

# Local reflects on 24-year smokejumping career

Yellowstone Club pays for wastewater spill

**Business profile:** New Big Sky vet reopens Big Horn location

> Mountainfilm Tour features Montana docs

**Special section:** Sharpen those pencils, school's back!





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#### #explorebigsky









**ON THE COVER:** As of EBS press time on Aug. 30, there were 13 uncontained fires burning in Montana with plume-dominated fire behavior sweeping across large swaths of the state. PHOTO BY MARK PIEPER

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# Local reflects on 24-year smokejumping career

Yellowstone Club pays for wastewater spill



## **Business profile:**

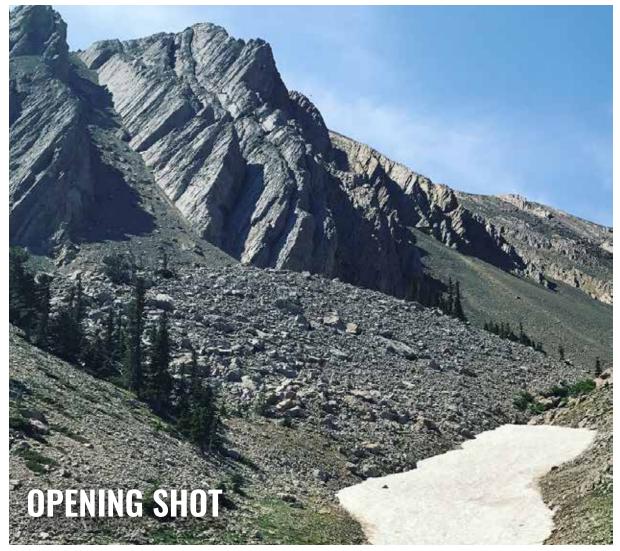
New Big Sky vet reopens Big Horn location

Mountainfilm Tour features Montana docs



# **65** Special section: Sharpen these period

Sharpen those pencils, school's back!



.49

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor allow EBS readers to express views and share how they would like to effect change. These are not Thank You notes. Letters should be 250 words or less, respectful, ethical, accurate, and proofread for grammar and content. We reserve the right to edit letters, and will not publish individual grievances about specific businesses or letters that are abusive, malicious or potentially libelous. Include: full name, address, phone number and title. Submit to media@outlaw.partners

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Stunning views on the way up to Bozeman-area Sacajawea Peak with the last remains of winter still lingering in late July. PHOTO BY MARISA SPECHT

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## News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

# **Outlaw welcomes new team members**

With the addition of four staffers this summer, Outlaw Partners has expanded its talent pool, bringing new faces to its marketing, sales, videography and design teams. Come down to our Town Center office, 11 Lone Peak Drive, to learn more about their unique skills and passions.



Jeff Palmer, Outlaw's new sales associate, first moved to Big Sky the winter of 2014. "I had a yearning in my heart to head West and live the Big Sky dream," Palmer said. "Like many, I worked at the resort and returned to my original dream of being a professional snowboarder, and of course, ski bum." When that dream fizzled, Jeff returned to his other passion: helping people live their dreams.

A graduate of American University in Washington, D.C., Palmer has experience in international marketing and sales, and when it comes down to it, he loves meeting new people and helping them grow their businesses. "Ultimately, what led me [to this field] is the ability to help customers develop their brand and grow their businesses," he said.



Montana State University School of Film and Photography graduate Jennings Barmore is a Bozeman native, born and raised. Outlaw's new lead videographer has been with Outlaw since July and said he's interested in film projects that feature a strong narrative storyline and use visual elements to creatively communicate "what's at the heart of the story." He was particularly excited to take on a recent project profiling Anne Gilbert Chase, a world renowned climber and Bozeman-based nurse, for the Montana Office of Tourism.

When he's not behind the lens of a camera, he can be found recreating— "skiing, climbing, surviving"—in the mountains of southwest Montana and spending time with his wife Constance and their children, 3-year-old Asha and 1-year-old Ewan.



Graphic designer **Marisa Specht** joined the Outlaw team this May from the Midwest. A native of Apple Valley, Minnesota, Specht majored in graphic design and communications at Concordia College in Moorhead after being inspired by a high school art teacher, with whom she still keeps in touch. Specht loves designing logos and creating layouts that convey complex information cleanly and clearly.

Specht lives in Bozeman with her husband Levi, dog Piper and lots of plants. The Home and Garden magazine enthusiast has a green thumb and a Midwesterner's appreciation for winter. "My tolerance is very high for cold," she said, adding that she's excited to hit the slopes on her snowboard once the snow starts flying. Marketing manager **Blythe Beaubien** grew up in Chicago and San Francisco and majored in journalism, public relations and political science at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Beaubien's career in marketing and public relations spans food, wine, travel and luxury goods. A devoted fan of Big Sky PBR, Beaubien was particularly excited to participate behind-the-scenes at the event this year.

The owner of a feisty Weimaraner named Sofie, Beaubien said she first moved to Big Sky by accident back in 2012. "I came to visit for a month and ended up staying for three years," she says. "For some reason, it just really felt like home." She's active with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Gallatin Valley, and has been matched with a little sister through the organization for four years.

### Explore Big Sky

### September 1 - September 14 5



# NEWS IN BRIEF



## Sen. Jon Tester announces new public lands legislation

OFFICE OF SEN. JON TESTER

On Aug. 22 at the Last Best Outdoors Fest in Columbia Falls, Montana, Democrat Sen. Jon Tester announced new legislation that will give Montana outdoorsmen and women a louder voice in Washington.

Tester's Outdoor Economy Act will create the Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee at the U.S. Department of Interior to advise the Administration on ways to increase public access to public land.

"Montana hunters, anglers, business owners and outdoor enthusiasts know how important our public lands are," Tester said. "By bringing these folks to the table in Washington, we can ensure that future generations will be able to access the treasured places that are driving our economy and creating jobs."

The Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee will prepare a biannual report with recommendations on how to increase public access to public lands, address maintenance needs that impact recreational opportunities, reduce barriers for underserved communities to engage in outdoor recreation, promote new and existing service opportunities on public lands, and identify ways for the outdoor recreation community to assist in curtailing the spread of invasive species.

In addition to members from the Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, and Army Corps of Engineers, the committee will include one representative from the following groups, appointed jointly by the Departments of Interior and Agriculture:

State fish and wildlife agencies Tribal governments Hunting organizations Fishing organizations Motorized recreation organizations Horsemen organizations Human-powered transportation organizations Veterans service organizations Organizations that provide education or outreach to encourage youth participation in the outdoors

Tester's Outdoor Economy Act can be found online at tester.senate.gov.

## **1.5-acre fire extinguished behind Ophir school**

#### EBS STAFF

On Aug. 19, the Big Sky Fire Department responded to an afternoon call reporting outside smoke near Ophir Elementary School south of Big Sky on Highway 191. When firefighters arrived, approximately 1.5 acres of sagebrush field directly behind the school were on fire with flames over 6 feet high. By the time two Yellowstone Club firefighters arrived on the scene, the Big Sky department had all but extinguished the blaze.

# Uplands Trail closed after partially consumed elk found

EBS STAFF

Big Sky's Uplands Trail was closed on the afternoon of Aug. 29 after the discovery of a partially consumed elk carcass and signs of bear-related activity. The Ralph's Pass trail was closed at its halfway point as well, though Hummocks Trail, which shares a trailhead with Uplands, remained open.

As of EBS press time on Aug. 30, the Big Sky Community Organization planned to monitor the site daily and keep the trails closed until evidence of bear activity ceased, meaning the carcass remains in the same condition for several days, or in the best case scenario, has been entirely consumed.

A hiker discovered the elk carcass Aug. 29, approximately a quarter mile from the trailhead and 30 yards west of the trail. He called Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and a grizzly bear management specialist contacted BSCO, which oversees management of Big Sky's public trails.

A statement issued by FWP said that the organization does not have confirmation as to how the elk died or what is currently feeding on it, and that this was a proactive closure to ensure human safety due to possible bear presence.

## Wildfire burns near Whitehall

Campfires prohibited in Madison, other regional counties

EBS STAFF

An Aug. 24 lightning strike ignited a blaze 7 miles northeast of Whitehall, Montana, and burned more than 2,700 acres as of EBS press time on Aug. 30.

The Conrow fire is being managed as a full suppression operation with 160 total personnel, including two hotshot crews, one helicopter, four fire engines and three bulldozers. The wildfire was 65 percent

"We were very lucky to get this fire stopped," BSFD Chief William Farhat said. "High winds, low humidity and high temperatures ... you put the three together and it takes hardly anything to start a fire."

After further investigation, it was determined that the cause of the blaze was not fireworks as initially suspected, but campfire ashes that had been disposed of in the field.

In speaking with the homeowner closest to the fire, Farhat learned that friends who were visiting had thrown their campfire remains into the field behind the home, unaware that there was an ash can in the garage for that purpose. The fire had been contained in a portable metal fire pit with a screen on the patio. According to Farhat, the visitors believed that they had thoroughly extinguished the embers.

"They dumped it out in the field before they left the home, not realizing that it was still hot enough to rekindle the 'light' grassy fuels in the field," Farhat said, noting that the visitors were not from Montana and didn't fully understand the dangers involved. "This is a good example of how careful people must be when using fire in this type of environment." contained, with 16 structures threatened, but none lost, at press time.

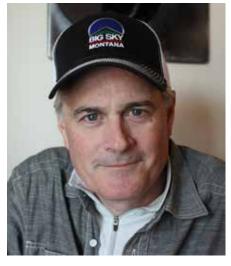
Interagency fire management officials in southwestern Montana will amend Stage 1 fire restrictions, effective at midnight on Sept. 2. Previously, there were exemptions for campfires to be allowed within metal rings, but this amendment now prohibits all campfires.

Campfires will not be allowed in metal rings or at developed recreation sites, including campgrounds or cabins. These restrictions apply to Madison, Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, Jefferson and Powell counties.

The restrictions will remain in effect until there is a significant change in fire danger.



# What was your favorite Big Sky event of the summer and why?



**Tom Gallagher** *Riverside, Connecticut* 

"The best event of the year was PBR. It was great, you know, the animals, the athletes, the crowd, it had a great buzz."



**Lori Elliott** Big Sky, Montana

"Thursday music, the [Arts Council of Big Sky] music ... the community comes together so you get to see the locals, the people that are here part time and it's just such a good energy. I love how there's music, there's the food, there's just a lot of great things happening on Thursday nights."



**Kasey Hutchinson** *Big Sky, Montana* 

"I think the Beerfest [at Big Sky Resort] was my favorite. It was just a really fun vibe and there were just a lot of brewers from all over Montana but a lot from just this area. So yeah, it was just a really fun time."



**Shade Noble** Bozeman, Montana

"Definitely just [Thursday] music. They had really good bands this year so it was definitely one of the funner events. It was a lot of good band choices and a lot more people seemed like they came out this year to go play."



# **Letter:** Big Sky community tennis courts are in state of disrepair

This is an editorial that should have been written many years ago. It is concerning the deplorable condition of the Big Sky Tennis Club.

In 2009, the courts—and only the courts—were donated to the Big Sky Owners Association and eventually became part of the Big Sky Community Corp., which now goes by the name Big Sky Community Organization. The clubhouse, parking lot and bathrooms are privately owned and will soon become part of a condominium development.

Prior to the courts becoming part of the BSCO, local tennis players raised \$13,000 and along with \$5,000 from Boyne, \$5,000 from the resort tax and \$1,500 grant from the U.S. Tennis Association, we were able to have the courts resurfaced. That was approximately seven years ago. Since that time the Big Sky Tennis Club has received maybe \$10,000 from the BSCO for maintenance of the courts.

# Free guided hikes and activities throughout BSCO's Community Trail System

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

10 A.M. - Your Forest at Work Hummocks Trail with the Natural Resource Council

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

10 A.M. - Walk with A Doc Uplands Trail with Big Sky Medical Center

Thank you to all of those who supported the BSCO Hike & Learn Program throughout the season. We look forward to seeing you on the trails next summer.



For hike descriptions and to RSVP visit: **bscomt.org/hike-learn** 32 Town Center Avenue, Unit B1 Today our tennis club looks like a cow pasture. With 75 members of the Big Sky Pickleball Club, the fastest growing sport in the country, and about 90 local supporters of tennis we need some help. We also have a Lone Peak High School tennis team which brought in some 100 high school players for a divisional tournament back in May.

It seems all the monies collected are going into the park and excluding us. The softball field, soccer field, skateboard park and Frisbee golf course are all kept in mint condition. Don't get me wrong, these are all wonderful additions to our community, but we also need tennis courts, not only for locals but for tourists as well.

We as a group are desperate for some help. After this summer we will have no access to the courts other than walking through waist-high weeds and no restroom, and within two years the courts will need resurfacing again.

Debbie Applebaum Big Sky, Montana

# PUR

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217 GOSHAWK TRAIL | \$4,225,000

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SUMMIT PENTHOUSE 11003 | \$2,185,000 This penthouse, perched upon the 10th and 11th floors of the Summit Hotel, offers a level of comfort and beauty unparalleled in the greater Mountain Village area of Big Sky! Custom finishes and furnishings distinguish this oasis from any other property. The generous deck gazes longingly at beloved Lone Mountain, offering an outdoor space that is incomparable in atmosphere and views. Extensive Summit Hotel amenities are in immediate proximity. // MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745



4 SHADOW RIDGE TRAIL | \$1,545,000 This beautiful Moonlight Mountain Home offers a unique blend of privacy and panoramic views. Large trees surround the sides and back of this home, offering you the comfort and privacy you desire while the large windows throughout the home offer breathtaking views. Great ski-in/ski-out location, a fireplace in the living room and master, all en-suite bedrooms, and a one-car garage complete the package. Sold fully furnished and turn-key. // SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316





ULERY'S LAKES LOT 7 \$985,000 Located within the gated community of Ulery's Lakes of Moonlight Basin, this 20 acre home site maximizes privacy and views. Drive through majestic Lodge Pole Pines to an open meadow offering incredible views of Lone Mountain. Enjoy fishing across the street and hiking, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing in your own back yard. A short drive will take you to the Moonlight Lodge, ski hill, golf course and Big Sky Ski Resort. // LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848

#### 7 SITTING BULL ROAD, UNIT 1101 | \$949,000

Big Sky Lakefront Living! Enjoy all four seasons from your Lodges at Elkhorn Creek Condominium. Single floor living at its finest with four bedrooms and four full bathrooms. High-end finishes adorn this beautiful unit with radiant heated hardwood floors, knotty Alder doors and trim, Viking appliances, granite countertops, hot tub and two-car garage. Located only a few minutes from the base of the Biggest Skiing in America. // MICHAEL THOMAS | 406.581.2400



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2016 WINNE

# **Upper Gallatin Drought/Water Supply**

## **Focus Group**



September 21

11 am - 12:30 pm

**Big Sky Water and Sewer** 

**District Conference Room** 

**Topic:** Mitigation and Response Actions

RSVP to Emily Casey at emily@gallatinrivertaskforce.org



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**8** September 1 - September 14

# **Obituary:** Debra Marie (English) Adamek

LOCAL

Debra Marie (English) Adamek, who loved to go by Marie, passed away on Aug. 20, 2017. She was born on Nov. 19, 1959, and raised in Jupiter, Florida. She was the daughter of Mabry Alan English and Sharon Lee (Studds) English.

She is survived by her husband James Adamek; her daughter Dominique (Ruegg) Kundrat; her son-in-law Steven Kundrat; her siblings Robyn, Linda, and David; and her nephew, Michael.

Marie attended Florida State University and was an enthusiastic Seminoles fan. She loved watching football and tennis, especially Rafa Nadal. Marie was smart, strong-willed, and



when she set her mind to a goal, she accomplished it. She had a strong work ethic and had a 32-year career as a software systems engineer, designing interfaces for the U.S. Military.

Marie lived her life to the fullest with an abundance of passion. She was a daredevil and was never afraid to try anything, from skydiving to bungee jumping, and traveling all over the world, including stepping foot in all 50 states. Marie made great friends all across her travels and places she lived, including colleagues who became friends.

Marie moved to Big Sky approximately three years ago. During her time here, she worked part-time at The Trove West and Big Horn Boutique, and served as a substitute teacher and Child Advancement Program (CAP) mentor at Ophir School. Having experienced being a newcomer to Big Sky firsthand, she became a welcoming committee of one and made dozens of friends in the community.

Marie was a loving, caring and devoted wife and mother, always providing unconditional love, support, humor, and guidance. She put much of her energy into helping others. She will be incredibly missed by all that knew her. A memorial mass was held on Aug. 25, at Big Sky Chapel. Donations can be made in Marie's honor to the charity Casting for Recovery at castingforrecovery.org.





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### Explore Big Sky

# **Resort tax board discusses semantics of 'destination ski resort'** Begins initiative to allow for two-year funding cycle

# BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – In the opening public comment session of the Big Sky Resort Area District board meeting Aug. 17, Ciara Wolfe, executive director of Big Sky Community Organization, reported that the organization did not receive a \$921,056 Montana Transportation Alternative Program grant that would have funded the construction of the pedestrian tunnel under Lone Mountain Trail.

The required match of \$142,765, secured from BSRAD appropriations, was contingent on receiving the grant, so BSCO will not be utilizing those allocations this funding cycle.

Wolfe said that MTAP deemed the tunnel a valid project, but ultimately BSCO was not awarded the grant because there isn't yet a trail on the other side of the road, and there was no data to prove it is a high-use area. According to Wolfe, MTAP likes to see approximately 20 crossings per hour at the proposed site to validate the project's necessity.

BSCO will continue to pursue funding opportunities for the tunnel and will look to BSRAD during the 2018-2019 appropriation cycle to assist in the endeavor. However, Wolfe said that at this time, if funding is secured, the earliest the tunnel could feasibly be constructed is summer 2019.

Related to long-term construction projects, Wolfe also voiced her support of the board's allowance of a two-year funding cycle for appropriations. Currently the resort tax board only guarantees funding in one-year intervals.

Following the board's discussion of changing the ordinance, Big Sky Fire Department Chief William Farhat asked that the verbiage be expanded to include large capital purchases, in addition to large-scale capital construction projects. He said it often takes longer than a year to design and build a fire engine, and a longer timeframe for the allocation of funds would be helpful in such circumstances.

The board clarified that a two-year funding cycle would not be obligating a future board's funds, but rather that appropriations awarded could be doled out over the course of two years. Currently, if resort tax funding is not used within one year, it stays in the resort tax board bank account and becomes part of the available appropriations in the next funding cycle.

It was decided that the board's legal counsel, Betsy Griffing, will draw up a draft of a new ordinance that would allow for a two-year funding cycle in very specific cases and would require the recipient to provide regular progress reports, and to undergo a thorough mid-cycle review. An internal deadline was established to have a new ordinance approved in time for the next appropriations in June 2018. governing taxation when it comes to home owner association dues, and private club fees and services across upcoming meetings.

"It's an elephant in the room," Scholz said. "You can't eat the whole thing. You've got to take it by bites."

The discussion at this meeting focused on the definition of a destination ski resort. Vice chair Kevin Germain recused himself from the discussion citing a conflict of interest because his employer owns two clubs, referring to Spanish Peaks Mountain Club and Moonlight Basin. Germain is vice president of planning and development for Lone Mountain Land Company.

"It's going to be hard for me to be quiet," Germain said. "[But] I think it's in the best interest of the board and myself just to be silent on this issue and listen."

Attorney Griffing said there is no legally binding definition of "destination ski resort." Clarifying this definition is critical because it determines what type of entities, goods and services in the community are taxable.

The main question to be answered by the board is whether the term "destination" applies to a geographical area or to specific types of businesses.

"If it's a geographical area," Scholz said, "someone could say the whole resort tax district was, and that would make it [applicable] to everything we do and that would make it, quite frankly, a general sales tax."

While all of Big Sky is arguably a "destination resort," Scholz said that was never the point of implementing a resort tax.

"If we start stamping this whole area, and making it a general sales tax, we're really defeating the initial purpose that all resort taxes had: How do you get revenue from the people that you are serving with services and giving public health and safety?" Scholz said. "It's hard enough to live here for people that work in the area without having regressive sales tax and that's what a designation that would say 'all' would do to us."

After lengthy discussion parsing apart the meaning of "destination ski resort" and "destination recreational facility," it was decided that more research would be done into existing definitions, and the characteristics of entities, goods and services that are currently taxed.

The board agreed to revisit the matter at the next meeting on Sept. 11.

In the closing public comment session, Steve Johnson, a community member who sits on numerous community boards, suggested the board request the formal opinion of the state attorney general to help with the interpretation of Montana law, as it applies to what constitutes a luxury item or service.

In a new business item, Candace Carr Strauss, CEO of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, reiterated the joint interests of the chamber, Visit Big Sky and Big Sky Gateway Foundation to acquire the 4.2-acre corner lot at the intersection of Highway 191 and Lone Mountain Trail.

The three entities are looking to partner with the resort tax board in a threephase effort that entails purchasing the land, building a new visitor center with a museum component, and sustaining its operations once opened. Strauss said they have formed a campaign committee, are looking to the state for funding, and are in the beginning stages of the fundraising process.

The board determined it would not be able to consider providing resort tax funding until the formal appropriation application process next May.

From his newly elected position as chair, Mike Scholz laid out a timeline for how the board will address the big issues currently before them. These include the definition of a destination resort, changing the ordinance "To me, the essential quality of Big Sky is a destination," Johnson added. "Nobody bumps into Big Sky accidentally. People come here because of this place and the mountain and that to me is the essential quality of what 'destination' means."

The next meeting of the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board will be held at 8 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 11, in the resort tax office located in the Town Center RJS Building at 11 Lone Peak Drive, Suite 204.

## LOCAL

# Yellowstone Club to pay more than \$350K for wastewater pond spill Payment includes cash penalties and environmental projects

# BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Nearly a year and a half after a wastewater storage pond located in the Yellowstone Club leaked 30 million gallons of treated effluent into Second Yellow Mule Creek, eventually reaching the Gallatin River, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the Yellowstone Club have agreed upon terms for an enforcement action.

DEQ developed the penalty in response to the Yellowstone Club's March 2016 violation of two state laws: discharging sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes into state water without a permit; and contamination of state waters, stemming from exceedances of established water quality standards.

DEQ Environmental Enforcement Specialist Shasta Steinweden said the agency tried to come up with a fair and reasonable penalty in line with its rules and regulations. "The whole situation was somewhat unique," she said. "There have been some situations that were kind of similar, but nothing in this category."

According to an Aug. 22 letter DEQ sent to Mike DuCuennois, the Yellowstone Club's vice president of development, the private club has already written the agency a check for \$93,739. This includes \$29,564 paid to DEQ for costs incurred investigating the discharge and monitoring its impacts, as well as a \$64,175 cash penalty.

In addition, the Yellowstone Club will contribute \$288,788 toward a Supplemental Environmental Project of their choosing.

Steinweden described an SEP as "any environmental improvement project ... that has a nexus to the incident that happened." She said it could be tied to the location of the incident or the resource damaged.

According to a 14-page DEQ document guiding the development, review and approval of these projects, "The rationale for an SEP is to encourage violators to take actions that reduce the risk of further pollution, benefit public health, restore and protect the environment, and/or promote environmental compliance."

The document specifies that SEPs are not allowed for projects the violator has already completed, already intends to do or is likely to do. It also specifies that they will not be approved if the violator, rather than the public, is likely to receive the substantial share of the benefits of the SEP.

Steinweden said she doesn't know what the Yellowstone Club's SEP will look like, but said it could fall under a wide array of intiatives.

"It's really up to them to propose to us what they want to do, and we're going to look at that based on that SEP policy," Steinweden said.

A representative from the Yellowstone Club said the individuals who are able to answer questions pertaining to the consent order and the SEP were away the week EBS went to press, and unavailable for comment.

The Yellowstone Club has 90 days from the Aug. 22 issuance of the consent order to propose a Supplemental Environmental Project to the DEQ for approval.

If the DEQ and the Yellowstone Club are unable to reach an agreement on the SEP by Aug. 22, 2018, the Yellowstone Club will pay \$192,525 or a pro-rated portion of the total in cash.

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# Big Sky local reflects on career as smokejumper

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – Ted McClanahan will be retiring in early September after 24 seasons with the wildland firefighting elite—the U.S. Forest Service Region 1 smokejumpers. As he tells it, it all started in 1992 with a conversation that he had while doing what he loves best: skiing.

An invitation from John Napton, then squad boss of the Helena Hotshots, to try out for his crew while hiking the ridge at Bridger Bowl changed his life. In 1995, after training in Missoula, he would become a rookie smokejumper.

