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Big Sky avalanche felt around the world

Opioid epidemic hits Gallatin County hard

Horrorfest promises fun and fear

Forrest Fenn treasure lures seekers to southwest Montana

Back 40: Your guide to area hot springs



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ON THE COVER: Morning fog near Tower Fall, a waterfall on Tower Creek in the northeastern region of Yellowstone National Park.

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The rut, or elk mating season, has reached its peak this fall. In attempt to attract the attention of their mate and assert dominance over other males, a bull elk will emit a series of characteristic sounds known as bugling. NPS PHOTO

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



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BSOA elects 6 to board and architectural committee

EBS STAFF

The Big Sky Owners Association, the community's largest and oldest HOA, filled four seats on its board of directors and two on its architectural committee in an election that closed Sept. 1. Election results were released to EBS on Sept. 27.

Of the 2,287 members eligible to vote, a total of 742 ballots were cast. Michelle Frederick, owner services manager for Big Sky Resort, received an overwhelming majority of votes and is a newcomer to the BSOA board of directors. Existing board members Eric Ossorio and Gail Young were each reelected for another term. Maggie Good, who was serving as an interim appointee, was officially elected to the board, and all four will serve through September 2020.

Kate Scott, who previously held the architectural review coordinator position for BSOA, was elected to the architectural committee, which oversees compliance with design regulations and subdivision covenants. Gary Walton was first elected to the Big Sky Architectural Committee in September 2014, and his tenure was extended through September 2020.

A proposed amendment to BSOA bylaws to instate a term limit of three years for the board of directors also passed with three-quarters of the vote.

Big Sky Resort moves up in Ski magazine rankings

EBS STAFF

On Sept. 22, Big Sky Resort was named the 13th best ski resort in the West by Ski magazine readers.

Big Sky moved up two places in the ranking—over Crested Butte and Breckenridge in Colorado—from last year, when the resort broke into the top 15.

Ski magazine's 30th annual Reader Resort Survey asked readers and social media followers to rank resorts they had visited over the past two years from one to 10 in 10 different categories. More than 11,000 readers rated everything from grooming and challenge, to snow and kid-friendliness. Lifts, lodging, dining and character were also considered. Big Sky Resort scored highest for variety and challenge of the terrain.

"Big Sky has been inching up in the rankings over the past several years," said Ski magazine Senior Editor Samantha Berman. "We're seeing in the reader comments that skiers are craving more off-the-beaten-path adventures with fewer crowds and more untouched powder, and Big Sky serves that up in spades."

The results are published in the October 2017 issue of Ski magazine and can be found online at skimag.com.

"We're honored that Ski magazine readers recognize the terrific world-class skiing that Big Sky Resort has to offer," said Chelsi Moy, Big Sky Resort public relations manager. "Lone Mountain offers a one-of-a-kind ski experience."

Big Sky Resort is slated to open for the winter 2017-2018 season on Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Day.

Bruin bandit on the loose in Big Sky

EBS STAFF

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks personnel are still trying to track down a black bear that's believed to be responsible for six vehicle break-ins in recent weeks.

FWP Grizzly Bear Management Specialist Kevin Frey said the agency recently captured a 2-year-old black bear, but its small size doesn't match the description of the bruin that's believed to be responsible for the rash of vehicle break-ins.

He said the sub-adult that was captured has been tagged and relocated.

Gallatin County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Brandon Kelly said it's likely that the bear involved in the breakins is still on the loose. The bear is lucky that it wasn't injured by the airbags going off in one of the vehicles that it destroyed, Kelly said.

Kelly said black bears are notorious for causing trouble in this area, especially this time of year. "They're little criminals ... when they get into something—a house, a cabin, a car—they destroy it," he said.

"He's either going to get caught or he's going to find his hibernation den and go to bed," Kelly said. "Right before they go out for their winter siesta, they start causing more problem because they run out of food in the woods."

Residents are advised to remove food from their vehicles to minimize break-ins and prevents the animals from becoming conditioned to human food, which could result in their death. Two black bears involved in incidents earlier this summer were euthanized by FWP.

James Dean announces campaign to unseat Sen. Tester

EBS STAFF

James Dean, of Havre, Montana, announced Oct. 6 his candidacy for U.S. Senate against incumbent Sen. Jon Tester in 2018. Dean is running as a Republican, but says his platform is designed to appeal to both parties.

"I am running because I am deeply concerned that 70 percent of Americans have less than \$1000 in savings," Dean said in a press release. "If we don't fix this system now before the next crisis, the middle class will have a tough time putting food on the table. Montana needs a new system now. ... I know how to reform our institutions and leverage them to solve everyday problems."

Montana is a deeply divided state, he said, and voters here are losing confidence in the political system.

"The country's debts have grown so large so fast that the old ideas won't work," Dean said. "We need a completely new strategy. Montanans know real change requires both parties working together."

Bozeman Health announces new clinic in west Bozeman

BOZEMAN HEALTHCLINIC

Bozeman Health announced Oct. 5 it has recently acquired three commercial land parcels totaling nearly 5 acres for a new neighborhood outpatient care center. The location is on the southwest corner of Huffine Lane and South Cottonwood Road.

"Our goal is to bring high value, convenient health services closer to the communities we serve," said Bozeman Health President and CEO John Hill.

The new Bozeman Health west campus development will include a partnership with United Surgical Partners International and local physicians. The new facility will include a 40,000- to 60,000-square-foot walk-in style care center that will house an outpatient surgery center, community physician offices, pediatric clinics, urgent care and convenience care.

The new outpatient surgery center will replace the Bozeman Health Same Day Surgery Center now located downtown on Willson Avenue.

Construction of the west Bozeman development is slated to begin in spring 2018 and be open in 12 to 16 months. Bozeman Health and the development partnerships will be committing an estimated \$20 million investment in this site.



As events like the Las Vegas shooting happen more frequently, has your sense of safety in public spaces changed? **Are there any changes you've made to your lifestyle to reflect that?** If so, what are they?



Carolyn Bentley Tempe, Arizona

"My sense of safety hasn't changed. I haven't followed the news closely on it so it might not affect me the same as other people. But I think that those incidents are always possible. It's sad that it happened but it's not something that I'm changing my life on."



Curtis Swanson
Bozeman, Montana

"You can't live through your life being fearful that somebody is going to shoot you from 15 stories up. If anything, put your thoughts out there and have those thoughts change those people's mindsets that are fearful."



Rob Culliton
New York, New York

"No, there actually haven't been many changes to my lifestyle. Growing up I remember when I was in middle school when 9/11 happened. From a very early age, it felt like it was ingrained that you can't let it throw off your lifestyle and what you want to do."



Kristen Cooper
Big Sky, Montana

"I'm not sure if my sense of safety in public places has changed but the sense of urgency to destigmatize mental illness has for sure. There's no need to have assault weapons, especially as a civilian, and it makes me nervous when anyone can get ahold of them, let alone people with mental illnesses. But that's not the problem. The problem is we're not recognizing and treating people with mental illness."

Letter: Support the fire department mill levy

I'm writing in support of the mill levy soon scheduled for a vote by mail.

I admit, I have a bias in favor of the Big Sky Fire Department. I joined as a volunteer and emergency medical technician in 2004. I spent the next five years on that job and came to respect the dedication and professionalism of the women and men in the BSFD.

I remember thinking that with the wonderful addition of our new hospital, ambulance runs to Bozeman would go down. If it did, it was not by much.

The current 15 minute-plus response time seems like a short time. It is not. One of the things we learned at the Fire Fighting Academy was that the manufactured trusses begin to fail. Those are the trusses we see in most houses under construction in Big Sky.

More than that, we need more good professionals. The Mountain Station needs to be manned.

The additional mills will help. Please vote in favor of the mill levy.

Les Loble
Big Sky, Montana



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in the Big Horn Shopping Center

Obituary: Mary Louise Cook



Mary Louise Cook, of Big Sky and Portland, Oregon, passed away peacefully in her Portland home on Oct. 5, surrounded by family and friends. Born Feb. 25, 1934, to William and Louise (Danese) McElwain, in New Haven, Conn., Mary Lou grew up on Long Island and attended Dominican High School in New York City.

Asserting her independent spirit, she moved to San Francisco in 1960. Knowing no one, she found a room in the local women's boarding house that she shared with a woman from Butte, Montana. It

was here that she met Bruce Cook, a Butte native serving in the U.S. Army and stationed in San Francisco. After a brief courtship, they married and set out on a lifetime of travel and adventure, taking their growing family overseas to Greece and England for 16 years. In many ways, Mary Lou was the success of Bruce's business social life, ever the hostess with a big warm smile and sparkling eyes.

It was Bruce's connection to Montana that brought the family to Big Sky in the summer of 1973. From their Silverbow condo, the family spent summers enjoying all that Big Sky has to offer: riding, hiking, floating the local rivers and creating some local lore of runaway horses and mountain mishaps.

Mary Lou could almost always be found at the tennis courts in the Meadow, which was home to a dynamic group of local ladies back in the '70s. The family eventually began enjoying winters in Big Sky as well. Over the decades, the city girl from New York gained as much love and appreciation for Big Sky and Montana as Bruce, and together they were active members of the community. They finally retired at their oasis on the hill in 1998.

After Bruce's death in 1999, Mary Lou stayed in Big Sky and became an active participant and philanthropist in the community. She was instrumental in the building of the Big Sky Community Library and later served on its board, and volunteered at the library weekly.

She was also actively involved in the construction of the Big Sky Chapel and served on its board. Other philanthropic endeavors included The Museum of the Rockies, the Arts Council of Big Sky, the Big Sky Community Organization, and Morningstar Learning Center, to name a few. After spending a number of winters alone, Mary Lou chose to "winter" in Portland to be closer to family. She returned to Big Sky every summer and considered it home.

Carrying on the spirited Cook tradition are daughters, Beth and Kate; sons-inlaw, John and Chris; grandchildren, Fionnuala, Caitlin, Amelia, Galen, Jackson, Henry, and Clare; great-grandchildren, Icarus and Orpheus; nieces Janet, Nancy, and Connie; and her beloved dog, Lewis. Mary Lou was preceded in death by her parents, brother and sister, husband Bruce, and sons Mark and David.

A mass of remembrance will be held at Soldier's Chapel in Big Sky on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 12 p.m. There will be a reception immediately following the service at the Big Sky Community Library.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in Mary Lou's honor to Eagle Mount, the Big Sky Community Library, or the Arts Council of Big Sky.



Thank You!

It has been over a month since we have lost our dear friend, brother, and partner, Devon White. The outpouring of love and support we have received is immeasurable and continues to help us get through this difficult time.

Thanks to all of the restaurants who donated food to Devon's Celebration of Life. It was a true community effort to make it such a special remembrance.

- Special thanks to Chuck Schommer, Dave O'Connor and the whole staff
- and Bucks T-4 for making us feel so welcomeBoyd Teegarten, Natalie's Estate Winery for the donation of wine.
- · Cardinal, Lehrkinds, and Bronken distributing for the several cases of libations • To all the friends that shared their time and efforts in making the tribute to Devon so meaningful.

We are blessed to live in a community that continually demonstrates that the bond of love and friendship are the greatest gifts of all.

The House, The White, The Lawless and Corral Families

Chamber, local businesses report busy summer across the board Real estate market sees jump in 3rd quarter

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – According to the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, Big Sky saw increased visitation numbers during summer 2017.

The chamber reported that Montana Lodging Tax revenue for April, May and June was up 12 percent for the quarter from last year. The chamber has hosted more than 20 new business ribbon cutting ceremonies since the start of this year, with several new businesses joining the Big Sky community this summer, including SAV Digital Environments, Energy 1, Mountain Pearl Dentistry, Compass Café by Sola and Bobcat Mattress.

"Visitation to Big Sky this summer continued its rise," said Candace Carr Strauss, Big Sky Chamber of Commerce CEO. "And in my opinion ... the sky is the limit."

The chamber credits community events, and Big Sky PBR specifically, with drawing increasing numbers of visitors to Big Sky. The Pro Bull Riders event, a production of Outlaw Partners (publisher of EBS), had an estimated attendance of 15,000 people over the course of the four days in July.

An economic impact analysis prepared by Circle Analytics calculated the economic impact of the 2017 PBR event to be \$2.6 million, approximately \$1.5 million of which was retained within the county, the analysis said.

The Arts Council of Big Sky's Thursday night Music in the Mountains concert series reached an attendance of 32,000 people over the entire summer, while the weekly Big Sky Farmer's Market had a summer attendance estimated at 12,200 people.

Big Sky Resort was also bustling more than summers past.

"Mountain Village was far busier this year than it has been in past years," said Chelsi Moy, Big Sky Resort public relations manager. "There were just noticeably more people around."

Moy noted an 80-percent increase in the number of bike haul passes sold this year. She added that event attendance was up across the board for Vine & Dine, Brewfest, Total Archery Challenge and The Rut, one of the biggest events the resort puts on annually. This year, The Rut was expanded to accommodate 500 additional racers bringing the total number of participants to 2,500.

Moy said that Lone Peak Expedition trips to the summit of Lone Mountain were up in volume, with the eclipse-viewing opportunities adding an extra boost to August tours.

Grizzly Outfitters Ski & Backcountry Sports lead bike technician Joe Muggli said he saw increased bike business at the shop this summer. Muggli, who just finished his third summer season at Grizzly Outfitters, said more people are coming to Big Sky specifically to ride the resort's bike park.

"There is a lot more weekend warrior traffic and people coming through to ride Big Sky Resort," said Muggli, adding that Grizzly brought in a whole new fleet of bikes this season to handle the lift-haul riding. He added that maintenance business was particularly consistent due to the wear and tear that downhill riding can have on bikes.

"Being the only shop that can fix things on the fly, so people could get back out there and continue to enjoy their weekend, kept us busy," Muggli said.

The Big Sky Country Montana Listing Service (MLS) third quarter market numbers for July, August and September show \$71 million in total sales volume in the Big Sky area.

Carrie Radtke, a broker at Big Sky Sotheby's International Realty, attributes these figures to a good economy, and that Big Sky is squarely on the map as a tourist destination.

"I think the secret's out that Big Sky is good place to live, play, work—and own real estate," Radtke said.

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BSCO presents draft of Master Trails Plan to community

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Community Organization will present an initial draft of the Master Trails Plan for public review at the Fall Fest in Big Sky Community Park on Saturday, Oct. 14. Consultants from Alta Planning + Design, who drew up the plan, will be on hand with maps, surveys and to speak with the community about their summer and winter trail desires.

The purpose of the plan is to guide the future development and improvement of Big Sky's trail system.

"This will help our organization prioritize trail development from this point forward in a strategic, thoughtful approach," said Ciara Wolfe, executive director of Big Sky Community Organization. Wolfe said the document will be used to identify priority trail projects, the necessary easements for those projects, and be used to support funding requests moving forward.

Wolfe stressed that there is still room for adjustments based on comments and feedback from the public.

The plan's number one goal is continuing to improve and expand multiuse, multi-season trails that further connect the Big Sky community, and existing parks and trails. Within that primary intention falls the ability to maintain trail quality, grow Big Sky as a tourism destination, uphold a proactive relationship with developers and the community, maximize public access to trails, and acknowledge Big Sky's trail system as an invaluable aspect of its infrastructure.

As it stands, Big Sky has 211 existing trails within the study area.

According to an online public survey and interactive map that was open July through September, and data gathered at community events and area trailheads, 90 percent of Big Sky residents would like to see more trails, specifically additional trailheads in Town Center and Meadow Village, safe passageways across busy thoroughfares, and improvements to Custer Gallatin National Forest trailheads. A list of 27 specific projects were proposed by the public.

The plan recommends that Big Sky develops a trail system that can accommodate all ages and abilities, from the daily commuter and recreationist, to those looking for epic all-day or multi-day adventures.

Because the Big Sky area is split across both Madison and Gallatin counties, there can be challenges to managing recreational amenities uniformly across the divide.

BSCO's Master Parks Plan—ultimately the same as the trails plan but with a focus on open, public spaces—was formally adopted as a reference in the Madison County Growth Policy 2012 on Oct. 11, but there is a longer process on the Gallatin County side. Big Sky Trails, Recreation and Parks District and BSCO are working together to develop an annual work plan for the district that will address many of the recommendations in the plan over the next three to five years. The final copy of this plan will be available on the BSCO website in coming weeks.

The public comment period for the draft of the Master Trails Plan will be open through October with the goal of gathering winter-specific trails and pathways feedback to include in the plan.

Visit bscomt.org for more information.



"Montanans are

increasingly exposed to

synthetic drugs such as

can be cut into heroin."

fentanyl, a deadly drug that

Potent synthetic opioids hit Gallatin Valley

BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – First responders in Gallatin County have changed the way they treat suspected opioid overdoses following a series of incidents that appear to have resulted from powerful synthetic painkillers.

"Nationally, over the last year or two, there's been an increase in the number of synthetic opioids such as fentanyl that have been showing up in street drugs, and those are much more potent [than heroin]," said Eric Lowe, an emergency room physician at Bozeman Health Deaconess Hospital.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fentanyl is up to 100 times more potent than morphine, and many times that of heroin. The CDC also reports that deaths resulting from synthetic opioids other than methadone—a drug often used to treat addiction to opiates such as heroin—increased by 72 percent nationally between 2014 and 2015.

Lowe, who also serves as the medical director for most of Gallatin County's emergency medical services, recently advised first responders to be more aggressive in their use of opioid antidote naloxone. He issued the recommendation last month based on what he was seeing in the ER: a string of overdose patients who required larger or repeated doses of naloxone to be revived.

