoplight at the intersection of Highway 64 and Ousel Falls Road, one of the busiest intersections in Big Sky, is expected to take approximately 30 days, and construction is slated for late spring when the ground thaws.

Ciara Wolfe, executive director of Big Sky Community Organization, the nonprofit that's spearheading the project, said BSCO is shooting for a June 30 completion date—and ideally sooner.

Wolfe said the light will be covered for two weeks following the installation to allow drivers time to adjust to it. BSCO would like the light to be fully operation before July Fourth to accommodate the heavy visitor traffic that typically accompanies the holiday.

In addition to the stoplight, a four-way crosswalk will be installed with curbs, gutters, pavement markings and pedestrian-friendly ramps.

Half of the project was funded by a Big Sky Resort Area District tax board appropriation of \$175,000,

and the remaining 50 percent was split between donations by the Simkins family, Lone Mountain Land Company and the Yellowstone Club.

In response to community input that the roadway would have been better served by a roundabout, Wolfe said BSCO trusted the recommendation of the traffic engineers. "[They] understand the traffic dynamics, the ebb and flow [of vehicles], sight distance and traffic management," she said. Bringing motorists to a complete stop will allow pedestrians to cross more safely, Wolfe added.

Last July, a pedestrian was flown to Billings in an air ambulance and admitted to the intensive care unit after being struck by a motorist while crossing Highway 64 near its intersection with Ousel Falls Road.

Once motorists have become accustomed to the stoplight, the Montana Department of Transportation will conduct a speed study on Highway 64. Wolfe said she hopes the speed limit will be lowered given the fact Big Sky has a highway splitting the epicenter of its commercial and residential districts.

The stretch of Highway 64 between Highway 191 and Town Center is the site of regular traffic accidents due in part to its lack of a protected left-hand turn lane. Motorists coming to a full stop on the highway to turn into commercial areas like the Big Sky Medical Center, Ace Hardware and Roxy's Market are often rear-ended by drivers who fail to slow adequately after traveling at near-highway speeds, especially during rush-hour traffic.

The future of another big transportation safety project—a pedestrian tunnel that would run under Highway 64 near its intersection with Little Coyote Road—will become more clear in the coming months.

BSCO is asking the State of Montana for a \$906,942 grant from its Transportation Alternatives Program to fund the construction of the tunnel. Wolfe said this is the safest option for that area since it completely separates pedestrians and motorists.

The Big Sky Trails, Recreation and Park District and BSCO will present the final grant to the Gallatin County Commission for approval on March 21.

If it's selected for the Transportation Alternatives Program, Big Sky will have received all of the necessary funding to move the years-long process forward. Wolfe said that given present timelines, the earliest construction would start on that project is summer 2018.

BSCO is seeking community participation in the project in the form of letters of support for the grant. "[The Transportation Alternatives Program] is a competitive grant and this is an opportunity where the community can really help do something," Wolfe said. "This isn't about something that should be controversial—this is outside funding that's going to be given to another community if it's not given to us."

For more information about how to submit comment on the pedestrian tunnel project, visit bscomt.org.

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Affordable housing project stumbles at county commission meeting

BY TYLER ALLEN
EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BOZEMAN – A marathon, six-hour Gallatin County Commission meeting Feb. 28 ended with a blow to affordable housing in Big Sky.

Commissioner Joe Skinner and chairman Don Seifert heard from more than 20 members of the public—mostly Big Sky community members in support of the project—before denying the Bough Big Sky Community Subdivision’s preliminary plat approval.

The decision was more of a referendum on the design of the development than affordable housing in Big Sky, as the commissioners denied two of three variances from county subdivision standards requested in the application.

The Big Sky Community Housing Trust is leading the effort on the planned 32-unit project on a 10-acre property donated by Loren Bough to be developed by Lone Mountain Land Company. They asked for variances in the requirements for sidewalks on both sides of the streets, a 60-foot right of way for roads and a secondary vehicle access for the neighborhood.

The commissioners approved the first variance, agreeing that planned trails and parkland on the property could replace sidewalks that wouldn’t be ideal given Big Sky’s heavy snowfall and the lack of connecting sidewalks on adjacent properties.

However, the proposed single entrance road and 40-foot right of way for streets in the development was a non-starter for the commissioners, who cited emergency vehicle access among other safety concerns.

The applicants said engineering a second road access would be cost prohibitive and the reduced right of way width was necessary based on density and topographic constraints. But the issue of who would be tasked with ticketing and towing cars from the narrower roads—the homeowners association or sheriff’s department—in order to accommodate fire and other emergency vehicles, was especially concerning to the commissioners.

“When you put all those variances together—no sidewalks, the 40-foot right of way and no secondary access—it just compounds the safety issues,” Skinner said.

“Subdivision regulations are minimum standards ... those standards include health, safety and general welfare of the public,” Seifert said. “The burden of proof falls upon the developer to show us why those variances are necessary, and if we’re not convinced that a variance is necessary then we can’t grant it.”

“I think it’s a good project, I want to support it,” said Skinner, adding that if it weren’t for the variances he didn’t think there would be anyone in the room opposing the application. “I don’t see how we can support it just because it’s an affordable housing project.”

Steve White, the third member of the commission, left the meeting prior the hearing. In August, White said he would recuse himself from any decisions on the property after an ethics investigation was opened by the Montana Attorney General’s Office due to an alleged cozy relationship with Bough.

Big Sky School District Superintendent Dustin Shipman began the public comment period describing his troubles recruiting and retaining teachers because of housing costs. Former school district superintendent Anne Marie Mistretta echoed his concerns, saying 75 percent of the teachers have left the district since she retired six years ago.

Three of the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board members—Mike Scholz, Ginna Hermann and Kevin Germain—also spoke in favor of the project. The BSRAD board appropriated \$1.05 million to the Big Sky Community Housing Trust last June to help this project get off the ground.

“You can see the tremendous support we’ve got from friends and neighbors here,” said Loren Bough, who donated the land and is also chair of the school board. “I’m proud my family’s name is attached to this project. I’m also proud to be part of the solution of making home ownership affordable for the individuals and families who work in Big Sky.”

Adjacent landowners, including representatives of the Paul Cronin Family Limited Partnership, spoke out against the application.



Big Sky community members packed the Feb. 28 Gallatin County Commission meeting to weigh in on the preliminary plat approval for the Bough Big Sky Community Subdivision. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

“Everybody’s in favor of affordable housing, but you have to do it safely and within the regulations,” said attorney Susan Swimley, representing the Cronins’ company.

“Your job is to look at the variance and balance that against public safety,” she told the commissioners.

Brian Guyer, HRDC community development manager and acting director of the Big Sky Community Housing Trust, struck a confident tone after the hearing. He said they’d be able to come back to the commission with a revised application and move the project forward.

“Affordable housing is not an easy game,” Guyer said. “I’ve never had a project that hasn’t been opposed in some form or fashion ... we know what the county wants to see and I don’t think by any means this project is done.

“I think the important thing for the community of Big Sky to know is that this is not the end of it,” he added. “We’re going to continue to work on affordable housing—not just on this site—but we’re going to continue to pursue other opportunities to address the housing need across the spectrum from seasonal, to rentals to ownership.”

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Third time's a charm? LPHS junior Anna Alvin heads to state poetry competition

BY PATTY HAMBLIN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Lone Peak High School junior Anna Alvin loves words—spoken words on stage, sung words in her a capella group, the written words of her fiction, and the read words of the countless books she's devoured over the years.

Given this, it isn't terrifically surprising that this linguistic lover has chosen to compete three times in Lone Peak High School's school-wide poetry recitation contest, Poetry Out Loud. Alvin has taken first or second place all three times, and will now, once again, head to the state competition on Saturday, March 4 at the Myrna Loy Center in Helena.

"Anna was immediately interested," said Barbara Rowley, who as advisor to the school's International Thespian Club, introduced the National Endowment for the Arts-sponsored nationwide contest to the school three years ago. "Her interest has never wavered, and she has what it takes—an ability to memorize, composure on stage, and a deep attachment to and understanding of the words she's saying."

The Poetry Out Loud school contest requires that students memorize two poems, one fewer than 25 lines in length and one pre-20th century. For the state title, she will memorize three poems. Points are deducted for the smallest inaccuracy—saying "a" instead of "the" is a one-point penalty. Artistic merit is equally important; students must express the meaning of the poem without acting or movement, but simply in the way they speak.

Alvin says she loves hearing the other contestants as well as participating. "When you hear someone else recite it, it is really interesting, like a good play or a song," she said. For herself, Alvin describes the experience of reciting as "freeing."

"I like to do it because I like how it feels to recite the poem," Alvin said. "There is something very organic about it once you have it memorized and you are just saying it and letting it come out of you."

Alvin will be reciting "Sweetness" by Stephen Dunn, "Epilogue" by Robert Browning, and a third as of yet undecided poem at the state finals. If she takes first place, Alvin and a chaperone will receive a trip to the national competition April 25-26 at The George Washington University in Washington D.C. and a chance to win a \$20,000 first place prize.

The state competition begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 4 at the Myrna Loy Center in Helena with the final round beginning at approximately 12:45 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For details visit art.mt.gov.



LPHS junior Anna Alvin will compete in the Poetry Out Loud state finals in Helena on Saturday, March 4. The state champion will receive a trip to the national competition in Washington D.C. and a chance to take home a \$20,000 first place prize. PHOTO BY PATTY HAMBLIN

Tell me, Tallie

Who presides over Big Sky’s seven districts?



BY TALLIE LANCEY
EBS COLUMNIST

In my last column, we determined Big Sky’s location by its various district boundaries—it’s complicated. In this column, I present the rest of the story regarding local jurisdiction. Big Sky is an unincorporated census-designated place that straddles the Gallatin/Madison county line. It’s piecemealed together by seven districts, which deliver many of the services typically provided by a municipality. Thus, two sets of county commissioners and seven sets of district directors serve as Big Sky’s authority figures.

All of the districts’ board members are volunteers. In addition, there are more than 100 homeowners associations that provide administration, maintenance and order to neighborhoods dotting the landscape—the Big Sky Owners

Association was instrumental in creating many of these districts. And last but certainly not least, we have a robust assemblage of nonprofit organizations who fill in the gaps of community operations. Volunteers galore!

In an effort to simplify this complex set of governing bodies, here is a table detailing the districts’ board members, how their positions are determined and a bit of history for good measure.

Tell me, Tallie, are you wondering why something is particularly unique to our community? You want to know and I’m eager to learn. This column commits to answering your burning questions about why Big Sky exists the way it does. Ask me at tallie@reallybigsky.com.

Tallie Lancey is a broker with Big Sky Sotheby’s International Realty and spends her free time serving Big Sky on the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center board of directors and in other various ways.

District	Contact	Members	Appointed/ elected	Who may serve	Meetings Held (subject to change)	Description	Who may vote
Board of Trustees Big Sky School District #72	bssd72.org	Loren Bough, Chair Maggie Luchini, Vice Chair Kim Gunderson Matt Jennings Whitney Littman	Elected	Must live within the district	Every 3 rd Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.at the School	The district is home to over 340 students in grades K-12. Ophir has been in existence for over 100 years. Lone Peak High School opened in September 2009.	People who reside within the district
Big Sky County Water & Sewer District No. 363	bigskywatersewer.com	Packy Cronin, Chair Tom Reeves, Vice Chair Dick Fast, Secretary/Treasurer Mike Ducuennois Bob Shanks Brian Wheeler, Madison Co. Rep. William Shropshire, Gallatin Co. Rep.	Five elected, two appointed (one by each county)	Owner, lessee, or resident of real property within the district	Every 3rd Tuesday of the month in the W&S conference room	Formed by election in 1993.	Residents and landowners (restrictions apply) within the district.
Gallatin Canyon / Big Sky Zoning	gallatincomt.virtualtown-hall.net/PublicDocuments/gallatincomt_plandep/1B-CC/bsac	Steve Johnson Becky Pape Bill Simkins Phillip Kedrowski Vacant seat	Appointed	Must live within Gallatin County	The 1st Monday of each month in the W&S conference room	Reports to Gallatin County Commissioners and they review plans, subdivisions, and variance applications	N/A
Gallatin County Big Sky Transportation District	skylinebus.com	Ennion Williams, Chair, Gallatin Co. Rep. Bayard Dominick, Gallatin Co. Rep. Courtney Jones, Gallatin Co. Rep. John Knapton, Madison Co. Rep. Vacant seat , Madison Co. Rep.	Appointed	Must live within the district	Typically 4 meetings per year	The Gallatin County Big Sky Transportation District, established in 1991, is an Urban Transportation District, established under the laws of the State of Montana.	N/A
Parks, Trails, and Recreation Special District	gallatincomt.virtualtown-hall.net/Public_Documents/GallatinCoMT_BComm/BSM/BSMSD	Ciara Wolfe, Joint Representative Jon Olsen, Madison Co. Rep. Steve Johnson, Gallatin Co. Rep. Mary Wheeler, Gallatin Co. Rep. Vacant seat , Madison Co. Rep.	Appointed	Must live within the district	Typically meet quarterly at W&S conference room	An inter-local agreement was created by a joint resolution of the Gallatin and Madison county commissioners in 2012.	N/A
Big Sky Fire District	bigskyfire.org	Alan McClain, Chair Carol Collins, Vice Chair Steve Johnson, Sec./Treas. Rena Schumacher Tom Reeves	Elected	Must live within the district	The 4th Wednesday of each month at the Meadow Fire Station	Formed in 1971 and established as a fire district in 1979, the Big Sky Fire Department serves over 56 square miles	Landowners within the district (restrictions apply)
Big Sky Resort Area District tax board	resorttax.org	Jamie Kabisch, Chair Mike Scholz, Vice Chair Ginna Hermann, Secretary Heather Budd, Treasurer Kevin Germain	Elected	Must live within the district	The 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the BSRAD office	In 1998, the general electorate of Big Sky voted to create the Big Sky Resort Area District, and subsequently brought appropriations under local control	Registered voters who live within district

Daines speech, infrastructure bill, pipelines mark legislature's halfway mark

BY MICHAEL SIEBERT
UM COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

HELENA - U.S. Sen. Steve Daines addressed the Montana House of Representatives on Feb. 22, touching on his role in Washington, his support for the Keystone XL Pipeline and support for the appointment of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court.

Daines repeatedly said he and other Republicans in Washington are seeking less federal power and more states' rights.

"Montanans are best at running Montana," Daines said.

Daines opened his speech by applauding the "peaceful transition of power" from Barack Obama to Donald Trump. He said he presented Trump with a list of Montana's needs, based on talks he had with constituents, and affirmed his support for the construction of the Keystone Pipeline. He also called for an end to the "war on coal."

"You can be pro-energy and pro-environment," Daines said, a principle he said he believes is also understood by new Environmental Protection Agency Director Scott Pruitt.

Daines railed against judges "who legislate from the bench." He touted Gorsuch's academic credentials, and said the judge shares his belief that the high court is meant "to be an umpire, not a player on the field."



Hundreds gathered at the Capitol steps Tuesday, Feb. 21, to voice their disagreement with Sen. Steve Daines. Daines is under heavy criticism for and being accused by the protesters of not listening to the citizens of Montana. PHOTO BY FREDDY MONARES/UM COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

The senator also touched on health care, expressing his commitment to repealing the Affordable Care Act and replacing it with a Republican alternative that puts states in charge of creating their own policies.

After initially planning to speak on Feb. 21, Daines rescheduled his appearance for the following day. Hundreds of protesters hosted an event the day of his initial planned appearance, with multiple speakers criticizing the senator for what they say is an unwillingness to listen to his constituents.

Protesters chanted "you work for us," and "do your job." Speakers criticized Daines for his vote in favor of appointing Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education, and demanded that he be a "check" on Trump.

Daines deflected these criticisms, and said, "Montana's bigger than Missoula, Bozeman and Helena."

Before and after his appearance on the House floor, Daines attracted both supporters and more protesters, who alternately cheered and booed during a brief press conference on Gorsuch earlier in the day.

House hears infrastructure bill funded by gas tax

The House Transportation committee heard a bill last week that would institute a new gas tax, which would go toward funding Montana road and bridge projects.

House Bill 473, introduced by Rep. Frank Garner, R-Kalispell, is the latest bill to address Montana's infrastructure, a subject named a priority by both Democrats and Republicans.

HB 473 would put a tax of eight cents per gallon on gasoline, which would be exclusively used for road and bridge projects. Garner said this ensures that those

who use roads will be the ones who pay for their maintenance. He also said it would allow the state to capture revenue from out-of-state visitors and tourists.

The bill attracted 53 supporters, filling the committee room. Most of them were representing cities, counties and engineering firms.

"Our investments in critical infrastructure are woefully past due," said Darryl James, executive director of the Montana Infrastructure Coalition, a group that has been heavily involved in other infrastructure legislation throughout the session.

James said the fuel tax proportionally affects those who use Montana's roads the most.

"I ask the committee, can we afford to pass up an opportunity to capture an impact fee from those users?" James said.

Many supporters representing cities and counties listed infrastructure projects in their areas that needed completion. Mayor John Engen of Missoula said under current funding limitations, the 37 miles of Missoula roads that are in critical need would be completed in 77 years.

In contrast to the many supporters, the bill attracted three opponents, who argued against the bill primarily due to the gas tax.

"This is a tax that disproportionately hits those with limited needs," said Brent Mead, executive director of the Montana Policy Institute, a free-market think tank.

Mead said low income families would have a harder time paying for gas if the cost increases, and argued that it would lead to other financial burdens as well.

"When you increase the gas tax, you're increasing the cost of consumer goods for everyone," Mead said.

The committee didn't take immediate action on the bill.

Legislation would prohibit pipelines from running under waterways

A bill to prohibit fossil fuel pipelines from being constructed underneath waterways was tabled by the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations committee last week.

Introduced by Rep. George Kipp III, D-Heart Butte, House Bill 486 would have required that pipelines carrying fossil fuels like oil not run underneath navigable streams and rivers, instead requiring them to be located above ground.

Kipp pointed to recent oil spills like the one in the Yellowstone River, arguing pipelines located above ground would be easier to maintain in the event of a leak.

"This bill does not affect the actual construction, just the method and procedure," Kipp said.

Representing Native Generational Change, Dustin Monroe showed representatives a bottle of dirty water to illustrate his concerns about how pipelines under waterways could affect water cleanliness.

"Montana has had some very high-profile pipeline disasters within the past seven years on the Yellowstone river," said Derf Johnson of the Montana Environmental Information Center. Johnson said those spills had significant impacts on Montana wildlife and agriculture, and also polluted the area's drinking water.

Jordan Thompson, a lobbyist for the Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, said that while that tribe was able to deny pipeline permits in the past, other Montanans do not have that ability.