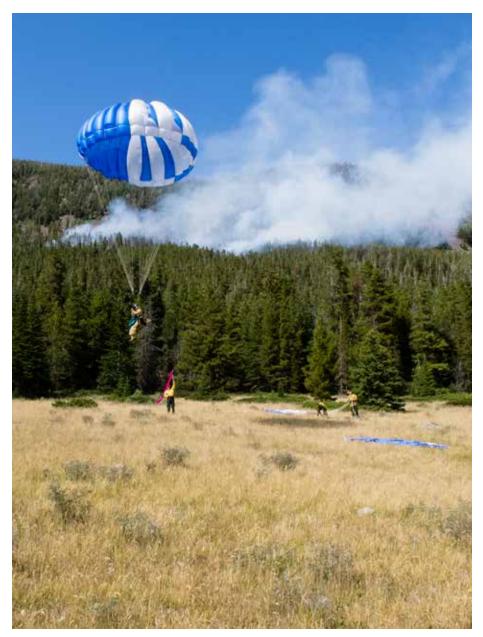
Smokejumping has a long tradition in Montana, which McClanahan traces all the way back to the Great Fire of 1910, also known as the Big Burn. When 3 million acres burned across Washington, northern Idaho and western Montana, destroying towns and timber, the federal government began looking for better solutions to remote fire suppression.

"At that point in time, our ability to protect life and property in remote areas during wildfires was in the Fred Flintstone era," McClanahan said. "Mule packing into backcountry with heavy equipment was a logistical nightmare."

In 1940, under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a smokejumping training program was founded near Seeley Lake, 60 miles outside of Missoula. The next month, Rufus Robinson and Earl Cooley made history when they jumped the Marten Creek fire in the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho.

"Those guys are legends. They set the bar high, but the evolution of smokejumping since then has been a series of leaps and bounds," said McClanahan, who served in the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army for four years after graduating from Washington State University.

McClanahan has trained eight rookie classes of Region 1 smokejumpers, so he understands the skills needed to be an effective rapid response for initial attack suppression in chaotic situations.





After 24 seasons as a smokejumper, Ted McClanahan is grateful and humbled to have worked with so many wildland firefighters during his career. PHOTO BY BRIAN WILSON

"With the improvements in the technology that we have access to, especially with parachutes, smokejumpers have been able to adapt and evolve our effectiveness at getting into tight spots with the right tools at the right time," he said.

To become a smokejumper, you have to be technically proficient, physically capable and brave, but McClanahan emphasizes other qualities that are essential to modern day fire suppression. "Communication, leadership and teamwork," he says with confidence. "I learned that from a lot of my badass women mentors."

"You got to understand, we're dropping into places we've never been before. In most cases, like the Miles City fire this July, we're working with private landowners, ranchers on ATVs, local fire departments in dynamic, stressful situations. We call them urban-interface zones," he said, referring to his role providing logistical support to the next generation of smokejumpers battling a part of the Lodgepole Complex fire.

That conflagration burned more than 270,000 acres and was one of the nation's biggest during this wildfire season.

McClanahan is quick to concede that smokejumpers cannot do their job as effectively without local knowledge and support from local parties. "We have the technical knowledge that we need to communicate as effectively as possible, setting up viable strategies and forming instant teamwork networks. But first thing we do, we're out there making friends."

With a wry smile, McClanahan jokes that smokejumpers might be a government entity that actually works. "We strive to be a small, yet effective unit that works with and alongside citizens to protect life and value, and we continue to improve our methods. And we only show up when you need us."

With gear weighing close to 110lbs per smokejumper, practice jumps are essential training for mastering parachuting techniques and tight landings. PHOTO BY MARK PIEPER

With approximately 440 smokejumpers currently in the U.S., McClanahan says that he thinks smokejumping is in good hands. Despite ongoing debates about the appropriateness of fire suppression as a core strategy, smokejumpers will continue to be on the front lines using whatever resources they have at their disposal to solve problems on a short timescale under pressure.

"That's one thing you learn when you see a lot of fires up close—you learn how to pivot, how to adapt, how to evolve in rapidly changing circumstances," he said.

With numerous wildfires currently burning in western Montana, Region 1 smokejumpers based out of Missoula, West Yellowstone and Grangeville, Idaho, will be on the front lines for the foreseeable future.

When asked about what he will miss most about jumping out of planes for a living, McClanahan says it will be the camaraderie. "Sure there is a sacrifice being away for extended periods of time—but I'm lucky to be part of group of guys who," he pauses and thinks, then says, "a group of guys who know how to get things done."

## LOCAL

# **Location for new NorthWestern Energy substation still uncertain**

#### BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – After a month of community meetings, NorthWestern Energy has determined that it will gather more information before settling on a site for the substation it plans to build between Meadow Village and Lone Mountain.

NorthWestern executives say another substation is needed to meet Big Sky's projected energy load demand—which is expected to nearly double in the next 10 to 15 years—and decrease the likelihood of a blackout.

The facilitation process, which opened with a community-wide meeting July 25 and rolled into a series of five focus groups, drew significant public comment, particularly from homeowners concerned about negative impacts to their property values and viewsheds. Residents also voiced concerns about noise and impacts to wildlife.

"[There were] certainly widespread perceptions that this was a done deal. Hopefully, we've walked back

from that," said Eric Austin, whose organization, the Burton K. Wheeler Center for Public Policy, was hired by NorthWestern to facilitate discussion between the energy company and the Big Sky community.

Austin said there would be significant engagement with the community beyond the Aug. 29 wrap-up meeting, which was held at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center and attended by approximately 50 people.

In addition to a more in-depth examination of the two sites that NorthWestern has identified as the leading choices, the company will explore a new substation-construction technology that's been referred to in meetings as the "not ugly" option. Several meeting attendees indicated that the location of the site will be much easier to agree upon if the discussion shifts to building a more attractive option.

Michael Cashell, who heads NorthWestern's transmission division, said the company will go to Snowmass, Colorado, on Sept. 12 to learn more about its gas-insulated substation, which is contained within a sealed environment and insulated with sulfur hexafluoride gas.

Snowmass' substation—which was built by its nonprofit cooperative utility after a similarly contentious process—fits inside a structure that looks like a large barn, and the transmission lines leading into it are buried. Residents of Antler Ridge and Sleeping Bear have said they would prefer that option to an open-air substation. The more conventional option of the two, an open-air substation would require a much larger parcel of land, approximately 5 acres. It would also cost less to build.

Big Sky homeowners are concerned that a conventional open-air substation, like the one above located in Meadow Village, will reduce their property values and compromise their views. PHOTO BY LIAM KESHISHIAN to pay for a more expensive technology in tandem with their technical

to pay for a more expensive technology in tandem with their technical assessments of the two leading sites.

"We've heard a number of folks at different meetings say that if it's a better-looking technology that preserves the values of the community that there's some willingness to pay for that, but it's got to be equitable, and it's got to be fair," Austin said.

The site that's been dubbed the Midway site will impact dozens of homeowners in the Antler Ridge and Sleeping Bear subdivisions. The Rainham site, which is slightly more expensive, will impact a handful of homeowners.

"Nobody wants this in their backyard, that's just clear—whether you're 60 voices or five, nobody wants it," said an attendee who identified herself as an owner near the Rainham site. "I implore you to look at technologies that could possibly have less impact."

Austin said there will be another community involvement meeting in early 2018. NorthWestern would like to have a site picked by the middle of next year, which will eventually entail submitting a conditional use permit to the county zoning board, Cashell said. He anticipates the substation will take two seasons to build.



NorthWestern Energy does not have experience building gas-insulated substations, and has said that its engineers would have to attend training before they could even price out that option. A conventional substation located in either of the two leading sites is expected to cost between \$10 million and \$11 million.

The cost associated with a gas-insulated substation is one of the largest unknown variables right now. Cashell said Snowmass residents have assessed that they've paid more than \$8 million in incremental costs associated with using that technology.

Austin said NorthWestern Energy, which is regulated by the Montana Public Service Commission, will look for a community-approved process



# Hill condominium owners could see sharp increase in HOA dues

# BY JANA BOUNDS EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY– The Hill Condominiums Home Owners Association is facing a controversial 84 percent association dues increase when the association meets for a Sept. 2 vote.

According to a notice printed by owner Mikala Kearney, the proposed increase was not included on the mail-in ballot.

"By holding the vote for this increase at the annual meeting, those who have proposed the increase are given the ability to push it through because they hold most of the proxies (voting rights) for the owners that are not present," Kearney wrote on the bright signs placed on the exterior of the Hill Condos, atop paint peeling off wooden siding.

The signs were placed to notify renters of the proposed increase and likelihood of incurred costs being passed to renters. The notice was also transcribed, posted and shared on Facebook by owners and renters.

Board member and attorney Peter Fisher declined to comment on the dues proposal, saying he would need board approval to speak. Condominium owners Heather Mote and Craig Smit also refused comment, explaining that they did not want to be caught in the crosshairs of what could become a contentious vote.

June 20 board meeting minutes paint a grim picture of association finances. Board Treasurer Bill Janecke expressed concern that owners are unclear about the financial condition of the association and that it has lived on borrowed time in underfunding the reserve accounts for many years. He requested board approval for sending out short, easily understood statements to owners outlining the condition of the property, "that will shed light on necessary costs and point to a way forward going out of pocket instead of going into debt."

He specifically cited windows, damage and siding as "interrelated issues that could turn out to be quite costly before resolved."

According to meeting minutes, board member Virginia Braun said the board needs to clearly define where the money is going, "because another increase could [push] some of the membership over the edge." Board member Gloria Lambertz agreed that the membership needs to be shown an end game for fixing issues. Janecke, Fischer and Lambertz all expressed interest in including issues that could be voted on by membership in the annual meeting packets rather than by the usual use of proxy or unallocated votes from absent owners.

At the June 20 meeting, association accountant Doug Shanley said the association is \$32,270 under budget on total operating expenses through May 31.

Alpine Property Management, which manages the property, did not provide comment before EBS's Aug. 30 press deadline.

The annual meeting takes place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 2, in the Talus Conference Room of Big Sky Resort's Summit Hotel.

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# Gianforte booked after assault conviction

BY AMY BETH HANSON ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) - U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte was photographed and fingerprinted Friday, days after a judge ordered him to be booked after pleading guilty to assaulting a reporter on the eve of the special election that put him in office.

Gallatin County Attorney Marty Lambert declined Friday to release the mug shot that Democrats would likely use against him during the 2018 election cycle. Lambert's practice is not to release mug shots without a judge's order. The Bozeman Daily Chronicle reports it filed an application in District Court Friday asking a judge to release it.

Gianforte, 56, pleaded guilty in June to assaulting Guardian reporter Ben Jacobs on May 24. Jacobs said Gianforte "body slammed" him and broke his glasses when he asked a question about a bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act that had passed the U.S. House. Audio taken by Jacobs recorded the sounds of a scuffle followed by Gianforte yelling, "Get the hell out of here!"

The former software executive was ordered to pay a \$385 fine, complete 40 hours of community service and 20 hours of anger management counseling. Part of his settlement with Jacobs included a \$50,000 donation to the Committee to Protect Journalists. He was given a 180-day suspended sentence, but was ordered to report to jail to be booked.

Gianforte's attorneys argued against him having to be booked because he was not formally arrested in the case.

Justice of the Peace Rick West last week ordered the Bozeman Republican to be booked by Sept. 15 or be held in contempt of court.

"Greg has fulfilled the terms. The matter is resolved," Travis Hall, Gianforte's communications director, said Friday. "He remains 100 percent focused on serving the people of Montana."

Jail records indicate Gianforte's booking process took 23 minutes, beginning at 6:37 a.m. A jail spokeswoman confirmed he was booked and released.

Lee Hanson with ROC Wheels confirmed that Gianforte had completed his 40 hours of community service with the program that builds custom wheelchairs for children.

Courtney Radsch, the advocacy director for the Committee to Project Journalists, said the \$50,000 donation was made soon after Gianforte was sentenced.

He also paid \$4,600 for Jacobs' medical bills and travel costs to attend the June hearing. Gianforte also apologized to Jacobs in court, adding: "And if and when you're ready, I look forward to sitting down with you in D.C."

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A spokeswoman for the Guardian says they're still working on that.

"Ben Jacobs first reached out to Congressman Gianforte for an on-the-record interview on June 22 and has been in ongoing communication with his office since then. So far, the Congressman has yet to commit to this interview," a spokeswoman said. "However, in light of his promise to sit down for an interview with Ben in the courtroom before being sentenced on June 12, we fully expect the Congressman to be a man of his word."

Hall, Gianforte's spokesman, said: "We've offered times for Ben to sit down with Greg in September."

# US interior chief says he won't eliminate protected lands

# BY MATTHEW BROWN AND BRADY MCCOMBS ASSOCIATED PRESS

BILLINGS (AP) - Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke announced Thursday he won't seek to eliminate any national monuments carved from the wilderness and oceans by past presidents. But he said he will press to change some boundaries and left open the possibility of allowing drilling, mining or other industries on some of the land.

Twenty-seven monuments in all were put under review in April by President Donald Trump, who has charged that the millions of acres placed under protection by President Barack Obama were part of a "massive federal land grab."

If Trump adopts Zinke's recommendations, it could quiet some of the worst fears of his opponents, who warned that vast public lands and marine areas could be stripped of federal protection.

But significant reductions in the size of the monuments or changes to what activities are allowed on them could trigger fierce resistance, too, including lawsuits.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Zinke said he is recommending changes to a "handful" of sites, including unspecified boundary adjustments, and suggested some monuments are too large.

The White House said only that it received Zinke's recommendations and is reviewing them.

Conservationists and tribal leaders responded with alarm and distrust, demanding the full release of Zinke's recommendations and vowing to challenge attempts to shrink any monuments.

Jacqueline Savitz, senior vice president of Oceana, which has been pushing for preservation of five marine monuments included in the review, said that simply saying "changes" are coming doesn't reveal any real information.

"A change can be a small tweak or near annihilation," Savitz said. "The public has a right to know."

A tribal coalition that pushed for the Bears Ears National Monument on sacred tribal land in Utah is prepared to launch a legal fight against even a slight reduction in size, said Gavin Noyes of the nonprofit Utah Diné Bikéyah.

Zinke did not directly answer whether any monuments would be newly opened to energy development, mining and other industries Trump has championed.

"There's an expectation we need to look out 100 years from now to keep the public land experience alive in this country,"Zinke said. "You can protect the monument by keeping public access to traditional uses."

None of the sites would revert to new ownership, he said, while public access for uses such as hunting, fishing or grazing would be maintained or restored. He also spoke of protecting tribal interests. The recommendations cap an unprecedented four-month review based on a belief that the century-old Antiquities Act had been misused by past presidents to create oversized monuments that hinder energy development, grazing and other uses. The review looked at whether the protected areas should be eliminated, downsized or otherwise altered.

The review raised alarm among conservationists who said protections could be lost for ancient cliff dwellings, towering sequoia trees, deep canyons and ocean habitats.

Zinke previously announced that no changes would be made at six of the 27 national monuments under review—in Montana, Colorado, Idaho, California, Arizona and Washington. He has also said that Bears Ears should be downsized.

In the interview with the AP, the former Montana congressman declined to reveal specifics on individual sites.

He also struck back against conservationists who had warned of impending mass sell-offs of public lands by the Trump administration.

"I've heard this narrative that somehow the land is going to be sold or transferred,"Zinke said. "That narrative is patently false and shameful. The land was public before and it will be public after."

National monument designations add protections for lands revered for their natural beauty and historical significance, with the goal of preserving them for future generations. The restrictions aren't as stringent as those at national parks but can include limits on mining, timber-cutting and recreational activities such as riding off-road vehicles.

The monuments under review were designated by four presidents over the past two decades. Several are about the size of the state of Delaware, including Mojave Trails in California, Grand-Staircase Escalante in Utah and Bears Ears.

Many national monuments were later declared national parks. Among them were Zion National Park in Utah and Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

No other president has tried to eliminate a monument, but some have trimmed and redrawn boundaries 18 times, according to the National Park Service.

Many times, presidents reduced monuments slightly, such as when Franklin Roosevelt removed about 52 acres from Arizona's Wupatki National Monument in 1941 to make way for a dam.

But occasionally the changes were drastic, such as President Woodrow Wilson's move in 1915 to cut Mount Olympus National Monument roughly in half to open more land for logging.

Environmental groups contend the 1906 Antiquities Act allows presidents to create the monuments but gives only Congress the power to modify them.

McCombs reported from Salt Lake City. Associated Press writer Michael Biesecker contributed from Washington.

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## **ENVIRONMENT**



# The New West: A political giant says elected officials can't hide from citizens



**Explore** Big Sky

#### BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Congresswoman Liz Cheney is purported to live in Wilson, Wyoming. But her presence in Jackson Hole has been conspicuously scarce, at least that's what many of her constituents say.

Despite numerous invitations to attend town hall

meetings with the citizens she represents, Cheney has been a no-show, declining to look Teton County residents in the eye and listen to what they have to say.

According to the account of one person who did speak with her, the congresswoman allegedly said she "didn't want to subject herself to any [possibly] abusive remarks" she might receive from Wyomingites.

It's an attitude and a pattern of behavior repeated often this year with congressional delegation members from Wyoming, Montana and Idaho deliberately ignoring voters and instead attending meetings only sponsored by hard-core supporters and campaign contributors who tell them what they want to hear.

I've heard that Ms. Cheney stridently avoids returning phone calls from any media outlets she suspects will ask her tough questions. Arguably, by her actions, Cheney isn't promoting transparency in government or accountability to the people she serves but is rather contributing to divisiveness and the breakdown of civility.

It didn't always used to be this way. The late U.S. Sen. Malcolm Wallop, his retired colleague Alan K. Simpson, even Ms. Cheney's father, former Vice President and Congressman Dick Cheney, did not brazenly brush off constituents or the media. They knew that mixing it up came with the job.

Earlier this year, just after he completed his assignment as U.S. Ambassador to China, I met with Max Baucus, who served 36 years in the U.S. Senate, the longest Senate tenure in state history, topping even the legendary Mike Mansfield's.

As I interviewed Baucus for a story in the current issue of Mountain Outlaw magazine, I asked him what triggered the rise in incivility. "I ask myself that question often," he said. "I don't have a good answer."

Baucus, however, shared an observation about the old senate dining room, a place that once served as a private sanctum for senators only, where they got to know each other personally, talked candidly about their families and hardships, and related to each other as human beings.



Sen. Ted Kennedy, along with White House Domestic Policy Council Director Melody Barnes, left, Sen. Max Baucus, second from right, and Rep. Charles Rangel listen during a Health Care Summit second session in the East Room of the White House March 5, 2009. OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

taking just a few minutes out of one's busy life, maybe a total of 10 minutes if a constituent must make six calls to finally get through, but it makes a difference, he assures.

Contrary to the opinions of cynics, citizens wield more clout than they know. But they don't make their clout register. They allow politicians to get off easy, he said.

Baucus smirks incredulously when he hears complaints that politicians have placed themselves beyond reach or actively evade town hall meetings.

"We are very lucky in Montana. It's much, much easier than it would be in California or New York to reach an elected official," he said. "I gave my personal email out to everybody. I gave out my phone number to everybody. I was totally accessible to everybody. If anybody wanted to write me a letter or call me, I was there. I made a point of responding if someone insisted I get back to them and sometimes those conversations changed my mind on issues."

Sighing, he added, "Having said this, I'm kind of surprised, and slightly disappointed, frankly, that I didn't get more telephone calls. I got a good number but I wanted more."

Do members of the Wyoming, Montana and Idaho congressional delegations have the courage to give out their personal emails and cell phone numbers? More importantly, do they have the stomach to get a lashing from constituents who are concerned about the direction of the country?

The dining room closed down a decade ago as, evermore, senators began spending time with lobbyists, at fundraisers and party strategy sessions. The age of social media and partisan cable channels also have contributed to the bitter atmosphere.

"Part of it is on us, too," Baucus said, meaning citizens. "If we want those in Washington D.C. to exercise more comity, citizens have got to push for it and exercise more comity themselves."

Baucus offered a blunt challenge: Citizens need to demand accountability from elected officials. In rural states, neither should they allow members of Congress to ignore them nor should they settle for having contact only with the grunt-level staffers of a senator, governor, member of Congress or any other elected official.

Citizens, Baucus said, should demand to meet face to face with individual elected officials or, at the very least, get their calls returned. If at first they are rebuffed, be vigilant, he noted.

And if a federal or state lawmaker doesn't give them respect, call them out in the newspaper. Don't accept no for an answer, he said. It might require Baucus himself got an earful from Montanans when he helped get the Affordable Care Act, aka Obamacare, passed into law but refused to support a single payer system or all-out universal health care coverage for all Americans.

Still, he didn't cower. "You can't hide from the people you represent," he said. "If you do that, you don't deserve to be in office."

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 bear 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 and is now on newsstands. He is founder of Mountain Journal (mountainjournal.org) devoted to exploring environmental issues in Greater Yellowstone.

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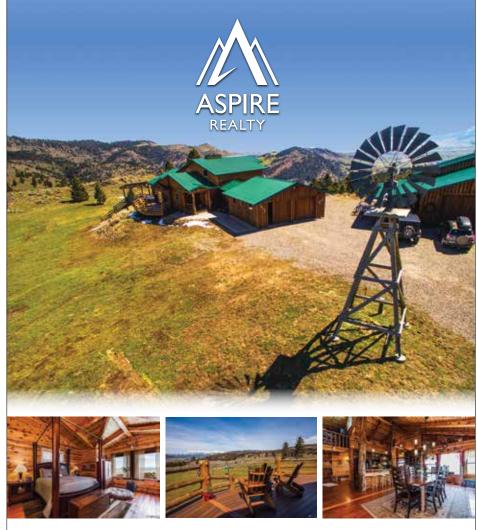




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# Judge: Bears near US-Canada border merit endangered status

#### BY MATT VOLZ ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELENA (AP) – Animals and plants can be considered endangered even if they are not on the brink of extinction, a judge ruled in overturning the U.S. government's re-classification of a small population of grizzly bears living in the forests of Montana and Idaho near the Canada border.

The Aug. 22 ruling by U.S. District Judge Dana Christensen said that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is prohibited from narrowing the definition of an endangered species in its future decisions without explaining why it wants to make the policy change.

The federal Endangered Species Act defines an endangered species as one that is "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

In 2014, the Fish and Wildlife Service interpreted that to mean that 40 to 50 Cabinet-Yaak grizzly bears living in the mountainous, remote part of Montana and Idaho are not endangered because they are not "on the brink of extinction"—an explanation used only once before to justify keeping polar bears from endangered status.

The federal agency used that interpretation to upgrade the status of Cabinet-Yaak grizzly bears to "threatened" after the bears spent decades on a waiting list to be classified as "endangered," prompting a lawsuit from the conservation group Alliance for the Wild Rockies.

Christensen ruled that the government effectively changed its policy without explaining it or seeking public input. He reinstated the Cabinet-Yaak bears' status as warranting classification as an endangered species essentially putting them back on the waiting list.

The federal agency first used the "brink of extinction" interpretation in a memo to explain its decision not to list the polar bear as an endangered species in 2008.

The judge said that memo was only supposed to apply to polar bears and not set a new policy for defining endangered species, but that the agency tried to apply it to the Cabinet-Yaak bears.

In future listings of any animals or plants under the Endangered Species Act, the judge said, the Fish and Wildlife Service must prove that the federal law allows the "brink of extinction" interpretation and provide an explanation of why that interpretation is needed.

"It will apply to all other species when the FWS is considering if a species should be listed as endangered," said Mike Garrity, the executive director of the Alliance for the Wild Rockies.

A Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman did not immediately return a telephone message seeking comment.

The Cabinet-Yaak bears are one of six grizzly populations in the Northern Rockies from Washington state to Wyoming.

All are considered threatened, with the recent exception of about 700 grizzlies living in and around Yellowstone National Park, about 300 miles southeast of the area with portions of three national forests where the Cabinet-Yaak bears live.

The U.S. government declared Yellowstone grizzlies recovered and lifted federal protections for them last month.

The government agency ruled in 2014 that the Cabinet-Yaak population had stabilized and no longer needed to be considered as an endangered species. The agency acknowledged their numbers were still far short of the 100 bears targeted for a recovered population and still merited "threatened" status.

A "threatened" classification provides many, but not all, of the protections given to endangered species against killing or hurting them and their habitat.

Until that 2014 decision, the Fish and Wildlife Service classified Cabinet-Yaak bears as warranting endangered species status, but ruled that other troubled species had a higher priority, such as the red-crowned parrot in Texas and the Puerto Rico harlequin butterfly.

So the bears spent decades on a list with hundreds of other species waiting for their turn.

The Alliance for the Wild Rockies argued the bears are still endangered because their population is less than half of the recovery target.

The conservation group also argued that they are isolated from other bear populations and they face serious threats to their survival from human activities like mining and logging where they live.



