

Spring sports in full swing

Blechta, Johnson join resort tax board

August Moonlight MusicFest announced

Featuring Grace Potter, Wood Brothers, Chris Robinson

Gallatin Valley gives big to Discovery Academy

Making it in Big Sky: The Country Market



explorebigsky.com



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ON THE COVER: Ethan Blakeley, infielder for the Big Sky Royals Minors, takes a ready stance in anticipation of a hit coming his way during a 11-4 win over the Belgrade Nationals on May 7, kicking off numerous Little League games that will be played at the Big Sky Community Park fields from May 7-10 and May 14-17. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES

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Gallatin Valley gives big to Discovery Academy



Making it in Big Sky: The Country Market



A butterfly on a mariposa lily in Yellowstone National Park. Wildflowers in Big Sky usually hit full bloom in late spring and summer but are beginning to bud right now. Native wildflowers in our area include lupine, forget me nots and Indian paintbrush. 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.



MARTHA JOHNSON Vice President of Sales | Founding Broker

Martha has been a resident of Big Sky since 1988 and has worked in real estate for approximately 20 years.

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4 May 11 - 24, 2018 **Explore** Big Sky



Volunteers sought for project at Moose Creek

EBS STAFF

The Gallatin River Task Force, in partnership with the Custer Gallatin National Forest, are working on a restoration project at Moose Creek Flat in order to maintain the health of the Gallatin River.

Following a successful work day on May 1, where volunteers helped plant approximately 300 trees and shrubs, GRTF is seeking additional volunteers to install fencing around the newly planted vegetation. This second work day will be held on May 21, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

This opportunity is part of a long-term effort to improve river health and public safety in Gallatin Canyon. Moose Creek Flat is a popular day use area with failing streambanks and disorganized trails caused by heavy recreational use.

The project initiated by GRTF will prevent erosion and includes rebuilding streambanks, restoring streamside vegetation, building trails and fencing to concentrate river use, and installing a boat ramp, kayak launch, and stairs to access the river.

Those helping with fence construction should expect to build approximately 1,000 feet of fence. Work will include pre-drilling fence rails and attaching the rails to the posts with wood screws. Participants should wear weather-appropriate clothing, work gloves, close-toed shoes and eye protection.

GRTF is also seeking extra tools, such as cordless drills and one-quarter inch and torx size 40 drill bits.

For more information or to register to help, contact Jack Murray, GRTF Big Sky Watershed Corps member, at jack@gallatinrivertaskforce.org.

Public health officials offer advice to prevent tick bites

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

As summer approaches, state and local public health officials urge everyone to follow a few simple steps to prevent tick bites and their illnesses: limit, repel, and inspect.

According to state and local health officials tick-borne illnesses and diseases are on the rise. Commonly reported tick-borne diseases in Montana include, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, lyme disease, tickborne relapsing fever, tularemia, and Colorado tick fever, all of which can cause serious illness.

The tick that causes lyme disease is not found in Montana. To date, cases reported in Montana have all been associated with travel to the Northeast and upper Midwest of the United States.

Public health officials say the best way to prevent tick-borne disease is to prevent tick bites.

Their three-step approach to preventing tick bites is outlined below.

Limit: Ticks live in wooded, brushy, or grassy areas. Walk in the center of trails and mow your property.

Repel: Wear long, light-colored pants and socks to spot ticks more easily and use insect repellents.

Inspect: Check your skin carefully for ticks after returning from outdoor activities. Common hiding places for ticks are the scalp, beard, back of the knees, armpits, groin, back of the neck, and behind the ears. De-ticking clothing by throwing clothes into a drier on high for 10 minutes.

Individuals should see their healthcare provider immediately if they have been bitten by a tick and experience common symptoms that include fever, chills, aches, pains, and a rash.

Visit dphbs.mt.gov for more information.

Arts Council public art project awarded national grant

ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

On May 9, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded an Art Works grant of \$25,000 to the Arts Council of Big Sky for the Butterfield in Big Sky project. The project entails the September installation of a bronze horse sculpture by Montana artist Deborah Butterfield in the new Town Center Plaza, which is currently under construction along with the Wilson Hotel.

The award comes as a part of the NEA's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2018, which included more than \$80 million in grants.

Art Works is the NEA's largest funding category and supports projects that focus on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and high-caliber art, lifelong learning in the arts, and/or the strengthening of communities through the arts.

"This is an amazing opportunity to not only showcase one of Montana's greatest artists, but to have a legacy installation for residents and visitors to appreciate for generations," said Brian Hurlbut, the Arts Council's executive director. "The NEA grant award signifies that this is an important project that is recognized on a national level."

Butterfield's artwork is on display in public spaces all over the world, but this will be her first permanent outdoor installation in the state. Her pieces can be found in the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, Washington D.C.'s Smithsonian Institution, and many other museums around the world.

For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

Host Week honors frontline workers in June

EBS STAFF

As a thank you to the contributions made by frontline workers, the Big Sky and West Yellowstone chambers of commerce will co-sponsor Host Week June 1-11. This annual event provides opportunities for staff in the lodging, dining and and tourism industries to enjoy what the area has to offer.

Employees in these industries will receive a Host Week Passport, which includes various offers for free or discounted activities or services. The coupons may be redeemed throughout the week.

Many frontline workers are newly arrived for the summer season or are originally from out of state. The aim of Host Week is to better acquaint local employees with the food and beverage, recreational and educational opportunities available in the area. During Host Week, these frontline workers will learn about a variety of things to see and do, making them better hosts for tourists and visitors to the area.

Now in its sixth year, the annual event has received statewide recognition. In 2015, Big Sky and West Yellowstone won Gateway Community of the Year during the Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development's Governors Conference.

In addition to educating frontline workers, Host Week encourages an increase in early-season business.

Last year, 1,700 frontline employees received Host Week Passports that included over 40 special offers.

Visit bigskychamber.com for more information.



With the sun shining and temperatures rising, spring is definitely in the air.

What's your favorite snot in the

What's your favorite spot in the area when spring fever sets in?



Andy Haynes *Big Sky, Montana*

"Rivers are super fun. Heading to the Madison is a pretty real reality right now."



Johnna Christando Big Sky, Montana

"Ousel Falls is beautiful."



David LapointBig Sky, Montana

"Probably the river—the Gallatin."

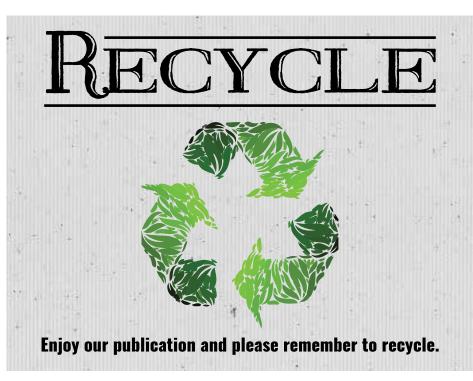


LeAnn Shaw *Big Sky, Montana*

"My bike."









Blechta and Johnson win seats on resort tax board

Voters approve school district's general-fund levy

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Voters have elected Sarah Blechta and Steve Johnson as the new members of the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board, according to unofficial results of the May 8 elections available at EBS press time.

Blechta received the most votes, with 371; followed by Steve Johnson, 316; Buz Davis, 301; and Craig Smit, 279.

"I am excited to join this dynamic group and look forward to bringing an [appropriations] applicant's perspective to the board as well as a young family perspective," said Blechta, who has spent the majority of her life in Big Sky. "Ginna [Hermann] and Heather [Budd] have left big shoes to fill and I'm looking forward to getting up to speed on the upcoming appropriations."

Blechta currently serves as the president of the South Fork Phase II Homeowners Association, and recently completed a five-year term on the Morningstar Learning Center board of directors. There she helped to implement a capital fundraising campaign for the recently completed infant building, thanks in part to resort tax funding.

For Blechta, the most pressing issue facing the resort tax board is how to meet the community's infrastructure needs. "We can't have the tourism if we don't have the infrastructure," she said. "How can someone use the public transportation if there isn't a trail to get them there?"

At an April 2 candidate forum at Buck's T-4 Lodge, Blechta deflected concerns about a potential conflict of interest given her position as director of property owners associations at the Yellowstone Club.

"I can honestly say the Yellowstone Club did not ask me to run," she said. "I can't vote on issues that are a conflict of interest. You abstain. And I can't say that enough."

As for Johnson's priorities, he says he intends to advocate for district residents. "Not businesses," he stressed. "Our community is facing needs for some significant investments in critical infrastructure to sustain growth with respect for this incredible place where we live."

Johnson brings extensive experience in volunteer positions on local boards and committees concerned with district infrastructure, including the Big Sky Community Organization, the Gallatin Canyon/Big Sky Zoning Advisory Committee, the trails and parks district, and the fire district. "I have also worked hard to learn and understand the practicalities of working within the Montana legal system," Johnson said.

At the candidate forum, Johnson, who has lived in Big Sky for 17 years, emphasized his insulation from special interests. "I've been unemployed and retired completely since I moved to Big Sky," he said. "I don't work for anybody here, so I'm completely independent."

The new board members will soon be tasked with one of the greatest responsibilities of the resort tax district—the appropriation of \$7.6 million in funds to community organizations seeking support. The public process begins with an applicant Q&A on June 4 at 1 p.m., at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, where applicants will defend their funding requests before the board and community.

In an email to EBS, resort tax board Chairman Mike Scholz congratulated Blechta and Johnson, and welcomed them to the board. "Their knowledge of the community and desire to help build a better community is recognized and valued by the residents of Big Sky," he wrote, while also thanking Hermann and Budd for their past service, and Buz Davis and Craig Smit for their candidacy.

The official results of the election will be released by May 18, after the provisional ballots are counted and the outcome is reviewed by the Gallatin County commissioners.

Voters also approved the \$40,000 general-fund levy requested by the Big Sky School District to pay higher salaries to teaching staff. For a home valued at \$200,000 taxes are estimated to rise approximately \$3.89 for the year.

In addition to the levy, the two board trustee seats on the ballot were filled by unopposed incumbents Matt Jennings and Margo Magnant. Magnant recently accepted a position with the Missoula Chamber of Commerce and will resign from the board, at which time a new trustee will be appointed to serve out her term.

Lone Peak High School's best and brightest



After moving to Big Sky from Colorado his sophomore year, Alex Iskenderian has excelled in the classroom and on the golf course, recently qualifying for the Montana State High Association state tournament at the Fairmont Golf Course in Anaconda, MT, May 15-16. PHOTO BY DOUG HARE

Valedictorian: Alex Iskenderian

GPA: 4.25

College: Williams College

Intended area of study/major: biology/pre-med track

Favorite high school course: biology and environmental science with Dr. Kate Eisele

Extracurricular activities: skiing, biking, golfing, and running

Favorite book: "Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption" by Laura Hillenbrand

Explore Big Sky: What was the most difficult part of high school?

Alex Iskenderian: Balancing it all—academics with the rest of life, sports and extracurriculars, especially during sophomore and junior year, when you're taking really tough courses but still trying to engage yourself outside the classroom.

EBS: What advice do you have for incoming ninth graders?



This year Holden Samuels will not only graduate in Lone Peak High School's largest graduating class ever as the salutatorian, he also finished second in the Freeride Junior World Championships in Austria. PHOTO BY DOUG HARE

Salutatorian: Holden Samuels

GPA: 4.125

College: University of Colorado, Boulder

Intended area of study/major: business/marketing

Favorite high school course: history with Tony Coppola

Extracurricular activities: football, snowboarding, Interact Club

Favorite book: "A Farewell to Arms" by Ernest Hemingway

Explore Big Sky: What was the most difficult part of high school?

Holden Samuels: Probably making up work, especially when I had to miss time when I was on trips to compete in snowboarding competitions.

EBS: What advice do you have for incoming ninth graders?

H.S.: Do all your homework, and you will be ready for everything. Remember to have fun.

A.I.: Work hard right off the bat. Just go into high school knowing that you are preparing for college and your future, so it makes sense prioritize academics to succeed.