Opponents of the bill argued constructing pipelines above waterways leaves them more susceptible to vandalism and even terrorism.

"It looks to me like that's just a perfect invitation for somebody that's willing to create an act of terror," said Gary Forrester, representing WBI Energy.

Others said pipeline standards are already sufficient at preventing leaks, particularly those created through horizontal rather than vertical drilling.

"This would simply add more regulations ... and limit the opportunities we have for Montana," said Webb Brown, representing the Montana Chamber of Commerce.

When asked by Rep. Adam Hertz, R-Missoula, if this bill would affect the construction of the Keystone Pipeline, Kipp said he only envisioned it could necessitate additional construction, and that difference in cost would be minimal.

Michael Siebert is a reporter with the UM Community News Service, a partnership of the University of Montana School of Journalism and the Montana Newspaper Association.

EPA delays rule for miners to give cleanup assurances

BY MATTHEW BROWN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BILLINGS (AP) - Facing pushback from industry and Republicans in Congress, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency delayed on Friday a proposal that would require mining companies to show they have the financial wherewithal to clean up their pollution so taxpayers aren't stuck footing the bill.

Contaminated water from mine sites can flow into rivers and other waterways, harming aquatic life and threatening drinking water supplies. Companies in the past avoided cleanup costs in many cases by declaring bankruptcy.

Newly sworn-in EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, a longtime critic of the agency during his previous position as Oklahoma attorney general, said the four-month delay would give more opportunity for public comment.

The financial assurance rule was proposed during the Obama administration and fiercely opposed by mining industry representatives, who contended it was unnecessary and redundant because of other programs meant to prevent mines from becoming government cleanup liabilities.

"By extending this comment period, we are demonstrating that we are listening to miners, owners and operators all across America and to all parties interested in this important rule," Pruitt said in a statement.

Environmentalists generally endorsed the proposal as a way to make sure mining companies were held accountable. "It appears the new EPA administrator is already favoring industry over public interest with this delay," said Bonnie Gestring with the advocacy group Earthworks.

The delayed rule was unveiled late last year under a court order that requires it to be finalized by December 2017. The order came after environmental groups sued the government to enforce a long-ignored provision in the 1980 federal Superfund law.

EPA officials on Feb. 24 said they still intend to meet the court-ordered deadline.

The proposal would apply to hard-rock mining, which includes mines for precious metals, copper, iron, lead and other ores. It would cover thousands of mines and processing facilities in 38 states, requiring their owners to set aside sufficient money to pay for future clean ups.

From 2010 to 2014, the EPA spent \$1.1 billion on cleanup work at abandoned hard-rock mining and processing sites across the U.S.

Companies would face a combined \$7.1 billion financial obligation under the proposed rule, costing them up to \$171 million annually, according to the EPA. The agency said the amount could be covered through third parties such as surety bonds or self-insured corporate guarantees.

Republican U.S. Senators John Barrasso of Wyoming and Dean Heller of Nevada welcomed Friday's delay. Barrasso has said the benefits of the proposal were dwarfed by its potential costs to industry. Heller criticized the previous administration for having been "too quick to hand down harsh regulations and rules without considering the impact."

Last year, an EPA cleanup team triggered a 3-million gallon spill of contaminated water from Colorado's inactive Gold King mine. The accident tainted rivers in three states with heavy metals including arsenic and lead and highlighted the problem posed by tens of thousands of mine sites across the nation.



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Section 2: ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS, DINING & HEALTH



Lady Big Horns' best season yet pg. 21



Ski Butlers in Big Sky pg. 23



Enoteca wine bar opens pg. 24

The New West: Attacks on environmental laws don't serve states' best interests



BY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Whether it's Yellowstone or Grand Teton national parks, our national forests, wildlife refuges or even private ranches, never in U.S. history has preserving land, by keeping its conservation values intact, resulted in huge economic hardship

over mid- to long-term horizons.

In fact, the most thriving, consistent and sustainable economic sector in the great state of Wyoming is tourism, fueled by the powerful engine of protected public lands in the northwest quadrant of the state.

As Gov. Matt Mead and the Wyoming Legislature struggle to deal with budget shortfalls in the hundreds of millions of dollars—the vast majority related to the state's misguided gamble on coal—you still hear elected officials spreading the unsubstantiated rumor that environmental protection is costing the state.

Recently, U.S. Sen. John Barrasso and Rep. Liz Cheney once again claimed the Endangered Species Act, public review requirements as part of the National Environmental Policy Act, and laws enforced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have hobbled the Wyoming economy.

While such anti-federal rhetoric certainly resonates with Wyoming voters, there is scant evidence to back it up.

Barrasso and Cheney would have their constituents believe that the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan, implemented by the EPA to control pollution and carbon emissions, was decimating Wyoming's low-sulfur coal industry. But the Clean Power Plan actually didn't come on line until late last year.

Many months before, four of the major coal companies doing business in the state declared bankruptcy not because of any environmental regulation but owed to a glut of cheap natural gas and oil that became the fuel of choice for power generators. In fact, competition from these other fossil fuels so undercut the commodity value of coal that companies could barely give it away, much less profitably operate coal export terminals to Asia.

Now with Obama gone as a convenient foil and President Donald Trump vowing to unlock \$66 trillion of oil shale, Barrasso and Cheney are hard-pressed to explain how that strategy, which includes gutting environmental regulations, will advance their cause of reviving Wyoming's coal future.

They can defiantly shake their fists all they want, railing against the EPA, but the coal industry's greatest nemesis is the Gordian knot known as the energy market. And here's the undeniable irony: Opening up more public land to expanded oil and gas drilling is going to make the prospects for coal worse, not better.

Moreover, moving to eviscerate the EPA's ability to enforce environmental laws and denying the science of climate change will provide no tangible benefit for struggling coal workers in Gillette;

they're being affected far more by politicians who are espousing 19th century answers to 21st century problems.

With regard to the Endangered Species Act, Wyoming's senior politicians continue to look foolish, emboldening the state's self-inflicted victims' mentality, claiming that recovering grizzlies and wolves have caused huge economic hardship.

In fact, the Endangered Species Act, far from being a broken law, has actually worked quite well, and Wyoming has reaped huge dividends.

Today, both grizzlies and wolves are main attractions in a Greater Yellowstone nature-tourism economy worth at least \$1 billion annually. Millions of people, including parents with young children, come from around the world to Wyoming, Montana and Idaho to see these animals in the wild. Why? Because it's rare and growing ever more so in a very crowded world.

Finally, Barrasso and Cheney also continue to rhetorically support the radical push by federal lawmakers in Utah to transfer ownership of public lands to states. Because states could not afford to manage them, this would likely result in those tracts being sold off to industry and wealthy private individuals.

By a huge majority, most Americans, including most westerners, are opposed to such schemes. Bozeman-based Headwaters Economics just released findings of a new study showing that rural western counties with more federal public lands inside their borders have economically outperformed counties without such lands. You can read the study at headwaterseconomics.org.

From the early 1970s until recently, Headwaters found, "population, employment, and personal income on average all grew significantly faster—two times faster or more—in western rural counties with the highest share of federal lands compared to counties with the lowest share of federal lands. Per capita income growth was slightly higher in counties with more federal land."

Both Barrasso and Cheney have prominent positions on key environmental committees. Will they invite experts from Headwaters Economics to testify at their Capitol Hill hearings about the future of the West?

Probably not. Why? Because both have demonstrated a stubborn aversion to listening to any evidence or individual that does not confirm their false narratives of reality.

Doing so might make them popular and get them reelected in Wyoming, but it does nothing to help the state navigate to a better future.

Todd Wilkinson is an award-winning journalist who has been writing about the West for more than 30 years and his column the New West has been widely read in the Greater Yellowstone region for nearly as long. He writes his column every week, and it's published on explorebigsky.com on EBS off weeks. You can also read his latest book, "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek," a story about famous Greater Yellowstone grizzly 399 featuring photographs by Thomas Mangelsen.



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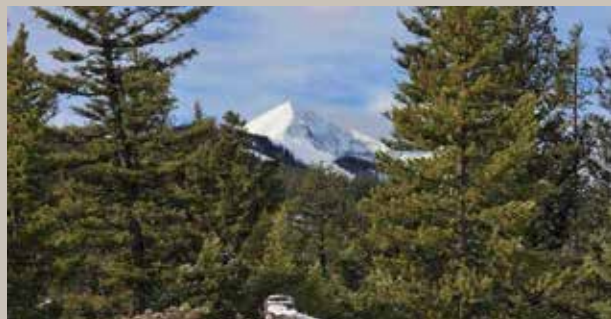
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MSU paleontologist co-authors paper on fossil site he found as a teenager

MSU NEWS SERVICE

Montana State University paleontologist L.J. Krumenacker discovered a window into Early Triassic marine life by way of fossils he found near Paris, Idaho, more than 15 years ago when he was a teenage fossil hunter.

Now, Krumenacker is part of an international team of scientists, led by French paleontologist Arnaud Brayard of Université de Bourgogne, whose research into the 250-million-year-old fossils Krumenacker discovered was published Feb. 15, in the journal *Science Advances*.

A doctoral student in the MSU Department of Earth Sciences in the College of Letters and Science, Krumenacker is co-author of the paper, "Unexpected Early Triassic marine ecosystem and the rise of the Modern evolutionary fauna," which describes the assemblage of fossils from marine animals that coexisted in the same ecosystem after a mass extinction wiped out 90 percent of all existing species from the planet.

Krumenacker said the fossils he discovered at the Paris Canyon site show a surprisingly diverse biota of animals from roughly 1 million years after the worst mass extinction in history, including a number of animals not previously known from that time period. This challenges the theory that the 5 million years following the mass extinction were a time of low diversity for benthic marine organisms, or organisms that live at the lowest level of a body of water, and suggests marine life recovered more quickly after the mass extinction than previously thought.

Among the 30 different life-forms that have thus far been identified from the Paris Canyon site are leptomitid sponges, mollusks, starfish, ammonoids, shrimp, lobsters, shark teeth and squid-like mollusks with numerous hooks on their tentacles. This type of squid-like mollusk was previously thought not to have originated until 50 million years later.



An artist rendering of early Triassic marine life depicts some of the animal biota represented by fossils L.J. Krumenacker found near Paris, Idaho. ART BY JORGE GONZALES

"The presence of the sponges and the shrimp really piqued the interest of my co-authors once they saw them," Krumenacker said, adding that it wasn't until recently that the sponge fossils he found in the late '90s were identified.

"The paleontologists I had previously shown the fossils to weren't sure what they were," he said.

Krumenacker said the discovery of the sponge fossils was also significant in another way.

"The discovery of fossils from leptomitid sponges is one of the highlights of this research," he said. "This group of primitive sponges was thought to have gone extinct hundreds of millions of years before the time of the Paris Biota (as the fossil assemblage is called) but their unexpected appearance here shows these organisms have a long unrecorded history."

Krumenacker said he was excited to share the fossil locality with his co-authors and learn of its importance to science, especially since he discovered it as a young fossil hunter, before he had any academic credentials.

"Additionally, some of the paper's co-authors are very knowledgeable non-academics who have made substantial contributions to paleontology," he said. "This paper demonstrates how amateur paleontologists can make great contributions to science."

Krumenacker said he returns to the site every year to see what other discoveries he can make.

"When I found the shark teeth, shrimp and sponges, I knew we had something significant," he said. "We have put together a large group of researchers and I think there are a lot of discoveries still to be made in these rocks in Idaho."

Last year, Krumenacker was among a team of paleontologists who identified several new types of dinosaurs through fossils found in eastern Idaho, including an ancestor of the *Tyrannosaurus rex*.



Down Canyon, triptych, oil on canvas 18 x 72"

CAROLYN CALDWELL
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EYE ON THE BALL

DeMarcus Cousins traded to Pelicans



BY BRANDON NILES
EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST

The NBA trade deadline was 3 p.m. EST on Feb. 23, and an assortment of trades speckled the league. Some were more substantial than others, but the biggest trade happened a few days before the deadline. On Sunday night Feb. 19, just hours after playing in the All-Star Game, Sacramento Kings star center DeMarcus Cousins was traded to the New Orleans Pelicans.

Cousins was long rumored to be on the move. His attitude issues on and off the court have been well documented as he's clashed with coaches and teammates alike. He leads the league in technical fouls this season due to his constant outbursts, and it's no coincidence that the Kings are on their sixth coach since drafting Cousins with the fifth overall pick in the 2010 draft. With so many issues, the Kings should have traded him long ago.

However, it's easy to see why the Kings held onto their mercurial star. Despite his attitude, Cousins is one of the most talented and productive front-court players in the NBA. He averages 21.1 points and 10.8 rebounds per game throughout his seven-year career, including a career-high 27.8 points per game this season, fourth in the NBA.

Cousins is a dominant presence inside the lane. At 6 feet, 11 inches and 270 pounds, he has elite athleticism and mobility for his size and is shooting a respectable 35.6 percent from the three-point line this year. Cousins is a threat to score from anywhere on the court.

I applaud the Kings for moving on, but it's hard not to think they could've done better in the trade for their star player. In exchange for Cousins and small forward Omri Casspi, Sacramento received guards Buddy Hield, Tyreke Evans, and Langston Galloway, along with a first- and a second-round pick in the upcoming 2017 draft. Galloway is expected to be waived, and Evans was thrown in for salary matching purposes, so the real assets the Kings got were the draft picks and Hield, the Pelicans first-round pick last summer.

Hield could be a rising star, and I loved him before the draft, but he's struggled on both ends of the floor during his rookie season. While he could still turn into something substantial, the expected return for a player of Cousins' caliber should be multiple first round picks and young talent. Rumors about the trade have hinted that the Kings didn't shop Cousins enough and also that other teams were hesitant to take on his off-court troubles—especially considering his impending free agency in 2018, when he will likely command a maximum level contract.

Ultimately, while I think the Kings probably could've gotten more out of Cousins, I think this trade was a win-win for both teams. The cost was well worth the risk for the Pelicans, who now have

two elite players in the frontcourt, Cousins and fellow center Anthony Davis. Meanwhile, the Kings have the opportunity to move on from an unhappy situation with their star player and get a couple of young assets in the process.

Cousins and Davis are an intriguing pairing for New Orleans, and it may lead to tremendous success, but it's going to take some time for the two to gel. Additionally, the Pelicans don't have a strong supporting cast, so it may be difficult for them to make an immediate impact in the playoffs. Still, this combination of elite talent is rare in the NBA and should make for some interesting basketball.

The Kings will be all right moving forward with youngsters like Hield and center Willie Cauley-Stein, but the important thing for them will be to have more success in the draft than they've had in recent years. Out of the players they drafted between 2010 and 2014, only guard Ben McLemore remains with the team, and due to limited development, he may not be re-signed after this season.

For better or for worse, a new era is beginning in Sacramento, and the success of Hield, Cauley-Stein, and the players they draft over the next two years will be what determines whether this era can be more successful than the Cousins era.

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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Lady Big Horns wrap up best season to date at Divisional tournament in Butte

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – With a record of 17-6 and court time at the Western Class C Divisional Tournament in Butte, the Lady Big Horns finished their most successful season in the programs' history on Feb. 25.

Lone Peak was seeded No. 1 entering the 11C District Tournament at Manhattan Christian Feb. 16-18, and they got the job done after defeating Shields Valley 65-49 and clinching a 49-40 win over White Sulphur Springs in the championship game.

Lone Peak head coach Nubia Allen said her players were thrilled with the win, which marks the first time in the history of the program that the Lady Big Horns have taken home a District title. "They knew going into the [tournament] that they could do it—that it wasn't just luck that they were the No. 1 seed, it was because of their efforts."

Allen attributes Lone Peak's strong postseason performance to hustle, execution and depth. "We don't have the one player that's going to do everything for us. We truly are a team. On any given night, anybody can score more than 15 points ... I think that's what makes us dangerous."

The Lady Big Horns maintained their postseason winning streak when they played St. Regis on Feb. 23 at the Western C Divisional Tournament in Butte.



Junior post KP Hoffman scored 18 points during Lone Peaks Feb. 24 game against Twin Bridges at the Western C Divisional Tournament in Butte. PHOTO BY RICH ADDICKS

scored 18 points against White Sulphur Spring the previous week, to six points.

Madison Hill, the leading scorer for St. Regis, put up nearly half of the Tigers' points. She ended the night with 16.



The Lady Big Horns claimed their first District title on Feb. 18 after defeating White Sulphur Springs 49-40. PHOTO BY JILL BOUGH

Seniors Luisa Locker and Dasha Bough led Lone Peak's scoring with 12 points each on a mix of 3-pointers, field goals and free throws.

Coming off the St. Regis win, Lone Peak faced Twin Bridges, an undefeated rival from a neighboring conference.

Both offenses started off somewhat sluggishly and Twin Bridges, which beat Lone Peak twice during the regular season, led 8-7 at the close of the first quarter.

But the Falcons' offense took off in the second quarter, led by an eight-point run from Kailee Oliverson, who scored 23 points on the night. Oliverson has come to be known as a scoring, rebounding and blocking phenomenon—and she's 6-foot-3-inches tall.

By halftime, the Lady Big Horns were down by 10. Hoffman put forth a valiant effort in the third quarter, scoring 10 of Lone Peak's 13 points during the quarter, but the deficit proved too great to overcome.

Locker and senior post Kuka Holder also played strong games for Lone Peak, scoring 12 and nine points, respectively.

"I was happy with the way the girls played," Allen said. "Even though we were all upset that we lost, inside it felt like a win because we knew that we gave it our all."

When Lone Peak entered their final game of the tournament, against Ennis on Feb. 25, they did so with considerable tournament fatigue.

"We struggled to get things together," Allen said. "We were not the same team that played the night before. Ennis is a good team, but definitely a beatable team. But you have to come out ready to play, and unfortunately we didn't."

The Lady Big Horns struggled on both offense and defense. They scored just four points in both the first and third quarters, and two starters fouled out in the second half. Lone Peak ended the night with a total of 24 fouls to the Mustangs' 15, sending their opponent to the free-throw line 29 times. Ennis won 45-33.

Reflecting on the season, Allen is proud of the girls' performance: "There are a lot of schools that know Lone Peak [now]," Allen said. "They made history ... I think they should be proud of what they have done."

Big Horns post winning record, end season at District tournament in Manhattan

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Lone Peak had a déjà-vu moment when they entered this year’s 11C District tournament Feb. 16: they opened the postseason playing West Yellowstone, the same team they defeated during their last game of the regular season.

The story was similar last year with a regular-season Big Horn win followed by a tournament season win. “That’s always a very emotional game,” said Lone Peak head coach Al Malinowski. “They don’t want to lose to us and we don’t want to lose to them.”