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# Explore Big Sky

# Interior secretary Zinke urges mining ban near Yellowstone

BY MATTHEW BROWN Associated press

BILLINGS (AP) – U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke wants to speed up a proposal to block new gold mining claims on forested public lands in Montana near Yellowstone National Park and will also consider blocking other types of mining, agency officials said Aug. 28.

Federal officials are undergoing a two-year review of mining on more than 30,000 acres among the towering peaks of the Absaroka mountains just north of the park.

The review was launched last year by Zinke's predecessor, former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, in response to local concerns that two proposed gold mines could profoundly alter the character of a region heavily dependent on hikers, hunters and tourists.

Interior spokeswoman Heather Swift said Aug. 28 that Zinke wants to move forward as quickly as possible with a proposed 20-year withdrawal of future mining claims in the area north of the park, known as Paradise Valley. The review of that withdrawal was scheduled to be completed by the U.S. Forest Service and Interior's Bureau of Land Management by November 2018.

Zinke had voiced support for the withdrawal effort as Montana's sole member of the U.S. House but had not publicly addressed the issue since joining the Trump administration in March.

"He is fully in the corner of protecting the Paradise Valley and is putting forward Interior Department assets to support the U.S. Forest Service in that mission," Swift said. "Some places are too precious to mine. ... This is very much a final decision."

Mining opponents have argued the proposed gold mines would industrialize wild areas populated by grizzly bears, bighorn sheep and other wildlife and harm streams that drain into the Yellowstone River, a popular trout fishing destination that draws anglers from around the world.

Montana U.S. Sen. Steve Daines, a Republican, said in a statement released by his office that he appreciated Zinke's effort to advance the mining ban. The other two members of the state's Congressional delegation—Democrat Sen. Jon Tester and Republican Rep. Greg Gianforte—said a long-term solution was still needed.

Tester has introduced legislation to make the mining ban permanent, but Gianforte and Daines have said the measure will not get through the Republican-controlled Congress.

Zinke also has asked his staff to expand the agency's review to include other minerals such as oil and gas, coal and phosphate, according to an Aug. 23 letter from Zinke to Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, who oversees the Forest Service.

Of those minerals, only phosphate is found in the Yellowstone region in volumes that could support mining, according to studies by the U.S. Geological Survey.

A Canadian company, Lucky Minerals, wants to explore for gold and other minerals north of Yellowstone near Emigrant. Another company, Spokane, Washington-based Crevice Mining Group, is seeking permission to explore for gold near Jardine, just over Yellowstone's northern boundary.

Former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell ordered a two-year prohibition on new mining claims last year that would not explicitly block the pending exploration proposals, both of which involve private lands.

Yet a withdrawal would make it more difficult to pursue large-scale mining by limiting the ability of the two companies to expand their operations in the future, according to federal officials and Michael Werner with Crevice Mining.

The proposed exploration sites have a history of mining. However, in recent decades they've become more closely associated with the natural amenities of Yellowstone and the surrounding Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness.

Local business owner Bryan Wells said the potential mines have left people in the Paradise Valley anxious about their future. He said a 20-year ban on mining "would put smiles on a lot of faces.

"It affects property prices and it affects whether someone's going to invest a lot into a business not knowing if there's going to be an industrial-sized gold mine," said Wells, who rents cabins to tourists in the Emigrant Creek area not far from one of the gold exploration sites.



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# Dead fish found in Yellowstone River, biologists optimistic

#### BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – One year after the massive Yellowstone River fish die-off, biologists are once again finding dead fish in the river. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks staff have conducted survey and monitoring floats on the river between Livingston and Springdale, but are finding significantly fewer dead fish than were found last year.

As of EBS press time on Aug. 30, FWP was not considering a river closure.

FWP staff floated from Livingston to Grey Bear Fishing Access Site on Aug. 22 and 23 and counted 76 dead mountain whitefish, two dead long-nosed suckers and one dead brown trout according to a press release. On Aug. 24, biologists floated from Grey Owl Fishing Access Site to Pine Creek, which was the hardest hit by last summer's outbreak of proliferative kidney disease, and monitoring crews found 19 dead whitefish.

On Aug. 29, FWP crews once again floated the river and stated in a release that "results were encouraging." The surveys between Livingston and Springdale turned up fewer dead fish and stable water flows and temperatures. Biologists collected 13 recently deceased whitefish and seven that had been dead for some time.

FWP reports that biologists have found approximately 165 dead whitefish during these recent monitoring floats. Last year, upward of 1,900 whitefish were found dead on one bank of the river.

"Though we still don't know if the cause of death is disease related, we're finding fewer fish each time we go out," said FWP Region 3 fisheries manager Travis Horton in the release. "We're not considering any closures or restriction, but are asking that anglers not target whitefish for the time being."



A dead whitefish washed up on the bank of the Yellowstone River during last summer's massive fish kill. PHOTO BY RYAN WEAVER

Biologists have collected samples from this year's recent fish kill in order to determine the cause of mortality. Official test results were not available at press time.

Last August, 183 miles of the Yellowstone River were closed for about two weeks to all water activities as thousands of whitefish and some rainbow and Yellowstone cutthroat trout were found dead in the river. The fish mortality was caused by a parasite that causes proliferative kidney disease, and appears to be linked to high water temperatures, low flows and general fish stress.

"With cooler water temperatures and higher flows, those conditions aren't present this year," FWP stated in the release. "Water temperatures have remained cooler and flows are above average. ... These environmental differences could result in a much different scenario and outcome compared to last year's fish kill."



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# **Golf Tips From a Pro:** The nature of the top

# BY MARK WEHRMAN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

If you have played a decent amount of golf in your life, you've probably "topped" a ball or two. When this happens, the ball never gets off of the ground and will roll a short distance before coming to rest. The strike doesn't feel solid and the result of the shot is very poor. Teaching golf my entire adult life, I've spent countless hours correcting this very shot. So, let's talk about what's actually happening.

When you top the golf ball the majority of the time it's not because you hit the top of the ball. It's because you hit up on the golf ball. When you hit up on the ball you put topspin on the ball and it spins itself into the ground. Hence, the dreaded top. So, why do we hit up on the golf ball? We hit up on the ball in an attempt to help the ball get airborne. I often hear people tell me that they have trouble getting under the ball. It is this effort that is the root of the topped golf ball.

So, what should we do to get the ball in the air? In order to hit the ball solid and make it go in the air, the clubhead needs to work down through the golf ball at impact. If the clubhead is moving downward at impact, the ball rides up the clubface using the loft of the club to propel the ball in the air and the grooves on the club are what puts spin on the ball.

The easiest way to make the clubhead work down through impact is to shift your weight and momentum toward the target while making your downswing. Usually, when you top the ball, it is because your hands, arms and the club are swinging forward and your weight is hanging back.

There are two drills to help you with this motion. First, as a right-handed golfer, hit balls off of your left leg. You can also walk toward the target after impact, training your body to get off of your right side. These drills ensure a downward strike on the golf ball, essentially causing the ball to go up in the air. Bottom line, do not ever try to help the ball in the air. If you do, you will hit the ever so common top. Instead, hit down through the ball to make it go up in the air.

Mark Wehrman is the PGA Head Professional at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course.



To improve your strike and get the golf ball airborne, shift your weight and momentum toward the target. Left is an example of the right way to impact the golf ball and right is an example of the wrong way to hit it. PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARK WEHRMAN



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# Softball season comes to a close: Goats fend off Huckers

#### DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

BIG SKY - Over the weekend of Aug. 27-28, the Big Sky Softball League wrapped up its 15th season with 14 teams competing for a chance to win the end-of-season, double elimination softball tournament. When the dust had settled on Sunday evening, the Lone Peak Caregivers Golden Goats emerged from the loser's bracket and managed to defeat the regular season champions Hillbilly Huckers twice to lay claim to the title.

The reigning champions from 2016, the Huckers had an impressive season again this year, finishing 14-1, and then giving the Golden Goats their first loss of the season on their way to winning the regular season championship game. They also cruised into the finals of the tournament, beating LPC once again on Sunday, with homeruns and line drives jumping off their bats all day.



On Sunday evening, Aug. 28, LPC Golden Goats pitcher and coach Charlie Gauillard waits patiently on a pitch during another barn burner with the Hillbilly Huckers.

But with the sun setting over Lone Peak, the Golden Goats managed to win two nail-biters as many other teams stuck around to cheer for their favorite team. "The path of the goat is steep and rocky," said Pete Manka, first baseman for LPC. "We had a strong regular season, and we were able to climb the mountain pass when we needed to."



The Hillbilly Huckers, a perennial powerhouse in the league for a decade, won the the regular season championship with a combination of good hitting and consistent defense. PHOTOS BY KENE SPERRY

"It's so fun because of the wide variety of community members that participate and come together around a team sport for all abilities," said Lee Horning, who has been league commissioner for three seasons. "There are moments of sportsmanship, camaraderie and hopefully a few new friendships made."

Horning went on to thank all the individuals and organizations in the community that make the league possible.

"I'd like to thank all those who helped out, the scorekeepers and umps, it's a thankless task. All the time and effort Dave Schwalbe and Queen Jean put forth starting in the spring is much appreciated," he added.

"To those who helped maintain the fields, Michelle Horning, Whitney McKenzie, and Leisha Folley for all the social media work. And of course Ciara Wolfe, Scott Hoeksema and everybody at the Big Sky Community Organization. What a great season all around!"

It might be a while before the parking lot at the Big Sky Community Park is at capacity again, but the fun and memories had by softball participants and spectators will last until next season.

Editor's note: The writer of this story plays for the LPC Golden Goats.

"Hats off to the Huckers," said Charle Gaillard, the pitcher and coach of the Golden Goats who cobbled together his team for their first season this year. "Every game we played with them was fun. They're tough to beat!"

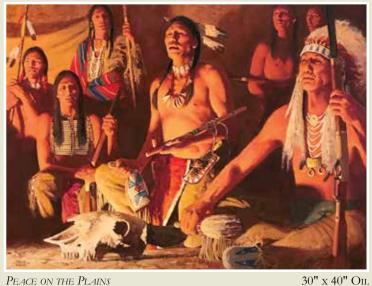


Softball in Big Sky continues to be a favorite tradition for year-round locals. Taking advantage of the late, summer sunlight and crisp, evening air, teams bond with each other and with one another, win or lose, over hotdogs or hamburgers, and maybe a cold beverage.

The Lone Peak Caregivers Golden Goats managed to win the softball tournament in dramatic fashion in their first season as a team.

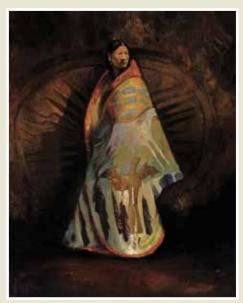


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# **Cooking oil confusion**

**BY CARIE BIRKMEIER** EBS STAFF

Have you ever wondered if it would be best to use olive oil, vegetable oil or coconut oil when baking, sautéing or grilling? There are so many varieties of oil on the market today that vary in color, flavor and smoke point, but not all oils can be used interchangeably. Below are some common types of oils and how and for what they should be used.

Olive oil. You've likely seen several varieties of olive oils, the main two being extra virgin and light. The former should not be used for high-heat cooking, as it has a much lower smoke point at approximately 320 degrees. A good rule of thumb is to use extra virgin olive oil in heatless preparations such as vinaigrettes or as a finishing oil where its strong, fruity flavor is desired. More refined olive oil has a less potent flavor, desirable texture and higher smoke point (465 degrees), making it a versatile option for sautéing and other high-heat preparations.

Grapeseed oil. Once thought of as a useless byproduct of winemaking, grapeseed oil has recently become a more common go-to oil in many kitchens. With a smoke point of 420 degrees and a very mild flavor, this oil lends itself well to a variety of applications. It is less likely to separate when emulsified, making it a great choice for making vinaigrettes and mayonnaise.

Avocado oil. With one of the highest smoke points available at over 500 degrees, this is the best option for super-high-temperature cooking. Made from the fruit of the avocado, its flavor is just that—fruity, with a velvety texture. Next time you want a perfectly fried egg with slightly crisp edges, give this oil a try. It is also a great option for grilling—no more unwanted smoke in the face!

Safflower oil. Made from pressed sunflower and safflower seeds, and with a high smoke point of 450 degrees, this oil is akin to common vegetable or canola oil. The main difference is its nutrition content—it contains more good fats than these other varieties. On the other hand, it does have a shorter shelf life than many oils, so be sure to check the expiration date and consider purchasing it in smaller quantities. Use this oil as a substitute in the same frying or baking applications that call for vegetable oil.

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Coconut oil. A white solid at room temperature, coconut oil is a great substitute for butter in non-dairy applications. Try using chilled coconut oil in place of butter next time you make scones or a piecrust. Only when it reaches a temperature above 76 degrees will it become liquid, with a low smoke point of 350 degrees. It gives off a slightly tropical scent when heated, and works particularly well in sweet recipes.

There are also several varieties of oil that possess strong flavors that may be ideal for certain dishes and not for others. Sesame oil is a great example; used in moderation it can add a unique nuttiness to your favorite Asian dish, but use too much and it is likely to overpower other flavors.

Not all oils are created equal. Whether the oil is derived from nuts, seeds, flowers or fruits will affect the way it reacts in different cooking applications. Each oil has a specific use in our kitchen, and should be chosen accordingly. Before selecting an oil for cooking, consider the smoke point and flavor above all, and always consider trying a new variety.

# AMUSE-BOUCHE

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

# The day the flavor died



BY SCOTT MECHURA EXPLORE BIG SKY FOOD COLUMNIST

I have always liked historical dates. It's knowing precisely when, for better or worse, something changed forever.

Food is no exception. It has its own historical happenings and breakthroughs, such as the invention of canning in 1810 by French chef Nicolas Appert. Or Louis Pasteur's discovery of pasteurization in 1864. In 1911 General Electric introduced

the first home refrigerator, and despite decades of debate, the FDA approved the first genetically modified food, the Flavr Savr tomato, on May 18, 1994.

But there is one more date that I believe forever changed how we eat.

July 23, 1990, was supposed to be the dawn of a new era, but instead may have sealed our dietary fate.

This date comes with a name, and that name is Phil Sokolof.

Sokolof was not a nutritionist, chef or scientist. He was an Omaha, Nebraska, business man, and with zealot-like focus, he decided it was his responsibility to rid the world of saturated fat after a near-fatal heart attack at the age of 43.

For years, Sokolof took on anyone who stood in his path—from Congress to the public-school system; from Kellogg to Pillsbury and Purina. He appeared on Phil Donahue and the nightly news with Tom Brokaw. He even funded a commercial during the 2000 Super Bowl, proclaiming the dangers of saturated fat.

Finally, and it was probably inevitable, there was only one giant left. He went after the biggest prize of them all: McDonald's.

McDonald's had always cooked their fries in beef tallow. And as Ray Kroc made clear for decades, it wasn't the hamburgers or the milkshakes that had people coming back—it was the French fries. In the words of Kroc, the preparation of the McDonald's fry was sacrosanct.

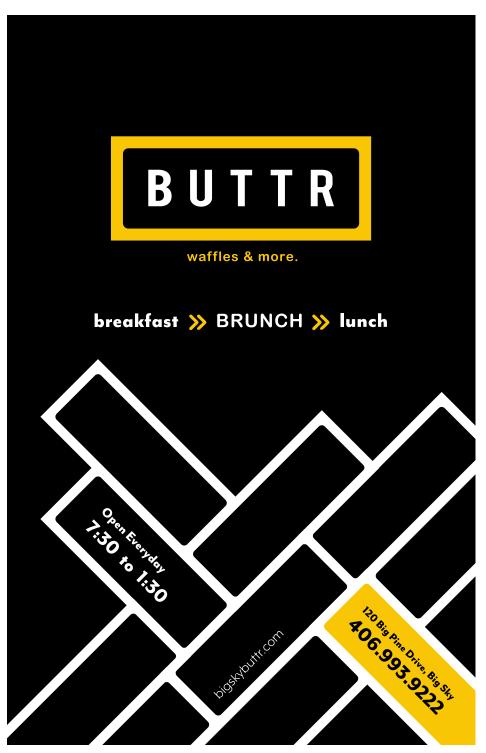
But after ugly public debate and heavily funded campaigns on both sides for years, McDonald's succumbed to the pressure and relented.

Sokolof had done it. David defeated Goliath, and his rock and sling came in the form of public pressure to serve the public healthy fats and stop poisoning the people. On July 23, 1990, McDonald's announced they would no longer cook their French fries in animal fat.

What had Sokolof done? Flavor as we knew it changed forever. And so did our health, only not for the better.

The rest of the national fast food chains all followed suit. Some switched to exclusively corn oil, while others, like McDonald's, experimented for years with a host of oil and fat combinations to no avail. The fries weren't the same. Even companies like Keebler removed tallow, lard and coconut oil from all products from TV dinners to cookies.





Animal fat, such as tallow, lard or butter, has its downside to health. But it metabolizes far better than many of the oils we cook with today. Due to excessive processing, they wreak havoc on our bodies, and that film in the air that coats everything when frying foods is not unlike the chemicals also found in paint—something you don't find with animal fat.

But not to worry, as many fast food companies realized flavor had been compromised, they did what they thought all consumers would like: they increased portion size to make up for the flavor shortcomings. Now we are left with bigger portions of food that is even worse for us than those sublime, crispy, pillowy McDonald's French fries ever were.

Years later, when asked what he thought of McDonald's fries post animal fat, Sokolof smiled and said they just weren't as good as the old ones.

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

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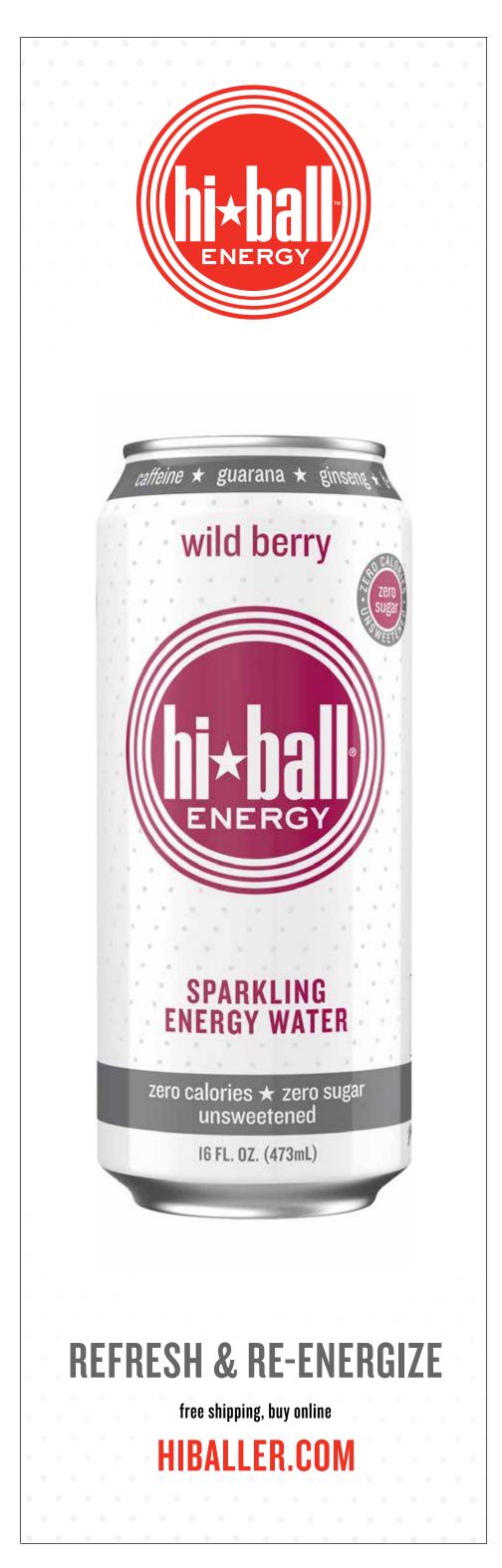
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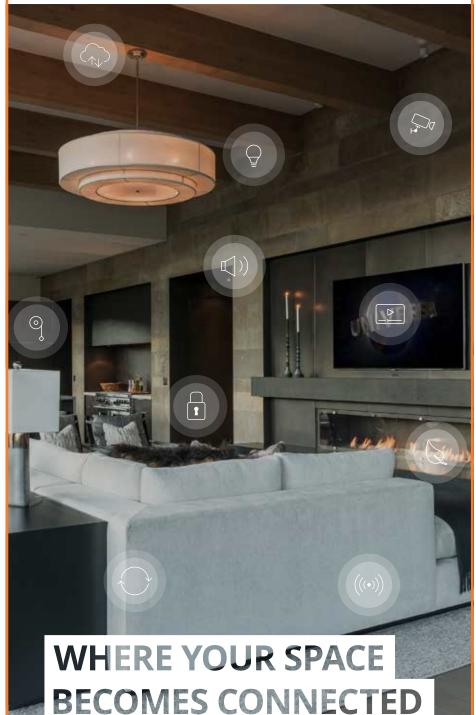
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# Veterinarian remodels, reopens Big Sky's only clinic

# BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Dr. Sydney Desmarais wasn't sure if she really wanted to be a veterinarian when she signed up with Round River Conservation Studies in 2001 to work with the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia. What she did know was that she wanted to do something unique. "I did not want to just go to school and take classes somewhere different, I wanted a new experience," she said.

As an undergraduate student from the University of Vermont, Desmarais and a handful of other students spent the semester in Namibia researching the ecology around a man-made waterhole.

One aspect of the study, she said, involved documenting eye injuries present in cheetahs hunting nearby, who had been injured by the sharp thorns of the acacia bushes growing around the waterhole.

Sixteen years later, Desmarais is the new owner of Big Sky's only veterinary clinic, and the animal doctor is all smiles. "Namibia made me want to be a vet because I saw all of the various avenues you could take it," she said. "I realized that there was more I could do than just general practice. I could be involved in research, I could volunteer and help wildlife, I could travel, I could move all over the country. It made me see all the possibilities."

Desmarais purchased the former Veterinary Clinic of Big Sky in May, located in the Big Horn Shopping Center on Highway 191, and has since changed the clinic name to Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital. In August, she attended house calls while completing major renovations in her new space, which is officially opening Tuesday, Sept. 4.

After her experience with the Cheetah Conservation Fund, Desmarais continued to vet school, studying at North Carolina State University and completing an internship at the Ontario Veterinary College in Guelph, Ontario. Desmarais graduated from vet school in 2007 and after her internship started seeing patients at an emergency clinic in Portland, Oregon, where she worked for seven years. Desmarais loved the challenging, fast pace of emergency care. "You have to move fast, you have to make decisions ... and it can be really rewarding," she said.

However, nearing 2015, Desmarais sought to develop stronger relationships with her patients, and decided to pursue general small animal medicine. "I wanted to move somewhere where you get to know your patients better. ... It felt like moving to a small community would make that much more possible," she said.

She moved to Bozeman for a job at Creekside Veterinary Hospital and then worked at several area clinics as a relief veterinarian, filling in when a regular practitioner was on leave. With her recent purchase of the Big Sky clinic, Desmarais has moved once again, this time to Big Sky, and Desmarais says her work abroad has vastly improved her work at home, helping her to become a better vet.

"When you work at a place like Soi Dog in Thailand and they don't have what you're used to using ... it helps you problem solve and deal with complicated situations. I think that communication is a really important part of being a veterinarian," she added. "By working abroad, you learn how to communicate over language barriers and still advocate for your patient, and how to empathize with the position your pet owner is in."

Desmarais intends to employ the lessons she learned abroad in Big Sky, specifically looking forward to improved client education and the ability to offer urgent care and diagnostics thanks to the new renovations to the clinic space. Rustic barn wood doors lead into exam rooms finished with textured acrylic floors that are easy to clean but welcoming to slippery-pawed animals.

A recovery room was designed with over-sized kennel spaces for dogs and cats, and a large outside window may give recovering animals comfort and diversion. The clinic is complete with a full-body digital X-ray unit, comprehensive in-house lab, dental equipment and a full surgery suite. The clinic upgrade will allow pet owners to get general and emergency veterinary care without having to drive to Bozeman, Desmarais said. Being in a relatively rural area, Desmarais felt it was important to be able to offer full diagnostics capability in Big Sky, "that way people can get answers the same day." For advanced testing, Desmarais says she will still rely on specialized laboratories.

To accompany the general services available at Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital, Desmarais will also provide acupuncture therapy. "I'm a Western doctor, but I think Eastern medicine can really complement Western medicine," said Desmarais, who has received training from the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society. Often, Desmarais might recommend acupuncture as a complementary treatment to traditional medications, she said, giving arthritis as an example. "With acupuncture, usually [the animal] is a lot more comfortable and you can lower their medications."