Local Governance Facilitation Discussion with Dan Clark

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 6:00—8:00pm Water and Sewer District Conference Room

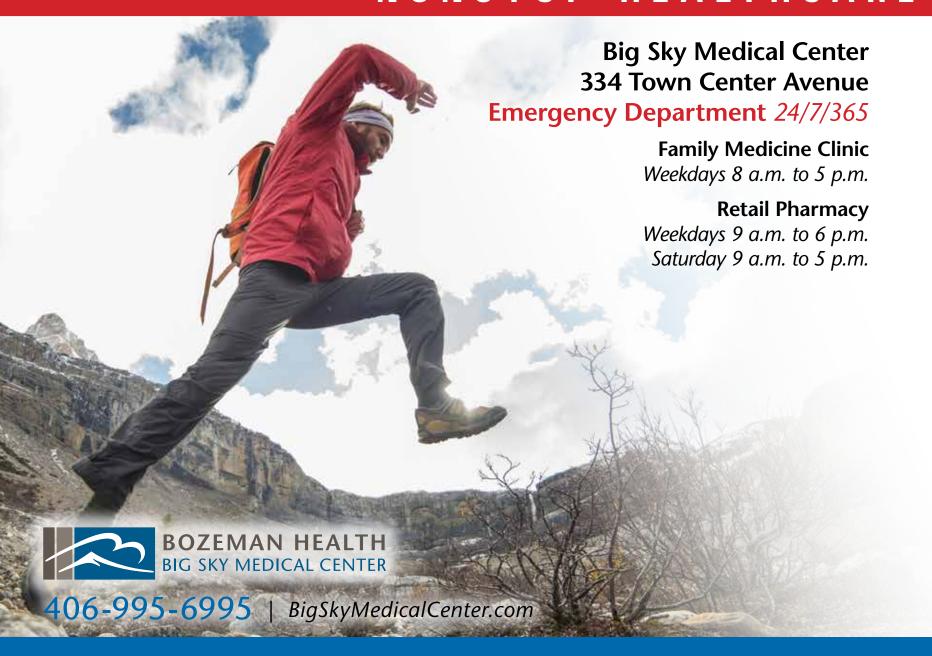


Dan Clark, from MSU's Local Government Center, is returning to Big Sky following last month's *Eggs & Issues* discussion on local governance facilitation. He will present research findings for options available to the Big Sky community and make recommendations to help it address the need for a more formalized areawide governance operating infrastructure.

ture. The goal being to help the Big Sky community speak with one voice because together, we are better.

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NONSTOP HEALTHCARE



Gallatin Valley gave big during annual 24-hour fundraiser Big Sky nonprofits report funds raised



\$1.3 M Raised

4,744 Donors

194 Nonprofits





Big Sky Discovery Academy \$80k

Gallatin River Task Force \$9.5k

Big Sky Community Organization \$5k

Arts Council of Big Sky \$2.2k

Morning Star Learning Center \$1.2k

*Visit givebiggv.org for a complete list of funds raised for Big Sky nonprofits







Discovery Academy receives \$80,000 during Give Big campaign

Donations to fund scholarships, operations and summer programming

BIG SKY DISCOVERY ACADEMY

The Big Sky Discovery Academy received more than \$80,000 in donations during Gallatin Valley's 24-hour Give Big fundraiser May 3-4. The amount was the second highest figure brought in by any participating Gallatin County nonprofit.

"We are thrilled Give Big was a successful event for area nonprofits, and for Discovery," said Karen Maybee, the co-founder and school board president. "But more important to us is the many ways we will be immediately putting these funds to use to help our community." She said this year 30 percent of their students are on scholarship, and their goal is to grow that number to 50 percent.

"One third of the Give Big donations will go directly to tuition assistance for families who feel Discovery is the best choice for their child," Maybee said.

"We are thrilled Give Big was a successful event for area nonprofits, and for Discovery," said Karen Maybee, the co-founder and school board president. "But more important to us is the many ways we will be immediately putting these funds to use to help our community."

In addition, Head of School Nettie Breuner said the funds will help underwrite the regular school year operations, as well as the school's burgeoning summer season.

"We are offering credit-bearing high school classes year-round for students who want to get ahead or recover necessary credits in order to graduate on time, eight weeks of a Mind the Gap program to help elementary and middle school students keep math and reading skills fresh over the summer, and both fine arts and learning-oriented camp programming," Breuner said.

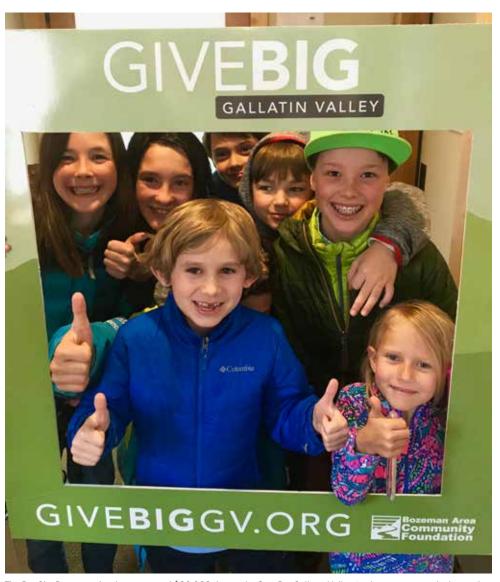
Last summer, 12 students took high school math using online curriculum and Discovery teachers. As a result, some of those students completed two years of math in one year, and all completed at least one course successfully.

Breuner said there are many reasons students opt for this combined method of learning. Some use online programming to free up class periods late in the school day so they can attend extracurricular activities not offered in Big Sky, such as hockey, lacrosse, baseball, soccer and skiing. For others, it can serve as a way to recover credit, refresh or reinforce skills.

"It's all about helping meet individual student goals and needs," Breuner said.

This summer will also see the return of the week-long College Essay Boot Camp, which assisted 13 current Lone Peak High School seniors complete their applications, request recommendations, and finalize a school list before the school year began.

"The hard-deadline approach really kept students from dragging out the process over many months," Breuner said. Discovery Academy will continue to offer ACT prep and academic counseling sessions; as well as English classes for Spanish speakers throughout the summer.



The Big Sky Discovery Academy received \$80,000 during the Give Big Gallatin Valley fundraising event, which was the second highest figure donated to a nonprofit this year. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BIG SKY DISCOVERY ACADEMY

Discovery Academy has also partnered with Big Sky Broadway as part of the school's Community Learning Center. The children's theater company started as part of Camp Big Sky, a division of the Big Sky Community Organization.

"Our aim is to be nimble enough to meet needs and fill gaps as they arise," Maybee said. "The incredible financial support we received this spring ... indicates to us that we are on the right track."

"We are excited about our next chapter as part of Discovery Academy," said Big Sky Broadway producer Barbara Rowley. "[It's] an organization that so closely aligns with us in terms of valuing creativity, education, and the whole child."

Maybee, who started Discovery with her husband, Scott, as a way of meeting their family's needs, said she's delighted to witness the evolution of their idea and the increasing and essential support the nonprofit is receiving community-wide.

"Our aim is to be nimble enough to meet needs and fill gaps as they arise," Maybee said. "The incredible financial support we received this spring ... indicates to us that we are on the right track."

Moonlight Basin announces inaugural Moonlight MusicFest coming in August

EBS STAFF

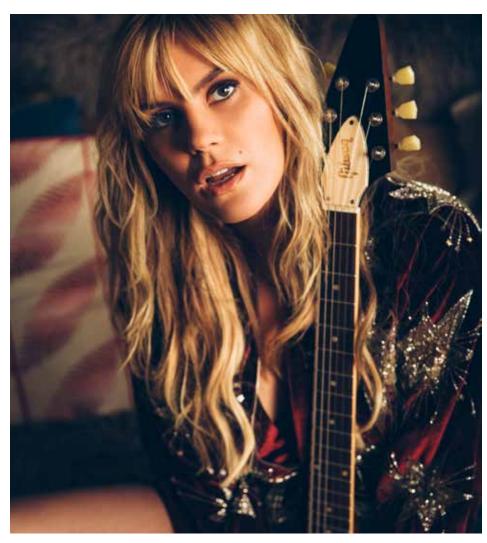
A new event will hit the slopes of Big Sky this summer, tucked back into the forest rather than on the snow. Moonlight Basin, the ski-in, ski-out community at Big Sky Resort, will host the inaugural Moonlight MusicFest on Friday, Aug. 17 and Saturday, Aug. 18, at Moonlight's Madison Village at the base of Big Sky Resort.

The festival features two days of diverse national and local talent, surrounded by 360-degree mountain views. On Friday, the local band Hawthorne Roots will perform along with Mission Temple Fireworks Revival, Paul Thorn & Band and the Blind Boys of Alabama. Headlining the night will be the Wood Brothers, and Bruce Hornsby and the Noisemakers.

On Saturday, national bands The Sufferers, Anderson East, Chris Robinson Brotherhood and Sam Bush Band will play in addition to local artists, The Well. To conclude the event, nationally renowned Grace Potter will perform as the final act.

"The lineup is the perfect start for an annual event, with many well-known national artists and some local bands as well," said Tom Garnsey of Vootie Productions in a press release. Bozeman's Vootie Productions, producer of the summer music festivals at Grand Targhee Resort, has partnered with several Big Sky companies to bring the event to Big Sky.

"The setting is intimate and welcoming, with stunning views in every direction at the base of Lone Peak, among Moonlight's incredible wilderness area," Garnsey added. "To have a weekend in Big Sky with this caliber of music, and with all the outdoor pursuits available, it's going to put the event on the list of must-go festivals."



Multi-genre singer and songwriter Grace Potter will headline the final night at Moonlight MusicFest, a gathering of national and local music talent at Big Sky Resort on Aug. 17-18. PHOTO BY JOSH REED



Chris Robinson Brotherhood, a psychedelic rock 'n' roll band from California, will perform on Aug. 17 in addition to headliners the Wood Brothers and Bruce Hornsby and the Noisemakers. PHOTO BY JAY BLAKESBERG'

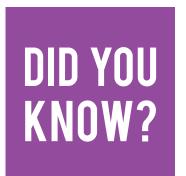
A vender fair will be setup throughout the weekend, complete with arts and crafts, family events, food and a beer garden.

Lodging will be available at Big Sky Resort and there will also be designated camping sites for tents, campers and RVs.

To kick off the weekend, Lone Mountain Land Company and The Big Sky Real Estate Company have partnered to host the weekly Music in the Mountains concert on Thursday, Aug. 16, at Center Stage in Big Sky Town Center Park. The show will feature opener The Two Bit Franks, followed by the Jeff Austin Band.

Tickets for Moonlight MusicFest go on sale May 15 at 8 a.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit moonlightmusicfest.com.





The Clark's nutcracker has a unique pouch under its tongue used to carry seeds long distances. The nutcracker collects seeds from pine trees and carries them away to hide for later use.

This bird hides thousands of seeds each year, and studies have shown that they can remember where they have hidden nearly all of their seeds.

The Clark's nutcracker is one of the only members of the crow family where the male incubates the eggs.

Local declines in Clark's nutcracker populations may be due to a pine beetle epidemic and the arrival of white pine blister rust, both of which kill the whitebark pines that many nutcrackers depend on.

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LOCAL LOOK BACK When Big Sky was 'West Fork'

BY LINDA NELL

As a child in the '70s driving between our home in Bozeman and property in West Fork, it was a game to see who saw landmarks first. I see ... the 'M,' or counting the Seven Sisters (the seven streams that feed the Gallatin River south of the Lava Lake trailhead), the stone lookalike of the Yellowstone Park Bear, or Lone Mountain.

The trailer would be towed up in the spring. Dad would turn off Highway 191, park, and take a walk down the dirt road entering West Fork to see that it hadn't been washed out and was still passable. Remnants of that road are still visible along the side hill from the Spur Road bridge.

We trekked to West Fork many weekends.

Days were spent clearing the land my parents envisioned retiring on, as a remote and wild haven. Long summer days allowed for adventures hiking and fishing in places my parents had romped growing up in the Gallatin Valley.

I'd wonder if they knew just where we were going. Stopping on a dirt road, finding what appeared to be a game trail, grabbing the fishing



Linda Nell and her mother, Okarche Vogel snowmobiling in the Big Sky area in 1972. PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA NELL

poles, catching hoppers along the way and hiking to Ulery's Lake. We rarely saw anyone. I do recall one time there was a gentleman there fishing. Dad said, "That's Chet Huntley. Let me go introduce you."