All five of Lone Peak’s starters posted respectable numbers to contribute to the team’s 68-43 win. Senior guard Eddie Starz led the team with 18 points and senior post Bridger Babcock had 13. Juniors Jackson Wade, a post, and guard Liam Germain both contributed 10 points and sophomore point guard Kolya Bough notched seven.

In addition to outshooting the Wolverines, the Big Horns out-rebounded them 26 to 16, succeeding in an aspect of the game they struggled with during much of the season.

Lone Peak was particularly energized when guard Gus Hoffman sank the first 3-pointer of his career—an “exciting moment for a freshman in a District tournament game,” Malinowski said.

The Big Horns’ next matchup, against the Gardiner Bruins, proved to be tougher. During the regular season, Lone Peak lost to the Bruins by more than 20 points both times they squared off.

“We know we can compete with them and we did compete with them,” Malinowski said. “[But] they run a pretty deep bench—I think they play eight to 10 players pretty regularly—and our depth wasn’t quite there to match that.”

The Big Horns lost 76-55 after struggling from the foul line, making just 11 of 31 attempts.

The following day, Lone Peak won 55-49 over Shields Valley, a team that has historically been a close competitor.

Their next opponent was White Sulphur Springs, another rival. “All three of our games against them [this season] were tightly contested,” Malinowski said. “Really it came down to a play or two to determine who won.”

And on Feb. 18, the Hornets came out on top 58-54 to take third place in Districts.

Malinowski said he was proud of the team for showing up and paying two tough games in close succession on the last day of the tournament. Starz, who has an impressive collection of scoring records to his name, put up 54 points between the two games.

Malinowski said Starz’s 1,334 career points record should stand for some time. “I think it’s going to be a record [for a while]—certainly long after I’m coaching here.”

Although he said it’s hard to see Starz and Babcock go, Malinowski feels good about what’s in store for the Big Horns.

“It’s bittersweet, but it’s also a lot of fun to watch that transition happen,” he said. “Some of those younger guys are starting to figure out who they’ll be for us in the future.”

Mad wolf runs wild

The second annual Mad Wolf Relay, a revival of a popular local race that enjoyed a solid 10-year run in the ‘70s and ‘80s, was a success. The top finishers, Team Riverhouse, skied down Hangman’s run at Big Sky Resort, ran to Low Dog Road, skate skied the Middle Fork, and rode a fat bike to Lone Mountain Ranch in 31 minutes and 34 seconds. Afterward, participants and spectators, many of whom donned festive costumes, celebrated at the Lone Mountain Ranch Saloon to the music of the Hooligans. Proceeds benefitted the Big Sky Ski Education Foundation.

Race Results

INDIVIDUAL

- 1. Phil Hess
- 2. Tom Owen
- 3. Natalie Osborne

MEN’S TEAM

- 1. Team Riverhouse
- 2. That 70’s Team
- 3. Thrash and Burn

CO-ED TEAM ADULT

- 1. TMBJ
- 2. Sunshine on Legs
- 3. Phineas and Ferb

MIXED YOUTH & ADULT

- 1. The Flyin’ Hawaiians
- 2. Staudt/Jacobson

YOUTH TEAM

- 1. The Brochilas
- 2. 5th Grade Phenomenon
- 3. Mountain Maniacs

WOMEN’S TEAM

- 1. Patrol Chicas
- 2. Gallatin River Task Force
- 3. GG’z



PHOTOS BY PAUL ROBERTSON

Delivering on service: Big Sky's new ski rental

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY - According to Bryn Carey, CEO and founder of Ski Butlers—a newly opened ski rental in Big Sky—the driving force behind his company is “believing in people pursuing their passions in the mountains.”

“We hire folks that love the mountains, we work with partners that have chosen to live and play in the mountains, and we deliver to customers that make the mountains part of their vacation,” Carey said.

“Traveling on a ski vacation can be stressful and I wanted to change that,” he said. So in 2004 Carey opened a delivery ski rental business in Park City, Utah, and the company has grown ever since.

Ski Butlers has expanded to 35 different ski resorts across North America since it opened up shop in Park City more than a decade ago, and on Feb. 8 the ski and snowboard rental began operating in Big Sky.

Ski Butlers delivers directly to the customer, whether that is sending trained ski rental technicians to a client's lodgings or home for an initial fitting and delivery, or sending the staff out to the slopes to provide last-minute adjustments and support.

The Big Sky location has been very busy for its first month of operation, said Frank Doss, general manager of Big Sky's Ski Butler operation.

At the end of every rental, Ski Butlers asks customers to participate in a customer satisfaction survey, asking how likely they are to recommend Ski Butler Ski Rental in the future. According to Doss, the Big Sky location is leading in customer satisfaction as compared with their other locations.

“We are first in the company,” Doss said. The company's focus on customer service starts with the first contact with a client, Doss said, adding, “We answer the phone with a smile on our face.”

After fitting customers with gear, ensuring they are confident and comfortable, the technicians go over trail maps, suggest off-slope activities, recommend restaurants and often ask if the client needs help with errands or otherwise, Doss said.



Ski Butlers Ski Rental, located in the West Fork Plaza off of Big Pine Drive, delivers ski and snowboarding packages directly to the customer.

Ski Butlers operates from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day of the week in order to fit, deliver, pick-up and provide support.

“Most brick and mortar ski shops close early... we'll do delivery as late as 8 o'clock so people can get in, get skis and not worry about it when they wake up,” Doss explained.

The team delivers to all lodging accommodations in the area and will also come to a customer's house. While specializing in delivery, Ski Butlers also welcomes walk-ins to their shop, located in the West Fork Plaza off Big Pine Drive. They encourage customers to call ahead to ensure staff is there.

Partnered with Rossignol, Ski Butlers offers new equipment every year, carrying a variety of hand-tuned skis and snowboards, boots, ski poles, helmets and goggles. Packages are arranged based on a skier's ability level and goals, and staff can outfit youth and beginning skiers, as well as provide packages for all-mountain, powder and top-of-the-line performance skiing.

Ski Butlers does not have a cancellation policy and they only charge for the time the customer has actually used their skis. Deliveries occur within a roughly 30-minute radius of the shop, extending as far as the 320 Guest Ranch south of Big Sky.

Visit skibutlers.com/big-sky-ski-rentals for more information.



Each of the Ski Butler technicians are trained in hand-tuning skis and boards. Pictured here is Finn Westbrook, one of Ski Butlers' four ski technicians, as he tunes a ski.



Based on customer goals and experience, the Ski Butler staff can put together a variety of packages, complete with the latest Rossignol gear.

A taste of the old country

Italian wine bar Enoteca opens in Big Sky

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – As all good Italians know, it all comes down to the food. It is the linchpin of family and culture. It dictates the rhythm of each day and is the centerpiece around which all gatherings revolve, whether celebratory, mournful, mundane or sacramental. Even wine, important as it is, takes an ancillary role.

While her name might not immediately suggest it, Colleen Helm knows this firsthand. Enoteca, a new Italian wine bar in Big Sky Town Center serving rustic recipes passed down through the generations and delightfully interesting wines, is her way of showing and sharing it. If you're not an Italophile yet, you just might be converted.

Helm, who also owns Vino Per Tutti wine store in Bozeman, has partnered with sommelier Don Jost and his wife, chef Jaclyn Krusniak-Jost who's also a Big Sky native. They've translated their equally extensive appreciation for, and intimate knowledge of, the Italian culture into a cozy, chic place where others can experience it too.

The carefully curated menu was culled from Don Jost's travels to Italy and house favorites from the "enoteca" (Italy's generic term for wine bar) he owned and operated in San Francisco; and from Helm's upbringing in a large, close-knit Sicilian family in Pennsylvania and years spent living abroad.

There were a few items that could not be overlooked. The baccalà for example, a traditional Italian dish of dried salt cod with many variations in preparation, is a favorite of both Jost's and Helm's. Enoteca's rendition—whipped with potato into a light and lemony spread for crostini—is reminiscent of the first course Helm's family would prepare for the Feast of the Seven Fishes on Christmas Eve.

The stracotto di maiale—tender braised pork shoulder in a red sauce over creamy polenta—is Helm's grandmother's recipe.

"I've been eating that dish forever," Helm said. "And making it since I was five."

The menu wouldn't be complete without homemade gnocchi. The women of Helm's family would gather to make great batches of the labor-intensive semolina dumplings—for which every Italian family has a secret as to how to render them fluffy like pillows rather than doughy pellets of lead—and freeze for later use. At Enoteca, they are made fresh, pan sautéed and served in a rich, asiago mushroom cream



Enoteca's managing partner, sommelier Don Jost tastes one of 25 wines by the glass offered at Enoteca in both three and six ounce pours. Jost brings years of experience and expertise in the Italian food and wine business to his partnership with Colleen Helm. PHOTO BY PHIL NEWMAN

sauce. Because the sauce will rotate, it is the only item on the menu not paired with a suggested wine.

The wine list is not strictly Italian but predominantly so and offers something for everyone. The less adventurous who want to stay within the tried and true will not be flustered; and the connoisseur is likely to gleefully discover something new. A handful of specialty beers and traditional Italian cocktails are also available.



Friends gather at Enoteca in Big Sky Town Center to share and sample the flavors of rustic Italian cuisine and fine, unique wines. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

The menu, both food and wine, is geared toward sharing and sampling. Midwinter, the menu is hearty and the "small plate" portions lean more toward medium, but it's unlikely you'll hear anyone complaining over too much orechiette ("little ear") pasta with house-made rabbit sausage, broccolini and chili flakes.

What you won't find on the Enoteca menu is American-style entrée options.

"There's nothing I despise more than three things on a plate," Helm said. "It enrages me. You get one thing—that's how I eat at home; that's how you eat in Italy. I built this because this is what I want—what I want to eat, how I want to eat, what I want to drink—and I want to show [people] why it's the best."

Enoteca is open daily from 3 to 10 p.m. in Big Sky Town Center with a limited menu served from 3 to 5 p.m. Visit bigskywinebar.com for more information.



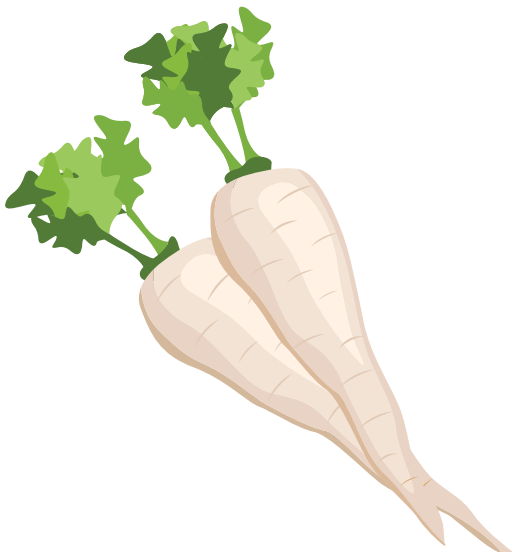
Partake in Parsnips

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER
EBS STAFF

Contrary to what I believed as a child, a parsnip is not, in fact, a white carrot. Other than their white color, they are very similar in appearance to a carrot. They have a slightly sweeter, earthy flavor profile, and their somewhat starchy texture falls somewhere between that of a carrot and a potato.

The parsnip is one of the select vegetables that can be harvested throughout the winter season. They are not truly ready for harvesting until after the first frost of the season. This stops them from growing, but also allows the vegetable’s starch to be converted into sugar with the chilling effect.

When selecting parsnips in your market, look for small- to medium-sized roots. Larger roots can have a tough, fibrous core that is unpalatable. Although parsnips have a very long shelf life, any feathery roots growing on the vegetable indicate that it’s dry and seeking more water, so avoid these. If you can find parsnips with the greens still attached that are not wilting, choose these—they were likely harvested more recently. Parsnips can keep well for weeks if stored properly: unwashed, in your refrigerator. Wash the vegetable thoroughly right



before you plan on cooking it, and don’t remove the skin. A majority of the vegetable’s high levels of potassium and fiber, as well as flavor, lie in the skin.

Though parsnips can be eaten raw like carrots, this vegetable is more commonly consumed when cooked. Because of a parsnip’s high sugar content, roasting the vegetable works particularly well to create caramelization and develop flavor. Any way you can imagine cooking a potato or a carrot you can apply to a parsnip. Mashed, glazed, in soups—you name it. This vegetable lends itself to a variety of flavors and cooking applications.

Parsnips might not be the first vegetable you go to when selecting produce, but its low cost, long shelf life, and versatility make for a great and nutritious staple to add to your pantry.

Baked parsnip “fries” with rosemary

- 3 medium parsnips
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large garlic clove, minced
- 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, minced
- Salt and cracked black pepper

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Wash parsnips well; Do not peel. Cut parsnips into “fries,” about 1/2 of an inch wide by 3-4 inches long.

Toss parsnips in a bowl with remaining ingredients so that they are evenly coated. Spread evenly onto a baking sheet lined with foil for easy clean up.

Roast for 10 minutes, until the centers are tender and the outside is crisp and golden brown.





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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.

If chefs ruled the world

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

If chefs ruled the world, we would be a diverse, organized people who may disagree on occasion, but at the end of the day would include everyone somehow. We would eat drink and be merry when the situation dictated—all the while, in a constant state of readiness and probably with the best secret burger and cocktail in hand. Below are the qualities of great chefs that would also make them great leaders.

Diversity – Over a beer one night about two years ago, I wondered what the summation of international workers was that I’ve employed or worked beside. To date, I’ve worked with men and women from no less than 51 countries spanning six continents. I can say without hesitation that it has made my education, experiences and friendships stronger than I ever imagined.

Strength comes from flexibility, not rigidity. A mighty oak tree will hold strong in the fiercest of winds, until it can stand no more and its branches snap. Meanwhile the bending and flowing willow tree dances in the wind with ease. As a chef, two of the most successful kitchens I’ve been in have also been the most culturally diverse.

Organization – While the U.S. government is relatively organized, many governments are not. Two of my best friends have lived all over the world, and the stories they have of dysfunction and ineptitude in their respective residences would make one think that Laurel and Hardy were at the helm. If a chef were commander in chief, organization would be the cornerstone of leadership.

Efficiency – The goal of every culinarian I know is to find a way to become more efficient and eliminate unnecessary steps, which take time and time costs money. The opposite of a chef’s world would be what most governments are known for: bureaucracy.

One simple definition of bureaucracy is excessive multiplication and red tape. As a chef, I can’t think of a greater hindrance than being held up by outdated rules and too many people stirring the sauce; pun intended. If a chef ruled, every department and government organization would be streamlined and have the least amount of processes to achieve the end result.

Budget – With most restaurants operating at a 5 percent profit margin, there is very little room for error. A restaurant cannot change the interest rates, or receive a bailout from the government. If times are tough and finances are strained, a chef must sharpen his pencil and find his own way out. If a chef were in charge, anything short of a balanced budget would be unacceptable. And they would always have a secondary and a tertiary plan.

Inclusion – While it may seem as though we are closing our doors here in America, there are many countries that have far harsher guidelines for entry than us. It wasn’t that long ago that Austria closed its doors to virtually all asylum seekers.

As chefs, we sincerely love to feed everyone. From our ovens in the kitchen, we cannot see who we are cooking for. We do not care what their religious or political background is. We merely want to provide a memorable experience for each guest, or countryman or wayward soul.

For many chefs here on American soil, we have stories of our mothers or grandmothers making large meals that fed the entire extended family.

I have my own memories of meals growing up with my best friend who was Italian. Every Sunday after church we would walk home to his house where his mother was cooking pasta meals that seemed to go on forever. It was just how they ate and socialized.

It was about including the entire extended family and sometimes even the neighbors. The most fascinating aspect of those Sunday meals was watching family members argue seemingly to the death over something, only to kiss one another on the cheek and say “I love you” as they walked them to the door.

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

DOCTOR'S NOTE

A patient's very scary ski vacation



BY DR. JEFF DANIELS
EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

In between the torn ACLs and fractured shoulders suffered on the slopes, occasionally an unusual and previously unseen medical oddity presents itself to the clinic. When that happens, we muster all of our resources and try to get to the bottom of it.

One such case presented in February, when a young man visiting Big Sky looked in the mirror and noticed that one of his eyelids was drooping, and the pupil of that eye was a lot smaller than his other pupil. To say that this scared him would be putting it mildly!

He came into the office and I had all of the medical students and residents working with me examine him and give their opinion. None of us could find any other neurological abnormality aside from the droopy eyelid (ptosis) and the constricted pupil (meiosis).

His history didn't give us any clues either: He was from the East Coast, but had never had a problem at this elevation. He was here skiing, but hadn't experienced head trauma. He was traveling with friends, and he may have had more to drink than usual, but that commonly occurs on a ski vacation. His vision was 20/20 on the affected side, and his only other complaint was a mild headache on the same side of his head as the ptosis and meiosis.

All of the emergency medicine residents wanted him to immediately get a CT scan of the brain, as well as a CT angiogram, looking for aneurysms and bleeding near the nerves that go to the eye. We were able to arrange for these tests immediately at the Big Sky Medical Center, and the CT angiogram suggested that the blood vessels in a certain part of the brain were inflamed.

It so happened that a frequent guest lecturer for the students and residents, who happened to be a neurosurgeon, was coming to talk to us about interesting cases that evening. Our patient was only too happy to come in and get an opinion, so we all crowded into an examination room as a very careful and thorough neurological examination was done.

Finding no other abnormalities, our neurosurgeon ruled out many terrible problems, but couldn't pinpoint a diagnosis. He didn't think that the CT angiogram findings were that significant, but agreed that giving a steroid to treat vasculitis would be appropriate.

Our patient left for home the next day, and within a week was able to see the head of neurology at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. The patient emailed me that he was told he had a condition called "reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome" or RCVS, with an emphasis on "reversible." He was told to avoid alcohol for three months, take two Aleve twice a day, and not to come back to altitude for a while—and his symptoms have slowly been resolving.

Reading more about RCVS, it sounds a lot worse than what our patient experienced. "Thunderclap" headaches and seizures could be part of the syndrome, along with a variety of neurological findings. Thunderclap headaches are described as being felt on both sides of the head, reaching a very severe degree within one minute of onset. This is supposed to be a symptom in 95 percent of cases of RCVS, but fortunately not in our case!

The good news is that the syndrome usually resolves in about three weeks, as it appears to be happening for our patient. I texted the diagnosis to our neurosurgeon, who responded "interesting!"

Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2016 Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Cbet 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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From Jackie *with love* 'Snackification'



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN
EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

As a health coach, I've learned that in order to help my clients achieve their goals it's crucial that I first meet them where they are in regard to their current lifestyle. This helps us temper any unrealistic expectations of radical and immediate behavior changes.