"Overdoses from [synthetic opioids] are much harder to treat and require much higher levels of reversal agents," said Lowe, making a comparison to heroin overdoses. "There's also a much higher rate of overdose with them just because the ... margin of error is so small when you're dealing with something that's measured in micrograms."

An opioid overdose usually develops due to the severe slowing of a patient's respiratory rate. "Basically, it's respiratory arrest that can lead the heart to stop and go into cardiac arrest," Lowe said.

Naloxone, which is also known by its brand name Narcan, blocks opioid receptors. If the appropriate amount is administered in time, it can reverse an overdose and save a life.

Lowe isn't necessarily updated on the status of a patient once he's finished administering treatment, so discerning the exact drug involved in the overdose is difficult. "One hypothesis locally, that has been seen other places, is that illicit manufacturers are mixing fentanyl with other substances and pressing them into pills to resemble other prescription meds such as oxycodone or hydrocodone," Lowe said. "It may be unknown to [the user] what they are truly getting."

Information about an overdose resulting in death can be obtained through a toxicology report, but it takes time. The Gallatin County Coroner's Office is currently wading through a backlog of cases, and it's often months before an autopsy's been completed.

Missouri River Drug Task Force Commander Ryan Stratman said the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office responded to a medical call in Big Sky in early September that resulted in a fatality, though he couldn't confirm the cause of death. On Sept. 18 he said that it would probably be another two months before he sees results from the toxicology report.

According to a September 2017 report released by the Montana Department of Justice, the Montana Crime Lab is struggling to expand its testing and technology to meet the growing demand for drug testing. "Montanans are increasingly exposed to synthetic drugs such as fentanyl, a deadly drug that can be cut into heroin. These synthetic drugs are harder to test for, but they are also more lethal," the report noted.

Montana Attorney General Tim Fox wrote in the introduction to the report, titled "Addressing the Impact of Drugs," that although heroin contributes to a small share of overall drug violations in the state, there's been "astronomical" growth in that segment from 2010 to 2015—more than 1,500 percent.

Two men were arrested in West Yellowstone on Feb. 14 of this year after a traffic stop for speeding resulted in the discovery of 25 grams of heroin. According to a story reported by KBZK, the two men were accused of dealing heroin. In a video appearance from jail, Skyler

Stillwell told the judge he was waiting tables at a Yellowstone Club restaurant.
Sanford Gardner told the judge he was working as a restaurant manager in Big Sky.

Brandon Kelly, Big Sky's resident sergeant with the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office, said, "The last year it seems like the opioids really kind of ruled the day as far as drug use." However, he added that apart from the Valentines Day case, he's not aware of any

other large seizures of heroin or prescription painkillers recently in the Big Sky area.

Based on what he's seen in Bozeman's ER, Lowe doesn't think there's been a sharp increase in southwest Montana's opioid supply; rather, he thinks "a new drug hit the scene."

In addition to the opening of a methadone clinic in Belgrade in September 2016, policy changes may be on the horizon for Gallatin County. Earlier this year, the Montana Legislature passed a law known as the Help Save Lives from Overdose Act that opens up access to naloxone, allowing it to be prescribed to organizations.

Stratman said the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office is considering taking advantage of the new access. "We are looking into potentially carrying it, but that has not been decided yet," he said. "That will be for our sheriff [Brian Gootkin] to decide."

For his part, Lowe's on board with law enforcement carrying naloxone. "I think that's great. [It] mirrors a national push," he said. "There's a paucity of resources for people with drug addiction nationally, but locally as well," he added.

Kelly stressed that early medical attention is critical, and he urges people to bring in help immediately if they suspect there's been an overdose. "Call the fire department and law enforcement. At that point in time we're not looking at criminal charges, we're looking at life saving. ... We're worried about making sure that person is going to get proper treatment."

Finding Fenn's Treasure

Is the true booty the beauty of the backcountry?

BY JANA BOUNDS EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY - Somewhere in the Rocky Mountains, there is said to be millions of dollars in hidden treasure.

Many people believe that treasure is near Big Sky.

Some years ago, two friends set out to walk the 92 miles from West Yellowstone to Bozeman. They did it because they were kids, because they could, because they liked the challenge, self-sufficiency, and the mountain vistas.

"We tried to stay off of the road," Forrest Fenn said of that long trek with his friend. "We were middle teens when we did that trip, and we quickly ran out of candy bars. When fishermen on the Gallatin learned what we were doing they gave us food."

In harsh contrast to fly fishing in West Yellowstone and his idyllic mountain walks, Fenn would eventually go to war as a fighter pilot and be shot down twice in Vietnam. Those near-death experiences would be only a few he would face. After that, he became a successful art dealer and collector.

He hatched a plan to create a lasting legacy—and inspire folks away from sedentary lifestyles—when he was first diagnosed with cancer in 1988: He would hide millions in gold dust, coins and ancient Jade beneath the Western sky he so loves.

The cancer went into remission and he had time to pen his memoir "The Thrill of the Chase" in addition to other novels.

When the cancer resurfaced in 2010, he set to hiding the bronze chest brimming with riches by way of two trips from his vehicle in one afternoon, he's written.

He then wrote a poem containing nine clues that would serve as a guide to the treasure.

"When I hid this treasure, this country was in a recession and lots of people were losing their jobs," he wrote from his Santa Fe home. "I wanted to give hope to those who were willing to strike the trail and search for something that would make their existence a little easier."

Bushwhacking has always been Fenn's preferred method of experiencing the woods. So, he says the loot is not near a man-made trail. He also confirms that he spent a good deal of time in the town nearest the treasure.

When asked if the treasure is located at a place that served as the backdrop of pleasant childhood memories, he responded, "The treasure is hidden in a place where I would not mind spending a few thousand years."

Jami Lavin, a server at By Word of Mouth, a bistro and catering company in Big Sky, has interacted with two different groups seeking the treasure in the past nine months. Her most recent conversation was with Canadians from Vancouver Island. If the Canadian duo is any indication, treasure hunters are quietly bolstering the Big Sky economy. She said the duo claimed to have visited the area over a dozen times in the past two years in search of the treasure.

Lavin believes the potential for treasure creates a heightened connection to the land, causing people to become more observant and appreciative of the nuances of nature.

"These guys studied for years and years on this. It's a different type of recreational activity," she said. "They're discovering other things—not just the treasure. It takes people to places they wouldn't see otherwise."

Fenn confirmed correspondence with folks who have searched near Big Sky. "Big Sky is such a beautiful place it's natural for people to want to search there," he said. "I get emails from some of them and they thank me for giving them the excuse to go into your country."

Ultimately, it seems this was Fenn's goal—to get people away from their televisions and out into the wilderness, living life rather than watching fictional characters pretend to live.

Morgen and Ryan Ayres, owners of The Cinnamon Lodge, have guests who've returned each year to seek the loot. The couple has even accompanied one group hunting a few times. "They work these [awful] jobs in the city 50 weeks out of the year and come here for two weeks to hunt for the treasure," Morgen said.

The hunt that's inspired and enlivened many people has not been without heartache and headaches. Despite his insistence that the treasure is not hidden



Cinnamon Lodge owners Morgen and Ryan Ayres pose with books by Forrest Fenn, the man who started an international craze to locate a valuable treasure many believe is buried near Big Sky. PHOTO BY BAY STEPHENS

in a dangerous place and that people should not seek it in the winter, two people have died in the search.

Also, the quest has brought some mentally unstable seekers out of the woodwork: kidnapping and death threats, stalking. Some confrontations followed along the lines of a "Give me the treasure or else..." narrative. Several people have been arrested outside Fenn's home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and one treasure hunter recently suggested online that the treasure is actually booby-trapped by a spiritual force bent on stealing young souls.

Online forums dedicated to the hunt suggest that as winter hits, folks the world over will be scouring Gallatin County, Montana more generally, and a few other states, searching for clues with the help of Google Earth. The Fenn-specified search zone is north of Santa Fe and south of the Canadian border. While Fenn said that he welcomes any technological aids in the hunt, the treasure can't be spotted via Google Earth.

Fenn denied EBS's request for an additional clue.

"But I will say thousands of families have ventured into the forested areas of the Rockies and returned home with wonderful memories that will last as long as time itself," he said.

Fenn's poem providing clues to the treasure's location

As I have gone alone in there And with my treasures hold, I can keep my secret where, And hint of riches new and old.

Begin it where warm waters halt And take it in the canyon down, Not far, but too far to walk. Put in below the home of Brown.

From there it's no place for the meek, The end is ever drawing nigh; There'll be no paddle up your creek, Just heavy loads and water high.

If you've been wise and found the blaze, Look quickly down, your quest to cease, But tarry scant with marvel gaze, Just take the chest and go in peace.

So why is it that I must go And leave my trove for all to seek? The answers I already know, I've done it tired, and now I'm weak.

So hear me all and listen good, Your effort will be worth the cold. If you are brave and in the wood I give you title to the gold.



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Finding a way through the gun divide

BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

The Oct. 1 shooting in Las Vegas is the deadliest in modern U.S. history, but it's also part of a growing trend that's not as apt to make headlines during the increasingly short periods between incidents of that scale. According to data compiled by the Gun Violence Archive, in the U.S., four or more people are shot in one incident every nine out of 10 days on average.

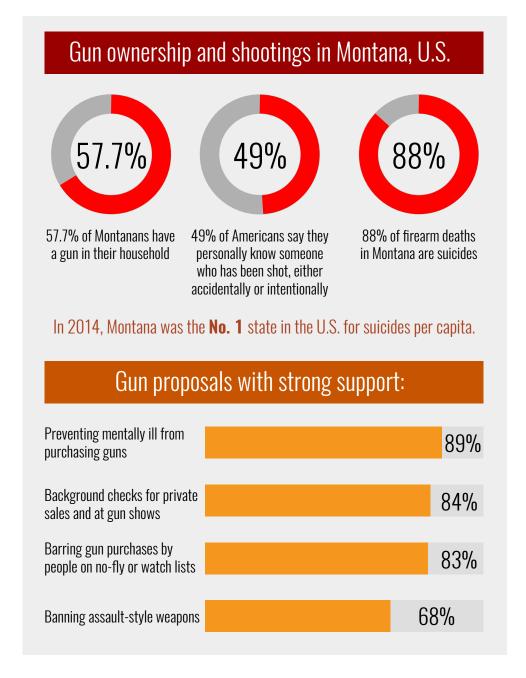
And the trend is visible even in Montana, which can feel insulated from headline-making mass shootings due to its small population and rural character.

On Aug. 4, three people died and two were injured in a shooting that took place in Lodge Grass. Less than a month prior, five people died of gunshot wounds in Deer Lodge.

The availability of firearms also has profound implications for suicide rates in Montana, which has been among the top five states for suicides per capita for four decades. In 2014 it topped that list. The Montana Suicide Mortality Review Team Report compared Montana's youth suicide rate to the United States' and found that 63 percent of Montana youth commit suicide with firearms compared to 39 percent nationally.

"Access to lethal means (guns)" is the first item included in the report's list of factors contributing to the "long-term, cultural issue of suicide in Montana." According to Demographic ata.org, 57.7 percent of Montanans have a gun in their household—the third highest of any state in the U.S.

There are plenty of policy issues that create a seemingly insurmountable divide between those favoring gun rights and those who support stronger regulation, but there's also surprising agreement on a number of gun proposals, as evidenced by a June 22 study released by the Pew Research Center.





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Two dead after avalanche south of Big Sky

Recovery brings into focus efforts of local search and rescue

BY TYLER ALLEN EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – The news of the country's first avalanche fatality of the season, in Big Sky's backyard, sent shockwaves around the world.

A slide on Imp Peak in the southern Madison Range, on Saturday, Oct. 7, claimed the life of 23-year-old Inge Perkins of Bozeman. Her boyfriend Hayden Kennedy, 27, was also caught and partially buried.

According to a statement released by the Kennedy family, "Hayden survived the avalanche but not the unbearable loss of his partner in life. He chose to end his life." Kennedy, from Carbondale, Colorado, was considered one of the preeminent American alpinists and had recently moved to Bozeman to work on his EMT certification.

News of the elite athletes' deaths swept social media beginning Monday night, and by Wednesday morning feature stories appeared on national media outlets including Adventure Journal, Outside, Powder and Climbing, where Hayden's father Michael Kennedy served for decades as editor-in-chief.

Hayden Kennedy was an accomplished rock climber before he took his talent to the world's high peaks, completing astonishing ascents from Patagonia to the Himalayas. Perkins was an avid climber and skier, and had been building her own impressive resume in the mountains before her death.

Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center forecasters Doug Chabot and Alex Marienthal conducted the investigation Monday, and released a statement Tuesday describing the incident:

On Saturday, Kennedy and Perkins hiked 6 miles from the Upper Taylor Fork trailhead to Imp Peak. Near the bottom of the mountain's north couloir, around 10,000 feet, they triggered an avalanche while ascending on skis with skins.

The avalanche was 1 to 2 feet deep at the crown, approximately 150 feet wide, and 300 feet long. The slope where the avalanche released was 38 to 45 degrees with a northnortheast aspect.

This area had received approximately 1 foot of snow since Oct. 1, which collected on top of 3 to 4 feet of dense snow that fell since Sept. 15. The avalanche was a hard slab of wind-drifted snow that collapsed on a layer of soft old snow underneath, and slid on the old snow from late September.

According to Chabot, Perkins had an avalanche transceiver with her, but it was in her backpack and turned off at the time of the accident.

Chabot said they'll never know why she wasn't wearing her beacon. "Our only hope is wearing it," Chabot said, referencing survival odds in an avalanche. "It wasn't an enormous avalanche, but it was deep enough to bury someone, and being a hard slab it's that much more deadly."



Imp Peak in the southern Madison Range, south of Big Sky. The burial occurred beneath the north couloir Saturday, Oct. 7. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST AVALANCHE CENTER

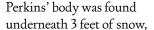
This was the second-earliest avalanche fatality in the U.S. since 1970, according to information provided to Chabot from Dale Atkins, one of the world's foremost avalanche experts. Atkins spent nearly two decades as the lead forecaster of the Colorado Avalanche Information Center.

Before this accident, the earliest avalanche fatality in the GNFAC forecasting region of southwest Montana was Oct. 30, 2004, when a climber was partially buried and killed

on Sphinx Mountain, also in the southern Madison Range. Aside from that incident, the earliest fatality in southwest Montana was around Thanksgiving, according to Chabot.

The Recovery

Big Sky Search and Rescue member Andy Dreisbach received the call at 5 a.m. Monday morning. By 10:30 a.m. he was loading his gear in a helicopter at the intersection of Taylor Fork and Wapiti Creek roads. When he arrived at the scene, Chabot and other SAR responders, who'd been shuttled in during the first two flights, were probing the avalanche debris.





Inge Perkins and Hayden Kennedy on the summit of Ross Peak in the Bridger Mountains in September. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY

according to Dreisbach. Responders loaded her body into a cargo net, which was long-lined from the scene by helicopter. Perkins likely died of trauma.

Dreisbach has volunteered for Big Sky Search and Rescue—a division of Gallatin County Search and Rescue—for seven years and started his SAR career as an 18-year-old on New Hampshire's Mount Washington. Yet he still became emotional recounting this recent recovery and the questions he fielded from his 7-year-old son Tor.

"'Dad, did you get 'em?' Yeah. 'Are they alright?' I've had better days. I've had better days, bud," Dreisbach recalled. "You know, he's 7. He's not a boy in a bubble—but suicide. That's a whole different creature to come home with.

"And I don't think about it much, because I've been doing search and rescue for a while and I [ski] patrolled for a long time," he said. "When it gets hotter you gotta get cooler. You don't have time to get emotional about it, you just have to go through the motions and what you're trained to do."

Jason Jarrett is a captain with the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office and has been commander of Gallatin County Search and Rescue for two decades. He said it's difficult to get SAR responders to talk about what they do, calling it "quiet competence." They are "team over self," who don't readily open up to outsiders about the difficult work they do, he says.

"The bottom line of it is that the people that are in search and rescue—and we have world class members because that's who lives here—unanimously do this for their support of the active outdoor lifestyle," Jarrett said. "And when things go bad, these are the people you want coming to look for you."

Jarrett says that, like Perkins and Kennedy, the vast majority of people rescued by SAR teams are skilled individuals that have a bad day in a remote setting.

"When you blow your knee out in Taylor Fork, there are good people that are willing to come get you. Because we would rather have you hiking Taylor Fork than hiding out in your basement eating Twinkies."

"We all do what we can, and this is something I can do," Dreisbach said. "I don't want to put it above the person who's volunteering at the library—I can't do the Dewey Decimal system, but I can do this."

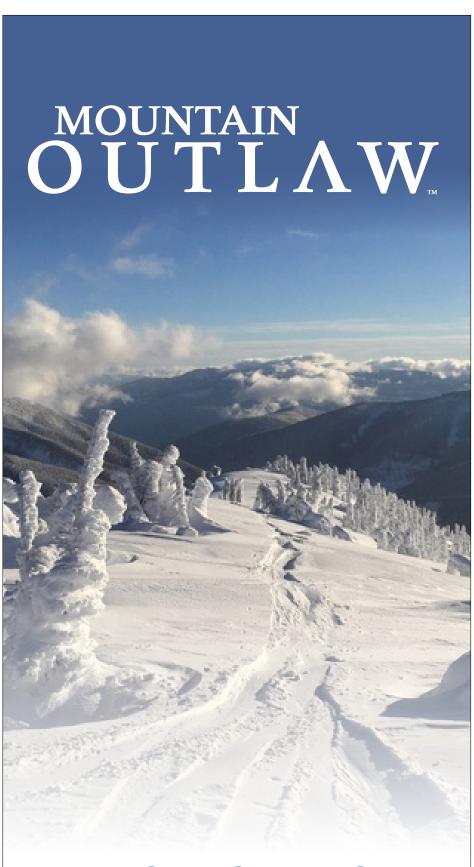
Winter weather has come early to southwest Montana and that means snow enthusiasts are heading into the high peaks unusually early. But the excitement of early season skiing comes with caveats, especially given the potential structure of the snowpack this winter.