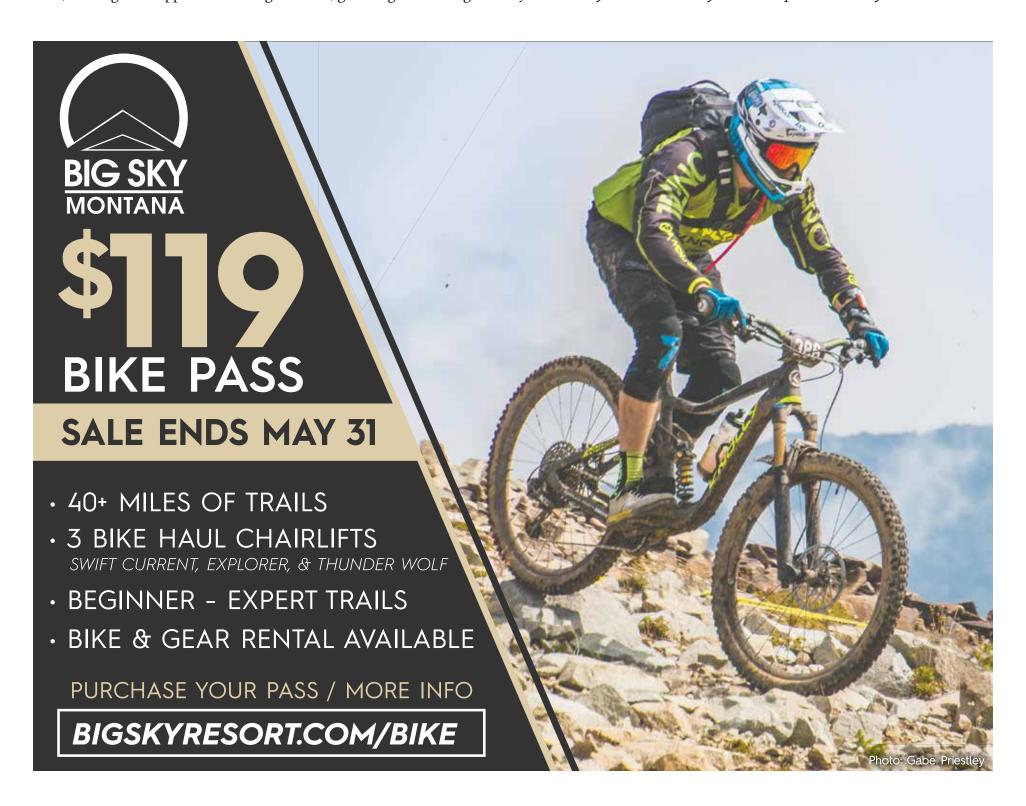
Ousel Falls was a steep hike down from north of the river. In later years, Dad would tell anyone who would listen about how he shot his first elk in the Yellow Mules as a boy. He was born in 1922.

Times have changed and now West Fork is Big Sky. Although I pine for the time it was just "West Fork," I count myself lucky when I make the curve on the road and say to myself, "I see Lone Mountain!"

Both sides of Linda (Vogel) Nell's family have lived in the Gallatin Valley for generations.

Her aunt and uncle attended Big Sky School District when it was a oneroom schoolhouse in the Porcupine Creek area.

Linda grew up in Bozeman, where she attended high school and college, and has lived in Big Sky full time for the last three years on property her parents purchased from the Sappingtons in the 1960's. She has worked in public schools for about 25 years and currently works at Ophir Elementary School.





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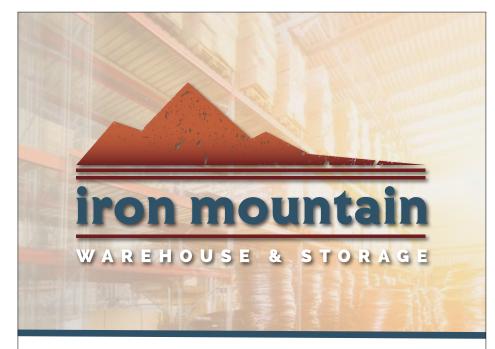
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Western Montana braces for highest waters in decades

BY MATTHEW BROWN ASSOCIATED PRESS

Billings (AP) – More than 800 western Montana residences were put on notice that they could have to evacuate in coming days as rivers swollen by melting mountain snows flooded low-lying areas of Missoula on May 6.

Officials braced for a potentially prolonged inundation that one official said could be the worst in more than 40 years.

The Clark Fork River near Missoula was expected to approach major flood stage as early as May 8, and to crest May 11, according to the National Weather Service. It would be the river's highest level since 1975, said Ken Parks, deputy coordinator for Missoula County Disaster and Emergency Services.

An official evacuation order was released on May 8 for all residences in Missoula's Orchard Homes area. Parks said 830 residences have been identified for potential evacuation and he warned the figure could grow.

"If you live anywhere near a stream or waterway in western Montana, you need to be prepared to leave your home," he said. "This is going to come earlier than we expected. We're trying to get out ahead of this thing and get the message out that this could be a very dangerous situation."

The National Weather Service extended a flood warning for the Clark Fork above Missoula until further notice. High waters could linger for the next three or four weeks on the Clark Fork, the Bitterroot River, the Blackfoot River and areas around Seeley Lake, Parks said.

About 40 households in Orchard Homes began experiencing some flooding on May 6, Parks said, receiving anywhere from a couple inches to several feet of water. No injuries were reported.

County officials set up a sandbagging station at the Orchard Homes Country Life Club for residents who wanted to protect their properties.

Downstream, about 75 miles northwest of Missoula, erosion along the Clark Fork brought high waters dangerously close to holding ponds for the wastewater treatment plant in the town of Plains, KECI-TV reported. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was asked to help the town secure the ponds.

Widespread flooding was possible later in the week from East Missoula to the Bitterroot River, including impacts to U.S. Highway 10, forecasters said.

Temperatures were expected to reach the 70s, which could accelerate melting of a mountain snowpack that hit record depths in parts of the state this winter.

Thunderstorms in the forecast threatened to make matters worse. Up to threequarters of an inch of rain was predicted to fall in some areas, according to the weather service.

"No matter what, we're going to have a lot of water coming out of the mountains," Parks said. "We really can't win."

Snowmelt at high elevations also was expected to cause minor flooding in the Helena area, south of Wolf Creek, near Augusta and at locations around Lincoln including the Stemple Pass area.

To the north, near Browning and Glacier National Park, Badger Creek below the Four Horns Canal was expected to flood on May 6, although with only minor impacts. A flood advisory for the region was in effect until May 7.

In eastern Montana, river levels continued to fall after cresting the week of April 30. A flood warning was cancelled for the Nashua area but remained in effect for Glasgow until May 8.

Gov. Steve Bullock on May 2 declared a statewide flooding emergency. That allows the use of state resources and the Montana National Guard for flood protection.



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National park visitation contributes \$35.8 billion to 2017 U.S. economy

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

As the nation celebrated National Park Week April 21 through 29, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke announced that visitor spending in communities near national parks in 2017 resulted in a \$35.8 billion benefit to the nation's economy—a nearly \$1 billion increase from 2016—and supported 306,000 jobs.

According the annual National Park Service report, 2017 National Park Visitor Spending Effects, more than 330 million visitors in 2017 spent \$18.2 billion in the communities near national parks. Of the 306,000 jobs supported by that spending, more than 255,000 were in those same communities that lie within 60 miles of a park.

"This report illustrates the incredible economic value of our national parks, and further shows the value in President Trump's plan to rebuild park infrastructure," Zinke said. "National parks provide us a gateway to the outdoors, family recreation opportunities, and connect us to our history and heritage, and they are extremely vital to local economies all across the nation. Parks provide jobs and fuel the outdoor recreation and tourism economy.

"But as parks remain a popular destination for American families, we must continue to address deferred maintenance and infrastructure needs to ensure parks remain world-class destinations. One of the ways the President and I are doing this is by partnering with Congress on a bipartisan bill to address the maintenance backlog."

"Parks are priceless not only for their intrinsic natural beauty and

National Park Visitor Spending Contributions to the U.S. Economy 2012-17

	Visitation	Visitor Spending	Jobs Supported	Local Jobs	Total Output
2012	282,765,682	\$14.7 billion	242,712	201,040	\$26.8 billion
2013	273,630,895	\$14.6 billion	237,599	197,343	\$26.5 billion
2014	292,800,082	\$15.7 billion	276,960	235,600	\$29.7 billion
2015	307,247,252	\$16.9 billion	295,339	252,030	\$32 billion
2016	330,971,689	\$18.4 billion	318,000	271,544	\$34.9 billion
2017	330,882,751	\$18.2 billion	306,000	255,900	\$35.8 billion



People watching Old Faithful erupt from the Old Faithful Inn. A new economic report by the National Park Service shows that 4.1 million people who visited Yellowstone in 2017 spent \$498.8 million in surrounding communities, as compared with \$35.8 billion visitor spending nationally. NPS PHOTO

historical significance, but also for the economic benefits they provide to communities across the country," said Will Shafroth, President and CEO of the National Park Foundation. "The investments we make in our national parks protect cherished places while promoting community and economic development."

Visitor spending varied across the National Park System, from big parks like Yellowstone National Park, which attracted 4.1 million people and supported more than 7,350 jobs, to smaller parks like Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site that attracted more than 45,000 visitors and supported 43 jobs.

The lodging sector received the highest direct contributions with \$5.5 billion in economic output to local gateway economies and 49,000 jobs. The restaurant sector received the next greatest direct contribution with \$3.7 billion in economic output to local gateway economies and 60,500 jobs.

"National parks connect us with nature and help tell America's story," said Dan Smith, deputy director of NPS. "They are also a vital part of our nation's economy, drawing hundreds of millions of visitors every year who fill hotels and restaurants, hire outfitters and rely on other local businesses that help drive a vibrant tourism and outdoor recreation industry."

"National parks are proven economic engines for local communities and states," said Marcia Argust, who directs The Pew Charitable Trusts' project on restoring national parks. "Ensuring that our park sites are safe, accessible, and preserved for future generations is a smart and necessary investment."

The peer-reviewed economics report was prepared by economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Egan Cornachione of the U.S. Geological Survey and Lynne Koontz of NPS. It includes information by parks and by states on visitor spending, the number of jobs supported by visitor spending, and other statistics.

Report authors also produce an interactive tool that enables users to explore visitor spending, jobs, labor income, value added, and output effects by sector for national, state and local economies. Users can also view year-by-year trend data.

National park visitation grew by 7.7 percent from 2015 to 2017 which included the 2016 centennial of NPS and the successful Find Your Park campaign.

For more state-by-state information about national parks, go to nps.gov/[statename], for example: nps.gov/montana.



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Section 2:BUSINESS, SPORTS, DINING & HEALTH









Making it in Big Sky

The Country Market

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Located in the Meadow Village, The Country Market first opened in 1974, with Stephen and Lynne Anderson taking ownership 17 years ago. The Anderson's goal has always been to be the community's grocery store—not a specialty food store, but a place that can meet the needs and budgets of residents and tourists alike.

Co-owner Lynne Anderson spoke with EBS and shared her thoughts on what it takes to make it as a small business owner in Big Sky.

Explore Big Sky: What has been the key to your success?

Lynne Anderson: Never say die. I am German, and quit isn't in my vocabulary. In addition to the business aspects of the grocery, though, I believe relationships are key to its success. We genuinely care about each person who walks through the door.

EBS: What are the biggest obstacles to operating a small business in Big Sky?

L.A.: Seasonality affects cash flow, for sure, while our remote location dictates the necessity of higher-than-expected price points. When you are a large business, like Costco or Walmart, you can rely on volume. Our environment does not afford that advantage.

EBS: How has the business landscape changed since you started out?

L.A.: It has expanded as Big Sky's exposure has expanded. The expected selections and quality of service anticipated by our residents and guests has grown to be more diverse and sophisticated.

EBS: What advice would you give to small business owners just starting out in Big Sky?

