**Explore** 

Life and land from the heart of the Yellowstone Region

# May 26 - June 8, 2017 Volume 8 // Issue #11

New Town Center Avenue building nears completion

Hundreds honor sheriff's deputy in Belgrade

**Moonlight hosts Rider Relief Fund golf tourney**Big Sky PBR tickets on sale June 1

Back 40: Private land conservation lowdown

Special section

Your guide to summer fun



explorebigsky.com



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**ON THE COVER:** A boat full of rafters on the Gallatin River pass House Rock Rapid during a recent float. The Gallatin River typically peaks between May 1 and June 30 each year. PHOTO BY ASHLEY JUDD

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Hundreds honor sheriff's deputy in Belgrade



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Big Sky PBR tickets on sale June 1

Back 40: Private land conservation lowdown







Ride in style beneath the shadow of Lone Mountain during your next round of golf at Big Sky Resort. Golf boards are now available to rent as a fun new alternative to walking or riding in a traditional two-person cart. PHOTO BY DYLAN HALL

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.



News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

#### Fresh Outlaw publications coming to newsstands near you

BY TYLER ALLEN EBS MANAGING EDITOR

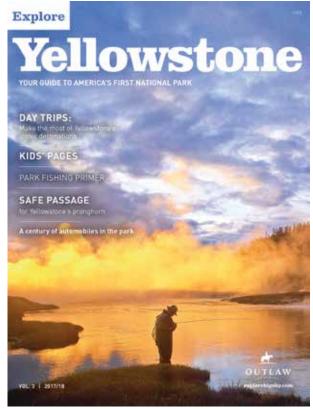
Every year, as the snow melts in the Greater Yellowstone and the rivers swell, Outlaw celebrates the release of its two high-gloss publications in quick succession.

The summer edition of Mountain Outlaw magazine arrives in Big Sky on Friday, June 2, to be swiftly distributed to newsstands and businesses throughout the region. Our third annual Explore Yellowstone guide landed just in time for Memorial Day weekend, and both publications are en route to thousands of subscribers across the country.

Explore Yellowstone gives us the opportunity to share with you our favorite stories and images from the world's first national park, and always rekindles our marvel for the protected lands right on our doorstep.

You'll find an insider's guide to day trips off the beaten path in the Old Faithful, Canyon and Yellowstone Lake regions of the park; a feature story on conservation efforts to provide safe passage for the region's pronghorn population; a history of automobiles in Yellowstone that begins with the stagecoach era of visitation; activities and games to keep the kiddos busy, and much more.

The gateway town business directory found in the back of the book is reason enough to pick up a copy of Explore Yellowstone—the next time you're traveling the region by wheel, you'll find it a handy guide to experiencing the communities that circle the park.





The 14<sup>th</sup> edition of Mountain Outlaw magazine may be the most visually stunning to date, and features stories inspired by the Greater Yellowstone and beyond. Todd Wilkinson profiles Max Baucus, Montana's longest-serving U.S. senator and the former ambassador to China. The Treasure State lawmaker gave the author his unique insight on the partisan schism eroding Washington's ability to govern its citizens.

Also in the pages of Mountain Outlaw, you'll find a comprehensive guide to the region's summer music festivals, humor provided by kids and adults alike, and stories about the transformative power of rivers. Readers will also be taken south to the tropics of Central America, along the route of one of the hemisphere's great winged migrations, and around the West with a filmmaker who's dedicated his life's work to protecting the last wild places.

Wyoming writer Claire Cella explores the growing influx of Chinese tourists visiting Yellowstone National Park, and how gateway communities like Jackson, Wyoming, and West Yellowstone are adapting to the burgeoning economy they bring with them.

Pick up a copy of each publication this season and discover how we're influenced by the life, land and culture of the Yellowstone region, and beyond.

Email media@outlaw.partners to give us your feedback.

## Big Sky PBR tickets on sale June 1

**OUTLAW PARTNERS** 

Big Sky's biggest week keeps getting bigger. The seventh annual Big Sky PBR has expanded yet again, adding a Rider Relief Golf Tournament and a community barn dance to an already jam-packed four-day roster that also includes a world-class western art auction, three nights of rock 'n' roll and two nights of rowdy bucking-bull entertainment between July 26 and 29.

The festivities begin at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 26, with the inaugural Big Sky PBR Golf Tournament at Moonlight Basin benefiting the Rider Relief Fund, which provides aid to injured bull riders. That evening, after browsing the Big Sky Farmers' Market in Town Center, the community is invited to do-si-do their way over to the PBR venue for an old fashioned community "barn" dance, under the big tent.

On Thursday, July 27, after the Big Sky Art Auction, also under the big tent, things really start to heat up with the Outlaw Partners-sponsored Music in the Mountains concert by the Turnpike Troubadours, notorious for turning out a good time.

All this build up finally culminates in the main event—two nights of electrifying professional bull-riding, with Flint Rasmussen serving up the comedy and mutton-bustin' the cuteness—followed by legendary working man's rocker James McMurtry on Friday night, and the urbancountry sounds of Jamie McClean Band on Saturday.

Tickets for both PBR days, which covers the entrance to the concert afterwards, go on sale June 1 at bigskypbr.com.

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# Installation of Big Sky's second traffic signal in progress

#### **BIG SKY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION**

Installation of a traffic signal and pedestrian crosswalks at Ousel Falls Road and Lone Mountain Trail/Highway 64 started on May 22. The project is expected to take up to 30 days to complete, at which time the Montana Department of Transportation will turn on the signal, allowing it to flash for three to five days before being fully operational. BSCO advises motorists to drive with caution in this area and expect traffic delays during peak traffic times.

Final plans were approved by the MDT and funding was secured from the Big Sky Resort Area District tax along with donations from Lone Mountain Land Company, Yellowstone Club and Town Center. The traffic signal will improve safety for pedestrians and motorists, and will enhance the flow of traffic through the intersection as construction and tourist traffic continues to grow.

For more information, call (406) 993-2112 or visit bscomt.org/bike-bike/trail-projects/.

#### Host Week discount program runs June 2-13

**EBS STAFF** 

Host Week is a collaborative effort between Big Sky and West Yellowstone providing free or greatly reduced offers to front line hospitality workers so that they may learn more about the area in order to better serve visitors and "be the best hosts they can be."

This year, Host Week runs Friday, June 2, through Monday, June 13.

Many front line workers, such as front desk associates, concierges, servers, bartenders and all manners of guides, are newly arrived employees for the summer season. Many come from out of state and have little knowledge about Big Sky and the surrounding region.

The aim of Host Week is to educate those workers on the variety of things to see and do in the area beyond their immediate place of business. That way, if a guest checks into a hotel and asks the front desk worker what it's like to raft the Gallatin River, the employee can provide their first-hand experience of the trip.

Employees who receive a Host Week Passbook, typically from their employer, can use the coupons to take advantage of free options that include dinner at the 320 Ranch, horseback riding at Jake's Horse, a half-day rafting trip with Geyser Whitewater, ziplining with Yellowstone Aerial Adventures, entrance to the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center and many more complimentary and steeply discounted activities and amenities in Big Sky, West Yellowstone and the Gallatin Canyon.

Now in its fifth year, Host Week has become a popular program in both Big Sky and West Yellowstone, and has won recognition on the state level. Big Sky and West Yellowstone won the Gateway Community of the Year at the 2015 Montana Office of Tourism & Business Development's Governors Conference for its collaborative efforts.

In 2016, 1,500 passbooks with 36 offers were distributed to front line employees. In addition to educating front line workers, local businesses see an increase in early season business with Host Week participants redeeming offers.

Host Week is a collaborative effort intended to benefit businesses, staff and visitors. The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce's aim is to create educated ambassadors for its communities with the Host Week Program.

Employees interested in obtaining a Host Week Passbook are encouraged to inquire with their employers. Visit bigskychamber.com for more information.

#### Chamber awards nomination deadline June 7

EBS STAFF

The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce awards will be presented at the chamber's annual dinner on Sunday, June 25, at Big Sky Resort and the deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7.

Sen. Steve Daines will give the keynote speech at the chamber's  $20^{\rm th}$  annual event. An update on the state of the local economy will also be given to provide specific information on projects, economic development efforts, and the business outlook prior to the senator's address.

# Britt Ide succeeds Casey Schwartz as head of local foundation

YELLOWSTONE CLUB COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Yellowstone Club Community Foundation is pleased to announce the hiring of Britt Ide as its new executive director, effective June 1. Ide succeeds K. Casey Schwartz, the organization's founding executive director. Schwartz will remain as a consultant to the foundation.

"This is a very exciting time, a time of growth and change, for Big Sky," said Sam Byrne, president of the foundation's board of directors. "This time of transition provides an ideal opportunity to welcome Britt as the new leader for the foundation."

"I am delighted for this role to build on the foundation's outstanding work supporting our community," Ide said. "Big Sky and Gallatin Valley are extremely special places. My family has lived in, enjoyed and benefitted from this area for five generations."

Ide is a Big Sky resident and an attorney. She is a board director of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and recently has served as the chamber's interim CEO. She has provided legal counsel, policy formulation, fund development, stakeholder engagement and communication for corporations and business owners, boards, nonprofits and elected officials.

As president of Ide Energy & Strategy, Ide developed energy policy, strategy, sustainability reporting, stakeholder engagement and communications for clients from local agriculture to public mining exploration. Ide also serves on the Board of Directors of Northwestern Energy.

Ide earned a Bachelor of Science from Ohio State University, a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from Montana State University and a law degree from the University of Utah College of Law. She moved back to Montana two years ago with her husband and two children.

The Yellowstone Club Community Foundation is supported by Yellowstone Club Members, guests and the local community. It offers two grant cycles per year and has awarded more than \$3 million to local nonprofits since its founding in 2010.

# Park prepares visitors for busy summer with Yellowstone Pledge

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Summer is Yellowstone's most popular season and visitors should expect busy facilities and destinations, as well as delayed travel times due to heavy traffic and wildlife jams. Try to arrive early or stay late and avoid main attractions during peak hours, including Old Faithful, Grand Prismatic Spring, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and Norris Geyser Basin.

"More than half of the record 4.25 million visits in 2016 took place during June, July and August," said Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk. "Whether you are visiting Yellowstone for the first time or the 50th, we hope you'll take the Yellowstone Pledge and plan ahead for a safe, enjoyable trip."

The Yellowstone Pledge is a personal promise you can make to yourself and the park. It can be taken anywhere—at home, in your car or in front of your bathroom mirror—and now it's available in 10 languages. The park also encourages visitors to tag their social media photos with #YellowstonePledge.

To find the Yellowstone Pledge, visit https://www.nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/yellowstonepledge.htm.

Winners of last year's awards were: Dr. Jeff Daniels of the Medical Clinic of Big Sky (Chet Huntley Lifetime Achievement Award); The Hungry Moose Market & Deli (Business of the Year); Marie Rapp from American Bank (Outstanding Frontline Worker); and Big Sky Build's John Seelye (Business Person of the Year).

Visit bigskychamber.com/about/annual-chamber-awards to nominate Big Sky individuals or businesses.



# Summer is coming! What are you most looking forward to?



Noelle Child
Bozeman, Montana

"Hiking with the dogs."



Alisa Leddy
Big Sky, Montana

"White water rafting. I'm a raft guide because I love rivers."



**Kevin Germain** *Big Sky, Montana* 

"Mountain biking and fishing."



**Drew Clendenin**Big Sky, Montana

"The outdoors. ... Lots of dog walking, fishing. I was born and raised in Montana so I like the outside."

# New invasive species pass required for Montana anglers, even if you've already purchased your fishing license.



#### Op-ed:

#### We can't afford to lose federal funding for the arts

BY BRIAN HURLBUT

We're fortunate here in Big Sky to live in a beautiful place with an abundance of recreational opportunities. Additionally, we have many cultural amenities that enhance our way of life and give us a sense of balance and enjoyment—while also contributing significantly to the local economy.

The Arts Council of Big Sky itself injected nearly \$500,000 into the nation's arts economy last year, through everything from salaries, artist fees, events, school outreach and more. More than 30,000 people attended our events last year alone.

The major driver of arts initiatives across the country is the National Endowment for the Arts, an independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts. I want to make sure that Sens. Jon Tester and Steve Daines know that in Montana, in 2016 alone, the NEA awarded a total of \$1,061,600 in grant money to 18 nonprofit and governmental arts organizations.

These grants worked to enhance access to the arts for all, especially in underserved rural areas. Of this NEA funding, more than \$750,000 went to Montana Arts Council. The state then matched these federal funds

and awarded grants to 161 arts organizations in 45 communities across Montana, including Big Sky.

President Donald Trump's proposed budget for the 2018 fiscal year calls for an elimination of the NEA, among other cultural agencies like the National Endowment for the Humanities. Don't believe those dusty, old arguments that eliminating these cultural agencies would reduce the deficit or the size of government. We simply cannot afford to cut back on our federal investment in the arts and culture in this country.

According to the latest news from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis, the arts contribute 4.23 percent of the nation's gross domestic product, or \$729 billion per year. It's one of the very few economic industries that yield a trade surplus, at \$26 billion annually, and it generates 4.8 million American jobs that cannot be outsourced out of the country.

Can we afford to lose the profound impact of the NEA in our state, community and schools?

Brian Hurlbut is the executive director of the Arts Council of Big Sky.



## Subscribing to food: CSA options expand in Big Sky

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN - Wintertime gets long, looking at long-distance tomatoes and heavily packaged lettuce in the grocery store. One of the true hallmarks of summer in Montana is the sudden ability to find fresh, in-season produce in a place where the growing season is so short, all the more augmented by cool spring weather, freezing nights and rain and snow. But, spring showers bring May flowers, as they say, and after the flowers come summer vegetable shares.

A community supported agriculture, or CSA, membership is a great way to get fresh produce and support local farmers. A CSA operates as a mutually beneficial relationship between farms and consumers, where consumers pay upfront for a share of produce grown on the farm. The format of each CSA varies, but usually consists of weekly delivery or pickup of seasonal produce that includes salad greens, cooking greens, root crops and other vegetables.

"Fresh produce from your local grower tastes way better than produce from anywhere else," said Matt Rothschiller, who owns and operates Gallatin Valley Botanical with his wife, Jacy.

"You're supporting a local farmer in Montana," Rothschiller said. "We don't have the luxury of growing all year round. My wife and I depend on CSA for late-winter, early-spring cash flow in order to farm in Gallatin Valley."

One of the ways many small-acreage farmers work around the Montana growing season is by utilizing greenhouses, which allow for earlier and possibly more varied plantings, as well as storage facilities that extend the life of produce for consumption during the colder months when plants aren't producing as much. Specifically, greenhouses allow local CSA growers to start selling harvest by early to mid-June in a typical season.

Gallatin Valley Botanical, which moved to Bozeman from nearby Manhattan in 2008 and operates on land near Rocky Creek Farm east of Bozeman, manages over 10,000 square feet of greenhouse space in addition to cultivating approximately 20 acres of land.

Like Gallatin Valley Botanical, Strike Farms also manages greenhouse space in order to plant earlier and jumpstart the growing season. Strike Farms owner Dylan Strike recently purchased land to accompany two land leases, which has expanded his operation to encompass 20 acres of tilled ground and six greenhouses. Strike expects to produce 300,000 pounds of food this year.

"It is extremely gratifying to feed my community, and to keep agriculture alive despite the rapid development we're seeing," he said. "It is also fun, and important, to show our community members that it is possible to have fresh, organic, local food available year round, despite our short frost-free growing season."

The Gallatin Valley is home to a number of small-acreage farmers. Below is a list of several that deliver directly to Big Sky.

#### Gallatin Valley Botanical

Initially, Gallatin Valley Botanical just sold produce to area restaurants; however, in 2005 the Rothschillers started offering CSA shares as well. This year, they will be able to supply 215 families through CSA memberships and are continuing to sell to a number of local restaurants, including BYWOM, Lotus Pad and Bucks T-4. Gallatin Valley Botanical



A community supported agriculture, or CSA, membership is a great way to get fresh produce and support local farmers. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

is a certified organic farm and offers bouquet flowers as well as produce to include salad greens, chard, kale, Brussel sprouts, tomatoes, squash and eggplant. Their products are also available at the Hungry Moose Market & Deli or weekly at the farm in Bozeman. gallatinvalleybotanical.com

#### Strike Farms

Located in Bozeman and certified organic, Strike Farms will be offering CSA subscriptions to Big Sky for the first time this year. As a part of an overall expansion, Strike intends to triple his produce output this year as compared with last year's harvest, and will be offering, among other products, salad greens, onions, carrots, beets and zucchini. In addition to CSA shares delivered weekly, Strike Farms plans to sell products at Roxy's Market and Deli as well as Hungry Moose. Grab-and-go options will be sold at the Big Sky Farmers' Market beginning June 24, and will include flowers, cherry tomatoes and bunched carrots. strikefarms.com

#### Harvest House Farm

Harvest House Farm is located off of Axtell Anceny Road, just off Highway 191 north of Gallatin Gateway. It is owned and operated by Lori Davis and Big Sky residents have access to approximately 150 varieties of vegetables, greens and herbs that will last approximately 20 weeks. Harvest House will also have a booth at the Big Sky Farmers' Market and a farm stand each Thursday at Axtell Bridge Fishing Access on the corner of Highway 191 and Axtell Anceny Road. harvesthousefarm.blogspot.com

# Construction of treated effluent pond underway at Spanish Peaks

#### Wastewater to irrigate club golf course

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Construction of a treated effluent pond at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club began May 8 and is expected to be completed within five months. The new pond, which will hold approximately 14 million gallons of Big Sky County Water and Sewer District treated wastewater, will be located in the southwest area of The Ranches neighborhood, below Wilderness Ridge Trail.

A pipeline will be installed from the pond to an area below the 15<sup>th</sup> hole of the club's golf course to facilitate seasonal irrigation of the course slated to begin in summer 2018.

Under an existing 2001 agreement between BSWSD and Spanish Peaks, wastewater from the club is currently transported to the district for treatment, storage and disposal. The 2001 agreement also stipulated that construction of a treated effluent pond would commence within one year of receiving notification from Big Sky County Water and Sewer District, and completed within two years of notification. Notification was received by Spanish Peaks on June 5, 2016.

Depending on the amount of seasonal rainfall, Spanish Peaks applies approximately 25 million gallons to the course during a typical year. Ideally, at the end of the irrigation season and heading into winter, the pond will be nearly empty, with only a small operational volume to protect the pond from freezing. Filling will occur over the winter and spring season so the pond is near capacity when it's time to commence seasonal irrigation.

"Irrigating the golf course with non-potable water is a widely accepted, environmentally friendly method of disposal," wrote Jon Olsen, director of development and engineering at Lone Mountain Land Company, in



The site of a new treated effiuent pond at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club. A pipe will carry treated wastewater to the 15th hole on the club's golf course to be used for irrigation beginning summer 2018. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

an email to EBS. "By using non-potable water for golf course irrigation, we are greatly reducing the volume of water pumped from Big Sky area aquifers."

Although most of the construction traffic for the pond will utilize Ousel Falls Road, there may be minimal project-related traffic on Elk Meadow Trail and South Fork Road.

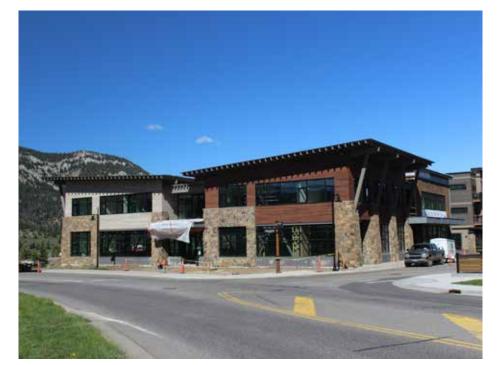
#### Businesses set up shop in Town Center's newest commercial space

EBS STAFF

Big Sky is getting one new cafe in the next month, and a handful of existing businesses are relocating their offices to the butterfly-roofed building that's approaching completion at the intersection of Highway 64 and Ousel Falls Road.

Lone Mountain Land Company, the property's developer, is one of the businesses that will set up shop on the second floor of 25 Town Center Avenue. Big Sky Real Estate Co., LMLC's recently formed realty brokerage giant, will also have offices on the second floor.

"We're just excited to have a building that's going to be used for multiple things—for visitors, for locals and as a [company] headquarters, too," said Leslie Kilgore, Lone Mountain Land Company's communications director.



Contractors are wrapping up their work on 25 Town Center Avenue, and a soft opening for businesses moving into the space is planned for mid-June. PHOTO BY CARIE BIRKMEIER

There will be a soft opening for the 19,270-square-foot space in mid-June and a bigger event is planned for later in the month. The grand opening will include family activities, a beer garden and food from local vendors.

Compass Café by Sola will move into the ground floor and patrons of Sola Café in Bozeman will find many overlapping elements, as it will be owned and operated by the same team. Made-from-scratch fare complete with gluten-free, dairy-free

and vegan options will be available. Customers can take their food to go or opt for dine-in service. Bozeman's Treeline Coffee Roasters will supply java and there will be a handful of beverages on tap like iced tea, lemonade and kombucha.

Montana Supply will sell many of the same products as High Country Goods, with an expanded inventory of light recreation equipment including camping gear. Kilgore said High Country Goods, an apparel and accessories design company, has already moved out of their old space, also located in Town Center.

The lower level of 25 Town Center Avenue will also include a staffed concierge service and sales space, where the Big Sky Real Estate Co. team will meet clients and visitors can find out more about Big Sky and its surroundings and book activities. "It's basically a [place]

in downtown Town Center where locals can hang out and visitors can get more information about the area," Kilgore said.

Later this summer will see the launch of more businesses in Town Center: Moe's Original Bar B Que and gourmet cupcake purveyor Caffe Luxxe are slated to move into the building next door, joining Lotus Pad and The Spice & Tea Exchange.

# Reading 1,000 books out loud: Three Big Sky kids complete library program for preschoolers

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Ada Kissell, Parker Samardich and Reed Loomis have each read 1,000 books, and they haven't even celebrated a 5th birthday yet. These three children recently completed the Big Sky Community Library 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, and on May 22 they received certificates and a book to honor their accomplishment. The program is an ongoing challenge to the parents of pre-kindergarten-aged children to read 1,000 books out loud to their kids by the time they enroll in kindergarten. "It's about getting the kids exposed to books, listening to words," said Big Sky librarian Kathy House.

The Big Sky effort is a part of the national 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, which suggests that children need to hear 1000 stories before they begin to read on their own.

Assistant librarian Robbeye Samardich said reading out loud jump-starts word recognition and helps children learn the progression of a story. Samardich organizes the weekly story time session and is also the mother of Parker, who recently completed the challenge.

"Kids will read a book over and over ... and they learn sequence, the beginning, middle and end of a story," Samardich said.

According to House, there are 34 children participating in the reading challenge right now. Parents of newborns, infants and toddlers can sign up for the program at the Big Sky Community Library, which is located in the same building as Lone Peak High School.

Parents will be given a reading log and are responsible for recording the name and author of each book they read to their child. Repeats are allowed, meaning a parent can read the same book multiple times and each reading counts toward the 1,000-book goal. For each completion of 100 books, the youngsters are given a celebratory sticker to place on a reading chart displayed on the library walls. Once a child has reached 1,000 books, the library holds a celebration party.

"The hardest part is remembering to write it down," Samardich said. She and her  $4\,1/2$ -year-old daughter completed the challenge over the course of about one-and-a-half years.

"It's not so daunting," Samardich said. "If you read about three books a day for a year, you are just about there."

Stephanie Kissell is the mother of 3-year-old Ada. "She read 1,000 books before she was 2 1/2," Kissell said.



Ada was the first child to complete the library challenge of reading 1,000 books before kindergarten age, a program where parents keep track of every story they read to their child. PHOTO BY STEPHANIE KISSELL



Ada Kissell and Parker Samardich hold certificates of completion for the Big Sky Community Library's 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program during a celebration party on May 22. Along with Reed Loomis, who was unable to attend the party, Ada and Parker are the first kids to complete the library's 1,000 book challenge. PHOTO BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT

"I think literacy and language exposure is critical to the development of a child," Kissell said. "Being in a program gets you in the routine to read. Now when we go down for bed at night there are always books read."

Kissell and Samardich noted the development apparent in their childen's reading logs.

"In the beginning we read so many texture books, books with only one word, and now we're reading books with actual story lines," Kissell said.

Children also go through topic interests and enjoy book series, all the more apparent when the books are written down and logged. According to the parents, popular books include John Nedwidek's "Ducks Don't Wear Socks," the Amelia Bedilia series written by Peggy Parish and Mo Willems' Elephant & Piggie books.

Parents can search the library's 18,000-title collection by topic, and books are also labeled on the shelves based on reading level. Pre-school books are marked with green, and include many fiction stories, chapter books and non-fiction.

The library also offers what they call Lit Kits, rated for preschool, primary or intermediate reading levels. Each kit, which is organized into numerus themes that include careers, new siblings, the human body and farm animals, includes books and games. Additionally, parents have access to learning kits that are a part of the Morningstar Learning Center's Basecamp to Kindergarten, which features approximately 30 different topics and themes.

Every Monday at 10:30 a.m. the Big Sky Community Library offers story time with Samardich, where parents are invited to attend with their children in order to spend time listening to stories, singing songs and doing a craft.