"Historically when we have early season snow that sticks around it turns to facets," said Chabot, referring to large grain crystals like depth hoar that can be a persistent concern throughout the winter. "It causes me heartburn—I want to be proven wrong.

"We want to state the obvious: any time we have fresh snow and wind we have to think about avalanches," he said. "And we have to treat the early season like the middle of the season—carry a beacon, shovel and probe."

Visit mtavalanche.com for more information on the Oct. 7 accident, or to sign up for the daily advisory email.

Editor's note: EBS Managing Editor Tyler Allen also serves on the board of the Friends of the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center.



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OPEN DAILY

My Indian summer

BY KATIE MIDDLETON EBS CONTRIBUTOR

"Kate! Chalo!"

My host mom calls from downstairs, using a common Hindi word meaning, "let's go." I grab my bag and run down the stairs. Knowing that we could be going anywhere, I learned to always have a bag ready with my rain coat, a few hundred rupees, a small notebook filled with Hindi vocabulary, and a shawl to cover my shoulders. It was only my second week in India, but it was already feeling like home.

I spent this past summer in India on a merit-based U.S. State Department scholarship called the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y).

During my six weeks in Indore, I lived with a loving host family that included two host brothers, numerous cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents. My host family embraced me as one of their own, and showed me the beauty of Indian culture.

They took me to temples and street markets, Bollywood movies, cake shops, and even McDonalds or Subway when I was feeling homesick. I learned Indian dances at enormous family celebrations, and how to cook traditional meals from my host mom and grandma, as well as our cook, Lakshmiji.

Six days a week, I went to school, at where I studied Hindi at the Daly College, a traditional Indian boarding school. There I met Indian peers who welcomed the exchange students and offered tips about how to sneak another cookie during our daily "chai break," and the best place to hang out before class.

After school, I came home to a delicious Indian snack and my favorite part of the day, chai and chapati with my host mom. She taught me many lessons, from how to get through a crowded Indian street market to how to relax into the ever-changing schedule so typical in Indian culture—or as she called it, "flow with the flow."

My host mom also helped me practice my Hindi—the main goal of my scholarship—by taking me out for practical experiences. Cab drivers and shopkeepers were always surprised when I spoke, and would respond with eager enthusiasm, asking in Hindi if I could speak. When I said "thoda thoda" (just a little), they would smile and ask me more questions, trying to gauge if an American could actually understand them.

Throughout my time in India, I believe being able to speak Hindi improved my reputation—or rather, their perception of me as an American. And that was a big part of what I wanted to achieve.

The U.S. Government had sent me and 23 other Americans to India as "youth ambassadors," a role that was emphasized during my three days of orientation in New York. From the moment we landed, it was absolutely

clear to everyone that I was American. From my skin color to my accent, there was no hiding this fact.

Because Indore—a city of about two million in central India—is completely off the tourist track, seeing any non-Indian was unusual. When I walked down the street, men, women and children would stare at me; motorcyclists would spin their heads around and follow me with their eyes as they sped by, and it was hard to go to the grocery store without being asked for a selfie.

For the first few weeks, I struggled with the massive differences that come with immersion in another country. There were personal contrasts: I had left one of the least populated states in North America to travel to the second most populated country in the world. I went from cool and dry to hot and humid, from a place where I had always been a local, to one where I was unalterably foreign.

There were also all the surface societal differences from the cuisine, clothing, music and language, to the stray dogs, cows, pigs and camels; and the traffic that seemed to have no rules.

Finally, there were the deeper cultural variations that went relatively unspoken, such as underlying school and familial structures, concepts of time, notions of modesty, and roles as dictated by age, sex and class.

But that's why I chose to go to India—I was in search of something truly unlike my hometown, and I found it. By the end of the program I had a much deeper understanding of these differences, and while some were difficult to accept, my approach to thinking about them had changed.

Overall, I realized that studying abroad not only meant learning about another culture, but also learning a lot about myself and my own culture and country.

The NSLI-Y merit-based scholarship is available to high school students across the nation. The application deadline for 2018 programs is Nov. 2. For more information and to apply visit nslivforyouth.org.



LPHS senior Katie Middleton (third row, left) surrounded by her extended host family at her host-grandma and grandpa's 50th wedding anniversary, a week-long party the biggest of which had 1,300 people in attendance. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARCHANA AIREN

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Section 2:ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS, DINING & HEALTH







The New West: What Is Wild?

Let us hope JH tourism board succeeds in its ad campaign



BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

It's a tough thing being an official tourism promoter in a town that, for several months each year, bursts at the seams with outsiders. In addition to making cash registers sing, this tsunami of visitors invades the solace of community, jams roads, fills public spaces, and causes locals to dive for cover.

I'm talking not only about local people but also local wildlife with whom we share the woods.

No matter what one does, in fulfilling one's duty, which is telling the world that the place you are pitching is an astounding one to be in, a tourism promoter can't fully win.

By now, you may have heard about the Jackson Hole Travel and Tourism Board's new advertising campaign. It's called "Stay Wild" and as a creative execution by Minneapolis-based Colle McVoy, it's brilliant.

In some ways, it's also controversial. In other words, "Stay Wild" is a bold gamble that, if it works, could paradoxically appease the growing number of local people worried about the future of wildness in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

"Stay Wild" is reminiscent of Apple's famous "1984" spot for its Macintosh computer that aired during a Super Bowl. It touted the virtue of tearing down the barriers of old thinking.

The 90-second "Stay Wild" spot features words lifted from Charlie Chaplin's monologue in "The Great Dictator." It proclaims the uplifting wholesomeness of escaping into wild nature and finding the freedom to do basically whatever one wants, shedding the limiting shackles of urban existence.

The ad flashes a heart-pumping gamut of outdoor recreation pursuits, intermixed with images of wildlife, including grizzlies, intended to symbolize how wild our region is.

Peter Aengst, Northern Rockies director of The Wilderness Society, is among many who were left nonplused. Inherent in the message of "Stay Wild," he says, is lack of reflection. The piece promotes the pursuit of wild human behavior, with wildness of place treated only as window dressing.

It's a complaint that's also been leveled at many outdoor gear manufacturers and retailers.

"I'm concerned with how our culture increasingly equates the wild as only about human needs and adventure. Wildness is just as much about having the humility to restrain ourselves, including prioritizing other species needs over our own desires," Aengst said.

Wildlife—the very basis of Greater Yellowstone's uniqueness and the foundation of its nature-tourism economy—has limits of tolerance, thresholds for the amount of disruption species can handle from humans.

"Whether the Muries, the Craigheads, or many others, Jackson Hole has played a nationally significant role over many decades with wilderness thought and action," Aengst said. "So, while I'm not in the marketing business, I'd like to think that the town would want to encourage visitors to come and 'stay wild' in more than just an adrenaline thrills context."



"Stay Wild" is part of a campaign launched by the Jackson Hole Travel & Tourism Board.

I had an excellent conversation with Kate Sollitt, who serves as executive director of the tourism board, about the promotion. The goal of "Stay Wild" is to differentiate Jackson Hole from Aspen and Vail by emphasizing its wild grittier edge.

She's well aware of the low rumble building out there, growing steadily toward a roar, with people saying Greater Yellowstone doesn't need a greater volume of visitors; it needs to have more conscientious souls drawn to wildness becoming more aware of the ecosystem's specialness and fragility.

Sollitt doesn't disagree. "Stay Wild," she says, is merely the start of a campaign that the tourism board hopes will result in connecting visitors to conservation groups working to protect Greater Yellowstone.

The Jackson Hole Travel and Tourism Board already knows that summer tourism needs no more promotion. That's why it has focused its marketing spends on bolstering the shoulder seasons of fall and spring.

In fact, the outdoor recreation confab known as SHIFT was originally hatched by the tourism board to bring more people here in autumn. Today, SHIFT bills itself as a springboard for social discussions on the intersection of outdoor recreation and conservation.

More and more people, however, are questioning whether SHIFT organizers understand how industrial-strength recreation and more people inundating the frontcountry and backcountry are affecting Greater Yellowstone's wildlife and the character of its wild landscapes.

"Stay Wild" is certain to attract more people to Greater Yellowstone. It may also accomplish something else equally as important: fueling a better conversation about the value of real wildness.

If "Stay Wild" really does result in visitors becoming more committed to protecting Greater Yellowstone, it could be game changing, because at the moment most tourism marketers in the region treat conservation of wild country only as an afterthought.

Todd Wilkinson, founder of Mountain Journal (mountainjournal.org), 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.

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Third bighorn sheep reintroduction planned in the Madison Range

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – As a part of a multi-year plan to reintroduce bighorn sheep into areas of the Madison Mountain Range east of Ennis, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks plans to join researchers at Montana State University this winter to relocate approximately 25 bighorns. The project is tentatively scheduled for December or January, pending snow conditions and sheep counts.

Should the relocation occur, family groups will be moved from a herd of healthy bighorns wintering north of Quake Lake. The sheep will be introduced into the Wolf Creek drainage, some 10 to 12 air miles north of the capture site, using a method known as drop-net capture. A large net is suspended over a bait site and can be released in order to capture entire family groups.

"It's a really nice way of translocating because you can get entire social groups," said Robert Garrott in a Sept. 20 presentation at the Museum of the Rockies as a part of the Science Inquiry Lecture Series. Garrott, who designed the dropnet mechanism, is a professor in MSU's Department of Ecology and is a leading researcher for several bighorn sheep research initiatives.

By capturing family groups, Garrott explained, biologists are able to move sheep that are already familiar with each other, which means they might be less likely to return to the capture site seeking their native range and herd.

Once the sheep have been captured, they are tranquilized and undergo a series of health panels as a part of the statewide bighorn health monitoring efforts. Some will also be collared with radio transmitters in order to study sheep behavior and mortality, and also determine the success of the relocation.

This initiative, as well as other translocation projects and monitoring efforts, comes in response to historic population declines in bighorn sheep throughout the state due to a combination of market hunting in the early 20th century, competition with livestock, and disease outbreaks that continue today.

FWP wildlife biologist Julie Cunningham says bighorn are quite unique. "I enjoy working with bighorn sheep because they take me to amazing places," she said. "They use the landscape differently than elk or deer. Their biology is amazing: the sexual dimorphism between rams and ewes, the behaviors during rut and winter, and the wild, remote places they spend summer. They are remarkably hardy in some ways, and yet fragile in others. They use challenging terrain yet are susceptible to disease."

According to FWP biologists, the Wolf Creek area was once native habitat to bighorn sheep. However, after several die-offs the species disappeared from the area sometime during the '60s.

On the Ennis side of the Madisons, there remains one population of sheep called the Taylor-Hilgard herd that winters along Quake Lake in an area known as Slide Inn, and another small band of 20 to 40 sheep that winter in the upper reaches of Moose and Sun creeks. The Spanish Peaks bighorn herd often seen near Big Sky is largely separated from these other populations in the Madison Range by areas of non-habitat.

"Bighorn sheep do not pioneer like wolves, like lions, like pronghorn, like deer, like elk. They like to stay put," Garrott said, describing the tendency for bighorn sheep to remain in familiar areas throughout their lifetime. "So maybe if we have a vision of having bighorn sheep throughout the Madison Range, we just simply have to put them there."

The Madison relocation initiative was approved in the fall of 2013 and has been largely funded by auction-generated dollars for bighorn sheep hunting licenses and the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration funds. Fifty-two bighorns were relocated to Wolf Creek in January 2015 and a second relocation of 22 occurred the following winter in February 2016. There was no transplant last year.

Cunningham referred to the 2013 Decision Notice that authorized the Madison reintroduction plan. The notice states, "Biologically, establishing a new

wintering area for bighorn in the Madison would increase biodiversity and restore a native species to known winter areas after a 50-year absence."

"Winter range is the limiting factor for Madison bighorns," Cunningham said. "By re-filling a historic winter range, we can see more overall sheep on the mountain. A metapopulation—several semi-isolated winter ranges—could help the overall population stay robust if a disease outbreak were to happen."

According to an April 2017 progress report, of the pioneer group moved in 2015, about 10 to 15 remained in the area the following year, while the majority are believed to have returned to their native range. The 2016 relocation effort was much more effective, amounting to an 80 percent success rate in establishing bighorn sheep to the Wolf Creek area, as sheep have remained and dispersed into several nearby drainages.



This winter Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks plans to continue with a multi-year project to reintroduce bighorn sheep into areas of the Madison Mountain Range. PHOTO BY RICHARD HORST





Field Hockey and a world of travel

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

BIG SKY - After moving in high school from Georgia back to Maine, where she's originally from, Melissa Emery, 45, began playing field hockey.

She's been at it ever since. The only difference is that now she represents the United States around the world.

Emery played in Canberra, Australia, last year at the 2016 field hockey Masters World Cup and was selected in September for the 2017-2018 U.S. Masters Field Hockey squad. She is one of 28 women who hope to make the final cut to compete in Terrassa, Spain, for the 2018 Master's World Cup in July.

After both playing and coaching in college, Emery continued coaching pretty much until coming to Big Sky, she said. Her brother is the reason Emery and her partner Rick Symes are out here in the first place.

"I was on my way to Florida for vacation and [my brother] sent a message saying, 'Hey, there's this ski resort, Big Sky, in Montana,'" Emery said. Both she and Symes had never heard of it, but her brother told her she'd have no trouble getting a job.

At a rest stop on the way to Florida, Emery got in touch with the human resources department of a Big Sky business and sent her resume and information. By the time they reached their condo in Florida, the couple had a phone interview and jobs shortly thereafter.

"We kept saying, 'Oh yeah, it's seasonal, we'll move home,'" Emery said. But it hasn't happened. Year after year, they decided to stay for just one more. "Now we're hitting 10, 11 years." The past five years, the two have stayed year-round since Emery had Max, who is now in kindergarten and just learning to ski.

Both Emery and Symes work under chef and owner Warren "Bibber" Bibbins at Olive B's Big Sky Bistro, which has been a huge part of the support Emery has received for her field hockey career. By the time she learned she'd made the master's team for the 2016 World Cup, there were only four months for Emery to garner the funds to actually go.

But the community at Olive B's as well as the wider Big Sky community rallied around Emery to send her to the other side of the world. Emery's friend and coworker Anna Shipley started a GoFundMe page and hung up flyers at local business. All said and done, the push raised \$1,600 and enough donated airline miles to cover Emery's flight home.

"It's pretty amazing, this community. It really is," Emery said.

Already some regulars at Olive B's have offered to support the travel that will hopefully pave her way to Spain.

The schedule ahead of Emery is packed with practices and tournaments all over the U.S. She'll travel to Florida over Thanksgiving, spend time in Pennsylvania in early December, shoot over to Las Vegas at the end

of December, and play a tournament in Phoenix in late January.



Big Sky local Melissa Emery has played field hockey nearly her whole life and hopes to represent Big Sky and the United States in the 2018 Master's World Cup in Terrassa, Spain this July. PHOTO BY BAY STEPHENS

It's all worth it for Emery, though. The thrill of the competition, along with the inclusivity and trustworthiness of the field hockey community, make for a sport that Emery has always loved.

"You could literally leave all your gear beside the field and walk away, and you know that it's going to be there when you get back," Emery said of the National Field Hockey Festival in Florida. "People look out for each other."

At the World Cup in Spain, Emery doesn't doubt that the stiffest competition will be against the Netherlands and Australia, both of which have professional field hockey leagues. The United States is at a disadvantage because players don't get paid to play field hockey year-round and the fact that the country's talent and athleticism is diluted between all the other U.S. sports, Emery says.

But that won't change the heat the U.S. Field Hockey Master's team will bring to the competition, especially if Emery is going.

LPHS cheerleader Laney Smith to perform in London's New Year's Day Parade

VARSITY SPIRIT

Laney Smith, a freshman at Lone Peak High School, is one of more than 650 high school cheerleaders and dancers from across the U.S. who will be performing in the London New Year's Day Parade.

The individuals invited to perform in the parade qualified for the trip after being selected as an All-American at a summer camp hosted by one of the Varsity Spirit camp brands.

All-Americans are selected to try out based on superior cheerleading, dancing and leadership skills at camps across the country. Only the top 10 percent of the more than 325,000 cheerleaders and dancers who attend the Varsity Spirit summer camp sessions earn the chance to march in the holiday parade.

Laney will be among parade performers from all over the world. The theme of this year's parade is "ShowTime!" and is left open to each troupe's interpretation. There will be 10,000 cheerleaders, dancers, marching bands, acrobats and performers representing 20 countries worldwide in the 2018 parade.

One of London's biggest annual events, the parade is seen by nearly 300 million people around the world. In addition to cheering in the parade, All-Americans will have the chance to tour some of London's most historic sites during their seven-day stay.

"I am most looking forward to meeting all of the other cheerleaders that are going to be in London with me," Laney said. "I am most excited about that because the cheerleaders are from all over the country and it will be very interesting to meet cheerleaders that have had a totally different high school cheer experience. I am really honored to be named an All-American because so few girls that try out



Freshman Laney Smith (center) will perform in the London New Year's Day Parade with thousands of other dancers, marchers and spectacle-makers from around the world. Smith, who is on the national cheer team, was selected as an All-American during cheerleading summer camp and is part of a small number of U.S. cheerleaders chosen to perform in the international event. PHOTO BY DAWN SMITH

are named and this name shows the hard work that cheerleaders have put into cheering."