L.A.: Plan to work your fingers to the bone—but never forget to look up and love where you live.

EBS: What's the best piece of business advice you've received?

L.A.: Do your homework. Don't ignore due diligence. Pay attention to detail. Treat people with dignity and respect—all people.

EBS: What does your business look like in 10 years?

L.A.: Hopefully not much different—taking care of the needs and wants of the community for every demographic. My goal has never changed. I always wanted to be Big Sky's local grocer. However, I am always interested in doing it better.

EBS: What is one of the most memorable experiences you've had as a resident or business owner in Big Sky?

L.A.: As a resident, being part of a community that comes together to help its



Longtime owners of The Country Market Lynne and Stephen Anderson would tell new Big Sky business owners to be prepared to work "their fingers to the bone" but never forget to appreciate of the beauty of where they live. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COUNTRY MARKET

members in time of hardship or great need. I have not experienced such a giving community elsewhere.

As a business owner, receiving the Business Person of the Year Award from the Chamber of Commerce, only slightly above a thank you note with a hand drawn picture of a steaming cup of coffee from a "lifty" thanking us for providing him with free coffee for the season.

Having young people come into the store to say hello to Grandma Cookie and leaving with their free cookie.

EBS: Do you remember your first customer or first sale?

L.A.: No, but it was probably a cup of coffee—and probably free.

EBS: What was a business idea that didn't work?

L.A.: I think the one that cost dearly was putting in a fresh fish bar shortly after buying the business. I was assured everyone would love to have fresh fish in Big Sky—definitely before its time.

EBS: Where do you see Big Sky in 20 years?

L.A.: Hopefully, Big Sky will be a fully developed community where all segments of the population can live, work and play in an environment of mutual value and respect.

EBS: Would you do it all over again?

L.A.: A thousand times, yes. Buyer's remorse never set in. We have had too many wonderful experiences in Big Sky and because of Big Sky. Memories abound.

THE COUNTRY MARKET - BY THE NUMBERS



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YEARS IN BUSINESS:

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Big Sky youth soccer season in full swing

The youth competitive soccer season runs from only May until mid-June, concluding with the Montana State Showcase tournament in Helena the weekend of the June 16-17. However, many local teams train indoors at the Lone Peal High School gym from mid-January through the end of April.

After playing matches in Bozeman and Billings, the Big Sky Miners U12 Yellow have a 4-4 record for the season, and will head to Missoula on Saturday, May 12, for another game. The Miners head coach is Will Littman, his wife Whitney Littman is the team manager, and Rob MacRae and Mike Staudt are the assistant coaches.

Clockwise from top: Midfielder Tate Bulis running navigating through pressure; goalkeeper Geno DiTulio punting the ball after another successful save, defender Wats Littman playing the ball downfield, and Arlo Hurlbut taking a shot on goal. PHOTOS BY YARROW KRANER









Co-ed softball season just around the corner

Early June will mark the beginning of the 16th season of the Big Sky Co-ed Softball League. Weather-permitting, every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from June through August, the Big Sky Community Park ball fields will play host to softball games, which have been a favorite springtime activity for locals for over 15 years.

The deadline to register your team for this summer's Big Sky Softball League is May 15. Forms can be downloaded by going to https://bscomt.org/softball or picked up at the BSCO office at 32 Town Center Ave., Unit B1. Any questions should be directed to Leisha Folley at leisha@bscomt.org.

Pictured left, as the sun sets over Lone Mountain the LPC Golden Goats, last season's tournament champions, play defense against the Hillbilly Huckers, a perennial powerhouse who went undefeated in the regular season last year. PHOTO BY KENE SPERRY

Little League baseball draws crowds to community park

BY DOUG HARE

BIG SKY - On May 7, the Big Sky Community Park was abuzz with activity: frisbee golfers, skateboarders, soccer and basketball players, runners, dogwalkers, and sunbathers all enjoying a warm spring evening. But the biggest crowds were in the stands of the ballpark, where the Big Sky Royals Minors, a U-10 Belgrade Youth Baseball League team, were set to take on the Belgrade Nationals.

The Big Sky Royals are only in their second year as a program, and one that likely would have never formed if not for a chance-encounter between Ray Bartoszek and Matt Morris at Music in the Mountains in Big Sky Town Center Park. Bartoszek and Morris had America's past-time—baseball— in common.

Bartoszek had watched baseball with his grandfather since he was 4 and played college baseball at U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. After a successful career as an oil trader for two decades at Texaco and Glencore Ltd., he retired in 2011 to spend more time with family.

That same year, the New York Yankees approached Bartoszek and asked if he wanted to be a limited partner, and within 15 minutes a deal had been inked. He moved to Big Sky full-time in the summer of 2016 for the skiing, the summers, and because "it's a good place to raise a family."

Matt Morris was a two-time all-star pitcher for Major League Baseball's St. Louis Cardinals and pitched in the 2004 World Series. He and his

wife Heather have owned property in Big Sky since the early 2000s. Morris and Bartoszek realized they had even more in common: namely, 8-year-old sons who shared their passion for the game.

Two years ago, the inaugural Big Sky Royals U-8 Little League team coached by Morris and Bartoszek went undefeated. This year, the Royals are sporting three separate teams with 45 players on their rosters.

Rookies: Ages 7-8, head coach Bart Mitchell. Assistant coaches: Al Malinowski, Jeremy Harder.

Minors: Ages 9-11, co-coaches: Matt Morris, Ray Bartoszek

Majors: Ages 10-12, head coach Mark Gale. Assistant coaches: Walker Bagby, Marc Perdue.

As the sun was setting, Ebe Grabow had pitched six strong innings, going 3-for-3 from the plate. Owen Bartoszek went 3-for-3 with 3 runs scored, and Mac Bertelsen was 3-for-3 with 3 RBIs. The Royals ended up beating the Nationals 11-4, garnering their fifth consecutive win.

"Currently, the rookies are undefeated, the minors' team is 8-3, the majors' team has less experience on the field but are competing with all their heart," said Bartoszek, adding that he hopes to get more Big Sky youth to face Morris on the mound in the future.

Visit belgradebaseball.org for a schedule of upcoming little league games.

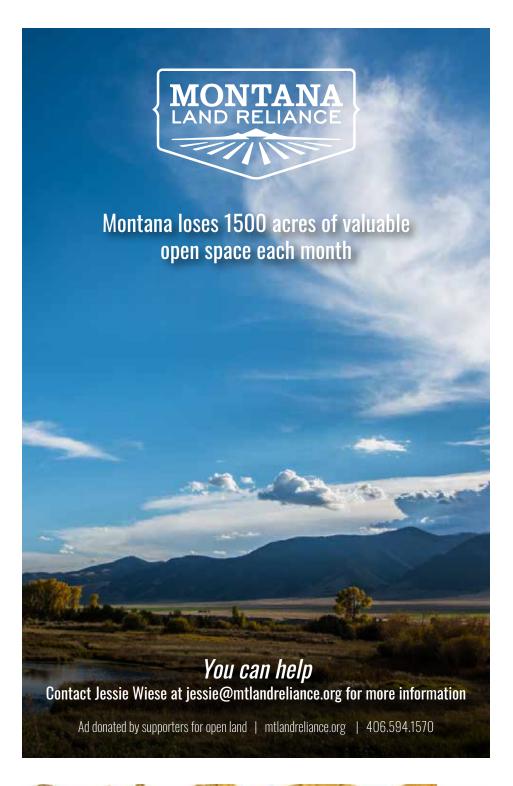


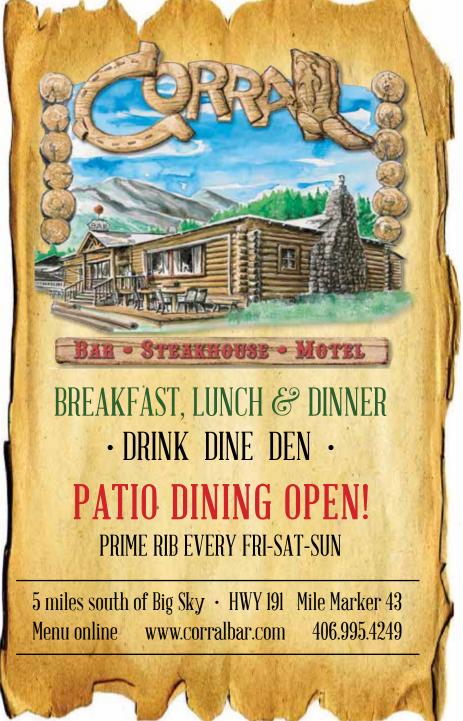
With Yankees part-owner Ray Bartoszek (left) and MLB all-star Matt Morris (right) at the helm, the Big Sky Royals Minors are 8-3 in the Belgrade Youth Baseball League this season, and on a five-game winning streak. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVE PECUNIES









Springtime delightsDon't miss these short-lived treats

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER EBS STAFF

Ah, spring. Birds are chirping, the sun is shining, and tasty delights are popping up all over the forest floor. Whether you're venturing out to a favorite spot or searching for a new one, scouring the forest for edible treats is a fun pastime and another reason to get outside. The following species have a pretty short life span, so get them while you can. All of these species grow in the same spot each year, so drop a pin on your smartphone so you can find them in future seasons.

Ramps aren't very common in our area, but with their rising popularity, they are becoming easier to find at grocery stores. If you're lucky enough to find some in lower elevations, only pick a few plants from a patch, as overharvesting can decrease their longevity. The garlicky flavored leaves, bulbs and stems are all edible, with the flavor most potent at the bulb.

My favorite thing to make with ramp leaves is pesto. I blanch the leaves, boiling them for about 30 seconds, and then shock them in ice water to stop the cooking process. Next, I puree them with olive oil and salt. This garlicky, potent pesto makes an excellent pasta sauce, and can be added to vinaigrettes, or used as a spread on a sandwich.

Don't blink, or you might miss **fiddlehead ferns**, named after the curled neck of a violin. These green delights pop up overnight, and are full-grown within a day or two. The smaller they are, the more palatable their texture; larger, more mature fiddleheads develop a woody texture. I like to blanch fiddleheads and serve them simply in melted butter, with salt and a squeeze of lemon. Their fresh, earthy flavor doesn't need much doctoring. They are also a nice addition to salads, but I prefer to blanch and cool them first.

The elusive **morel** is one of the most sought after wild mushrooms. They have several poisonous lookalikes though, so take care when searching for this species. Solid or fuzz-filled stalks and wrinkled rather than porous caps are telltale signs of an imposter morel. True morels can be found under trees, especially aspens and Douglas firs, as well as at burn sites. If you are lucky enough to spot one, there are likely more, so scan the area thoroughly before moving on.

My favorite way to preserve morels is to sauté, mince and mix them with a few sticks of softened butter and salt. Divide the butter compound into individual servings, an ice cube tray is a useful tool here, and then pop them out of the freezer when you want to top a steak with a decadent, earthy finish.

A bright pop of vibrant green on the tips of a spruce tree is a welcome sign of springtime in the mountains. **Spruce tips'** fresh, citrusy flavor may make you pucker, so taste a small amount at a time until you become accustomed to their unique, tart flavor. Spruce trees are abundant in our region, but when harvesting be sure to only pick a few from each tree—overharvesting can stunt a young tree's growth. As the tips of the spruce grow, they get more woody and fibrous in texture.

The lemony, zesty young spruce tips make for a tasty snack, packed with vitamin C. Their flavor provides an earthy, citrusy compliment to vodka and gin cocktails. Spruce tips are also a great candidate for infusing oils, syrups and even salts for a fresh earthy flavor.

AMUSE-BOUCHE

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

Artificial intelligence will always be artificial



BY SCOTT MECHURA EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

One of my all-time favorite television programs was the original "Twilight Zone." There was no one quite like its creator, Rod Serling. Who can forget that monologue with his jet black hair and constantly burning cigarette and, above all, that voice? I was such a fan, it would only take me about 20 seconds to know exactly which episode it was. I was reminded of one particular episode just the other day.

This episode centered around a cold, uncaring skinflint of a boss who's signature characteristic was twirling his key ring incessantly. He was slowly and systematically replacing his workers with robots who never tired, never complained and were more efficient. Eventually, in typical ironic Twilight Zone fashion, the final scene shows a robot looking out the window of the boss' corner office, twirling his keys.