To learn more about the Big Sky Community Library and the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program visit bigskylibrary.org.

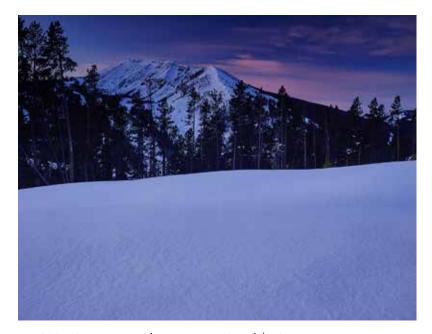
#### YELLOWSTONE CLUB



**388 Andesite Ridge Rd.** | Yellowstone Club | \$6.45M 4,852 SQ FT | 2.15 ACRES | 4 bedrooms | 5 bathrooms *Ski-in, ski-out home with southern exposure* 



**River Runs Through It** | Yellowstone Club | \$14M 13,349 SQ FT | 2.88 ACRES | 7 bedrooms | 10 bathrooms *Largest ski-in, ski-out home available at Yellowstone Club* 



**Lot 388 Bristlecone Dr.** | Yellowstone Club | \$4.95M 14.6 ACRES Panoramic mountain views



**Lot 434 Foxtail Pine Rd.** | Yellowstone Club | \$2.95M 1.71 ACRES *Ski access lot with Lone Peak view* 

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# Inside the Big Sky

By Derek Lennon

#### Proper food storage in bear country can save lives

BY DEREK LENNON EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Will you be hiking or camping in bear country this summer? If so, it's important to learn about proper food storage in bear country.

Proper food storage in bear country is imperative for the safety of everyone—including the animals. The food we eat is delicious—especially to the wildlife that craves it. Backcountry food thieves can include marmots, jays, deer, ravens, coyotes, goats, and of course both grizzly bears and black bears.

Wildlife will go after any "food" that smells. That includes food, sunscreen, lip balm, water bottles, snacks, pots and pans, and even the clothing that you cook in. Animals can smell these odorous items from long distances because they have a far superior sense of smell than humans. The smells attract creatures of all shapes and sizes and this is bad news.

When an animal smells food, it goes after it. It will eat through your tent, break your car window and rip out your seats, destroy your food bags, and ultimately leave you without anything to eat. This is bad. Not only because you'll be hungry, but because now these wild animals will be trained to go after human foods—a habit that can ultimately lead to behaviors that will require that they are killed.

All it takes is one careless person out there and a normal bear that would prefer to avoid humans will become a nuisance bear that is not only a threat to people, but could potentially be killed for its behaviors. All because one person didn't practice proper food storage in bear country. Don't be that person!

# If you're camping at a campsite or plan to camp in bear country, there are some basic "food" rules that you absolutely must follow for everyone's safety.

- Keep your food secure at all times day and night.
- Treat all aromatic items and food items the same.
- Never feed any animal.
- Leave all zippers unzipped slightly at night so animals don't eat through your things.
- Always cook and store your food at least 100 feet away and downwind from your campsite. Farther is better.





The best way to ensure bears' survival in the wilderness is to keep them out of human food and garbage. Be sure to heed food storage safety tips when camping this summer. NPS PHOTOS

- Never leave food items in your car.
- Keep a clean camp.
- Never be careless with food items.

#### If you're in grizzly bear country, you need to be even more responsible with your food items. Here are a few additional tips:

- Utilize bear boxes at established campgrounds.
- Hang your food 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet away from the tree. Store food in bear resistant containers.

Keep in mind, improper food storage in Yellowstone National Park can result in big fines.

What it comes down to is that smelly items attract wild animals. No one wants to get attacked by a bear because they left trail mix in their tent or have their car trashed for a few unsavory crumbs, right? These things happen, but when you practice proper food storage in bear country you'll be just fine.

It's your responsibility to respect nature and to be savvy with your food items while in Big Sky and the entire Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem—or anywhere for that matter. Montana is still wild. Go and experience it, but always camp responsibly.

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/proper-food-storage-bear-country/. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at https://visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/.

## Tell me, Tallie

## How did Big Sky trails evolve? Part Two



BY TALLIE LANCEY EBS COLUMNIST

Change is afoot. Especially when you consider the narrative arc of Big Sky's trail network.

In my last column, we explored the legacy of a man who's credited with creating our off-road pathways, Bill Olson. Not too long ago, Big Sky's interest in trails was lukewarm. He sought to change that.

Now we know in our hearts and on our balance sheets, trails are of great value. Residents and visitors love our parks and pathways; in some cases they even love them to death, as the saying goes. Without question, connectivity has become part of our community's identity.

To understand where we're headed, it's critical to consider our history. Due to a dramatic miniseries of land swaps between the Forest Service and a few private individuals in the latter part of last century, our local resorts own all of the land upon which they operate. This is an important distinction between Big Sky and nearly every other ski area in the country; most resorts operate within the confines of strict Forest Service land leases. For better and for worse, Big Sky does not.

As it pertains to our local trail development, this means that private landowners retain sole discretion. No red tape! On the other hand, it also means no reliable source of funds to improve or maintain trails.

Big Sky Resort is investing in two new mountain biking trails accessed by Swift Current chairlift, bringing their total to nine cross-country and downhill trails. They have grown their lessons and guided offerings, which makes the sport accessible to more people.

Pete Costain is the mastermind behind Terraflow Trails, the brains and brawn responsible for Hummocks and Uplands, Fish Camp, Snake Charmer and more.

When I asked Costain what he sees in Big Sky's future, he visualized major stakeholders will buy-in over time to the value of trail investment. Giving credit where it's due, he noted that CrossHarbor and Lone Mountain Land Company have been visionary in both granting easements and funding construction. The famed Mountain to Meadow mountain biking flow trail is one example of their successful vision, in cooperation with Big Sky Resort.

He forecasts Big Sky as an interconnected, collaborative, on-trail recreation destination. Multiple distant base areas would be linked via multi-user trails and then to populated neighborhoods and ultimately to Forest Service trailheads where the adventure begins. His sense of optimism is infectious.

Join in his zeal on National Trails Day on June 3. It marks the official unveiling of Ralph's Pass, which is BSCO's newest trail achievement. Years in the making, this trail's story has many authors and will be enjoyed by all. This summer, BSCO will reveal their Big Sky Trails Master Plan to be adopted by homeowners associations, zoning districts, and county administrators. A similar plan will be drafted for Big Sky's parks.

As with so many things in Big Sky, if you want to see improvements in your community, it's best to take Michael Jackson's advice: "If you wanna make the world a better place, take a look at yourself, and make a change."

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.



# **Soul Shine Celebration: keepin' the vibe high for Mark Robin** The Hungry Moose adds carnival and ALS fundraiser to annual Music in the Mountains sponsorship

HUNGRY MOOSE MARKET AND DELI

As has become tradition, the Hungry Moose Market and Deli will sponsor the first Music in the Mountains concert, featuring The Lil' Smokies, on June 22. But this year, the event has been enhanced to thank and celebrate the Big Sky community, and to raise awareness about a disease that has hit home for Mark and Jackie Robin, the owners of the Hungry Moose, and their family.

Last September, Mark was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a neuro-muscular disease also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Since that time, the Robin family, along with their close friends, family and the community of Big Sky, have witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of ALS on a previously healthy, active individual.

"The disease is dark," Jackie said. "But the outpouring of love and support for our family has been nothing but light-filled. We are overwhelmed."

The inspiration for the name of the event, which will begin at 5 p.m. Thursday, June 22, at the sponsor tent in Town Center Park, came from one of many handmade cards Mark has received from local children who know him as Marky Moose. It read, "You have soul shine. I love you."

In honor of Mark, and as a thank you to the community for their outpouring of support, this year's concert event featuring The Lil' Smokies and the Gallatin Grass Project will also include a free carnival, music by Lauren Jackson, complimentary food and drinks, games, a dunking booth, a balloon-artist clown, face-painting, cotton candy and more.

"The Hungry Moose family—and the Robin family—have never been more

grateful to our friends, employees, customers and community," Jackie said. "Our staff has done a fantastic job managing both stores; our customers have been loyal, and we've been overwhelmed with the help and support we've received from so many."

The Robin family has identified two organizations working to support people with ALS and their families, and one research facility working on treatments.

The ALS Association Evergreen Chapter is located near Seattle but covers Montana and has been a great resource for the Robins.

Team Gleason—founded and inspired by former NFL player, Steve Gleason—focuses on the quality of life of ALS sufferers by providing technology grants and helping families realize dreams of travel and adventure. Massachusetts General Hospital ALS Multidisciplinary Clinic is dedicated to finding treatments to ease the path of a person with ALS.



Mark and Jackie Robin, owners of the Hungry Moose Market and Deli, with their sons Howie, Micah and Andrew, at Yellowstone National Park in 2016. The Hungry Moose will sponsor the June 22 Music in the Mountains concert and throw a carnival celebration to thank the community for their support and raise awareness about ALS. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ROBIN FAMILY

Donations to any of these three organizations are gratefully encouraged. There will be an information tent at the Soul Shine Celebration or you can visit bigskysoulshine.org to learn more and contribute online.

To follow Mark's life with ALS, visit his blog, markymooseinbigsky.blogspot. com. or find Big Sky Soul Shine on Facebook, where you can link to the blog and giving opportunities.





## Hundreds honor sheriff's deputy killed in line of duty

BELGRADE (AP) - A Montana sheriff's deputy who was killed in the line of duty last week was remembered as a family man, a man of faith and a dedicated public servant who could be tough when he needed to be but still played dolls with his daughter.

Hundreds of law enforcement officers, family and friends gathered Tuesday to honor Broadwater County Sheriff's Deputy Mason Moore a week after he was shot to death during a pursuit near Three Forks.

One suspect in Moore's death is jailed, while that man's son—who is believed to have fired the fatal shots—died after being shot in the head by officers at the end of a pursuit near Missoula. An investigation found they had gone out that night intending to get into a gun battle with law enforcement officers.

Jodi Moore told those gathered at The Bridge Church in Belgrade that her husband of 18 years had written her a letter in case something like this happened.

"He said: 'Don't let hate take over your life. I enjoyed every moment of life with you. Enjoy

life," Jodi Moore said, adding that she doesn't want people to be sad when they see her and their children—twin sons Chase and Cole and daughter Branna.

"Look at us and be glad that we are loved and will continue to be loved by this wonderful man," she said.

Pastor Curtis Crow said he last spoke with Moore late on May 15, about six hours before he was killed.

He said Moore had recently told him how proud he was of his sons and their athletic endeavors as well as their efforts to stop bullying on the school

playground. When the family first moved to Montana, Moore was a stay-at-home dad, Crow said.



The May 23 funeral procession to honor Broadwater County Sheriff's Deputy Mason Moore who was shot to death May 16 during a pursuit near Three Forks. PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF AND NEAL KROGSTAD

"Sometimes I'd run over and knock on the door just to see what Mason was doing, and sometimes he'd have a crown on his head," Crow said. It wasn't uncommon for there to be fingernail polish and glitter involved when he was playing with his daughter, he said.

In addition to his law enforcement duties, Moore served as a volunteer firefighter in Belgrade and Three Forks.

He was near the end of his shift early on May 16 when he began what would be his final pursuit.

Broadwater County Sheriff Wynn Meehan said he received a call in the middle of the night about the pursuit. About two minutes later, he got a call saying dispatchers couldn't reach him on the radio.

Meehan said he was driving to the area of the pursuit when the dispatcher told him an officer who had arrived on the scene had requested a coroner.

Moore, 42, had been fatally shot.

"My heart sunk," Meehan said through tears. "My heart's broken. I'm a man without spirit right now."

Meehan said the best way for fellow law enforcement officers to honor Moore was to: "Get back in our cars, put our duty belts back on and stick that shiny star on our chest and keep doing what we do."

Moore is to be buried in his home state of South Carolina.





Join the Big Sky Firefighters,
Eagle Mount & Community Members
to Help Youth with Cancer

#### BIG SKY KIDS CAMP HEADSHAVING FUNDRAISER

June 25, 2017 9:00-10:00am Big Sky Fire Dept. Station 1

If you are interested in making an online donation to directly support Eagle Mount- Big Sky Kids Cancer Camp, please visit http://eaglemount.org/support/donate-now/. Select "One Time or Recurring Gift," then select "Big Sky Kids," then under donation notes type "Big Sky Dept. Fudraiser"



#### **BE A PART OF APPROPRIATING RESORT TAX FUNDS**

Attend the upcoming community meetings in the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center

June 5th at 1:00 p.m. and June 14th at 6:00 p.m.

More information at www.resorttax.org.



**Submit a letter to the editor at:** 

media@outlaw.partners

#### **Submissions must be:**

- 250 words or less
- Should be respectful, ethical, and accurate
  - Include full name and phone number

\* Explore Big Sky reserves the right to edit letters

## How Big Tobacco stopped a smoking tax in 'Marlboro Country'

BY MATT VOLZ ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) - When the Montana Senate voted this spring for what would have been the state's first tobacco tax increase in 12 years, Big Tobacco lobbyists swarmed the Capitol in Helena.

With a crucial committee hearing about the bill looming in Montana's House, cigarette retailers and vape shop owners were coached by a lobbying pro on how to oppose it with concise and disciplined testimony. Residents inundated lawmakers with calls and emails mostly railing against the tax. A tobacco lobbyist with deep GOP ties appealed directly to the Republican House speaker.

Within a week the bill was dead, its demise a textbook example of how a well-financed industry can torpedo legislation.

Tobacco and other "sin taxes" perennially surface in many legislative sessions, and cigarette makers are used to fighting back. But Montana lawmakers and lobbyists say the opposition this year was particularly fierce.

"Montana is considered Marlboro Country," said Kristin Page Nei, a lobbyist for the American Cancer Society that supported the tax. Tobacco's supporters "know that if a red state like Montana can pass a tax, that other states will follow suit."

Public records and interviews with a dozen lawmakers and lobbyists reveal that two of the nation's largest tobacco companies launched an expensive and effective lobbying campaign to kill the Montana bill, which would have raised the state tax on cigarettes by \$1.50 a pack and set a 74 percent tax on the wholesale price of vaping products, the state's first such tax.

Montana has had the same \$1.70 tax on each pack of cigarettes since 2005, and the tobacco industry wanted to prevent another increase after it unsuccessfully fought a California voter initiative last November to raise cigarette taxes by \$2 a pack.

The bill's sponsor, Democratic Sen. Mary Caferro of Helena, saw the higher Montana tax as a way to reduce smoking and the rate at which children use vaping products. The measure had rare bipartisan support in the solidly Republican Montana Legislature, thanks in large part to its potential to shore up the cash-strapped state's budget.

Altria Group, the parent company of Phillip Morris USA, and R.J. Reynolds focused their campaign on Montana's House, where strong anti-tax sentiment among conservative lawmakers was exacerbated by the recent passage of a state fuel tax increase.

The two companies spent a combined \$147,000 on lobbying lawmakers in the first three months of the legislative session, according to disclosure reports filed with state commissioner of political practices.

Most spending came in March, when the tobacco tax bill began moving in the Senate, and the amount actually spent is certain to increase when April's disclosure reports are filed at the end of May.

The records made public so far show the two companies spent more money lobbying Montana lawmakers this session than they have over the last decade. Altria's \$120,000 topped all lobbyist spending during the first three months.

Vape shop owners were coached on how to present compelling testimony before the House Taxation Committee. Extra tobacco industry lobbyists

were hired so they could reach out to state legislators not courted routinely by the sector.

Altria spent \$31,000 on advertising and communications in March, according to the disclosure reports. Posters and handbills appeared in convenience stores, gas stations and vape shops—urging tobacco buyers to reach to their legislators and complain about the tax increase.

"The legislators were getting hammered with emails and phone calls around this issue," said Amanda Cahill, a lobbyist for the American Heart Association, which also supported the bill.

R.J. Reynolds lobbyist E.J. Redding reported spending \$1,960 on entertainment in March, including a \$207 tab for a dinner attended by House Speaker Austin Knudsen and freshman lawmakers.

Redding and Altria lobbyist Mark Baker, who is a well-connected former executive director of the state GOP and has worked on the staff of a former U.S. senator and a representative, met privately with Knudsen to urge him to oppose the bill.

"Yes, there were attempts by the tobacco lobbyists to influence all of the members of the House, I imagine," Knudsen said. "They did not influence our decision."

Eleven of the 13 Republican bill co-sponsors changed their minds and bailed. Several insisted lobbying didn't affect them, saying they did research that convinced them to agree with the lobbyists' opposition talking points.

# "Montana is considered Marlboro Country... [Tobacco supporters] know that if a red state like Montana can pass a tax, that other states will follow suit."

Six days after the Senate passed the bill, the House Taxation Committee held a hearing in which dozens of people testified for and against the measure.

The next day, the committee killed the bill with a rarely used measure called an "adverse committee report" that makes it nearly impossible for bills to be voted on by the House.

That same committee also approved a new estimate forecasting Montana would take in an additional \$100 million in revenue over the next two years—essentially eliminating financial justification for the tobacco tax increase.

Rep. Zach Brown, a Bozeman Democrat and a taxation committee member, said he opposed the bill because it would have hit poor smokers the hardest.

But he believes the adverse committee report was a strategy hatched by tobacco lobbyists.

"They put the death nail in it, for sure," Brown said.



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LIVE MUSIC BEGINS AT 6 PM:
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**Section 2:**ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS
HEALTH & DINING







# The New West: Saying goodbye to Yellowstone's Bob Barbee

## A giant who proudly wore the green and gray



BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Gushing at the lip of Old Faithful Geyser on May 20 came an eruption of reverence and mirth. It flooded forth for a man eulogized by his grandkids simply as "Poppy"; for the rest of us, the spirit portrayed in photographs, in the green and gray uniform he proudly wore for 42 years, was the late giant known as Bob Barbee.

Barbee died last fall just shy of his 81st birthday. His memorial waited until spring, a season he savored and at a venue that, in ways too complicated to explain here, helped cement his place in the conservation lore of America.

During his 11 years at the helm of Yellowstone, from 1983 to 1994, Barbee came to represent the prototypical modern National Park Service superintendent. His management laid the groundwork for bringing back wolves and recovering grizzly bears. He fought off development that could have harmed Yellowstone's geysers and hot springs, and he recognized the need to impose limits on polluting snowmobiles.

Barbee voiced opposition to the misguided New World Mine targeting the park's back doorstep and solidified Yellowstone's scientific research division. What's more, he had the audacity to say Yellowstone's wellbeing was interwoven with the health of public and private lands surrounding it.

Above all, and forever, Barbee's tenure will be associated with the historic Yellowstone forest fires of 1988—those uncontrollable, unpredictable and unstoppable blazes that ushered forward a new era in thinking about fire.

Although Barbee's record might suggest otherwise, he wasn't an environmental crusader. The truth is he didn't have to be; he knew his job looking after Yellowstone made him a protector by mandate and it was a responsibility he took seriously.

Besides being a highly decorated civil servant, there is much the public doesn't know about Barbee. As his obituary noted, he was a passionate outdoorsman, an alpinist who summited all of Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks, a marathon-level runner and an avid skier. He also was a photographer who studied with Ansel Adams in Yosemite and he loved traveling. Together with his wife of 58 years, Carol, he visited all seven continents and chronicled those journeys with his camera.

Barbee commanded awe for unleashing rhetorical one-liners typically aimed at people or political decisions he believed didn't have the best interests of Yellowstone at heart. Like the irreverent wisecracks of the late Yogi Berra, his "Barbeeisms" became legendary.

They were cited in abundance by dear friends and colleagues who gave moving tributes at his memorial—current Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk; former Grand Teton Superintendent Jack Neckels; Rob Wallace, former U.S. Sen. Malcolm Wallop's chief of staff and Republican staff director for the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee; former Yellowstone assistant superintendent Joe Alston; former Park Service Director Jon Jarvis; former Hamilton Stores president Terry Povah; and former Yellowstone public affairs chief and senior federal resources manager Joan Anzelmo.

Be it political pressure, threats and intimidation made to him or colleagues, or bad policy handed down, Barbee's responses left no doubt what he thought of people who wanted to shamelessly exploit Yellowstone.

"They came in, but their knuckles were dragging," was one Barbeeism. "It's the smell of marble that captures them," was another directed toward ill-informed lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

For those hell-bent on slaughtering Yellowstone bison or claiming the park was overgrazed and needed to be managed like a livestock pasture, he once said, "What do you expect from a group that sees the world through the ass-end of a cow?"



Bob Barbee in 1987, during his prime as Yellowstone National Park superintendent. NPS PHOTO

Or when political appointees made overtures about weakening environmental laws: "They are tapping out a message on a dead key," or, "He's in low orbit and leaving a slime trail."

Barbee could cut antagonists down to size like the best stand-up comic: "I think he has some redeeming qualities but certainly some missing lobes," or, "It makes you think of sliding down a bannister with a razor blade on top," or, "No vomiting, no paper bags, no primal screams."

For overly idealistic environmentalists or even those in the ranger ranks, he might say, "If honesty will get you somewhere, give it a shot," or, "Always ingratiate yourself to the ruling class," or, "If the ambiguity of the National Park Service bothers you, go try the U.S. Postal Service."

Some of the most poignant lines he reserved for lobbyists and others he had little respect for: "I trust you but let's cut the cards," or, "They are leaving like fleas from a dead rat," or, "Keep your lips pursed and a tight sphincter."

There were things about Yellowstone neither Barbee nor his staff were ever willing to compromise away. It won him gratitude and allegiance. At one point near the end of the memorial, three group howls were sounded; a moment later, those in the room hoisted a bourbon toast.

Todd Wilkinson has been writing his award-winning column, The New West, for nearly 30 years. Living in Bozeman, he is author of "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek" about famous Greater Yellowstone grizzly hear 399 featuring 150 photographs by Tom Mangelsen, available only at mangelsen.com/grizzly. His profile of Montana politician Max Baucus appears in the summer 2017 issue of Mountain Outlaw, on newsstands June 2.

# MSU alumnus wins fellowship in conservation science to study impact of forest disturbances on Western water supplies

**MSU NEWS SERVICE** 

BOZEMAN - Tony Chang says his parents were skeptical when he earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and then spent the next three years basically living out of his car while working for the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service and several conservation corps.

But those experiences, followed by two more academic degrees, turned the recent Montana State University graduate into a scientist with such unique skills that he has just been awarded the premier postdoctoral fellowship in conservation science.

Chang was one of five recipients of a 2017 David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship, which will give him \$55,000 a year for two years, plus \$40,000 for research. With it, he will conduct an innovative research project on forest disturbances and how they affect water supplies across the West. He will collaborate with researchers at Conservation Science Partners Inc., Colorado State University and NASA.

"It worked out," Chang said, referring to the unusual path that led to his second fellowship in two years.

Chang used his first fellowship—a renewable NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship for \$30,000 a year for three years—to fund his doctoral research into the die-off of whitebark pine in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Chang earned his Ph.D. this spring in MSU's Department of Ecology in the College of Letters and Science under the mentorship of professor Andrew Hansen, director of MSU's Landscape Biodiversity Lab.

With his latest fellowship, Chang will use state-of-the-art modeling to determine on a massive scale how disturbances in forests affect the availability of water. He will use satellite images and other sophisticated tools to count nearly every tree—dead or alive—in the West. He will then see how many trees are lost over a year to such things as insects and fire. Finally, he will analyze the data to see how those losses affect water availability for people.

Trees influence the speed that snow melts and runs down mountains. They also influence rates of evaporation from the ground surface and water transpired through their leaves. But Chang will take a much deeper look at the exact relationship between forests and water. He wants his research to benefit natural resource managers as they develop strategies for regional forests and water conservation.

"In the past 30 years, land management protocols, climate change and land use have substantially changed the frequency and magnitude of disturbance regimes within forest ecosystems," Chang explained. "Landscape-scale disturbances such as drought, wildfires and insect outbreaks can radically change forest structure resulting in impacts on watersheds that may affect water quantity/quality for natural resource use.

"Although many studies exist analyzing the impacts of forest disturbances on a single or limited subset of watersheds, a national-scale analysis with an increased sample set can vastly improve inferences and better characterize general patterns of watershed impacts," Chang said.

In addition to providing a critical tool for natural resource managers, he wants his research to benefit everyday citizens, Chang said.

"My hope is to try to develop a way to bring the importance of public land to the ordinary person," he said. "I think there's a disconnect between urban-centered populations and the value of our natural forests. Given the drought in California and a lot of the West, there is relevance to better understand our forests in terms of how they affect our water situation, how much water we have and how much water we will have available for human use."

Chang saw that disconnect for himself after moving to the United States from Taiwan at age 3 and growing up in Los Angeles. He said urban dwellers tend to think of forests as pretty places where they go to play. They don't think of forests as regulating the water that directly relates to their lives.

"I was an indoor kid," Chang said. "I spent a lot of time in front of a television set, not knowing the value of being outside until later in my life. When I got the opportunity to go outside during my college years, it was pretty profound for me."