With time constraints being a top barrier to making healthy lifestyle changes, it's important for us to consider the best way to snack better.

In 2015, the consumer and market research group Nielson released their findings of the "Global Survey of Snacking." After polling more than 30,000 consumers in 60 countries on their snacking habits, they concluded that \$374 billion was spent on snack foods between 2013 and 2014.

According to their online report, "More than three-quarters of global respondents (76 percent) eat snacks often or sometimes to satisfy their hunger between meals or to satisfy a craving, and 45 percent of global respondents consume snacks as a meal alternative—52 percent for breakfast, 43 percent for lunch and 40 percent for dinner."

It's no wonder that the term "snackification" has been popping up in many journals and articles related to food.

As someone who bought into the theory that eating five to six small meals throughout the day was optimal—this has become controversial and may not be the best way to eat after all—I've become accustomed to snacking.

But after following a 30-day whole foods eating plan in January, I learned to snack without chips, crackers, dairy, gluten or sugar. It was a great experiment and I'd like to share several of my favorite, cost effective, healthy and delicious whole food snacks with you.

First, the more obvious ones: nuts and whole fruits.

Secondly, I learned to replace crackers with raw zucchini or cucumber rounds. Their subtle and fresh flavors work well with hummus, tapenades, meats, guacamole and herbs.

Please note that zucchini and cucumbers are on the Environmental Working Group's "Dirty Dozen" list. This means that it's in our best interest to purchase them when grown organically. While organically grown food is often scorned as being too expensive, a couple of organic zucchinis are often less expensive than a small box of crackers.

Both of these vegetables are on the dirty dozen list because, when grown conventionally using synthetic pesticides, they routinely test positive for pesticides that have been linked to cancer, Parkinson's disease, birth defects, respiratory illness, abnormal immune system function and neurotoxins that can affect children's brain development, even at low doses. (How these pesticides are allowed in the production of our food at all is perplexing, but that's the current state of affairs in the agriculture and food industries).

And finally, my absolute favorite whole foods snack is apple, nut butter and coconut sandwiches. To make them, simply slice an apple into one-quarter-inch slices, spread your favorite nut butter on one side, place another apple slice on top and coat with unsweetened shredded coconut. Apples are also on the dirty dozen list, so please buy organic when possible.

Not only is this snack as delicious as any donut or cupcake out there, it leaves you feeling healthy and satisfied. If you have children, consider including them in the preparation.

Happy snacking!

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

Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



Things are getting hot in here! Fishing in SW Montana is blowing up and access is improving weekly with warmer temps.

Although we are hopeful that we will have a great snowpack and cold/healthy rivers all summer long we are taking advantage of the warmer weather. Fishing guides are dusting all their drift boats and the number of fishing specific posts on social media have grown exponentially. For the record, we've been on the water all along!

For those of you considering a float trip this time of year the best places to start are going to be the lower Madison below Beartrap Canyon or even the Missouri or Bighorn Rivers if you're looking for

an adventure. Boat launches are clear and ready to rock in the above mentioned areas. As for the upper Madison above Ennis Lake and the Yellowstone River there is still a fair amount of ice around most of the boat launches. Some floats are doable, but best to check with the nearest fly shop before taking a chance and get your eyes on the takeout before putting a boat in.

For walk wade fishing the sky is the limit. The Gallatin, Madison, Yellowstone, East Gallatin, Missouri, Bighorn and more are all good options right now.

For best dry fly fishing the upper Madison around Raynold's Pass and \$3 Bridge are going to have some of the most consistent hatches of midges. Or head over to one of the Spring Creeks in the Paradise Valley. Baetis have been coming off there for a few weeks now. You can find intermittent dry fly fishing with midges on most rivers right now, but you have to be in the right place at the right time.

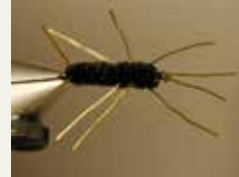
Here's a list of the top ten flies to have in your fly box for the next several weeks; Pat's Rubber legs 8-12, Zebra Midges 18-22, Copper Johns 16-18, Flash Bang Midges 18-20, Lightning Bugs 16-18, CDC Cluster Midges 18-22, Silvey's Adult Caddis 20-22, Tung Sunkist 16-20, San Juan Worms and Wilcox's Lowrider olive 18-20.

Tight lines and don't forget to join us for Thursday Night Fly Tying. Call Gallatin River Guides for more details.

JuJubee Midge



Pat's Rubber Legs



Copper John



Flash Bang Midge



Yeager's Neversink Midge



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We offer an exemplary compensation packages and work environment, and employee housing is available. To apply online and view complete job description visit <http://blueribbonbuilders.com/employment/> and email resume to hr@blueribbonbuilders.com.

West Yellowstone Tourist Business Improvement District

The West Yellowstone Tourist Business Improvement District is seeking a Part-Time Marketing Director. The work week consists of an 25-30 hour work week. A back ground in Hospitality and Tourism is preferred. Must have good communication skills, be computer savvy, be organized and able to work independently. Must have marketing experience and understanding of all social media platforms and be able to plan, administer, and place print and digital ad campaigns. Will need to administer marketing and product development programs, both short and long range, targeted toward existing and new markets by performing the following duties personally or through subordinates. Wage: \$19.00 - \$21.00(DOE) with wage increase of up to \$1.00 per hour after successful completion of the first 6 months of probationary period. All resumes need to be submitted to the West Yellowstone Tourist Improvement District at PO BOX 1633 West Yellowstone, Montana 59758 or email to: Kcoffintbid@gmail.com. Resumes and inquiries are accepted until position is filled.

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The advertisement for The Wrap Shack features a large, central image of a burrito. The burrito is wrapped in a light-colored tortilla and is filled with various ingredients. The background is a colorful, circular pattern of concentric rings in shades of red, orange, yellow, and green. The text "FAST. FRESH. FAT." is written in large, bold, black letters across the middle of the burrito. Below this, the phrase "That's how we Roll." is written in a cursive font. The The Wrap Shack logo, which includes a cartoon character holding a burrito, is positioned below the text. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text "DINE IN OR CARRY OUT 11-8PM - LOCATED IN BIG SKY IN THE WESTFORK PLAZA 406.995.3099 - WEROLLEMFAT.COM" is displayed. Two circular callouts on the right side of the burrito highlight "FRESH SOUPS MADE DAILY" and "BEST MARGARITAS IN BIG SKY".

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Section 3:
OUTDOORS, FUN
& BACK 40



INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Trout Facts from Yellowstone Science

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The latest issue of Yellowstone Science focuses on efforts to restore native fish to Yellowstone National Park waterways. Anyone who wants to learn more about the critical role native fish play in this dynamic ecosystem can read this issue for more information about the latest science and management practices centering on these species.

Yellowstone’s senior fisheries biologist Todd Koel writes, “Our goal is as bold as it is difficult: restore the ecological role of Yellowstone’s native fish species.” Yellowstone Science explains the park’s fisheries conservation story, including progress made and continuing challenges.

Below are some facts about Yellowstone’s trout to familiarize readers with these highly celebrated creatures.

COMMON NAMES: Cutthroat (native), rainbow, brown, brook, lake, char.

AVERAGE LIFE SPAN: Cutthroat/rainbow/brown/ brook trout: 6-12 years.

OLDEST DOCUMENTED FISH IN YNP: Cutthroat trout: 16 years. Lake Trout: 26 years.

CAUSES OF MORTALITY: predation, disease, environmental factors.

COLORATION: Fish can darken or lighten their color to blend in with the environment. Spawning fish are typically more brightly colored. Cutthroat trout turn deep orange and red on the belly, while brown and brook trout develop colorful spotting patterns along their sides. Males are often more brightly colored than females.

HIGHEST POTENTIAL JUMP: Rainbow trout can jump up to five times their body length.

ADULT LENGTH: Cutthroat trout range from 8-24 inches, brook trout from 5-18 inches, and lake trout range from 16-40 inches.

BODY TEMPERATURE: Trout are cold-blooded, meaning their body temperature is the same as the environment. Trout are most successful in water temperatures ranging from 32-68 degrees Fahrenheit. They can survive in warmer temperatures but do not thrive.

RESPIRATION: Trout are gill breathers. Gills are filled with blood vessels, which exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide as water passes over them.

VISION: Outstanding. Trout can focus their eyes in two different directions at the same time, and they see in color. Trout cannot blink.

HEARING: Hearing occurs in the inner ear; there is no external or middle ear.

OTOLITHS: Composed of calcium carbonate, these small ear bones are used in sound detection but, similar to human ear bones, also provide balance, movement, and directional indicators. Otoliths can be read like tree rings to determine age.

SCALES: As with otoliths, growth patterns on scales can be used to determine age.

LATERAL LINE: Fish have an extension of their hearing system built into their “lateral line,” a series of organs dispersed down their bodies that sense vibrations, allowing them to detect movements in the water.

FISH “SLIME”: Reduces friction, protects fish from fungus, bacteria, and some parasites, aids in regulation of internal fluid, salt levels, and gas exchange.

OTHER SENSES: Olfaction, or smell, is accomplished by passing water through the nares (nostrils) over nasal sacs. This is important for feeding, spawning, predator avoidance, and natal homing, the process by which animals return to their birthplace to reproduce.

AIR BLADDERS: Trout are physostomes, meaning they can rapidly fill or empty their bladder by gulping or expelling air. As a result trout bladders will not burst when ascending through water quickly.

GROWTH: Fish continue to grow throughout their lives.

FEEDING HABITS: Trout spend 80 percent of the day foraging for food. However, foraging activities are reduced when water temperatures are too warm or too cold.

PRIMARILY FEED ON: Aquatic invertebrates, zooplankton, and, at times, other fish.

GENETICS: Some species are genetically similar enough to hybridize (interbreed) with one another, while others do not naturally hybridize.

SPAWNING LOCATIONS: Cutthroat, rainbow, brook, and brown trout spawn in gravel/sand with moderate stream flow; lake trout spawn in lakes in cobble-sized substrate.

SPAWN TIMING: Cutthroat trout and most rainbow trout spawn in spring as water temperatures rise. Brown, brook, and lake trout all spawn in the fall as water temperatures drop. Some trout in the Firehole River spawn in winter months, a shift caused by the thermally influenced waters.

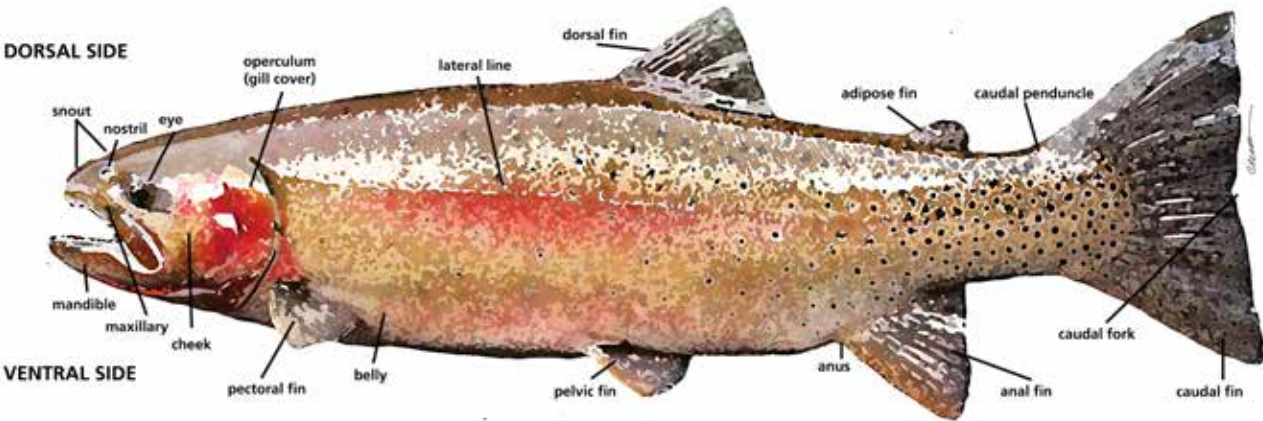
NUMBER OF EGGS PER FEMALE: Can vary greatly, but general rule of thumb is 1,000 eggs per kilogram of body weight.

FISHABLE WATERS: At one time, 48 percent of park waters were fishless. There are currently 45 lakes and over 200 streams in the park that are now fishable.

FISHING PERMITS: About 40,000 fishing permits are issued annually in Yellowstone National Park.

LIFE HISTORY: Resident fish live their entire life in tributaries. Fluvial fish spawn in small tributaries but migrate to larger rivers to grow and mature. Adfluvial fish spawn in streams but migrate to lakes to grow and mature.

This information was first published in Volume 25, Issue 1 of Yellowstone Science, a publication devoted to Yellowstone National Park’s natural and cultural resources.



NPS Illustration/Charissa Reid



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Yellowstone recruiting for 2017 Youth Conservation Corps program

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone National Park is currently recruiting for the 2017 Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program, a residential work-based education program for young men and women between the ages of 15 and 18.

YCC is designed to foster an appreciation for the nation's natural resources and heritage through educational, recreational and work experiences. Yellowstone recruits youth from all social, economic, ethnic and racial backgrounds for the program. Corps members work together with National Park Service staff to complete conservation projects such as trail rehabilitation, campground restoration and a wide variety of resource management, visitor support services and maintenance projects.

Participants and staff develop their job and leadership skills while further exploring personal values, gaining self-esteem, expanding their awareness of work ethics and learning firsthand about environmental and conservation issues. Corps members will also participate in evening and weekend recreational activities and discover options for careers with the NPS and other land management agencies.

Yellowstone will offer two, month-long YCC sessions, June 11 to July 12, and July 16 to Aug. 16. Sixty youth will be selected from across the country to participate in the program.

No previous wilderness experience is required, but a willingness and ability to work in a physically active outdoor program, get along well with others, and maintain a positive attitude are essential for success.

Participants will be required to live on location, and room and board will be provided at a minimal cost. Wages will be set at the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour. Applicants must be citizens of the United States and be 15 years of age by June 11, but not over 18 years of age by Aug. 16.

Visit nps.gov/yell/learn/management/yccjobs.htm for application materials. Completed application materials must be received no later than March 1, 2017.

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Don't miss this **unique** opportunity to learn and practice avalanche skills alongside your teen this March Break!

Taught by America Avalanche Association Instructor, Tom Thorn, this workshop combines classroom instruction with two days of field experiences to learn avalanche fundamentals, including avalanche types, terrain, snowpack and weather, decision making and avalanche rescue.

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Annual hog roast to support Cooke City trail grooming

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

March 10 and 11 the Upper Yellowstone Snowmobile Club will host their largest event of the year: the 21st annual Hog Roast Fundraiser, which raises money to support snowmobile trail grooming in Cooke City.

The fundraiser begins with a two-day snowmobile Poker Run, where participants stop at nine designated locations in order to receive nine playing cards to make a poker hand. At the hog roast dinner, the highlight and close of the fundraiser, participants with the best two poker hands will win a major portion of the proceeds raised from the entry fees.

One stop along the way is the Round Lake warming cabin, where participants can partake in a bonfire and hot dog roast, as well as visit with Forest Service Snow Rangers. The Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center will set up a beacon park at Round Lake so interested parties can learn about avalanche danger, interpret snow conditions, and practice using beacons, probes and shovels.

“The poker run [and] all the other events provide an opportunity for all winter enthusiasts to come together, be sociable and enjoy the beautiful snow here,” said Mona Abelseth, owner of Cooke City Motorsports and member of the UYSC public relations committee.

Evening activities include wine tasting, a silent auction and live music on March 10, and the hog roast dinner and auction will conclude the event on March 11.

New this year, the club is presenting the Best of Snow show. As an opportunity to show off their rides, participants can enter their snowmobiles or bikes and vote on their favorite.

This fundraiser comes on the tail of the recent club purchase of a new groomer, which is used to groom trails throughout the Cooke City area. With that purchase the UYSC is the second nonprofit in Montana to own and operate a club groomer.

To participate in the poker run and/or attend the Hog Roast Dinner, contact the UYSC’s public relations committee at (406) 838-2231, or visit Cooke City Motorsports or the Cooke City Exxon.



Emily and Pat Wolfe enjoy fresh powder north of Cooke City on a bluebird day. The Upper Yellowstone Snowmobile Club hosts its 21st annual Hog Roast Fundraiser to support trail grooming in the Cooke City area. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

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Town Center ↔ Mountain Village



DINE



GATHER



SHOP

BIG SKY

TOWN CENTER

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WHERE BIG SKY COMES TOGETHER

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Heading Up

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ARRIVING MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	8:35a / 9:00a / 10:00a / 10:55a / 12:00p / 12:55p / 2:00p / 2:55p / 4:00p / 4:55p / 5:55p / 6:55p / 7:55p / 8:55p / 10:15p / 10:55p / 11:55p / 1:55a

Mountain Village to Town Center Bus Schedule

Heading Down

DEPARTING MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	7:10a / 8:35a / 9:10a / 10:10a / 11:10a / 12:10p / 1:10p / 2:10p / 3:10p / 4:10p / 5:10p / 6:10p / 7:10p / 8:10p / 9:10p / 10:15p / 11:15p / 12:15a / 2:15a
ARRIVING TOWN CENTER	7:25a / 8:50a *w / 9:35a / 10:35 a / 11:35a / 12:35p / 1:35p / 2:35p / 3:35p / 4:35p / 5:35p / 6:35p / 7:35p / 8:35p / 9:35p / 10:35p / 11:35p / 12:35a / 2:35a

*w = whistle stop

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On the Trail: Silverbow Loop to Yellowstone Loop

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

BY CIARA WOLFE
BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Silverbow and Yellowstone Nordic ski trails are beautiful loops found on the Big Sky Golf Course’s trail system in Meadow Village. Both are beginner-friendly with minimal elevation change, and they connect to several other trails, allowing you to extend or shorten your ski depending on how you’re feeling.

The best part of my exploration of these trails is that I skied them during a full moon. The entire golf course was lit with moonlight and several small groups of skiers were out on the trail system enjoying the natural beauty of this special evening. I would recommend this experience to any skier, from novice to expert. Something about the moonlight cast across the snow, Lone Mountain lit up in the sky, and the swish of a hard crusted and beautifully groomed trail made the evening unforgettable.

Beginning on the Silverbow Trail, I started on Black Otter Road, directly across from the Meadow Village Center and headed east towards Highway 64. After a short distance the trail curves west. You’ll ski along for 2.5 kilometers with Lone Peak towering in front of you. After 2.5 kilometers, you’ll reach an intersection that leads to Bunker Loop Trail. I continued straight to Yellowstone Loop for an additional 1.8 kilometers.