I saw something the other day that, even knowing the inevitable direction our society is headed in regards to efficiency, adaptability and, let's be honest, laziness, still surprised me a bit.

It was a robot, or specifically robot arms, in a glass box set at the kitchen counter. And the arms were cooking.

The idea was that your kitchen space was now partially under the jurisdiction of the robot. You go to the wall screen or the app on your phone, and choose the dish you want to eat.

The movements were extraordinary. The precision, smoothness, flow and tempo were believably lifelike.

How was this achieved? By 3D motion-capture of real life chefs.

Three dimensional motion-capture technology digitally records complex movements, often those of humans. Once a chef has created and completed a dish via this method, the information is saved and transferred to the robot program. And voila!

It's one thing to have a robot vacuum your carpet or systematically water your lawn. It's another level altogether to allow a robot to drive your car or cook your dinner.

Founded in 2014 by Mark Oleynik, Moley Robotics is a company headquartered in London that specializes in robotic kitchen technology.

We've come a long way from Rosie the robot maid on the Jetson's, that's for sure. So, my question is this: Where has the emotion and passion gone?

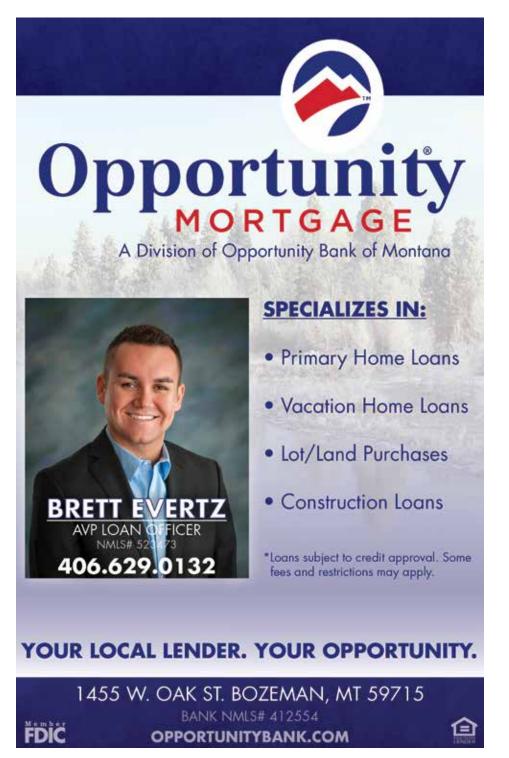
As seen in movies and television, chefs have a reputation for volatility. Think back to the chef in "Caddyshack." They can be moody and temperamental, arrogant and willful. And they make mistakes—lots of them. They burn things. They make soups too salty. They make cakes with too much frosting. They overcook steaks.

But despite their flaws, we need them.

They are also passionate. They are caring. They love to make people happy. They give their time after an already long day. They teach young cooks more gently what they had to learn the hard way. They create pillowy gnocchi. They braise the most succulent short ribs you will ever eat. They concoct sauces so silky you thought you had consumed pure sunshine.

We need chefs and, for that matter, we need humans, to keep grandma's bohemian dumpling recipe from the Old Country alive—not a set of plastic and metal arms.

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.





The artistry of The Food Studio

Pop-up dinners bring community together over cross-cultural culinary creativity

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BOZEMAN – The only thing generic about The Food Studio, a Bozeman-based catering company, is the business park that houses their operation.

While their focus is private events—with a good deal of business coming from the Yellowstone Club—occasionally the chefs at The Food Studio will share their culinary creativity with the general public. Such was the case for a special, 12-course Cinco de Mayo dinner held at their kitchen/event space earlier this month.

The soundtrack from "Buena Vista Social Club" greeted the 30-odd guests as they trickled in, as did an horchata-rum cocktail sprinkled with nutmeg and a crispy corn fritter amuse bouche.

Eventually diners found their seats at two long, artfully decorated tables and Chef Daniel Wendell came out to introduce his team of sous-chefs, and debrief us on the experimental dining experience that lay ahead.

Groups popped open whatever beverage they had chosen to bring, and awaited the first in a dizzying array of delicacies that would be paraded out of the kitchen over the next four hours.

Wendell's interpretation of ceviche—raw fish often cured to opaque toughness in citrus juice—provided an inkling of what was to come. Wendell's "ceviche" looked more like something off a sushi menu—thin slices of scallop sashimi, accented with finely grated orange and coconut.

"We strive to make the normal not only unique but extravagant," Wendell said. "Many of the dishes we make encompass something that you can



The first of 12 courses in a Food Studio Cinco de Mayo dinner featured a "ceviche" of thin slices of scallop sashimi, accented with finely grated orange and coconut. PHOTO BY BLYTHE BEAUBIEN



The Food Studio takes the familiar and reinvents it. Chef David Wendell's "beef tacos" featured lamb barbacoa over smoked poblano pepper tortillas. PHOTO BY ROBERT DRAKE

identify with, and yet we tried to push the envelope by manipulating that identity in the hope of giving you a new experience."

Case in point: a frog leg "tamale." The presentation was akin to a fluffy fried corndog with a delicate frog leg providing the "stick" and inside, a tender meat surprisingly reminiscent of chicken.

The plates kept coming—creamy burrata over tangy green salsa, candied pork belly with dollops of 18-ingredient mole and tamarind sauce, a miniature octopus tostada with habanero aioli, suckling lamb barbacoa tacos, sea bass al pastor—but in small enough portions and with long enough pauses in between, that it was never overwhelming.

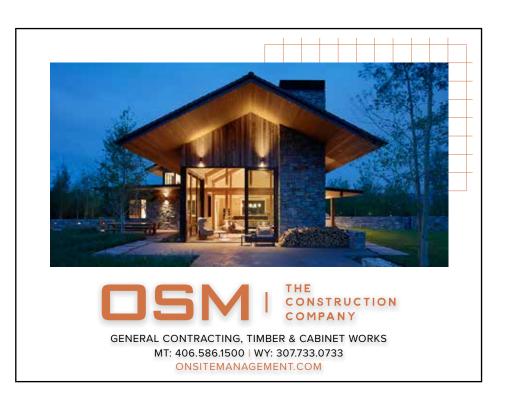
And room had to made for dessert: a fermented banana to clear the palate, and a tres leches that featured burnt milk ice cream, white chocolate crumbles and fried milk—both of which elicited sounds of delight from both tables.

"Cooking for us is a chance to give back to our communities," said Wendell, who was in Malta, Montana, cooking for donors and guests of the nonprofit, American Prairie Reserve. "Spreading our love for cooking, food, socializing and learning, we hope to enrich peoples' lives and sense of community through the enjoyment of food."

The Food Studio caters the spectrum of events from simple cocktail parties to multicourse plated dinners and weddings. They also host wine and beer-pairing dinners, and special pop-up events at the location of their commercial kitchen on Kagey Boulevard.

Visit foodstudiomt.com for more information and a schedule of upcoming events.





From Jackie with love Old dog, new tricks



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN **EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST**

It was only 30 years ago that a tipping point in neuroscience was reached and neuroscientists—those who study the brain—began to fully shift their understanding of how the brain works.

For approximately 400 years prior, it was widely accepted that after adolescence, not only did the brain stop growing,

but it began a long steady decline. And if brain cells died, that was the end of that.

How dismal!

I'm grateful to be alive in an age where we now embrace and celebrate that the brain is highly malleable, and growth and change are possible throughout our entire lives.

This new understanding of the brain is referred to as neuroplasticity, and as I prepare to leave my 40s behind, this provides great comfort. Old dogs can learn new tricks.

Not only have scientists shifted from believing that the brain stops growing, but they're now proving that it's possibly the most adaptable and changing part of the body, regardless of age.

Modern technology is responsible for this radical shift. New sophisticated tools allow neuroscientists to have a much more complex and complete understanding of how neural connections are made. And they're just scratching the surface.

So what does this mean for our health? The implications are very exciting since most of us have a change we'd like to make in order to grow and enrich our lives. While we may have tried to change in the past and failed, we can be hopeful that it is in fact possible and we shouldn't give up.

However, while it's true that the brain remains plastic throughout our lives, it is more malleable when we're younger since the brain is still forming. Current understanding is that the rational brain isn't fully formed until age 25. This is a great reason for young people to practice healthy behaviors early on.

As we get older, we create stronger brain patterns, or neural connections, due to repetitive actions. This type of patterning benefits us by allowing us to not have to overthink our daily routines—consider the concentration it took the very first time you drove a car, compared to driving today. But it can also make change more challenging.

Alvaro Pascual-Leone, a professor of neurology at Harvard University, likens the plasticity of the brain to fresh snow on a hill saying that, "When we go down the hill on a sled, we can be flexible because we have the option of taking different paths through the soft snow each time. But should we choose the same path the second time or the third time, tracks will start to develop, and soon we will get stuck in a rut."

That said, as we get older, "unlearning" is often the first step in change. And while this requires more effort and time, change is still possible and, if it means living a more fulfilling and meaningful life, it's worth pursuing.

If you're interested in learning more about reprogramming your mind and behaviors in order to change, I recommend starting with an easy to read book by Carol S. Dweck titled "Mindset: The New Psychology of Success." It offers tips and tools on how to develop a "growth" over a "fixed" mindset in order to change and grow.

You can do it!

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach. Check out her new website corcoranhealth.com where you can schedule a free 30-minute health coaching session.

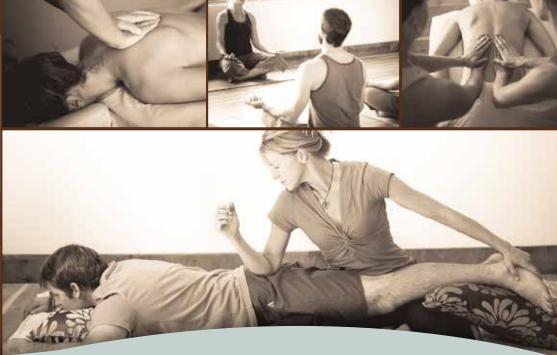


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The sting of a neighbor's accusation



BY DARYN KAGAN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Now, that was embarrassing. What happened at a neighbor's house this week. Even worse, the wrong kind of embarrassing. It's one thing to goof up. It's a whole other thing to be misunderstood.

It all started with Husband handing me an announcement about an event in our neighborhood. "Come to the house of Sue and Frank," the newsletter read. "Our other neighbor, Ron, will do a multi-

course cooking demonstration."

It sounded fun to bond with neighbors, learn something, and enjoy delicious food. I went to the website and signed us up. Fast forward weeks later, five minutes after walking into our neighbor's house one of the organizers came up to me and said in a rather loud voice, "Either you or your husband is going to have to leave." I thought she was joking. She was not.

"Everyone else paid for two people to be here. You can't pay for one and bring two."

I was so confused. I was sure I paid for two. I even remember putting Husband's name in the "guest" field. "No, you paid for one," the organizer insisted, producing a receipt. "Everyone else who brought someone paid for both."

And there it was: Exhibit A. Although, I could swear I paid for two, the evidence of only paying for one was right there on the paper. I'll own that. But this neighbor lady seemed to be suggesting, rather loudly, that I was being slick by paying for one and bringing a guest I had no intention of paying for.

Call me an illiterate techie. I'm okay with that. But say I was trying to pull a fast one over on my neighbors? That's hard to swallow.

It was funny to me a few days later. As I thought about the things that bother us, the stories we tell ourselves about other people, about what other people think of us, and why we care.

Has this happened to you, Dear Reader? Being accused of the wrong transgression? Turns out, I wasn't the only one who screwed up. There was another couple who showed up having only paid for one person. They were so upset, they left, leaving room for Husband and me to stay, which we did—uncomfortably.

Was I imagining those sideway glances neighbors I had just met were giving me?

"Can you pass the potatoes and for the record, I am not a cheap slime ball," I wanted to announce.

The dessert course couldn't arrive soon enough. Little did I know what I was there to learn that night. I mess up. You mess up. Does it really matter how and why? Does it really matter what the neighbors think? I need to scrape leftover embarrassment like cleaning crumbs off dirty dishes.