"This is the 30th year we've been able to bring these talented cheerleaders and dancers to London, where they can showcase their skills to a very enthusiastic international audience, and explore the rich cultural heritage of this great city," said Mike Fultz, international event coordinator for Varsity Spirit.

Big Horns notch huge victory against Park City followed by a crushing loss at Joliet

BY CHRIS SAMUELS EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY AND JOLIET - The Big Horns experienced the "joys of victory and the agony of defeat" on the gridiron in the last two weeks.

On Sept. 30, the Park City Panthers visited Big Sky and the home team defense sacked the Park City quarterback on the Big Horns' 18-yard line as time expired to clinch Lone Peak's thrilling 55-54 win. The following week, the Big Horns hit the road to take on the Joliet J-Hawks and ran into a buzz saw that ultimately defeated them 56-21.

The Big Horns' record stands 5-2 and they need one more victory in their next two games to secure their first-ever 8-man playoff birth.

"Our team experienced a thrilling victory over Park City that had major playoff implications and then a truly disappointing loss to a solid Joliet team," said Lone Peak head coach Adam Farr. "We now have to rebalance from those games and focus on building momentum and confidence as we head into our final two games of the season. The goal has always been to make the playoffs and that opportunity is within reach, we just need to go out and execute this Friday against Absarokee."

The Park City game was an epic back-and-forth battle with neither team ever taking a commanding lead. Sophomore quarterback Frankie Starz threw a screen pass to senior fullback Rhett Leuzinger, who rumbled in 35 yards for the final score to put the Big Horns up 55-54 with 4:56 to play. That set up the Panthers' final drive, which culminated in a sack on the game's last play.

Starz threw a record-breaking eight touchdown passes in that match-up, shattering his brother Eddie's record of five. Leuzinger hauled four passes into the end zone while senior receiver Howie Robin grabbed three touchdown receptions and senior receiver Liam Germain added one. Junior kicker Milosz Shipman kicked five PATs. Frankie also added an interception on the defensive side of the ball.

The Big Horns traveled to 8-man C Southern Conference newcomer Joliet on Oct. 6 in a showdown of 5-1 teams. Joliet has just moved down from Class B football, where they played 11-man football for quite some time.

The J- Hawks played like an 11-man team with a strong running game behind a large and effective offensive line. Joliet took the opening kickoff back en route to a 50-7 halftime lead. The Big Horns played an inspired second half, closing the score to 50-21 before giving up the last score of the game to Joliet.

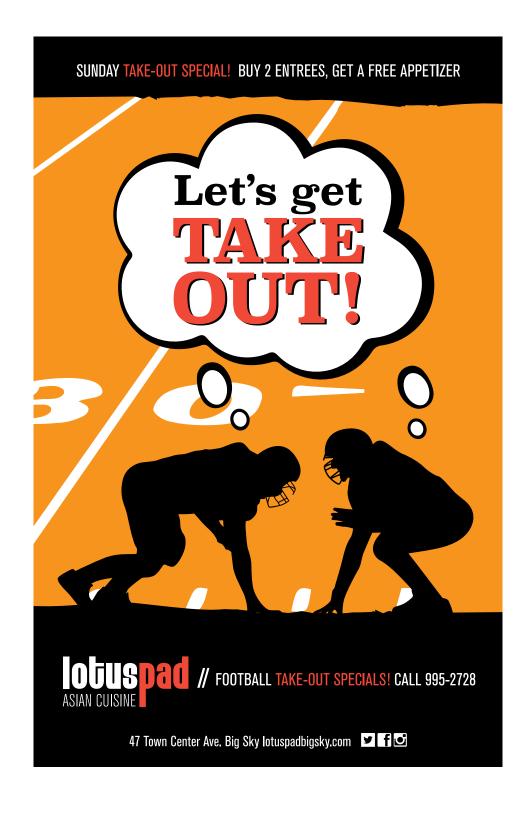


Sophomore quarterback Frankie Starz threw a record-setting eight touchdown passes during the Big Horns' Sept. 30 win against the Park City Panthers. PHOTO BY KENE SPERRY

Frankie threw one touchdown pass to Robin and Leuzinger rushed for two touchdowns. Shipman added three PAT's. On defense, sophomore linebacker Austin Samuels and senior Jackson Wade each snagged interceptions.

Lone Peak assistant coach Austin Barth said the playoffs are still in sight for the Big Horns. "Hopefully, the players use this game versus Joliet to find some motivation and we can make a run deep into the playoffs," he said.

On Thursday, Oct. 19, the Big Horns will play their last regular-season home game of the year, against Ennis. The Senior Day game will start at 7 p.m. The first round of the state playoffs begins Oct. 28.





Big Horns on a roll with 6-game winning streak

STORY AND PHOTOS BY AMANDA EGGERT EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – The Big Horns have won six consecutive games during the past month, securing their spot as the No. 2 team in their district as the regular season draws to a close.

In fact, the Big Horns haven't ceded a single set to an opponent since Sep. 30. In each of their past four matches, they've won in three sets.

During the Oct. 3 game against the Harrison/Willow Creek Wildcats, junior outside hitter Brooke Botha set a school record for aces in a single game with 12. The Wildcats struggled to slide a point in edgewise during the third set and Botha served to the young and inexperienced team 22 times consecutively.

The Big Horns' match against Shields Valley on Oct. 7 was a bit more competitive. "It went very well," Lone Peak head coach Missy Botha said. "We had a great turnout."

It was the fourth annual "Spike for a Cure" game sponsored by Big Sky's Ace Hardware store. Kevin Barton started the tradition in honor of his wife Tina O. Barton, who lost her battle with breast cancer in 2015. This year, \$1,623 was raised for Bozeman Health Foundation to help make mammogram screening available to uninsured or underinsured women, as was Tina's wish.

"This was a tough year for us, as it was [my daughter] Julia's last night playing in the Spike for a Cure game," wrote Kevin, who is the president of Ace Hardware—Big Sky, in an email to EBS.

At the close of the match, Kevin presented an "Ace of the Game" ball to senior libero Bryn Iskendarian. "Bryn definitely deserved the Ace of the Game. Her passing and digging were incredible," coach Botha said, adding that she also played a strong match from the service line.

Coach Botha feels confident about the Big Horns' odds when they compete in the district tournament at Manhattan Christian Oct. 26 and 27.



Holder sets up junior middle hitter Solae Swenson for a spike during the Big Horns' Oct. 3 win against Harrison/Willow Creek.



Senior setter Kuka Holder sneaks a tip across the net for a point

"We've made huge strides in so many different areas," she said, referencing improvements she's seen in the team since August. "We've tightened up our chemistry, our talking [and] our footwork. Our back row defense has come up huge recently."

Coach Botha added that the team is only as good as its bench. "We're a strong team. I feel like I can plug in anyone at anytime."

Lone Peak's conference record is 6-1 and their overall record is 10-3. Their next match is Friday, Oct. 13, a road game against one of the toughest teams in the district, the Manhattan Christian Eagles.

Like the Big Horns, the Eagles are a tall, experienced team with a front row of crackerjack hitters and blockers. Lone Peak last played Manhattan Christian during their Sept. 21 homecoming match, which went to five close sets.

The only conference loss Lone Peak has suffered this year has been against the Gardiner Bruins. The Big Horns will have a shot at redemption when they play the Bruins on Senior Night, Saturday, Oct. 14.

"Gardiner is an overall well-rounded team," Botha said. "They have a good offense at the net [but] we're right there with them. I don't see any reason why we can't beat Gardiner on Saturday."

Botha said the first 50 people who come through the door for the varsity game on Saturday will receive a free hot dog. There will also be a 50/50 raffle for the eight grade Washington D.C. trip.

"I really would like to fill the seats and have the homecoming atmosphere that we had against Manhattan Christian. I feel like the crowd really boosted our energy and we need that same energy on Senior Night," Botha said.

The Big Horns' last home game will be against Gardiner on Saturday, Oct. 14, Senior Night. The game starts at 6:30 p.m. The 11C District tournament will be held at Manhattan Christian on Oct. 26 and 27.

Bobcats dominate line of scrimmage, notch first home victory

BY COLTER NUANEZ EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN - The whipping wind won the day at Bobcat Stadium on Oct. 7.

Whether punting waywardly or throwing sporadically, any time the football went into the Bozeman air, something unexpected was bound to happen.

MSU scrapped its passing game and dominated the line of scrimmage against desperate, winless Portland State. Montana State ran an array of triple option elements out of a diverse collection of formations to the tune of 403 rushing yards on the way to a 30-22 win, its second Big Sky Conference and overall victory this season.

"The wind was a huge factor today," Choate said after his team's first home victory this season, in front of a third straight sellout crowd of nearly 19,000. "When you had the wind in your face, it was very difficult to throw the football and I think that played a role in our play-calling."

The Bobcats won their second game with Chris Murray as the starter with two or less pass completions. Murray finished 2-of-9 for 9 yards—he completed just two passes in MSU's 24-17 win over Montana last season as well.

During one portion of the third quarter, the Bobcats ran 25 consecutive run plays with the wind in their faces.

"With the wind going with you or the wind going toward you, you can definitely feel the difference and that obviously effected our play calling," Murray said. "I just had poor passes today so we decided to go more run-heavy."



Montana State linebacker Grant Collins rushes Portland State quarter-back Josh Kraght.

The Bobcats ran the ball 57 times and averaged 7.1 yards per rush. Senior Nick LaSane returned to the fold after missing four games due to suspension, and ran for 63 yards.

Montana State's defensive front owned the line of scrimmage all day, holding the Vikings to 2.8 yards per carry on 37 rushes and forcing PSU to throw the ball 52 times.



Montana State quarterback Chris Murray evades a Portland State defender. PHOTOS BY BROOKS NUANEZ

"The biggest thing was making sure we got our fits right, technique, making sure everyone was in the right places," MSU junior defensive tackle Zach Wright said after notching one of Montana State's eight tackles for loss. "That's always the plan: stop the run, make them one dimensional and change the way the ball game goes."

The Bobcats took a 10-7 lead into halftime after a sloppy first two quarters that included a Murray interception that turned into PSU's lone touchdown of the first half.

Midway through the fourth quarter, MSU pounded in the final nail. Murray's first pass attempt in 26 plays was a shot down the field to Justin Paige. He barely overthrew the senior speedster but loosened the coverage. Minutes later, MSU ran an end-around to Paige, Murray put a crucial diving block on PSU senior corner Donovan Olumba and Paige sprinted to his first touchdown of the season.

Montana State's attention now turns to a showdown at defending Big Sky champion No. 8 Eastern Washington, on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Colter Nuanez is an independent journalist living in southwest Montana. He is the co-founder of Skyline Sports (skylinesportsmt.com), an online newsgathering organization that provides comprehensive coverage of Montana State and Big Sky Conference athletics. He is also the co-host of the Tootell & Tatonka Show on ESPN radio in Missoula. He can be reached at Colter.Nuanez@gmail.com.





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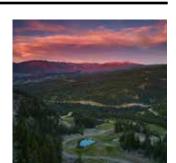


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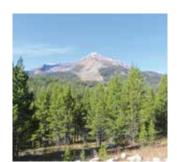


81 Pheasant Tail Unit 2 2,592 SQ FT / \$695K

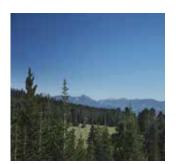
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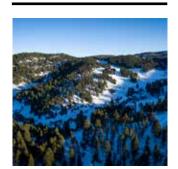


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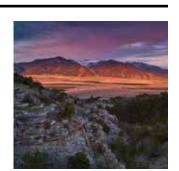


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Pumpkin: more than just pie

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER **EBS STAFF**

In the world of pumpkins, there are over 40 varieties. The bigger pumpkins that are perfect for carving a jack-o-lantern are less than ideal for eating. In fact, the large varieties of pumpkins are bred specifically to be oversized, hollow and flatbottomed for decorative purposes. They possess a thinner shell with less guts and flesh inside, making them ideal for carving. Their flesh tends to be watery, fibrous and bland, although the large seeds from this variety are perfect for roasting.

Pumpkins grown for consumption will have a more robust, nutty flavor and contain more nutrients. Opt for a small fruit, weighing between 4 and 8 pounds. Their flesh will be denser and less stringy than decorative pumpkins, closer to that of a winter squash. Here are a few varieties, often more ambiguously labeled as sugar pumpkins, to look for if you wish to cook or bake a pumpkin at home:

Baby Bear pumpkins are very tiny, usually weighing less than 2 pounds. They are deep orange in color and are ideal for purees because of their smooth flesh. For an extra festive touch, their small size makes them the perfect candidate to hollow and use as a serving dish.

Baby Pam, or sugar pies, are one of the more common edible pumpkin varieties, and are slightly larger than baby bears. Baby Pams have thinner skin than most other varieties, making them a great option if you prefer to peel your pumpkin before cooking. Their flesh is fine-grained, sweet and lacks moisture, making them a great selection for pies.

Cinderella pumpkins can't be missed with their vibrant, reddish-orange flesh. They are an heirloom variety, meaning their seeds have not been genetically modified. They have a sweet flavor, but their smooth, velvety texture differentiates them from other varieties. This variety provides double duty as a beautiful decoration and a versatile option for many winter squash recipes.

After choosing a proper pumpkin, you can prepare it similarly to any other winter squash, such as a butternut or acorn. Their thick skin makes them difficult to peel, so I often roast them with the skin on. Halving the fruit and removing the inner fiber and seeds before roasting makes it easy to scoop the soft, cooked flesh from the skin. In applications where you wish to dice or slice the flesh, the fruits can be peeled, but a paring knife will make the job go faster than a vegetable peeler.

Pumpkins are a great source of dietary fiber, as well as vitamins A and C, potassium and iron. Pureed pumpkin freezes wonderfully, and can be used to make a great soup or as addition to baked goods throughout the winter. While most uses today are sweet applications such as pies, breads, pancakes and lattes, pumpkin can really be used in any way you might prepare any other winter squash. Here is one of my favorite side dish recipes to bring to your next fallthemed potluck or Thanksgiving dinner.

Roasted pumpkin with radicchio

1 Baby Pam pumpkin, diced into bite sized pieces 1/4 head radicchio, sliced thin 1 shallot, sliced thin olive oil balsamic vinegar salt and pepper, to taste 1/4 cup toasted pine nuts 1/4 cup chopped parsley

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place pumpkin on one sheet tray and radicchio and shallots on another. Toss the vegetables in olive oil, salt, pepper and balsamic vinegar and roast until tender. The pumpkin will take 30 minutes to roast and the other vegetables only 15 minutes.

Remove from oven and combine vegetables together, arrange on a serving tray, and top with pine nuts and parsley.

AMUSE-BOUCHE

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

A chef's most important tool



BY SCOTT MECHURA EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

As a chef, I have many tools. Countless, really.

Among them are more knives than I can count. Some I purchased in places like Spain and France. A couple were gifts from Italy and Japan.

I have hooks and books, tongs and tweezers, wooden spoons from a chopstick shop in Manhattan, New York, mother of pearl spoons for dishing caviar, thermometers and even a refractometer.

These tools fill a cabinet the size of any you'd find in a mechanic's garage. The joke is usually that if you need it, I have it. And I have it handy.

But one tool is my most valuable, one tool that I could not work without.

My hands.

You're probably thinking that we all require our hands for everyday life, so what makes them such a special tool? Why not your palate, for example? After all, a chef's palate is often what distinguishes him or her from a non-culinarian. True, but so do his hands.

Grant Achatz, a Chicago chef, pressed on in his restaurant through a bout with tongue cancer some years back. Through treatment, he worked side by side with his right-hand man because he had such faith and trust in his palate.

But what if he was not able to use his hands?

Grip. We need a strong grip to hold heavy sauté pans in one hand for hours on end, tossing its contents just right, while simultaneously requiring dexterity in the other hand for maneuvering tongs or flipping a fish with a spatula.

We have to be able to wield knives of all weights and shapes, each one requiring a different variation of strength and finesse.

Touch. A seasoned cook or chef can determine the doneness of a multitude of cooked meats. And they can do it in under a second.

We can feel the softness and texture of any number of fruits and vegetables and know if it should be eaten today, or if it would benefit from one more day of ripening.

The snap of an asparagus tells us if it is fresh, and where it should be cut for optimal flavor and texture.

Through touch, we know when that pasta dough is just right for rolling.

Planning. A large part of a chef's job is organization, planning and ensuring efficiency. If he or she can't write a clear inventory, schedule, prep list or outline, it can cause confusion for the whole team.

Portioning. Consistency is the cornerstone of success in a restaurant. A chef should be able to run through an entire rib eye and cut every steak to perfect weight.

Eventually, you can pour salt or spice in your hand and know it is almost certainly 3 tablespoons.

Thermometer. An experienced cook can tell the temperature of most anything, food or otherwise, simply by feel. I've worked with a pastry chef who knew by touch when her tempered chocolate was ready. She wanted it at 88 degrees. When she walked away, I used my thermometer. It was 89 degrees.

Plating. In some cases, we plate large portions of foods that require a lot of strength and endurance, while other dishes and ingredients ask for precision, detail and the touch of a butterfly with sore feet.

Watch a skilled cook move rapidly down a plating line for a large party and quickly place each item in precisely the same place on each dish.