Desmarais will see regular patients Monday through Friday and will take after-hours emergency calls until 10 p.m. most weekdays. "I'm actually excited about seeing patients during the day, but also being able to offer urgent care," she said. Later this fall she will also offer evening appointments in order to accommodate a variety of pet owner schedules.

To learn more about Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital, visit lonepeakvetbospital.



will offer general and emergency veterinary care for the area's small animals.

Desmarais has also used her skills and applied knowledge to volunteer abroad. While in vet school, and inspired by her earlier work in Namibia, Desmarais traveled to Ethiopia and Cameroon to research infectious diseases. In Ethiopia, she helped to study the effectiveness of rabies vaccination on Ethiopian wolves, and more recently, Desmarais volunteered in Thailand and India.

In 2014, she spent a month at the Soi Dog Foundation, spaying and neutering Tai dogs, and in 2015 she aided Dharamsala Animal Rescue in India, helping with emergency care treatment for local dogs.

Dr. Sydney Desmarais and her 15-year-old Weimaraner mix Riley show off renovations to the Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital in the Big Horn Shopping Center. PHOTO BY JENNINGS BARMORE

# From Jackie with love Simple steps to big change



#### BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

With age often comes increased responsibility. Even in healthy communities like Gallatin Valley, many of us struggle to make time for self care. As we juggle careers and relationships, daily routines can feel overwhelming. Eating well and exercising regularly might seem like niceties for people without a care in the world.

But as we repeatedly put self care off, the scale starts creeping up, inflammation flares, energy flattens and stress mounts. So what do we do? Often, we resort to good old wishful thinking—hoping that big changes will happen on Jan. 1, or on our next decade birthday, or Monday.

While we all know that Monday always comes, we're also painfully aware that lasting changes to habits rarely do.

On Aug. 21, 2017, I was pumped up to watch the total solar eclipse in Rigby, Idaho. I didn't understand the magnitude of the visual splendor that was about to unfold, but I was excited about the big change that astrologers reported would come with it. I hoped that the closer I was, the greater my chances of basking in these effects.

I was ready for magical transformation with my wish list of new habits mentally rehearsed.

As I witnessed the blue bird day turn to night in minutes, I was reminded of how quickly time is passing, and then the reality sank in that there was no big magic change on the horizon.

Sure, the potential for change might be strengthened by this cosmic phenomenon, or the momentum that the New Year brings, or the inspiration of celebrating a new decade of life, but the only thing that makes lasting change is action. Not wishful thinking. Not reading a book. Not watching a video.

Lasting change starts with self-reflection. We can prompt this by answering questions like these: Why is this change important now? What are my roadblocks? What have I already tried? Why has or hasn't it worked? How do I lie to myself around this habit—what excuses do I make to condone it? Where am I successful in life? Can I apply the strategies I use to be successful in one area to another where I'm trying to make change?

Second, create a simple plan. Start with the end in mind and work backward. Consider making small action steps and having an accountability partner. As you map out a plan, keep in mind the changes that come with each month and season. If you find yourself falling back on the same strategies you've tried in the past but haven't been successful at, seek new ways to reach your goal.

Third, execute your plan. Action is key. Have a weekly check-in day. If you fall off the wagon, ask yourself why and course correct from there. Don't give up. Revisit why this is important at this time. If you find that it's not really that important after all, great, let it go and move on. No need to keep traveling down that road. If you feel terrible about giving up on the goal, reexamine your why—perhaps it needs strengthening.

And finally, find joy in the process. The emotional part of the brain, the pleasure seeker, needs to be fulfilled as well. Treat it like a puppy in training. We know they need discipline to be safe and have a stress-free life but we also know they need to play and express their unbridled joy.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach, culture consultant and public speaker. For a complimentary health consultation, reach her at rainfordcorcoran@gmail.com.

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### HEALTH

September 1 - September 14 **31** 





# **Corneal abrasion** common source of eye trauma

#### **BY JEFF DANIELS EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST**

Protecting your eyes is very important. In theory, we all wore special glasses or used other devices during the Great American Solar Eclipse to prevent the sun's light from damaging our eyes, but a much more common source of injury is often neglected, and could lead to a painful episode, or even loss of vision.

Corneal abrasions, or trauma to the surface of the eye, happen all of the time. Although most commonly seen in work environments, like building a house or working with stone, everyone is susceptible, and something as innocent as rubbing the sweat off your brow can accidentally traumatize the eye.

The most sensitive part of the surface of the eye is the cornea, which is comprised of five clear layers of tissue that cover the iris and the pupil. The iris is the brown or blue muscular tissue that gives a person's eyes their color, and the pupil is the black dot through which light passes to the retina. A scratch or abrasion of the cornea is very painful, and while often invisible, the white part of the eye, or conjunctiva, on either side of the cornea will react with hundreds of tiny blood vessels engorging with blood, producing a bloodshot eye.

Eye protection when exposed to anything that can make contact with the eye is very important, but it's often inadequate. Many injured workers I treat mistakenly think that their sunglasses are going to protect their eyes. The fact that they are in the office with an eye injury certainly casts doubt on that theory! Inadequate eye protection leads to three major types of corneal injury.

The most common is when a fast-moving object strikes the eye. This will damage one or more layers of the cornea and can result in a gouge-like crater in the surface, or a line of injury. Oftentimes there are several spots of various shapes that are injured.

One injury that is very common and easy to diagnose is when a small mote of material, usually a piece of sawdust, lodges underneath and sticks to the undersurface of the upper lid. In this case, every blink, which is exaggerated when there's pain, carves a tiny line out of the cornea. Removal of the foreign material is relatively easy—especially once some numbing drops are applied—but the pain will remain until the sawdust or pebble is completely removed.

An injury that's less common and usually presents to the clinic a few days after it happens involves a piece of material hitting the cornea and sticking to it. Tiny fragments of stone flying off a chisel, or a metal fragment from a grinder, may not bounce off the cornea, and instead start to become enveloped by corneal tissue. These motes of material are smaller than the period at the end of this sentence and eventually become very irritating. Luckily, this injury can be easily treated with the right equipment.



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It's important to anesthetize the eye, and examine with a slit lamp, which greatly magnifies the surface of the cornea. Sweeping the undersurface of the upper lid easily removes an embedded particle that all the eyewash in the world won't remove! Under high magnification, it's easy to remove a particle stuck on the eye. And any corneal abrasion can be demonstrated with the application of fluorescein dye, which sticks to the scratched surface and glows in the dark under a black light.

Common treatment protocol is to remove any foreign material, and then let the eye heal. Metal fragments can sometimes cause rust to accumulate in the cornea, and this must be removed. Antibiotics are sometimes used to prevent infection, but are not always necessary. Wearing proper protection helps prevent future abrasions.

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 he implements has attracted more than 800 medical students and young doctors to train with the Medical Clinic of Big Sky.



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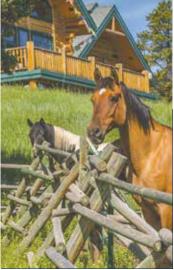




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### Explore Big Sky

## **OUTDOORS**



# Raptors, wolves and 'Women in Wonderland' among upcoming educational seminars in park

#### BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN - Yellowstone National Park offers a different experience for each and every one of its visitors every time they set foot or wheel within park boundaries. From wildlife viewing and photography to geology, backcountry hiking or history, the nation's first park abounds with opportunity. In order to enrich visitor experiences, and provide more in-depth opportunity, the Yellowstone Forever Institute holds year-long field seminars that connect people to the park.

"The field seminars have been one of our cornerstones, dating all the way back into the '70s," said Yellowstone Forever Director of Education Robert Petty. "They offer people a much more in-depth look [at] and experience in the park. [Participants] can experience the park in a much more intimate way. Some of the instruction is indoors ... but the real experience is outdoors."

Days are packed with adventure, as participants explore what the park has to offer with experts in a given field including professors, naturalists, scientists, photographers, writers, historians and artists. Programs are often based at the historic Lamar Buffalo Ranch in the Lamar Valley, which was in operation from 1906 until the 1950s, serving as the breeding facility and center of the park's efforts to bring back the bison population. For an additional cost, participants can stay at the ranch and enjoy the cozy log cabins miles away from any other built structure.

Programs range from a single day to three week intervals, and topics vary widely. This fall, bird specialist Katy Duffy will lead a two-day course on raptors in the park which will include raptor identification and ecology as well as bird viewing. In a separate course, visitors will have an opportunity



PHOTO BY MARIA BISSO

to learn about 14 women significant to the development of Yellowstone in a seminar called "Women in Wonderland." There will also be courses on hiking, wildlife watching and photography designed to highlight autumn changes within the park.

Wildlife biologist and cinematographer Brad Bulin will teach a three-day course about Yellowstone wolves Sept. 23-26 that explores the wolf's relationship with other animals and with humans. He will also teach a more in-depth course on watching wildlife with an eye for science. Participants will learn about the ways animals fit into the ecosystem, how to identify behaviors and hear from park scientists about their most recent research in Yellowstone.



Winter field seminars will feature additional photography and wildlife viewing, as well as courses on native peoples in the park, wilderness first aid, and specific animal species, such as mountain lion and coyote. Many of these programs are recognized by universities across the country and will qualify for continuing education credit.

Yellowstone Forever Institute's fall educational programming includes programs on wolves, raptors and wildlife photography. PHOTO BY JESS HAAS

Each of the programs are hosted by the park's nonprofit partner, Yellowstone Forever, which was formerly the Yellowstone Association and Yellowstone Park Foundation. Yellowstone Forever is responsible for the park's educational outreach and engagement, and in addition to the regular field seminar series, Yellowstone Forever offers private tours, as well as workshops for youth.

To learn more about the Yellowstone Forever programs and field seminars, or to see a full schedule, visit yellowstone.org/experience/ yellowstone-forever-institute.

# **River in Yellowstone to be cleared of exotic fish**

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) - A stretch of the Gibbon River and its headwater lakes are being poisoned so Yellowstone National Park can remove non-native fish and create a refuge for west slope cutthroat trout and river-running grayling.

The two species, both native to the larger Madison River drainage in the park, are being reintroduced as part of the effort to help flora and fauna of Yellowstone adapt to the warming climate, Senior Fisheries Biologist Todd Koel said.

Warm water in the height of summer closes down waters to fishing on the 8,000-foot Yellowstone plateau with some regularity.

"We look at this as being some of the best habitat that remains for sure in the park, but really in the region, to ensure that west slope cutthroat trout persist in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem," Koel told the Jackson Hole News & Guide.

The Gibbon River is considered a good candidate to support native cutthroat trout and grayling without competition from non-native brook and rainbow trout because of the natural barrier at Gibbon Falls.

West slope cutthroat trout were extirpated from all of Yellowstone except for a tiny stretch of a Grayling Creek tributary called Last Chance Creek. They've since been reintroduced into Grayling Creek, parts of Specimen Creek and Goose Lake, and the plan is to return the native cutthroat to Cougar Creek in the future.

Switching the Gibbon River from a haven for exotic to native trout begins with releasing rotenone, a fish poison, in Grebe, Wolf and Ice lakes and 18 miles of stream and river above Virginia Cascades. That work kicked off in August and will continue through the end of September.

Trails and campsites within the upper Gibbon drainage will be closed, including Ice Lake from Aug. 21 to Sept. 30 and the Grebe and Wolf lake area from Sept. 5 to 30.



Young cutthroat trout in Yellowstone National Park. NPS PHOTO

The project will treat 18 miles of stream and 232 acres of standing water.

Historically, the only fish found in the Gibbon drainage above the falls were mottled sculpin. That changed in 1889, when Yellowstone rangers released rainbow trout in one of the first non-native fish introductions in park history, Koel said. Brook trout were later added to the system.

Rainbows are a particular threat to cutthroat because they readily interbreed, tainting the gene pool.



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# **BSCO to purchase 7.5 acres at Beehive Basin Trailhead**

**BIG SKY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION** 

Beehive Basin's popular trailhead sits on a privately owned 7.5-acre parcel with one potential home site. Access to Beehive Basin is currently possible through an easement between the U.S. Forest Service and the parcel's owner.

The parcel has been for sale for the past year and, thanks to a donation from the Hough Foundation, the Big Sky Community Organization will purchase the parcel on behalf of the community. The tentative closing date for the purchase is Oct. 31.

"BSCO's goal with this acquisition is to ensure long-term land stewardship and access to Beehive Basin," said BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe. "And to make sure that the trailhead and surrounding area is developed and maintained to meet the level of use the trailhead sees on a daily basis."

BSCO plans to turn the 7.5 acres into open space parkland and partner with the USFS to significantly improve the trailhead by adding parking, a pit toilet and a bear-proof trash receptacle.

"The Big Sky Community Organization's upcoming acquisition of the Beehive Basin trailhead parcel is exciting news," said acting District Ranger David Francomb. "The Custer Gallatin National Forest Bozeman Ranger District looks forward to working with BSCO on potential future improvement opportunities at this site."

BSCO is now working to raise additional funds for the cost of the trailhead improvements. Several area homeowners have already committed to making a donation toward the project. "We encourage



The area delineated in red indicates the 7.5-acre land parcel at the Beehive Basin Trailhead to be acquired by the Big Sky Community Organization. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE BIG SKY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

everyone who enjoys Beehive Basin to pitch in and help our community ensure this gem and access to wilderness is properly stewarded and cared for," Wolfe said. "This is a legacy project our community will enjoy for generations to come."

Visit bscomt.org for more information.





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#### Explore Big Sky

# Kircher Park gets re-energized with addition of 525-squarefoot tree fort

# BY JANA BOUNDS EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY- Kids will soon be able to sail the high seas, battle salty marauders and "walk the plank" without even leaving the mountains.

The unassuming brown sign marking Kircher Park that has existed just south of Lone Peak Trail for nearly a decade will soon be replaced. The park, donated to the Big Sky Community Organization by the Kircher family in 2008, actually consists of 7 acres, most often used by fishermen seeking rainbow trout on the South Fork of the Gallatin River. This is all about to change.

Kircher Park will be renamed Kircher Discovery Park and the area will be graced with the voices of playing kids and young adults at the end of September at the grand opening of a one-of-a-kind 525-square-foot tree fort playground built to look like a ship.

"We hope that it inspires creative play and an appreciation for the natural surroundings," said BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe. "That was our goal, to have that natural type of playscape."

Ken Miller, owner of Montana Treehouse Company—the company building the fort—said the tree fort will look like a Spanish galleon, with a climbing wall off the aft of the ship, several slides and a cargo net extending from the ship to a nearby tree.

"It reminds me of the way things were when I was a kid back in the '70s, when play was more about being outside instead of video games," said Miller, who has been building outdoor adventure structures for 30 years.

He said that along with creative play comes creative building, and the structures he builds evolve as they're created. Now, his team is looking into designing a sail-type feature to make it look more like a ship when approached from the trail.

Thirteen-year old Nate McClain recently went to see the structure under construction and said it already looks like a ship.

"I think it's going to be amazing," he said. "It looks really cool."

Both Wolfe and Miller said the location presented a construction challenge. The 0.3-mile footpath leading to the fort was too narrow for four-wheelers or other machinery to haul equipment. Everything had to be hauled in by hand, including 21 posts weighing 600 pounds each that were placed in hand-dug holes 4 feet deep.

"We had to devise some interesting ways to create the right kind of leverage to get those posts vertical because they're 16 feet tall," he said.



At the end of September, Kircher Park will be renamed Kircher Discovery Park and celebrate the completion of a custom 525-square-foot tree fort playground built to look like a ship. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

Wolfe said that Redleaf Engineering was hired to create the plans to ensure the structure was engineered correctly and meet playground standards, and Montana Treehouse was hired to build it.

Tree thinning and trail creation allowing for the build were done by the Rotary Club of Big Sky last summer and funding for the project was secured this spring from Spanish Peaks Community Foundation, Moonlight Community Foundation, Simkins-Hallin and individual donors to BSCO.

Wolfe said it was important to the foundation to create more opportunity for creative play for the growing student population, which she believes has nearly tripled in the past decade.

Science backs the importance of creative play. Neuroscientist Marion Diamond proved that enriched environments actually change the structure of the brain in an experiment first conducted in 1964.

Her experiment consisted of two groups of rats: one group raised in solitary confinement, the other in toy-filled colonies. The rats with toys and pals developed larger brains, thicker cerebral cortices and were smarter, able to navigate mazes much faster.

Diamond argued this theory extended to all animals—Including humans. Her findings altered the way childhood and brain development are regarded today.



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# **The mountain biking at Big Sky Resort is the real deal** Resort offers discounted September pass

# BY DEREK LENNON EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Grab your mountain bike and head to Big Sky Resort to explore 50-plus miles of exciting, lift-accessed, cross country and downhill mountain biking trails. Over the past few years Big Sky Resort has dedicated time and energy into growing and expanding the resort into a world-class mountain bike destination. If you haven't been mountain biking at Big Sky Resort, now is the time to go. The resort offers a discounted pass valid now through the resort's closure on Sept. 29.

To explore Big Sky's mountain biking playground, buy a lift ticket and ride Swift Current, Ramcharger, or Explorer chairs to your run of choice. There are rides and trails that will appeal to all levels of mountain biker. From green runs to double black runs, there's plenty to explore. The only question is where will you go first?

# If you're keen to do a bit of mountain biking at big sky resort, here are some of the locals' favorite runs:

Green: Easy Rider Blue: Rabbit Run, Snake Charmer Black: Joker Lips, Soul Hole Double Black: Keyhole, Ninja Marmot

From twisting and turning flow trails to technical downhill trails and epic jump lines, you'll have a blast exploring the varied biking terrain at Big Sky Resort. If you want to compare it to other biking destinations, visit MTBParks.com, which just named the Big Sky Bike Park "a three-time top five winner in the Riders' Choice Best Bike Parks Awards for the Northwest Region." Impressive.

While there are plenty of mountain bike trails at Big Sky Resort for every ability level, if you're new to mountain biking or keen to improve your skill set, book one of Big Sky's elite mountain bike guides to take your riding skills to a whole new level.

These passionate, certified bike pros can teach you the tactics and techniques of shifting, braking, and cornering while using simple terrain progressions that will set you up for long term success. With a little helpful instruction, you can go from zero to hero on a bike in no time.



Big Sky Resort offers 50-plus miles of lift-accessed, cross country and downhill mountain biking trails for every skill level. The resort offers a discounted pass valid now through the resort's closure on Sept. 29. PHOTO BY LIAM KESHISHIAN

If you're in Big Sky, I suggest you spend a day mountain biking at Big Sky Resort. Bike rentals are available at numerous outdoor outfitters in the Big Sky area. Remember to check the bike trails report and download a biking map before heading up to the resort. Be safe and have a blast.

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://visithigskymt.com/mountain-biking-big-sky-resort/. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at https://visithigskymt. com/category/blog/.



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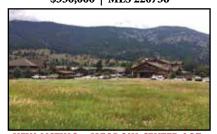


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#### **NEW LISTING - MEADOW CENTER LOT**

- Best & only lot left in Meadow Village Center - Unobstructed views of Lone Mtn & golf course - Ample parking & access to all shops & businesses \$695,000 | MLS 302492



#### **JUST LISTED - BIG HORN 38**

- 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo w/ ski-in/ski-out access - Heated attached garage with extra parking - Walking distance to all Mtn Village amenities \$649,000 | MLS 303659



#### **BEAVER CREEK - 20 ACRE LOT**

- Must see 20 acre property in Beaver Creek
- Private gated entry subdivision
- Charming pond attracts lots of local wildlife \$597,000 | MLS 301032



#### **RIVERVIEW RANCH**

- Remarkable 20 acre property in Riverview Ranch - Head on views of the Porcupine Elk Refuge - Paved road to a lovely forested lot \$595,000 | MLS 300947



#### **PORCUPINE PARK, LOT 36**

- 6.75+/- acres with a paved road to the lot
- Excellent building site and lots of trees
- Horses allowed & sensational views \$499,900 | MLS 215272



ⓐ

### SPANISH PEAKS MOUNTAIN CLUB\*



**Homestead Cabin 6\*** | Spanish Peaks Mountain Club | \$2.2M 4 bedrooms | 5 bathrooms | 2,585 SQ FT *Ski-in, Ski-out on the 17th hole* 



Lot 38 Bristle Brush\* | Spanish Peaks Mountain Club | See agent for details 1.27 ACRES

Lone Peak View on the Spanish Peaks Mountain Club Golf Course



Big EZ Lots 42 & 43\* | \$699 for both Lot 42 | 20 ACRES | \$399K Lot 43 | 20 ACRES | \$375K *Large acreage with water feature* Optional Spanish Peaks Mountain Club membership available



**Big EZ Lot 13\*** | \$449K 20 ACRES *Large plateau with big mountain views* Optional Spanish Peaks Mountain Club membership available



#### LKRealEstate.com | 406.995.2404



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# What makes a great grasshopper pattern? Fish patterns with these traits and have more success



Grasshoppers make up a large part of a trout's diet for the next several weeks. Choose patterns with legs, foam bodies and natural tones such as tan or black. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

live that it might want to eat. Any hopper pattern worth fishing will feature eyes. Trina's Carnage Hopper has eyes and is often eye-catching to a hungry trout.

Trout are opportunistic feeders and as anglers we also need to be opportunistic when selecting flies to fish. As a young guide in the '90s, I worked a lot with Tim Williams. Tim was a legendary guide on the Yellowstone River, who exclusively fished hoppers this time of year. He'd continue fishing his hoppers even if one of the legs had been ruined after a fish had been caught. After watching him release a client's fat brown trout, I asked him which fly was used.



#### BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

On a recent drive home from the river, combines were working the wheat fields—a sure sign that summer's heat and sun are on the wane. When I was in my 20s, more than two decades ago now, I loathed this time of the angling season. Going back to school was a reminder of fun times passed; low flows in the not-summer-but-not-yet-fall

stage had me missing earlier river trips, and I longed for the easier fishing of casting big salmon and stoneflies along the banks in big water to trout who had not seen a fly in weeks.

Late summer and early fall angling doesn't mean we have forgo our love of big dry flies. Quite to the contrary, anglers in my boat know I cherish the big dry the next several weeks. When the combines turn into the wheat fields is when my angling enthusiasm migrates to a higher level. Hoppertunities exist.

In Montana, there are eight families of grasshoppers, including four families of crickets. To keep us from getting carried away, let's simplify even more and just call anything that flies, hops, and lives on the ground but eventually ends up in a trout stream a grasshopper. Here's some help to choose the best hopper pattern.

**The legs have it.** Nearly all hopper patterns feature legs. From the original Dave's Hopper and its dyed yellow grizzly hackle, to the more modern hoppers fished today with Sexy Legs and Sili Legs, if you're fishing a grasshopper pattern without appropriate appendages, you're not really standing on all your collective angling legs. As long as your hopper has one leg, keep fishing it. Grasshoppers do not like to be on water so they often injure themselves trying to escape once they land on water.

**Go big and go foam.** In the early 1990s, foam burst onto the angling scene. It had been used sparingly in a few patterns in the '70s and '80s, but it wasn't until the Chernobyl Hopper became commonplace that anglers embraced foam. Nearly thirty years later, finding a foamless hopper pattern in your local fly shop is a challenge. Foam allows a large hopper to float for long drifts, and a longer drift means a better chance at catching a fish. Foam flies are less likely to sink, allowing you to twitch a hopper in life-like movements. Hoppers present a big meal to a hungry trout. So fish a big hopper. Big fly...big fish.

**Keep color choice simple.** Bright green and flashy yellow hoppers look sexy in the fly bins and may seem like a good choice, but many experienced hopper anglers choose natural tones. Grey, tan, pale yellow, light peach and olive will catch more fish than obnoxious colors.

**Shape and profile play vital role**. Look closely at any natural grasshopper and their body is fatter at the head than at the tail. Choose a hopper pattern that tapers to better represent the real thing. As summer transitions into fall and trout have seen other anglers' hoppers float by, choose a slimmer profiled hopper and one that will ride lower in the water. My favorite tapered and low-lying hoppers are the Moorish Hopper and the Panty Dropper Hopper.

**The eye of the hopper.** It's the thrill of the bite. Natural grasshoppers feature prominent eyes. Consider a trout a predator and a grasshopper its prey; a trout will use the eyes of its prey as confirmation of something

"The Eileen Hopper." He said. "My one-legged hopper."

It took me awhile, but I eventually got the joke when I looked at my client's fly and saw it too was down to one leg.

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



#### BHHSMT.COM | 406.995.4060 | 55 LONE PEAK DRIVE | BIG SKY TOWN CENTER



JACK CREEK ROAD \$18,750,000 | #205500 | Call Stacy or Eric Hunt, Ski, Fish! Located between Ennis and Big Sky. 2,636± acres, via a private gated road. The ranch includes a custom log home and several other building locations w/spectacular mtn vistas. Co-listed w/Swan Land Co.