Tony Chang, a doctorate student of ecology and environmental sciences and graduate research assistant at Montana State University, was recently named a David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellow. PHOTO BY ADRIAN SANCHEZ-GONZALEZ

He became an avid rock climber who received an American Alpine Club "Live Your Dream Grant" which allowed him to climb four peaks in a week in the Sierra Nevada. He became an elite wildland firefighter who fought complex wildfires in 26 states. He worked a variety of jobs that had him literally on the ground level of implementing federal policies for restoring landscapes and wildlife on public lands.

In fact, he doesn't think his new fellowship and the opportunity it provides would have been available to him without public lands, Chang said.

Brett Dickson, president and chief scientist of Conservation Science Partners Inc. in Truckee, California, said, "To me, Tony is really a model Fellow.

"As a former engineer, he comes from a nontraditional professional background but knows how to put this same background to use in solving pressing conservation problems," Dickson said. "In this context, he's taking advantage of opportunities to be creative and quantitative, but also truly innovative with his work."



# EYE ON THE BALL Celtics win draft lottery



BY BRANDON NILES **EBS SPORTS COLUMNIST** 

With all of the excitement of the NBA playoffs, it's easy to forget about the annual draft lottery, which happens during the conference finals every season.

The NBA is unique in its draft process, as all nonplayoff teams are given a chance to win a top-three selection. Based on the team's record, odds are given

to each team, which are basically digital ping pong balls in a computer. The team with the worst record has a 25 percent chance at one of the top three picks, and each lottery team in ascending order of record has a slightly lower chance. After the top three slots are determined, the rest of the lottery is slotted in reverse order of record.

The lottery had an interesting twist this year, because the Boston Celtics won the first pick despite playing in the Eastern Conference finals. The Celtics obtained this pick from the Brooklyn Nets—who finished with the worst record this season—in a blockbuster trade that happened back in 2013. The trade included aging stars Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce going from Boston to Brooklyn, with the Nets sending back first-round picks in 2014, 2016 and 2018, along with the right to swap first-round picks this year.

The trade was questionable at the time, with Garnett and Pierce on the downside of their careers, but in hindsight it looks like one of the worst trades in league history. A mere four years later, Garnett and Pierce are long gone from the Nets' squad, while valuable draft picks are still being sent to the Celtics. The Nets have the worst roster in the league right now and don't have the necessary draft assets to rebuild.

The Celtics on the other hand are in the rare position of competing deep into the playoffs while still stockpiling young talent—through excellent coaching and savvy trades and free agent deals that brought All-Stars Isaiah Thomas and Al Horford to the team. Last year's first round pick from the Nets ended up being the third overall selection, which Boston used to grab small forward Jaylen Brown.

Brown had minimal impact on a competitive team this season, averaging 6.6 points and 2.8 rebounds in 17.2 minutes per game. However, he's a long, athletic wing who shot 34.1 percent from beyond the arc in his rookie year, and has the potential to develop into a legitimate wing defender and possibly a third option on the offensive end.

With the first pick in this year's draft, Boston stands to add elite talent to an already potent roster. Whether they select a top prospect like Washington guard Markelle Fultz, or trade the pick to get veteran help, the Celtics should get some immediate help as they make another run at a championship next season. Fultz has the ability to be an impact scorer and could play well in the backcourt with Thomas.

To make matters worse for Brooklyn, the Nets' roster doesn't look like it's going to be much better next year than it was this season, meaning that 2018 pick could very well end up being another top-three selection for Boston. The Nets are clear of this trade after that, but if Fultz ends up being a franchise player, his entire career will be a constant reminder to Brooklyn fans of what might have been.

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-bost of the 2 Guys Podcast.



#### Three fine art galleries in one block



#### Lone Peak girls' tennis team finishes season strong

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – Four Lone Peak High School varsity girls' tennis players traveled to Missoula to compete in the Class B-C state tournament May 19-21.

Senior Luisa Locker entered the tournament after winning the singles divisional championship in Big Sky, for the third consecutive year. The standout Big Sky player lost a tough match 6-2, 6-4 in the quarterfinal and was unable to repeat as state champion.

Sophomore Ashley Lundstrom cruised into the singles semifinals with a dominating 6-1, 6-0 victory, and then dropped to the consolation match after a roller coaster, 6-1, 1-6, 6-2 loss. During her first year on the team, Lundstrom finished second in divisionals and brought home third place in states.

In the doubles bracket, junior KP Hoffman and sophomore Solae Swenson earned their ticket to play in Missoula after claiming third place in divisionals.

"These two were put together as a doubles team just [in] the past few months and continued to get better every time they played together," said coach Carla Gorman. "They really performed excellently at the states! KP is team MVP. She worked tirelessly to improve her doubles and it truly paid off."



Lone Peak senior Luisa Locker's backhand helped her win her third consecutive divisional title May11-12 in Big Sky, but she was unable to repeat as the singles state champion in Missoula. PHOTO BY DOUG HARE

Overall, Lone Peak High School finished fourth place in the state, capping off a successful third season as a program.

Ellen Widell of Baker High School took home the singles championship, and Conrad High School's Dania Jones and Dalayne Van Dyke won the doubles title. Broadwater High School took home the overall team championship.

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## Starz signs with football powerhouse Carroll College

BY TYLER ALLEN EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – Eddie Starz is taking his talents to Helena's Carroll College and made it official on his signing day May 19 at Lone Peak High School.

The Big Horns' standout quarterback, and star basketball player, will join the storied Montana football program after considering three other schools—Washington's University of Puget Sound, and the University of St. Thomas and St. Olaf College in Minnesota.

"I chose Carroll because it felt like the like the right fit for me," Starz said. "They have a great coaching staff, great program, and I'm just excited to be a part of it."

Starz received All-State football honors in 2015 and 2016, the first season the program moved to Class C 8-man from the 6-man division.

Carroll's assistant coach Jim Hogan traveled from Helena for Starz's signing day in Big Sky.

"The thing that we see in him is that he's got a passion to play football," Hogan said. "When you watch his film, he's very athletic, very mobile and it appears that he makes good decisions out there on the field."

Hogan said there are a couple of other quarterbacks joining this year's class, but as the offensive line coach, he's particularly impressed by Starz's mobility.

"I like those scramblers, those guys that set up a little longer in the pocket," he said. "I think that Eddie stacks up very well in terms of the



Carroll College assistant football coach Jim Hogan visited Big Sky on May 19 for Eddie Starz's signing day with the NAIA division program. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

guys that are coming in, and what better program to go to [to] raise your athletic abilities. ... It'll be fun to watch that growth."

Carroll College is a private Roman Catholic liberal arts school and a traditional powerhouse in the Frontier Conference of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. They had a down year last season, finishing in the middle of the pack, but have won the conference championship 40 times including back-to-back titles in 2013 and 2014.

The Fighting Saints have also won six NAIA national championships with their most recent title coming in 2010.

Hogan said the Frontier Conference is likely the most competitive in the NAIA division.

"The teams in this conference really prepare you for the playoffs," he said. "We've been very successful over the years, and we continue to work to get back on track this year."

Starz returns to the field in Butte on Saturday, June 3, to play in the Bob Cleverley All-Star Treasure State Classic. He's been preparing with morning and evening sessions in the LPHS gym, according to Athletic Director and head football coach Matt Bakken.

"That work ethic will allow him to be successful at Carroll College," Bakken said. "He's just an all-around outstanding kid, terrific leader and athlete."



Starz sprints for yardage Sept. 5, 2015, during a 38-14 Lone Peak victory over rival West Yellowstone in Big Sky. PHOTO BY THERESA DA SILVA

# Young professionals group starts mentorship program with Yellowstone Club members

BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – On June 1, the Big Sky Young Professionals will begin a mentorship program that pairs community members in the early stages of their careers with experienced professionals.

The mentors will be members of the Yellowstone Club, one of Big Sky's private ski and golf communities.

Big Sky resident Lori Addicks will facilitate the program by setting expectations for both mentors and mentees, and by helping participants understand what kind of guidance they can expect.

"The [mentoring] relationship is often one that's focused on career development, skill sets, [and] sometimes opening doors," Addicks said. "It can be really invaluable in terms of getting some insight [into] what goes on in different industries and at different levels."

Addicks said 25 members of BSYP indicated they were planning to attend as of May 18, but that number could increase to 40 or 50 people by the June 1 event.

One reason there's so much interest in the program might be that many young professionals in Big Sky don't have the benefit of working in large organizations where structured training is part of their work experience, she said.

Addicks works in a private consulting practice focusing on leadership development, executive coaching and organizational development.

Part of the mentorship process involves getting the mentor-mentee match right, and Addicks will provide each person with a workbook to guide them along the





Big Sky Young Professionals founder Margo Magnant keeps brainstorming sheets from the group's first meeting taped up at the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce to feed her inspiration. PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT

way. She said that establishing clear expectations should help the relationship get off to a successful start.

Participants will indicate their preferences in terms of time commitment and will sign up to connect for one, three, six or nine sessions. Addicks said conversations will happen virtually, but that won't preclude the pairs from meeting in person if their schedules allow it.

"I'm really excited about the fact that there's an opportunity for individuals to really invest in the development of young professionals in this community," Addicks said. "I commend the Yellowstone Club [members] for offering that."

Margo Magnant, Big Sky Chamber of Commerce's membership director and the founder of BSYP, said she believes there's a lot of potential for the mentoring program.

"If it's implemented the way we hope it will be, I think it could really spell the success of the Young Professionals group," said Magnant, adding that a partnership with Yellowstone Club members could really set BSYP apart from other networking groups in Gallatin County.

Magnant said as of May 20, there were 37 Yellowstone Club members interested in serving as mentors, and club member David Givens will coordinate them.

The June 1 event is open to everyone, but the mentorship program will be reserved for paying members of BSYP, Magnant said. A pro-rated summer membership for June to Nov. 30 is available—a nod to the seasonal schedules of many of Big Sky's workers.

Magnant sees the group's efforts as one way to draw and retain a skilled and dedicated professional workforce. "If we can bring together like-minded folks for professional development, maybe we [could help them] secure their place in Big Sky and feel more at home," Magnant said. "That was my more personal motivation."

The group is committed to meeting at least once a month. Magnant said that the January luncheon on financial planning sold out and they're planning a similar event focused on health care for later this year.

BSYP has 34 paying members thus far—the membership is expected to grow—and its events are shared in a Facebook group with 174 members. The target age range is 21 to 39, "but we don't check driver licenses," Magnant joked, adding that there are a number of members who've passed the 40-year-old mark.

So far, the community's reception of the group's efforts has been positive, Magnant said. "I'll go out to dinner and people will come up to my table and ask about Young Professionals and what's next. I've had businesses calling me and asking if they can sponsor our next event [and] venues approaching me to ask if they can host us next."

The June 1 event will take place at the 320 Guest Ranch at 5 p.m. For more information, visit facebook.com/groups/bigskyyp.

## Montana's craft beer malting facility launches in Butte

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Leaders at the Montana Department of Commerce and Department of Agriculture helped Montana Craft Malt kick off its 10,000-ton malting facility in Butte on May 18. The facility will be home to the state's only craft beer malthouse making product exclusively from Montana-grown barley.

"Montana's craft beer industry is quickly growing and becoming known around the world as a destination for beer enthusiasts," Commerce Director Pam Haxby-Cote said. "Montana Craft Malt will make it easier for Big Sky brewers to access Montana-grown barley and market their craft brews as truly made in Montana."

According to the Montana Brewers Association's most recent data, Montana's 71 licensed breweries directly employ more than 700 people. Montana's craft beer industry's economic impact is estimated to surpass \$100 million each year. These brewers use 7 million pounds of malted grain each year, half of which is grown in Montana.

"With the addition of Montana Craft Malt, craft brewers will be more likely to use locally-grown grains, which are among the best in the world," said Agriculture Director Ben Thomas. "Not only is this a good thing for our brewing industry, but for the farmers and ranchers who fuel it."

Montana has long been recognized for having the highest-quality grain on the continent, including the state's malting barley. Montana Craft Malt will cater to craft brewers interested in specialty, small-batch malts for making unique beer.

The \$15 million project is a Montana Limited Partnership led by agri-businessman and Butte native Ron Ueland.

"Our founders and my family are proud that we can network with quality growers, barley breeders, brewers, Montana State University, and the County of Butte Silver Bow along with the State of Montana, to bring this neat value-added project to benefit Montana," Ueland said.



Montana Craft Malt, a new 10,000-ton malting facility in Butte, will be home to the state's only craft beer malthouse making product exclusively from Montana-grown barley. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE







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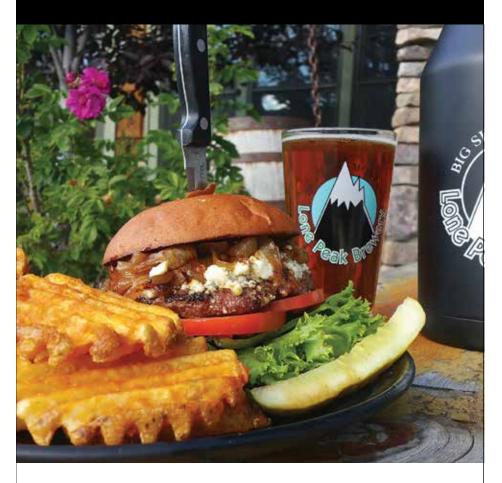
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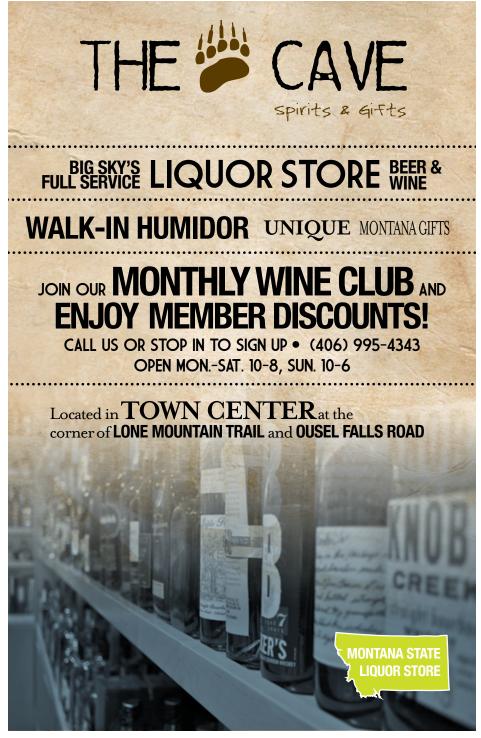
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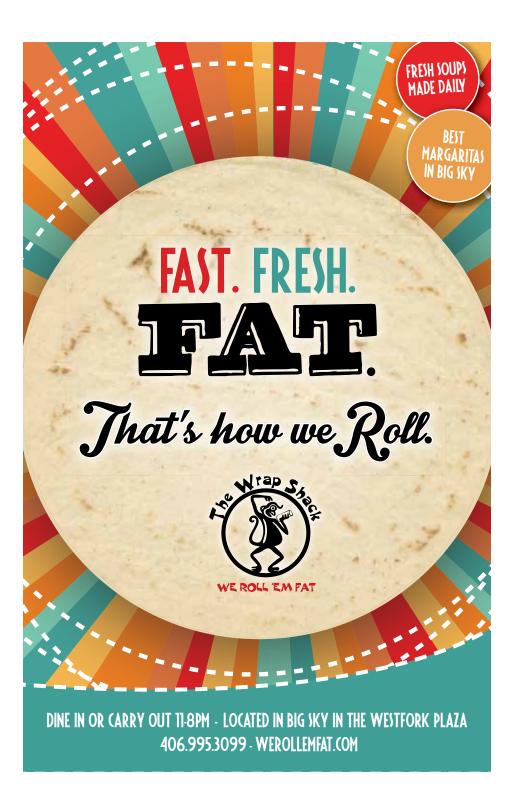
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#### **Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides**

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



We are excited for the commencement of spring runoff. It is a kind of cleansing that must take place every year, kind of like cleaning out your garage. And the more water there is, the cleaner the river gets. Seems a bit counterintuitive when the river will, for a period, look like chocolate milk.

The best part of runoff - fishing will be "off the hook" when the river begins to drop and clear. "When will that be?" you ask. It is probably safe to guess that the Gallatin will really start to turn around in mid-June. The Yellowstone will follow sometime around late June or early July. Of course, this is all a prediction based on current snowpack and most recent weather patterns. If it gets hot and stays hot things could shape up more quickly,

especially if you add a good amount of warm rain to the mix. Cooler weather, on the other hand, will prolong runoff.

Until then there are still plenty of options. Tailwater like the Madison tend to be more sheltered from spring runoff, especially the upper Madison above the West Fork. The West Fork itself puts a fair amount of mud into the Madison, making conditions downstream a little more challenging. There is a fair amount of mud that comes in from Cabin and Beaver Creeks in between Hebgen and Quake Lakes, but that mud has to move through Quake Lake and much of the silt settles before making it out the other end. The upper Madison is one of our more consistent fisheries, even after it's been hit with the mud.

The upper Gallatin above Taylor's Fork remains in fishable shape for much of runoff, but there will be a time when even that is too big and muddy to fish.

Spring creeks in the Paradise Valley are great options, but start to get busy during runoff with guided fishing trips and folks looking to get their dry fly fix.

Hebgen, Quake and high mountain lakes can be great options during spring runoff if you're ok with stillwater fishing. Many high mountain lakes also tend to have smaller creeks feeding in and out of them that may be chock full of fish this time of year.

Don't let the high water get you down. There are always options. Yellowstone National Park will reopen to fishing on May 27th, which will open up another mix of options. Tight lines and enjoy nature's version of spring cleaning!











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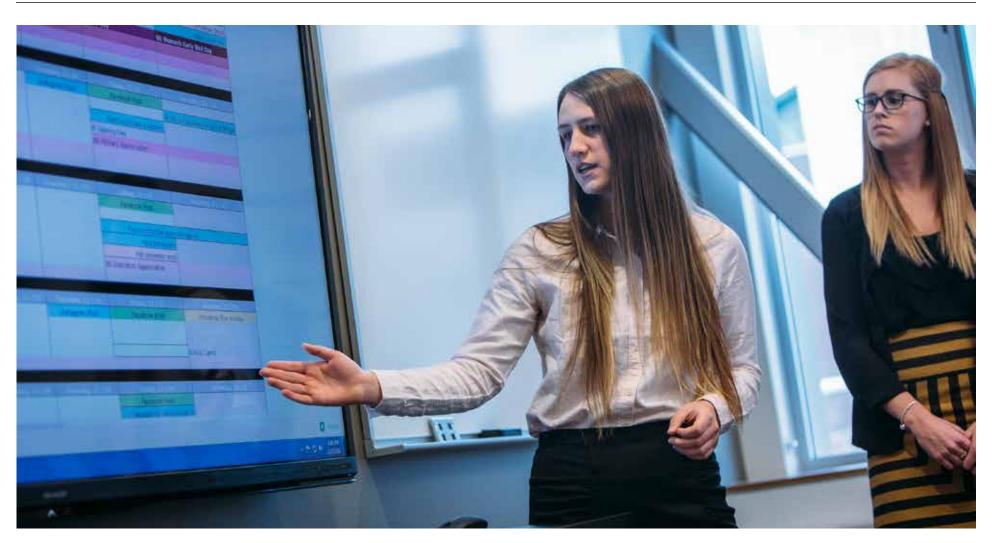
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Montana State University student Kayla Seaman, left, presents her team's strategic communications and marketing calendar to a client during fall semester 2016 as team member Whitnee Pearcey looks on. PHOTO BY ADRIAN SANCHEZ-GONZALEZ

# MSU business students offer consulting for area businesses, nonprofits

#### MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – Montana State University's Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship is seeking local and regional businesses and nonprofit organizations that are willing to offer students practical business experience in return for research, issue analysis or operational advice during the upcoming fall semester, which runs from Aug. 28 through Dec. 8.

Participating students will be enrolled in "BMGT 463—Entrepreneurial Experience" or "BMGT 475R—Management Experience." Both are senior-level courses taught by Gary Bishop, associate teaching professor of management.

Bishop said the entrepreneurial experience course is primarily focused on new startup organizations or small, locally owned businesses. The management experience course focuses on more established businesses, as well as civic and nonprofit organizations.

During the courses, students will help manage special consulting projects requested by area businesses and organizations. Past projects have

included developing business, marketing and financial plans; identifying ways to improve businesses; suggesting solutions to problems; rebranding businesses; developing websites and social networking sites; market and competition analysis; developing employee training and handbooks; and other business and management processes.

Organizations that wish to participate in the fall are invited to apply to the MSU Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship. Applications are due by Aug. 4.

In addition, the college has an internship program known as Student Entrepreneurs in Action. As part of the program, local businesses and organizations may apply to host a college intern from the program to work with them for 10 to 20 hours per week. In some instances, the student may work with the business or organization at no cost.

Application materials for both programs may be obtained by contacting Linda Ward at (406) 994-1995 or lward@montana.edu, or Gary Bishop at (406) 994-7017 or gbishop@montana.edu. More information also is available at montana.edu/business/e-center/for-companies.









#### BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

In spite of improvements in the U.S. economy since the Great Recession of 2007-2009, a 2015 survey by the American Psychological Association (APA) reports that many of us are still experiencing high levels of stress about money.

"Regardless of the economic climate, money and finances have remained the top stressor since

our survey began in 2007," according to APA CEO Norman B. Anderson. "Furthermore, this year's survey shows that stress related to financial issues could have a significant impact on Americans' health and well-being."

"Stress is an epidemic in our country, and sometimes people turn to unhealthy methods of dealing with it, whether it's unhealthy foods, or drugs and alcohol, or violence," said U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy in a 2016 New York Times interview.

Unchecked chronic stress can lead to health issues like depression, suicide, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, cancer, dental problems and a weakened immune system.

This is a primary reason that modern workplace wellbeing programs are incorporating financial education as part of a holistic approach to reduce employees' stress.

If you're looking for an excellent resource to help you and your family become more financially savvy, get familiar with the work of Beth Kobliner.

Kobliner, a former columnist for Money magazine, was selected in 2010 by former President Barack Obama to be a member of the President's Advisory Council on Financial Capability. There, she created Money As You Grow.org. This website is a free resource for parents and caregivers to help kids develop money skills.

Kobliner also authored two 2017 New York Times bestselling books. The first, "Make Your Kid A Money Genius (Even If You're Not): A Parents' Guide for Kids 3 to 23," guides parents on how to teach their children how to manage money. For a quick auditory overview of the book, listen to a 49-minute podcast produced by The Art of Manliness. In that episode (No. 297) titled "Making Your Kid a Money Genius," Kobliner highlights some key points of the book.

Her second book is a revised and updated fourth edition, "Get a Financial Life: Personal Finance in Your Twenties and Thirties." It's geared toward millenials—those born between 1983-2000.

According to a 2014 Pew Report, "On some key measures...this generation of college-educated adults is faring worse than Gen Xers, Baby Boomers or members of the Silent generation when they were in their mid-20s and early 30s." "Get a Financial Life" can help millenials decrease debt, avoid common money mistakes, and better understand how to develop their personal finances.

If you're not looking for advice to help children and you were born before 1983, check out Tony Robbins' new book published February 2017, "Unshakeable: How to Thrive (Not Just Survive) in the Coming Financial Correction."

I enjoyed listening to "Unshakable" on the Audible app. It's as if Robbins is having a conversation with the listener. He covers how to create true financial freedom, how to protect yourself and your family from inevitable crashes to come, what your 401(k) provider doesn't want you to know, how to uncover the hidden fees of the biggest financial firms and mastering the mindset of true wealth. His self-named podcast is also chock full of great financial guidance.

If money is causing stress and dis-ease in your life, take a deep breath and dive into these resources.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach, culture consultant and public speaker. Contact her at Jackie@corehealthmt.com.



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## **Neck pain progressing to** shoulder could be result of arthritis of the cervical spine



BY JEFF DANIELS **EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST** 

Have you ever woken up with a stiff neck? You might have experienced pain in your upper back, along the inner edge of the scapula, that didn't follow heavy lifting or other kinds of activity that could sprain a neck.

But it's hard not to think that you might have had some trauma to explain the pain. In a week, when it hasn't

diminished one iota, the pain starts to crawl up higher in the neck and down into one shoulder. By the end of the second week, there is numbness or tingling, or both, going down from the shoulder to the hand. Does this sound familiar?

I see people, usually adults in middle age, coming in with this symptom complex all the time. Most believe it's just a strained muscle, even thought there was no inciting event to cause a sprain. In most cases, the cause of the pain in the upper back and the numbness in the upper extremity is caused far away where the roots of the upper extremity nerves emerge from the spinal cord in the neck.

We all seem to develop arthritis, particularly in the cervical spine, and the nerves emerging out of the spinal cord through the arthritic vertebrae are vulnerable to being pressed on or irritated. The type of pressure arthritis puts on nerves coming out of the cervical spine can cause a whole host of symptoms.

Most people who come to the clinic with these kinds of complaints almost always admit that the first pain was along the inside border of the scapula, on one side or both. The medical term for this nerve irritation and the symptoms it produces is cervical radiculopathy.

Patients quickly discover that ibuprofen and Aleve don't work very well to alleviate their symptoms. Other prescription and over-the-counter antiinflammatory medications don't work either. Often, a strong pain reliever and muscle relaxant are what have to be prescribed to achieve any relief.

After X-rays have been taken to determine the degree of arthritis in the cervical spine, most patients are started on strong pain medications. But the main method we have to improve this condition has nothing to do with medication.