Those boots may be for walking, but a chef's hands were made for cooking.

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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Wild game cook-off returns to Ennis

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT **EBS CONTRIBUTOR**

BOZEMAN - The 32nd annual Hunters Feed returns to Ennis this year on Oct. 20, sponsored by the Ennis Chamber of Commerce. The event is held every year on the Friday before opening day of general rifle hunting season, welcoming hunters, families and food enthusiasts to a wild game cook-off.

Anyone can register to compete as a chef in the cook-off, but should be prepared to feed as many as 500 people. Chefs are encouraged to offer up creative wild game dishes and past entries have included moose chili, game bird carbonara, tequila elk chili, elk fajitas, duck stroganoff and even bear

Abigail King of the Ennis Chamber says that this year, folks can look forward to sampling dishes like smoked deer sausage jambalaya, venison taco soup and Polish hunter's elk sausage.

Between 3 and 5 p.m. people are invited to join the chefs on Main Street to sample recipes and vote on their favorites.

"The idea of having a wild game meat cook-off started back in 1985, after a few local hunters began pondering a way to empty their freezers in preparation for the upcoming hunting season," King said. "Hunting is big in Ennis and people have really enjoyed this event for over 30 years. Some of the dishes are so popular that the participants share their recipes as well.

"While summer is great, many get excited with the change of season; whether it be for hunting, skiing, snow shoeing, baking or all things pumpkin and apple," King added. "This event is just another way to celebrate fall."

Following the Hunters Feed, Willie's Distillery will host a Critter Call Competition at 6 p.m., where kids and adults are invited to compete in five animal call categories: big game, waterfowl and upland bird, predator, barnyard animal and other.

To learn more about the annual Ennis Hunters Feed or to sign up as a chef, visit ennischamber.com/calendar.asp. Pre-registration for the animal call competition can be done by emailing info@williesdistillery.com or by calling (406) 682-4117. Registration the day of the event ends at 5 p.m.





CONTACT US TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION

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BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

As a holistic health coach, I'm always studying methods on how to make habits stick. The overarching themes that experts in this field recommend are: ask the right questions, get to your why, repetition is key, set yourself up for success by creating manageable small steps along the way, and find accountability partners.

If you're interested in creating habits that stick, here's a worksheet that's a blend of the lessons I've learned over the years. Get out a pen and paper and let's nail this down.

- 1. What's the one new habit you want to form? If you feel like there are many, list them all and choose the one that is most important or most manageable for you to start today.
- 2. Why is it important for you to start this habit now? In order to help us get to the root cause of why this is important—which in turn motivates you to get started and keep going—we're going to use the "Five Whys." You'll take your previous response and build upon it until you've identified a root cause five layers deep.

Here's an example:

If the desired habit is to drink more water each morning, you're "whys" might be: This is important for me to start today because it helps me stay hydrated. Better hydration is important because it boosts my energy and improves digestion. This is important because it helps me be more productive. Productivity is important because it helps me earn a better

living. Earning a good living is important because it increases feelings of safety, stability and freedom.

Now I've gotten to the root cause of why drinking more water is important to me; it helps me increase my feelings of safety, stability and freedom. That's good incentive!

- 3. What's one small step that you can do today, and continue repeating everyday, that will help you form this habit? Repetition is key. It's how habits are formed. Be careful not to set yourself up to fail by making it too big of a commitment that you won't actually complete or that you're averse to doing. It shouldn't create a negative emotional response. If it does, make it even smaller or change it. For me, it means leaving a little reminder near the French press to take a few sips of water before drinking my morning coffee.
- 4. Layer your accountability. Having accountability partners is key. The more "layers" of accountability you create, the more likely you are to reach your goal. Make a list of your accountability partners. I've shared my intention with my husband, a corporate group I do monthly health talks with, and now you.

If you did list more than one habit, consider deciding not to tackle a new one until the first new habit's become engrained. If you're finding it challenging, try different approaches before throwing in the towel. Use your learning experience from this first round to build onto the next habit.

Please let me know how it goes.

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





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"Sunflowers" 40 x 30, oil on canvas, by Paula Pearl



Early exposure to common allergens can prevent food allergies later in life

BY JEFF DANIELS EBS MEDICAL COLUMNIST

What precisely is a food allergy? The term "allergy" in general is often loosely used to explain a set of symptoms, ranging from mild itching to life-threatening anaphylaxis, that occur from a certain exposure.

A food allergy is an adverse effect resulting from a specific immune response occurring consistently upon exposure to a given food. A food allergy has substantial negative effects on health and quality of life for kids and adults with this condition.

One major problem with diagnosing food allergies is that the testing that has been traditionally used—and even newer methods of testing—can give misleading results and fail to truly diagnose significant allergies. More often than not, testing will over-diagnose food allergens. This means that tests that use multiple panels of multiple food allergens, in the hunt for one specific food, are of no good use.

A patient's medical history is the most important tool for making the correct diagnosis. A food allergy diagnosis must be considered when allergic symptoms (rash, itching, swelling, difficulty breathing) occur within minutes to hours upon ingesting a specific food, especially if it recurs on repeat exposure.

Most, but not all, significant allergies to foods are caused by an overproduction of a certain immunoglobulin called IgE. IgE triggers the release of histamine, which can lead to hives, facial swelling, throat swelling, asthma and even anaphylactic shock. These symptoms could be life threatening, and having the right dose of epinephrine for intramuscular injection is the recommended way to treat a reaction.

There are other types of immune-mediated reactions to foods that don't involve IgE. Some foods cause intense abdominal pain about two hours after ingestion. The term for this condition is protein-induced enterocolitis. In some people, ingestion leads to mucous-coated bloody stools, a condition called allergic colitis. Allergy tests that look for excess IgE will not help diagnose this condition.

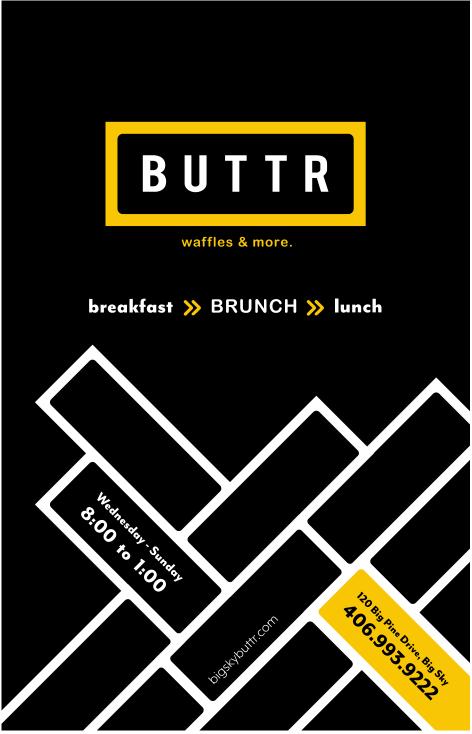
An oral food challenge is the definitive test for determining if an infant, child or adult truly has a food allergy. Since a life-threatening reaction could occur from such exposure, this type of test has to be well thought out and performed by an allergist who specializes in treating severe reactions.

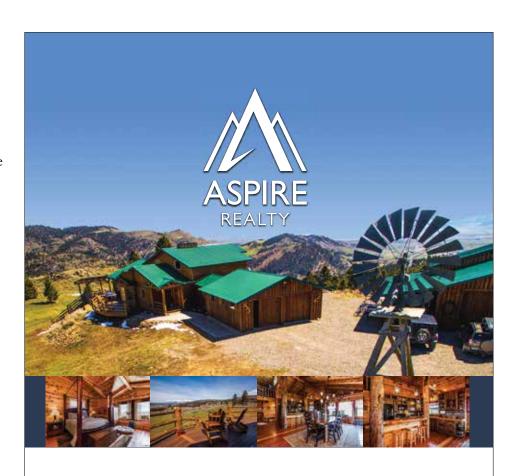
There has been a sea change in the thinking about helping children avoid developing certain food allergies. Newer thinking about allergy prevention includes the recent endorsement of introducing allergenic foods in an infant's diet earlier than previously advised. This includes peanuts, a leading cause of severe allergies. We now know that we can specifically decrease the incidence of peanut allergy by introducing peanuts as early as four to six months. Such exposure prevents infants who are at a high risk for peanut allergy from becoming allergic to peanuts, but not other allergenic foods.

Once an allergy has developed, avoidance of the offending food is of utmost importance. Attempts to de-sensitize an individual with shots, drops and a host of other unproven methods usually have poor results.

Treatment of a reaction, mild or severe, involves the administration of epinephrine (also called adrenaline) into a muscle. The epinephrine can be delivered with an Epi-Pen or similar intramuscular injection device. There is an adult dose (0.3 cc) and a child's dose (0.15 cc), but they've yet to manufacture an infant's dose (0.075 cc). Epi-Pen devices are expensive, but could be life saving. Antihistamines and steroids also have a place in treatment.

Dr. Jeff Daniels was the recipient of the 2015 Chamber of Commerce Chet Huntley Lifetime Achievement Award had 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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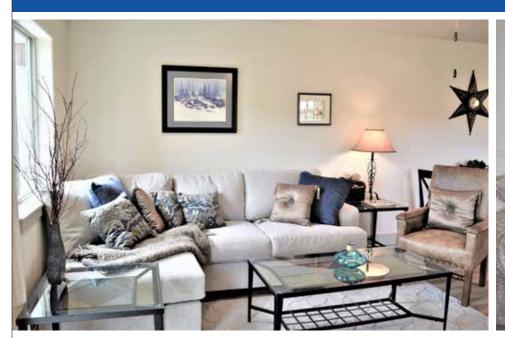
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Section 3:OUTDOORS, FUN & BACK 40







INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Lamar Buffalo Ranch: A story of conservation

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Reverse the clocks several revolutions past 100 years ago. The year is 1901 and there are an estimated 25 bison roaming in Yellowstone National Park. Teddy Roosevelt has just become president of the United States and market hunting, poaching and U.S. policy have decimated the bison herd, which was once estimated to number in the millions.

More than 100 years later, on Oct. 3, 2017, senior bison biologist Rick Wallen of Yellowstone National Park reported there are nearly 5,000 bison in the park. The reestablishment of Yellowstone's bison is a conservation story that can hardly be separated from the story of the Lamar Buffalo Ranch.

"By the late 19th century, bison herds that once ranged across the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains had been decimated by the U.S. Army and Euro-American settlers," said Jonathan Shafer, a spokesman for the park. "By the turn of the 20th century, the only place bison are known to have roamed free was in Yellowstone National Park."

During Yellowstone's early years, poachers and meat hunters continued to seek bison and other animals within the park boundary. Fearing mass extinctions, Congress enacted a series of hunting regulations on a land that had never been regulated before.

As recorded in historian Aubrey Haines' "The Yellowstone Story: A History of Our First National Park, Volume Two," after failed attempts to corral the park's wild buffalo in an effort to preserve the dwindling herd, Congress appropriated \$15,000 in 1902 to purchase domestic bison from a location outside of the park. These captive bison would be used to augment the wild Yellowstone herd.

About one dozen cows and three bulls were initially kept at an enclosure at Mammoth Hot Springs, and offspring captured from Yellowstone's wild herd were introduced into the captive herd to help maintain the Yellowstone genetics. By 1907 the captive bison had outgrown the enclosure and were moved to a corral at Rose Creek in Lamar Valley, on the site of a former homestead that would come to be called the Lamar Buffalo Ranch.

"Work at the buffalo ranch was hard and dangerous," Shafer said, referencing Haines' book and his description of the work done by the buffalo keeper and herders.



The Lamar Buffalo Ranch was in operation from 1907 to 1952 as a facility to breed and feed bison in the park. NPS PHOTO

"Beginning early in January, ranch hands scoured the slopes adjacent to the Lamar Valley as far as Miller Creek, driving in the bison through snow that was sometimes 2 or 3 feet deep," Shafer said. "The buffalo were herded into a large corral and were moved from there to smaller corrals where they were examined by ranch hands and fed."



Today, the buffalo ranch remains as a symbol of the story of conservation and Yellowstone Forever programing is held at the facility. PHOTO BY MATT LUDIN

During Yellowstone's long, harsh winters, the captive herd was fed hay grown near present-day Tower Junction, and rangers would cut and stack 500 to 800 tons of hay to feed park horses, elk and buffalo during the worst part of the winter.

As the Lamar Buffalo Ranch herd grew, bison were released into the free-roaming herds in order to supplement their numbers. Shafer says that by 1952, the captive herd had grown to nearly 1,000 animals, and ranch operations were suspended.

"The Lamar Buffalo Ranch is a symbol of a real conservation success story, and the story is really about bringing the American bison back from extinction," said Robert Petty, director of education for Yellowstone Forever, the park's educational nonprofit partner.

Today, the Lamar Buffalo Ranch is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and includes five buildings: a ranger station constructed in 1915 as the buffalo keeper's residence, a pole fence corral maintained from 1915 into the 1930s, a 1927 log barn for hay and horses, a 1929 bunkhouse, and a residence used for the assistant buffalo keeper that was moved from Soda Butte in 1938.

Remnants of irrigation ditches, fencing and water troughs, as well as some nonnative grasses planted for hay, still characterize the landscape.

About 30 years ago, Yellowstone Association—which has since merged with Yellowstone Park Foundation to become Yellowstone Forever—began offering educational programs based at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch, including Expedition Yellowstone for school groups and Yellowstone Field Seminars offered to the public. In the 1980s, Yellowstone Association moved 16 old tourist cabins from Fishing Bridge to be used for participant housing and in 1993 they were replaced with heated, insulated cabins.

"[The buffalo ranch] is tucked away in Lamar Valley," Petty said. "It gives people an opportunity to be in a historic place in a much more intimate experience. It is in a unique location and it provides a really unique experience to be living and learning in a simultaneously historic context."

In a new chapter in the history of the park, the Lamar Buffalo Ranch "is a model of off-the-grid-technology," Petty said. The facility is powered by a 7-kilowatt photovoltaic array installed in 2000, and is complete with low-flow water fixtures, a small hydropower system, on-demand hot water and zero-waste and recycling programs.

"In its present capacity, the ranch continues to serve an important role in the conservation of Yellowstone by educating visitors about things all of us can do to steward our shared, natural heritage," Shafer said.

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Museum hosts talk on microbial 'Unseen Yellowstone'

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Yellowstone National Park's hot springs are natural ecosystems where microorganisms have adapted to high temperatures and unique geochemical environments. Brent Peyton, Director of the Thermal Biology Institute at Montana State University, will explain why these thermal features are ideal locations for studying robust microorganisms for biotechnology and energy applications in the second presentation of the fall Science Inquiry Series.

The talk will be presented at the Museum of the Rockies on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. in the museum's Hager Auditorium.

The series, sponsored by the Gallatin Valley Friends of the Sciences, explores cutting edge science topics, their latest developments and their relevance to society, through speaker presentations followed by conversations between speaker and audience. The talks are free to the public.

Peyton's presentation, "Unseen Yellowstone: Microbial Discoveries and Biotech Applications," will describe his work in Yellowstone and how the hardy organisms isolated in the hot springs are informing advances in biotechnology and energy fields. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity for audience members to engage in conversation with the presenter in the museum lobby with light refreshments served.

Peyton is a professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering at MSU and sits on the Executive Board of the National Science Foundation Center for Biofilm Engineering. His 25 years of research has focused on characterizing microorganisms and microbial process in natural and engineered systems. He has authored and co-authored

more than 100 publications on his work, holds five patents in environmental biology applications, and was awarded the 2016 MSU College of Engineering Distinguished Professorship.

The speaker presentation and audience participation segments together will last approximately an hour.



As a part of the Science Inquiry Series, Brent Peyton will discuss microorganisms adapted to the geothermal environment in Yellowstone National Park. PHOTO BY BRENT PEYTON



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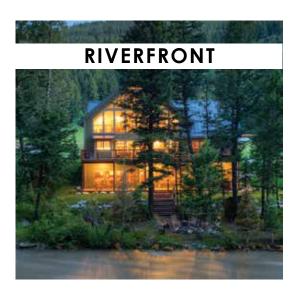
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Now's the time for fishing on foot



BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

The schizophrenia of September is over. After a stretch of fires and heat waves early in the month, winter storms in the middle of the month, and a sunny and warm final week, we're moving into the heart of winter. While most local sporting goods stores are replacing their stock of fly rods and waders with skis and snowboards, those of us whose

livelihoods depend on fishing know that this is our time.

As a career fly-fishing guide and outfitter, the past six months of my professional existence has been about taking care of others' needs before mine. Things are about to change. With the exception of guiding a few trips on my personal calendar, the next few weeks are when I get in some much-needed personal fishing time. Here's a list of my favorite spots these next few weeks that are fishable on foot.

Hatches of Blue Winged Olives and midges on the Paradise Valley spring creeks. We're blessed to have three world famous walk-and-wade fisheries nearby: DePuy's, Armstrong's/O'hairs, and Nelson's spring creeks. These small creeks are ideal for anglers who revel in the quiet nature of fly fishing and enjoy subtle presentations made with two- and three- weight rods.

Head to the creeks on a day with little wind and you'll find fish eating tiny dry flies. If little or no hatch occurs, fish size 18 or 20 midge nymphs below a very small indicator and you should have success. If you want a head start or wish to learn more about these fisheries, a knowledgeable spring creek guide is crucial—a fact I've learned from guiding anglers on these creeks for over 20 years.