#### FOUR POINT ROAD \$2,100,000 | #219569 | Call Don

Ridge home in Antler Ridge with views of Lone Mtn from all three bedrooms, the great room and from the sunny south facing deck. Reclaimed beams, granite, high-end appliances, convenient mid-mountain location.



#### 26 TROTWOOD CIRCLE \$619,000 | #303585 | Call Stacy or Eric

3 bd, 2.5 ba Lone Peak Townhome in the heart of Town Center. Walk to many amenities. Gourmet kitchen, Granite countertops, SS appliances. 1 car inets, rock fireplace, lower level bonus room with garage. Views of Yellow Mountain.



#### 48784 GALLATIN ROAD \$7,100,000 | #215673 | Call Don

Outstanding 83± acre recreational parcel with Gallatin River Frontage & vibrant springs one of which flows into a large stocked pond. Main house, guest house & caretakers quarters as well as a historic barn



TBD NORTHFORK ROAD \$1,800,000 | #209944 | Call Don 216± acres, old growth forest, meadows, Approx. 3/4 mile of North Fork flows through, borders public lands, private road, outstanding Spanish Peak views.



#### SPANISH PEAKS CLUB CONDO \$539,000 | #300192 | Call Stacy or Eric

Ideally located 2bd, 3 ba unit offering great views and morning light. Gourmet kitchen, hickory cabaccess to private patio with hot tub hookup. 1 car



**4 LITTLE PLUME RD** \$2,900,000 | #216922 | Call Stacy or Eric Fantastic custom, hand built, true post and beam timber frame ski in/ski out home on 1.7±

acres with unobstructed views of Lone Mountain. 4 bd, 5 ba, 3 car attached garage plus 1 ba, 1 ba guest suite apartment over the garage.



#### NORTH FORK ROAD, LOT 8 \$1,300,000 | #301292 | Call Stacy or Eric

Stunning 20± acre lot in coveted, private Triple Triangle Ranch in the North Fork. Gently sloping with mature Doug Fir trees. Driveway, fiber optic, power, well, 12,000-gallon fire suppression tank are all in place.



**31 BEAR TRAP LANE** \$419,000 | #304180 | Call Don

Great views from this 3 bd, 3 ba Deer Run Condo. End unit with vaulted ceilings, two decks and fireplace in the living room. SS appliances, engineered hardwood flooring and carpet. Con-



#### FOURPOINT RD. ANTLER RIDGE LOT \$240,000 | #214051 | Call Don

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

#### attached heated garage. Clubhouse with pool.



#### SITTING BULL ROAD, HILL CONDO \$215,000 | #220805 | Call Stacy or Eric

2 bd, 1 ba, 3 level Hill Condo Loft. Chefs kitchen with new cabinets, SS appliances and breakfast bar. Remodeled bathroom, wood floors, ski storage room, and washer/dryer. This unit is perfect for year-round living or as a secondary home.

venient to Town Center. Sold partially furnished.



#### TBD ANACONDA DRIVE \$159,000 | #208052 | Call Don

Great building site, across the street from a park, views of the surrounding mountains will be preserved. Large over  $15,000 \pm SF$  lot in a rectangular format to allow a great deal of flexibility in positioning a home.

DON PILOTTE BROKER, GRI, RRS, SFR 406.580.0155 | STACY OSSORIO BROKER 406.539.8553 | ERIC OSSORIO BROKER 406.539.9553 TONI DELZER SALES ASSOCIATE 406.570.3195 | PETER MACKENZIE SALES ASSOCIATE 406.223.1195

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# **On the Trail: Upper Beehive Basin**

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

BY CIARA WOLFE **BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

The Upper Beehive Basin, U.S. Forest Service trail #40, is known for its majestic peaks, breathtaking glacial lake and access to the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. The 2.8 mile out-and-back trail is a well-used intermediate dirt trail.

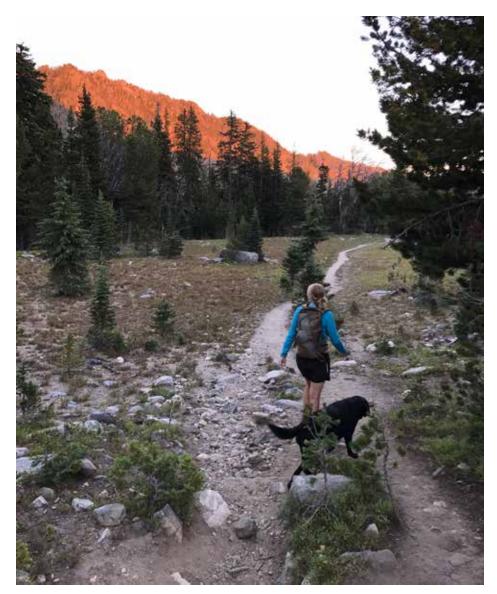
Starting at the trailhead, you immediately cross over Beehive Creek on a narrow log bridge and begin to climb past a couple of large homes. The first mile of this trail is a USFS easement located on private property, so please be respectful of the surrounding landowners and the natural surroundings by staving on the clearly defined trail. The wide dirt path climbs gradually though forested meadows with one short stretch of switchbacks up a steeper section.

At approximately 1 mile, you will come to a junction with a sign denoting the direction and distance to both Beehive Basin Lake and the North Fork/Beehive Connector Trail (USFS #402). At this point it is an additional 1.5 miles until you reach the glacial basin and lake. The last portion of the trail passes several large rock outcrops, through a large alpine meadow and a unique dead-tree forest. This portion of the hike affords excellent views of the surrounding peaks and ridgeline, known for climbing and winter backcountry skiing.

As you begin the final climb, a flat, treed area at the top will come into view. This is the edge of the basin and the location of the lake. Once you crest the ridge, you will see a small alpine lake in the middle of a beautiful alpine meadow. The trail continues around the west side of the lake and on to the summit of Beehive Peak. Climbing Beehive Peak is an additional 1.5 miles and has climbing routes from 5.6-5.11 on high quality granite gneiss.

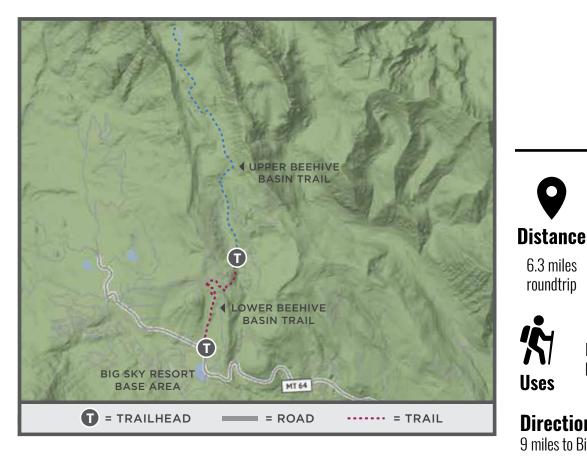
At the lake there are several glacial rock outcrops perfect for taking a break or enjoying a picnic lunch. The lake is also an excellent place to swim or fish for native cutthroat trout. The hike itself is an incredible experience offering beautiful views and plenty of opportunities for wildlife sightings.

However, the end destination of a glacial lake surrounded by large rocky peaks is truly magnificent. Wildlife is abundant in this area so please be bear aware throughout your time on the trail. The trail is a popular destination hike, so be courteous and yield to other users as appropriate.

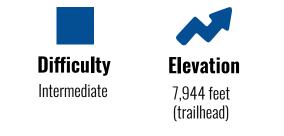


Ciara Wolfe and her dog Drifter wind their way along the popular Upper Beehive Basin trail which culminates at a picturesque alpine lake surrounded by jagged mountains after a 2.8-mile climb. PHOTO BY MIKE WOLFE

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







6.3 miles roundtrip

R

Surface Dirt

Hikers, runners, horses, bikers (until you reach Lee Metcalf Wilderness boundary), overnight camping, skiing and snowshoeing

**Directions:** Turning off of Hwy 191 onto Lone Mountain Trail, follow the signs 9 miles to Big Sky Resort. Continue 1.5 miles past the resort entrance and turn right on to Beehive Basin Road just past the brown USFS Beehive Basin trailhead road sign. Continue up this windy road for 1.8 miles until reaching the trailhead on the left.

### Pretty wildflower? THINK AGAIN!



The pink hillsides are due to **spotted knapweed**, a short-lived perennial or biennial plant that can produce up to 140,000 seeds per plant, and those seeds can survive in the soil for 10 years!

Spotted knapweed roots exude catechin, which acts as an herbicide to inhibit competition of other plant species, resulting in reduced plant diversity, soil erosion and degraded water quality.

### If you've got pink, call us for free help!

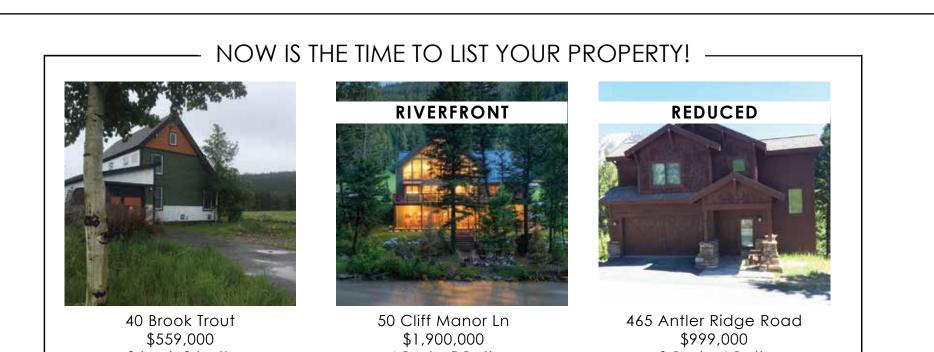
### Do your part to help #KeepItNative

Gallatin-Big Sky Weed Committee 406-209-0905 www.bigskyweeds.org



Gallatin-Big Sky Weed Committee is funded in part by resort tax funds.





2 bed, 2 bath 2592 sq feet MLS#: 300321 4 Beds, 5 Bath 5212 SQ. Feet MLS#: 220850 3 Beds, 4 Bath 3340 SQ. Feet MLS#: 300671

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# GEAR REVIEW

# **Gear: NEMO Wagontop tent**

Camper trailers are perfect for traveling in the great outdoors without leaving the comfort of an open living space. While camper trailers are roomy and comfortable, they're also heavy and will set you back about \$10,000.

If you're looking for a mobile living space that can fit in the back seat of your sedan and doesn't break the bank, look no further than the NEMO Wagontop 6-person tent.

This an exceptional tent for the whole family to take on long road trips, or just to set up in the backyard. The 97- square-foot tent feels like a small home when you zip yourself inside, with a 27-squarefoot vestibule ideal for plopping down one of your favorite camping chairs and watching the sunrise with morning coffee. The tent is tall enough for an adult to stand in—the interior height is 80 inches.

The Wagontop features taped seams and UV- resistant, waterproof ripstop polyester, so there's no rain fly, making set-up and takedown a simple task for two people. At 23 pounds and 5 ounces, this is not the lightest option out there, but it comfortably fit a family of four during a multi-day river trip on the Middle Fork of the Salmon.

My only complaint is the lack of directions on how to set up this beast of a tent, but once we dialed in the set-up we found it to be ultimate Middle Fork family tent. – *Henry Hall* 



\$650 nemoequipment.com

# Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



Terrestrials, streamers and small nymphs are the name of the game for the next few weeks. Fall baetis will become more prevalent in the coming weeks as well.

For the best dry fly opportunities the upper Yellowstone River and small creeks will be the best options. Above Emigrant is a good place to start on the Yellowstone with hoppers, ants, beetles, baetis and other small attractors. Same is true for most small creeks in the area.

The Madison will have some dry fly opportunities for sure, but streamers and small nymphs will rule most days. Think small and naturally colored streamers that have good action and some flash. The best nymphs will be in the 18-20 range most days. Nymphs should primarily imitate small mayflies and midges.

Gallatin is a mixed bag in September. If you're the persistent type you could certainly make a go of fishing dries all day long, but expect some lulls and play around with patterns and water selection. Hoppers may work in faster water, while a size 18 or smaller mayfly dry imitation might be the best call in slower water. Subsurface try dragging a small nymph below a small streamer or two nymphs. Pat's Rubber Legs will start to play again as well.







Lightning Bug

Although fall does not technically begin until the 3rd week of September we can't help but feel like we've already turned that corner in Big Sky country. Hunting season has begun and anglers are starting to sniff out prime autumn waters. We are excited to see what the next couple of months will bring!

The crystal ball tells us that "Hoot Owl" restrictions should be lifted on the lower Madison and lower Gallatin any day now, if they haven't been already. Although the lower Gallatin doesn't see a ton of traffic compared to the upper river the lower Madison is a popular destination in the fall and tends to fish quite well after the madness of summer has dissipated.

If you find yourself struggling on the river try using smaller tippet, longer leaders, playing with fly selection and/or looking for different types of water. And if all else fails stop in to your favorite fly shop and get some advice from the pros.

Don't forget to handle fish with care and have fun out there!







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# DID YOU Know?

- Bobcats are elusive and nocturnal, so they are rarely spotted by humans. Although they are seldom seen, they roam throughout much of North America.

- Fierce hunters, bobcats can kill prey much bigger than themselves, but usually eat rabbits, birds, mice, squirrels and other smaller game.

- In some areas, bobcats are still trapped for their soft, spotted fur. North American populations are believed to be quite large, with perhaps as many as one million cats in the United States alone.

They face habitat destruction from agricultural and industrial development as well urban sprawl. The ever-expanding human population further limits their ranges.

# **RESPECT.PROTECT.CHERISH.**

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Information provided by www.defenders.org and www.nationalgeographic.com

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# Located in TOWN CENTER at the corner of LONE MOUNTAIN TRAIL and OUSEL FALLS ROAD



# Creighton Block GALLERY

James P. Cook, "Spring Light", 36 x 48, Oil on Board. Town Center, Big Sky, Montana | creightonblockgallery.com | 406-995-3848



BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

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 summer trip, we've got you covered.

Well, this summer felt like it lasted about as long as a Capri Sun. Not long enough. Looking back on the last three months, I did get to have a few adventures and see a lot of good, live music.

From Pine Creek Lodge in Livingston, various venues in Bozeman, festivals in Missoula, Grand Targhee, and San Francisco, to music I can hear from my apartment in the Town Center of Big Sky, I feel lucky to have discovered a number of artists and bands who are on the cusp of making it big.

Here are some jams that I will still be listening to when winter comes.

- 1. "Universal Sound" Tyler Childers
- 2. "Captain Nowhere" Railroad Earth
- 3. "Radio" Sylvan Esso
- 4. "Seeing All Red" Shakey Graves
- 5. "A Long Way from Your Heart" Turnpike Troubadours
- 6. "White Man's World" Jason Isbell
- 7. "Graceland" Justin Townes Earle
- 8. "All the Debts I Owe" Caamp
- 9. "The Devil Wears a Suit and Tie" Colter Wall
- 10. "Over the Red Cedar" Charlie Parr

# **American Life in Poetry:** Column 645

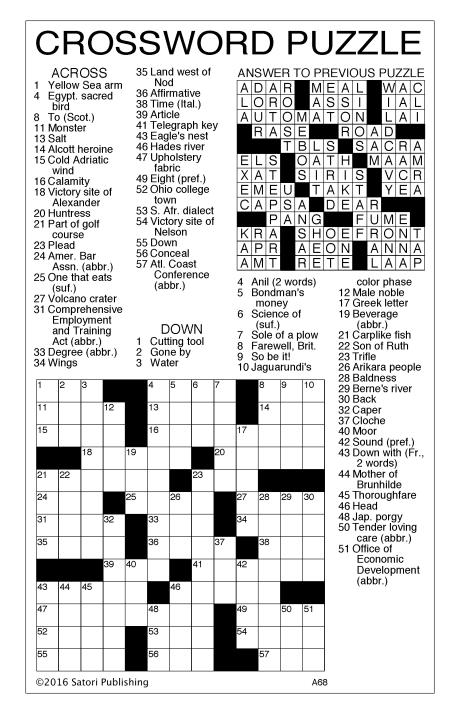
BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

We've published several poems from The University of Minnesota Press's collection of bee poems, "If Bees are Few." Here's one about the recent decline in the world's bee population by the distinguished poet Linda Pastan, who lives in Maryland. Her most recent book is "Insomnia," (W. W. Norton & Co, 2017).

The Death of the Bee By Linda Pastan

The biography of the bee is written in honey and is drawing to a close.

And the boy nursing his stung ankle this morning will look back at his brief tears





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# DOG OF THE MONTH





Soon the buzzing plainchant of summer will be silenced for good;

the flowers, unkindled will blaze one last time and go out.

with something like regret, remembering the amber taste of honey.

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 ©2002 by Linda Pastan, "The Death of the Bee," from If Bees Are Few: A Hive of Bee Poems, Ed., James P. Lenfestey, (Univ. of Minnesota Press, 2016). Originally published in Last Uncle, (W. W. Norton & Co., 2002). Poem reprinted by permission of Linda Pastan and W.W. Norton & Co., Inc. 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.

### 💥 TOBY 💥

Age: 11 years old Breed: Lab Mix Owner: Kendall Kramer Likes: Socializing with humans, laying down in bodies of water, and playing fetch while swimming. Dislikes: Playing fetch on dry land, playing dress up and getting his picture taken. Claim to fame: Nobody believes his age.

**Bozeman** 06.586.3026 501 Evergreen Dr.

Four Corners 406.586.8990 186 Garden Dr.

bridgeranimalnutrition.com

BACK

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"

# What's the big deal about noxious weeds?

#### BY JOHN COUNCILMAN **EBS CONTRIBUTOR**

Invasive non-native plants, animals and diseases are getting more press and for good reason. Native ecosystems and all that depend on them are at risk. Years ago, as a U.S. Forest Service land manager in Idaho, weeds weren't on my radar screen. The scope of the problem didn't sink in until I transferred to the Bozeman Ranger District and was given the responsibility of managing the district weed program. It didn't take long to realize we have a problem.

There are many threats to our local environment, however, I think the top threat is invasive species. The Center for Invasive Species Management reports invasive species are the second leading cause of animal population decline and extinction worldwide.

I have seen landscapes recover from every major calamity except invasive species. Once invasive species get established, nature has no mechanisms that enable landscapes to restore ecological balance. Evolution works slowly. Several weeds now established in the Big Sky area have the potential to completely transform our landscape.

It's difficult to raise awareness about this issue. Weeds aren't a glitzy endangered species that get a lot of press. However, fighting weeds protects the habitat these species live on.

#### What are noxious weeds?

Noxious weeds are plants designated as injurious to agricultural or horticultural crops, natural habitats or ecosystems, humans or livestock. There are hundreds of noxious weeds in North America, with 32 listed in Montana.

Noxious weeds come from all around the world. Those that thrive in similar growing conditions to the Big Sky area can become established here, often invading disturbed areas like roadsides, powerline clearings, trails, construction sites, and burned or logged areas. However, because they are so competitive, they can get established almost anywhere. And unlike native plants they usually have no natural control like bugs that eat them or diseases that keep their populations in check.

#### Noxious weeds, among other things:

- Replace native plant communities
- Degrade water quality



For the first time, the invasive yellow flag iris was identified among cattails in a private pond in the Beaver Creek area. Yellow flag iris forms dense monotypic colonies in riparian areas, crowding-out native species, altering the ecosystem and reducing habitat for wildlife, birds, fish and pollinators. ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GALLATIN-BIG SKY WEED COMMITTEE

- Increase the severity and frequency of wildfires
- Eliminate recreational opportunities
- Weeds spread easily via cars, ATVs, motorcycles, dogs, heavy equipment, livestock, hay, contaminated topsoil and gravel, hiking boots, clothing, fishing waders, etc. For example, once noxious weeds are established along a river, their seeds float downstream infesting gravel bars and river banks. - This increases soil erosion and negatively affects fish habitat. Research shows runoff increases by 150 percent and sediment yields by 300 percent in areas of invasive spotted knapweed.

Other wildlife is also affected. Spotted knapweed can reduce winter forage for elk by 50 to 90 percent. This can change seasonal elk distribution patterns. Habitat decline is also a primary threat to our local big horn sheep population. That's why the Gallatin-Big Sky Weed Committee partners with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and the Custer-Gallatin National Forest to treat weeds on their winter range.

#### What can you do?

- Learn to identify invasive species
- Clean plant materials and mud from boots, gear, pets, and vehicles before and after using trails
- Drive only on designated routes
- Use local firewood and certified weed-free hay

- Reduce forage for wildlife
- Decrease property values



Oxeye daisy can form dense stands that displaces native plants. Because of the plant's beauty and showiness, management is often neglected. Be conscientious when purchasing wildflower seed, as some of Montana's state listed noxious weeds can be found in these mixes.

- Plant native plants in your garden and remove invasive plants
- Avoid dumping aquariums or live bait into waterways
- Clean and dry your fishing waders and wading boots after each use.

- Drain all water from your boat, including in the engine's cooling system, live wells, and bilge

Getting educated is key. A new invasive plant has been found in the Big Sky area this year: yellow flag iris. Learn to identify this plant and other weeds to protect Big Sky from this severe problem. The Gallatin-Big Sky Weed Committee will visit your property in Big Sky for free and help you with weed issues.

Visit bigskyweeds.org for more information and additional resources.

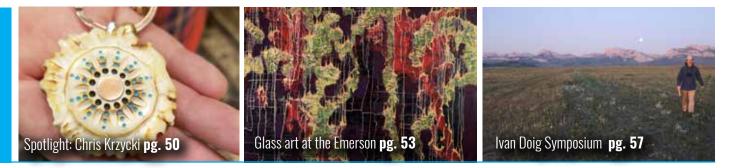
John Councilman is a retiree from the U.S. Forest Service where he worked for 32 years, the last nine of which were spent as part of the Custer-Gallatin National Forest Bozeman Ranger District. He has over 40 years of experience working in the northern Rocky Mountain area on a wide variety of vegetation and wildlife management issues. Councilman is currently the board chair of the Gallatin-Big Sky Weed Committee.

#### Explore Big Sky

**Section 4:** 

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT** 

### **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**



# **Mountainfilm on Tour returns to Big Sky** Festival expands to two nights, adds feature-length film

#### BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY - Mountainfilm on Tour, an offshoot of the annual festival in Telluride, Colorado, is a collection of documentary films designed to celebrate indomitable spirit and inspire change. Presented by the Arts Council of Big Sky, the tour returns to Big Sky with a selection of films curated specifically for this community on Sept. 15 and 16, with screenings at The Warren Miller Performing Arts Center and Lone Peak Cinema.

After the success of last year's inaugural event, which sold out quickly and enthused audiences, the Arts Council has fulfilled its intention to expand the festival each year in the hopes it will one day mirror other highlyregarded mountain-town film festivals around the West.

The festival will kick off 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, with a red carpet affair at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center. A catered pre-party will be followed by a screening of the feature-length documentary "Charged." The film tells the redemptive recovery story of Bozeman chef and athlete Eduardo Garcia, who was jolted with 2,400 volts of electricity after touching the carcass of a bear with the tip of a blade in Paradise Valley. A post-film Q&A will feature producer Dennis Aig and Jennifer Jane, a filmmaker and friend to Garcia who stepped in front of the camera to chronicle her role as his caretaker.

On Saturday, Sept. 16, the tour returns to Lone Peak Cinema for a night of 11 short, inspirational adventure films. The evening begins with a pre-party at 6 p.m., followed by the screenings and a post-party with live music.

Other films shine the spotlight on two Colorado "dirt bags" of the ski and river variety; a 90-year-old ultramarathon runner from Missoula; a band that ditches their van for bikes; and—in keeping with the tradition of delivering some humor—a movie about high altitude flatus expulsion. Yep, you got it; a film about two doctor-climbers who conducted research into the phenomenon of increased spontaneous gas at high elevations.

"Our goal is to have people leave Mountainfilm especially inspired to figure out how they can make positive changes in the world," Alvin said. "It sounds grandiose but I think it's possible."

Accompanying the tour once again is Mountainfilm for Students, a free educational outreach initiative for K-12 students that promotes learning through film. This year the entire Big Sky School District will take part in the initiative on Friday, Sept. 15.

"This is a very community oriented festival," Alvin said. "People from every single sector of this community can get together and see these films and talk about them and get excited. I think that was one of the greatest things about last year—the diversity of the audience."

Even though the 2017 Mountainfilm Tour isn't under their belts yet, the Arts Council is already looking ahead and thinking about how to grow the event to accommodate larger audiences.

"Next year we're going to shoot for having a free outdoor movie on Sunday," Alvin said.

Visit bigskyarts.org for tickets and more information.