The Yellowstone Loop curves toward the west and brings you to an intersection. If you turn left at this intersection, you’ll cross over the West Fork of the South Fork of the Gallatin River on a small wooden

bridge with the option of continuing to Moose Alley. I traveled straight through the intersection and skied along the east edge of the river before looping back to Silverbow Trail. I then followed Silverbow Trail back the same way I came, returning to Black Otter Road.



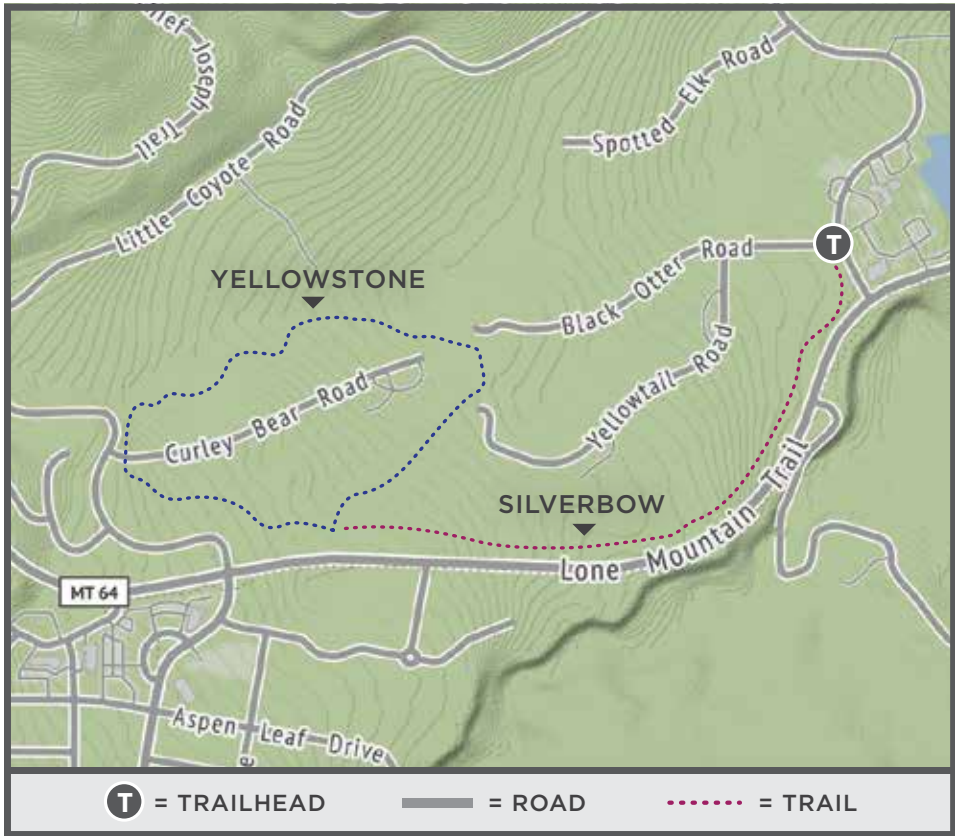
Alexis Deaton demonstrates balance and flexibility on the cross-country trail system located on the Big Sky Golf Course. PHOTO BY TOM NOLAN

We came across a moose munching on some willows near the river during our ski, so be wildlife aware and keep your eyes out for moose at all times.






For those visitors or residents who are not able to access the Nordic trail system via their home or lodging accommodations, parking can be found in the Meadow Village Center, the commercial shopping area located along Little Coyote Road. Excellent local restaurants and shops are nestled within Meadow Village, along with Lone Peak Brewery, known for its après scene. Public parking and restrooms are available at the Big Sky Community Park and ski trails connect directly from the parking lot to the golf course trail system.

Please respect the no dog policy on these trails and make sure to pick up your annual season pass or day pass from Lone Mountain Ranch, Grizzly Outfitters, the Hungry Moose, Gallatin Alpine Sports or East Slope Outdoors. All proceeds from pass sales go toward the cost of grooming our winter Nordic trail system. For a complete map of Big Sky’s 85 kilometers of groomed Nordic trails, visit lonemountainranch.com/winter-things-to-do/nordic-skiing.

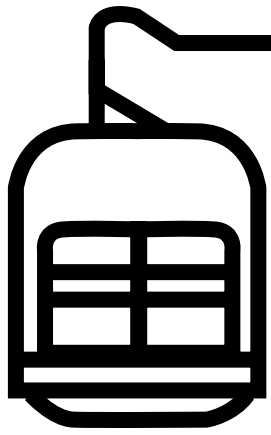
For more information about Big Sky’s parks, trails and recreation programs, visit bscomt.org. The Big Sky Community Organization is a local nonprofit that connects people to recreational opportunities by acquiring, promoting and preserving sustainable places and programs for all.



TRAIL STATS

 Distance	 Uses	 Difficulty	 Elevation Gain	 Surface
Silverbow 2.5K, Yellowstone 1.8K Total: 6.8K	cross-country skiing, wildlife viewing	Easy	None	both skate and classic groomed trails

Directions: From Gallatin Canyon, turn onto Highway 64/Lone Mountain Trail. After approximately 2.5 miles, turn right on Little Coyote Road. Parking is located in Meadow Village Center, your first right off of Little Coyote—or at the Big Sky Community Park, 1 mile farther. From the mountain, travel east on Highway 64 toward Gallatin Canyon. Drive 8 miles until you pass Town Center and take your next left onto Little Coyote Road.



WORD FROM THE RESORTS

Giving you the news directly from the region's top ski resorts



BY CHELSI MOY
BIG SKY RESORT PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

Big Sky Resort is thrilled to receive No. 2 for best ski terrain in Ski magazine's "Best of the West," a reader survey of the top 50 resorts in North America. That must explain why our legs hurt, because when the snow falls—which it has nonstop—you want to ski every inch of the mountain. It's too good to stop!

Also, there are a number of great events coming up at the resort.

The Snowshoe Shuffle is our favorite four-legged-friend event of the season. Bring your snowshoes and your doggies (or a friend's!) to the Madison Village Base Area on March 4 for a torch-lit snowshoe hike, après chili dinner and a raffle. The event is a fundraiser for the Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. Get exercise, enjoy the evening sky and treat your best furry companion with a hike up Big Sky Resort.

The following weekend is the Headwater's IFSA Junior Freeride competition on Saturday, March 11 and Sunday, March 12. Watch the best 12- to 18-year-olds ski their hearts out at the biggest inbound freeride competition in the Rocky Mountains. These kids hold nothing back, so don't miss them hucking and hauling down the terrain on the Headwaters Ridge.

Speaking of stellar performance, the Shedhorn SkiMo is right around the corner. March 18, watch endurance ski athletes skin up Lone Peak (over the summit twice!) and descend some of the steepest terrain at Big Sky Resort. This ski mountaineering race, now in its third year, is sure to wow even the fittest folks out there. Come cheer these participants on!

BY DAVID JOHNSON
MARKETING AT JACKSON HOLE
MOUNTAIN RESORT



This may be a new edition of EBS, but it's just more of the same from us here at Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. Our season to remember continues here in northwest Wyoming and Mother Nature doesn't seem to have an end in sight. Over the last two weeks we've added an additional 44 inches to our snowfall total and as of Feb. 25, we stand at 478 inches for the season. We've officially surpassed our typical annual snowfall of 449 inches. This continues to be the deepest snowpack to date for JHMR.

Although it doesn't seem like spring lies ahead, it does—and we're excited to announce another year of our famous Music Under the Tram lineup. Beginning March 4 and running every Saturday through the end of the season, we'll have local talent playing the tunes from 3-6 p.m. This tradition has turned into a local favorite and there isn't a better way to spend a potentially (you never know...) sunny day après-ing into the sunset!

The biggest remaining date on the JHMR calendar looms in March, when the Rendezvous Spring Festival returns and the Zac Brown Band headlines it once again. The weekend of March 18 will bring acts such as Jamestown Revival, Samantha Fish, Yonder Mountain String Band and Iratton to the Teton. Most of these concerts are free, except for the Yonder Mountain String Band and the Zac Brown Band show on Saturday, March 18.

For tickets and other questions, check out jacksonhole.com/rendezvous.

BY JENNIE WHITE
GRAND TARGHEE RESORT MARKETING & SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER



March has arrived and you'll find incredible conditions here in the Teton. Along with powder-filled days and warmer weather, you'll also enjoy great live music at the Trap Bar & Grill. Every Tuesday, you can take the stage and show off your musical skills at the White Lightning Open Mic Night.

This month, One Ton Pig, The Cadillacs, Greenneck Daredevils, Highland Country Allstars, The Hooligans, Clusterpluck and The Last Revel will perform at the Trap.

This month you'll also find some great mountain events like the Terrain Park Takeover on March 11, the International Freeskiers and Snowboarders Association (IFSA) Junior National Freeskiing Open on March 16-19, the Knowledge is Powder camp March 17-19, the IFSA National U12 Championships March 24-26, and the Rubber Legs Banked Slalom March 25.

While snow is still on our mind, we're also excited for the 30th annual Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival, Aug. 11-13. This year's lineup includes The Infamous Stringdusters, Sam Bush Band, Railroad Earth, Greensky Bluegrass, Tim O'Brien Band, Del McCoury Band, Peter Rowan, Darrel Scott, Travelin' McCourys and more! Tickets are now on sale at early pricing.

Until then, it's still winter, so get out and enjoy your turns!

Visit grandtarghee.com for more information.



BY DENISE WADE
LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH DIRECTOR OF GUEST OPERATIONS

Welcome back to winter!

A huge thank you and shout out to all the participants, volunteers and local sponsors who made the Mad Wolf Winter Relay on Feb. 27 a success! The course was a fast one and Team Riverhouse claimed the overall winning time with a 31:34 finish. That's skiing Hangman's, running to Low Dog Road, skate skiing the Middle Fork and fat biking to LMR—wow! Lots of fun was had by all and look for the third annual Mad Wolf Winter Relay in 2018.

We are in the snow cycle again with consistent powder making the cross-country skiing fabulous. Skate skiing is firm and fast and perfect for getting terrific glide. Classic skiing is wonderful also, especially through the forest along Walkin' Jim's Trail.

The week of Feb. 27, opened an additional 10 kilometers of trails for fat biking. Come enjoy fat biking on Creekside, Carlin's Cruise and Nature Trail, in addition to fat bike trails in Town Center and on Far East in Meadow Village. Stop by the LMR Outdoor Shop for a trail pass and current conditions.

As the days get longer, the birds, moose, elk and other animals are really moving around. Elk have been enjoying the packed snowshoe trails and can often be seen early in the morning on Bullwinkle's Trail. Listen for chickadees, pine siskins, finches and junks as you ski. Robins and mountain bluebirds will likely be appearing the middle of the month, along with red-tailed hawks. We've also been seeing lots of different tracks on our backcountry tours into Yellowstone's wilderness and piecing together the clues that tell the wildlife story.

During March and April, Lone Mountain Ranch will be hosting a Rocco Winery dinner, a National Geographic Wolf week and the Glide and Gorge fundraiser for Ophir School.

Call (406) 995-4734 or email shop@lonemountainranch.com for more information.



Bridger Bowl escaped the donut hole plaguing the ski area this winter, when the last weekend of February brought a three-day storm total of 37 inches. “The deepest snow I’ve ever skied!” was a common refrain in lift lines and during après ski throughout the weekend. The storm cycle brought the settled base depth over 5 feet, setting up prime conditions heading into March.

On March 4, Bridger hosts the 36th annual Pinhead Classic, a telemark skiing celebration and fundraiser for the Friends of the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center, Gallatin County Search and Rescue, and KGLT public radio station.

The following weekend brings the inaugural Slushy Slalom, a banked slalom down the natural gully below Slushman’s Ravine. Snowboarders will compete Saturday, March 11, and skiers race on March 12. Each day there will be a mandatory competitors’ meeting at 8 a.m. in the Jim Bridger Lodge, followed by a 10 a.m. course inspection and 11 a.m. race start. – *Tyler Allen*

Visit bridgerbowl.com for more information.



PHOTO BY BEN NOBEL

Local skiers and riders rejoiced the last weekend of February when a sneaker 3-foot storm pounded Bridger Bowl. The “white room” was in full effect, rewarding Bridger enthusiasts who had endured a relatively dry winter until this storm cycle rolled in.



PHOTO BY GUY ALSENTZER



PHOTO BY GUY ALSENTZER





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THE EDDY Line



BY PATRICK STRAUB
EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

John Gierach, the man most often credited with coining the trout bum term and exemplifying the lifestyle, once said in order to be a trout bum one has to be well over 50 and have gone through several relationships with most ending with the trout bum choosing a day fishing over a day walking in the park and holding hands.

I'm paraphrasing here of course, but Gierach nailed it—a trout bum is dedicated to pursuing trout above all else, including most things necessary for modern-day living, things like Facebook, a smart phone, skinny jeans and double-tall lattes. The true modern-day trout bums I know have none of these. They're on the water fishing while the rest of us are updating our status or emoji-ing.

Here's a peek at what their world looks like during winter. They are a dying breed, but enough still exist for a glimpse before they are gone forever.

7:32 a.m. Still soundly asleep.

8:46 a.m. Still asleep, yet not so soundly.

9:13 a.m. Awake, with both feet firmly on the ground. With a groggy head from a few too many IPAs last night, the coffee brewing starts. Hot coffee is poured into yesterday's mug, which was found underneath a pile of fly-tying material.

9:26 a.m. Sits down at the dining room table/fly tying bench/wader repair bench/only table in the apartment to tie two dozen flies for the day. What takes the lay person half of an hour takes our Trout Bum eight minutes. A dozen perfectly tied Pat's Rubberlegs and a dozen fire-bead Czech nymphs sit in a cleaned-out Copenhagen tin. In a few hours, these fresh flies will be immersed in the water of the Gallatin River.

9:34 a.m. Two Pop-Tarts spring into action out of the toaster.

10:57 a.m. Trout Bum pulls onto Highway 191, but before pulling out takes one hand and lowers the rod tips protruding from the back of the car, allowing any oncoming traffic to come into view. Half of a dozen rod tips venturing into the space between the driver seat and passenger seat, most of which are tandem nymph rigs with strike indicators and sinking lines with large woolly buggers, create an obvious obstruction.

11:07 a.m. Walks into the local fly shop. Our Trout Bum knows everyone by name and asks the staff a few questions, but already knows the answers. After thumbing a few of the latest rods and reels and calculating how many packets of ramen noodles they'd cost, Trout Bum heads out.

11:43 a.m. Now on the Gallatin River and fishing a tandem nymph rig on a 9-foot leader with 18 inches of 4X Fluorocarbon tied to the end it, our Trout Bum has landed four rainbows, two browns, and a few whitefish in 4 to 6 feet of water at the top of a deeper pool. On the end of the 4X is tied a size 12 coffee and black Pat's Rubberlegs. Off the bend of that hook is a size 16 fire-bead Czech nymph.

12:36 p.m. Heads back to the car and drives to another location on the Gallatin.

A day in the life of a Big Sky trout bum

Sexy or not? It's in the eye of the 'beerholder'

1:27 p.m. While eating half of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and watching for trout, a few splashy rises are spotted. The tandem nymph rig is clipped off. Twenty-four inches of 5X Rio Suppleflex are added to the 9-foot leader. A size 20 Griffith's Gnat dry fly doused with a liquid floatant is tied onto the leader.

1:31 p.m. After seven perfect but unsuccessful drifts with the Griffith's Gnat, Trout Bum switches to a size 22 Parachute Adams, to no avail. A size 18 Brook's Spout with a size 20 Flash-Bang emerger is then tied on. Third time's a charm and fish are caught.

2:23 p.m. Our Trout Bum is beginning to think about taking a nap. If it were summer, a streamside nap would happen soon and waking time would occur in time for the evening caddis hatch.

3:07 p.m. After fishing a few more runs and fooling a dozen or so more trout with the dry fly and emerger rig, it's back to the truck.

3:48 p.m. Back at the house, our Trout Bum has tied a dozen Flash-Bang



Trout Bums exists in every angling community. What constitutes a "trout bum" is subjective, but foregoing responsibility to spend more time on the water is a given. Spending more time in your waders than other attire is also important. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

emergers and settles onto the couch for a nap. A big snow is forecast for the night, so tomorrow could be a powder day and rest is required.

Gierach wrote "God must have invented fly fishing to keep old hippies from getting rich or ruling the world." As I've seen after 20-plus years in this business, Trout Bums are harder to find and fly fishing has become commercialized with many going into this business for profit more than lifestyle. For those anglers who embrace the lifestyle over the amount of black in the bottom line, we salute you. And the ramen noodles are on us.

Pat Straub is the co-founder of the Montana Fishing Guide School and the author of six books, including "The Frugal Fly Fisher," "Montana on the Fly," and "Everything you always wanted to Know About Fly Fishing." He and his wife own Gallatin River Guides in Big Sky and he co-owns Montana Fishing Outfitters.

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Missing skier rescued in Grand Teton National Park

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

A missing skier was rescued after spending two nights in the backcountry of Grand Teton National Park after exiting a backcountry gate leaving Jackson Hole Mountain Resort in Jackson, Wyoming.

Two skiers were reported overdue by friends at approximately 7 p.m. Feb. 20, when they did not return from skiing at the resort. The men were identified as 30-year old Chris Prem from Destin, Florida, and 31-year old Mike Syverson from Telluride, Colorado.

The emergency call to 911 prompted a conference call with Teton County Sheriff's Office, Teton County Search and Rescue, and Grand Teton National Park to initiate a search for the men. Information to help determine a search area was very limited, other than it was believed the men planned to exit the resort and ski the nearby backcountry. At approximately 10 p.m. the Teton County Sheriff's Office successfully got a cell phone ping to help determine that the missing skiers were in the Granite Canyon area of Grand Teton National Park.

Due to avalanche danger and darkness, resources were gathered to begin an aerial and ground search for early the next morning.

At approximately 1:30 a.m. Feb. 21, a resort tram operator spending the night near the top of the tram was awakened by one of the missing skiers, Prem. An emergency call was made to alert rescue personnel. Prem was uninjured and communicated that he had separated from Syverson because he had gear that would allow him to travel back to the summit for help. He also had a GPS coordinate from a phone app that could help to locate his friend.

Park rangers and resort ski patrol personnel interviewed Prem at approximately 7:30 a.m. atop the mountain to gather information to assist in locating Syverson. Four park rangers skied into Granite Canyon to begin the search and found no signs.

Weather conditions were extreme, including 50-60 mph winds with gusts up to 80 mph and heavy snowfall. Due to the extreme weather and increased avalanche

conditions, at approximately noon the Jackson Hole Mountain Resort closed for the safety of their staff and guests.