Northeast corner of Yellowstone National Park. This remote corner of our nation's first national park is home to some heavy hitters like Slough Creek, the Lamar River, Soda Butte Creek and the Yellowstone River. In my younger days, when covering 10 miles in a day was the norm, I spent days here. Pack extra layers and plenty of black woolly buggers or Sculpzillas as the Yellowstone cutthroat in these rivers are bulking up for winter and don't pass up a well presented meal.

Upper Madison between the lakes or above Lyons Bridge. If big fish on foot is your goal, consider this area. As the lure of trophy bull elk keeps many people in the woods, the potential for large brown trout and solitude exist on the Upper Madison. Dead-drifting or slowly stripping large streamers is the most often used method, however for anglers who can see little dry flies, hatches of midges are a daily occurrence. If you like techie dry fly angling, be sure to carry along some size 18 or 20 dry flies. Watch the forecast because an



Late fall fishing can bring nasty weather, but it's also a great time to enjoy walking and wading. Trout are hungry this time of year and there are fewer anglers jockeying for position at local fishing holes. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA FISHING GUIDE SCHOOL

overcast day certainly will bring more fish to net as Upper Madison trout are not fans of bright sun.

Gallatin River near Big Sky. And of course, the Gallatin River right here in Big Sky. Talking about the consistency of the Gallatin is good and bad: you want people to know it's damn good, but not so good that it feels crowded. Hatches of midges can occur, but you'll find the most success fishing tandem nymph rigs with an indicator.

For locals, the Gallatin is ideal—you can get in a few hours of fishing during the best time of day and still have time to work, make a supply run to Bozeman, or in the case of a fishing guide in his or her downtime...take a nap.

Young fishing guides might think drift boats are sexy and the cool kids in the guide community are wearing jeans and knee-high Muck Boots because they're too lazy or too cold to wear waders, but local anglers who care more about catching fish than liking or tweeting know now is the time to ditch the phone and buckle up the waders.

Pat Straub is one of area's most respected spring creek and walk-wade guides. He 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.





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Yellowstone Club expands skiing opportunities for its members

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – This winter the Yellowstone Club will expand skiing terrain for its members and their guests. Previously, the YC had 2,200 acres available for skiing and with a 500-acre expansion on Eglise Mountain, total skiable acreage will increase to 2,700 acres this winter.

The expansion to Eglise Mountain (elevation 9,573 feet) will add 17 groomed runs and access 2,104 vertical feet of terrain. Four lifts—a gondola, fixed grip triple lift, detachable quad and covered conveyor lift—will service the new area.

As a part of the Eglise Mountain expansion, YC will also open a family-friendly yurt, which will offer a creative soup and salad bar, as well as an à la carte menu.

An additional construction project that will reach completion this winter is a renovation to the Lake Lift Comfort Station. The new construction has added more space and restrooms to the building.

"YC is constantly making improvements to the mountain experience for our members and guests," said YC General Manager Hans Williamson. "The new skiable terrain on Eglise Mountain is an amenity we have been looking forward to opening for years and we are thrilled to deliver it for this ski season, keeping the slopes uncrowded."



In this Sept. 23 photo, construction is wrapping up as the Yellowstone Club expands its ski terrain to 500 acres on Eglise Mountain. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES





On the Trail: South Fork Spanish Creek Trail

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

BY CIARA WOLFE BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When the weather turns cold and trails in Big Sky often become wet or snowy, I head north through Gallatin Canyon to one of my favorite fall hikes, the South Fork Spanish Creek Trail. Thirty miles from Big Sky, this trailhead is a little off the beaten path but well worth the extra time it takes to get there. The beautiful scenic drive through the Flying D Ranch affords sights of fall foliage and wildlife.

At the large, developed trailhead, there is access to three different trails: Little Hellroaring (#400), Cherry Creek (#401) and South Fork Spanish Creek (#407). South Fork Spanish Creek Trail is a narrow, moderate, dirt and rock trail that can be extended to whatever length you desire, as it makes several connections that lead deep into the Lee Metcalf Wilderness among the Spanish Peaks.

This trail is unique because it truly offers something for everyone, from small children and parents who want an easy, scenic out-and-back hike along Spanish Creek, to the most extreme backpackers, ski mountaineers, and climbers and hikers who can access several of the Spanish Peaks, the highest of which is Gallatin Peak at 11,000 feet.

The trailhead has ample parking for cars and trailers, an outhouse, picnic areas and equestrian areas, as well as an old U.S. Forest Service guard station that can still be rented for overnight stays through the Custer Gallatin National Forest.

From the parking area, take a small path approximately 15 yards to the trailhead sign. From there, cross Spanish Creek on a small wooden bridge and take a left onto South Fork Spanish Creek Trail. Turning right will take you on the Cherry Creek Trail. The first 2 miles of South Fork Spanish Creek trail are flat as the trail meanders along the creek. Between 2 and 3 miles, you reach a fork in the trail. Going right will take you up Falls Creek Trail and up to the Spanish Lakes.

Remaining straight on the South Fork Spanish Creek Trail culminates at Mirror Lake after 7.5 miles with the majority of the climb in the last 2 miles. From Mirror Lake you can continue into Bear Basin or to Summit Lake. The picturesque destination options are endless, and for those

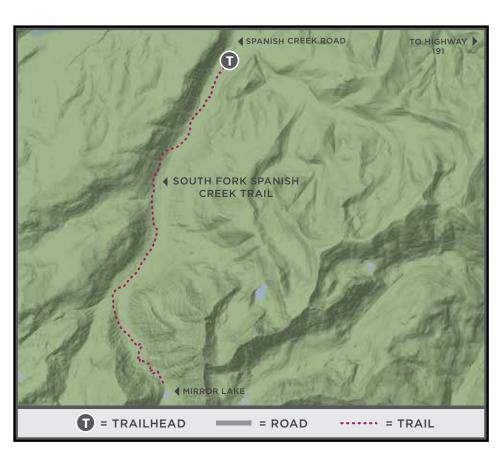


Ciara Wolfe's hiking partners, Junebug and Drifter, before setting out on the South Fork Spanish Creek Trail, a great option for a fall hike that can be customized for every skill level. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

looking for a casual hike into the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, the first 2 miles of this trail make for an excellent choice.

The trail sees heavy equestrian usage and is not open to bikers or motorized vehicles. Hikers, please yield to horse traffic as dictated by proper trail etiquette. The trail is also heavily used by hunters in the fall, so be sure to wear your blaze orange apparel. The Spanish Peaks are also a common bear habitat so please be bear aware and prepared when on this trail.

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





TRAIL STATS



7.5 miles one way



Horses and Hikers



DifficultyModerate



Elevation

6,114 feet at trailhead Elevation gain: 2,256 feet



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Directions: From Big Sky drive 20 miles north on Highway 191 and turn left onto Spanish Creek Road shortly after crossing over Spanish Creek. Follow Spanish Creek Road 9 miles through the Flying D Ranch to the Spanish Creek Trailhead.



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Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



The fall colors along the Gallatin. Snowcapped peaks. Bugling bulls surrounded by a harem of cows. It's a great time to be in Montana.

Many anglers and guides are ditching their boats for their wading boots. Fishing out of a boat can still be a good call, but watch the weather. You don't want to be caught out there on a cold, windy day and still have 8 miles left of

Some trout are starting to move away from the edges and pocket water and heading back into good winter runs where they can conserve energy, get the food they need and stay protected from danger. Spawning brown trout are the exception to this as they will hang out in spawning redds through October and into November before moving into their winter lies.

Dry fly fishing is less consistent in fall, but if you're patient and know what to look for you can be rewarded with some great opportunities. Small baetis dries that sit low in the film tend to fish best like the Brook's Sprout or other cripple type patterns. Dropping a small lightweight emerger like an RS2 or Little Green Machine behind the dry is also a good call for those fish eating just under the surface. Some fish may still be caught on ants, beetles and hoppers. That being said most of those bugs are no longer active due to the cold temps.

Streamer fishing in the fall has for a long time been a popular pastime for many. Not because of the numbers of fish it produces, but because of the potential. Most of these anglers are fueled by the thought of doing battle with an epic Montana brown. And if you're patient and diligent you'll get some shots. Streamer fishing is hard work and is often psychologically taxing in between fish. Then all of the sudden you see a fish follow your fly or you feel a tug after a long lull. That's what keeps the streamer angler going back.

A few anglers will also swing soft hackles, especially in the Madison inside Yellowstone Park. This method is similar to fishing streamers as it demands a patient angler. Anglers that need action tend to nymph, usually under a strike indicator. There is hardly a time when nymphing will not out-perform other methods, period.

Whatever your methods make sure to take in some time to breath in some crisp air and appreciate your surroundings. Note that Yellowstone Park will close to fishing on November 5th.









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Inside the Big Sky | By Derek Lennon

Take an avalanche course in southwest Montana this winter

BY DEREK LENNON EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Skiers, snowboarders, snowmobilers, snowshoers, ice climbers, fat bikers and cross country skiers love to play in the mountains of southwest Montana. During the winter months, Big Sky Country provides outdoor enthusiasts with one of the coolest mountain playgrounds in the entire world. If you plan to enjoy it, please do so safely.

When you choose to recreate in the backcountry during the winter, you are responsible for your own actions. Knowledge, skills and experience can help you stay safe and avoid hazards while having fun in avalanche terrain. In addition to investing in the proper gear, reading the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center's daily avalanche advisory and reading avalanche books, you should take an avalanche course.

Avalanche courses are taught by snow professionals who are keen to share their knowledge of avalanches with you in the classroom and the field. A proper avalanche course typically lasts a few days, and will dive into topics such as avalanche rescues, beacon searches, snow science, mountain hazards and more.

Taking an avalanche course is a smart investment. The knowledge and skills you learn just might save your life. Below is a list that you can use as a starting point to plan your backcountry education this winter. Sign up as early as possible because these courses fill up.

Here are some avalanche course options offered in southwest Montana:

American Avalanche Institute – AAI offers numerous avalanche education options in the Mountain West. These are the courses offered in Bozeman.

Avalanche Level 1 – January 18-21, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – February 8-11, 2018 Avalanche Level 2 – January 12-15, 2018

Beartooth Mountain Guides

Avalanche Level 1 – February 3-5, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – March 25-27, 2018

Beartooth Powder Guides

Avalanche Level 1 – December 8-10, 2017 Avalanche Level 1 – December 15-17, 2017 Avalanche Level 1 – January 5-7, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – January 12-14, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – February 2-4, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – February 9-11, 2018

Avalanche Level 1 – January 27-28, 2018 – Snowmobile Specific

Avalanche Level 1 Refresher - December 2-3, 2017

Avalanche Level 2 – January 18-21, 2018

Big Sky Backcountry Guides/Bell Lake Yurt

Avalanche Level 1 – December 8-10, 2017 Avalanche Level 1 – December 15-17, 2017 Avalanche Level 1 – December 29-31, 2017 Avalanche Level 1 – January 5-7, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – January 12-15, 2018 Avalanche Level 2 – January 18-21, 2018

BSAFE

At this point, BSAFE has not released the dates for their avalanche courses.

Please consult the Big Sky Resort events calendar for the latest information.

Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center

The GNFAC has a full schedule of avalanche courses and events for backcountry enthusiasts of all abilities. Please visit the GNFAC education calendar for more information.

Hellroaring Powder Guides

Avalanche Level 1 – December 15-17, 2017 Avalanche Level 2 – January 13-15, 2018

Montana Alpine Guides

Avalanche Level 1 - December 1-3, 2017 - Ice Climber Specific

Avalanche Level 1 – December 15-17, 2017 Avalanche Level 1 – January 13-15, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – February 17-19, 2018 Avalanche Level 1 – March 9-11, 2018

Yellowstone Ski Tours

Avalanche Level 1 – January 13-15, 2018

As you can see, there are plenty of avalanche courses offered across southwest Montana. Whether you take a weekend course close to home or opt for an avalanche education road trip, it's well worth the time and the money.

For the most up-to-date information and full details, contact the above companies directly.



If you're going to travel in the southwest Montana backcountry during the winter, being "avy" savvy is critical because avalanches, like this one photographed in Beehive Basin, are an ever-present concern. PHOTO BY DEREK LENNON

Whether you play in the Gallatins, Madisons, Tobacco Roots, Absarokas, Beartooths, Yellowstone National Park, Centennials, Crazies or beyond, have fun and stay safe this winter season.

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 visithigskymt.com/avalanche-course-montana-20172018/. Read more interesting content about the area on Visit Big Sky's blog at visithigskymt.com/category/blog/.

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Oktoberfest 8K pairs trail running with tradition

EBS STAFF

BOZEMAN - On Oct. 14 Bozeman Running Company will host Oktoberfest activities at the East Gallatin Recreation Area, with an 8K run along scenic trails north of Bozeman as the highlight of the event. Cancelled last year, the Oktoberfest 8K returns from 2015 as a celebration of fall trail running.

The course will take runners around the East Gallatin Recreation Area and Cherry River Fishing Access, with a start time beginning at 4 p.m. Runners are encouraged to dress in costume and a number of Oktoberfest activities will follow the race.

Partake in a log sawing competition taken from the original Oktoberfest in Germany, or compete to hold a stein full of beer at arm's length until there is no one else remaining. There will also be a brat toss, and drinks will be provided by the Bozeman Brewing Company, with Bozone Amber Ale, Hopzone IPA and Gallatin Pale Ale on tap in the beer hall.

Top prizes for the competitions include winning your weight in beer. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes, and event organizers suggest women try out a dirndl or men don lederhosen.

Pre-registration and race-day registration are both available. Registration the day of the event will begin at 3 p.m.

To pre-register for the Oktoberfest 8K or to check out results after the race visit oktoberfestbozeman.com.



Following an 8K race on Oct. 14, Bozeman Running Company will host a number of Oktoberfest activities, such as a costume contest and log sawing competition. PHOTO BY TYLER WILKINSON



Jeff Daniels, MD

Cary Wilson, PA-C

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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 listening tunes now, we've got you covered.

The time of year has come for hunkering down as the weather begins to bring winter to life, although it's not here in force yet. If a cup of something hot and apple-spiced, blankets, books and/or movies is what you're getting after in this in-between season, this is the playlist for you. Even if you refuse to be relegated to the indoors, after days braving the cold, come home and put these songs on as feeling returns to your rosy fingers.

- 1. "Western," Alex de Grassi
- 2. "Mushaboom," Fiest
- 3. "Blue Moon," Alysha Brilla
- 4. "Signals," Júniús Meyvant
- 5. "Wash.," Bon Iver
- 6. "I found," Amber Run
- 7. "Sunrise," Norah Jones
- 8. "Cucurucu," Nick Mulvey
- 9. "Longing/Love," George Winston
- 10. "Heaven's Knife," Josh Garrels

Sudoku

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

						7		
8							9	
		7						5
1		8		4 3		6		
			8	3			5	
6			8 5		9			
	3	5	1				7	
			9		3		4	
4		1		7		5		

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DIFFICULTY: ★★★★

American Life in Poetry: Column 655

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

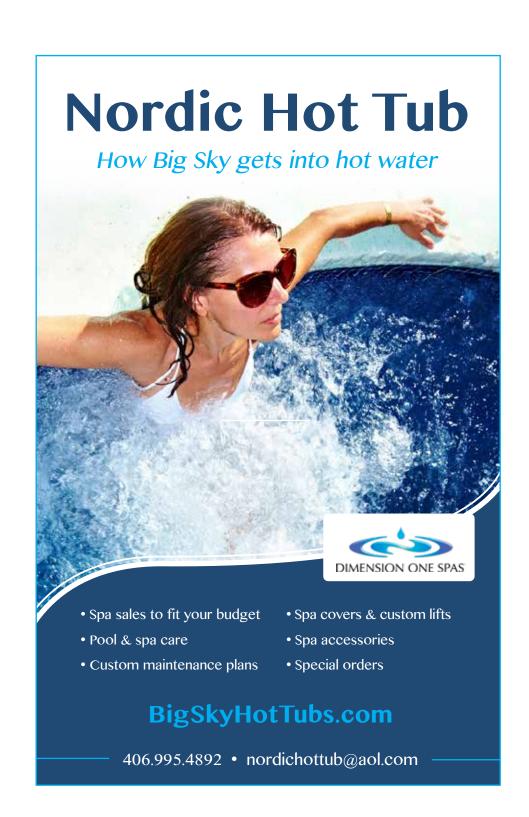
Grace Cavalieri, who lives in Washington, D.C., has performed a great service for American poetry over the past forty years with her public radio show, "The Poet and the Poem." She's also a playwright and a fine poet. Here's a "field trip" poem from her book "With," from Somondoco Press. "The Grace Cavalieri Reader" is available this month from Alan Squire Publications.

The Hot Dog Factory (1937)

By Grace Cavalieri

Of course now children take it for granted but once we watched boxes on a conveyor belt, sliding by, magically filled and closed, packed and wrapped. We couldn't get enough of it, running alongside the machine. In kindergarten Miss Haynes walked our class down Stuyvesant Avenue, then up Prospect Street to the hot dog factory. Only the girls got to go as the boys were too wild. We stood in line, wiggling with excitement as the man talked about how they made hot dogs, then he handed us one, and Jan dropped hers, so I broke mine in half. This was the happiest day of our lives, children whose mothers didn't drive, and had nowhere to go but school and home, to be taken to that street to watch the glittering steel and shining rubber belts moving, moving meats, readymade. I wish I could talk with Jan, recalling the miracle and thrill of the hot dog factory, when she was alive, before it all stoppedbright lights, glistening motors, spinning wheels.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright © 2016 by Grace Cavalieri, "The Hot Dog Factory (1937)," from "With," (Somondoco Press, 2016). Poem reprinted by permission of Grace Cavalieri and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2017 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.