There is a device that you can use at home, 100 times a day if you have to, that works by gently separating the cervical vertebrae. By pulling straight up on the vertebrae, the cervical traction device takes some of the pressure off the involved nerves and will lead to healing and relief of symptoms.

The at-home cervical traction device is fairly simple to set up, use and adjust as needed. I've never seen it crack a patient's neck or make an immediate improvement, but daily use has given many people relief from their symptoms.

The cervical traction unit can be ordered online, bought at Price Rite drugs in Bozeman or picked up at the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.

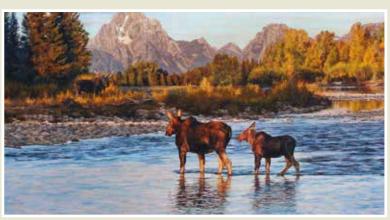
Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2015 Chamber of Commerce Chet Huntley lifetime Achievement Award and has been practicing medicine in Big Sky since 1994, when he and his family moved here from New York City. A unique program be implements has attracted more than 800 medical students and young doctors to train with the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.



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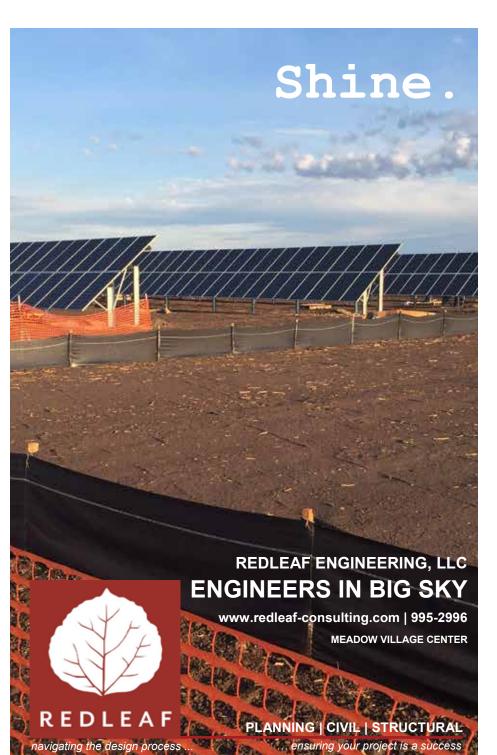
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## **Get ready for rhubarb**

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER EBS STAFF

The tart taste of rhubarb is a nostalgic one to me, bringing me back to summer days in Ohio, my mother tending to our family garden. I have fond memories of her clipping off a few stalks of rhubarb, washing them, and filling a bowl of sugar for me and my brothers to dip the crisp sticks into as a mid-day treat.

Rhubarb, a perennial vegetable typically used as if it were a fruit, is one of the first plants to be harvested in the springtime. The stalks range in color from pink to bright red, often streaked with stripes of green. They resemble celery, though the two are unrelated. When harvesting, look for longer, thinner stalks—they will be the sweetest and most tender. The large, flat leaves at the tips of the plan are poisonous if ingested, containing oxalic acid, a compound used in metal polish and stain removers.

The flavor of rhubarb is bracingly tart on its own, but preparing with a sweetener like sugar and honey can help balance the cheek-puckering flavor. Cooking the vegetable also helps to bring out the natural sugars present in the plant.

Though I have admittedly never purchased rhubarb—I always have it in my garden—fresh stalks will likely be available at your local farmers market or grocery store during the months of May and June. I highly recommend planting some in your garden. It re-grows annually, it's low maintenance, and nothing beats free, fresh garden-grown food.

The uses for rhubarb are endless—I've made everything from pies to curds, sauces to side dishes, and even cocktails. It can most definitely be used in both sweet or savory applications, sweet being the most common. If you're going this route, be sure to add plenty of sugar to balance out the tart flavor of the rhubarb. Roasting rhubarb brings out the natural sugars in the plant, and provides a great, unexpected topping to a fresh salad.



 ${\tt CC\ PHOTO}$ 

#### Spring Rhubarb Salad

4 cups loosely packed spinach
2-3 stalks of rhubarb, cut into bite-sized pieces
1-2 tablespoons honey
1/4 red onion, very thinly sliced
1/4 cup walnuts, roughly chopped
3 oz. crumbled goat cheese

Preheat oven to 400 F. Toss the rhubarb with olive oil, salt and pepper. Spread out onto a baking sheet and drizzle with honey. Roast in the oven for 12-15 minutes, until slightly soft and caramelized. Allow to cool.

Wash and dry the spinach well. Toss with the remaining ingredients and your favorite vinaigrette; a balsamic version pairs nicely with this salad.

#### **AMUSE-BOUCHE**

Amuse-houche 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.

#### Stick with the 'bee team'



BY SCOTT MECHURA EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

A few years ago, there was a shift in the horror genre of American entertainment, from vampires to the zombie apocalypse. I was recently made aware of a far scarier, and realistic, doomsday: the "beepocalypse."

Typically when I write about certain food items, I have a fair amount of preexisting knowledge. Yes,

I do my diligence on mushrooms or huckleberries, but by and large, through much time spent in this industry, I have a fair base of knowledge of said food item.

I've always been fascinated by the delicate balance of bees, pollen, pollination and flowers and as we approach warmer weather in southwest Montana, I had what I thought was sufficient material to write about the subject. I was wrong.

Pollination is the act of transferring pollen from the male anther of a flower to the female stigma, but it is far more complex than a honeybee pollinating a flower.

The flower color and shape determines what creature pollinates it, or the plant has evolved those traits based on what pollinates it. Referred to as pollination syndrome, it's so reliable that humans can predict, with very

little error, what type of insect or creature will pollinate a flower or plant based on its appearance.

Plants and flowers are pollinated by everything from beetles and hummingbirds to butterflies and even bats, but the majority is done by, well, "worker bees."

One example of this symbiosis is the fig tree. In tropical climates, there are more than 900 species of figs, and each one of those has evolved with its very own individual species of fruit wasp to pollinate it.

But in our efforts to keep unwanted insects away and create larger, more fruitful flowers and plants, or the "perfect" flower, our use of pesticides has become detrimental to, not the savior of, one of nature's most important relationships.

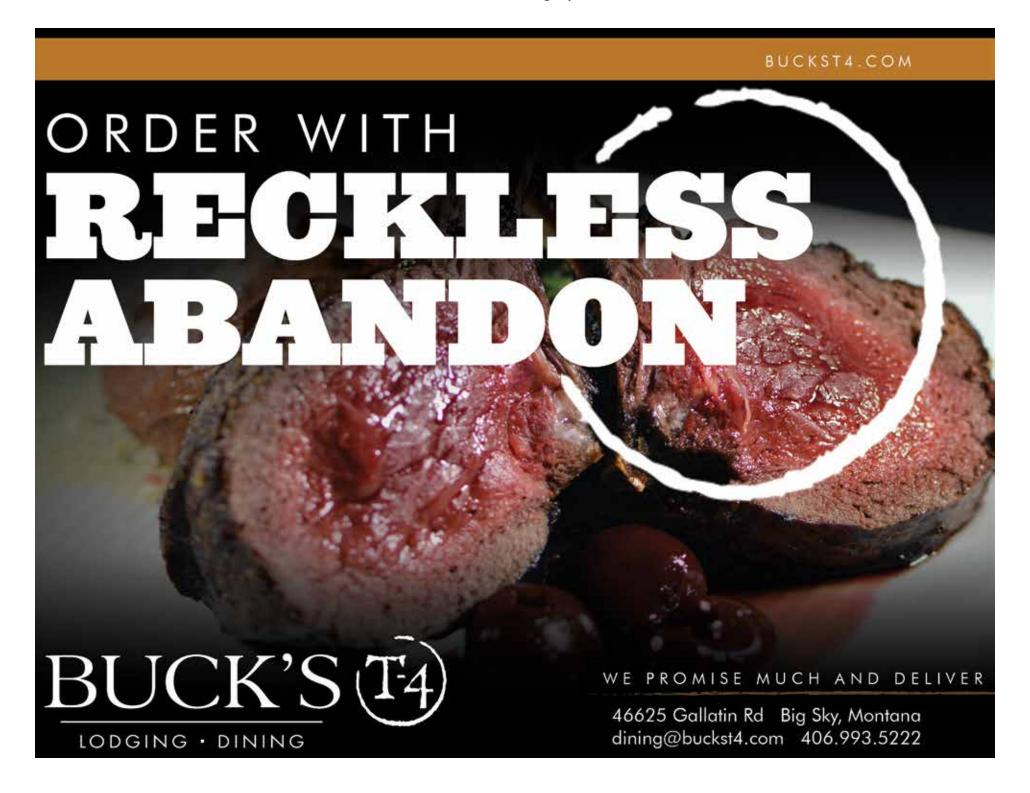
We are trying to engineer better plants, so we increase the potency of our chemicals, which in turn begins killing the very insects we need.

So what about that beepocalypse? It kind of sounds like Jeff Goldblum's character in the film "Jurassic Park," as he describes the tumultuous nature of humans and dinosaurs suddenly coexisting. The irony to me is that we make a fictional movie about two life forms that do not belong together, yet in reality, we are destroying a very impactful relationship between two species—and we are the common lifeform in both scenarios.

The entire Sichuan province of China has lost its bees due to excessive insecticide use. This means that in China's self-proclaimed pear capital of the world, humans are pollinating these trees on their own. On a perfect day, a human can pollinate as many as 10 trees. That sounds pretty impressive, until you realize one bee can visit 5,000 flowers in a single day.

If it's all the same to you, I'll stick with the "bee team."

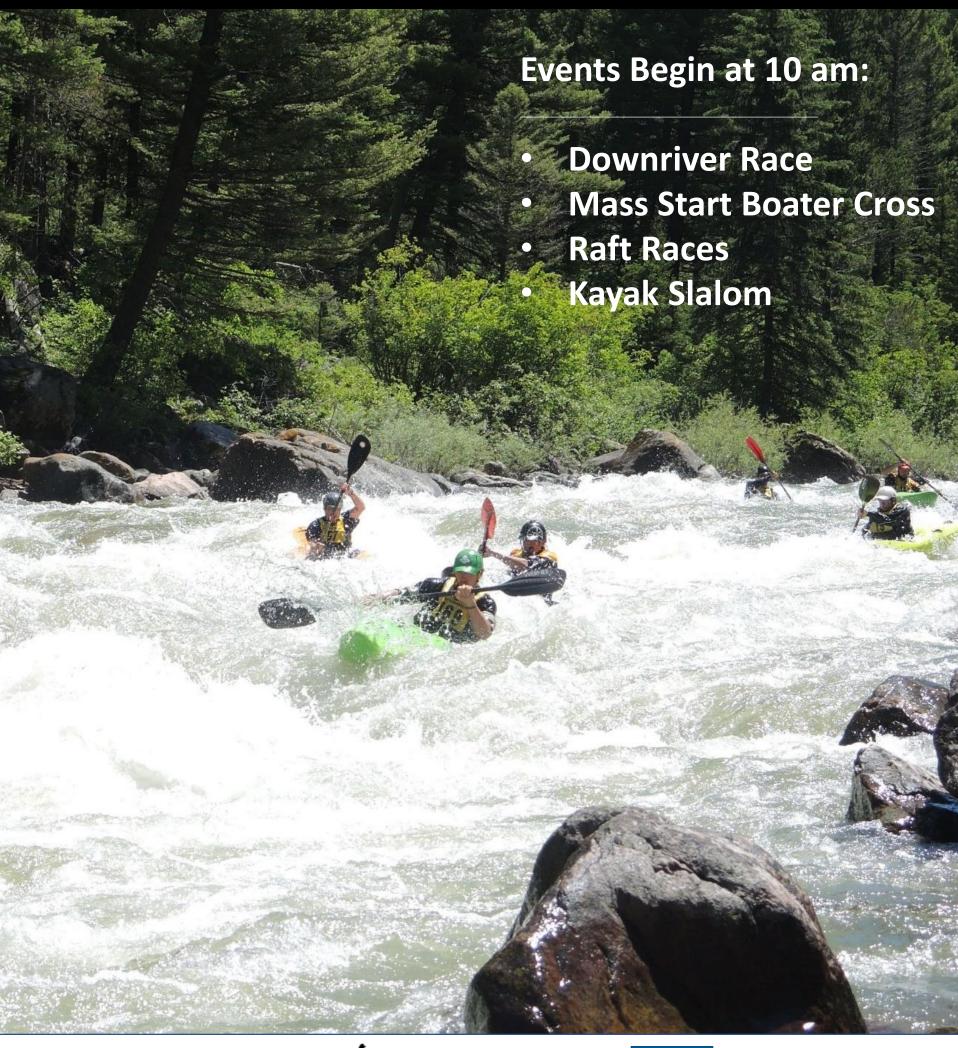
Scott Mechura has spent a life in the hospitality industry. He is a former certified beer judge and currently the Executive Chef at Buck's T-4 Lodge in Big Sky.



# **Wave Train Kayak Team**

presents

# GALLATIN WHITEWATER FESTIVAL June 24<sup>th</sup> 2017





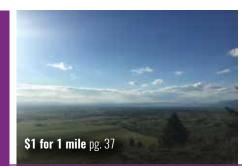








**Section 3:** OUTDOORS & BACK 40







# INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



#### \$10K reward offered for killer of rare Yellowstone wolf

BY MEAD GRUVER ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - The reward for information leading to whoever shot a rare white wolf found inside Yellowstone National Park rose to \$10,000 on May 12 after a wolf advocacy group matched a \$5,000 reward offered earlier by the park.

Yellowstone officials euthanized the severely injured wolf after hikers found the animal suffering in the northern edge of the park, near Gardiner, Montana, on April 11. The 12-year-old wolf that was killed was the alpha female of a group of wolves dubbed the Canyon Pack and a popular target of photographers.

The park offered a \$5,000 reward Thursday for information leading to a conviction after announcing a preliminary necropsy finding that the wolf had been shot.

The Montana group Wolves of the Rockies followed up with its own \$5,000 reward.

Park officials have not said whether they have leads in their investigation into who killed the wolf, but Wolves of the Rockies President Marc Cook

speculated the wolf's killer was someone angry about the reintroduction of wolves to the park more than two decades ago.

"People take matters into their own hands and feel they are above the law and they kind of flaunt that fact that they can do what they want to do and there's no repercussions," Cook said.

Park officials also have not commented on a motive for the wolf's killing, but many hunting outfitters and ranchers oppose the presence of the wolves, which now number about 100 in the park. Wolves prey on biggame animals popular with hunters, such as elk, and sometimes kill cattle on pastures outside Yellowstone.

The shooting happened at a time of transition for wolves in nearby Wyoming, where a federal appeals court ruled in March that they could be removed from Endangered Species Act protection.

Environmentalists had persuaded a judge to put wolves back on the endangered list in

Wyoming in 2014. Their concerns included a shoot-on-sight provision for wolves in most of the state, one that does not exist in Idaho or Montana.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia found Wyoming adequately addressed those concerns. Wolves went back off the endangered list in Wyoming on April 25.

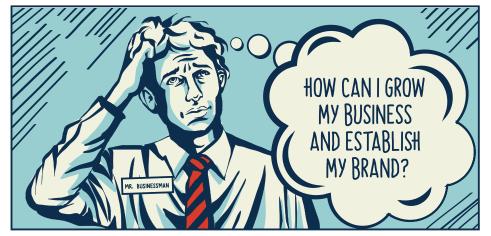
Reclassified by the state as predators of livestock, they once again may be shot on sight by anyone in most of Wyoming outside Yellowstone, Grand Teton National Park and nearby wild country. Relatively few wolves wander far from the Yellowstone region in Wyoming.

The wolf found shot in Yellowstone was more than 70 miles from where it could legally have been shot on sight in Wyoming, two weeks before wolves found there were taken off the endangered list.

The dead wolf was double the average age of a Yellowstone wolf and had at least 20 pups, of which 14 became yearlings. She was together with the same alpha male wolf for more than nine years, park officials said.



The alpha female from the Canyon Pack, shown above in April 2016, died after being shot this past April. Yellowstone National Park is offering \$5,000 for information leading to a conviction, an amount that's been matched by a wolf advocacy group. NPS PHOTO





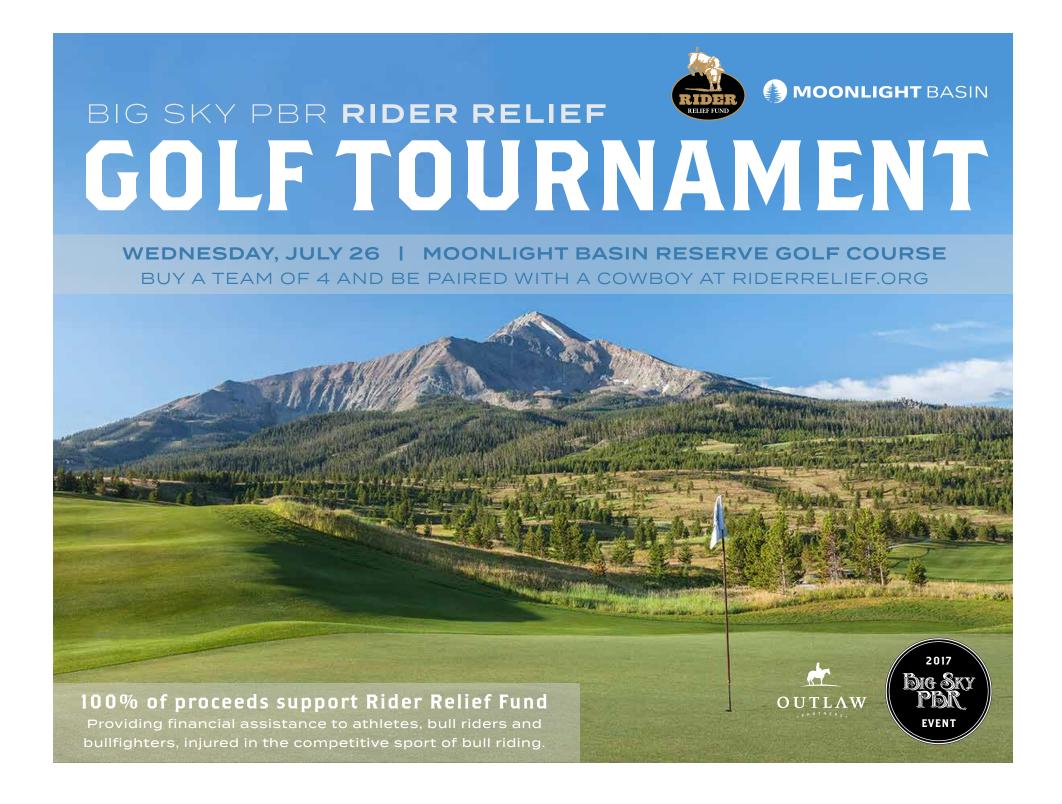




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#### New Montana fishing app designed to work in the backcountry

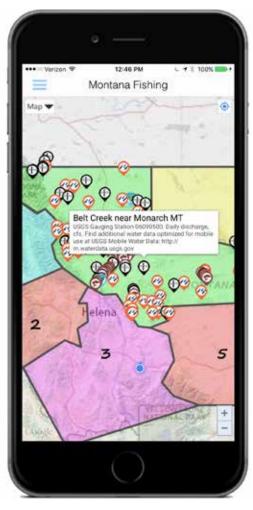
EBS STAFF

Bozeman-based MountainWorks Software has just released a new smartphone app designed to make fishing in Montana easier. Similar to the Montana Hunting Access app the company released last year, the Montana Fishing app includes every Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks fishing access site and campground, as well as U.S. Geological Survey stream gauge data on water flow and temperature, FWP stocking plans, shuttle services, fly shops and more. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management sites are likewise highlighted.

All of the information is provided through a map that works offline, via an iOS or Android smartphone.

Montana Fishing links fishermen to every USGS river-gauging station in the state, making flow and temperature data available at the user's fingertips. The app also includes the full set of Montana fishing regulations and provides the dates of FWP stocking activities, including the size and number of fish stocked.

Since fishing in Montana often means being on the water where there is no cell service or Wi-Fi, almost every aspect of Montana Fishing works regardless if the nearest cell tower is three counties away. The only feature that requires connectivity is real-time USGS streamflow data.



A new fishing app is designed to make fishing in Montana easier and eradicate the need for paper maps. PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNTAINWORKS SOFTWARE

The base map supplied with the app shows boundaries for public and private lands. The map is interactive and works with the smartphone's GPS. Users open the app and zoom to their current location to find stream, lake or river access points, and can pan around to plan where to head next.

Scott Bischke, part of the husband-and-wife team at MountainWorks Software said after safety, the single biggest issue for Montana fishermen is knowing where you can and cannot fish, and where you can legally best access the water.

Bischke's spouse Katie Gibson is a software developer who in recent years has concentrated on wildflower identification apps among others. Gibson said the app is a natural follow-up to the Montana Hunting Access app, which helps hunters identify where they can legally hunt and includes regulations for all 800-plus MFWP Block Management Areas.

"We designed Montana Fishing to be intuitive," Gibson said. "We want fishermen to spend their time fishing, not learning how to use our app. Likewise, we don't ask folks to buy separate maps after they've bought our app, or remember to download something from the web before they go fishing. Everything fishermen need, even if you change plans out on the way to the water, is included."



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# \$1 for 1 mile: GVLT hosts trail challenge and fundraiser

#### **GALLATIN VALLEY LAND TRUST**

The Bozeman-based nonprofit Gallatin Valley Land Trust presents the second annual Summer Trails Challenge, a collaborative effort between area residents, the City of Bozeman and dozens of public and private organizations.

Between National Trails Day on June 3 and June 23, community members are encouraged to record online how far they walk, hike or bike on area trails. For every mile reported, GVLT will receive \$1 from the Trails Challenge Fund, supported by dozens of community businesses. Gallatin Valley Land Trust has set a goal of reaching 45,000 miles with \$45,000 pledged from businesses in the Trails Challenge Fund, which is over 20,000 miles more than last year.

Participants can log miles at any point during the challenge, on any trail in the area, including all Big Sky area trails, as well as trails in the backcountry. Online reporting is done on an honor system, so walkers, hikers and bikers are encouraged to track their mileage to the best of their ability.

Prizes will be awarded at the end of the challenge for those who log the most miles, as well as several other categories. Participants are also invited to a celebration BBQ with Montana Aleworks at the GVLT office at 212 S. Wallace Ave. in Bozeman upon completion of the challenge. The BBQ is at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 23.

This summer trail challenge emerged out of an effort to celebrate past GVLT trail-building efforts and raise funds for future projects. Since 1990, GVLT has collaborated with the City of Bozeman and public and

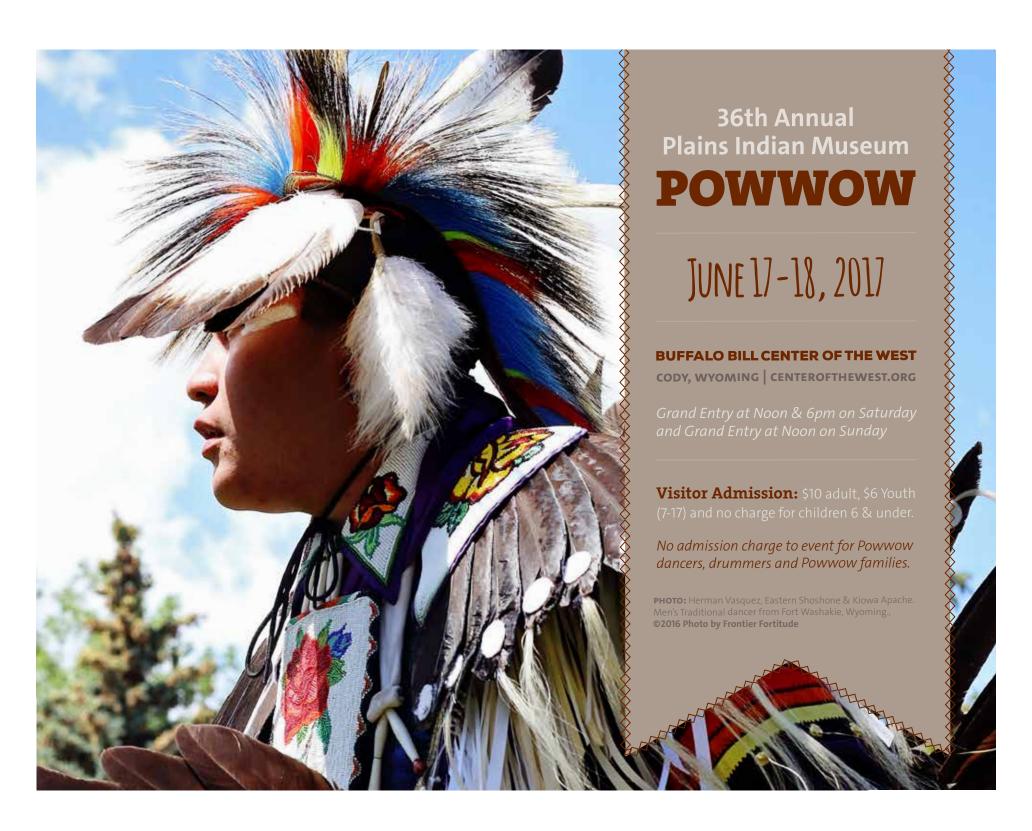


The view from the top of Triple Tree Trail, a popular destination for hikers, mountain bikers and runners. Triple Tree is included in the Summer Trails Challenge, which pairs recreation with fundraising. PHOTO BY AMANDA EGGERT

private organizations to expand the Main Street to the Mountains trail system to over 80 miles of trails. These trails are used by commuters, runners, bikers, birdwatchers, dog walkers and stargazers.