The park rangers searching for the missing skier also returned due to deteriorating conditions and increased avalanche danger. They remained near the top of the tram waiting for conditions to improve. As conditions worsened, search personnel returned to the base of the resort. Aerial search efforts were called off throughout the day due to unsafe flying conditions.

The Wyoming Civil Air Patrol was requested to provide a Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR) flight to help locate the missing skier, and early on the morning of Feb. 22 the search resumed in the Granite Canyon area, and the Teton County Search and Rescue helicopter conducted an aerial reconnaissance of the area. At approximately 8 a.m. the missing skier was visually located from the aerial flight near Cardiac Ridge. The helicopter inserted park rangers and county personnel about a quarter-mile from the individual. The rescue personnel skied to Syverson's location and evaluated him for injuries and transport out of the backcountry.

At approximately 10:15 a.m. Syverson was flown to the Teton County Search and Rescue hangar and transported to St. John's Medical Center in Jackson for a thorough medical evaluation and treatment for cold-related conditions.

"We are joyous on the outcome of this search and rescue operation, and that Mr. Prem and Mr. Syverson are safe and able to return to their family and friends," Grand Teton National Park Superintendent David Vela said. He also expressed his pride in the rescuers and the cooperation with Teton County Sheriff's Office, Teton County Search and Rescue and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort to successfully execute a search and rescue operation with unforgiving terrain and challenging weather and avalanche conditions. "Rescue personnel safety is a priority in each and every incident."

Park rangers remind skiers to "Know Before You Go" and be well prepared for any backcountry adventure, always let someone know your planned route and estimated return time. Recreationists should have some familiarity with the terrain they wish to enjoy.

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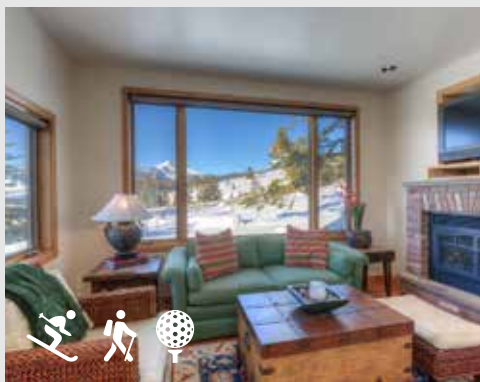
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Ski tips: Feet together back in style

BY DAN EGAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

What is old is new again, and skiing with your legs together is back in style. Wide or “fat” skis have brought us many benefits and they’ve made more of the mountain accessible to more skiers. When it comes to skiing powder, cut-up snow and steeps, fat skis are magical.

However it’s important to keep in mind that as ski technology changes so must our ski technique.

Wide skis are not skied like the “shaped skis” of the mid-90s. When shaped skis came onto the scene our skiing stance changed, widening our feet and requiring 60 percent of pressure on the downhill ski and 40 percent pressure on the uphill ski. All over North America instructors and coaches were chanting, “Get your feet further apart!”

The second part of the shaped-ski technique revolution was, “Don’t stand up, keep your hips low, and move them forward and through the turn.”

But that was then and this is now—times have changed and so has ski shape. If you’re on skis that are 94 millimeters or wider underfoot, bringing your feet together and standing tall in transition will benefit you by yielding smoother turns, more control and less fatigue.

When your feet are wider apart in a more traditional stance, you’ve probably experienced some leg wobble as you finish your turns, usually with the inside leg. This wobble is a direct result of a wide ski and its surface area overwhelming your body position. Not only is this inefficient, it can also drain the energy from your legs.

Wide skis provide a large amount of surface area under your body causing your skis to shoot out in front of your body at the end of the turn. I call this the “inside leg wobble” because the amount of surface area has overwhelmed the uphill leg when your hips are “aft” of your inside foot.

To correct this, simply let your inside ski slide close together to the downhill ski and stand tall during this process. Combining the width of the two skis will create a wide and stable platform, and as you stand tall you will have the leverage to take advantage of the surface area under your body.

You may have also noticed the wobble while you’re coasting on cat tracks and during this traditional time of rest the wobbling makes your legs tired. Again, this is a result of the amount of surface area under your feet.

Remember to stand tall and make slight snakelike turns from edge to edge. This will engage the skis, and by creating edge pressure you will have more control and not have to work as hard.

Skiing with your feet closer together and standing tall will reduce fatigue and increase control. Remember to bring your feet together at the end of the turn for smoother turns. For “old school” skiers like me, this is the best news of all: it’s finally cool again to ski with your feet together.

Extreme skiing pioneer Dan Egan has appeared in 12 Warren Miller Ski films and countless others. Today he teaches clinics and guides trips at locations around the world including Big Sky, where he’ll be teaching March 2-4 and March 9-11, and throughout the season (contact Big Sky Mountain Sports for availability). Find more ski tips from Dan Egan at skiclinics.com/education/skitips.

A version of this article first appeared in the Dec. 22, 2015 issue of Explore Big Sky.



Dan Egan demonstrates how keeping your feet together while skiing is back in style. PHOTO BY JEN BENNETT/RUMBLE PRODUCTIONS

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BIG SKY BEATS

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 a powder day, we’ve got you covered.

March is Women’s History Month. While there’s an extensive list of inspirational women figures in my life, I’ve decided to narrow it down to those in the music industry, both past and present, whose songs have impacted me.

Peggy Lee, my favorite female artist, was a popular jazz musician during the 1940s. Her witty lyrics, powerful vocals and “American sweetheart” appearance made her unforgettable. Aside from singing, she was also a composer, writer, actress and businesswoman. Her ability to express her talents in a variety of fields while remaining true to herself inspires me to do the same with my creativity.

Below is a list of my favorite female artists:

1. “Night and Day,” Ella Fitzgerald
2. “Tears Dry on Their Own,” Amy Winehouse
3. “Remedy,” Adele
4. “Highs and Lows,” Emeli Sande
5. “Why Don’t You Do Right,” Peggy Lee
6. “Four Pink Walls,” Alessia Cara
7. “Wild Horses,” Birdy
8. “Side by Side,” Kay Starr
9. “It Gonna Come,” Melody Gardot
10. “Chain of Fools,” Aretha Franklin

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

American Life in Poetry: Column 623

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Here’s a poem by John Stanizzi, who lives in Connecticut, in which we get a good look inside middle-school culture in the 1960s. But is it really any different today? This poet’s most recent book is “Hallelujah Time!” (Big Table Publishing, 2015).

Cry To Me
By John Stanizzi

We walked through some heartache in ‘62.
Gary liked Teresa but Teresa
asked Elizabeth to tell Peter that
she really wanted to go out with him
but Peter had been making out with Jane
in the theater, celebrating their
one month anniversary, so that was
out, and even though Jane broke up with Pete,
Peter kept asking Gail to talk with Jane
which Gail wouldn’t do because she’d told
Brenda that she thought that Peter was cute
but Brenda wasn’t listening to a word,
wrapped up in lonely teardrops shed for Greg.
The waters of 8th grade were never still.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright © 2016 by John Stanizzi, “Cry To Me,” (2016). Poem reprinted by permission of John Stanizzi. Introduction copyright © 2017 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction’s author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Act

5 Decorated wall part

9 Hindu title

12 Always

13 Equal

14 Coal scuttle

15 Kora

17 Wood sorrel

18 Strain

19 Gag

20 Cat genus

23 Revolver

24 Irish exclamation

25 Cob (2 words)

30 Ten (pref.)

31 Muslim prayer

32 Bantu language

33 Evergreen shrub

35 Afr. gazelle

36 To be

announced (abbr.)

37 Become dim

38 Sandbox tree

40 Fact

43 Chin. plant

44 Tutor of Alexander

48 Edomite city

49 Andes plateau

50 Salt

51 Old (Ger.)

52 Elbe tributary

53 Togs

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	A	A	M		A	Q	U	A		M	A	A	
O	L	E	O		B	U	L	B		A	B	B	
A	B	O	U		P	A	N	I	C	K	E	D	
T	A	N	S	Y				A	D	Z	E		
				S	A	N	A		E	A	V	E	S
B	E	V	E	R	A	G	E			R	O	C	K
A	L	A			D	U	N	C	E		I	H	I
F	A	R	M		T	U	R	A	N	D	O	T	
T	H	I	E	F		S	U	S	A				
		A	D	A	D			E	G	E	S	T	
H	A	B	I	T	U	A	L			A	G	H	A
A	W	L			A	D	A	T		N	A	I	S
B	E	E			L	E	A	D		A	L	A	S

DOWN

1 Small number

2 Stowe character

3 At the age of (Lat.)

4 Quaking

5 Tenth part

6 Time period

7 Physicians, for short

8 Little (suf.)

9 Miss (2 words)

10 Sway

11 Scientific name (suf.)

16 Eth. title

19 Man's name: abbr.

20 Port. folk tune

21 Noble (Ger.)

22 Cisco (2 words)

23 Come down with

25 Angry

26 Pub fare

27 Malay gibbon

28 Crimean river

29 Dravidian language

31 Snow (Scot.)

34 Camel hair cloth

35 Nut

37 Except

38 Athabaskan language

39 Hereditary property

40 Narcotic

41 Senior (Fr.)

42 Russ. despot

44 Monkey

45 Greek letter

46 Liquid crystal display (abbr.)

47 Loop trains

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19

20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32

33 34 35

36 37

38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50

51 52 53

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A72

DOG OF THE MONTH

BREED:

Bernese Mountain Dog

AGE:

5 years old

OWNER:

Hilary Robbins

LIKES:

Cross country skiing the poop shoot, bacon, cuddles, swimming, hiking, snow, belly rubs

DISLIKES:

The vet & hot weather

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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”

Ice dam removal

BY DUSTY DAWS
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

While springtime is right around the corner, most Montanans know all too well that we’ll still see freezing weather in the coming weeks. Ice dams can be a huge problem during the spring months, especially in vacation or second homes, which are often left unobserved or unmanaged.

Ice dams occur when the temperature in your attic is above freezing, causing snow on the roof to melt. When the snowmelt runs down the



Ice dams often develop this time of year as daily melt-freeze cycles become more common. If left alone, ice dams can allow water to seep into the attic of a home, resulting in wood rot. CC PHOTO

roof and hits the colder eaves it can freeze, especially if the outside temperature drops into the 20s. If this cycle repeats over several days (daily temperature swings are common in the spring), the freezing snowmelt builds up and forms a dam of ice.

Like all good functioning dams, water becomes trapped and creates ponds—except this time, the pond is on your roof. The settled water can then seep underneath the roof and into the attic or along exterior walls. This can cause wood rot and severe damage, and lead to costly repairs.

You can prevent ice dams by following these relatively simple steps:

- Prevent warm air infiltrating from downstairs into the attic by using appropriate insulation and a dehumidifier to control water vapor.
- Seal all openings that allow warm air to seep through the ceiling, especially fans and light fixtures that have multiple small holes.
- Provide good attic ventilation to replace warm air in the attic with cold air outside. Research shows keeping the air in the attic below freezing when the outside air is in the low 20s F can prevent ice dams.

- Invest in a “roof rake,” a long broom that allows you to pull snow from your roof and prevent accumulation.
- Consult a professional for the best way to avoid ice dams at your home.
- Most importantly, confirm your home insurance covers water damage from ice dams.

Avoid the quick fix! If you’re like me, you’re thinking about taking matters into your own hands. Don’t drag your ladder out of the garage, climb up onto your snow and ice covered roof and start chipping away. Not only will you cause damage to your roof, you’ll put yourself at undue risk.

- Do not install large mechanical equipment or water heaters in the attics, these increase the temperature in your attic and are fire hazards.
- Do not use salt or calcium chloride to melt snow. These chemicals are corrosive and can damage gutters, downspouts and flashing. Runoff laced with these chemicals can cause damage to nearby grass and plants as well.
- Keeping gutters clean will not necessarily prevent ice dams, but may keep them from overflowing and spilling rainwater next to the house.

Visit statefarm.com or call (406) 586-0084 for ice dam questions or to check about your insurance coverage.

Dusty Daws is a State Farm Agent in Bozeman, with more than seven years of insurance experience in the Big Sky and Bozeman market. A Bozeman native and former All-American for Montana State University’s football team, Daws serves southwest Montana, helping families recover from the unexpected and plan for their future.

A version of this story first appeared in the May 2, 2014 issue of Explore Big Sky.

RECYCLE



Enjoy our publication and please remember to recycle.

Section 4: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BSF presents two March screenings pg. 53

Intuition workshops come to Big Sky pg. 59

Mountaineer legends speak at MSU pg. 61



Kevin Red Star

Preserving cultural integrity through art

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

ROBERTS, Mont. – Behind an unassuming storefront on a pot-holed side street in a blink-and-you’ll-miss-it town north of Red Lodge is the grand studio and private gallery of one of the nation’s preeminent Native American artists, Kevin Red Star.

Inside, the walls are adorned with the largest number of Red Star originals amassed in one place. These works—portraits and scenes depicting traditional Crow life with a contemporary, stylized aesthetic—are part of the artist’s personal collection and while not available for sale are often lent out for museum exhibitions.

Their quiet power evokes a hush. One knows they are beholding something visually arresting but senses that the full extent of their significance might prove forever elusive. A similar aura surrounds the humble artist himself.

Red Star’s daughter and artist assistant, Sunny Red Star, guides me to a cavernous warehouse space adjacent to the foyer, where Red Star stands before two large works in progress, paintbrush in hand.

One of them was inspired by a photograph taken of a Crow man by the prolific Edward S. Curtis in the late 1800s. Red Star was captivated by the stark tonal contrast when he came across the image and is reimagining it freehand with graphite and diluted acrylics, although most of his recent work is in oils.

Although still in its early phases, it is already “distinctively Kevin.” His style defies rigid categorization—a single painting may combine impressionistic, realistic

and design elements—but as Sunny said, “you know when you have a Red Star.” You should also know that the utmost attention and care has been spent on the rendering of every detail.

“I try to be as accurate as possible when portraying Crow designs,” said Red Star, who takes his role as a visual historian with great responsibility. He spends as much time researching his people’s culture in libraries and museums and studying artifacts as he does painting. “If I am painting a Crow teepee—it has to be all Crow. The design, the dress, the hairstyles, it all has to be taken into consideration. I am portraying who we are, like in a book, like a photograph—in doing so it keeps that integrity there for the young people.”

Although Red Star and his work have travelled the globe—his paintings have permanent homes in all the major museums of Western art including the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian—and the artist has a second residence in Santa Fe, he cannot stray too far, for too long, from his Crow roots.

Growing up in Lodge Grass, Red Star had never been more than 50 miles from the reservation until he was 16 when, having demonstrated artistic talent, he was recruited to be among the inaugural high school class of the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe in 1962.

“I didn’t know where it was going to take me but I loved what I was doing. Even back then,” Red Star said.

IAIA provided an immersive, comprehensive art education and the tools, encouragement and instruction to launch a lifelong career in the arts. Today Red Star is recognized as the first professional artist to emerge from the Crow people. He lived and worked in New Mexico, California and New York, and traveled extensively abroad before returning to permanently reside near or on the reservation in 1987.

“I miss it when I’m too far away,” said Red Star. “I’m family oriented. I gotta have the mountains and my rivers ... the Yellowstone, Big Horn and Arrow Creek.” In times when work and life have taken him for extended periods elsewhere, he would seek out ceremonies, sweat lodges, pow wows or drum circles for a fix of the traditional and culturally familiar.

Red Star still generates a childlike enthusiasm for the arts. Painting has enabled him to find personal satisfaction and pure enjoyment while serving a larger purpose. His advice to anyone with a dream—artistic or otherwise—is to stay true, whatever the pursuit, and remain dedicated.

“It’s like being a scientist,” Red Star said. “It all pays off in the end if you’ve found something that can help all of humanity—like my art. It teaches and gives to the young people of the world, not just the Crow or Native Americans but to all indigenous people everywhere.”

This is the second part of a three-part series spotlighting artists participating in the Arts Council of Big Sky’s fifth annual art auction on Thursday, March 23 at Moonlight Lodge from 6 to 9 p.m.

To see more of Red Star’s work visit kevinredstar.com or visit Creighton Block Gallery in Big Sky.

For more information about the auction, including details about opportunities for VIP ticket holders to meet Red Star at an artist luncheon and reception, call (406) 995-2742 or visit bigskyarts.org, where you can view a full catalog of artists featured in the auction.



Esteemed Crow artist Kevin Red Star at work in his Roberts, Montana studio. Red Star will participate in the Arts Council of Big Sky Fifth Annual Auction for the Arts on March 23. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

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Four down, four to go

At midseason WMPAC reports record attendance for 2017 winter performances

EBS STAFF

The Warren Miller Performing Arts Center prides itself on providing novel, unique experiences to its audiences. But this season, there's one feature of WMPAC shows that's becoming almost ordinary: the crowds.

The Center passes the halfway point in their 2017 winter season with the sold-out Reggie Watts performance on March 3. John Zirkle, WMPAC's artistic director, expects record ticket sales to continue for the remaining three performances of the season.

Single-performance events early in the season such as Rhythmic Circus and Roomful of Teeth sold out; and two-show performances of "The Winter's Tale" and by illusionist Mike Super have come close, "shattering ticket sales from past seasons," according to Zirkle.



Japanese pianist-composer Hiromi and The Trio Project make Big Sky a stop on their global tour on Friday, March 10. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WARREN MILLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER "Mike Super was actually our highest attendance ever," Zirkle said, adding that, as another WMPAC landmark, the Watts performance has been sold out for two months, with the first significant waiting list in the center's history.

"My sense is people have now put getting their tickets for WMPAC on their calendar," he said. "They've come to trust that they want to see what we are offering, and there is much less of that behavior of waiting to decide if they have a conflict, or if they really want to attend."

The final three shows of the season—a Friday, March 10 performance by The Trio Project, an internationally-renowned ensemble led by jazz pianist Hiromi; the return of James Sewell Ballet on Saturday, March 18; and a one-man, bluegrass-infused original theater production based on Moby Dick on Saturday, March 25—are likely to generate full houses as well.

Pianist-composer Hiromi is the latest in a line of talented Japanese musicians. Ever since the release of her 2003 debut album "Another Mind," the musician has electrified audiences and critics around

Continued on pg. 51

Continued from pg. 50

the world with a creative energy that encompasses and eclipses the boundaries of jazz, classical and pop parameters, but defies definition.

WMPAC had to arrange a special deal that tied together shippers, piano representatives and specialized tuners from Montana to California to bring Hiromi's Yamaha CFIIIS, which retails for over \$100,000, to this mountain stage.

Hiromi's new album "Spark"—her 10th as a band leader—features the critically acclaimed Trio Project, completed by contrabass guitarist Anthony Jackson, who has played with the likes of Steely Dan and Paul Simon; and Simon Phillips, former drummer of Toto and The Who.