BACKLI

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

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

Hot springs in Southwest Montana

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER EBS STAFF

Hot springs, also known as thermal springs, are naturally occurring discharges of groundwater that are typically heated by intrusions of magma in volcanic areas. Groundwater that's fed by rain and melted snow flows underground and seeps into the earth via cracks in its surface. Heated water rises to the surface as a spring and mixes with water in rivers or shallow pools to create a pleasant soaking environment, or natural hot tub.

Geysers are formed in the same way, but the difference between a geyser and a hot spring is that a geyser has an obstruction between underwater chambers and the surface, causing its water to boil underground rather than rising to the surface. These obstructions cause steam to push water up and the change in pressure results in an eruption.

In hot springs, the water is able to move freely to the surface, which allows for a mostly even release of heated surface water. Some hot springs can reach 280 degrees Fahrenheit, meaning that not all hot springs are safe to soak in. There are 61 known hot springs in Montana, ranging from natural springs to soaking pools that have been built for commercial purposes.

A trademark characteristic of some hot springs is their sulfuric smell, which is commonly associated with rotten eggs. Because the hot water feeding into the spring comes from underground, it dissolves and picks up all sorts of minerals and elements along its path to the surface. The elements that contribute to the smell are sulfide compounds, with sulfur giving off the characteristic smell. Some smell more pungent than others. Higher water temperatures allow for more compounds to be dissolved.

One of the most popular natural hot springs in our region is the Boiling River, which is located at the very north end of Yellowstone National Park, south of Gardiner. This hot spring has a maximum surface temperature of 163 degrees Fahrenheit, but mixes with cooler water from the Gardiner River to form a pleasant soaking environment just above 100 degrees, depending on the time of year. Although Yellowstone is an area with a large amount of hot springs, this is one of the few locations within the park where

Commercial hot springs pump heated water from below ground into constructed pools and tubs. Most of these places are considered resorts or spas and require a fee for soaking, unlike more remote, undeveloped springs. Many of these commercial spas have different pools that they regulate to different temperatures. Depending on your preference, you can soak in water that's lukewarm or piping hot.

soaking is permitted.



The Boiling River, located within Yellowstone National Park just south of Gardiner, is a popular tourist destination in winter and summer seasons alike. NPS PHOTO

Do some research on specific springs, especially undeveloped ones, before embarking on a day trip to a hot spring. It'd be disappointing to travel to Nimrod Hot springs expecting a warm soak, only to be greeted with a cool pool with a maximum surface temperature of 70 degrees Fahrenheit! The following map lists popular destinations, both developed and undeveloped, to check out next time you're on the mission for a relaxing soak.



Section 4:ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT









BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BOZEMAN – When asked what he wanted to be when he grew up, Ryan Mitchell would say a hobo or moonshiner. Although it would be years before pottery entered the picture, his attraction to that outlaw lifestyle would prove to run deeper than a young boy's romanticized notions of the Prohibition-era South.

While studying biology at the University of Memphis in Tennessee, Mitchell took a ceramics class "to keep his sanity," and immediately fell in love with the medium—in fact, it came over him like "gangbusters."

Some of the first pieces he made were whiskey jugs and flasks—rounded, corktopped vessels, the pocket variety outfitted with a leather carrying pouch.

"I've always been drawn to moonshine culture and making what you need for yourself within that culture," Mitchell said while squirting terracotta-colored glaze over the bottom half of bone-white porcelain pots and mugs in a loose, mountain ridgeline pattern. "The moonshiners and potters would be in business together; you couldn't go into a store and buy a million jars, so you'd go to the local potter and have him make them for you."

Mitchell also draws parallels between his affinity for farming and working with clay.

"You're working with dirt basically, and shaping it into something else," Mitchell said. "If you find a clay deposit, you can shape it, heat it and you've got a cup."

Although Mitchell does not dig his own clay—he gets it from the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena—he is somewhat of a minimalist, and the functionality of objects is important to him on a number of levels.

"I'm always trying to declutter, so if I'm going to buy something, I want it to be utilitarian," said Mitchell. "There's something so amazing about being able to create vessels that serve so many purposes, that can have so much beauty to them but still be used."

Back in his Bozeman studio after touring the craft fair circuit for most of the summer, Mitchell is busy replenishing his inventory. During an Oct. 4 interview, Mitchell explained that the pieces he's glazing—what he calls the "least sexy" step of pottery-making—have already undergone an initial firing in an electric kiln he's affectionately dubbed "Betsy."



Mitchell makes a wide range of functional pottery in distinct styles that range from earthy, landscape-inspired motifs to the spare and whimsical. PHOTO COURTESY OF GANGBUSTERS POTTERY

Once he finishes glazing, the pieces will undergo a second firing and hopefully emerge from the 2,200-degree heat 15 hours later as the newest additions to his mountain line, one of his most popular designs. They come in a variety of forms and color combinations, each one-of-a kind but cohesive as part of a set.

Mitchell also makes pieces that have a more contemporary, playful aesthetic with an illustrative style reminiscent of Dr. Seuss—pale greens and blues with simple sketches of

The functional soul of Gangbusters Pottery



Potter Ryan Mitchell in his mixed studio storefront space on Wallace Avenue in northeast Bozeman. Mitchell is one of 22 area artists participating in the Bozeman Open Studios Tour on Oct. 21 and 22. PHOTO BY SARAH

clouds, flowers, creatures and critters.

Both of these veins of work, as well as pieces that don't fit neatly into either, line the shelving in his studio-storefront with a plethora of practical household items: serving bowls, jars, butter dishes, candlestick holders, cake stands, soap dishes and dispensers, tea pots and sets, and cups and mugs in every variation of size and style one might want.

For Mitchell, handmade items with functionality enhance every day rituals, and a surprisingly intimate relationship can develop between object and user.

"In most cases you're not going to put your mouth on a painting, but someone is going to put their mouth on that cup every day," Mitchell said. "That is so intimate. It should be beautiful. You can go to Walmart and [buy a mug] and it will be really cheap but it's not going to make you feel good; it's not going to feel special."

It's difficult to imagine any of Mitchell's work at Walmart. One can see, and feel, his hands in each piece, refined just to the point that his skillfulness shines, without compromising the handmade quality so inherent to its value.

Mitchell also does a fair amount of custom work for individuals—including newlyweds looking for dinnerware more meaningful than store-bought china—and businesses, including Zocalo Coffee House, The Daily Coffee Bar, Townshend's Tea Company, and the Rendezvous food truck. He also sells his work in both Bozeman Ace Hardware stores, and currently has a window display at the downtown location.

Whether working with businesses or individuals, he enjoys the collaborative process. "It gives them ownership of it, and keeps me pushing and experimenting in ways I wouldn't have otherwise."

But in terms of Mitchell's ambitions, they are as humbly, fundamentally salt of the earth, as his medium of choice.

"If I can make pretty things that people enjoy using on a daily basis, that makes me feel so good," Mitchell said. "To me, that's success."

Gangbusters Pottery is located at 724 N. Wallace, Suite 3, in Bozeman. Visit gangbusterspottery.com for more information.

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9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga

11:00-12:00pm All Levels Yoga **TUESDAY**

7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga

9:00-10:00am All Levels Yoga

4:15-5:15pm All Levels Yoga

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WEDNESDAY

8:00-8:45am DanceX

9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga

11:00-12:30 The Practice (level 2-3 Yoga) THURSDAY

7:30-8:30am All Levels Mat Pilates

> 9:00-10:00am All Levels Yoga

FRIDAY

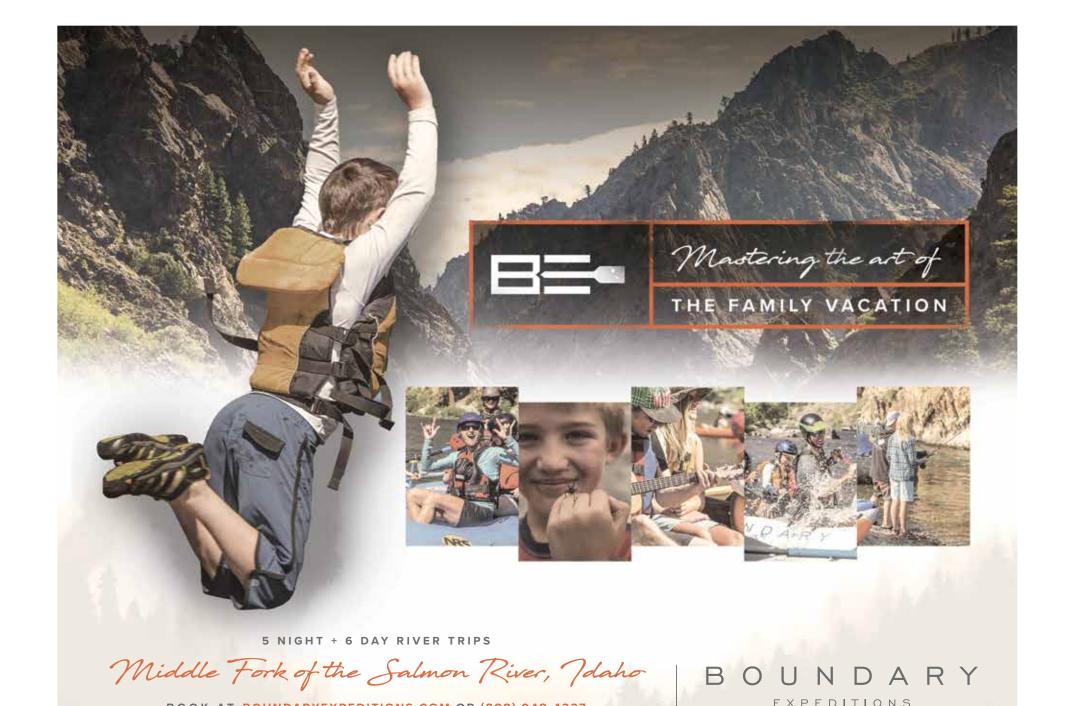
8:00-8:45am DanceX

9:00-10:15am Level II Yoga

11:00-Noon Gentle/Restorative Yoga

SATURDAY

9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga



Boundary Expeditions operates under special use permits with the Salmon Challis National Forest and Payette National Forest and is an equal opportunity provider.

See artists in their element during Bozeman Open Studios Tour

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – On Saturday, Oct. 21, and Sunday, Oct. 22, Bozeman artists will open their studios to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The second annual Bozeman Open Studios Tour will feature 22 artists working in a diverse array of mediums including textile arts, jewelry-making, metalsmithing, ceramics, glass, paint, and more obscure techniques such as beeswax-based encaustic.

Artists will be demonstrating their process, offering refreshments, and in some cases, an opportunity for passersby to try their own hand in the creative process. Artwork, decorative and functional, will also be for sale.

Not only does Bozeman Open Studios offer a behind the scenes peek into the working processes of a broad spectrum of artists, but also provides a chance for the public to experience a gamut of artist spaces, from home studios to urban collectives.

This serves to subtly raise awareness about the challenges of finding affordable working spaces for area creatives.

Spread across Bozeman, Belgrade and the Four Corners area, the studio tour will require a vehicle and a map, which will be available at all participating artists' studios and on the Bozeman Open Studios website.



Artist Sarah Anderson will open her Thirsty Lake Tileworks studio to the public during Bozeman Open Studios on Oct. 21 and 22. Anderson designs, creates and installs architectural mosaic art for both private homes and public spaces. PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSE MOORE PHOTOGRAPHY

The tour is self-guided and there is no set route, but organizers suggest starting with the outlying studios first, followed by those concentrated in downtown Bozeman.

The Bozeman Open Studios Tour was created by artist-friends Cristina Marian and Darla Myers. Any artist with a dedicated studio in Gallatin County was welcome to participate. Eventually, they hope to grow the



Belgrade artist Wendy Marquis, one of 22 artists on the Bozeman Open Studios Tour, is an oil painter who imbues iconic Western imagery with a contemporary twist. PHOTO BY MEAGAN THOMPSON

event into a nonprofit, but currently it's an entirely grassroots effort.

"We are passionate about our art and want to share it and help educate more people about our art forms," Myers said. "For many of us, our studios are a really special place where we spend lots of solitary time working; it is both exciting and scary to invite the public to our spaces. I personally love attending Studio Tours and find it fascinating to see where and how other artists work, so I am really happy to make the tour happen for our community."

Bozeman Open Studios is also about creating connections between artists and potential patrons and strengthening community among the artists themselves.

"We are finding that by participating in the tour, the artists are meeting each other and it is building a larger artist community for us," Myers said. "Some of the artists show their work outside of the local area, so this is a unique opportunity for the public to connect with them and see their art and processes."

For a list of participating artists and a tour map visit bozemanopenstudios. weebly.com





EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

*IF YOUR EVENT FALLS BETWEEN OCT. 27 AND NOV. 9, PLEASE SUBMIT IT BY OCT. 19 BY EMAILING MEDIA@ OUTLAW.PARTNERS.

BIG SKY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Community Fall Festival Big Sky Community Park, all day

STEM Saturdays Big Sky Discovery Academy, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Service Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

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

Bingo, Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Visit Big Sky Board Meeting Town Center Conference Room, 8:30 a.m.

Business After Hours and Ribbon Cutting Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

STEM Saturdays Big Sky Discovery Academy, 10 a.m.

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

Service Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Harvest Soups, cooking class Big Sky Discovery Academy, 6 p.m.

BOZEMAN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Tyrel Thornton: Connecting Business Strategy to Creative Thinking, lecture Bozeman Public Library, 8:15 a.m.

The Tender Land, opera Willson Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Warren Miller's Line of Descent, film The Ellen Theatre, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

iPhonography, class F-11 Photographic Supplies, 8:30 a.m.

Warren Miller's Line of Descent, film The Ellen Theatre, 6 and 9 p.m.

Brianna Moore, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Montana Chamber Music Society, music MSU Reynolds Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Bart Budwig, music Live From the Divide, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Walking Out, film The Ellen Theatre, 2 and 6:30 p.m.

The Tender Land, opera Willson Auditorium, 3 p.m.

The Hayes Collective, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Depth Perception, film The Ellen Theatre, 5 and 8 p.m.

Jeff Peterson, music Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Marjorie Prime, film The Ellen Theatre, 7 p.m.

Dusty Pockets, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Unseen Yellowstone, lecture Museum of the Rockies, 7 p.m.

3hattrio, music Live From the Divide, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Art on the Rocks: PBR & Paper Mache, Emerson Cultural Center, 6:30 p.m.

Bridger Creek Boys, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Christy Hays, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Alfred Hitchcock's Shadow of a Doubt, The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Screening: "Pride & Basketball" The Emerson, 6 p.m.

Whiskey Shivers, music Live From the Divide, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Rittz and Sam Lachow, music Emerson Cultural Center, 8 p.m. Karla Bonoff, music The Ellen Theatre, 8 p.m.

Star Viewing Museum of the Rockies, 8 p.m.

Dennis Johnson & the Mississippi Ramblers, music Live From the Divide, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Winter Farmers' Market Emerson Ballroom, all morning

Bozeman Open Studios Tour Various artist's studios, all day

Taste of HAVEN, benefit The Commons, 6:30 p.m.

Howard Beall & The Fake News, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

The Every Brothers Experience, music The Ellen Theatre, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

Bozeman Open Studios Tour Various artist's studios, all day

Amber Ikeman, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

Neil Beddow, music Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Weston Lewis, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Comedy Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Anthony Wood: Race and Ruination, lecture
Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

Bridger Creek Boys, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Bluebelly Junction, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

FALL FESTIVITIES

Big Sky, MT

Oct. 14

Community Fall Fest

Big Sky Community Park, 10:30 a.m. 10K trail run, Great Pumpkin Giveaway, hay rides and more!

Oct. 27

"Something Wicked & Groovy This Way Comes"

Town Center, 4-8 p.m.

Kickoff the Horror Fest with a costume party in the street.

Oct. 28

Mini Monster Mash

Fire Pit Park, 4-6 p.m.

Trick-or-Treat in Town Center and enjoy a costume parade, dance and ghost stories.

Oct. 28-29

Horror Fest

Lone Peak Cinema

Family-friendly Halloween movies in the afternoon followed by horror films at night.

Livingston, MT

Oct. 20-Nov. 12

Young Frankenstein theater

Shane Lalani Center for the Arts

Oct. 31

Dead or Not So Alive film screening

Shane Lalani Center for the Arts, 6:30 p.m.

Ennis, MT

Oct. 20

Hunters Feed

Main Street, 3-5 p.m.

Join local chefs in a wild game cook-off.



Submit your event!

Email upcoming event information to media@outlaw.partners

Bozeman, MT

Oktoberfest

Oct. 14: Oktoberfest 8K and games at the East Gallatin Recreation Area.

Oct. 19: Dogtoberfest with Dee-O-Gee at Map Brewing Co.

Oct. 21: Beer, Brats & the Brewery Follies at Rockin' TJ Ranch, advanced tickets needed.

Through Oct. 29

Bozeman Straw Bale Maze

E. Valley Center Road



NOTARIUS PHOTOGRAPHY

Through Oct. 31

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Bozeman Hot Springs

Carve a pumpkin for a chance to win a hot springs pass.

Oct. 14

Gallatin Valley Farm to School Feastival

Rocky Creek Farm, 11 a.m.

Celebrate National Farm to School Month with a farmers' market and harvest activities.

Oct. 21

Schnee's Autumn Classic 8K Run

Story Mill Community Park

Celebrate Bozeman's newest park with a charity race to benefit The Trust for Public Land

Oct. 21, Nov. 4, Nov. 18

Winter Farmers' Market

Emerson Cultural Center. 9 a.m.