Katie Alvin, ACBS program outreach and education director; ACBS board member Roberta Odair; and committee member Jolene Romney attended the 2017 Mountainfilm Festival in Telluride and collectively watched nearly all of the 90 films



presented.

With the help of Mountainfilm, they were able to whittle the 25 films they thought would be a good fit for Big Sky down to 11.

Alvin said they highlighted women wherever possible, evidenced by their selection of the female "stoke" video "Where the Wild Things Play."

"Basically it's about women who go hard," Alvin said.

"The Time Travelers" is one of 11 documentary shorts screening at the Mountainfilm Tour on Sept. 16 at Lone Peak Cinema. The film tracks the mission of the U.S. Men's Rafting Team to break the speed record for rowing 277 miles of the Colorado River in 34 hours. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY



# **Art as process, art as prayer** The antler creations of Craig Krzycki

# BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Craig Krzycki's connection to the antlers elk, deer and moose shed each spring runs deep. Discovering these great, graceful bones on the forest floor is not simply a means to an end for the artist, but rather a spiritual experience that he treats with the utmost reverence.

Up a windy gravel drive in the heart of Gallatin Canyon, the leafy, sundappled landscape, once part of a lettuce plantation and the place Krzycki has called home for 17 years, is lovingly dressed in testament to his obsession. Antlers adorn his woodpile, dangle in the limbs of trees, form arbors, and are affixed to the side of his single-wide trailer. The trunk of one tree is wrapped entirely within the pointed embrace of antlers bleached white by the sun in the hopes that one day he will witness the wood and bone become one.

He dislodges an antler from a shady area of fencing and presents it like an offering. This one, and two storage sheds filled with hundreds more, have been deemed too beautiful to "put through the band saw," Krzycki said.

"I think anyone that has the addiction to find sheds has their collection," Krzycki said in his gentle, high-pitched voice. "Men have their bone pile. There's a memory from finding that horn—who you were with, the dog you were with, the 10 inches of snow that surprised you that day. That antler brings you back to that moment, that adventure, that trip. Do you want to hold onto those memories or do you want to sell them?"

Weighing 10 pounds and spanning nearly 5 feet, it's difficult to imagine an elk upholding not just one, but two antlers of this size, no matter how strong the animal's neck. It's easier to imagine the relief the elk must've felt upon them falling to the earth.





For artist Craig Krzycki, many antlers he has collected are simply too magnificent to "put to the bandsaw." PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

He takes me through the different parts of the antler starting at the burr, where it detached from the pedicle, and traces a path to the brow tine—or first fork off the main beam and the consecutive points. The fourth point is often called a dagger or sword, and the sixth is referred to as a back scratcher when it reaches a certain size.

"You can't duplicate seeing something like this in nature, what it does to your insides," Krzycki said, fondling the burr. "The feeling of finding one is ecstasy and then to find the other one, the match set...There's a connection between you and Mother Nature and that animal when you find [a shed] on the ground and you're the first one to smell it, touch it."

Krzycki's sculpture "Truth" combines natural elements like stone and bone with handcrafted metal accents to create one of a kind custom sculptures. PHOTO BY RYAN TURNER

Krzycki described the smell of a freshly shed antler as a combination of sap from rubbing on trees and something indescribable that is especially pungent at the burr, although it only lasts a matter of weeks.

"I can't compare it to any kind of smell," Krzycki said. "Maybe that's part of the addiction."

Krzycki reserved the more picturesque structure on the property for his studio. To the best of his knowledge, the 1920s log and mortar cabin was originally built at the Twin Cabins Trailhead and restacked at its current location at some point. His meticulously organized workshop comes as somewhat of a surprise—tools and materials are lined up like little soldiers hanging from the walls or tucked away tidily in little boxes. Here, on a hide-covered chair next to an antique wood-burning stove, Krzycki makes everything from \$1 antler buttons to \$5,000 custom sculptures that incorporate other materials such as metal and wood. Other wares include salt and pepper sets, key chains, belt buckles, drawer pulls, cribbage boards, and antler-handled knives. Kryzcki has sold his antler creations at the Big Sky Farmer's Market since its inception nearly a decade ago.

An archery and rifle big game hunting guide for more than 20 years, Krzycki would fill up his backpack with sheds, until he started filling actual sheds with his findings and decided to experiment with making gifts out them.

Krzycki said when he first started collecting antlers, most of it was being shipped to Asia for its reputation as an aphrodisiac. With a chuckle, Krzycki said rumor has it the demand plummeted when Viagra emerged onto the market.

Today the big demand is for antler dog chews. Krzycki makes dog chews out of his antler scraps and sells them in various Big Sky businesses but is visibly conflicted about using them for this purpose.

According to Krzycki, finding antler sheds has become increasingly competitive. He said the Gallatin Valley elk population has declined by 75 percent and the number of people looking for them has grown tenfold, largely due to their trendiness as decor.

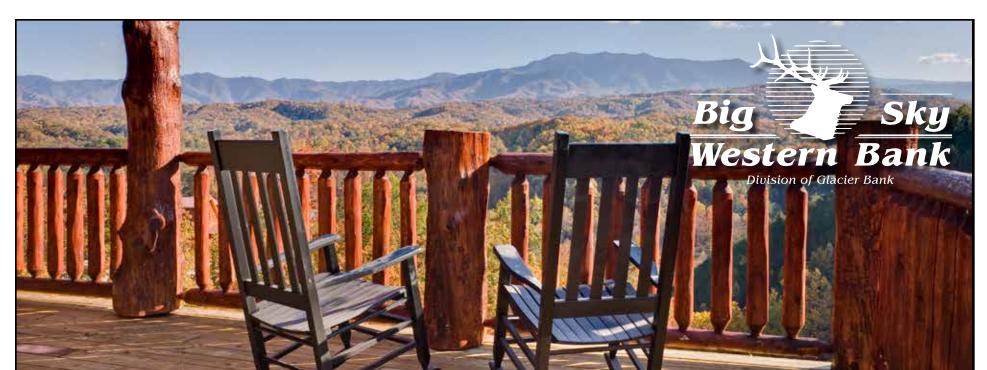
"But," he said, circling a finger vaguely around his head, "I still have my secret spots."

Krzycki explained how he reconciles his overwhelming respect for the life cycles of big game and the many years he spent working as a hunting guide.



Krzycki creates everything from small tokens such as buttons and keychains to elaborate abstract sculptures out of the found antlers of elk, deer and moose. PHOTO BY GREG HODGE

"It's one of the deepest things you can experience," he said. "I have experienced so many human emotions when somebody harvests an animal and to be able to share that with them is so powerful. I've seen grown men cry; it's deep, man. For me, it's about feeding myself organically and respecting that animal. I always take time to pray and be thankful for being part of that circle."



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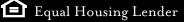


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**52** September 1 - September 14 **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT** 

# National radio storytelling workshop comes to Big Sky Local stories presented at WMPAC Sept. 2

#### EBS STAFF

Journalists and aspiring radio producers from around the nation were in Big Sky the week of Aug. 27 collecting, creating and producing local stories for potential broadcast on public radio stations across the country. These radio stories will be presented at the end of the workshop on Saturday, Sept. 2, as part of the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center conservatory program.

Transom Traveling Story Workshops, a division of Atlantic Public Media, are designed to channel new work, voices and ideas into public media through the internet and workshops like the one in Big Sky. WMPAC board member Barbara Rowley reached out to bring the group to Big Sky for the first time last year. The event was so well-received WMPAC decided to host the workshop and present the short broadcast productions that come out of it again this year.

During the workshop, participants from around the country will received instruction on finding stories, field recording, interviewing techniques, digital editing, script writing and studio voicing techniques. At the culmination, each student will produce a short broadcast-quality piece about an interesting local figure and a professional pitch for the piece.

Lead Instructor Rob Rosenthal, who will bring the Transom Story Workshop to five locations across the country this year, is an independent producer and teacher. Rosenthal hosts the HowSound podcast on radio storytelling. He started and ran the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies' radio track for 11 years.

The Travelling Story Workshops, which launched in 2011, are condensed versions of the longer program offered in the spring and fall at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, which have featured some of the most famous voices in public radio such as Ira Glass as guest instructors.

The stories collected and created in Big Sky will feature many local community members. The performance will take place at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2, at The Warren Miller Performing Arts Center. The event will also include a Q&A period with the producers.

Visit warrenmillerpac.org for more information.

Through your generosity along with all the attendees and donors, together we raised \$189,000 for the Big Sky Community!



# The Emerson showcases glass art and paint

# BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture ushers in two new exhibits in September beginning on the first of the month with "Cut Loose: the Ramblings of a Meticulously Unrestrained Soul," a series of acrylic, oil and watercolor paintings by Bozeman artist Anne KM Ross.

A self-proclaimed "recovering perfectionist-procrastinator and urban homesteader," Ross transforms "light bulb moments" into complex pseudoabstract works of art. Her pieces have a dreamlike quality while remaining recognizable enough for the viewer to discern the visual narrative they also contain.

Emerging from a past of stifling, self-imposed rigidity in her art, she now plays with the duality of tight control and unrestrained, free-spirited work. "Cut Loose" aims to find the middle ground between unleashed spontaneity and



calculated, meticulous efforts. Ross' process entails precision-oriented preparation, a mapping and shaping of the canvas, and before any piece is complete, simple physics is given free reign. During this stage, Ross becomes a curious observer of the dripping, swirling paint, and nothing can qualify as a mistake.

Aspects of the work that were carefully painted are often lost or obscured, but to Ross, this changes her work for the better. The artist says it opens doors via new shapes and themes that emerge, adding layers for deeper contemplation, and allowing her to resolve the piece in her mind more masterfully than was possible before.

Over the years, Ross has discovered that obsessively fixing and perfecting her art results in overworked pieces, which tend to be stagnant rather than energetic. For Ross, this is a profound metaphor for life. Her passion for art is fueled by finding new fascinating painted effects whether sprayed, squeezed, carved, or brushed on, each approach provides a different tactile experience, which for Ross equates to a new discovery to be made.

Ross' work will be on display in The Emerson's Weaver Gallery through Nov. 17.



The Emerson presents two new exhibitions in September, "Cutting Loose," (above) by painter Anne KM Ross and "Biological Explorations" (left) featuring the glass art of Tom Bradley PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE EMERSON CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND CULTURE

On Friday Sept. 8, a new glass exhibit featuring the work of Tad Bradley will open in The Emerson's Jessie Wilber and Lobby Galleries. "Biological Explorations" is a series based on the artist's fascination with the human body and the complexities found outside and within. The work draws from the modern-day imaging that allows us to see inside the body, as well as the senses we use to understand our external environment, and in doing so reveals the microcosm and the macrocosm, and the different scales of exploration therein.

Bradley plays with these ideas as well as hyperrealism with his rendition of eye charts which far outsize what you would find in an optometrist's office. On the other hand, the plates that make up the "Rorschach Revisited" series are to exact scale as the original plates first printed in 1921 that inspired the series.

Although Bradley's background is in architecture, the artist says he sees striking similarities between the human body and a building or work of art or architecture. "The body needs to have alignment, balance and precision...a building demands the same," he writes. "Art allows exploration of any subject matter within any medium...architecture is simply at a different and habitable scale."

For Bradley, glass invites viewers into its depths, and in doing so, encourages exploration and analysis. "One of my goals in creating this work was to analyze how we as humans experience the world, interact with one another, and stand alone as individuals," Bradley writes. "I hope that the work creates curiosity, questions and conversation."

"Biological Explorations" will be on display through Nov. 26.

An opening reception for both exhibits will be held during Art Walk on Friday, Sept. 8, from 5 to 8 p.m.

#### Visit theemerson.org for more information

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# **Bozeman Film Society kicks off season with two indie films**

#### **BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY**

This September, the Bozeman Film Society kicks off its 39th season with three highly acclaimed independent films. On Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 7:30 p.m., the New York Times Critics' Pick "Maudie" will screen at The Ellen Theatre. Based on a true story, the film is the story of an unlikely romance. The reclusive Everett Lewis (Ethan Hawke) hires a fragile yet determined woman named Maudie (Sally Hawkins) to be his housekeeper. Bright-eyed but hunched with crippled hands, Maudie yearns to be independent and to

live away from her protective family. She also yearns to create art. Unexpectedly, Everett finds himself falling in love. The film charts Everett's efforts to avoid being hurt, Maudie's deep and abiding love for this difficult man, and her surprising rise to fame as a folk painter. Directed by Aisling Walsh, the cast of "Maudie" especially Sally Hawkins in the title rolebreathes depths into a story that only skims the surface of a fascinating life and talent.

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, BFS presents an exclusive one-night only screening of "May it Last: A Portrait of The Avett Brothers," winner of the 2017 South by Southwest audience award. Filmed by longtime fans Judd Apatow and Michael Bonfiglio over the course of more than two years, "May it Last" is an intimate portrait of the popular North Carolina band. The film follows the rise of The Avett Brothers over a decade and a half time span, while chronicling their present-day collaboration

with famed producer Rick Rubin on the multi-Grammy nominated album "True Sadness." With the recording process as a back-drop, the film depicts a lifelong bond and unique creative partnership, as the band members experience marriage, divorce, parenthood, illness, and the challenges of the music business. More than just a music documentary, "May it Last" is a meditation on family, love, and the passage of time. Not Rated, the documentary runs 105 minutes.

Both films screen at The Ellen Theatre at 7:30 p.m. For tickets visit



The Bozeman Film Society presents a one-night-only screening of a new documentary about the rise and fall of popular North Carolina indie folk band The Avett Brothers on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at The Ellen Theatre. PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY







# **MSU hosts symposium on Montana author Ivan Doig**

#### EBS STAFF

Beginning in 1978 with the publication "This House of Sky," Ivan Doig went on to write over a dozen more books of memoir and fiction, most set in the Montana he knew so well. His work is beloved by readers of Western literature and in 2007 earned him the Wallace Stegner Award, which recognizes individuals who have made a sustained contribution to the cultural identity of the West.

Doig, who passed away in 2015, was born in White Sulphur Springs. A third generation Montanan, he grew up along the Rocky Mountain front where much of his writing takes place. A former ranch hand, newspaperman and magazine editor, Doig graduated from Northwestern University where he received bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism, and later earned a Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington. In a century's-end San Francisco Chronicle poll to name the best Western novels and works of non-fiction, Doig was the only living writer with books in the top dozen on both lists for "English Creek" in fiction and "This House of Sky" in non-fiction. He lived in Seattle with his wife Carol, who taught the literature of the American West.

In recognition of Doig's contributions to the annals of Montana literature and history, Montana State University is hosting a weekend-long symposium Sept. 13-16 on the MSU campus.

The Doig Archive at MSU consists of manuscripts, proofs and galleys, typed and handwritten writing fragments, pocket notebooks, note cards, diaries, journals, photographs, audio/visual material, and memorabilia. A series of correspondence includes letters to and from other writers, publishers and friends.

To augment this collection will be talks by featured speakers that include Patty Limerick, director of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado; Nancy Cook, professor of literature at the University of Montana; Alan Weltzien, professor of literature at the University of Montana Western; Rebecca Saletan, Doig's editor; and Christine Bold, professor of literature at the University of Guelph.

In addition to the symposium speakers, Carol Doig will debut a new film about her late husband's life and work.



Ivan Doig walks towards the camera in a large field in front of Rappold's Gate at the Rocky Mountain front. PHOTO BY CAROL DOIG

Tours of the Ivan Doig Archive in the MSU Library and several programs on the creation of this rich documentary source and the ways in which scholars and students are already using it will be presented throughout the symposium.

While most of the symposium is devoted to Doig's work which includes a public discussion of "This House of Sky," there will also be related art exhibitions, a poetry reading, and sessions that "imagine Montana"—the task that Doig accomplished so brilliantly.

On Saturday, Sept. 16, attendees will have the opportunity to visit Doig country on a group field trip to White Sulphur Springs, Montana. All symposium events are free except for the field trip, which requires preregistration.

Visit ivandoig.montana.edu/symposium-2017/index.btml for more information and a full schedule of events.

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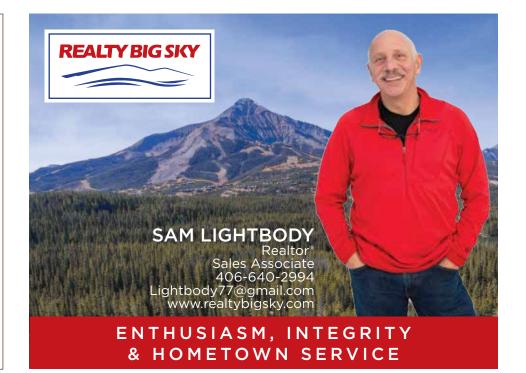
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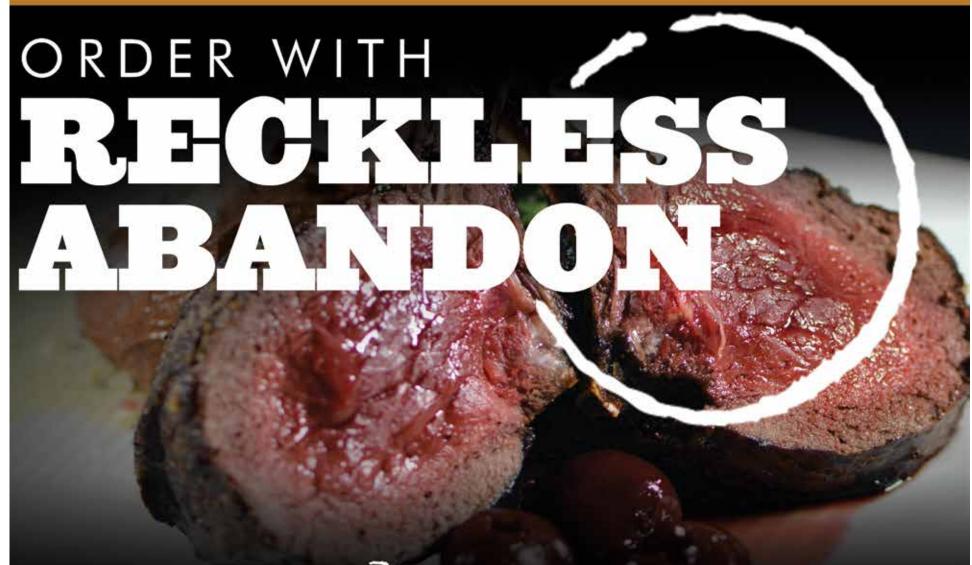
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# The Ellen celebrates "IndepenDANCE" and the value of a good laugh

#### THE ELLEN THEATRE

On Saturday, Sept. 9, IndepenDANCE Community Dance Project presents their ninth annual production, "Eclipse," at 2 and 7 p.m. For nearly a decade, dancers of all backgrounds and styles have come together to create a unique collaboration of movement for an annual production. With more than 20 choreographers and 100 dancers, this year's "Eclipse," hosted by comedic actress Heidi Krutchkoff, keeps with that tradition.

"The Last Laugh," a funny and thought-provoking documentary starring some of comedy's biggest stars, will screen Monday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m. Comedians Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, Sarah Silverman, Gilbert Gottfried, and many other critical thinkers, as well as Holocaust survivors themselves address comedy's ultimate taboo. "The Last Laugh" offers fresh insights into the Holocaust, the collective psyche, and what else—9/11, AIDS, racism—is or isn't off-limits in a society that prizes freedom of speech. The film dares to ask uncomfortable questions about free speech, with unexpectedly hilarious results that have left audiences both laughing and appreciating the importance of humor even in the face of events that evoke tears. Director Ferne Pearlstein and Holocaust survivor Renee Firestone will be present for a Q&A following the film.

Visit theellentheatre.com for tickets or call (406) 585-5885.



On Saturday, Sept. 9, IndepenDANCE Community Dance Project presents their ninth annual production, "Eclipse," at 2 and 7 p.m. at The Ellen Theatre in Bozeman. The production features the work of more than 20 choreographers and 100 dancers. PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAYNA NICOLE PHOTOGRAPHY



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# EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 - THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14

\*If your event falls between September 15 and 28, please submit it by September 8.

# **BIG SKY**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 The Rut Mountain Runs Big Sky Resort, all day

Rob Krar Poster Signing Big Sky Resort's The North Face Store, 3 p.m.

Fish Fry BYWOM, all evening

Shakespeare in the Parks: Macbeth Town Center Park, 5:30 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

#### BIG SKY, MT

National Radio Workshop Warren Miller Performing Arts Center Sept. 2

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** The Rut Mountain Runs Big Sky Resort, all day

Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 12 p.m.

Junior Weekly Golf Clinic

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Women's Weekly Golf Clinic Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Hike and Learn: Your Forest at Work Hummocks Trail, 10 a.m.

Top Shelf Toastmasters Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m.

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

Taco Eating Contest Cinnamon Lodge, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6** Farmers' Market Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8** Big Sky Chamber Golf Tournament Big Sky Resort Golf Course, all day

Quenby & the West of Wayland Band Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 7:30 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9** Bear Safe Demonstration Community Park, 2 p.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10** West Yellowstone Ski Education Foundation 3rd Annual Golf Tournament Big Sky Resort Golf Course, all day

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11** Service Industry Night Lotus Pad, 5:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12** Big Sky Chamber Board Meeting Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 a.m.

Hike and Learn: Walk with a Doc Uplands Trail, 10 a.m.

Top Shelf Toastmasters Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m.

## BOZEMAN

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1** Creating Innovative Global Team Culture Bozeman Public Library, 8:15 a.m.

Jason Boland & The Stragglers Mixers Saloon, 9 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Haynes Pavilion, Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3** Hazel Hue Music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

William Clark Green Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, September 5 Bogert Farmers' Market Bogert Park, 5 p.m.

Tails & Trails Dog Hikes Dee-O-Gee, 6 p.m.

We the People: Roundtable Bozeman Public Library, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 6 Yeti Cycles Demo Rad Bikes, all afternoon

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

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7** Art on the Rocks: Cider & Ceramics Emerson, 6:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8** Museum of the Rockies TwoFly Benefit Various rivers, Sept. 8-9

Art Walk Downtown, 6 p.m.

Twilight Farm Tour Bart Farm, MSU, 6 p.m. IndepenDANCE: Eclipse The Ellen Theatre, 2 and 7 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Last chance to see Crocs: Ancient Predators in a Modern World Museum of the Rockies

Bozeman Marathon Various locations, all day

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

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11** The Last Laugh, The Ellen Theatre, 7 p.m.

BOZEMAN, MT

**May it Last** The Ellen Theatre Sept. 12

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12** Bogert Farmers' Market Bogert Park, 5 p.m.

May it Last: A Portrait of the Avett Brothers The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

#### BOZEMAN, MT

**Ivan Doig Symposium** Montana State University September 13

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 3 p.m.

North Face Speaker Series Yellowstone Conference Center, 7 p.m.

Transom: Radio Storytelling WMPAC, 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3** The Rut Mountain Runs Big Sky Resort, all day

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4** Community Yoga For A Cause Center Stage, 11 a.m.

Monday Funday 320 Guest Ranch, 5 p.m.

Service Industry Night Lotus Pad, 5:30 p.m. Lone Peak Anime Club Luminous A/V, 6 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Non-Profit Leadership Roundtable Series: Board Development & Governance First Security Bank Conference Room, 12 p.m.

Farmers' Market Fire Pit Park, 5 p.m.

> BIG SKY, MT **The Rut** Big Sky Resort Sept. 2

Bonnie Raitt: Dig in Deep Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 7:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Haynes Pavilion, Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.

#### BOZEMAN, MT

**Crocodile Exhibit** Museum of the Rockies Closes Sept. 10 Doig Country: Imagining Montana and the West MSU, Sept. 13-16

Pecha Kucha The Ellen Theatre, 6:40 p.m.

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

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14** Chris Cunningham Music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Pecha Kucha The Ellen Theatre, 6:40 p.m.

# WORTH THE DRIVE

#### LIVINGSTON, MT

## **Baskerville**

Blue Slipper Theatre Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sundays at 3 p.m. through Sept. 10

Comedic genius Ken Ludwig transforms Arthur Conan Doyle's classic "The Hound of the Baskervilles" into a murderously funny adventure. Sherlock Holmes is on the case to find an ingenious killer in this play performance. Tickets are on sale by phone at (406) 222-7720 or online at blueslipper.com.

MISSOULA, MT

# WildFest 2017

Northern Rockies Heritage Center and Fort Missoula Regional Park Sept. 8-9

Hosted by the Montana Wilderness Association, WildFest incorporates the outdoors, great food and drink, and oneof-a-kind music. The first day includes conservation stories and a silent auction, culminating with author Pete Fromm sharing his experiences growing up wild. On Saturday there will be a number of guided hikes and tours, as well as gear demonstrations. Music from Mendelssohn, Holy Smokes & The Godforsaken Rollers and nationally-renowned Kuinka will close

#### ENNIS, MT

### **Ennis on the Madison Fly Fishing Festival** Peter T's Park Sept. 1, all afternoon

The annual Ennis Fly Fishing Festival is back with vendors, music, kid's activities, a raffie, and at 5 p.m. there will be a barbecue dinner and refreshments. The Costa SLAM fly fishing movie will follow dinner. The MC for the event will be well renowned fly fisher-woman Hilary Hutcheson. More information is available at madisonriverfoundation.org/event/flyfishing-festival.