The check I dropped off the next day to settle up our debt was the best money I spent all week. Thank you for demonstrating what I really needed to learn.

Daryn Kagan was a featured speaker at TEDxBigSky 2018. She is the author of "Hope Possible: A Network News Anchor's Thoughts on Losing her Joh, Finding Love, a New Career, and my Dog, Always my Dog," and the founder of darynkagan.com, a resource for uplifting and positive news.



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Join the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, Big Sky Transportation District, and Big Sky Community Organization to celebrate the POWER OF PARTNERSHIP that led to the transformative \$10.3 M Federal TIGER Grant awarded to Gallatin County and the Big Sky Community. This 2018 National Infrastructure Week affiliate event will take you on a tour highlighting the changes to come as a result of this grant. Following the procession along MT Hwy 64, come enjoy music, food and beer, with kids activities including a bouncy house on Town Center Avenue!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 3 PM Montana Chamber and MT Infrastructure Coalition Media Event
- 3:30 Board Skyline Bus at Fire Pit Park in Big Sky Town Center
- 4 PM Leave Fire Pit Park for Future Site Of Pedestrian Tunnel
- 4:15 Parade along MT Hwy 64 back to Town Center
- 5 PM TIGER Celebration on Town Center Avenue

The future won't wait. Neither can we. It's #TimeToBuild.









nfrastructure Week 乗息河令遠点器 MAY14-21,2018

The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce as a member of the Montana Chamber of Commerce and MT Infrastructure Coalition is proud to champion on behalf of the Big Sky Community the sixth annual Infrastructure Week, May 14-21, 2018. We join the Steering Committee (AFL-CIO, American Society of Civil Engineers, Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program, Building America's Future, Business Roundtable, National Association of Manufacturers, Value of Water Campaign, and U.S. Chamber of Commerce) and more than 300 Affiliates nationwide in telling Congress and the Administration: we can't afford to keep waiting for fast, modern, safe, reliable infrastructure. The future won't wait, and neither can we. It's #TimeToBuild. Visit InfrastructureWeek.org for more information.

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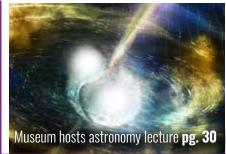


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Section 3:ENVIRONMENT, OUTDOORS, FUN & BACK 40







The New West:

What did the Yellowstone fires of 1988 really teach us?



BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Thirty years ago, following the spring warmup, a storm pattern rolled into the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, leading many to believe the rest of summer would be "normal."

Some 18 lightning-caused fires started in Yellowstone National Park in June, all allowed to burn. Eleven went out naturally, the rest creeping at a low-grade crawl, the expectation being that they would stay tamped

down by July monsoonal moisture.

The rains never came. Days of scorching temperatures, little precipitation and strong winds yielded a fire season for the record books. A third of Yellowstone was blackened by flame.

For me, it was a defining time to be an environmental reporter in the region. No day was more memorable than Sept. 7, 1988, when the North Fork Fire, driven by hurricane-force winds burned over the top of us and nearly claimed the Old Faithful Inn.

The 1988 Yellowstone fires were called a modern turning point in our understanding of forest fire behavior.

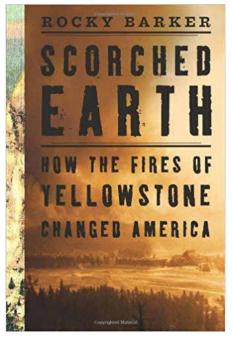
I asked colleague Rocky Barker, then a reporter with the Idaho Falls Post Register, if he believes society is now smarter. "Not really," he said from his office in Boise at the Idaho Statesman newspaper.

Barker wrote a book, "Scorched Earth," about the 1988 blazes that was turned into a movie.

"The Yellowstone fires of 1988 did teach firefighters humility and made many fire bosses overall less apt to throw folks in front of big fires," he said. "But in many ways it set back the effort to restore fire to Western forests. The negative public reaction and the political fallout made managers less willing to take even small risks to allow fires to burn. They wanted fire only under the most careful conditions, which of course, is not natural in the historic sense."

About his most vivid moment, he said, "Well, you were there. You watched me run from the fire at Old Faithful, Todd! I still get nightmares about that moment. I think when you run on adrenaline for a long time it triggers things in your head."

In his 2007 book, Barker recounts how fire suppression in Yellowstone started with an order from Civil War Gen. Phil Sheridan, who commanded park management in the early days—and was notorious for his despicable policies toward indigenous people.



"What I learned and wanted to show was that Sheridan, one of history's least likable heroes, played the critical role in placing land conservation in the hands of government and making government control the centerpiece of conservation and eventually environmentalism," Barker said.

"Sheridan wasn't sophisticated enough to consider fire's role but he intuitively recognized that to protect the elk, bison and other big game he loved in Yellowstone, he had to protect all of the habitat," he added. "His 'Greater Yellowstone' idea wasn't big science but it was a big idea that was rediscovered by the Leopolds, the Craigheads and others."

We reflected on how "climate change"



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROCKY BARKER

was then only beginning to establish a pattern and how today some politicians still claim logging forests will save them.

"The high elevation forests like Yellowstone are going to burn big no matter what we do," Barker said. "Beetles, while making forests more volatile briefly, actually thin these forests and reduce their ability to carry big fire but when conditions are right—and since the 1980s conditions have been right regularly, we're going to have big fire."

He believes there's a disconnect between the public's desire to have healthy landscapes and individuals moving into forests. Would homeowners think different if the government didn't bail them out with fire protection?

"Absolutely," Barker said. "The real tough solution would be to zone forests where firefighters won't go to fight fires because of the danger, cost and lack of resources."

Notable about Barker's book is how it connects dots of people—including journalists—bonded by fire. "I reveled in the stories of Sheridan and Jay Cooke, Nathaniel Pitt Langford and Moses Harris, John Muir and Gifford Pinchot and Aldo Leopold whose ambitions and ideologies converged at Yellowstone," he said.

"I thought I knew these men until I got the chance to research this book. FDR's last act before his polio came on was to fight a forest fire. Aldo Leopold died in a forest fire. Don Despain, [Yellowstone's renowned fire ecologist], played with matches as a kid. Most of all I was struck by the missed opportunities of understanding the arid West first posited by John Wesley Powell."

The fires of 1988, Barker said, represented a progression of thinking. Muir spoke at Thoreau's funeral and knew Ralph Waldo Emerson. "He taught both Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot. Pinchot taught Leopold. Leopold taught his son Starker. Starker taught Yellowstone Superintendent Bob Barbee who presided over the park when the '88 fires blew up. The connections are so powerful."

Where do we go from here? Is society better equipped today to co-exist with fire?

"We have no choice but to live with fire," he said. "With global warming likely tied to our own behavior we have joined fire and the other natural forces—floods, landslides, volcanoes, hurricanes, even erosion—in generating the power to reshape the world. What remains unresolved is not whether we can control nature but whether we can control ourselves."

Todd Wilkinson is the founder of Mountain Journal (mountain journal.org) where you can read his latest story about climate change. He is author of "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek" about famous Greater Yellowstone grizzly bear 399 featuring 150 photographs by Tom Mangelsen, available only at mangelsen.com/grizzly. His feature on the delisting of Greater Yellowstone grizzlies appears in the winter 2018 issue of Mountain Outlaw and is now on newsstands.

Museum hosts lecture on extreme astronomy

GALLATIN VALLEY FRIENDS OF THE SCIENCES

How do you revolutionize astronomy four centuries after Galileo first turned a telescope to the sky? Neil Cornish, professor of physics at Montana State University and director of the eXtreme Gravity Institute, will offer his answer in the fifth and final presentation of the winter/spring Science Inquiry Lecture Series.

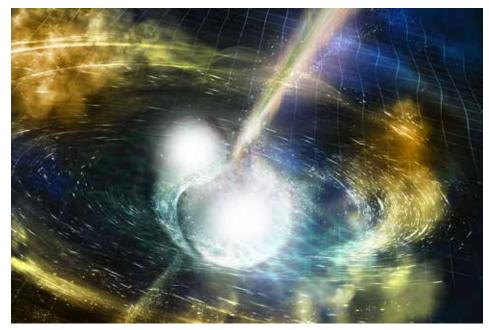
The talk will be presented at the Museum of the Rockies on Tuesday, May 15, at 7 p.m. in the museum's Hager Auditorium.

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.

In his presentation, "A Revolution in Astronomy," Cornish will discuss how gravitational wave observatories are detecting collisions of black holes and neutron stars, and providing new insights into the nature of gravity, the properties of matter at extreme densities, and the origin of many elements in the periodic table.

Cornish holds a doctorate from the University of Toronto and has worked with the late Stephen Hawking and his research group at the University of Cambridge and at Princeton University, where he worked on a NASA mission to create afterglow imaging of the Big Bang.

At MSU, Cornish leads a research group pioneering the new field of gravitational wave astronomy. His research contributed to the first detection of gravitational waves in 2015. He and his group received the 2016 Breakthrough Prize and the 2016 Gruber Cosmology Prize for the discovery. Cornish is a Fellow of the American Physics Society and a NASA science advisor.



Gravitational wave observatories are providing new insight into the nature of gravity, the properties of matter, and the origin of many periodic elements. IMAGE COURTESY OF NEIL CORNISH

"A Revolution in Astronomy" will be followed by an opportunity for audience members to engage in conversation with Cornish in the museum lobby with light refreshments served.

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

For more information, contact James Manning at (406) 585-2672 or gallatinscience@gmail.com.





INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Angling meetings address park fishing regulations and native fish restoration

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – Recently Yellowstone National Park biologists held their annual angling meetings in area communities to address the ongoing efforts to keep the park's fishery healthy.

Todd Koel, a fisheries biologist in Yellowstone, traveled to Bozeman, West Yellowstone, and Jackson and Cody in Wyoming, to lead a discussion with anglers and other stakeholders about efforts to eradicate lake trout in Yellowstone Lake, restore grayling and Yellowstone and westslope cutthroat trout, and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

"The last thing we need is more [aquatic invasive species] showing up," Koel said during the Bozeman meeting on April 30, to an audience of nearly 40 people at the Hilton Garden Inn.

This year, felt-soled boots will be banned from Yellowstone National Park for the first time in the park's history as a preventative measure against the spread of aquatic invasive species.

"The goal isn't to make fishing more difficult or to make walking more difficult," said fisheries biologist Brian Ertel during the meeting.

"It's really to protect the waters and what we have. The last thing we want to see is a shoreline filled with zebra mussels or quagga mussels," he said, adding that studies have found that felt takes a long time to dry, allowing for small organisms to survive and possibly be carried to other bodies of water.

"Right now, we're pretty fortunate in the park. We do have whirling disease, we do have New Zealand mud snails, but so far we've been able to avoid these guys, the zebra mussels and quagga mussels," Ertel said.

Zebra and quagga mussels are prolific non-natives that remove nutrients from the water, clog pipes, and outcompete native species. They are now widespread throughout the U.S., notably in Colorado and Utah. On April 23, zebra mussels were identified on a boat stopped in Anaconda, Montana, traveling from Ohio to Washington's Puget Sound.

To further prevent the spread of AIS, the park has instituted boating seasons and inspection stations at boat launches this summer. These areas will be barricaded to keep watercrafts from entering the waters without having been inspected first.

While preventative measures are in full force against the tiny mussels, efforts to eradicate a once well-established and very large non-native are also ongoing.

In 1994, lake trout were first discovered in Yellowstone Lake, after likely being illegally introduced sometime in the '80s.



Lake trout eggs resting in the crevices between rocks at Carrington Island. Unlike cutthroat, lake trout lay their eggs over large, rocky areas rather than gravel bottoms.



A lake trout caught by an NPS boating crew on Yellowstone Lake. Two decades of suppression efforts are beginning to make noticeable difference on the population, according to biologists. NPS PHOTOS

"Those fish get really big. The record lake trout out of Wyoming is out of Jackson Lake and was over 50 pounds. To get that big, you have to eat a lot of fish," said fisheries biologist Pat Bigelow, adding that lake trout prey on cutthroat, which are considered a keystone species for their significant role in the ecosystem.