For more information on GVLT's Summer Trails Challenge, call E.J. Porth at (406) 587-8404, ext. 8, or visit gult.org/events/challenge to learn more and log miles.







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993-2008 or nancy@bigskydiscoveryacademy.org
Financial assistance may be available.

# Half marathon in Grand Teton National Park expected to draw 2,200 runners

#### **VACATION RACES**

Vacation Races, an event company that produces half-marathon races centered around national parks and national forests, is holding its annual Grand Teton Half Marathon in Jackson, Wyoming, June 2 and 3.

Starting with the race expo on June 2, runners and spectators will arrive in Jackson to run 13.1 miles and visit Grand Teton National Park. From 11a.m. to 7p.m., the Stilson Lot on the corner of Stilson Ranch Road and Beckley Park Way in Wilson, Wyoming, will be filled with runners, spectators and vendors.

This year's participants include visitors from 49 states and four countries, with 94 percent of attendees travelling from outside Wyoming. The event has over 2,200 running participants and is expected to bring around 4,400 people to town.

The race will take place from 6:30-11 a.m. on June 3. The course will take runners along Highway 22 through Teton Pass for a little over 1 mile and then onto the jogging trail near Wilson Elementary School. Runners will cross Moose-Wilson Road and use the pedestrian bridge over the Snake River. The course then gets back on Highway 22 and takes runners up to Spring Gulch Road, where they will run the remainder of the race before striding across the finish line at the Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club.

"The towns of Wilson and Jackson have been so helpful and supportive, we really appreciate being allowed to host this race every year," said Director of Race Operations Lyle Anderson. "We're sorry for any temporary inconvenience our event causes."

Vacation Races produces half-marathons against the backdrop of America's national parks and national forests. Vacation Races was founded in 2012 with events in the southwest U.S. and expanded this year to include races in Yosemite, Grand Teton, Yellowstone, Glacier, Rocky Mountain, Great Smoky Mountains, Shenandoah, Grand Canyon, Lake Powell, Zion and Everglades.



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This bare earth image shows what Big Sky's topography looks like without vegetation. The igneous intrusion at left, better known as Lone Mountain, will be one of the topics discussed by geologist Karen Williams on June 6. GOOGLE EARTH IMAGE

# From the 'very old' to the 'very new': Geologist to uncover Big Sky's foundation

BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – When Karen Williams looks at the Big Sky landscape, she sees an incredible and dynamic mix of geological elements—rock glaciers, landslides, faulted and folded rocks, and even an igneous intrusion—in close proximity to one another.

Williams, who has a doctorate in earth science from Montana State University where she is now an adjunct professor, will give an overview of Big Sky's geology in a free talk at 7:30 p.m. June 6, co-sponsored by Lone Mountain Ranch and the Madison-Gallatin chapter of the Montana Wilderness Association.

An igneous intrusion is roughly equated to a volcano that didn't quite breach the surface of the rocks above it, and the one Williams is referring to is Lone Mountain, arguably the most striking landscape feature in the region.

Williams said one of the oldest landforms in the area is located near the Dudley Creek side of the Spanish Peaks fault. Those rocks, which are classified as Archean, are approximately 1.4 billion years old and pre-date life on Earth.

But on the other side of the same fault, near the Big Sky Resort Golf Course, lies the opposite end of the spectrum. "That's limestone, and it's much younger than the rocks that are just over the ridge in the Dudley Creek area," Williams said.

During her talk, Williams will present zoomed-out images of the area without vegetation so attendees can get a better feel for the structure and composition of the rock below. She said that data, also known as bare earth imagery, allows people to get a better grasp of the geological forces at play. She likens the way rocks were faulted or folded to a canvas with more recent geological elements like landslides and rock glaciers akin to paint on the canvas.

"When you take off the vegetation and you look at the topography, you see landslides everywhere," Williams said. Although "landslide" might bring to mind "mud slide," not all landslides are instantaneous events with catastrophic consequences. "The more watery it is, the more likely it is to be a mud flow. ... There's different gradations depending on the material properties [and] how well it flows."

Williams said that there are a lot of tightly-folded shales in the Big Sky area, which tend to be weaker rock layers prone to sliding out.

Williams' fascination with Big Sky's geology was encouraged by a geomorphology class from long-time MSU professor Bill Locke. After Locke retired, Williams took over teaching that class. Her June 6 lecture will be based off a field trip to Big Sky she used to take with her students.

Williams' lecture will be held in Lone Mountain Ranch's B-Bar-K Cabin at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 6. Visit lonemountainranch.com or contact David Steinmuller at dsteinmul@msn.com for more information.

# Wyoming banks on good August eclipse views for tourism boost

BY BOB MOEN **ASSOCIATED PRESS** 

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — As Wyoming struggles to recover from a downturn in its mainstay energy industry, tourism officials believe the solar eclipse that will be visible across the state in August should give the state's economy a much needed boost.

"This is new money that will be pumped into our economy — all these people from out of state coming here to spend money," state tourism director Diane Shober said last week. "This is a gift that we really need."

Places where the Aug. 21 eclipse will last the longest — about 2 minutes and 20 seconds — include the cities of Casper and Riverton and the town of Jackson. The state should have ideal viewing conditions, attracting astronomers and global visitors, unless the day turns out to be cloudy or the sky is hazy because of smoke from forest fires.

State Homeland Security Director Guy Cameron has estimated about 350,000 people could visit Wyoming just to watch the first total solar eclipse to be seen from the mainland U.S. in almost four decades.

"It's a really great opportunity for Wyoming and for all of our communities all along the path of trajectory and really for the entire state and the region," Shober said. "People are coming here for the eclipse but they're coming to Wyoming for a vacation around the eclipse."

While the eclipse will only last a couple of minutes, Shober and others in the tourism industry hope first time visitors will like Wyoming so much that they'll return and encourage others to visit.

"It's really important that we turn this brief, one-time event into a long-term benefit to the community," Casey Adams, spokeswoman for the Wind River Visitors Council in Lander, said.

The eclipse offers free publicity to Wyoming because of increased media coverage, but Shober said it's important not to take it for granted.

"We can't just sit on that and just assume that everyone will come to Wyoming," she said. "There are many other places that are promoting the heck out of this eclipse."

Despite budget cuts to the state tourism office over the last several years because of declining tax revenue from the energy industry, Shober said her office is still engaged in promotion campaigns for the state through advertising and social media that promote the state and highlight "all the things that you can see and do all summer long in Wyoming whether you're here Aug. 21 or you're here May 21."

Wyoming is home to scenic attractions Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks as well as Devils Tower National Monument and expansive national forests and wilderness areas. The eclipse path passes over Grand Teton National Park.

"It's a way to create awareness and we're using it certainly as something that just can cause a conversation about Wyoming in markets near and far all around the world," Shober said.

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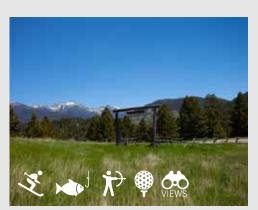
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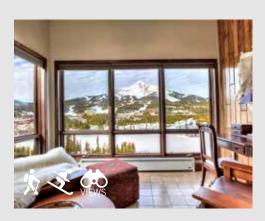
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# #EDDY Line

# Mud season: my gear arsenal the next few weeks



BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

As the calendar gets closer to June and our runoff season nears its peak, many of our local waters remain high and unfishable. There are exceptions on a few sections of the Upper Madison and waters on the west side of Yellowstone National Park—the park opens to fishing May 27—but it will be several weeks before the Gallatin and all of our

local creeks and rivers start dropping significantly and clearing.

When I was a young guide, back when a Clinton or a Bush occupied the White House, I reveled in loading up the truck and boat and hitting the road to find clean water—the farther from whatever couch I happened to be surfing that week, the better. Today, closer to fifty years in age than my prom tuxedo days, my angling choices keep me closer to home. And here's what I have with me at all times throughout the next few weeks.

**Quality rain gear.** The week of May 8, I spent a day guiding on Armstrong's Spring Creek in Paradise Valley. The forecast called for showers and light winds and a high temperature in the 40s F. Forecasters got the high temperature correct, but the showers were replaced with consistent rain the entire day. Often on spring creeks, the nastier the weather gets the better the fishing is, so we were thankful our rain gear allowed us to fish all day. We had the creek to ourselves—poor weather conditions are an ideal way to have solitude astream.

Pat's Rubber Legs, Girdle Bugs, streamers, and worms. Unless you're fishing one of the Paradise Valley spring creeks, fishing in runoff conditions means using larger, more weighted flies. Pat's Rubber Legs and Girdle Bugs imitate stonefly nymphs. As rivers rise, stonefly nymphs migrate toward the banks and the trout follow. Target bank-side structure, pockets, and eddy currents with these larger weight flies and you should find fish. The large profile of a streamer is more recognizable to a feeding trout, so consider dead-drifting or stripping a streamer pattern along a slower bank. Worm patterns, particularly weighted or brightly-colored worm patterns, imitate the variety of aquatic and terrestrial worms that are displaced during higher water.

**7.5-foot 0X and 1X leaders.** High and dirty water means shorter and stouter leaders and tippets. Because most of the food is near the bank or near structure, your flies will need to be as well. With a shorter leader, your presentation is more accurate. Precision in high water is crucial if you want to avoid snagging your flies and losing them. If your flies do snag on structure, the stouter tippet is less likely to break.



It's not pretty or traditional, but fishing a weighted worm is a good way to fish through runoff. Aquatic worms make up a good-sized portion of a trout's diet during periods of muddy water. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

1X, 2X, and 3X flurocarbon tippet. Like fly floatant in high summer, fluorocarbon is essential for fishing during runoff. Flurocarbon is lighter and stronger than monofilament tippet. As conditions change, a variety of tippet is important as well—1X for larger flies and dirtier water and then 2X or 3X for cleaner water and smaller flies. A standard runoff rig is a 7.5-foot 1X leader with a size 8 Pat's Rubber Legs tied directly to the leader. Tie 18 inches of 2X and another Rubber Legs, a Girdle Bug, or a brightly-colored worm pattern onto the bend of the hook and you should be set.

A varied selection of split shot or weights. Most of the flies listed above have weight tied into the flies as they are created. However, at times that weight is not enough and more must be added to the leader to ensure the fly gets to the required depth. When adding weight, start with less than you think you need and add more as required. It's easier to add weight than to remove it, and if you master your stack mend, you may be able to get your flies to the fish without adding weight.

Runoff is essential to the health of our rivers—high flows create new habitat, clean sediment and also mean we have good snowpack to last us through summer. Fishing during this short window of less-than-ideal conditions requires the necessary gear adjustments listed above and an adventuresome spirit.

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





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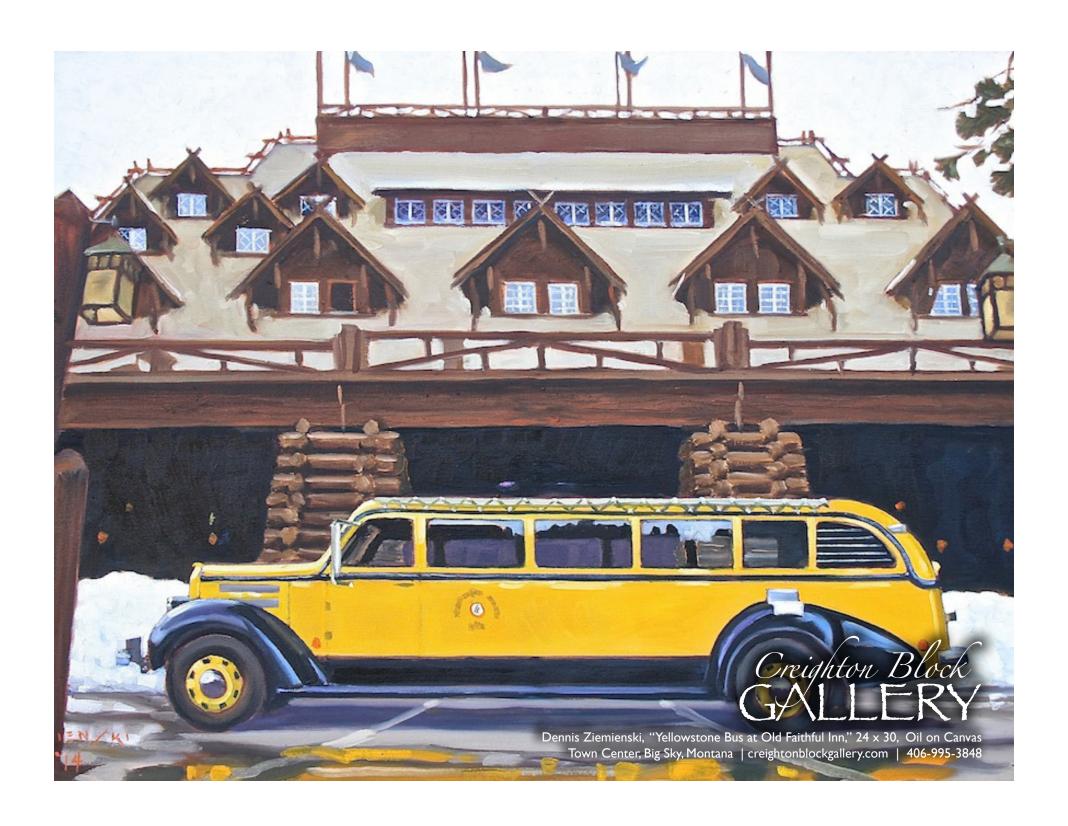






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# On the Trail: Indian Ridge Trail No. 444

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

#### BY CIARA WOLFE **BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Indian Ridge Trail is within the Custer Gallatin National Forest and links to several other trails that venture into the Lee Metcalf Wilderness and beyond. A moderately difficult trail with a longer distance and gratifying vistas, Indian Ridge Trail starts in a large meadow located directly off of Highway 191.

From the meadow at the trailhead, you'll travel through a damp, thick forest full of vegetation with mossy ground cover. You'll follow Logger Creek for about 0.5 miles before crossing the creek on a log bridge and starting to gain elevation.

The climb involves several long switchbacks of moderate grade that lead out of the heavily forested area and into wide-open meadows where glacier lilies, arrowleaf balsamroot, and lupine are in bloom. After cresting the hillside, you'll begin a climb (approximately 1 mile) onto the ridge. The ridgeline provides beautiful vistas of the Spanish Peaks and the Tobacco Root and Bridger mountains in the distance.

From the ridgeline, you can continue onto Little Hellroaring Creek Trail No. 400. If you opt to turn around and go back down the way you came up, you will have gone 10.9 miles round-trip. If you'd like to continue along Indian Ridge Trail, you'll follow the ridgeline to Arrow Lake and beyond.

Just beyond the Hellroaring Trail junction, this trail system enters the Lee Metcalf Wilderness and continues as far as Beacon Point, Gallatin Peak or Spanish Creek. This trail network makes Indian Ridge Trail a good launching point for multi-day trips or summiting nearby peaks.

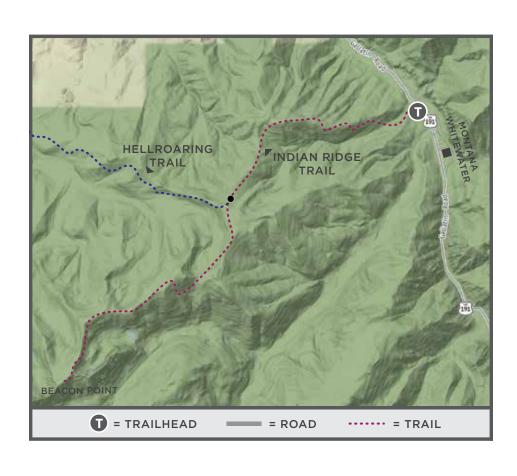
Indian Ridge Trail is an excellent full-day outing for hikers of intermediate level or those training for longer excursions. Much of the trail has a southfacing orientation that allows for early season sun and dry conditions, making this a great spring hike. The varying environment, from heavy forest to mountain meadows, provides exceptional views.



Indian Ridge Trail is a moderately difficult trail located in the Custer Gallatin National Forest that leads into the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

The trail is horse-, hiking- and biking-friendly, so please yield appropriately to the various user types. The Spanish Peaks are common bear habitat so please be bear aware when on this trail and come prepared.

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**













Dirt

Hike, trail run 5.4 miles and bike one-way

Moderate

Gain 3,869 ft

**Directions:** from Big Sky, drive 17 miles north on Highway 191. Indian Ridge Trailhead is located on the west side of the highway in a large meadow across from Storm Castle Peak. Beckman flats and Hell Roaring Creek Trailhead are located one mile south of the trailhead.

# BACKLI

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"

# **Back 40: An overview of conservation easements in Montana**

BY JESSIE WIESE EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Big Sky is a special place. What makes it special to each of us varies, but I would bet that many of you moved here to enjoy the wildlife, clean water and scenic views. Land trusts throughout Montana help preserve these unique regional qualities through their work on voluntary conservation easements, and have been successful in doing so, protecting over 2.5 million acres of open space in Montana. However, with the U.S. losing more than an acre of farmland every minute, and Montana losing 1,500 acres of open space to development each month, this is important work and there is more of it to be done.

Montana Land Reliance is one of a handful of organizations in the area that partners with private landowners to permanently protect agricultural lands, fish and wildlife habitat, and open space.

To date, MLR has conserved over 990,000 acres in Montana, 290,000 in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and 1,659 miles of riverfront. In Gallatin County alone, MLR has worked with 50 landowners to protect over 35,750 acres, 65.6 miles of streamfront, and over 15,580 acres of elk habitat. In Madison County, MLR has worked with 110 landowners to protect over 129,700 acres of private lands, 224 miles of streamfront, and nearly 75,000 acres of elk habitat.

#### Conservation easement basics:

A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement between a landowner and land trust that protects a property's conservation values in perpetuity. They protect properties from inappropriate development, for example, and are the legal glue that binds a property owner's good intentions to the land. Donors of conservation easements retain title to their property, and the conservation easement runs with the title to the property regardless of changes in future ownership. They do not automatically grant public access, but do not preclude it.

In addition to protecting a treasured piece of property, granting an easement may yield tax savings for landowners. Think of land ownership as holding a bundle of rights that may include the right to subdivide, construct buildings, irrigate, harvest timber or restrict access. A landowner may sell or donate the whole bundle of rights or just one or two of those rights. If any of those rights, the protection of which would yield conservation benefits, is donated to a non-profit land trust, it may qualify as a charitable contribution under IRS tax code and could thereby reduce income, estate and gift taxes. The June 9 Back 40 article will go into potential tax implications in greater detail.

A conservation easement spells out the uses that are consistent and inconsistent with the conservation values desired by the landowner. The land trust holding the easement is required by law to monitor the property annually to ensure compliance with the easement. No two conservation easements are alike. Each is tailored to the unique character of the land and the conservation desires of its owner(s).

# Some general examples of the types of uses that can be allowed by a conservation easement are:

- Continued agricultural and silvicultural use
- Construction of buildings, fences, water improvements, etc., necessary for agriculture and compatible with conservation objectives
- Sale, devise, gifting or other method of transferring parcels, subject to terms of the easement



Montana Land Reliance has conserved more than 1,600 miles of riverfront across the state, including sections of the Ruby River near Sheridan. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN

- Landowner control of access
- Additional family and employee residences compatible with conservation objectives
- Wildlife and fisheries protection, restoration and enhancement projects
- Any and all uses not specifically prohibited

#### Uses that are generally restricted by a conservation easement include:

- Subdivision for residential or commercial activities
- Construction of non-agricultural buildings
- Non-agricultural commercial activities
- Dumping of non-compostable or toxic waste
- Surface mining

The terms of the easement do not in any way negate or modify state or federal law. Specifically, a conservation easement cannot prevent condemnation, and does not alter property taxes or the state's tax base.

Montana law also requires that county planning authorities review the easement and give non-binding advice about the easement's effect on the county's comprehensive plan, if one exists. After review by the county, the deed of conservation easement is duly recorded.

In the June 9 issue of EBS, I'll outline steps involved to set up an easement and explore how conservation easements impact income, estate and gift taxes.

Jessie Wiese is Montana Land Reliance's southwest manager. For more information about easements and the work being done in Big Sky, contact her at jessie@mtlandreliance.org

The Montana Land Reliance was established in 1978 and serves all of Montana with satellite offices in Big Fork, Bozeman, Big Sky and a main office in Helena. For more information, visit mtlandreliance.org.

# **Section 4:**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT









# **Feet on the ground; head in the sky and the horizon in between** Whitefish artist Shawna Moore shows new work at Gallatin River Gallery

### BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Whitefish artist Shawna Moore's paintings are distinctly abstract, yet reassuringly familiar and recognizable in some elemental way. Often composed of two blocks of color split by a single line, they illustrate how a simple allusion to the horizon is enough to render a work a landscape, and for the viewer to orient him or herself within the piece—and the world at large.

"It's a reference point," said Moore, who frequently distills her compositions into top and bottom, earth and sky. "It's placing yourself in time and place. But as an artist, to say 'the top is blue and the bottom is yellow and it's a landscape' ... that's pretty radical. It's taken me years to give myself permission to say that and do that."

Moore's work has been compared to that of abstract expressionist Mark Rothko, and while Moore rattles off a litany of ways their work is different, from a squinty distance the comparison resonates. But unlike the cold geometric aesthetic conveyed by some abstract art, Moore's exudes a tactile warmth from the rich depths of her beeswax-based medium.

"It's kind of like skin," Moore said about working in encaustic. "It's made out of plants and the efforts of an insect—it's flowers basically. It's a little more alive, a little more like us."

In a new solo exhibition called "Borderlines" that opens at Gallatin River Gallery on June 13, Moore will be showing new encaustic paintings as well as a selection of monoprints that came out of a recent residency at Atelier 6000 in the artist's home town of Bend, Oregon.

Based on a series of travel sketches—gouache and watercolor renderings of the Costa Rica sea, sky and beach where Moore spends a few months out of the year—Moore worked with master printmakers to create bold, blocky prints of overlapping forms until the possibilities of color combinations were nearly exhausted. More than any of her other work, the prints stir up thoughts of Piet Mondrian, and harken back to her architectural studies at the University of Oregon.

Although Moore's mother was an art teacher and she remembers a childhood steeped in art, Moore said she didn't get the sense that being an artist was a viable profession—so she chose something close, architecture, which allowed her to take art classes in UO's closely aligned fine art program.

Moore dropped out of the five-year architecture program in her last term.

"I mutinied," said Moore, who returned to Bend and spent the next 10 years working odd jobs while consistently taking painting classes.

In 2003, she and her husband, a logger, and their 2-year-old daughter moved to New Mexico for his job, and lived on a remote pueblo outside of Santa Fe.

"I was stuck at home," Moore said. "It sounds horrible but it was really the best thing that happened to me. I thought, 'if I can't do this here, it will never happen."

Santa Fe was experiencing a boom in its art-centric economy and Moore received a creative encouragement she hadn't found in Oregon. She also took her first encaustic class, a relatively novel medium at the time.

"It's taken me all that time between then and now to get to the point that I'm really good at it," Moore said.



Whitefish artist Shawn Moore presents new encaustic paintings and monoprints in a solo exhibition at Gallatin River Gallery opening on June 13. PHOTO BY PIXIE MOORE

Today, Moore finds her daily horizon on Whitefish Lake and has a warehouse studio in town with a roll up garage door—"every artist's dream," she says.

Rooted in a formal painterly education, with an architect's eye for structure, Moore plays with the technical aspects of composition—foreground, background and mid-ground, borders and framing—but the overall effect, especially in her encaustic works, is sublime.

All of her work is landscape referenced, some linked to a specific place before she begins; others revealing the connection only after she begins to lay down pigment.

"Sometimes I put it into a painting and sometimes it comes out of the painting," Moore said. In the last five years, her process has increasingly developed into a dialogue with the piece.

"It's this language of color and form," she said. "It's a deeply held understanding I've had for a long time. It picks up everything I am and returns it back to me ... you invest so much of yourself into something, it almost starts becoming you."

Moore enjoyed temporarily switching gears to print-making and the reciprocal work that came out of the residency—some of the new encaustic pieces she will be showing at Gallatin River Gallery were inspired by the smaller prints she made in Oregon. Print-making allowed for a little more chaos and clutter in the frame—a sense of overlapping windows and doorways—than working in wax, she said. But Moore is always drawn back to expressing complexity as simply as possible.

"I like to think things can be distilled into a very simple truth," Moore said. "A single line or the sky and ground. I really have a desire for things to be simple—maybe I can't have that in my life, but in my art I can. It's just the sky; it's just the ground; it's just a painting, colors."

"Borderlines" opens at Gallatin River Gallery in Big Sky Town Center on Tuesday, June 13, and runs through July 29. Visit gallatinrivergallery.com or shawnamoore. com for more information.

# WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The Gallatin River Task Force awards cash rebates to Big Sky residents, who choose to make water conservation a priority at home. **Each drop of water saved is one that remains in the river.** 

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# Moonlight Basin to host charity golf tournament for injured bull riders

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – On Wednesday, July 26, the Reserve at Moonlight Basin will host the inaugural Big Sky PBR Golf Tournament benefitting the PBR Rider Relief Fund. Eighteen teams of four will partner with bull riders to play a nine-hole, five-person team scramble tournament with a shotgun start scheduled for 2 p.m. The registration fee covers four greens and cart fees, lunch, refreshments and a chance to win prizes. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. and after the golf, there will be live music, happy hour specials, and a mechanical bull.

All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the Rider Relief Fund, a nonprofit founded in 1998 that provides financial assistance to bull riders and bullfighters injured while competing or participating in bull riding events. Given the inherent risk of the sport, RRF has been helping injured bull riders cover the costs of lost earnings as well as negotiating with health care providers to minimize medical expenses.

"[We've] had such great success raising money for injured athletes during Big Sky PBR. The generosity of the community has been amazing," said Jill vanEgmond, director of fund development for RRF. "We are excited to have an opportunity to connect with more of the community through our



The 777-yard, par 5 17th hole at The Reserve offers stunning views of the North Summit Snowfield. PHOTO BY MATTHEW TURLEY



The sixth hole at The Reserve offers an iconic vista of Cedar Mountain in the distance. PHOTO BY AIDEN BRADLEY

inaugural golf tournament ... and grateful for the generosity of Moonlight Basin and the involvement of Outlaw Partners." (Big Sky PBR is coproduced by Outlaw Partners, which also publishes EBS.)

"Moonlight is thrilled to partner with the Big Sky PBR and Rider Relief Fund to bring an incredible afternoon of golf, live music, and philanthropy to our members and the community," said Greg Wagner, director of golf at Moonlight Basin and head PGA professional of the Reserve.

The seventh annual Big Sky PBR is a four-day community festival, and has been voted by touring bull riders as PBR's Event of the Year the past four consecutive years. Last year, the event raised over \$75,000 for charity with more than \$20,000 going directly to PBR's Rider Relief Fund.

Nestled against the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, the Reserve at Moonlight Basin is an 8,000-yard Jack Nicklaus Signature Design Golf Course with majestic views of Lone Mountain, Fan Mountain, Cedar Mountain and the Spanish Peaks. Covering 1,200 acres mostly above 7,500 feet, the undulating alpine course was ranked the No. 2 Best New Private Course of 2016 by Golf Digest magazine.

To register for the event or for more information visit riderrelief.org/ or contact Jill vanEgmond at (972) 804-9575.



# **Between the Shelves**

BY KATHY HOUSE BIG SKY LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Have you ever listened to an audio book? If not, make it one of your goals for this summer. The Big Sky Community Library has more than 500 titles and genres to choose from. With summer vacations just around the corner, why not check out an audio book to pass the time on that long road trip? There are many wonderful benefits from listening to a book rather than reading one.

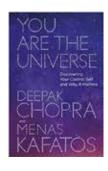
First of all, they are highly entertaining! Many audio book readers present the text using different character voices and you'll soon find yourself more engaged in a book than if you were reading it yourself. Audio books can also make boring tasks way more interesting. When you think of all the mindless tasks we do throughout a week, why not make it more fun and listen to an audiobook? You'll forget to be bored.

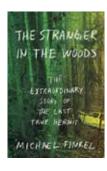
Finally, it's a creative way to have more than one person "read" a book simultaneously, turning your listening experience into a mini book club, an interesting book discussion and a shared adventure.

Try it out, you won't be disappointed!

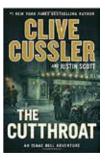
Below are some of our newest audio book releases:

The Big Sky Community Library would like to thank the Big Sky Rotary Club for their \$2,000 donation to the library for e-books and audio books.









# Pinky and the Floyd concert at Rainbow Ranch June 9

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – Rainbow Ranch will be hosting a special musical event with Bozeman band Pinky and the Floyd on Friday, June 9, beginning at 7 p.m. Less than 300 tickets will be sold for the event and are available at Cactus Records in Bozeman and at the door.

The concert will be held in Rainbow Ranch's new event tent and barn adjacent to the Gallatin River. Rainbow Ranch will have food and alcohol, featuring beers by MAP Brewing Company, available for purchase. The Gazebo Grill will be serving bison brats, huckleberry BBQ brisket sliders, fish tacos and veggie tacos.

Pinky and the Floyd—dubbed the Northwest's hottest Pink Floyd tribute band and "Montana's most electrifying live experience" was founded in 2007, and has garnered a loyal state-wide following for their live performances and musical expertise.

All 10 Pinky members are professional working musicians—together they are part of more than 20 bands, spanning genres from Americana and vintage swing to hip hop, jazz, country, salsa, funk, rock, blues and beyond. They bring their varied backgrounds to create strength in diversity in their cohesive unit, Pinky and the Floyd.

The band's repertoire includes more than 60 songs and four full albums of Pink Floyd. Expect to hear an album in its entirety and a tune from every



The Pinky and the Floyd concert will be held at Rainbow Ranch's new event barn and tent behind the main lodge. The Gazebo Grill will be serving food and alcohol during the event. PHOTO BY KENE SPERRY



Bozeman's Pinky and the Floyd play a rare show at Rainbow Ranch's new event venue on Friday, June 9. PHOTO COURTESY OF LOCKIE PHOTOGRAPHY

Floyd genre—from the earliest days of Syd Barrett to selections from the 1994 album "The Division Bell," and anything in between.

"It's been three years since we've played in Big Sky and we are so excited that the Rainbow Ranch is giving us the opportunity to return," said Pinky vocalist Krista Barnett. "Our fans can expect excellent hospitality in a gorgeous setting for an intimate and unique Pinky show."

Rainbow Ranch is located at 42950 Gallatin Road in Gallatin Gateway. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the concert beginning at 8 p.m. on Friday, June 9. Visit pinkyandthefloyd.com or rainbowranchbigsky.com for more information. Tickets are available at Cactus Records, at the door, and online at cactus records.net/events/pinky-the-floyd.



Library Closed: 5/28 and 5/29 Happy Memorial Day!

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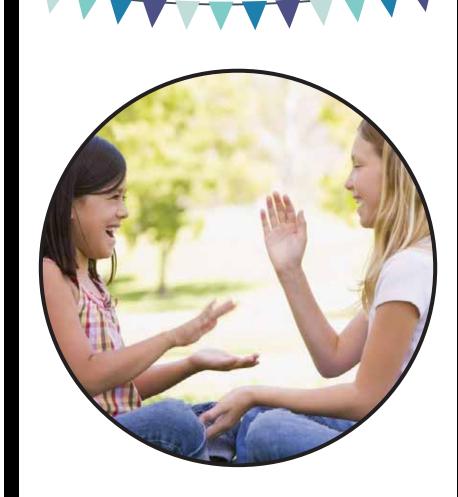
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**54** May 26 - June 8, 2017 **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT** Explore Big Sky

# Montana Poet Laureate Michael Earl Craig at The Elling House

**EBS STAFF** 

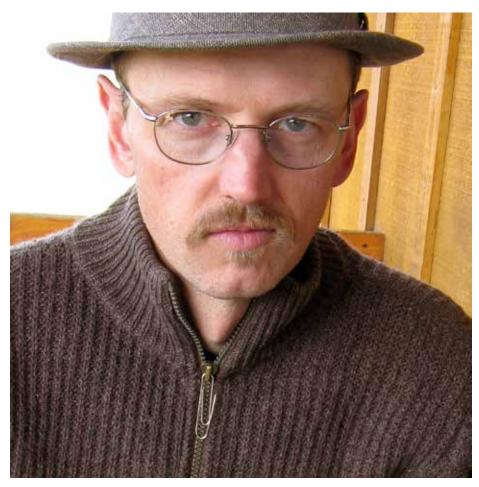
The Elling House Arts & Humanities Center will host a reading by current Montana Poet Laureate Michael Earl Craig on Saturday, May 27. The event begins with a meet and greet at 6 p.m. after which Craig will read new poems as well as previously published work at 7 p.m.

Craig is a farrier who lives just outside of Livingston with his wife, Susan, her mule, Ben, and a dog. He has an antiquated lifestyle, preferring to use nonelectric tools, manual typewriters, old fashioned bicycles, anvil and hammer, and his hands. He personifies rural values in that he makes his living from working with horses, but fortunately for his readers, he is also an intellectual and one of the preeminent poets of our day.

Craig has been recognized internationally for his literary prowess and was appointed the Montana Poet Laureate in October 2015. He is the author of "Can You Relax in My House" (2002), "Yes, Master" (2006), "Thin Kimono" (2010), and "Talkativeness" (2014). His work has been included in the anthologies "Isn't It Romantic" (2004), Everyman's Library's "Poems About Horses" (2009), and "The Best American Poetry" (2014).

Published in prestigious contemporary presses, Craig has been a contributor to Poetry Magazine, The New Yorker, The Believer, TriQuarterly, Granta, the journal of the Poetry Society of America and many more publications.

His poems have been translated into Dutch and Chinese, and he has been invited to read in cities all over the country and serve as a visiting writer at various universities. Craig was a panelist for the Elk River Writer's Workshop and has been a presenter at both the High Plains BookFest in Billings, and the Montana Book Festival in Missoula.



Montana Poet Laureate Michael Earl Craig reads from his work at The Elling House in Virginia City on Saturday, May 27. PHOTO BY SUSAN THOMAS

The Elling House Arts & Humanities Center is located at 404 E. Idaho St. in Virginia City. Call (406) 843-5507 or visit ellingbouse.org for more information.











# Montana Shakespeare in the Parks starts tour in Bozeman June 14

# 'Macbeth' and 'You Never Can Tell' to be performed in 45th season

**EBS STAFF** 

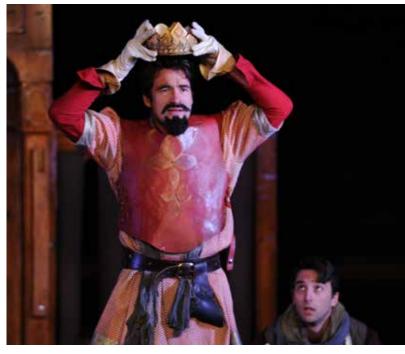
Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, one of the oldest Shakespeare companies in the United States, will launch its 45th season in Bozeman June 14 through June 24 with performances of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" and George Bernard Shaw's "You Never Can Tell."

Between June 14 and Sept. 5 the company will travel 7,700 miles performing in 61 communities across Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho and Washington. All performances are free and performed in local parks and public spaces accessible to all.

Kevin Asselin, MSIP executive artistic director, will direct "Macbeth" while Associate Artistic Director William Brown returns to Montana to direct

"You Never Can Tell." The 10 professional actors that will tour with the company were chosen out of a highly competitive pool of about 500 applicants auditioning in Bozeman, Chicago and Minneapolis.

Asselin's "Macbeth" will be set in a post-apocalyptic world where resources are limited and power is vital for survival. MSIP has chosen a perfect counterpart production with "You Never Can Tell," a comedy of



Nate Cheeseman returns to Montana Shakespeare in the Parks for a third season to play the title character in "Macbeth," one of two plays that the touring company will perform during its 45th season, which launches June 14 in Bozeman, PHOTO COURTESY OF WINSLOW STUDIO AND GALLERIES

errors and confused identities, and one of Shaw's funniest plays.

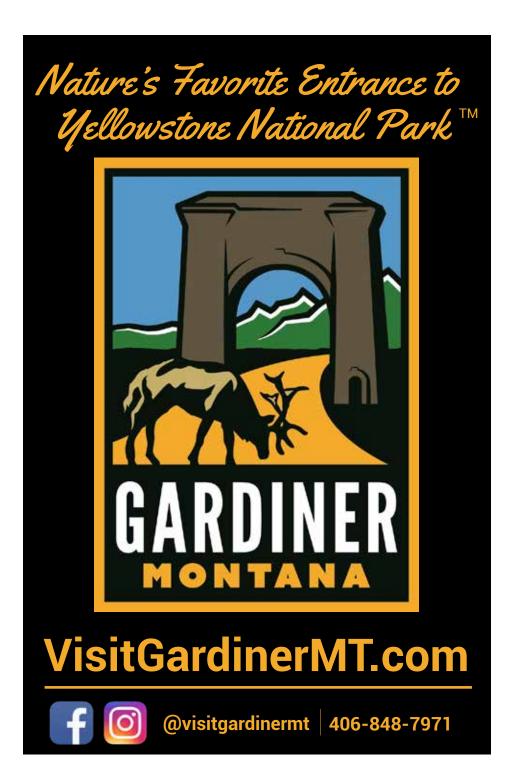
"It all adds up to a great season of theater under the Big Sky," Asselin said.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is an outreach program of Montana State University's College of Arts and Architecture. The free performances are supported by grants, corporate sponsorships and hundreds of individual donors.

"Macbeth" will be performed at 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 14 through Saturday, June 17 at the Montana State University Grove, just east of the duck pond on the MSU campus. "You Never Can Tell" will be performed at 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 21 through Saturday, June 24 in the same location.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks comes to Big Sky for a performance of "Macbeth" at Center Stage in Town Center Park on Friday, Sept. 1.

For more information about the plays and a complete tour schedule, visit MSIP's website at shakespeareintheparks.org.





# Renowned animator of Beatles' 'Yellow Submarine' makes appearance at Bozeman gallery

**EBS STAFF** 

Ron Campbell, the renowned animator of the Beatles' "Yellow Submarine" film and the director of the subsequent television cartoon series will appear at Style A Gallery in Bozeman from 4 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6, and Wednesday, June 7. Campbell will be exhibiting his Beatles cartoon art, discussing his craft and creating new pop art during the event.

Campbell will also be exhibiting artwork featuring other beloved cartoon characters that encompass his 50-year career in children's television including Scooby Doo, the Smurfs, Rugrats, Winnie the Pooh, George of the Jungle, the Flintstones, Jetsons, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and many more.

In 1964 the Beatles invaded the United States, performing for 73 million people on the Ed Sullivan Show and dominating the U.S. pop charts for years. More than five decades later, the Fab Four continue to be the most celebrated musical group in rock 'n' roll history.

"Yellow Submarine," recently celebrating its 48th anniversary, has become a permanent fixture in pop culture, defining the psychedelic '60s for generations to come. In his book, "Up Periscope, Yellow Submarine," Producer Al Brodax gives Campbell a great deal of credit for saving the movie and tying it all together at the last minute.

The Saturday morning Beatles cartoon series debuted on ABC in September of 1965 and ran through April of 1969, inspiring the young kids of America as they followed the bouncing drumstick to each Beatles tune.

Campbell has also been involved with some of the most popular cartoons of the 20th century; his former studio was awarded a Peabody and an Emmy for his work in children's television. Since retiring after a 50-year career, he has continued to paint subjects based on the animated cartoons he has helped bring to



Animator Ron Campbell, best known for his contributions to the Beatle's "Yellow Submarine," but also instrumental in bringing many other iconic cartoon characters of the 20th century to the screen, appears at Style A Gallery in Bozeman June 6 and 7. PHOTO BY NICK FOLLGER

the screen. With particular emphasis on his Beatles-themed work, he shows his cartoon pop art in galleries worldwide.

Meet Campbell and watch him work at Style A Gallery, located at 31 S. Willson Ave. in Bozeman between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. Tuesday, June 6, and Wednesday, June 7. All works will be available for purchase.

Visit styleagallery.com or beatlescartoonartshow.com for more information.





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# Bozeman ranks in top 20 vibrant arts communities in America

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – According to the third annual Arts Vibrancy Index released by the National Center for Arts Research, Bozeman is among the top 20 most vibrant arts communities in America.

Bozeman ranked fourth in the small cities category, defined as an area with an urban core of 10,000-50,000 people. It was in the company of Breckenridge, Colorado; Summit Park, Utah; Bennington, Vermont; and Hudson, New York. Missoula ranked fourth in the medium-sized cities category.

NCAR, which is based out of Southern Methodist University, annually ranks more than 900 communities across the country by examining the level of supply, demand and government support for the arts in each city. Supply is assessed by the total number of arts providers in the community, including the number of arts and culture organizations and employees, independent artists and entertainment firms. Demand is gauged by the total nonprofit arts dollars circulating in the community, including program revenue, contributed revenue, total expenses and total compensation. Lastly, government support is measured by state and federal arts dollars and grants.

"We don't select the communities, the data tells us what those communities are," said NCAR Director Zannie Voss. Voss said she had never been to Bozeman, but can tell by looking at the data that the community is not dominated by a few large institutions, but by an abundance of smaller organizations and independent artists that lead to a diversity of arts-related offerings and opportunities.

In the national report, Bozeman is described as "a small, mountain town filled with artists, professors, and ranchers whose diverse styles are reflected in all aspects of life." It ranks sixth in the country for independent artists and 16th for arts and culture organizations per capita, driving it to the 10th spot overall in the arts providers category.

Public art initiatives were also highlighted in the report, specifically the efforts of the Gallatin Art Crossing (GAC), which can be found in the Bozeman Sculpture Park and throughout the city. Bozeman's numerous galleries and four museums—the American Computer Museum, the Children's Museum, the Pioneer Museum, and the Montana Museum of the Rockies—were also mentioned.

"There's simply a lot going on for a town of this size," said GAC President Chuck Peck. "We have public art, performance art, galleries, and many institutions that are supportive of art. We shouldn't separate the art from the good fortune that we have in our natural surroundings, as well as our vibrant downtown; all of these aspects enhance one another."

Montana State University's diverse arts department, and landmark local organizations such as the Bozeman Symphony, Intermountain Opera Company, Equinox Theatre Company, Montana Ballet Company, Dance Alliance Company, and Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture were also named in the report. The Bozeman Public Library's role in the cultural community of hosting arts events year-round and housing the Bozeman Sculpture Park was also acknowledged.

"[Inclusion in the index] really means you're in the top echelon of arts communities," Voss said. "But rather than it be about competition, the report is really a wonderful chance to stop and take in the richness and artistic vibrancy that is happening in every region across the country—not just on the coasts or in the big cities. It's not just making life more enjoyable, but it's bringing communities together in a really important way."



"Egghead" by artist Kimber Fiebiger won the Gallatin Arts Crossing 2016 People's Choice Award, earning it a permanent home in the Bozeman Sculpture Park and in the nonprofit's collection. GAC was one of numerous arts organizations named in a report that included Bozeman in the top 20 hotbeds of creativity nationwide. PHOTO COURTESY OF ASHLEY DAWN PHOTOGRAPHY

# WHEN YOU'RE READY TO HIT THE TRAIL

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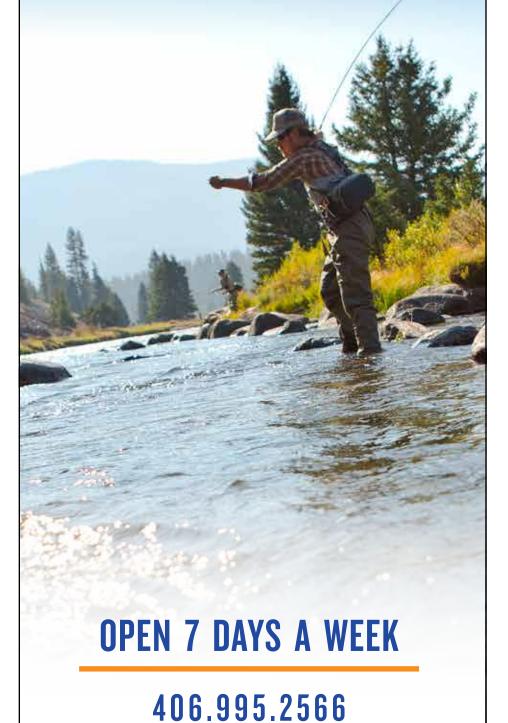
# SLIDERS DELI

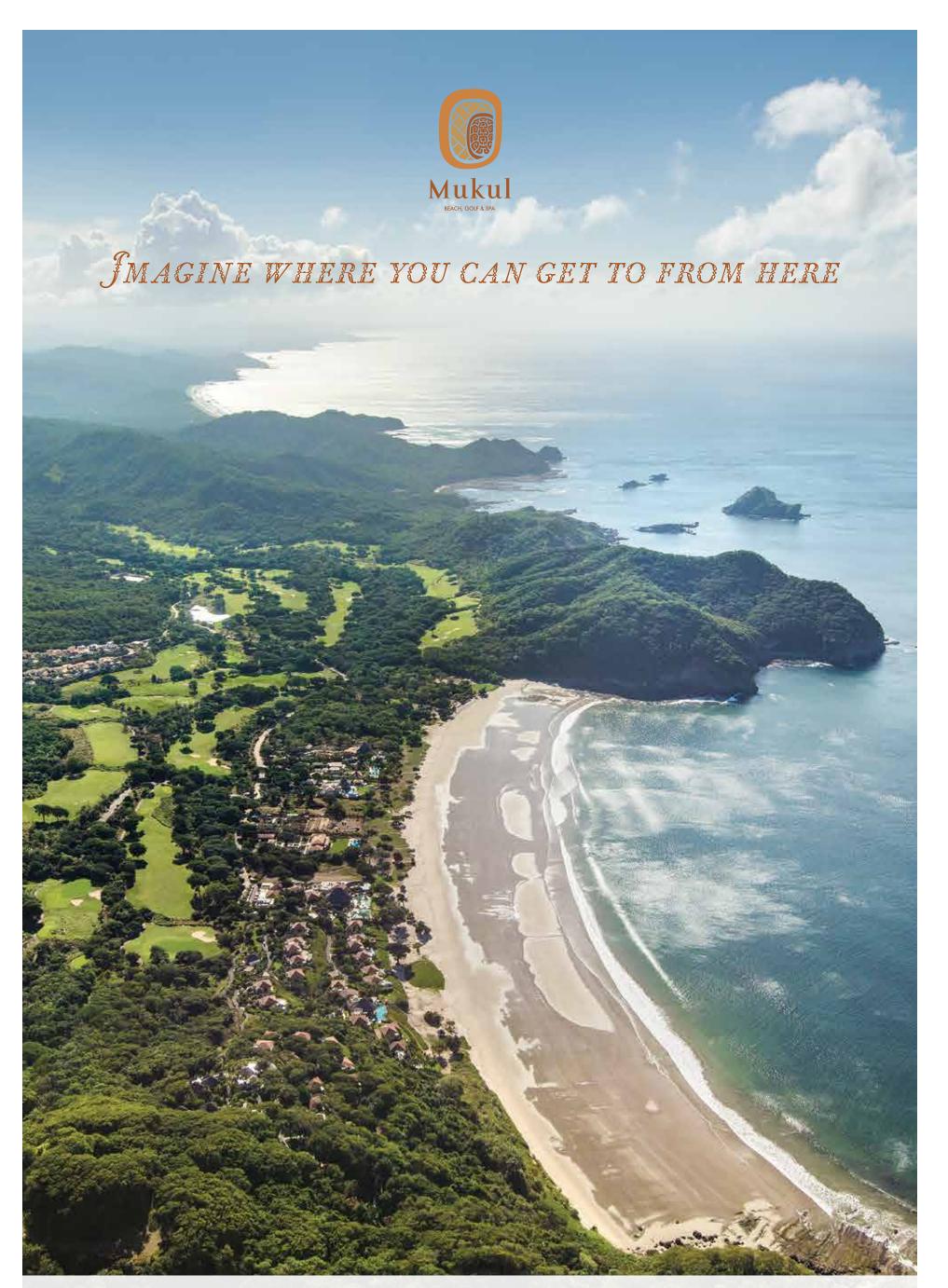
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# Water to Whisky 5K finishes with pig roast at Willie's Distillery

**EBS STAFF** 

The 22nd annual Madison River Run, aka the Water to Whiskey 5-kilometer fun run kicks off the Madison Marathon season on Saturday, June 3. The race starts at 10 a.m. on top of the Madison River (exactly halfway across the bridge over the river) and finishes at Willie's Distillery in downtown Ennis around noon. As soon as the last runner crosses the finish line, Willie's fifth annual Spring Pig Pickin' festivities will begin and continue through 6 p.m. with live music by Madison Range, Fool's Gold and www.Twang.

For many years, the Madison River Run has been a local fun run that generally attracted 50 to 60 runners from Madison County and the rest of Southwest Montana. It's still all that—and then some.

In recent years, the Greater Yellowstone Adventure Series has partnered with Willie's Distillery, a small batch distillery, for this event. Willie's Distillery is owned and operated by Willie and Robin Blazer who take Montana grains and turn them into world class spirits. Their company motto—world class spirits for world class individuals—is one many aficionados would agree they live up to.

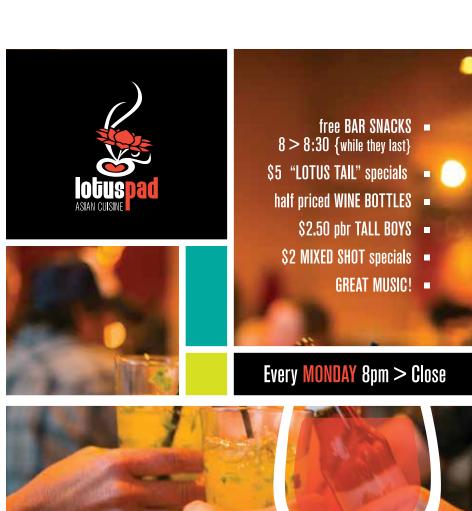
What you might not know is that Willie's also donates their spent grains to local pig farms as feed, and in turn, receives pigs to roast and serve up for free during the annual Spring Pig Pickin' event.