#### VIRGINIA CITY, MT

# **Harvest Dinner**

Elling House Sept. 9, 5 p.m.

The Harvest Dinner is a celebration of locally grown food prepared by a local area chef, and features live music in a casual family-friendly atmosphere with a delicious meal sourced from nearby gardens and pastures. Call (406) 843-5454 for more information or to purchase tickets.

#### GARDINER, MT

**Wild & Scenic Film Festival** Gardiner High School Sept. 14, 6:30 p.m.

For this annual film festival, Bear Creek Council and Northern Plains Resource Council, a family agriculture and conservation group, will present 12 short films that inform, inspire and ignite stewardship of our land, air, water and people. This year's stories include backpacking in Utah's canyon country, the evolution of skiing as a sport in China and regenerative ranching. Advanced tickets are available at northernplains.org/film-festival-tickets.

#### LIVINGSTON, MT

**Festival of the Thread** Shane Lalani Center for the Arts Sept. 1-3

This 4th annual event is an exhibition of original fiber, fabric, thread, yarn, and mixed-media textile works, executed by artists from Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. The festival will include a fashion show, lectures, demonstrations and a live performance of "You Never Can Tell" by Montana Shakespeare in the Parks Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. Visit thefestivalofthethread.com to learn more.

the event. For tickets, visit wildmontana. org/join-us/wild-fest.

#### WEST YELLOWSTONE, MT

### **62nd Annual Knothead Jamboree** Union Pacific Dining Hall Sept. 2-4

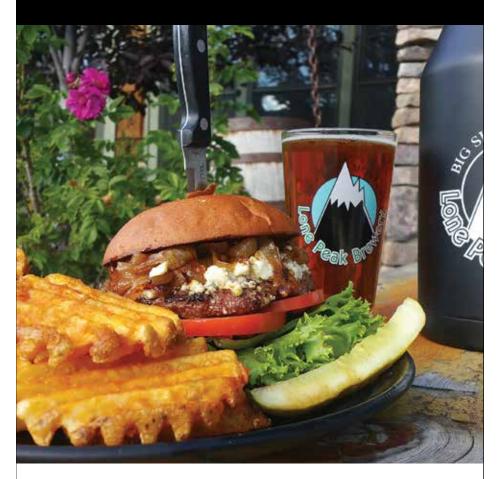
This annual dance festival will feature Adam Christman from Spokane, Washington, calling and Sarah Roderer from Bozeman cueing. Held in the historic Union Pacific Dining Lodge built in 1908, the jamboree is held every Labor Day weekend. Additional information can be found at facebook.com/KnotheadJamboree.



Submit your event! Email upcoming event information to media@outlaw.partners

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#### BY AMY HUNTER ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

September marks the 30th anniversary of Library Card Sign-up Month. What better time to come to the library to sign up for a library card? You only need a photo ID and yourself.

The Big Sky Community Library has adult fiction and nonfiction, biographies and memoirs for all ages, young adult books, chapter books, picture books, nonfiction for kids of all ages, books on tape/ CDs, DVDs and so much more. We also have Overdrive, an electronic library with Kindle books and audiobooks; and Rosetta Stone, software to aid people interested in learning a new language. There is something for everyone at the library and we invite you to come and check it out this month.

According to the American Library Association, there are more public libraries than Starbucks in the U.S.—a total of 17,566 including branches. Nearly100 percent of public libraries provide Wi-Fi and have no-fee access to computers—including the Big Sky Community Library, where we have computers available for patron use.

We encourage you to come to the library and see what we have for you. Come visit the library this month!

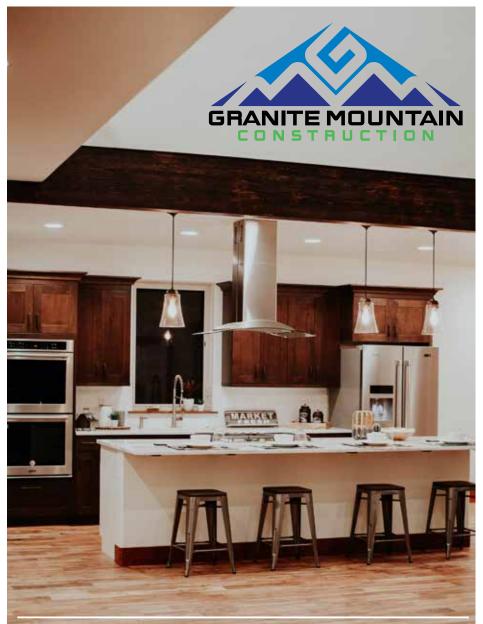
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The American West has produced some of the most thoughtful and moving literature in U.S. history. Read on and enjoy the Cowboy's Quill: insight into the best writers, books and poetry this side of the Mississippi.

# Ivan Doig: Bard of the proletariat

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

Ivan Doig is still gaining the recognition he deserves, including an upcoming symposium at Montana State University devoted entirely to the author. His depictions of hardscrabble lives in post-Depression, post World War II Montana resonate deeply with many who've picked up his books. If you read remembrances of the man, who passed in April 2015, you will find that many writers chose to uproot their lives and move to the Treasure State after reading one of his works. All of them thank Doig for prodding them in what turned out to be the right decision.

In my estimation, Doig ranks among the literary giants. His subtle ability to convey how landscapes shape our hearts and mind rivals Ivan Turgenev's masterful depictions of the Russian countryside and the culture of its inhabitants. Doig's unmatched poetic waxing about northern Montana's mountains, rivers and prairies rightfully earned him the moniker "the dean of Western literature." Who holds that position now is open to debate. Billy Kittredge? Tom McGuane? Rick Bass?

Alongside George Orwell and Charles Dickens, Doig not only understood the plight of the underprivileged and the "common man," but like the two Englishmen, could articulate their mindsets and capture their voices while telling enthralling, rhapsodic stories. And like Thomas Wolfe, he was a maestro of locomotion. Train travel, bus rides and road trips all become vehicles to exploration of America and ourselves in his writing. Reading Doig, I am so often reminded of the rhythmic descriptions of traveling found in the books of one of my favorite writers.

One of the most underestimated American novelists, Wolfe wrote: "The great trains cleave through the gulch and gully, the rumble with spoked thunder...I will go out West where states are square; Oh, I will go to Boise, and Helena and Albuquerque. I will go to Montana and the two Dakotas." And so many of Doig's novels contain adventures spanning this country that give us a better understanding of our own geography, sense of "being home" and the thrill of encountering the unexplored and uncharted.

How does a poor boy who grew up in White Sulphur Springs become a great American novelist? I don't know exactly. But I know it helps to have an inexhaustible imagination and an innate love of language; truth is, you just write better when you inherently want to find the right "turn of phrase." Doig also held a Ph.D. in History and as an accomplished historian, he knew the place he grew up in better than most. Having a boundless curiosity doesn't hurt a writer either.



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### THE VIRGINIAN LODGE & RV PARK



I don't know if storytellers are born or made, but Doig either came into this world as one, or slowly refined his craft. It's easy to recommend works of his fiction—guy didn't miss much. So many of his novels are littered with sparkling prose, but "Dancing at the Rascal Fair" (1987) "The Whistling Season" (2006) and "The Bartender's Tale" (2012) are each great American novels

One of my earlier columns recommends his last work "Last Bus to Wisdom." I'm baffled as to why Hollywood hasn't made this into a movie yet. No-brainer. I'll write the screenplay.

If you haven't ever read anything by Doig, start with "This House of Sky: Landscapes of a Western Mind." It's a memoir of his life growing up in Montana. Just put it on your bookshelf. It belongs there.

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



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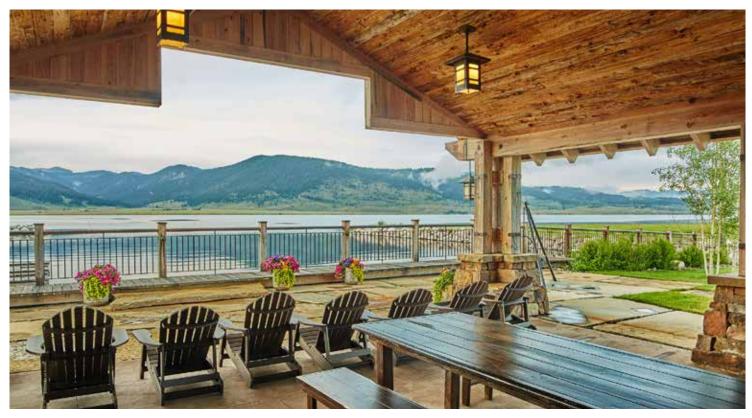
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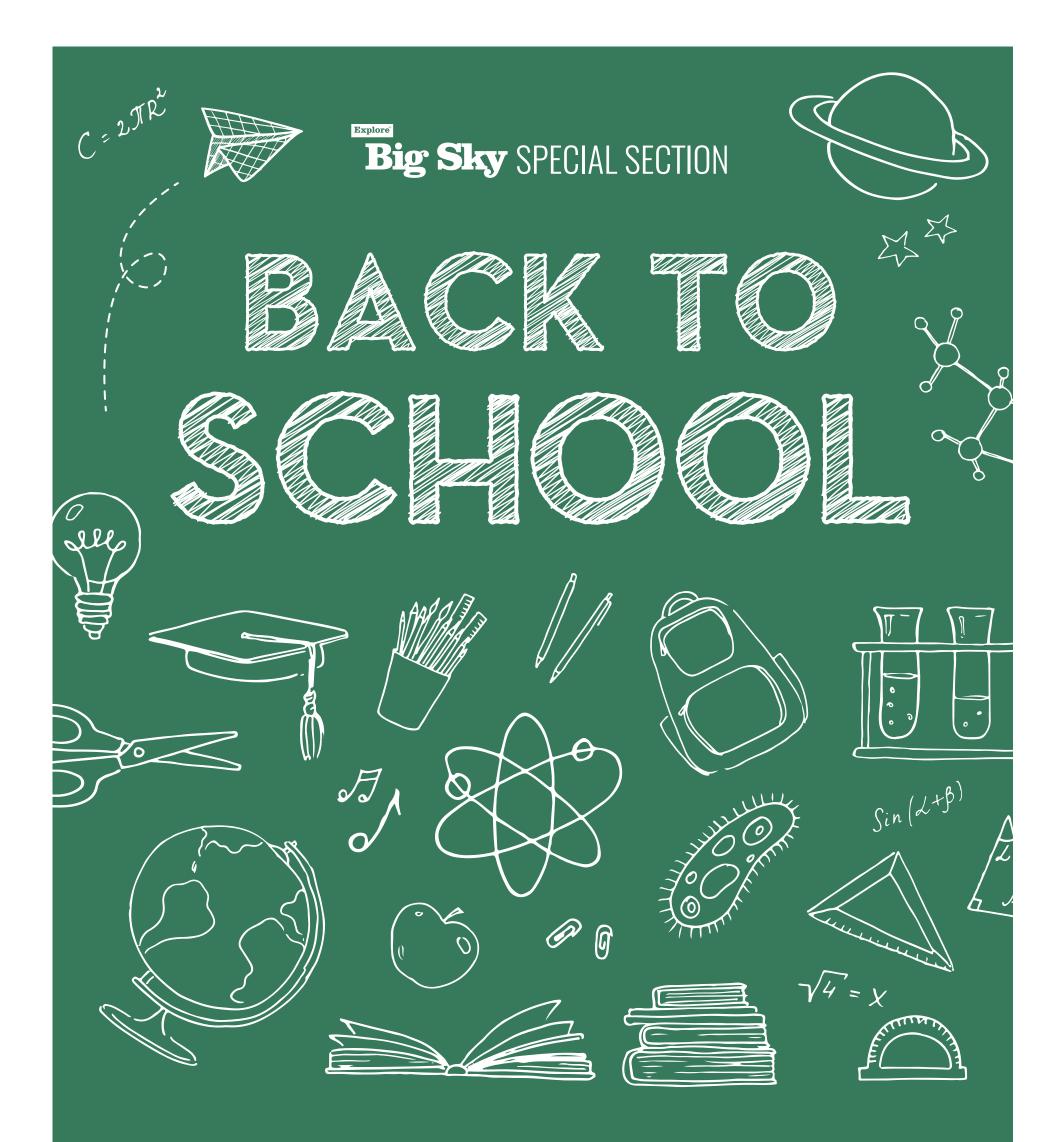
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# Your guide to school, family and the start of fall

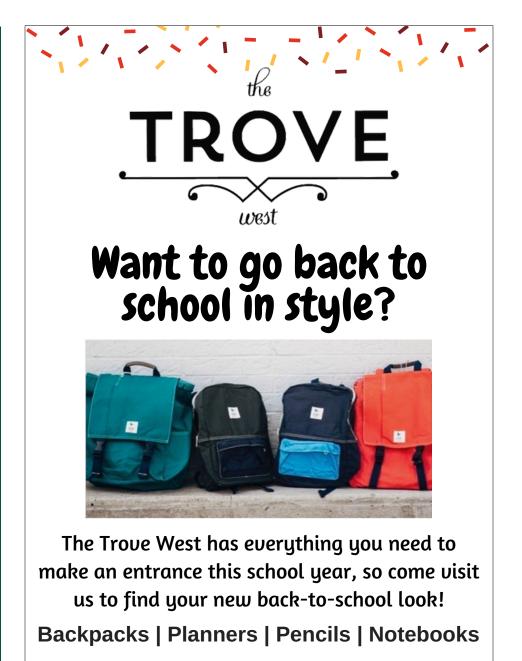
Big Sky School District hires new staff Pg. 68 LPHS student accepted to International climbing academy Pg. 70 First Rotary Youth Exchange in Big Sky Pg. 71



Wishing you the best for the upcoming school year!

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### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

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EBS Special Sections: reserve your space in the Health & Wellness section, on shelves September 15, 2017

Contact Jeff Palmer jeff@outlaw.partners

### LPHS/OMS 2017-2018 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug 11	Home	LPHS First Day of Practice/Equipment	t Check-Out	ТВА
Aug 28	Home	OMS First Day of Practice/Equipment	Check-Out	TBA
Aug 25	Away	@Harlowton	LPHS	7:00 PM
Sept 2	Home	DGS (Denton)	LPHS	1:00 PM
Sept 8	Away	@Broadview/Lavina	OMS/LPHS	4:00/7:00 PM
Sept 13	Away	@West Yellowstone	OMS	4:00 PM
Sept 16	Away	@Gardiner	LPHS	1:00 PM
Sept 22	Home	Tri-Cities <u>Homecoming</u>	OMS/ <mark>LPHS</mark>	4:00/7:00 PM
Sept 26	Home	Boulder	OMS	4:00 PM
Sept 30	Home	Park City	OMS/ <mark>LPHS</mark>	10:00 AM/1:00 PM
Oct 6	Away	@Joliet	OMS/LPHS	4:00/7:00 PM
Oct 13	Away	@Absarokee	OMS/LPHS	4:00/7:00 PM
Oct 19	Home	Ennis <u>LPHS Senior Parent Day</u>	OMS/ <mark>LPHS</mark>	4:00/7:00 PM
Oct 28	TBA	1st Round State Playoffs	LPHS	ТВА
Nov 4	TBA	2nd Round State Playoffs	LPHS	ТВА
Nov 11	TBA	Semi-Finals State Playoffs	LPHS	ТВА
Nov 18	TBA	State Championship Game	LPHS	TBA



# ATHLETICS AT BIG SKY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Schedule as of April 28, 2017

\*Schedule subject to change\*

### LONE PEAK HIGH SCHOOL 2017-2018 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Aug 11 TBA	Home	First day of practice/Tryouts	<u>Junior Varsity = JV</u>
Aug 11 TBA	Home	Parent Information Meeting	<u>Varsity = V</u>
Aug 26	Home	4th Annual Battle in the Big Sky (Varsity o	nly)
V-TBA			
Sept 2	Home	Philipsburg	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 7	Away	@West Yellowstone**	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 9	Home	White Sulphur Springs**	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 14	Home	Park High	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 16	Away	@Gardiner**	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 19	Home	Belgrade	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 21	Home	Manhattan Christian** <u>Homecoming</u>	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 28	Away	@Shields Valley**	JV5:00/V6:30
Sept 30	Away	@Manhattan Christian Tournament (Varsity Only	V - TBA
Oct 3	Home	Harrison/Willow Creek	V5:00
Oct 5	Home	West Yellowstone**	JV5:00/V6:30
Oct 7	Home	Shields Valley** <u>Spike For A Cure</u>	JV5:00/V6:30
Oct 10	Away	@Philipsburg	JV5:00/V6:30
Oct 13	Away	@Manhattan Christian**	JV5:00/V6:30
Oct 14	Home	Gardiner** <u>Senior Night</u>	JV5:00/V6:30
Oct 17	Away	@White Sulphur Springs**	JV5:00/V6:30
Oct 21	Away	@Twin Bridges	JV5:00/V6:30

### **OPHIR MIDDLE SCHOOL 2017-2018 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE**

Aug 28 Aug 28	Home Home	First Day of Practice/Tryouts (3:45) Parent Information Meeting (5:15)	5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Only 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Only
Sept 6	Home	Anderson*	<b>4:00/5:00</b>
Sept 7	Away	@West Yellowstone	3:00/4:00
Sept 9	Away	@Belgrade Tournament	TBD
Sept 12	Home	Petra*	4:00/5:00
Sept 15	Away	@West Yellowstone Tournament	TBD
Sept 19	Away	@Monforton*	4:00/5:00
Sept 23	Away	@Manhattan Christian Tournament (7/8 <sup>th</sup> only)	9:00
Sept 26	Away	@Heritage Christian*	4:00/5:00
Sept 28	Home	Amsterdam* (5/6th only)	4:00/5:00
Oct 2	Home	Home School*	4:00/5:00
Oct 5	Home	West Yellowstone	<b>3:00/4:00</b>
Oct 10	Home	Bear Canyon*	4:00/5:00
Oct 12	Home	Gateway*	4:00/5:00
Oct 13	Away	@Manhattan Christian*	4:00/4:00

#### \*District 11C Volleyball Games\*

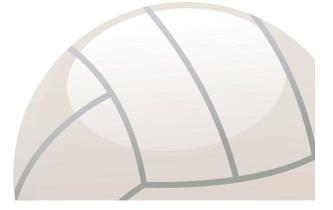
Oct 26-27	Away	District 11C Tournament @Manhattan Christian	TBA
Nov 2-4	Away	Western C Divisional Tournament @Manhattan Christian	TBA
Nov 9-11	Away	State Tournament @MSU Bozeman	TBA

Schedule as of March 30, 2017 \*Schedule subject to change\*

#### \*Rural School Conference Games\*

Oct 18 Away League Championships (7/8<sup>th</sup>) @Manhattan Christian TBD

Schedule as of April 27, 2017 \*Schedule subject to change\*



# School district brings on a full class of new staff members

# BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY - In addition to welcoming a growing class of students, the Big Sky School District greeted 10 new teachers and two new athletics coaches on the first day of school Aug. 28, as Lone Peak High School received its first class of students to be eligible for an International Baccalaureate diploma.

"I am really excited about the teachers we were able to recruit to work for the district this year," said BSSD Superintendent Dustin Shipman. "Being a rural school in Montana, in a very high cost of living area, is not ideal when trying to recruit teachers. I think we have a mission and vision as well as strong programming that helps us immensely to attract very qualified and passionate educators."

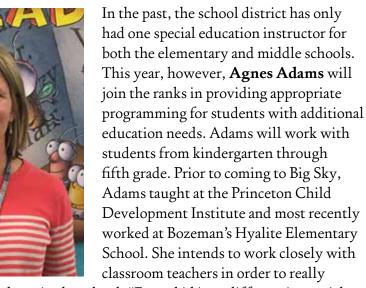
One of two new fifth grade teachers, Allie DeCarlo began her teaching career working as a third grade teacher at Ocean Avenue Elementary School in Portland, Maine, which is an accredited IB school. She also worked on a partnership with the University of Main, identifying and researching best practices for teaching science to elementary-aged students. DeCarlo is excited to bring her experience to Big Sky this year, helping the entire district strive for IB accreditation. "I'm really hoping to bring a lot of enthusiasm to the reading and writing," she said. "I'm

really hoping to keep a love of education there. I hope that at the end of the year, they leave school still wanting to come back."



**Bradi Watkins,** the other fifth grade teacher, graduated last December from MSU and has worked as a paraprofessional and summer school teacher for Monforton School in Four Corners, north of Big Sky. Only just beginning her teaching career, Watkins is looking forward to the school year. "I'm just so excited I get to start here," she said. Passionate about art, Watkins hopes to incorporate art into her classroom "in ways that actually enrich their learning," she said, adding, "I hope to establish some of those grade traditions ... these things that kids look forward to

for each grade." One example, she said, might be a legacy art project for the school, "a tradition that each fifth grade class does and has a permanent place in the school."



## **Ophir Elementary School**



**Savannah Horwood** will teach a class of 22 kindergarteners this year after obtaining a degree in elementary education with an emphasis on early childhood from Montana State University in 2016. In addition to providing a strong learning foundation, Horwood hopes to foster a global awareness in young students. She wants them to start thinking, "I'm a kindergartener in Ophir School in the Big Sky community in beautiful Montana," she said. To achieve this kind

of self- and community-awareness, Horwood plans to bring in speakers from the community. "We are going to be learning all kinds of things, reading, writing. But it's also a very big time to learn how to be a positive, unique individual in the world," Horwood said.



New third grade teacher **Diane Dowd** is also looking to foster community awareness, and feels that the Big Sky community makes that largely possible. "It's one of the beautiful things about this small community ... it's a wonderful opportunity for lots of different age-level relationships," Dowd said. She plans to work closely with Whitney McKenzie, who will be teaching a second class of thirdgraders, in order to "build the bridge of both classrooms, to learn together,

to work together." Dowd obtained her master's degree in reading from the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut, and has taught second grade, as well as elementary-level language arts. She also lived in Bermuda for a time, teaching language arts to high school students.



Whitney McKenzie will be teaching the second class of third-graders this year. After graduating from MSU in 2009, McKenzie began teaching preschool at Morningstar Learning Center and during her six years there, she also took on the role of program coordination director. This year she anticipates seeing some students she originally taught as preschoolers several years ago, and said, "I'm really excited to see how far they've come." McKenzie plans to account for a variety of learning

styles, integrating hands-on learning as well as outdoor education. "It really makes me feel good when you see a student have the 'aha!' moment. ... It makes me want to be a better teacher," she said.

get to know students in the school. "Every kid is so different in special education," Adams said. "You have to get to know each kid."

### **Ophir Middle School and Lone Peak High School**



Joe Vincent, originally from Lynchburg, Virginia, will teach sixth grade English and science, as well as seventh grade history. Vincent received his degree in elementary education from Lynchburg College in 2016 and looks forward to beginning his teaching career in Big Sky. "I hope to bring a positive influence for the sixth and seventh grade students," he said. When asked why he became a teacher, Vincent said, "It's an important job. I think we need a lot more good teachers here in the U.S.

### **BACK TO SCHOOL**



Beth Billington will also be teaching Big Sky's middle schoolers, as well as coaching high school varsity volleyball as assistant coach. As the new Spanish teacher, Billington feels language acquisition is a critical part of IB programming. "It creates a sense of knowledge of other human beings, other places beyond where we are right now," she said. Billington says she was always interested in Spanish and studied abroad in Lima, Peru, while in college. After graduating, Billington worked in Argentina for a time and

then began leading trips for high school students throughout Central and South America, as well as Southern Africa, through Broadreach Global Educational Adventures and The Traveling School.



Another teacher and coach, Austin Barth, will work with seventh and eighth grade students, teaching science and history. "I'm excited to have my own classroom ... and to build those relationships [with students] you have the whole year," he said, having just graduated from MSU in elementary education in May. "Being a first year teacher, there's a lot of energy I'm going to have. I want students to come in and be excited to go to social studies class. With science, there are so many opportunities to take the kids [outside]

Canada native Gary Varden has come to Big Sky to teach middle school and high school technology classes this year, having received a master's in computer information systems from the University of Denver. Varden has worked as a youth activities coordinator for the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines,

tour manager for Seaborne Aviation in Skagway, Alaska, and taught fifth grade for 15 years at the Colorado Academy

in Denver. Now, Varden looks forward to engaging students with technology. "We're going to make it fun. The

and show them, 'here it is, this is science.'" Barth, who played football for MSU, will also be coaching high school football.



students are going

to actually be working with the technology," Varden said, adding that topics will likely include coding, robotics and video.