"Because there are fewer cutthroat in the tributaries running into the lake, the grizzly bears switched their early protein consumption more to elk calves," she added. "We have this bumper sticker that says, 'lake trout kill elk."

After more than 20 years of removal efforts, which include a mandatory fish kill for park anglers who catch lake trout and extensive gillnetting by commercial fishing companies, abundance models show that population growth is starting to slow down.

"I'm really excited that we're making measurable progress in reducing lake trout," Bigelow said, but she added that there is still much work to be done. "It's important to remember that there are still big fish out there, there's a lot of lake trout out there. There's a huge threat still and we need to keep this pressure up."

To keep up the heat, park employees have begun to target lake trout on the front end by suppressing their eggs.

"It turns out the best method we've used so far is putting [lake trout] carcasses on top of the spawning material," said Bigelow. "What we think happens is the decomposition of the carcass material drops the dissolved oxygen so far that the embryos actually suffocate. And then the carcasses eventually get washed away or decay."

Employees will continue to target lake trout eggs this summer, utilizing shredded lake trout caught in the gillnets to suffocate the eggs. According to Koel, they will also try using pellets made of organic material this fall.

In addition to suppressing threats to the fishery, biologists are continuing their work to restore native populations.

Park staff have removed nonnative species like rainbow and brook trout from a number of creek systems. Generally, this process includes the construction of an upstream barrier to prevent the unwanted spread of nonnative fish, a treatment of the piscicide rotenone, and reintroduction of the desired native fish species—either grayling, westslope cutthroat or Yellowstone cutthroat.

This year, the lower Gibbon River will be treated with rotenone from Virginia Cascades to Little Gibbon Falls in August, according to biologist Jeff Arnold.

There will also be sampling on Specimen and Grayling creeks to assess the success of westslope and grayling reintroduction efforts.

The fishing season in Yellowstone opens Saturday, May 26. For more information about fishing regulations, fisheries science, and fish conservation in Yellowstone is available at go.nps.gov/fish.

Bozeman bike tour to showcase open spaces

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – On May 19, those who enjoy pumping bike pedals are invited to join the Gallatin Valley Land Trust in a guided road-biking tour south of Bozeman. The two different bike routes will showcase open lands protected by the Gallatin County Open Space Program, a conservation initiative that has been supported by tax dollars to keep land in the valley free of development and preserved for agricultural uses.

Those riding in the Open Lands Bike Tour will meet at the Sacajawea Middle School at 3525 S. 3rd Ave. in Bozeman at 9:30 a.m., rain or shine. From there, groups will depart at 10 a.m. and ride one of two loops—an 8-miler that stays within the vicinity of Sacajawea Middle School, or a 26-mile loop that extends almost to Highway 191.

The tour will make several stops along the way to discuss the open lands program. These stops include conservation easements established by the following families: Hoffman and Schaplow; Bos, Buck/Butterfield, Wolny, Dogterom; and Oliver.

The final stop on the longer course will be an opportunity to highlight the Oliver conservation easement, which was one of the last to be protected with funds made available in 2000 and 2004 by two \$10 million bonds approved by Gallatin County voters.

This bike tour comes just before local voters will see the open space program on the ballot once again. On June 5, Gallatin County voters will be asked to consider a 4.5 mill levy that would raise more than \$20 million over 15 years, to be used for conservation projects in the area.

GVLT is among several local organizations that work to preserve open space in the valley. These lands are protected as conservation easements and remain in the land



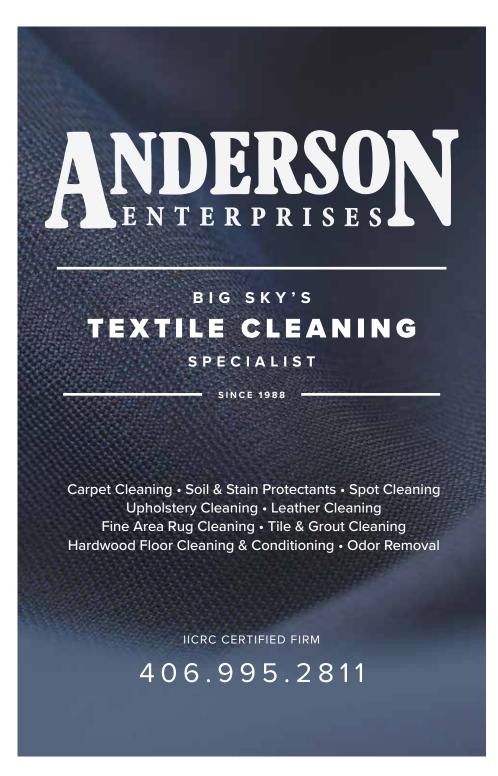
Two cyclists enjoy the open landscape east of Bozeman. PHOTO BY PASCAL BEAUVAIS

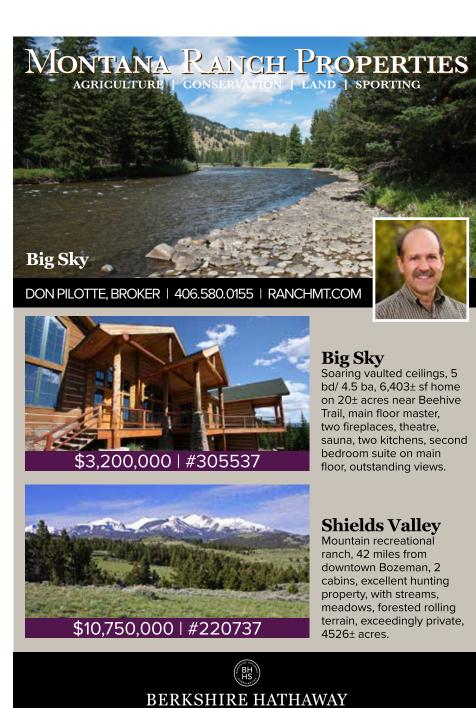
owner's possession with the stipulation that the ground remains undeveloped. However, it can still be used for agriculture.

"Open land may not mean public access, but we benefit so much from the wideopen landscape whether it's on a bike, in the car or at a trailhead," said EJ Porth, GVLT communications and outreach director. "One of the things that GVLT does is to find ways for the public to experience open lands on a first-hand level. ... I think [the bike tour] will help people appreciate the views they are having."

The Open Lands Bike Tour is open to all biking skill levels and registration is available the day of the event. Helmets are required.

For more information about the bike tour, visit gult.org/events/open-lands-bike-tour.





Montana Properties

SACAJAWEA AUDUBON

This year marks the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, a law that protects migratory birds throughout the U.S. In honor of this milestone, nature lovers around the world are joining forces to celebrate the "Year of the Bird" and commit to protecting birds today and for the next one hundred years.

World Migratory Bird Day is a celebration of our planet's major migratory bird corridors—or flyways—namely the African-Eurasian, the East Asian-Australasian, and the Americas flyways. Events are taking place at refuges, parks, museums, schools, zoos and right here in Bozeman at local trails, theaters and the library.

The festival kicked off on May 10 with a screening of the film "The Messenger," and additional festival activities will be held on Saturday, May 12.



Northern pintail ducks, one of several migratory duck species in Montana, return to the Bozeman area between March and May. PHOTO BY BOB MARTINKA

From 7 to 9 a.m. the Gallatin Valley Land Trust will host a morning bird walk. Ambassadors will be at local trailheads providing information about birding, birding ethics and the trails. Visit gylt.org for more information.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Bozeman Public Library will host a Festival of Family Activities. Learn more about the 100-year-old Migratory Bird Treaty Act, enjoy live music, games and crafts, and see live education birds. Volunteers will be on-hand to teach how to use binoculars and lead bird-watching walks.

There will also be a Migration March and the community is invited to dress up like a favorite bird and join in the parade.

To close the celebration, there will be two film screenings at the Ellen Theatre. At 4 p.m., the 1996 drama "Fly Away Home" will inspire audiences when a father and daughter decide to attempt to lead a flock of orphaned Canada Geese south.

Following "Fly Away Home, the documentary film "Winged Migration" will play at 7 p.m. Shot over three years on seven different continents, "Winged Migration" showcases the immense journeys traveled by migratory birds.

To learn more about Bozeman's Migratory Bird Day, visit www. sacajaweaaudubon.org.

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Produced with the support of Bozeman TBID funds

TAKE THE LONG VIEW



OPENS COMPANDS

ON JUNE 5th

Plan ahead: don't miss the chance to protect wildlife habitat, water quality, and outdoor recreation in Big Sky and across Gallatin County. Vote by mail, vote early by picking up your ballot at the courthouse, or head to the polls in person on June 5th. Go to app.mt.gov/voterinfo to check your registration, see the status of your ballot, or find your polling place. Join us in taking the long view — we need your help to keep our vistas open and our skies big.









































































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JULY 25-28, 2018 | BIG SKY, MT

THURSDAY JULY, 26 PBR BULL RIDING *TICKETS AVAILABLE!* **BIGSKYPBR.COM**

2018 Schedule of Events

25

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THURSDAY JULY 26

Third Annual Big Sky Art Auction PBR Arena Tent | 3-6pm | FREE www.bigskyartauction.com

Big Sky PBR Local's Night Bull Riding Night 1 PBR Arena | 6-8pm

Music in the Mountains Featuring Shovels & Rope sponsored by Big Sky PBR, presented by Arts Council Big Sky Town Center Park | 8:30pm | FREE

JULY 27 FRIDAY

Big Sky PBR Bull Riding Night 2 **PBR Arena**

4pm – Vendor Village opens

5pm – Golden Buckle gates open

6pm – Calcutta auction in the Golden Buckle tent and

General Admission gates open

7pm – Bull Riding Begins

Big Sky PBR After Party & **Music Featuring Steel Woods** SAV Stage | 9pm

SATURDAY JULY 28

Big Sky PBR Bull Riding Night 3 **PBR Arena**

4pm – Vendor Village opens

5pm – Golden Buckle gates open

6pm – Calcutta auction in the Golden Buckle tent and

General Admission gates open **7pm** – Bull Riding Begins

Big Sky PBR After Party & **Music Featuring Thunderpussy** SAV Stage | 9pm

MORE INFORMATION, SCHEDULE & TICKETS AT BIGSKYPBR.COM









Altitude























































Together.



















On the Trail: Black Diamond

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

BY CIARA WOLFE BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Black Diamond Trail is one of the first trails to dry out during the spring in Big Sky's Meadow area due to the hillside's southern exposure and direct sunlight. This trail is the perfect distance and terrain to get your heartrate pumping for an excellent, easily accessible workout in a quick time frame.

The 1.6-mile roundtrip provides a nice climb into the trees right off the bat. The trail then levels out for a short distance, followed by a descent through the forest. Watch the water runoff during the initial climb and stay on the higher side of the existing trail. Carefully navigate any large puddles without further damaging the path.

Once you have descended you can choose to turn around and do the same terrain on the way back or continue onto Little Willow Way for .8 miles of cool down on flat, level terrain.

Black Diamond Trail weaves through Big Sky's 18-hole frisbee golf course, with several spur trails to each hole.

Make sure to follow the signs and stay on the well-carved dirt path. Black Diamond Trail is best for intermediate level hikers or runners and is an excellent place to bring your four-legged friends for some exercise or to play a round of frisbee golf with friends.

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











1.6 miles round truip

hike, run moderate

Elevation 250 ft

Surface dirt

4

Directions: From Meadow Village, head north on Little Coyote Road. Go past the Big Sky Chapel and pond and turn at the first road on your right. Look for the Big Sky Community Park entrance sign. Park near the skate park and yurt located at the east end of the park. The trailhead starts directly behind the yurt.





Inside the Big Sky

Tips for spotting Big Sky's abundant wildlife

VISIT BIG SKY

Montana has a greater wildlife biodiversity than anywhere else in the lower 48. Between the variety of landscapes that range from wide open meadows to impressive peaks, Big Sky is an ideal location to experience some truly unique encounters with wildlife. Here are just a few of the animals you might see, and some tips for the best places to catch a glimpse of Big Sky's wildest residents.