Turn water into whiskey during the Madison River 5K Fun Run on Saturday, June 3. The race begins on the Madison and ends at Willie's Distillery in downtown Ennis for the fifth annual Spring Pig Pickin' and live music all day long. PHOTO COURTESY OF WILLIE'S DISTILLERY

The Water to Whiskey fun run offers a chance to do a 5K, take part in a pig roast, and toast to the day with Montana-made spirits by Willie's Distillery. This is a family-friendly event as is the race.

Willie's Distillery is located at 312 E. Main St. in Ennis. For more information about the Madison River Run and other races in the Greater Yellowstone Adventure Series visit themadisonmarathon.com. Visit williesdistillery.com for more information about their fifth annual pig roast.





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# EVENTS CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY, MAY 26 -**THURSDAY, JUNE 8** 

\*If your event falls between June 9 and June 22, please submit it by June 2

# **Big Sky**

#### FRIDAY, MAY 26

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man Tell No Tales Starts Lone Peak Cinema, showings TBD

Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

#### **MONDAY, MAY 29**

#### **Opening Day** Big Sky Resort, all day

Flea Market and Swap Cinnamon Lodge, 9 a.m.

#### **TUESDAY, MAY 30**

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

Riverhouse Grill, 6:30 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Lone Peak Anime Club Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 1**

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

Big Sky Young Professionals: Lori Addicks 320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Wonder Woman Starts Lone Peak Cinema, showings TBD

Fish Fry BYWOM, all evening

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 3**

National Trails Day with BSCO Community Park, 9 a.m.

Resort Tax Q&A Meeting Warren Miller Performing Arts Center,

**TUESDAY, JUNE 6**Community Learning Center Big Sky Discovery Academy, 4 p.m.

Riverhouse Grill, 6:30 p.m.

**Wilderness and Geology** of Big Sky **B-Bar-K Cabin, Lone** Mountain Ranch, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7** Lone Peak Anime Club Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 8**

Community Learning Center Big Sky Discovery Academy, 4 p.m. Cherry River Trail, 10 a.m.

City Commission Meeting City Hall Commission Room, 6 p.m.

### Bozeman

#### FRIDAY, MAY 26

The Roosevelts Live From The Divide, 9 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 27**

Introduction to Birding Tuckerman Park, 8 a.m.

Living History Farm Opens for Summer Museum of the Rockies, 10 a.m.

#### **SUNDAY, MAY 28**

Wildflower Walk Peets Hill, 9 a.m.

Chris Cunningham Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### **MONDAY, MAY 29**

American Legion Memorial Day Parade Downtown, 9:30 a.m.

Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY. MAY 30**

Hops & History: Local Beer, Free Museum of the Rockies, 5:30 p.m.

Adam Paccione Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 31**

Shoe Demos and Fit with Oboz Footwear Drinking Horse Mountain Trail, 5:30

Def Leppard Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 1**

p.m.

**Acony Belles** Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 3**

**Optimist Fishing Derby** Bozeman Pond, 7:30 a.m.

National Trails Day with GVLT Gallatin County Regional Park, 8:30 a.m.

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 4**

Wildflower Walk Drinking Horse Mountain Trail, 9 a.m.

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

#### MONDAY, JUNE 5

Hiking Basics Kids Walk Drinking Horse Mountain Trail, 9:30 a.m.

#### **TUESDAY, JUNE 6**

Ron Campbell Exhibit Style A Gallery, 4 p.m.

Tails & Trails Dog Hikes Dee-O-Gee, 5 p.m.

Bogert Farmers' Market Starts Bogert Park, 5 p.m.

Walk with a Naturopath Doctor Peets Hill, 5:30 p.m.

Colossal The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 7 Ron Campbell Exhibit Style A Gallery, 4 p.m.

Ivan Doig Discussion Series Country Bookshelf, 7 p.m.

#### **RECURRING EVENTS:**

Remote Control Car Racing Bozeman American Legion, Sundays at 12 p.m.

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

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

Badminton Hope Lutheran Church, Mondays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.

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

Cribbage Night Eagles Lodge, Tuesdays at 6:25 p.m.

Rocking R Bar, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

**Old Time Bluegrass** Pub 317, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Bar IX, Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

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

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

Rocking R Bar, Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

Bluegrass Night Red Tractor Pizza, Thursdays at 7 p.m.

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

#### **Pickelball** Southside Tennis Courts, Fridays at 9 a.m.

Walk for the Health of It Peet's Hill, Fridays at 12 p.m.

Eagles Lodge, Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, Fridays at 7 p.m.

#### **Livingston & Paradise Valley** FRIDAY, MAY 26

#### Ian Thomas

Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Trout Steak Revival Pine Creek Lodge, 7 p.m.

Canyon Collected Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Tsunami Funk Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 27

Hell's A-Roarin' Horse Drive Gardiner Rodeo Grounds and Hell's A-Roarin' Ranch, 1 p.m.

Donnie Elliot Band Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Girl Guitar Jam Pine Creek Lodge, 6 p.m.

One Leaf Clover Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Tsunami Funk Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, MAY 28** Mandy Rowden Chico Hot Springs, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 29 Austin Shilling Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

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

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 31 Livingston Farmers' Market

Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m. **THURSDAY, JUNE 1** Historic District Yellow Bus Tour

Depot Museum, 1 and 2:30 p.m.

Shelly Besler & Tony Polecastro Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Erin & The Project Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Historic District Yellow Bus Tour Depot Museum, 1 and 2:30 p.m.

Milton Menasco & The Big Fiasco Pine Creek Lodge, 6 p.m.

Montana Manouche Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m.

Swingley Latin-Funk-Jazz Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

#### Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 3 Livingston Wheels Car Show** 2nd Street, 8 a.m.

United In Light Open House United In Light Draft Horse Sanctuary, 10 a.m.

Historic District Yellow Bus Tour Depot Museum, 1 and 2:30 p.m.

Russ Chapman Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m.

Western Electric Murray Bar, 9 p.m.

Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 4** Sean Ashby

Murray Bar, 7 p.m.

Canyon Collected Chico Hot Springs, 9 p.m.

#### **MONDAY, JUNE 5** Love Is A Dog From Nebraska Murray Bar, 5 p.m.

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

#### **TUESDAY, JUNE 6**

Beer for a Cause Katabatic Brewing, all night

#### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7**

Livingston Farmers' Market Miles Band Shell Park, 4:30 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 8**

Historic District Yellow Bus Tour Depot Museum, 1 and 2:30 p.m.

**Denny Earnest** Uncorked Wine & Cheese Bar, 6 p.m. Canyon Collected Murray Bar, 8 p.m.

# **West Yellowstone**

#### FRIDAY, MAY 26 The Little Mermaid Starts Playmill Theatre, various show times through September 2

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 27**

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 28

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

#### MONDAY, MAY 29

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY, MAY 30** Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk

Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m. WEDNESDAY, MAY 31 Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk

#### Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 1** Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

Game Night Bullwinkles, 6 p.m.

#### **FRIDAY, JUNE 2**

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 3**

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m. **SUNDAY, JUNE 4** Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone

Center, 9:30 a.m. Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk

West Yellowstone Visitor Information

## Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 5** Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center, 9:30 a.m.

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY, JUNE 6**

Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center, 9:30 a.m.

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7**

Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center, 9:30 a.m.

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

Reveries Art Exhibition Opening Reception West Yellowstone Public Library, 6 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY. JUNE 8**

Experiencing Wildlife in Yellowstone West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center, 9:30 a.m.

Afternoon Yellowstone Park Ranger Talk Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, 2 p.m.

Game Night Bullwinkles, 6 p.m.

# EVENTS CALENDAR

#### Ennis

#### **FRIDAY. MAY 26**

Mike Comstock Willie's Distillery, 5;30 p.m.

Painting with Cathy Toot Elling House, Virginia City, 6 p.m.

Tom Georges Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 27**

Horseback Poker Ride Virginia City, 8:30 a.m.

Parade Virginia City, 1:30 p.m.

Michael Earl Craig reading

Elling House, 6 p.m.

Sean Eamon Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Sugar Daddies Bale of Hay Saloon, Virginia City, 9:30 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY. MAY 28**

Mathias Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market Ennis High School, 4 p.m.

#### **FRIDAY, JUNE 2**

Steve Rose Willie's Distillery, 5:30 p.m.

Kalyn Beasley Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 3**

Water to Whiskey 5K Run Ennis, 10 a.m.

# 5th Annual Spring Pig Roast Willie's Distillery, 12 p.m.

Joe Schwem Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 4**

Gears for Beers Mountain Bike Poker Ride Bale of Hay Saloon, 8 a.m.

Cory Johnson Willie's Distillery, 2 p.m.

Sundae + Mr. Goessl Norris Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market Ennis High School, 4 p.m.

# **Big Sky Resort**

Opens for the season **May 29, 2017** 

# Gears for Beers Mountain Bike Poker Ride

June 4, 2017 Virginia City, MT

Benefits the Virginia City Rural Fire Department Auxilary

# Livingston Wheels Car Show June 3, 2017 Livingston, MT

Wilderness & Geology
Talk at Lone
Mountain Ranch
June 6, 2017
Big Sky, MT

# Bogert Farmers' Market

Begins June 6, 2017 Bozeman, MT

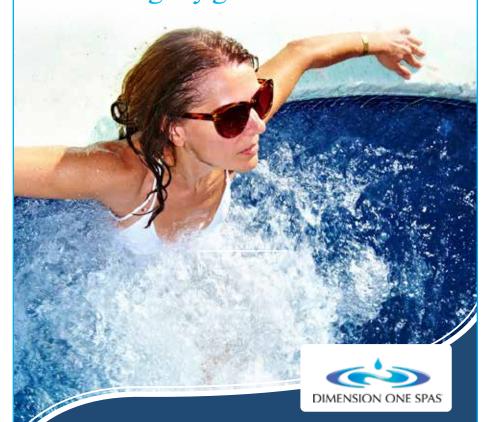
# Harbor's Hero Run June 3, 2017

**Big Sky Town Center Park** 5K and fun run, music to follow



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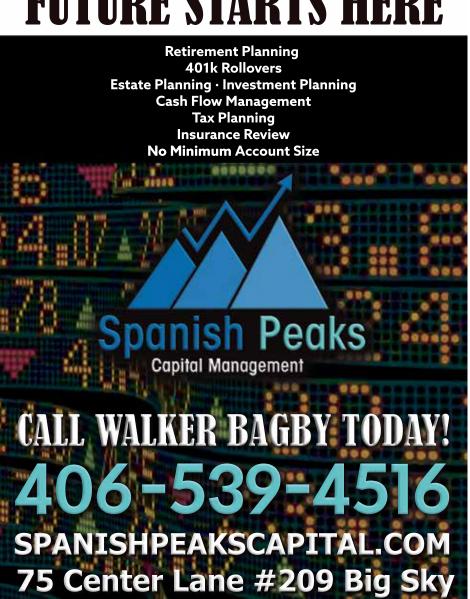


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# **Robert Pirsig:**Philosophical scrivener

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

The reclusive author of "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance," Robert Pirsig, passed away on April 24 at his home in Maine, at the age of 88. Originally rejected by at least 120 publishers, his 1974 novel somehow captured the zeitgeist of the American counterculture as our country moved passed the free love spirit of the '60s, while still questioning the equivalence of material wealth with success.

Pirsig's attempt to reconcile humanism with the forces of modernization, globalization and technological progress quickly became a cult classic.

A road trip book in the same lineage as Jack Kerouac's "On the Road," Pirsig's most famous work recounts a motorcycle excursion he took with his 11-year-old son from the plains of Minnesota to the California coast. Much of ZAMM is inspired by events that took place when Pirsig was teaching rhetoric at Montana State University, and there are still pilgrims who retrace the motorcycle trip, passing through Bozeman every summer.

Pirsig was a prodigy as child, and as is common with many brilliant minds, he struggled with depression and insanity throughout his life. The involuntary electric shock therapies he endured in the early 1960s and the murder of his son in 1979 did not improve his mental health.

Much of ZAMM's philosophical diatribes, or "Chautauquas" as he calls them, are focused on the elusive concept of "Quality." Like the Beat Generation writers before him, Pirsig felt that a healthy dose of Eastern mysticism was a necessary antidote to the Western philosophical tradition's inability to answer the question of "How to live?"

Pirsig's insights into the limitations of subject-object oriented metaphysics are still relevant today. His recognition of the intellectual dishonesty in making sharp dichotomies between facts and values; reason and spirituality; and mind and body still ring true some 50 years later.

Some philosophical problems are not meant to be solved, but only dissolved. Freeing us from false dualisms of our cultural mindset is one way of avoiding philosophical dead-ends. In this sense, Pirsig's philosophy is very much in line with a strain of thought championed by John Dewey and William James known as American pragmatism.

"Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance" is a self-help book in the best sense of the term. It offers no easy answers, but does present a compelling introduction to the grand philosophical questions in a way that makes them relevant to the art of living well. ZAMM has had a transformative effect on millions of readers who emerge from the book reoriented to the need for simplicity and cultivating peace of mind in an increasingly complex, fragmented world.

After reading Pirsig, it's hard not to want a bike in the garage, just in case you need to clear your mind.

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



Find out what tunes we're bumping! In Big Sky Beats, Explore Big Sky staff suggests 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 spring hike, we've got you covered.

The signs of summer are here—grass is getting greener, residents are returning from their off-season travels, and Thursday evenings are about to get much more lively. The Arts Council of Big Sky recently announced their lineup for the summer music series, Music in the Mountains. Starting June 22, you can find the majority of Big Sky townspeople milling about at Town Center Park's Center Stage Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.

You can expect everything from bluegrass to rock 'n' roll to funk in this summer's lineup. When the list of artists was announced, I realized I hadn't heard of several bands playing. So, to get an idea for what to look forward to this summer, I queued up a new Spotify playlist. Here's a selection of some of these artists' best jams you can expect to hear in Big Sky Town center in coming months.

- 1. "California," The Lil Smokies
- 2. "Ev'ry Wind in the River," The New Orleans Suspects
- . "It's a Sin to Tell a Lie," The Quebe Sisters
- 4. "Roads," Assembly of Dust
- 5. "Take it Off (Ft. Farnell Newton)," Dirty Revival
- 6. "Every Girl," Turnpike Troubadours
- 7. "Blind in the Fray," The Last Revel
- 8. "Smoking Dope n Rock n Roll," Frasco & the U.N.
- 9. "Ballad of the 20th Maine," The Ghost of Paul Revere
- 10. "Eagle Eye," Con Brio

#### CROSSWORD PUZZ ACROSS 33 Shooting match ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE Quid Hall (Ger.) Aid (Fr.) 34 Old yarn N A R E I B E X LAMA I B E X A G A G L U X U R I A N T measure 35 Rebuff Pointed (pref.) 13 US dam 14 Son of Samuel EARLYDUEL 37 Card 38 Seaweed 15 Formal dance 40 Geological (Fr.) 16 Pomace (2 epoch 41 Housed EDESPALLROD words) 18 Quote 20 High (Lat.) SELENITE AIDE 44 Hawaiian frigate bird A|L|A|47 Sweet spire 21 Heath ANSAALTAI 48 Day (Lat.) evergreen 23 Novice OPERASOLO 49 Poetic contraction 25 7th incarnation PANE TAAL N|M|Iof Vishnu 26 Sibilant sound TRAY 51 Musical beat OEC 52 Noncommissione 27 Industrial 3 Musical d officer (abbr.) Workers of the World (abbr.) instrument (string) Nelson 11 Dip 30 Compass Mosque student 17 Ankles **DOWN** direction Rhine tributary Asian gazelle 19 Amazon tributary 31 Sultan's Vehicle compartment Garland 21 Former 32 Indo-Chin. 2 Fiddler crab Single (pref.) Touch 22 Islamic month language genus 23 Wearv 24 Munich's river 26 Part of golf club 27 Mirage 28 Women's Army Aux. Corps (abbr.) 29 Transitional editing effect 31 Coast 18 35 Flood 36 Deadly 37 Old-style verb 38 Gulf of the 25 Ionian Sea 30 39 Heb. avenger 40 Onionlike plant 41 Hole 42 Central daylight time (abbr.) 43 Aunt (Sp.) 45 Office of Economic Development (abbr.) 46 Orinoco 49 tributary ©2017 Satori Publishing

# **American Life in Poetry:** Column 635

#### BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

The University of Minnesota Press has published a wonderful new collection of bee poems, "If Bees Are Few," which may in some small way help the bees and will certainly offer some honey to poetry lovers. Here's just one poem, by Heid Erdrich, who lives in Minnesota. Her most recent book is "Cell Traffic: New and Selected Poems" from the University of Arizona Press.

#### Stung

By Heid Erdrich

She couldn't help but sting my finger, clinging a moment before I flung her to the ground. Her gold is true, not the trick evening light plays on my roses.

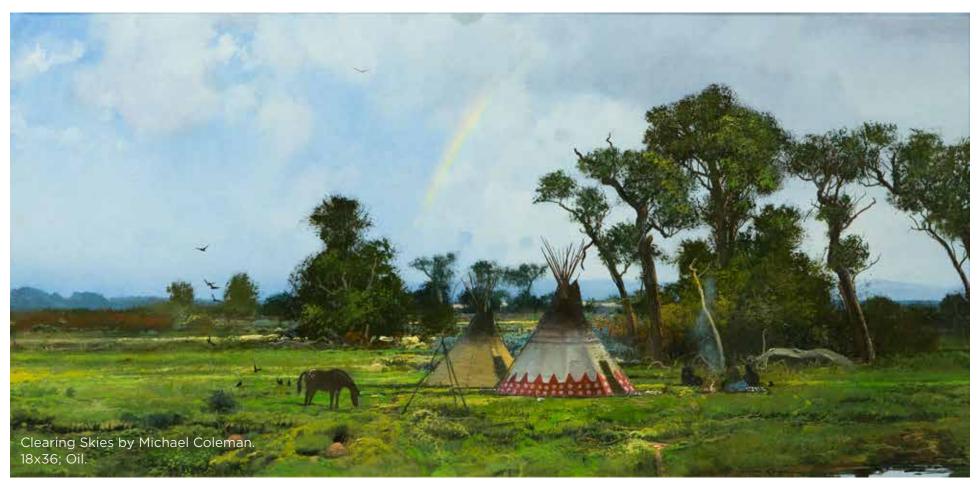
She curls into herself, stinger twitching, gilt wings folded. Her whole life just a few weeks, and my pain subsided in a moment.

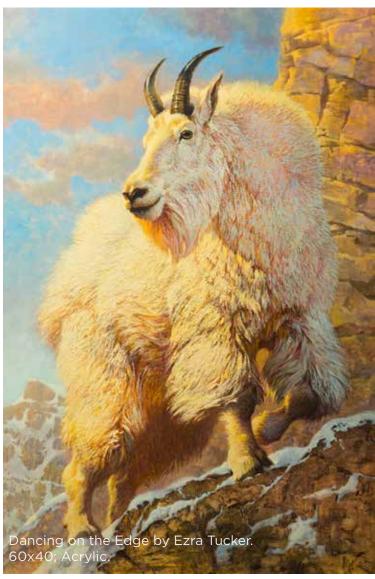
In the cold, she hardly had her wits to buzz.

No warning from either of us: she sleeping in the richness of those petals, then the hand, my hand, cupping the bloom in devastating force, crushing the petals for the scent. And she mortally threatened, wholly unaware that I do this daily, alone with the gold last light, in what seems to me an act of love.

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 Heid Erdrich, "Stung," from "If Bees Are Few: A Hive of Bee Poems" (Univ. of Minnesota Pr., James P. Lenfesty, Ed., 2016). Poem reprinted by permission of Heid Erdrich and the publisher. 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.





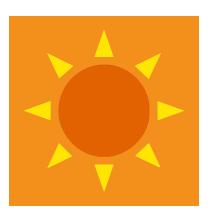




# BIG ART SKY AUCTION



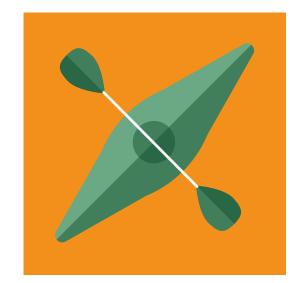




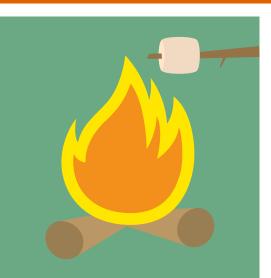


Big Sky SPECIAL SECTION

# SUMMER SKICK-OFF



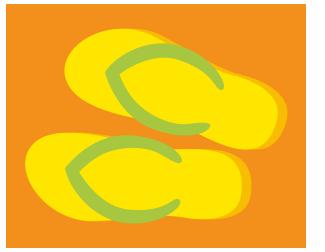












Your guide to summer fun in southwest Montana

# **Festival Guide**

When and where to check out great live music

# **Rodeo Roundup**

From PBR to mutton bustin', we've got you covered

### **Forest Service Cabins**

Quaint and remote getaways in our national forests

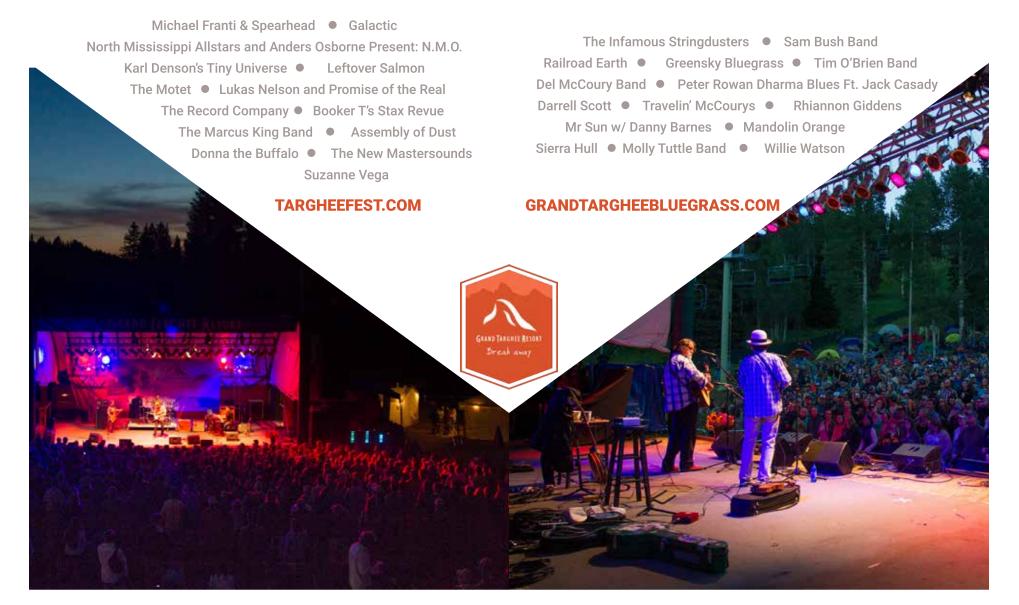


# SUMMER OF MUSIC GRAND TARGHEE RESORT

GRAND TARGHEE

HELEON AUGUST 11 - 13, 2017

JULY 14 - 16, 2017





EBS GUIDE TO

# SUMMER MUSIC 20 FESTIVALS 17

## JUNE

### **HEADWATERS COUNTRY JAM**

THREE FORKS, MT » JUNE 15-17

### JULY

### **TARGHEE FEST**

ALTA, WY  $\gg$  JULY 14-16

# **MOODS OF THE MADISON**

ENNIS, MT » JULY 15-16

### **RED ANTS PANTS FESTIVAL**

WHITE SULPHER SPRINGS, MT » JULY 27-30

### **BIG SKY PBR**

BIG SKY, MT JULY 26-29

JULY 26...BIG SKY HOMETOWN HOEDOWN FT. THE BEET TOPS JULY 28...PBR AFTERPARTY CONCERT FEATURING JAMES MCMURTRY JULY 29...PBR AFTERPARTY CONCERT FEATURING JAMIE MCLEAN BAND

### AUGUST

# **BIG SKY CLASSICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

BIG SKY, MT » AUGUST 11-13

# 30TH ANNUAL GRAND TARGHEE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

ALTA, WY » AUGUST 11-13

### **ROCKIN' THE RIVERS**

THREE FORKS, MT > AUGUST 11-13

### ONGOING

### **GRAND TETON MUSIC FESTIVAL**

JULY 3-AUGUST 20

FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA (\$25-55) JULY 7-8...MASTERS IN THE MOUNTAINS JULY 13...CELLIST MAJA BOGDANOVIC JULY 14-15...STAR-CROSSED LOVERS JULY 21-22...THE THREE BS JULY 28-29...MAHLER'S FAREWELL <u> AUGUST 4-5...ROMANTIC CLASSICS</u> **AUGUST 11-12...CELESTIAL SOUNDS** AUGUST 18-19...BIG BANG

CHAMBER MUSIC (\$25) JULY 20...PIANIST YEFIM BRONFMAN JULY 27...MEZZO-SOPRANO KELLEY O'CONNOR AUGUST 3...PIANIST DENIS KOZHUKHIN AUGUST 10...VIOLINIST JAMES EHNES **AUGUST 17...PERFORMANCE TODAY** 

### **MUSIC ON MAIN**

BOZEMAN, MT THURSDAYS AT 7 P.M. » FREE

JUNE 29...THE CLINTONS
JULY 6...HAWTHORNE ROOTS
JULY 13...SATSANG
JULY 20...DOWN NORTH AUGUST 10...THE WHISKEY GENTRY AUGUST 17...WHITEWATER RAMBLE

### MUSIC IN THE **MOUNTAINS**

BIG SKY, MT JUNE 22-AUGUST 31 THURSDAYS AT 7 P.M.