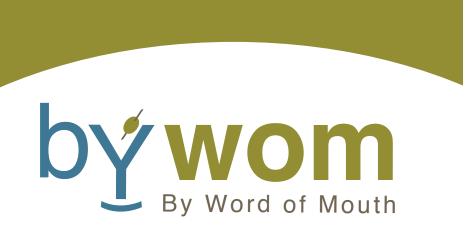
said. "Smart, athletic, fast football players. We're looking to capitalize on that and rally around Holden ... he's really disappointed at his injury and we want to have a great season for him."



Almost a year ago exactly, new volleyball head coach Missy Botha and her family moved from the North Shore of Oahu in Hawaii to become full-time residents of Big Sky. Botha, who played Division III volleyball at Tufts University and has experience coaching both tennis and baseball, said she's excited to take the helm of the Lone Peak volleyball team. "They were an easy team to take over because they had a long history and Sarah [Phelps] was a great coach that prepared them well," she said. Lone Peak finished out

last year's season with a 17-7 record and a third place finish at Western C Divisional tournament. This year's team boasts 24 players between the varsity and junior varsity squads—the program's largest showing to date.

"Collectively and individually these new hires bring a passion for the craft and profession of teaching, which fits in perfectly with our current staff and the mission and vision of the district," Shipman said. "Our goals are really quite simple and straightforward: to be the best school district in the state of Montana, by any measure. All teachers in the district help achieve these goals because they are on the ground day in and day out with our students. They all bring a commitment to excellence and perseverance to ensure learning is the number one priority."



Bywom Welcomes Back Students for the

#### Athletics



Adam Farr will serve as the LPHS head football coach this year. Farr has lived in Big Sky for 10 years and has served as the district's head middle school football coach and assistant high school coach for the past three years. Originally from Spokane, Washington, where he played football at the high school and college level, Farr brings his experience as an outside linebacker and tight end to his leadership position, as well as an ability to relate to high school students. With seven seniors on a team of 13, Farr is optimistic about

the upcoming season, despite losing starting quarterback senior Holden Samuels to an ACL injury. "We have a bunch of senior leadership," Farr

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# Lone Peak student gets accepted to international climbing academy

# BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY - Charlie Lerch, a 16-year-old would-be sophomore at Lone Peak High School, will spend the 2017-2018 school year as a student of The Climbing Academy, a traveling rock climbing academy and accredited school that combines academics, athletics, travel and cultural immersion. He leaves for the program Sept. 2.

Not a traditional brick-and-mortar school, The Climbing Academy will take this year's 12 students to Barcelona, Spain; Las Vegas, Nevada; Bishop, California; and Kentucky's Red River Gorge region before concluding the school year in Greece.

Lerch is excited to see the world while pursuing his passion for rock climbing.

"I've never really been [anywhere] other than Big Sky," Lerch said. "Greece and Spain are crazy international climbing destinations that a lot of people don't get to [experience] and I get a chance to do it when I'm 16."

Lerch has Tourette syndrome, a nervous system disorder involving repetitive movements or unwanted sounds. For Lerch it first manifested as involuntary tics, then progressed from physical to verbal symptoms. Anxiety exacerbated the situation and being a student at a traditional school was not easy for him.

When he was 6, Charlie's mother Ann and her climbing guide friend took Lerch to the Gallatin Tower in Gallatin Canyon. It was a three-pitch climb that was difficult for him at the time, but it sparked a love for climbing that remains with him today. Soon after that first climb, Lerch joined a climbing camp at Spire Climbing Center in Bozeman.

"The kids didn't notice my tics and I fit in," Lerch said.

When he went back to school that year, Lerch once again struggled with his tics and the social isolation he felt as a result of them. At the end of that year his parents signed him up for the Bozeman Climbing Team, which he has been a part of ever since.



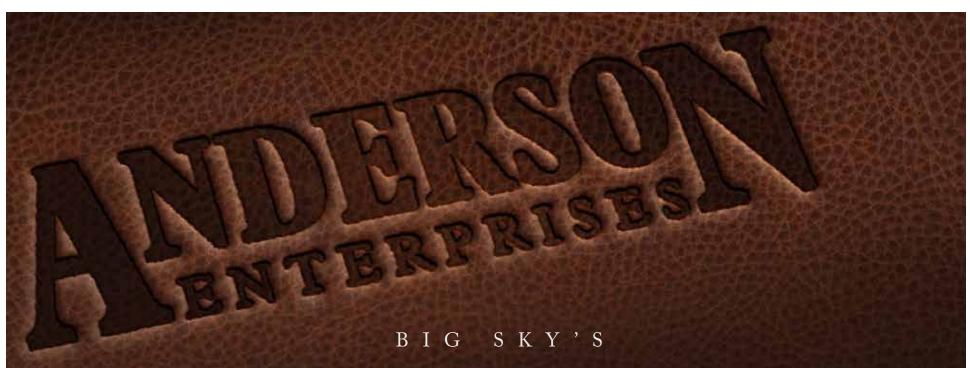
16-year-old Charlie Lerch will spend his sophomore year as a student of The Climbing Academy, an international school that combines academics, travel and rock climbing-focused athletics. PHOTO BY ANN LERCH

Lerch found that climbing eased his challenges with Tourette syndrome.

"A part of it was I couldn't get out most of the energy I had," Lerch said. "It was kind of hard to stay sitting, and it was a big deal that I could do something where I was moving all the time. With climbing I could just do that and nobody would care."

By the time Lerch entered sixth grade his tics slowly started to recede. He no longer has to take medication to manage his symptoms.

"When you're up on the wall you just have the clearest thinking and everything you do is up to you," Lerch said. "You don't have to worry about what anyone else is doing; it's all in your power. It's like any sport you love—it's the best feeling you ever have."



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# **MSU professor: Start teaching financial literacy to youth early**

BY JENNY LAVEY FOR MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – A Montana State University economist recently presented research findings to federal policymakers that showed how high school students who were required to take financial education courses had better credit scores as young adults than their peers who were not required to take the courses.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury invited Carly Urban to present the study at the Financial Literacy and Education Commission committee's May meeting, where the focus was on the financial literacy of the nation's youth and implications of required financial education in high school.

"The growing complexity of financial decisions facing young Americans has policymakers emphasizing financial education at all stages of life," said Urban, assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics in MSU's College of Agriculture and College of Letters and Science.

At the meeting, Urban presented results from a recent study that examined financial education around the country and found that state-required financial education at the high school level directly impacts the financial behavior of young adults. The study is titled "State Financial Mandates: It's all in the Implementation."

For the study, Urban and colleagues from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Federal Reserve Board reviewed three states that require a financial education curriculum at the high school level: Georgia, Idaho and Texas. The study looked at credit report data before and after 2007, when each state required



MSU professor Carly Urban presented research to federal policymakers who met to discuss recent studies gauging the financial literacy of the nation's youth and implications of required financial education in high school. PHOTO BY KELLY GORHAM

students to complete a rigorous personal finance curriculum prior to high school graduation, according to Urban.

The authors compared credit scores of youth ages 18 to 21 graduating before and after the 2007 requirement in Georgia, Idaho and Texas, and further compared similarly aged youth in each of these states to a demographically similar bordering state without financial education. The study revealed that students in those three states had better credit scores and were less likely to be delinquent on their loans after the program took effect.

"Ultimately, we were able to demonstrate that a rigorous, statemandated curriculum has a direct effect on the financial wellbeing of young adults," Urban said. "In fact, we found the more rigorous the curriculum, the better the credit scores and overall financial behavior — and hopefully, a lasting effect on their overall financial well-being."

"Rigorous" curriculum, Urban added, refers to well-trained teachers, the creation of sample curricula and the development of specific standards and testing.

Urban said the study also found value when the financial curriculum was tied to real-life examples, such as managing

a bank account ledger, applying for financial aid and studying career choices. Mandating financial education in high school could have major implications as policymakers focus on better educating younger generations on financial behavior, especially as more post-secondary students struggle to afford higher education.

"We found that if a program is rigorous, if it's carefully implemented and applicable to the student's future, there are positive outcomes for students who have a sound understanding of financial knowledge as they look to college or the workforce," Urban said.

# LPHS hosts first Rotary Youth Exchange student in Big Sky

# BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – When classes started Aug. 28, Lone Peak High School was absent one Big Sky student, and plus one international student.

Big Sky's Chambers Moline is spending the school year in Austria, and a 16-year-old Austrian named Matthias Buchner is settling in for the year as part of a program called Youth Exchange that Rotary Club of Big Sky is participating in for the first time.

"It's a neat program. Life changing," said Daryl Hansen, the Youth Exchange officer for Montana. "All of the kids come back with tremendous stories." Hansen said he has contacts through Rotary in 80 countries, but he works most frequently with six countries for both outbound and inbound students: Austria, Brazil, Ecuador, France, Italy and Taiwan. He's gotten so familiar with the cycles students go through while overseas that he's able to predict when they'll start dreaming in their new language: usually in the first half of December.

Kyle Pomerenke, the president of the Rotary Club of Big Sky, said the cross-cultural aspect of the program appealed to Big Sky Rotarians. "Daryl Hansen has been involved in this for years and years and he pitched this idea to our club and we readily accepted it," he said.

The hosting Rotary Club covers school tuition and orientation and provides a monthly allowance, approximately \$100 per month, to the inbound student. The local club also helps locate families willing to host inbound students. The school year is split between three families, with each hosting the exchange student for about three and a half months. "Host families are critical for this," Pomerenke said.

Hansen said his granddaughter, Talia, participated in an exchange in Brazil when she was 16 and has stayed in contact with friends she made there since. "She talks to these kids all over the world every day," he said. Talia now speaks fluent Portuguese and Spanish and is considering switching her career path from medicine to international relations or law.

"We intentionally don't send kids to English-speaking countries because we think part of the experience is learning another language," Hansen said, adding that one Montana student he worked with a few years ago got a job in a Chinese restaurant in preparation for her year in Taiwan.

Hansen said Moline found a German-speaker in Big Sky to help introduce her to the language. "The last report I got from her a couple of days ago, she's having a fabulous time and she's been there about three weeks," Hansen said.

This year, Hansen helped coordinate the exchanges of eight "outbounds"—Montana students headed overseas—and nine "inbounds," or students entering the state from other countries. "I know the young man that's there [in Big Sky] is going to open some eyes because he's a great young kid," Hansen said of Buchner. "I'm sure [the Youth Exchange Program] will be continuing on there for years."

The Rotary Club of Big Sky is accepting applications for local students interested in studying abroad for the 2018-19 school year. Applications are due Sept. 15. For more information call Elana Wexell, the local Youth Exchange coordinator, at (406) 209-0113.

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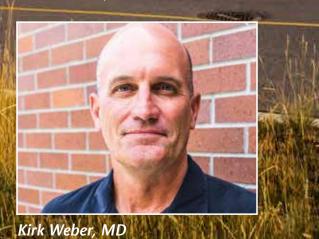




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# Mountain biking for the future

## BY JANA BOUNDS EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY– A group of area parents and cycling enthusiasts have decided to kick youth cycling up a notch by making Big Sky home to the first National Interscholastic Cycling Association group in the state. Bozeman soon followed as the second.

Matt Jennings, Chris Wilson, John Flach, Scott Jacobson and Alex Ide took initiative with an idea that began roughly five years ago, forming Lone Peak Composite.

"It's about improving mountain biking skills, but there's a race element to it as well," said Flach, who is attaining his NICA coach certification.

According to the nonprofit's website, "NICA provides leadership, services and governance for regional leagues to produce quality mountain bike events, and supports every student-athlete in the development of strong body, strong mind and strong character through interscholastic cycling."

Jennings, who is head coach and team director for the group, said everyone involved is enthusiastic about it. All organizers have or are attaining their NICA coaching certification.

"We just all love cycling and want to pass it on to kids and get them on bikes," Jennings said, adding that the initial response has been positive.

"I have about 15 kids who have expressed interest. I have seven who are registered and practice-ready and two kids who are ready to do their first race in Targhee on September 9," he said, referring to the Grand Charge race at Grand Targhee Bike Park in Alta, Wyoming.

The group practices Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 p.m. and Jennings said the student-athletes have already fine-tuned their mountain biking skills just from practicing a few weeks. Kids aged 11 to 18 are able to participate. Involvement in this national organization can result in academic scholarships for participating students.

There are thousands of NICA students and coaches from coast to coast. Big Sky's group is currently functioning under the umbrella of the Idaho League, but a handful of enthusiasts from across the state—including Jennings—have begun the two- to

three-year process of creating a Montana league, which Jennings said is no easy feat. Eighteen states currently have leagues according to NICA's website.

"We're going to have to have routes, races, fundraising and show how we're going to sustain it financially as well," Jennings said, adding that the group aims to host its first race in a couple of years with an eventual goal of putting on four to six races across the state annually.

Jennings reiterated that it's all about youth development. "It's competitive, but it's not end-of-the-world competitive," he said.

Organizers agree that it's important to provide this alternative option for students who do not want to participate in traditional sports. "They can join a team and have the benefits of team camaraderie growing-up from middle school to high school," Jennings said.

The Women's Sports Foundation ranks Montana as one of the top five states in the U.S. for athletic opportunities for kids. These opportunities are becoming increasingly important as the Center for Disease Control predicts that 42 percent of all American adults will be obese by 2030.

Flach, who is 53 years old and recently raced competitively at Targhee, said cycling is a great lifetime hobby. "My kids met a girl at Hummocks Trailhead who said she is a NICA racer and she is going to ride her bike the rest of her life," he said.

Wilson said his two daughters have grown up riding bikes with him and are excited about getting involved in the sport with their peers as well as learning from others. A recent practice included an appearance by Kaysee Armstrong, a pro cyclist sponsored by Liv, the first cycling brand completely dedicated to women.

Wilson recently went through the NICA coaching certification, which he said is very skills-based. The group mixed classroom instruction with a field day where the coaches-in-training worked on drills to build foundational skills.

The coaches then taught those drills to the student athletes the first few practices.

"I think they really enjoyed it," Wilson said.

Contact Matt Jennings at (406) 209-5328 for more information.

# **Big Sky Discovery Academy expands** New space, new programs, new approaches

#### **BIG SKY DISCOVERY ACADEMY**

The Big Sky Discovery Academy is expanding its programs and its space for the 2017-2018 school year. The 4-year-old independent school has leased the downstairs space previously occupied by High Country Goods in order to provide a separate location with its own entrance for the Academy's Community Learning Center and high school offerings.

"We began using the space this summer to offer high school geometry and algebra courses to ten high school students who are mostly local, but at least one who will attend high school elsewhere," said the school's executive director, Nettie Breuner. "The new space is really perfect for our school and Community Learning Center needs: conveniently located, large and light-filled." added benefit, they are earning good grades. The combination of a self-paced course with the support of the live instructor sets students up for earned success."

Small group classes in specific subjects, using a pace-it-yourself approach, are particularly helpful for student athletes, ski racers and part-time residents who need a school schedule that works around their needs, but for all students the approach creates a sense of personal goal-setting and ownership over one's learning. "Some of these courses can fit an entire semester into six weeks," Sheil said. "They are self-paced, meaning they allow for weeks off in the middle—you can take a year to complete a course if needed as well."

According to Sheil, having a teacher to act as both content specialist and student

The academy is using a "mastery" approach utilized by a growing number of schools around the nation, according to Breuner, who just visited the Khan Academy Lab School in Mountain View, California.

"Students access many online resources. Content specialists teach small lessons and check in with individual students to monitor their progress and take questions," Breuner said. "Students move forward in the subject according to their mastery—taking as long as is needed to really get a geometry concept for instance, or if they understand it right away, moving ahead. Progressing is authentically tied to each student's mastery and understanding."

Big Sky Discovery Academy applied a similar approach this summer, using a Lone Peak High School-approved online education provider's curriculum for the class content while a live teacher took questions, facilitated conversation and taught more difficult concepts.

"Some of our students are finding success in math like they've never had before," said Community Learning Center Director Nancy Sheil. "Students are self-motivated and excited to come to class. They feel like they are truly learning the concepts, and as an advisor, thus keeping the students on track, is essential for most students to excel in online coursework. "This flexibility can be a problem if someone isn't making sure students are meeting their goals."

In addition to small group classes for high school, the new space will be used for private teaching, tutoring, ACT and SAT prep, youth and adult English as a Second Language courses, and college prep, as well as a cadre of community-accessible programs for youth and adults, many of which have been supported by individual donors and local foundations.

The academy recently concluded its first session of college application boot camp with seven LPHS seniors, all of whom made major progress completing most of their college application process. Four more are now enrolled, meaning nearly half of the LPHS senior class will be virtually done with college applications when school begins.

"Big Sky Discovery Academy exists to support and fill in the gaps in educational and enrichment programming in the Big Sky community," said Board President and school founder Karen Maybee. "We are so happy we have more space to help fulfill the needs of our community in addition to our existing early childhood, elementary and middle school programming."

# CLASSIFIEDS

### LEGAL

Public Release Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Big Sky School District #72 announces the 2017-18 policy for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals for students whose schools participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture [National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program]. The complete policy is on file in the central office and may be reviewed by any interested party.

Households who receive assistance from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FD-PIR); or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are eligible for free meals and no application is required. Children who meet the definition of homeless, migrant, runaway, and foster are also eligible for free meals. The school district will send a notice to your household about free meal benefits. If you do not receive a notice of eligibility or there are children living in your household who are not listed, please contact the school district. If you are eligible for unemployment compensation, you might also be eligible for free or reduced price school meals.

Children from households whose income is within the limits of the chart below may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. To apply, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Program officials may verify information submitted on the application. Households will be notified of eligibility determination. Households who choose to decline free meal benefits should contact the school district.

		Fr	ee Meals – 13	0%		Reduced-Price Meals – 185%				
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice a Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice a Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	15,678	1,307	654	603	302	22,311	1,860	930	859	430
2	21,112	1,760	880	812	406	30,044	2,504	1,252	1,156	578
3	26,546	2,213	1,107	1,021	511	37,777	3,149	1,575	1,453	727
4	31,980	2,665	1,333	1,230	615	45,510	3,793	1,897	1,751	876
5	37,414	3,118	1,559	1,439	720	53,243	4,437	2,219	2,048	1,024
6	42,848	3,571	1,786	1,648	824	60,976	5,082	2,541	2,346	1,173
7	48,282	4,024	2,012	1,857	929	68,709	5,726	2,863	2,643	1,322
8	53,716	4,477	2,239	2,066	1,033	76,442	6,371	3,186	2,941	1,471
For each additional family member, add	5,434	453	227	209	105	7,733	645	323	298	149

Households dissatisfied with the ruling of the officials have the right to a fair hearing. This may be done by calling or writing:

**Dustin Shipman** 

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(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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### **YOUTH PROGRAMS**

#### **Homework Help**

After school homework help in a small group setting. Mondays & Wednesdays 4:00-6:00 pm Throughout the school year

#### PIR Day STEM Mini-Camps

Fun, engaging, and educational STEM programming for Kindergarten - 5th grade students. PIR days throughout the school year, 9:00 - 4:00

#### Youth English Language Classes

FREE English Language classes for youth of all ages. Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 pm

### HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE PREP PROGAMS

High School Math Support Groups

After school math support for high school students in a small group setting. Monday or Wednesday 4:00-6:00 pm Throughout the school year

#### ACT Test Prep Workshop

Comprehensive ACT test prep, including content review, section-specific strategies, and targeted practice. Dates and times, TBD this October

#### PSAT/SAT Test Prep Workshop

PSAT and SAT specific test prep, including content review, section-specific strategies, and targeted practice. Dates and times, TBD this October

## ADULT PROGRAMS

#### Adult English Language Classes FREE English Language classes for adults of all ability levels.



Tuesdays 7:00-10:00 pm

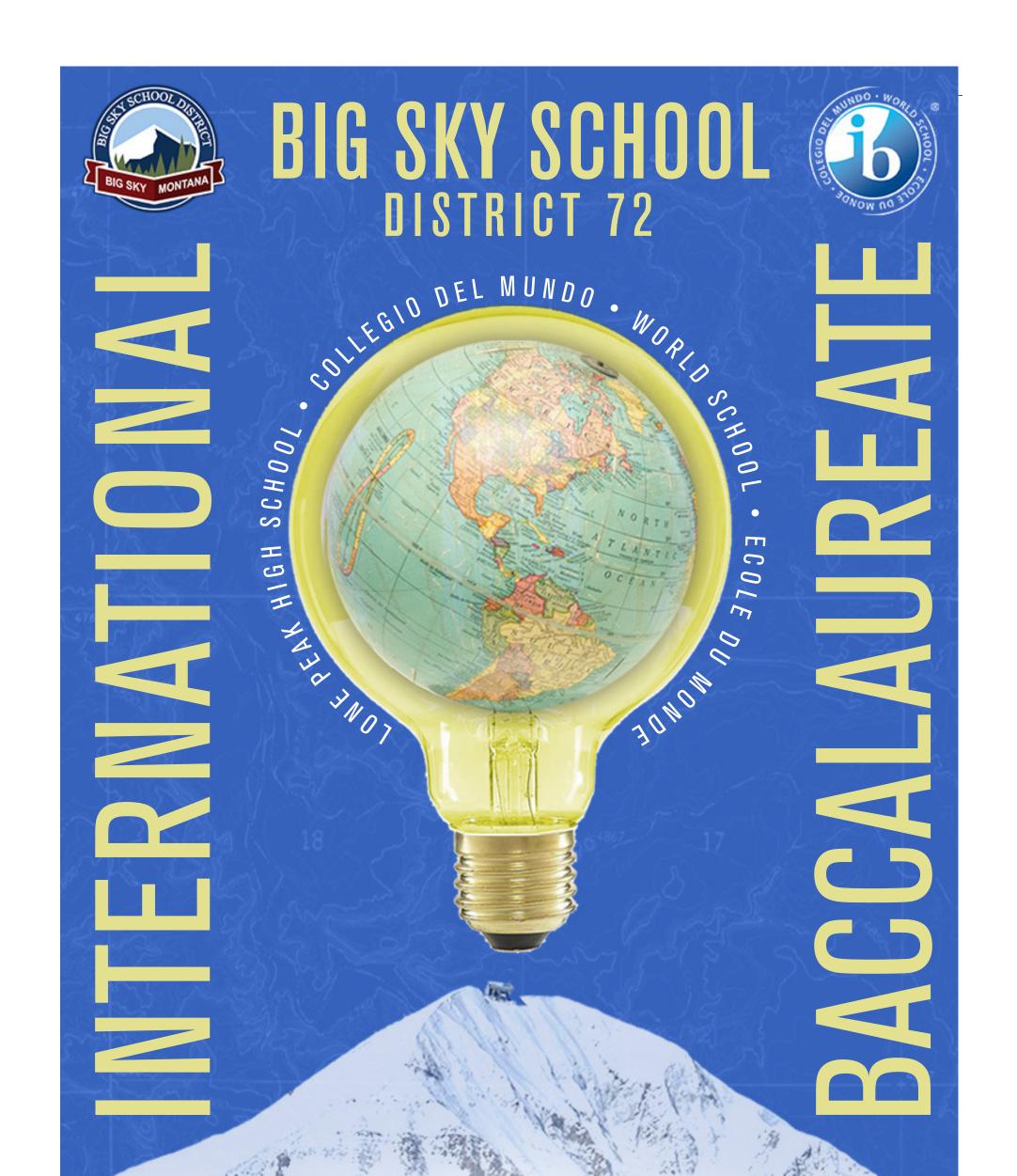
### FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

#### **STEM Saturdays**

All ages of children and adults are welcome to join us Saturday mornings for engaging activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Saturdays, 10:00-12:00 October 7th - November 18th

Advanced registration is required for all programs, and many programs fill quickly. For more information, email nancy@bigskydiscoveryacademy.org

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As an IB world school, Lone Peak High School is part of a global community of schools committed to developing knowledgeable, caring young people who will be ready to negotiate their futures successfully and make contributions resulting in a more harmonious and peaceful world. The positive results of the districts decision making and commitment to high expectations will become evident in our community as classes of DP students graduate and undertake activities that enhance social, cultural and economic environments locally, nationally and, perhaps, internationally. The community of Big Sky is engaged in a grass roots effort to become the best school in the state of Montana and Northwest and certainly, the commitment to the IB program is a large step in fulfilling that goal. Through generous support of the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation and the Friends of Big Sky Education, Lone Peak and Big Sky School District 72 have been able to mobilize quite quickly around this implementation and put our students in a position to compete with the best students in the world.

# FOR MORE INFO VISIT WWW.BSSD72.ORG