No less complicated than importing Hiromi's piano, Phillips' specialized drum kit also has to be shipped in specially and will take at least three hours to set up—unheard of in WMPAC technical history.

Big Sky has become something of a home away from home for the Minnesota-based James Sewell Ballet. Returning to WMPAC for their 8th performance, Sewell will present a new ballet set to Mendelssohn's "Octet for Strings in E-flat Major Op. 20" which was conceived in Big Sky last summer during the Twin Sky Dance Intensive, part of the Big Sky Conservatory program.



For the second act, be prepared to be taken into completely

new territory with "Killer Pig," which provides a glimpse into the minimalistic, intensely honest and uncompromisingly physical origins of the L-E-V dance company founded by Israel's Sharon Eyal and Gai Behar. Together, both acts demonstrate the company's ability to synthesize classical ballet with unpredictable combinations and a relentless taste for adventure.

Tickets are still available for both of these upcoming performances.

"Ultimately, we are a small theater in a small community so even when we sell out, the experience feels easy and intimate," Zirkle said. "And all of our seats are great."

Learn more about the upcoming shows at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center and find tickets at warrenmillerpac.org.

An evening with James Sewell Ballet has become a tradition since their debut performance on the WMPAC stage, pictured here, in 2013. James Sewell Ballet returns to Big Sky on Saturday, March 18 to deliver two diverse acts of dance. PHOTO BY ANNA MIDDLETON

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Bozeman Film Society presents two March screenings 'Dream Big' and '20th Century Women' come to The Ellen

BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

On Saturday, March 4 at 2 and 5 p.m. at The Ellen Theatre, Bozeman Film Society opens its 2017 Science on Screen series with a free screening of the visually spectacular "Dream Big: Engineering Our World."

"Dream Big" is the first film of its kind to promote the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) movement. Told through the eyes of four engineers, "Dream Big" takes viewers on a journey of discovery, from the world's tallest building and a bridge higher than the clouds to a solar car race across Australia, underwater robots and smart, sustainable cities in a celebration of human ingenuity.

Directed by two-time Academy Award-nominee MacGillivray Freeman, and narrated by Montana's own Academy Award-winning actor Jeff Bridges, this all-ages event is a unique opportunity to turn kids on to science and engineering. "I am a believer in encouraging our youth to make a difference in the world, and 'Dream Big' encourages young people to do just that," Bridges said.

Both "Dream Big" screenings will open with "The Art of Problem Solving," a lively introduction by KLJ Engineer Shari Eslinger, Vice-President of American Society of Civil Engineers Montana Section, and Dr. Michael Berry of the Montana State University Civil Engineering Department.

Eslinger and Berry will shed light on how much the everyday pieces of your life are affected by the innovation of an engineer, and will share their personal stories of what it means to be an engineer. After both screenings, join MSU engineering students upstairs in the Ellen Theatre ballroom for fun hands-on projects. Attendees can also check out an award-winning robot built for the NASA Robotic Mining Competition.

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, BFS presents the warmly comedic film, "20th Century Women," starring Annette Bening, at The Ellen Theatre. Set in Santa Barbara, "20th Century Women" follows Dorothea

Fields, a determined single mother in her mid-50s who is raising her adolescent son, Jamie (Lucas Jade Zumann) at a moment brimming with cultural change and rebellion—1979.

Dorothea enlists the help of two younger women in Jamie's upbringing—Abbie (Greta Gerwig), a free-spirited punk artist living as a boarder in the Fields' home, and Julie (Elle Fanning), a savvy and provocative teenage neighbor.

The film is a poignant love letter to the people who raise us—and the times that form us—as this makeshift family forges fragile connections that will mystify and inspire them through their lives. Written and directed by Mike Mills ("Thumbsucker," "Beginners"), this film is a moving



'20th Century Women'—a comedic drama starring Annette Bening as a single mother in the late 70s—screens at The Ellen Theatre on Wednesday, March 15. PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

celebration of women as pioneers, protectors, and valuable role models, garnering Golden Globe nominations for Best Picture and Best Actress, as well as an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Screenplay.

Tickets for "20th Century Women" are available at theellentheatre.com or in person at the box office. Visit bozemanfilmsociety.org for more information.

'Evita' takes the stage at Shane Lalani Center for the Arts

SHANE LALANI CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Evita"—which brings to life the passionate persona of Eva Perón, wife of former Argentine dictator Juan Perón—opens at Livingston's Shane Lalani Center for the Arts' Dulcie Theatre on Friday, March 10 with weekend performances through Sunday, April 2.

The charismatic Evita captivated a nation by championing the working class. A community theater production led by director Russell Lewis, this exuberant performance creates a gripping theatrical experience, and

features Webber's compelling Latin, jazz, and pop-influenced score. One of the most popular collaborations between Webber and lyricist Tim Rice, "Evita" creates an arresting theatrical portrait as complex as the woman herself.

Performance times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m. from March 10 - April 2. Tickets are available at theshanecenter.org or by calling the box office at (406) 222-1420. The Dulcie Theatre at the Shane Lalani Center for the Arts is located at 415 East Lewis Street in Livingston.

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3 –
THURSDAY, MARCH 16**

***If your event falls between
March 17 and March 30,
please submit it by March 10**

Big Sky

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
Northern Division YSL Championships
Big Sky Resort, all day

K Pillz
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 7 p.m.

**Reggie Watts
WMPAC, 7:30 p.m.**

Laney Lou & The Bird Dogs
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Northern Division YSL Championships
Big Sky Resort, all day

Sego Ski Co. Demo Event
Big Sky Resort, all day

Matt Nunberg
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

Marvel, Mingle and Munch
Jack Creek Preserve, 10 a.m.

Snowshoe Shuffle
Madison Base Area, 6 p.m.

Live Music with A-Mac DZ
Lotus Pad, 10 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Northern Division YSL Championships
Big Sky Resort, all day

Stumpy Sunday
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

Adult Drop-In Hockey
Town Center Park, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 6
Prime Rib Monday
320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Kids Hockey
Town Center Park, 5:30 p.m.

Adult Drop-In Hockey
Town Center Park, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7
What's in your Drinking Water?
Big Sky Post Office, 11 a.m.

Community Learning Center
Big Sky Discovery Academy, 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9
Mark Davidson
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Community Learning Center
Big Sky Discovery Academy, 4 p.m.

Fly Tying with GRG
Gallatin River Guides, 5 p.m.

Parent & Teen Avalanche Level 1
Course
Big Sky Discovery Academy, 5 p.m.

Kids Hockey
Town Center Park, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Parent & Teen Avalanche Level 1
Course
Big Sky Resort, 8:30 a.m.

KP
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 7 p.m.

Hiroimi: The Trio Project
WMPAC, 7:30 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
Headwaters IFSA Junior Freeride
Madison Base Area, all day

Telemark Tom
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

Parent & Teen Avalanche Level 1
Course
Big Sky Resort, 8:30 a.m.

Live Music
Rainbow Ranch, 5 p.m.

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Headwaters IFSA Junior Freeride
Madison Base Area, all day

Stumpy Sunday
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 13
Prime Rib Monday
320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Kids Hockey
Town Center Park, 5:30 p.m.

Adult Drop-In Hockey
Town Center Park, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Community Learning Center
Big Sky Discovery Academy, 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15
Big Sky Chamber Board Meeting
Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 a.m.

Live Music
Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

**Intuition Workshop with
Elizabeth Thorson
Santosha Wellness
Center, 6:30 p.m.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 16
Western Region U16 Championships
Big Sky Resort, all day

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

Bozeman Spirits Tasting
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Mark Davidson
Scissorbills Saloon, 3:30 p.m.

Community Learning Center
Big Sky Discovery Academy, 4 p.m.
Business After Hours
Lone Mountain Ranch, 5 p.m.

Fly Tying with GRG
Gallatin River Guides, 5 p.m.

Kids Hockey
Town Center Park, 5:30 p.m.

Tom Marino
Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7 p.m.

Bozeman

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
Conserving Land & Protecting Water
in Gallatin County
Hilton Garden Inn, 8 a.m.

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

Andrew Gromiller & The Organically
Grown
Wild Joe's Coffee House, 6 p.m.

Transylvania Youth Dinner Theater
Hope Lutheran Church, 6 p.m.

Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

MSU Women's Basketball vs. Weber
State
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

Gift of Gab with Landon Wordswell
Cat's Paw, 7 p.m.

Bozeman Icedogs vs. Billings Bulls
Haynes Pavilion, 7:30 p.m.

Brothers Comatose
The Filling Station, 8 p.m.

Martin Sexton
The Ellen Theatre, 8 p.m.

Marjorie Prime
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

Comstock Lode
American Legion, 9 p.m.

The Mighty Flick
Eagles Ldoge, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Bozeman Winter Farmers Market
Emerson Ballroom, 9 a.m.

Scout Day 2017
Museum of the Rockies, 9 a.m.

Montana International Children's Film
Festival
Bozeman Public Library, 10 a.m.

Serving our Veterans
MSU Shroyer Gym, 1 p.m.

Silly Moose Improv Comedy
Verge Theater, 2 & 5 p.m.

Dream Big with Science on Screen
The Ellen Theatre, 2 p.m.

12th Annual Cody Dieruf Benefit
The Commons at Baxter and Love, 5 p.m.

Lazy Suzy
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Funky Bunches of Oats
Wild Joe's Coffee Spot, 6 p.m.

Saturday Dance Social
The MAC, 7 p.m.

Songs of Destiny
Willson Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Pert' Near Sandstone
The Filling Station, 8 p.m.

Marjorie Prime
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

Comstock Lode
American Legion, 9 p.m.

The Mighty Flick
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Family Movie: Monsters Inc.
The Ellen Theatre, 2 p.m.

Songs of Destiny
Willson Auditorium, 2:30 p.m.

Todd Green
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

John Underwood & Shootdang
Wild Joe's Coffee Spot, 6 p.m.

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

Mathias
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Of Love and Nature: Winter Choral
Concert
Hope Lutheran Church, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 6
Ballroom & Swing Dance Class
The MAC, 6 p.m.

Aaron Williams
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

Spanish Class with Kristin ND Wolf
Lockhorn Cider House, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7
Tours for Tots
Museum of the Rockies, 10 a.m.

Creating a Culture of Giving
Willson School, noon

Summer Camp & Activity Roundup
2017
Gallatin Valley Ball, 4 p.m.

Larry Kiff
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Elton John
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 8 p.m.

2017 Take the LEAD Series
Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Dave Stevenson Trunk Show
Old Main Gallery, 11 a.m.

Women-Owned Business Tour
Downtown Bozeman, all day

Dan Henry
Outlaw Brewing, 6 p.m.

Ski and Snowboard Tuning Basics
REI, 6 p.m.

Free Gardening Presentation
Lockhorn Ciderhouse, 7 p.m.

Cackling Eagles: Stand-up Comedy
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9
The Vibe Quartet
406 Brewing, 6 p.m.

Extreme History Project Lecture
Series
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

Double Dare Band
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

An Evening with Groucho
The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Jon Wayne & The Pain
The Filling Station, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Gillette Promotions Gun Show
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 5 p.m.

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

The Permians
Wild Joe's Coffee Spot, 6 p.m.

Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Adlib's Micwarz
Zebra Cocktail Lounge, 7 p.m.

Open Door Theatre presents "Helium"
Kaleidoscope Youth Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Marjorie Prime
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

Alter Ego
American Legion Bozeman, 9 p.m.

Renegades
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

The Sextones with Cole & The Thorns
The Filling Station, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
Gillette Promotions Gun Show
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

**Run to the Pub
Downtown Bozeman,
10 a.m.**

Nevada Sowle & Benny White
Wild Joe's Coffee Spot, 6 p.m.

Open Door Theatre presents "Helium"
Kaleidoscope Youth Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Elephant Revival
Eagles Lodge Ballroom, 8 p.m.

Marjorie Prime
Verge Theater, 8 p.m.

Alter Ego
American Legion Bozeman, 9 p.m.

Renegades
Eagles Lodge, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Gallatin Promotions Gun Show
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

Galloping Dog Agility & Flyball Club
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, noon

Remote Control Car Racing
Bozeman American Legion, noon

The Cooks
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

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

Erin & The Project
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Le Vent Du Nord
The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 13
Zach Landin
Outlaw Brewing, 6 p.m.

Ballroom and Swing Dance Classes
The MAC, 6 p.m.

Dan Bradner
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

Monday Night Blues Jam
The Filling Station, 7 p.m.

An Evening with Wildlife
Cinematographer Bob Landis
The Ellen Theatre, 7 p.m.

Spanish Class with Kristin ND Wolf
Lockhorn Cider House, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Denny Earnest
MAP Brewing, 6 p.m.

Mike & Mike
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Steve Poltz
Live From the Divide, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15
Lang Termes
Outlaw Brewing, 6 p.m.

20th Century Women
The Ellen Theatre, 7 p.m.

Verge Comedy Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16
The Vibe Quartet
406 Brewing, 6 p.m.

Art on the Rocks: Guinness & Gouache
The Emerson, 6:30 p.m.

Chelsea Hunt & Joe Knapp
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

Karaoke
American Legion, Mondays, 9 p.m.

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

Rockin' R Bingo
Rockin' R Bar, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Karaoke
Bar IX, Tuesdays, 9 p.m.

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

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

Bluegrass Thursdays with The
Bridger Creek Boys
Red Tractor Pizza, Thursdays, 7 p.m.

Bozeman's Original Pub Trivia
Pub 317, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Karaoke
Eagles Lodge, Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.

Yoga for All
Bozeman Public Library, Tuesdays
at 11 a.m and 12 p.m.

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

Livingston & Paradise Valley

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
Bark & Wine
Small Dog Realty, 4 p.m.

Almost, Maine
Blue Slipper Theatre, 8 p.m.

Western Electric
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Quenby & The West of Wayland
Band
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Bowl for Kids Sake
Treasure Lanes, all day

Windbreaker Swap Meet
Park County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m.
UIL: Spare Change Open House
United in Light Draft Horse
Sanctuary, 10 a.m.

Heather Lingle
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Almost, Maine
Blue Slipper Theatre, 8 p.m.

Swingly Funk
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Quenby & The West of Wayland
Band
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Almost, Maine
Blue Slipper Theatre, 3 p.m.

Bingo Night
Pine Creek Lodge, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 6
Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Bart Budwig, Ovando and Jeffery
Martin
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7
Beer for a Cause: Absaroka
Beartooth Wilderness Foundation
Katabatic Brewing, all day

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Trivia Night
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9
2017 Artful Bites
The Shane Lalani Center for the
Arts, 5:30 p.m.

Network Live!
Warmstone Fireplaces, 5:30 p.m.

Quenby
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Erin and the Project
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Ten Years Gone
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

Heather Lingle Band
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
Logan Auction
Park County Fairgrounds, 10 a.m.

Mike McNulty
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Ten Years Gone
Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

Skavocado
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Livingston Film Series
Shane Lalani Center for the Arts,
6:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 13
Bluegrass Jam
Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Ty Alexander
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Wednesday, March 15
Trivia Night
Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Larry Hirshberg
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16
Erin & The Project
The Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

West Yellowstone

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Yellowstone Rendezvous Ski Race
Rendezvous Ski Trails, 7 a.m.

Kids'n'Snow
West Yellowstone Ice Rink, all day

Yellowstone Ranger-Led
Showshoe Walk
West Yellowstone Visitor Center,
10 a.m.

Afternoon Talk with a Yellowstone
Ranger
Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center,
2 p.m.

Yellowstone Ranger-Led Evening
Program
West Yellowstone Visitor Center, 7 p.m.

Live Poker
The Buffalo Bar, 9 p.m.

Mathias
The Buffalo Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Kids'n'Snow
West Yellowstone Ice Rink, all day

Yellowstone Ranger-Led
Showshoe Walk
West Yellowstone Visitor Center,
10 a.m.

Afternoon Talk with a Yellowstone
Ranger
Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center,
2 p.m.

Yellowstone Ranger-Led
Evening Program
West Yellowstone Visitor
Center, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 6
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9
Knit Night
Stagecoach Inn, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Snowmobile Expo
West Yellowstone, all day

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
Snowmobile Expo
West Yellowstone, all day

Live Poker
The Buffalo Bar, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Snowmobile Expo
West Yellowstone, all day

MONDAY, MARCH 13
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15
Martial Arts Classes
Povah Center, 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16
Knit Night
Stagecoach Inn, 6 p.m.

Ennis

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
Dave Horton
Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Kalyn Beasley
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Joe Schwem
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Aaron Williams
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Ennis Chamber Board Meeting
Ennis Chamber of Commerce, 8 a.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Dan Dubuque
Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Tom Kirwan
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
Neil Filo Beddow
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
Ovando, Jeffery Martin and Bart
Budwig
Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14
Cancer Support Group
Moonlight Basin Building, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15
Proper Pesticide Application
Madison Valley Fire Department, 4 p.m.

Ghosts of the Madison Chapter
Meeting
Mule Deer Foundation, 6 p.m.

National Groundwater Awareness Week

March 5 - 11

Life as we know it would be impossible without groundwater. It is the world's most extracted natural resource, and it supports our ecosystems.

Don't take groundwater for granted. Pay forward during this Awareness Week, by letting others know how important groundwater is and ask them to pass it along!



Daylight Savings!
Don't forget to set
your clocks forward on
March 12!

Headwaters Freeride

March 11-12

BSSEF is teaming together with Big Sky Resort to offer the most insane, inbounds, freeride competition in the Rocky Mountains. The competition is an IFSA sanctioned event. Kids ages 12-18 will be "Sending it!" through the Headwater's terrain to come out on top and claim to be the best skier on the mountain. U12 athletes will be able to compete on Saturday, March 11th. Don't miss out on watching these young athletes shred their hearts out.

Ovando at Elling House Norris Hot Springs March 12, 7 p.m.

Lo-fi country-folk project of songwriter Nate Hegyi released a debut EP, "Cattle Ranching in the Americas Vol. 1," which was called the second best EP of 2016 by Independent Clauses. Admission is by donation.

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Exhibition of live crocodilians opens at Museum of the Rockies

EBS STAFF

BOZEMAN - Museum of the Rockies was teeming with children of all ages who turned out for the opening of a new exhibition on Feb. 25. “CROCS: Ancient Predators in a Modern World”—which provides

opportunities to get up close and personal with live crocodiles in simulated naturalistic habitats—will be hosted by the museum through Sunday, September 10.



‘CROCS’ brings live crocodilians to Museum of the Rockies through Sept. 10. PHOTO COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES

“CROCS” follows suit with previous Clyde Peeling Reptiland exhibits presented at Museum of the Rockies such as “Geckos: Tails to Toepads” in 2014, “Frogs: A Chorus of Colors” in 2011, and “Reptiles: The Beautiful and Deadly” in 2006.