Oct. 27 and 28

Carnival of Terrors Haunted House

Anderson School House, 5:30-10 p.m.

Allow yourself to be scared at this fundraiser for Anderson's 8th grade class.

Oct. 28

Quick Draws, Cocktails & Costumes

Emerson Cultural Center, 7 p.m.

Enjoy fine art, food, entertainment and friends with a costume contest and auction.

Oct. 31

Brews & The Big Sky:

Creepy Collections and Craft Beer with Beehive Basin Brewery Museum of the Rockies, 5:30 p.m.

Oct. 31

Trick-Or-Treating

Downtown, 4-6 p.m.

Be afraid, but don't be too afraid

Lone Peak Cinema's Horrorfest offers much more than slasher flicks

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BIG SKY – If Sally Fisher and Anna Husted want the community to know one thing, it's that Lone Peak Cinema's Horrorfest is not just gory, peek-between-your-fingers thrillers. Of course those films are also represented in the two days of back-to-back scary movie screenings on Saturday, Oct. 28, and Sunday, Oct. 29, but the line-up includes much more.

Stretching the limits of the genre, Horrorfest will also feature comedy-horror, now seemingly tame black and white classics, new releases, foreign films that are more strange than spine-chilling, local low budget projects, and three kid-friendly films.

"We're really trying to push the family-friendly offerings this year," said Fisher, who owns Lone Peak Cinema with her husband, Scott Fisher. "There's really something for everybody out there."

The films appropriate for youngsters will be matinee screenings beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Classics such as "The Birds" and "Rocky Horror Picture Show" are also on the roster, as well as an appearance by Missoula filmmaker Christian Ackerman.

In addition to screenings and live music taking place in both theaters all day Saturday, Oct. 28, and Sunday, Oct. 29, weekend pass-holders will also receive an invite to a secret screening on Friday night. PHOTO BY ANNA HUSTED

Ackerman, who was featured at the first annual Horrorfest last year, presents his film "Terror Vortex" and provides a sneak preview of "Karpenter," a recently completed project filmed in Hamilton, Montana.

Each night a silent movie feature will be accompanied by live music. Artists of Antiquity, comprised of local musicians Ed Brummit, Ben Blodgett and Jamie Mathis, return with a performance of an original, live score to the final Sunday night showing of a creepy montage by puppetry animators the Quay brothers.

Inspired by Artists of Antiquity's performance last year, DJ Tiny will spin a live score to sections of "Night of the Living Dead" at 10:30 p.m. Saturday.

Event co-organizer Anna Husted, who has a master's degree from New York University's esteemed film department, is bubbling over with enthusiasm for the genre, and for Horrorfest.

"Don't let the title 'Horrorfest' scare you away," Husted said. "I would encourage people to try something new. If they're afraid of horror, just pick one movie you



Lone Peak Cinema's Horrorfest features a diverse array of films including family-friendly flicks, comedy, foreign films, classics, new releases and cult classics in addition to more conventional thrillers. PHOTO COURTESY OF LONE PEAK CINEMA

haven't seen and come see it."

Husted said she fell in love with the genre when she saw John Carpenter's science fiction thriller, "The Thing."

"[The Thing] is all about the AIDS epidemic, but I love that you read it through the political climate of 1982, before it was even at its peak. Horror is really just a genre about vulnerability, political climate and sexual politics."

"It Follows," a 2014 supernatural, psychological thriller, and "Get Out," a new film in which an interracial couple uncover a conspiracy in which older white people are stealing the lives of black young adults, are two Horrorfest films that are particularly relevant to the times.

There will be many specials going on at the theater throughout the weekend—Lone Peak Brewery is sponsoring Saturday's 8:30 p.m. showing of "Rocky Horror Picture Show" and will have a featured beer on tap, and look at the schedule to guess which flick will be supplemented with free ice cream.

And, if you buy a weekend pass, you'll receive an invite to a secret double-feature screening at 10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27 at an undisclosed outdoor location.

This year, Town Center is augmenting the Halloween festivities with a Horrorfest kickoff block party on Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. hosted by The Big Sky Real Estate Co. On Saturday there will be a "mini-monster mash" in Fire Pit Park from 4 to 6 p.m. with trick-or-treating and live children's music by The Whizpops!.

"We've named it Horrorfest because it's not just films," Fisher said. "We wanted this to grow as an event, as a grassroots effort that brings the town together to celebrate Halloween weekend."

See the fall festivities roundup on page 49 for a full schedule of Halloween weekend events. Visit lonepeakcinema.com for an up to date listing of screenings and showtimes.

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Nat Geo photographer featured at Old Main Gallery and Framing

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

BOZEMAN – Photographer James P. Blair spent more than 30 years on the staff of National Geographic covering critical events and topics around the world and close to home. In 1984, the National Geographic Society published a collection of his photography called "Our Threatened Inheritance: Natural Treasures of the United States," which has since become one of the benchmark publications on U.S. Federal lands.

For the first time, images from the book, which bring the ethereal beauty of America's public lands into sharp focus through a photojournalist's lens, have been printed for public display and will be available for sale, exclusively at Bozeman's Old Main Gallery and Framing.

Old Main Gallery and Framing, which has a sister gallery in Blair's hometown of Middlebury, Vermont, will host a solo exhibition of 19 of Blair's images from "Our Threatened Inheritance" through the end of October.

The first public showing of these images is in direct response to the political climate and the uncertainty of the future of U.S. public lands.

"The current Secretary of the Interior comes from here and I hope he will see the photographs and perhaps consider his decisions more carefully," said 86-year-old Blair, who was in Bozeman for the Oct. 7 opening of the show.

Blair explained that "Our Threatened Inheritance" was a major effort spearheaded by the National Geographic Society in 1983. Blair was the staff photographer assigned to the project. It took him about six months to amass the images for the book.

"The society's idea was to stop the selling off of the federal estate by then Interior Secretary James Watt," Blair said. "They were threatened then and are again thanks to the policies of the current administration."

The original images were shot on Kodachrome. The images were scanned for this project and Blair printed them himself.

Blair studied at the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. As a freelance photographer, Blair has had commissions from the U.S. Information Agency, Time Magazine and Life.

Blair's photographs are represented in the permanent collections of the National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C., the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, Maine's Portland Museum of Art and the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh.

Since retiring from the National Geographic Society in 1994, Blair has continued to photograph and teach.

Old Main Gallery and Framing is located at 129 E. Main Street in Bozeman. Call (406) 587-8860, email gallery@oldmaingallery.com, or visit oldmaingallery.com for more information.



"Montana Valley" is one of the featured images from the book "Our Threatened Inheritance" on display at Old Main Gallery and Framing through October. PHOTO BY JAMES P. BLAIR

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MAIL-IN BALLOT ELECTION COUNTY OF GALLATIN, MONTANA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a mail ballot election will be held in and for the Big Sky Fire District, with a mail ballot election due date of November 7, 2017, on the question of increasing the District's mill levy an additional 29.11 mills for the purpose of funding additional emergency response/firefighting personnel positions and increased operating costs, providing necessary emergency response equipment, and renovating both Fire District stations to improve the District's ability to provide appropriate emergency response.

PROPOSITION

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE BIG SKY FIRE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL 29.11 MILLS TO

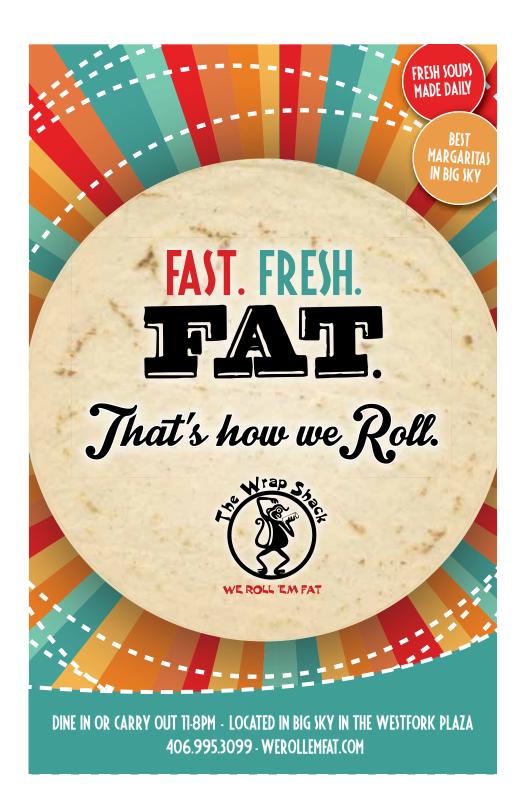
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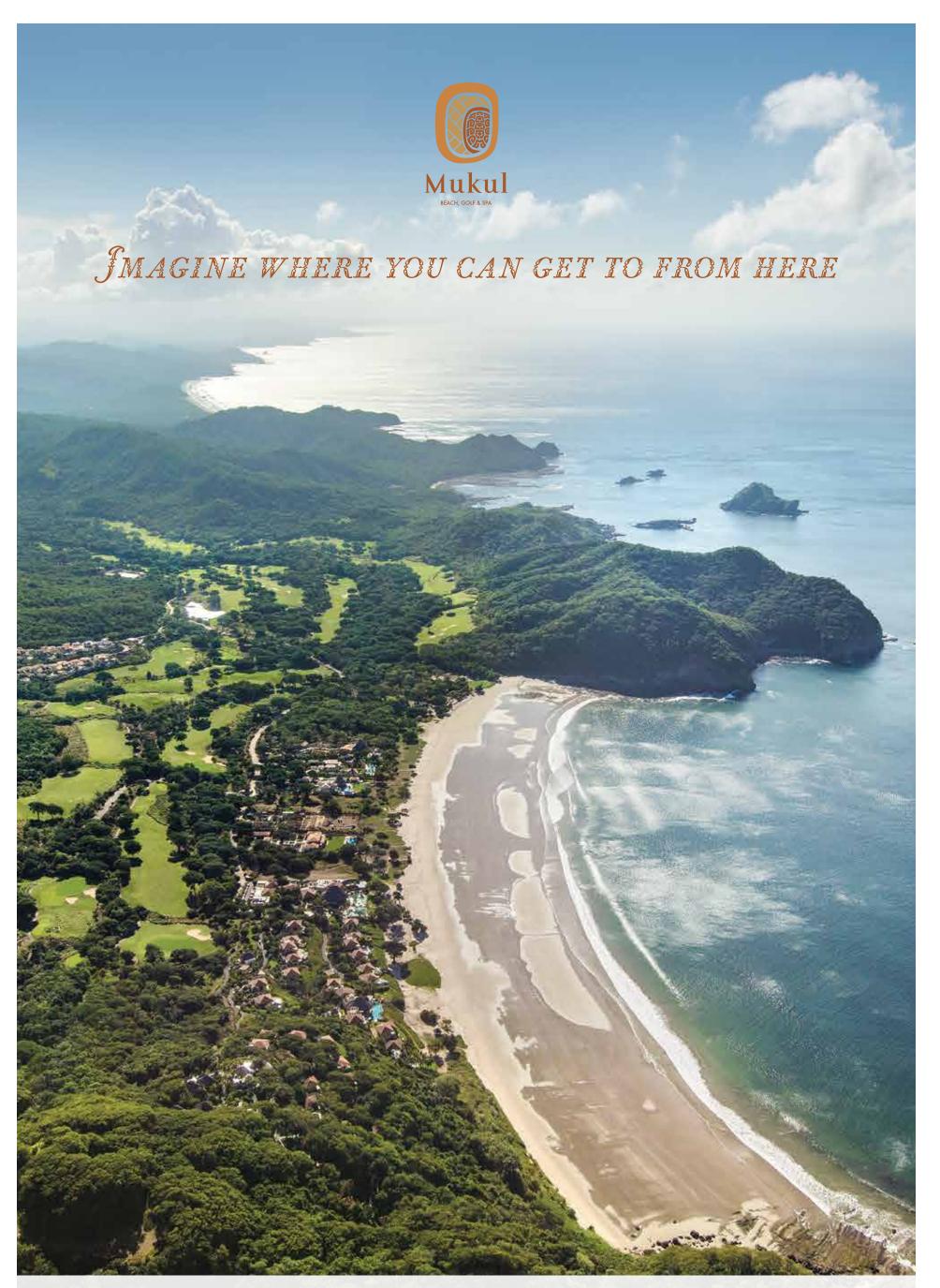
\$10 for the first 35 words +\$10 for any additional copy, business logo, or photo Email jeff@theoutlawpartners.com GENERATE AN ADDITIONAL APPROXIMATE SUM OF \$1,500,000 PER YEAR BASED ON THE 2017 FISCAL YEAR MILL RATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING ADDITONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE/FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL POSITIONS AND INCREASED OPERATING COSTS, PROVIDING NECESSARY EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT, AND RENOVATING BOTH FIRE DISTRICT STATIONS TO IMPROVE THE DISTRICT'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

The approximate amount of money that is to be raised, based on the 2017 Fiscal Year mill rate, is \$1,500,000 per year. The levy shall be permanent, with the amount subject to the allowances specified in \$15-10-420, MCA as to newly taxable property, inflation and any applicable provisions and adjustments as may be authorized by law. The Board of Trustees may determine in a specific fiscal year that the number of mills required may be lowered for a specific year. If the mill levy passes, the impact of the election on a home valued at \$100,000 would be \$39.30 per year in additional property taxes, and on a home valued at \$200,000, the impact would be an additional \$78.60 per year in additional property taxes.

The election shall be conducted by mail ballot with ballots being mailed on October 18, 2017, to all active registered voters of the fire district in Gallatin and Madison County. Voted ballots are due November 7, 2017. Regardless of postmark date, ballots returned by mail must be received in the election office by 8:00 pm on Election Day or they will not be counted.

DATED this 26th day of September, 2017 Charlotte Mills, Gallatin County Election Administrator





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Gary Ferguson: On conflagrations

BY DOUG HARE **EBS STAFF**

Red Lodge, Montana author Gary Ferguson has written a thoroughly researched, timely book with "Land on Fire: The New Reality of Wildfire in the West." With the precision of a surgeon, Ferguson carefully dissects the issues that have led to the rise of mega-wildfires and the extension of fire season in our region. With a delicate touch, he deftly presents the increasing destruction these conflagrations cause, while also tempering the negative effects with a more objective, scientific perspective on the benefits of wildfires and their role within our ecosystems.

With clear-eyed focus, Ferguson's book urges readers to confront the fact that increasingly intense wildfires will be our constant companion for the foreseeable future. Interspersed with stunning photographs, "Land on Fire" lays bare the interconnectedness of ecological, social and economic issues surrounding the burning of large swaths of our forests and our ability to prevent, control and contain these blazes.

In the last half century, there have been four years when over 9 million acres have burned across the United States, and all of them have occurred since 2006. One need not be a data scientist to extrapolate that wildfire season has become more extreme than ever before, and that this trajectory shows no signs of slowing down. The immediate questions arise: "Why are they burning hotter and faster than before?" and "How do we deal with this reality?"

It is important to recognize, as Ferguson does, fire's role in maintaining healthy forests. It is naive to think of wildfires, Ferguson stresses, solely as forces of destruction that we might somehow eradicate completely. They also sow the seeds, both literally and figuratively, for rebirth and rejuvenation in areas where they burn the most fiercely. According to Ferguson, under many circumstances wildfire can be "a mighty wand that wipes the land free of disease and insects and fallen timber to create a stage for healthy, altogether magnificent new flushes of life." Nevertheless, the progressive severity of wildfires complicates these "natural" benefits.

From a historical perspective, the book traces how eight decades of overzealously suppressing wildfires have led to extraordinarily flammable forests, with over 300 million acres of western forests currently suffering from unnaturally heavy fuel loads in the form of dead timber. The rise of wildland-urban interfaces (WUIs), human-caused climate change and the resulting chronic droughts in the arid regions of the West, and the increasingly technological means to predict and combat fires all coalesce into complex issues about how we should proceed to live alongside these seasonal infernos.

While Ferguson doesn't have all the answers, here is a book that, like a lightning strike from above, might be able to spark a much-needed conversation about the future management of federally protected wilderness and how to prevent loss and suffering in rural areas prone to catching fire.

What is most needed, Ferguson writes, is to "marry the most rigorous science we can muster with a kind of genuine humility and commitment that until now has too often been in short supply." In the end, he makes clear that Westerners must work together to bring our values and actions in line with ecological necessities, or we will pay the price eventually.

It's hard not to come away from this book with a better understanding of the complex realities that need to be faced head on, and a deeper appreciation of the beauty and terror of flames. While there aren't any easy answers, this book clears the ground for a fresh conversation about how we can be better prepared for the fires next time.

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



Between the Shelves

BY AMY HUNTER ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

It's that time of year again when reading a good book just sounds perfect. The colors of the aspen trees around town are changing, the temperature is dropping (plummeting this year!), and Halloween is just around the corner. Fall has me reminiscing about scary books both read and unread. There's something about colder weather and shorter days that makes a scary book sound ideal.

The following books are mysterious and somewhat unexplainable, but not quite in the horror genre. For the elementary school readers, the "Bunnicula" series by James Howe is brilliant. A possible bunny vampire—what could be better? "The Graveyard Book" by Neil Gaiman is creative in a way only Gaiman can be, with a boy named Nobody living in a graveyard. Any of Gaiman's books could go on this list, really. We mustn't forget the classics like the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling (too soon to be a classic?), "Dracula" by Bram Stoker, and "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley.

What are your favorite scary books? Come to the library today to help us make a list of scary book recommendations for everyone to use.





















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