JUNE 22...THE LIL SMOKIES JULY 4...THE TINY BAND JULY 6...THE QUEBE SISTERS JULY 13...ASSEMBLY OF DUST JULY 20...DIRTY REVIVAL JULY 27...TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS

**AUGUST 3...THE LAST REVEL** JUNE 29...NEW ORLEANS SUSPECTS AUGUST 10...DEADPHISH ORCHESTRA AUGUST 17...ANDY FRASCO AND THE U.N. AUGUST 24...GHOST OF PAUL REVERE AUGUST 31...CON BRIO

# Farmers' markets flourish in southwest Montana

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Montanans don't let a short growing season get in the way of providing an abundance of local produce, flowers and other locally sourced products in weekly farmers' and artisan markets that sprout up across the region about this time of year, most running June through September.

Farmers' markets play a valuable role in fostering healthy communities. While consumers reap the nutritional benefits, freshness and taste of locally grown foods, vendors benefit from selling direct to their customers, and money is circulated through the local economy. There's also the harder-to-quantify but enriching experience of making connections with the suppliers of the food one eats.

Farmers' markets are a weekly hub of the community, where locals and tourists alike come to shop, mingle and enjoy the fruits of our picture-perfect Montana summertime. Although similarities will be found in markets across the region, each is a reflection of the unique community that hosts it.

#### Bozeman

Bogert Farmers' Market Bogert Park, Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m., June 6 through Sept. 26

The 100-plus vendors at Bozeman's Bogert Park Market are tucked under a large pavilion—weather-secure in the case of that freak summer rain (or snow) storm. The Bogert Farmers' Market features local growers, artisans, musicians, nonprofits, businesses and food purveyors in a setting for families and friends to gather and socialize, support local and share in a fun-filled community environment.

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Haynes Pavilion, Gallatin County Fairgrounds, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. June 17 through Sept. 9

The Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market provides a forum for local vendors of homemade food, handmade crafts and locally grown produce to market, display and sell their goods to promote economic well-being and support the development of home-based, local businesses.

#### **Big Sky**

Big Sky Farmers' Market

Fire Pit Park, Town Center, Wednesdays, 5-8 p.m., June 21 through Sept. 27

The Big Sky Farmers' Market features a large, eclectic mix of artisans and boutique food vendors in addition to more than a half-dozen area farms.

#### Livingston

Livingston Farmers' Market Miles Band Shell Park, Wednesdays, 4:30-7:30 p.m., May 31 through Sept. 20

The Livingston Market features food vendors, locally brewed beer, arts and crafts, baked goods, and farm and ranch products featuring the freshest, healthiest food the region has to offer.

#### **Ennis**

Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market Ennis High School parking lot, Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m., May 31 through Sept. 6

Ennis' Madison Farm to Fork Farmers' Market features locally grown produce, locally raised meats, plant starts, baked goods and original crafts.

#### Whitehall

Whitehall Farmers' Market Legion Street Park, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., June 4 through Oct. 14

Known for its relaxed, friendly atmosphere, the Whitehall Farmers' Market offers local produce, baked goods, jams and jellies, soaps and lotions, and craft items. All items are handmade or homegrown.



At regional farmers' markets, farm-fresh offerings include much more than vegetables, like these fresh-cut seasonal flowers by Kokoro Flowers, organically grown at Belgrade's Rathvinden Farm. PHOTO COURTESY OF KOKORO FLOWERS

#### Virginia City

Second Saturday Farmers' Market

Virginia City Artisans & Growers Guild, across from the Opera House Every other Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., April 15 through Sept. 2

Virginia City Artisan and Growers Guild's second Saturday market features an eclectic collection of handmade local arts, crafts and baked goods plus gently used books.

#### **Butte**

Butte Farmers' Market

West Park Street between Gamer's Cafe and the Phoenix Building, Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., May 20 through Oct. 7

Since 1995, the Butte Farmers' Market has earned a reputation for providing shoppers with colorful and hardy hanging and bedding plants, farm-fresh eggs, chickens, fruits and vegetables from many gardens in the Butte area, Hutterite colonies near Choteau, and Hmong vegetable gardens in the Missoula and Bitteroot area. Butte's market also offers baked goods, packaged sausages, cut flowers and prepared foods.

#### Manhattan

Manhattan Farmers' Market

Park on West Main in downtown Manhattan, Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m. June 21 through Sept. 6

The Manhattan Farmers' Market features area produce, handcrafted gifts, fine art and artisan baked goods with regular promotions, giveaways, entertainment and kids' events throughout the season.





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# June 30<sup>TH</sup> - July 2<sup>ND</sup>

### FRIDAY, JUNE 30TH

5-7 pm - Pesca Fiesta

**Gallatin River Guides** 

## SATURDAY, JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>

1:15 pm - Great Gallatin Guide-Off 1:30 pm - Great Gallatin Pedal, Paddle, Run-Off Relay Race 2-6 pm - Outdoor Fair & Live Music 5 pm - Live Music by Low Water String Band

**Big Sky Town Center Park** 

#### SUNDAY, JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>

6 pm - Hooked on the Gallatin Banquet Music by Double Barrel

**Gallatin Riverhouse Grill Outdoor Tent** 

JULY 11-13 | Hooked on the Gallatin: Youth Fly Fishing Camp

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Blue Ribbon Nets | Dee-O-Gee | Derek DeYoung Ken McCafferty | Monica's Salon | Mountain Arts Pottery | Santosha



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For more information about this festival, visit gallatinriverflyfishingfestival.com











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# Tickets on sale June 1 BigSkyPBR.com



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7/29 BIG SKY PBR NIGHT 2

JAMIE MCLEAN BAND

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# Where the west is still wild: summer rodeo roundup

# BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Competition and adrenaline, leather and hide, laughter and friends, dirt and summer skies—such is the sport of rodeo. Whether a part of the Northern Professional Rodeo Circuit, one stop on the Professional Bull Riders series, or branded as a true cattleman's event, rodeos abound in the Greater Yellowstone region.

The cowboy sport evolved out of the everyday activities of ranchers and cow hands, and today basic skills include the ability to ride a tough horse, work with a cow and get it all done fast. Events vary from well-known standards like barrel racing, bronc riding and breakaway roping to more unique offerings like old-time team branding, doctoring and wild cow milking. A particular crowd favorite is children's mutton busting.

#### June

# **Upper Yellowstone Roundup,** Gardiner, Montana June 16 and 17

The annual rodeo in Gardiner is an early-summer affiliation of the Northern Rodeo Association. Spectators can watch traditional rodeo events as competitors vie for the All Around Cowboy/Cowgirl Buckle, a testament of true rodeo ability.

northernrodeo.com/schedule.html

# Cody/Yellowstone Xtreme Bulls, Buffalo Bill Cody Stampede Rodeo Cody, Wyoming

June 30 and July 1 through 4

The Cody/Yellowstone Xtreme Bulls is a one-night event all about the buck. Forty bull riders are matched with top bulls in the business for a payout of over \$15,000. The Buffalo Bill Cody Stampede Rodeo follows the bull riding event on July 1 through 4 and includes traditional rodeo events like barrel racing and saddle bronc riding.

codystampederodeo.com



Calf roping is a standard event at most rodeos. Pictured here, a contestant dismounts from his horse during the event at the Bozeman Stampede Rodeo. PHOTOS BY RIC ANDERSEN



SA contestant of the Bozeman Stampede Rodeo attempts to stay on a bucking horse for eight seconds. Saddle bronc riding is a highly stylized event where cowboys ride a bucking horse wearing a unique saddle that features no horn and free-swinging stirrups.

#### July

# **Livingston Roundup Rodeo** Livingston, Montana July 2 through 4

This year marks the 93rd Livingston Roundup Rodeo, which is one stop on the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association circuit and brings rodeo athletes from around the nation. In honor of the Fourth of July, a fireworks show will follow the rodeo activities. A pre-rodeo kickoff concert will be held June 24 with musicians Branch and Dean.

livingstonroundup.com

# **Ennis 4th of July Rodeo** Ennis, Montana July 3 and 4

Sanctioned by the Northern Rodeo Association, the Ennis 4th of July Rodeo brings cowboys and cowgirls together to compete in rough stock as well as timed events. On July 4 the annual Fourth of July Parade will open the rodeo festivities, as horses, floats, bands and cars flood down historic downtown Ennis. ennischamber.com/rodeo-parade.asp

# **Big Sky Country State Fair** Bozeman, Montana July 19 through 23

Despite the new name, the Big Sky Country State Fair (formerly known as the Gallatin County State Fair) will bring back the Bozeman Roundup Ranch Rodeo on July 22 and 23. Described as the wildest of them all, this rodeo features activities a cowhand knows by heart. Events include team branding, doctoring and sorting, trailer loading, bronc riding, hide race and wild cow milking. On July 19 the county fair will also host the Barnyard Brawl, a rodeo of sorts for kids. Events include the Calf Scramble, Chicken Chase, Mutton Bustin' and Pony Bronc Riding.

406statefair.com

#### **Big Sky PBR** Big Sky, Montana July 26 through 29

Four-time PBR Event of the Year, Big Sky PBR has grown to encompass a golf tournament, art auction, four live music concerts, a barn dance and two full nights of bull riding. As one stop on the Real Time Pain Relief Velocity Tour, Big Sky PBR will bring some of the best bull riders in the world right into the heart of the Yellowstone region. bigskypbr.com

#### August

# **Livingston Classic PBR** Livingston, Montana Aug. 5

The Livingston Classic PBR is a sell-out event that features 35 bull riders and 60,000 pounds of bucking bulls. Cowboys are challenged to make the eight-second ride in a season-long competition for year-end titles and championships. *livingstonclassicpbr.com* 

#### Bozeman Stampede Bozeman, Montana

Aug. 10 through 12

The Bozeman Stampede was started as a non-profit rodeo in 2010 by a number of Bozeman locals, growing into a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association sanctioned event that brings a full crowd and a full competition. bozemanstampede.com

#### Recurring

**Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo** West Yellowstone, Montana Select days June 14 through Aug. 26

The Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo is a summer-long event that includes traditional rodeo events, as well as a fun kid's calf scramble, where youth tie a ribbon on the tail of a young cow. This rodeo is open to any contestant and spectators can ride a horse to the rodeo through Creekside Trail Rides. *yellowstonerodeo.com* 

**Cody Nite Rodeo** Cody, Wyoming Every night June 1 through Aug. 31

Summer season is rodeo season in Cody, Wyoming, where every night rodeo fans can get their photos taken on Mongo the Bull, meet the clowns and bullfighters and enjoy the rodeo action. codystampederodeo.com

**Teton Valley Rodeo** Driggs, Idaho Every Friday night June 23 through Aug. 18

The Friday night rodeo held at the Driggs Fairgrounds is described as being full of cowboy danger, Western excitement and a whole lot of family fun. Food, fun and entertainment await, nestled beneath the peaks of the Tetons and bathed by the rays of a summer sunset. *tetonvalleyrodeo.com* 



**OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO** 

#### Jackson Hole Rodeo

Every Wednesday and Saturday May 27 to Sept. 2

These guys rodeo rain or shine at the Jackson Hole rodeo grounds in Wyoming and according to the organizers, rodeo has been a part of Jackson Hole's cowboy culture for over 100 years. The Jackson Hole Rodeo includes the traditional rodeo events such as barrel racing and break away roping. *jbrodeo.com* 



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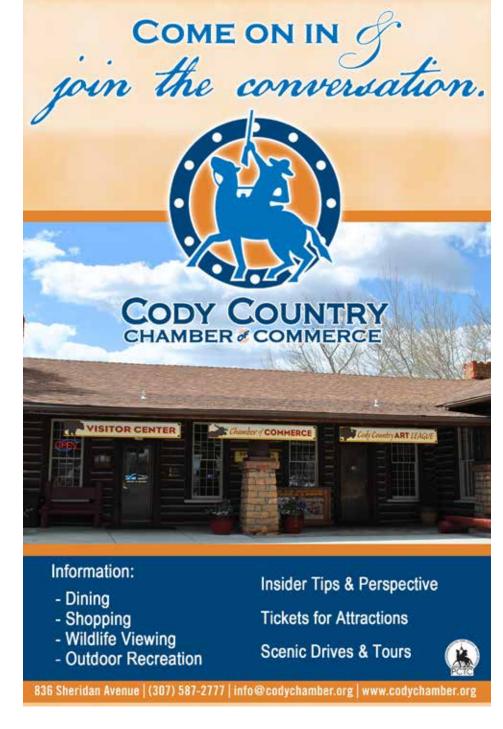
Travel back in time through the vision and voice of an iconic Montana author. Sheep, typewriters, and stories, oh my.

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# **Recreating on local rivers**

BY AMANDA EGGERT **EBS SENIOR EDITOR** 

Between the Gallatin, Yellowstone and Madison rivers, residents of and visitors to southwest Montana have their pick of river-based recreation. Below is EBS's guide to getting out on some of the finest floating and fishing waters in the state.

#### Gallatin

"Gallatin" is synonymous with "blue ribbon fishery" in the minds of many devoted fly-fishing anglers, and it's a favorite destination for rafters and kayakers alike given its roiling string of Class III and IV rapids through Gallatin Canyon.

The upper stretch of the Gallatin River, which originates from Gallatin Lake in Yellowstone

National Park, is open to rafters, kayakers and fishermen, but fishing from a boat is not permitted until the main stem reaches the East Gallatin near Manhattan.

Easy access—Highway 191 follows the river through Gallatin Canyon—makes this a favorite spot for walk-and-wade fishermen on the hunt for rainbow, brown and cutthroat tout. A number of Forest Service campgrounds, like Moose Creek and Red Cliffs, dot the riverbank and fly-fishing shops and guiding outfits abound.

#### **Upper Yellowstone**

Just one drainage east, the higher-volume Yellowstone River flows through Paradise Valley at a more leisurely pace. Accounting for 11 percent of all angler days in the state and boasting an incredible amount of trout—as many as 500 per 1,000 river feet—the Upper Yellowstone is the backbone of summer recreation in Livingston.

It's fun to float, too, particularly if you're looking for a day on the river full of sun and well-suited to the enjoyment of cold refreshments. As the river nears Livingston, you'll see more floaters whiling away the afternoon on inner tubes. The river changes course seasonally as it braids through the broad valley; mind the route



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

you take when the river presents several options so you don't end up tugging your craft off a gravel bar during low flows.

If something a little rowdier is your pleasure, head upstream to Yankee Jim Canyon, located about a dozen miles north of Gardiner. During peak flows, a couple of sizable holes in the canyon quickly transform into boat-eating sleepers and the whitewater stretch through Gardiner presents rafters with technical rock-dodging at lower flows.

#### Madison

Located in the wide, sunny valley between the Gallatin and Gravelly mountains and home to some monstrously large brown trout, there are plenty of boat launch options on the Madison—whether your craft of choice is a raft, a drift boat or a nimble little one-person cataraft.

In many ways, Ennis' peak season runs counter to Big Sky's—it can be as tough to find open accommodations around the Fourth of July in Ennis as it is to book a stay in Big Sky over the Christmas holiday. This is due in no small part to the draw of the Madison, a river also born in the waters of Yellowstone National Park, specifically at the confluence of the Firehole and Gibbon rivers.

Should your fishing appetites take you inside the boundaries of Yellowstone, you'll need to purchase a special permit, and the park's angling season starts May 27. Navigating watercraft, i.e., rafts and kayaks, inside the park is not allowed by the park's current regulations.

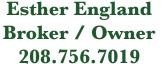
Wherever you go, make sure to practice responsible recreation to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species. Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks advises recreationists to clean, drain and dry their gear before switching from one river to another. New this year, all anglers are required to purchase an Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Pass in addition to their regular fishing license. The cost is \$2 for Montana residents and \$15 for out-of-state fishermen.





Salmon, Idaho a rural lifestyle for the outdoorsman at heart. Our favorite way of life is spending time with our beautiful mountains as our backdrop for hunting, fishing, white water rafting, and hiking, skiing, mountain biking, horseback riding; for those who love the outdoors opportunities for fun and exploration are endless.

Come visit us at Mountain West Real Estate, let us introduce you to the possibilities that await you.









# IN BIG SKY, MONTANA

Big Sky is home to several public access trails, many of which are open to mountain bikers. Whether you're a newbie to mountain biking, or you've been doing it for years, there is a trail that suits every skill level. The trails listed in this guide are for public use, so get out there and give them a ride!

# **GEAR GUIDE**



#### HELMET

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



# TIRE PUMP 8 REPAIR KIT

Punctures are inevitable, but won't slow you down if you're prepared.



#### **MULTI-TOOL**

You never know when you'll need to carry out a quick trailside repair.



#### **GLOVES**

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



# HYDRATION PACK

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



#### **SUNGLASSES**

Protect your eyes from dirt, the sun's rays and errant branches.



### HARDTAIL VS. FULL SUSPENSION

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

# TRAILS TO TRY

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

From Town Center, take Aspen Leaf Drive east for 0.5 of a mile. The trailhead will be on your left.

#### **PORCUPINE CREEK**

A long scenic loop with varied terrain

**6.5** -mile loop **650**' elevation gain



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

#### **MOUNTAIN TO MEADOW**

An icon of the Big Sky experience

6 miles one way 1700' elevation loss

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







**MODERATE** 



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

# **MOUNTAIN BIKING EVENTS**

#### **Montana Enduro Series**

Missoula, MT | June 4 Kellogg, ID | June 24-25 Grand Targhee | July 22-23 Big Sky Resort | Aug. 13

#### **Mountain Bike Biathlon**

Bohart Ranch | July 9

**The Butte 100**Butte, MT | July 29

Pierre's Hole 50/100 Grand Targhee | Aug. 5

# Liv Ladies AllRide Camp

Big Sky Resort | Aug. 4-6

#### **Lost Trail Bike Festival** Lost Trail Powder Mountain, MT Aug. 22

#### **Bohart Bash**

Bozeman, MT | Sept. 9

#### **Collin Craig Memorial Series**

Bozeman, MT

Select dates through Sept. 10

# A recreationist's guide to Forest Service cabins

BY FELICIA ENNIS EBS CONTRIBUTOR

We drove slowly up the winding road to our cabin tucked a half mile into the woods, parked and carried a box of food and sleeping bags down a narrow trail. The log cabin was just as I dreamed it: front porch, small windows, woodshed and outhouse on one side, creek on the other.

Inside we set things down and quickly went to work as homesteaders. As I unpacked the food, my friend started a fire in the wood stove. Soon, we were heating water for tea over one of the stove's hot plates.

While the cabin was rustic, it was clean and comfortable, and it felt cozy having our own private getaway in the woods for the weekend.

The National Forest Service has 113 public cabins in Montana, according to the federal outdoor recreation site, recreation.gov. In the summer they're accessible by foot, car, four-wheeler, mountain bike and horse, depending upon location. Some are roadside, and others are deep in the backcountry. Most are open year round, but access can be longer and challenging in winter.

Many of the cabins were built in the 1920s and '30s as field headquarters for forest rangers and crews building and maintaining trails, fighting forest fires, or working on range and forestry projects. Some continue to be used for such purposes. Of the Forest Service cabins available to rent, some have electricity and running water, and all have either a wood or electric stove for cooking and heating. Additional amenities vary by cabin, but may include mattresses, utensils and dining tables and chairs.

Reservations are required and can be made online at recreation.gov or by calling (877) 444-6777. Upon making a reservation, visitors will be given a combination to open the door.

# Window Rock Cabin – Gallatin National Forest/Bozeman District

Beautiful forests surround this secluded and comfortable getaway in Hyalite Canyon, south of Bozeman. The cabin is easy to access via a well-maintained, paved road. It was built in 1940 and is open year round.

Summer access: Car.

**Location:** Hyalite Canyon, 13 miles south of Bozeman.

Beds: Four, plus a loft.

**Activities:** Hyalite Canyon is a beautiful mountainous area with great hiking, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking and rock climbing. The nearby Grotto Falls Trail is wheelchair accessible.

**Reservations:** Call the Bozeman Ranger Station at (406) 522-2520.

#### Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout – Gallatin National Forest/ Bozeman District

Wow—what a view! The Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout sits atop Garnet Mountain, on the eastern flanks of Gallatin Canyon. It's the only fire lookout available in the district, has outstanding 360-degree views of the surrounding mountains, and is far from the reaches of civilization.

Summer access: Several trails wind up Garnet Mountain to this cabin, ranging in length from 2 to 6 miles. Hike, or ride a mountain bike, dirt bike or ATV.

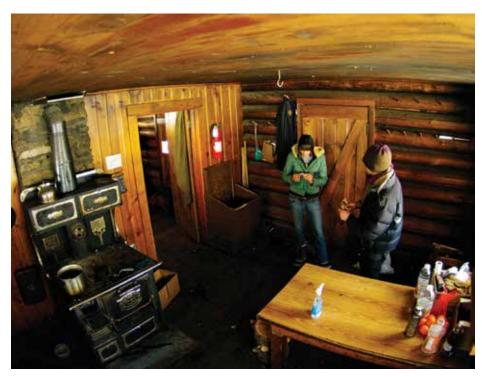
Location: Travel north from Big Sky approximately 20 miles on Highway 191 and turn right onto Storm Castle Creek Road (Forest Service Road No. 132). Cross the bridge, turn right at the intersection and continue past the helicopter base. From there, take the summer shortcut by driving 1.5 miles to the Garnet Mountain Lookout Trailhead and hike 3.5 miles to the cabin. Alternatively, for mountain bike, dirt bike and ATV access, continue five miles on Storm Castle Creek Road and turn right on Rat Lake Road. Continue one mile to the trailhead and the cabin is four miles from the yearlong gate closure below Rat Lake.

Beds: Four

**Activities:** Hiking, mountain biking and soaking in the view. **Reservations:** Call the Bozeman Ranger Station at (406) 522-2520.

#### **Ibex Cabin – Gallatin National Forest/Yellowstone District**

Ibex Cabin is a rustic one-room cabin built in 1939 in the foothills of the Crazy Mountains, 40 miles northeast of Livingston. It's nestled in a pine forest with the



Weekend dates for Forest Service rentals like the Battle Ridge cabin (depicted) book quickly. Make reservations several months in advance, especially if you're planning a Friday or Saturday night escape. PHOTO BY GREG MATHER

mountains to the east and prairie to the west. There is a wood stove and propane lantern, but no drinking water or electricity.

**Summer access:** High clearance 4x4 vehicles can drive to Ibex from June through October. The access road can get muddy in the rain, so call ahead for road conditions.

**Location:** 15 miles east of Clyde Park, on the western side of the Crazy Mountains. Travel a half mile north of Clyde Park on Highway 89 and turn right on Cottonwood Bench Road. The road is well signed from here; continue northeast about 15 miles to the cabin.

**Beds:** Four

**Activities:** Hiking, mountain biking, bird watching, dirt biking, horseback riding and wildflower viewing (especially in the spring).

**Reservations:** Call the Livingston Ranger Station at (406) 222-1892.

#### Big Creek Cabin – Gallatin National Forest/Yellowstone District

The Big Creek Cabin is set in a flat clearing surrounded by spruce and fir trees. Big Creek flows 50 feet from the back porch. This cabin is very accessible all year, and is perfect for those who love the solitude and natural wonders of the forested lands in the Gallatin Range. With five rooms and two porches, it's the largest in the Livingston district.

**Summer access:** Easy, year round. Good dirt road to front door.

**Location:** Travel south of Livingston on Highway 89 approximately 34 miles to the Big Creek Road, then west five miles to the cabin, west of Mountain Sky Guest Ranch.

Beds: Eleven.

**Activities:** Hiking, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking and bird watching.

Reservations: Call the Livingston Ranger Station at (406) 222-1892.

#### Black Butte Cabin – Beaverhead–Deerlodge National Forest

Black Butte Cabin rests high in the Gravelly Mountains near the ancient volcanic cone, Black Butte, which is accessible via a nearby trail. This is a one-room cabin with a propane stove and lantern, however propane is not provided. Standard Creek, which boasts a population of Arctic grayling and brown trout, runs nearby.

Summer access: Car

**Location:** Travel south of Ennis on Highway 287 for 32 miles. Turn right onto West Ford Road (Forest Service Road No. 209) and after two miles turn right onto Standard Creek Road (Forest Service Road No. 237). Continue 18 miles to the cabin.

Beds: Four.

**Activities:** Hiking, fishing, hunting and horseback riding. **Reservations:** Call the Madison Ranger District at (406) 682-4253.

An earlier version of this article first appeared in the summer 2012 issue of Mountain Outlaw magazine.