“Our live animal exhibits are immensely popular with families,” said MOR Director of Marketing Alicia Thompson, who reported more than 500 members attended the exhibit preview on Feb. 24. “This opening weekend was right on track with the popularity of our past exhibitions of ‘Frogs’ and ‘Geckos.’ We are grateful for the overwhelming interest in this exciting new exhibit.”

The tanks holding live specimens were hands-down the most popular attraction. Kids pressed their faces up against glass to come eye-to-eye with a variety of distinctive crocodilians that “sun-bathed” or soaked inside their vivarium. Featured species included a teeth-baring Siamese crocodile, a cluster of baby American alligator hatchlings, and a nocturnal, snub-nosed African dwarf crocodile.

The family-friendly exhibit is bolstered with interactive educational games, artifacts and multi-media presentations designed to engage and immerse visitors in the sights, sounds, and surroundings of this stealthy aquatic predator. People can learn to speak “croc” in under five minutes, test their strength against the force of a croc’s powerful bite, mimic a crocodile’s splashy water dance, and explore how conservationists are working to save crocodilians in the wild.

For the duration of the exhibit, Museum of the Rockies will present fun and educational crocodilian-themed events and activities such as CROCS Family Day on Saturday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Visit museumoftherockies.org for more information.

24 / 7 EMERGENCY SERVICES

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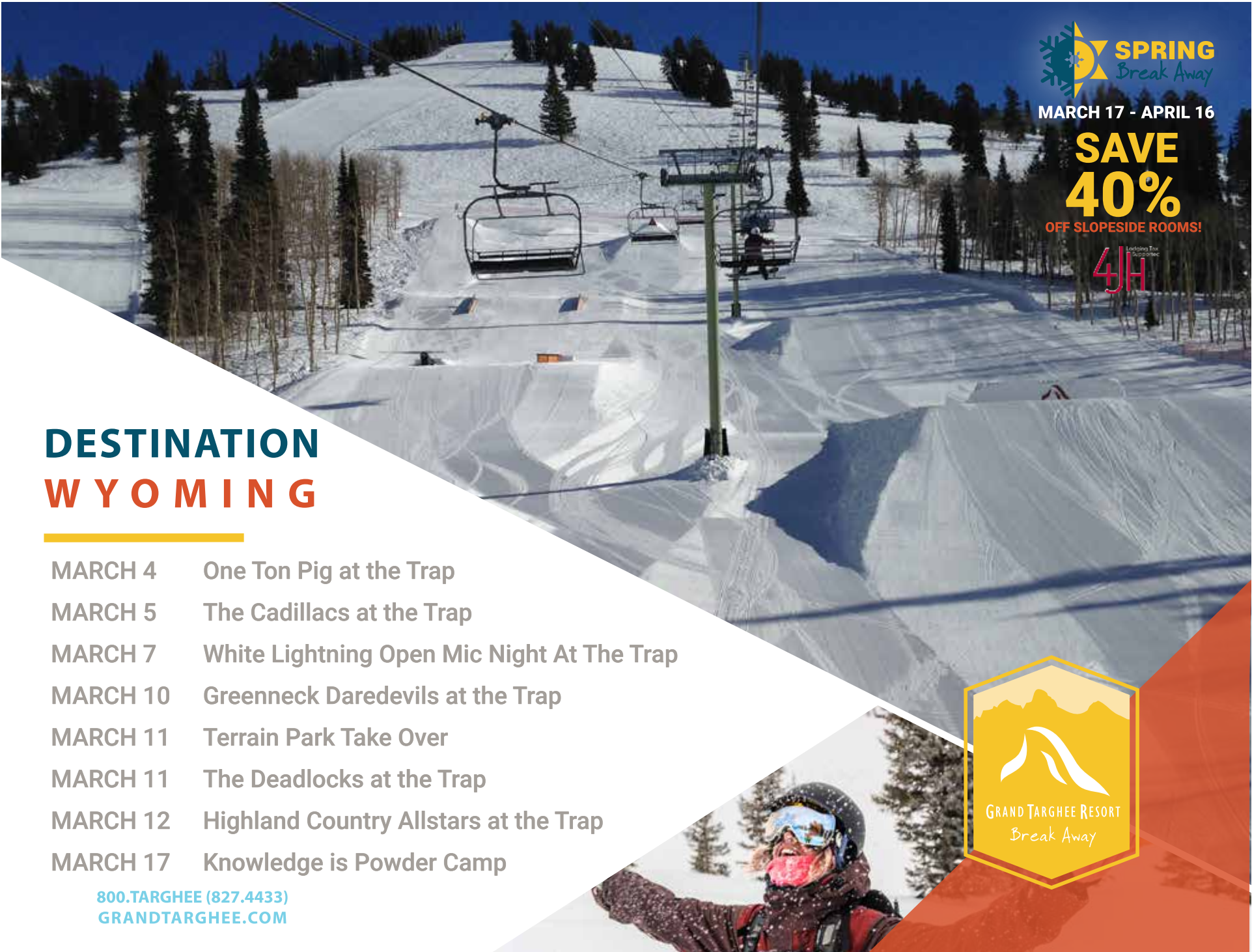
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MARCH 4 One Ton Pig at the Trap

MARCH 5 The Cadillacs at the Trap

MARCH 7 White Lightning Open Mic Night At The Trap


MARCH 10 Greenneck Daredevils at the Trap

MARCH 11 Terrain Park Take Over

MARCH 11 The Deadlocks at the Trap

MARCH 12 Highland Country Allstars at the Trap

MARCH 17 Knowledge is Powder Camp



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WORKSHOPS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Awareness Wednesday
Intuition- The What- The Where- The Why with Elizabeth Thorson, RN, Medical Intuitive and Intuitive Consultant
March 15th, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Upcoming March Workshops...
Opening to Your Intuition
with Elizabeth Thorson, RN, Medical Intuitive & Intuitive Consultant March 18 & 19


A Weekend Yoga Workshop with Benjamin Sears
March 31-April 2



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5:00-6:15pm All Levels Yoga	9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga	7:00-8:00am All Levels Yoga	7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga	8:15-9:15am All Levels Yoga	9:00-10:15am Level II Yoga	9:00-10:15am Ashtanga/Vinyasa Flow (all levels)
8:00-9:00pm Candlelit Yin	4:30-5:30pm Apres Ski Yoga	9:30-10:45am Vinyasa Flow (all Levels)	9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga	9:30-10:30am All Levels Yoga	11:00-12:00pm Restorative Yoga	
	5:45-7:00pm Heated Vinyasa Flow	6:30-7:45pm All Levels Yoga	11:00-12:30pm The Practice Level II-III Yoga	6:30-7:45pm All Levels Yoga	3:15-4:00pm Kids Yoga, 3rd-5th	
					4:15-4:45pm Kids Yoga, K-2nd	

Developing intuition focus of two-day workshop in Big Sky

BY AMANDA EGGERT
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Elizabeth Thorson, an emergency room nurse, learned early on in her career that she had a talent for predicting who wouldn't live to her next shift.

"I never understood why I was always working on that precipice of life and death in my professional career," said Thorson, who is offering a workshop in Big Sky titled "Opening to your Intuition" on March 18 and 19. "I just sort of knew as a nurse who wouldn't be on the ICU the next day, or who wouldn't be out of surgery the following day."

Initially, Thorson felt the hospital was not a safe place to elaborate on her well-developed—if unasked for—skill, so she learned to shut down her intuition, just as she had when she was a young girl and sensed there would be hardship or difficulty if she shared certain things she knew without being able to explain them.

Then in her mid-30s, she began to open the door a crack—"and that was the beginning of the end for me," said Thorson, who lives in Camden, Maine, but regularly visits family in Big Sky.

Now Thorson offers counseling to people who are seeking guidance on medical issues, as well as people going through a major transition. Although she doesn't offer diagnoses—that's practicing medicine without a license and illegal—she can help clients view illness through a different lens and understand possible causes.

When Thorson meets with clients who have questions about a medical issue, she works blind, meaning she doesn't want to know their medical history or symptoms. Thorson said she works harder that way and finds that it forces her to rely more on her intuition.

Thorson said learning to operate with an intuitive understanding is more of a right-brain operation, a thinking style she associates with creativity and imagination, than a left-brain one, which is more commonly referred to as the realm of judgment and logic.

"Most people have intuitive knowing, but most of the time they don't trust it," Thorson said. She said meditation has served as a "stepping stone" that has helped her develop her skill.



Intuitive consultant Elizabeth Thorson is hosting a workshop in Big Sky titled "Opening to Intuition" March 18-19. PHOTO BY RYAN TURNER

For the past 25 years, Thorson has been working as an intuitive consultant while continuing to work in the ER. "I just keep my hand in it a little bit because that's my laboratory," she said. "It always has been because it's an environment where I get immediate results: either an X-ray, a CAT scan or bloodwork."

In addition to working with leaders in the field like Caroline Myss, Thorson has developed a community of people with similar abilities. She says this has helped her develop her skill—and cope with it too, because it can come with challenges. There are certain aspects of her ability—things she describes as "a little too left for some people's reality"—that she insists she didn't ask for, even though she recognizes the relief she's brought to others' lives.

Thorson is adamant that intuition is a skill set that can be developed with practice. "It's a skill; it is not a gift," she says. "Some people come [with it] hardwired. I came in hardwired. Other people just have to have their wires connected."

There are four types of intuition Thorson has worked with, and people who've learned to tune into their intuition can experience one kind or a combination of them: simple knowing, seeing something in their mind's eye, hearing it in their head, or feeling it in their physical body.

Thorson moves between all four and will work on each one during the two-day workshop.

When her students start to develop and trust their intuition, it's like seeing a light go on, Thorson said. "A lot of people don't really know what their radar is until they get a chance to work with it."

Interested parties can sign up for one or both days of the "Opening to your Intuition" workshop. The Saturday, March 18 class will run from 2-5 p.m. and the Sunday, March 19 class is from 9 a.m. to noon. Thorson is also offering a free short introductory class on Wednesday, March 15.

Visit elizabeththorson.com or santosbabigsky.com/santosba/calendar for more information. Workshop reservations can also be made by calling Santosha at (406) 993-2510.

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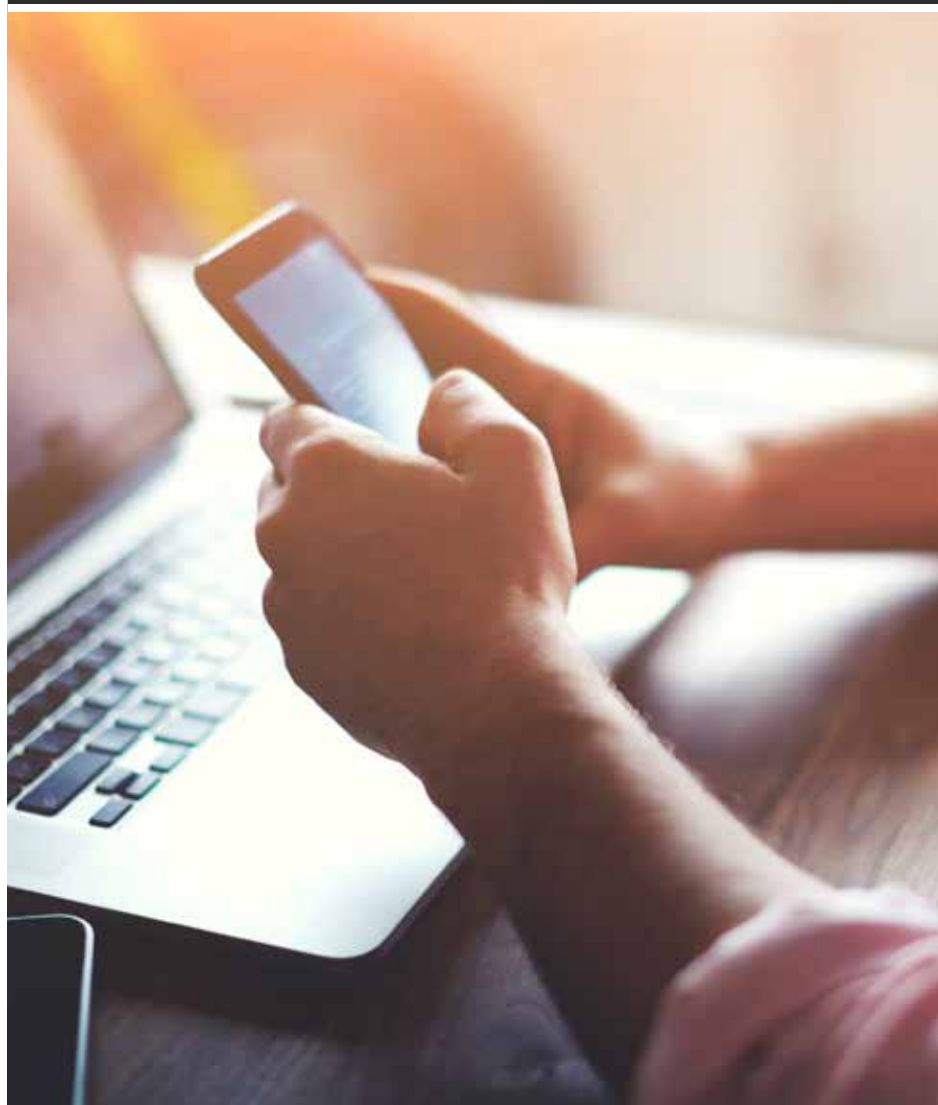


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Mountaineer legends Anker and Chin speak March 27 at MSU

MSU NEWS SERVICE

Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, March 3, for a March 27 lecture at Montana State University by legendary mountaineers Conrad Anker and Jimmy Chin.

The world-famous mountaineering team will speak about their successes, challenges and hardships at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 27, in MSU's SUB Ballroom. A Q-and-A will follow the lecture. All proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Khumbu Climbing Center, a center that trains Sherpas in Nepal.

"We are ecstatic to have two world-renowned mountaineers, both featured in National Geographic and Outside magazines, share their stories, including the tough stuff that has made them leaders," said Carmen McSpadden, director of the MSU Leadership Institute, which is sponsoring the event.

With many first ascents and creation of new routes across the world ranging from Antarctica to Alaska, Anker is a modern climbing legend. His third climb on Everest inspired a documentary on the finding of George Mallory, a British mountaineer who disappeared during an attempted first ascent of Everest in 1924. A resident of Bozeman, Anker serves on many boards in Gallatin County, including the MSU Leadership Institute's National Advisory board.

Climbing, skiing and surviving with the best in the industry, Chin carries all of his own camera equipment to document his adventures. He has filmed and photographed many breakthrough expeditions around the world. His photography has been featured on the cover of National Geographic. Chin's award-winning documentary "Meru," which featured him, Anker and Renan Ozturk and their attempt at a first ascent of the Shark's Fin in Meru, India, won the Audience Award at Sundance.

All proceeds from the evening benefit the Khumbu Climbing Center in Phortse, Nepal, that trains Sherpas in technical climbing founded in 2003 by the Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation. The KCC's mission is to increase the safety margin of Nepali climbers and high altitude workers by encouraging responsible climbing practices in a supportive community-based program. Nearly 1,000 Nepali men and women have attended the KCC.

The permanent residence provides technical climbing gear, educational materials, indoor and outdoor training walls, year-round access for both Nepali and visiting climbers, and serves as a community

center, library and medical clinic for Phortse. The program has been operational for 15 years and a permanent structure designed by students, faculty and alumni from the MSU School of Architecture is nearing completion.

Doors will open at 6:45 pm.

Anker and Chin's appearance is sponsored by the MSU Leadership Institute, ASMSU, Office of the Provost and the Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation.

For more information, including where to purchase tickets, call the MSU Leadership Institute at (406) 994-7275 or visit montana.edu/leadership.



A lecture by mountaineer legends Conrad Anker and Jimmy Chin at MSU on March 27 will benefit the Khumbu Climbing Center, a center that trains Sherpas in Nepal. PHOTOS COURTESY OF JIMMY CHIN





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David Quammen: Cardiologist

BY DOUG HARE
EBS STAFF

If Yellowstone National Park is the “beating heart” of America, than you might say that David Quammen is one of our preeminent cardiologists. Quammen has a feel for the pulse of the park and his writing has a perspicuity that clearly maps out the circulatory system of the complex, untamed plateau.

When National Geographic decided to dedicate an entire issue to Yellowstone in honor of our National Park Service centennial, Quammen was asked to write the entire thing. While Quammen is a contributing editor to National Geographic and an author of numerous books including “The Song of the Dodo,” “The Boilerplate Rhino,” and most recently “The Spillover,” this was the first time in the magazine’s 128-year history that only had one author for an entire issue.

Quammen was the perfect fit. He is equally adept at science, nature and travel writing. His previous assignments have taken him to some of the most remote places on earth. Trips to the Russian Arctic, the Congo or the Serengeti have given him a unique perspective on his own back yard.

Quammen lives in Bozeman and has called Montana home for more than 40 years. In his most recent book, in response to Wallace Stegner’s famous comment that national parks are the “best idea we ever had,” Quammen contends, “this ‘best’ idea had mixed origins and ... it has always been a work in progress, initially vague, unforeseeably complex, continually evolving, more contentious today than ever.”

“Yellowstone: A Journey through America’s Wild Heart” is a coffee table book. It’s oversized, hard-covered and packed with images from the world’s most renowned nature photographers. While the written content of the book, mostly adapted from the National Geographic special issue, could stand alone, the interplay between stunning images of nature in abundance and Quammen’s careful dissection of issues shaping the park today are mutually reinforcing.

At once, the book celebrates the raw beauty of the dynamic landscape and digs into the conservation challenges still facing the park today.

When it was established in 1872, the idea of Yellowstone National Park was indeed a confused, somewhat inchoate, attempt to frame nature in a giant rectangle. National parks were undeniably a good idea, but we still find ourselves in a paradoxical situation of deliberately preserving nature—what Quammen calls the “the paradox of the cultivated wild”: wilderness contained, nature under management, wild animals obliged to abide by human rules.

Whether he is discussing the science behind brucellosis, the effects of reintroducing wolves, the logic behind slaughtering bison, or the unique geographic features of remote places in the park, Quammen offers us an informative, scholarly perspective while never coming across as being pedantic.

In the end, this book convincingly argues that the name “Yellowstone” refers to more than just a place where Idaho, Wyoming and Montana meet. Throughout the world, the iconic name conjures not just yellowish sandstone bluffs, geysers or a specific bounded region, but a “wild idea in the American mind, a wild place in the American West, a wild heart in the American breast, still beating after 144 years.”

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



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