Elk

Elk are one of the most magnificent creatures to be to know where to look. PH seen in the Big Sky area. Keep an eye out for them as you drive up Lone Mountain Trail towards Big Sky Resort. To spot a herd,

you drive up Lone Mountain Trail towards Big Sky Resort. To spot a herd, you might also try driving the scenic 15 miles to the boundary of Yellowstone National Park at dawn or dusk.

Bighorn sheep

Bighorn sheep are common around Big Sky—so common our school has made it their mascot. Take a hike in the Gallatin National Forest, or simply keep an eye out for them along the roadways as you drive into Big Sky.



There is an abundance of wildlife viewing opportunities in Big Sky—you just need to know where to look. PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT BIG SKY

Moose

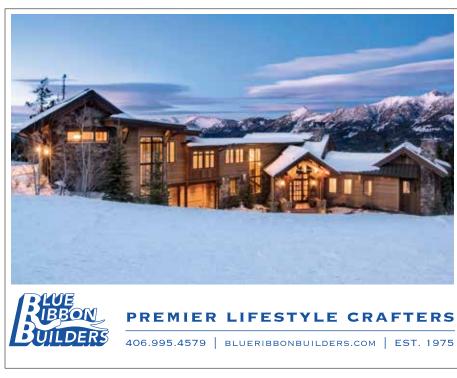
For many visitors, the most awe-inspiring sighting is that of a moose. As you drive or walk around Big Sky, keep your eyes peeled for moose munching in marshy areas around riverbeds, or on bushes at the outskirts of town. For such enormous creatures, moose can be tricky to spot as they blend into their surroundings. Less than 200 of these stunning animals live in the Yellowstone/ Big Sky area, which makes seeing one truly special.

Fly fishing and bird watching

With more than 3,000 fish per mile, not only does the Gallatin River attract fishermen from around the world, it also attracts bald eagles, peregrine falcons and

osprey. You can see these elegant birds perched in trees scanning the river and, if you're lucky, you'll catch them diving into the water to catch a fish.

There is so much amazing wildlife to be seen in Yellowstone Country. Besides the animals mentioned above, bear, whitetail deer, fox, mountain goats and many other species make their home in this area. Remember to use your wildlife safety skills and spend time outdoors in Big Sky, and you are sure to see them.







YELLOWSTONE CLUB



Skiers Paradise* | \$18.95M 2.88 ACRES | 13,349 SQ FT | 7 bedrooms | 10 bathrooms Spacious, recently remodeled ski-in, ski-out home with unmatched views



Lakeside Lodge C-104* | \$8.995M 3,981 SQ FT | 4 bedrooms | 5.5 bathrooms $Spacious, \, elegant \, condo \, with \, incredible \, location \, in \, the \, base \, area \, of \,$ Yellowstone Club



Lot 338 Bristlecone Drive* | \$4.95M 14.6 ACRES $\label{privacy} \textit{Privacy is paramount at the largest residential lot available at}$ Yellowstone Club with spectacular mountain views



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The flies in my vest: Runoff edition



BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

Death, taxes and runoff are all inevitable. I can't really help with end of life issues, other than recommending that you fish as much as you can, so you have few regrets. For tax advice, you better consult a CPA and not a fishing guide. For advice on fishing during runoff, I'm your guy.

Runoff is a challenge anglers face every year. It begins with guessing—when will it begin and when will it end? Fortunately, the sooner it begins the sooner it's over. But until our rivers begin to drop and hatches of salmon flies commence, embrace the big water and ample snowpack. If you plan to fish, here are the flies to have your in vest and the best places to fish them.

Clouser crayfish. Don't expect to cook up some etouffee, but do expect to catch fish if you tie on this fly. Crayfish tend be more active in late spring and are found abundantly in the Lower Madison and Missouri rivers. Drag or dead drift a Clouser crayfish solo or with another fly and you'll learn that while difficult to tie, it's a useful pattern in muddy water. Fish a stout leader and tippet as you want the fly near or bouncing along the bottom.

Black or brown woolly bugger. All on the same drift this fly can imitate a stonefly nymph, a crayfish, and a baitfish. It can be tied with a bead head, a cone head, weight wrapped into the fly, or unweighted. For runoff conditions, I prefer to have a bead head or a cone head, as well as weight tied into it. Fish it by stripping, dragging, or dead drifting, but target bankside structure and slower water with this fly, as predatory fish will ambush a well-presented woolly bugger.

Delektable stonefly nymph. Dan Delekta, owner of Beartooth Fly Fishing and an Upper Madison River guru, created this namesake fly as a variation of the Bitch Creek and girdle bug years ago. With a bead head, rubber legs, a wing case, and flash, this is one sexy fly that catches fish. Fish these nymphs below a strike indicator and tight to the banks, or in softer water near the bank, but practice your knots and use stout tippets because these flies aren't cheap or easy to tie.

Bead head zebra midge. This is the curveball of the list, but it's on here in case you find yourself fishing a spring creek or some clear water. At its heart, it's a fly tied to imitate a midge pupa or emerging midge, however, the zebra midge is not just for imitating midges—it also works very well as a mayfly or caddis nymph.





Runoff is upon us, but that doesn't mean you have to stop fishing. Choosing the right fly is important to enjoying success during mud season. PHOTOS COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES

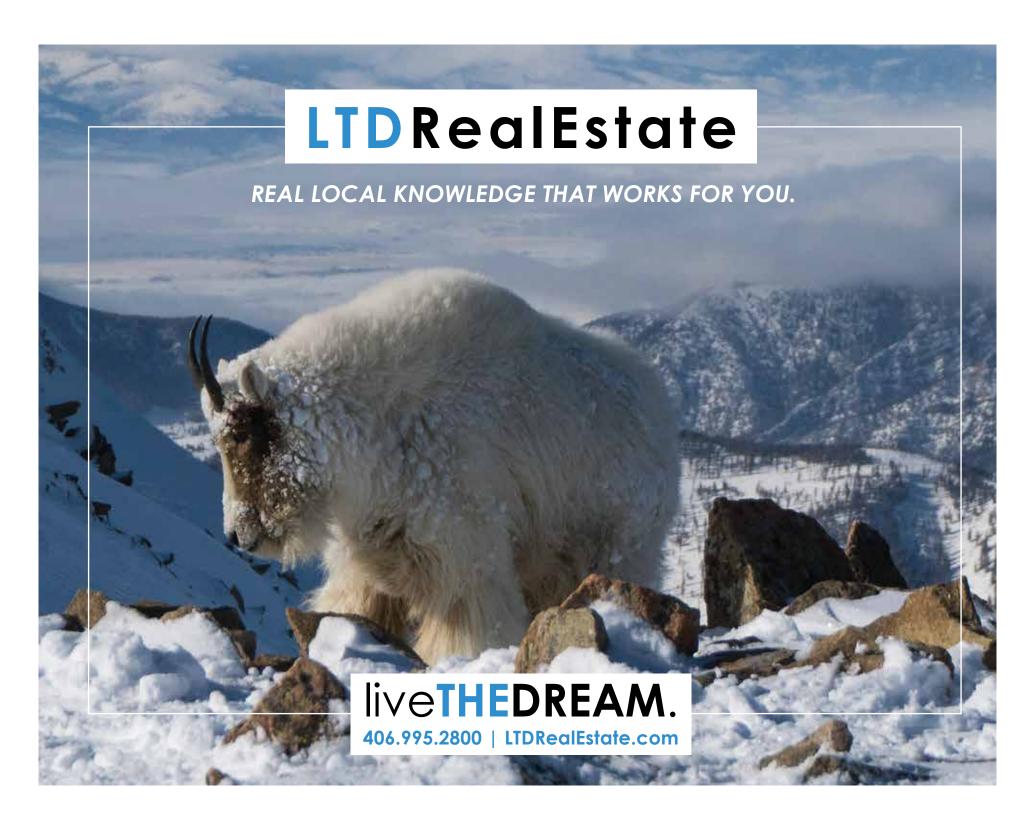
Parachute Purple Haze. Blue-winged olives could hatch on any given day, yet most rivers may be too muddy for the fish to see a hatching insect—the Firehole River in Yellowstone National Park and the Paradise Valley spring creeks are the exceptions. A regular Parachute Adams will work fine, but over the years of witnessing thousands of fish eat various Parachute dries, the purple body makes a difference.

Bloom's Parachute Caddis. Because most rivers are too muddy to fish dry flies, the anticipation of the Mother's Day caddis hatch is usually more exciting than the hatch. However, the Lower Madison, Missouri and Firehole rivers can have caddis hatches and fishable conditions. This fly, created by veteran Missouri River dry fly guide, Dave Bloom, must be in your box if you're an optimistic angler.

Worms. Yes, you read it correctly. Aquatic and terrestrial worms are abundant during runoff. As a self-proclaimed dry fly snob, tying a worm onto my tippet always feels like cheating, but worms are a source of quality food for trout so they cannot be ignored. Many variations of worms exist—bead heads, fire bead, gummy, and wire—and each variety has its followers. Choose a fly based on clarity and the nature of the water. Dirtier water will call for a bead head or fire bead, and in slower or cleaner water, choose a gummy or less bulky worm.

Fishing during runoff, with its dirty water and unconventional flies, might be a painful adjustment for some of you, but as my college soccer coach used to bark during fitness drills, from pain comes pleasure. Like the end of the game, fishing during runoff is inevitable—whether you sit on the sidelines and pout at the dirty water, or get out there and try is up to you.

Pat Straub is a 20-year veteran guide on Montana's waters and has fished the world-over. The co-founder of the Montana Fishing Guide School, he's 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.











Discovery Academy students volunteer at Big Sky Food Bank

Big Sky Discovery Academy students ages 4 to 14 gave back during Give Big week by helping stock and organize shelves at the Big Sky Food Bank. The only thing the students asked for in return? "We want to help at the food bank more often!" PHOTOS COURTESY OF BIG SKY DISCOVERY ACADEMY

American Life in Poetry: Column 685

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

Some of the mannerisms of poetry that can get in the way of an everyday reader's enjoyment are elevated diction, obscure references, and a vocabulary that requires a trip to the dictionary. Here's a good example of a conversational poem that doesn't require anything other than what it carries with it. Steve Langan lives in Omaha, Nebraska, and this is from his book "What It Looks Like, How It Flies," from Gibraltar Editions.

Good News

home.

By Steve Langan

We say the trees are a canopy in mid July, as if that's a special description of

Walking down the hill to see a friend, I have good news and bad news for him.

We say canopy made out of stars as our special way to describe the universe to ourselves.

So which one will my friend choose today?

Canopy of trees gives way to the sky; I'm walking now thinking all the way which

one will he choose good or bad which

I guess I can just say instead I love the

you fixed up the place and these colors.

At a certain age a man can begin to say things like that to his friends.

We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Poem copyright © 2015 by Steve Langan, "Good News," from "What It Looks Like, How It Flies," (Gibraltar Editions, 2015). Poem reprinted by permission of Steve Langan and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2018 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ACROSS Also known as ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE 41 Pounds (abbr.) 42 Veneration

(abbr.)
"Blue Eagle"
Exclamation 10 Rom. public

lands 11 Possessive pronoun 12 Rake

14 Decoy (2 words) 16 Anglican (abbr.) 17 Mouse-spotter's

cry 18 Heath

evergreen 20 His (Fr.) 21 Birds (pref.) 22 Both (pref.) 24 Short

28 Antiseptic 31 Forest ox 32 Hebrew (abbr.) river

35 Style of art

DOWN Chills and fever Retch Vessel

44 Indian sacred

53 Demolish: Brit.

fig 46 Disposed 49 Hang fire

54 Half-boot

55 Hall (Ger.)

56 Parrot

57 Lifetime

58 Compass direction

51 Wise

Country (Lat.) Betel palm

NOGG AMLA PREVALLON BORN

26 Bosh

29 Marsh elder

36 Sixth sense

38 Tablespoon

40 Leaf-miner

beetle 42 Month abbr.

46 Down with (Fr.,

Admin. (abbr.)

2 words) 47 Bleach 48 ___ Aviv 50 Drug Enforcement

52 Verb-forming

(suf.)

43 Puny 45 Wampum

10 Soft drink 13 Loop trains Apostles 19 Male friend (Fr.)

21 Nest-building fish 23 Ossa



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BACK4[1]

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"

Spring flows and river safety

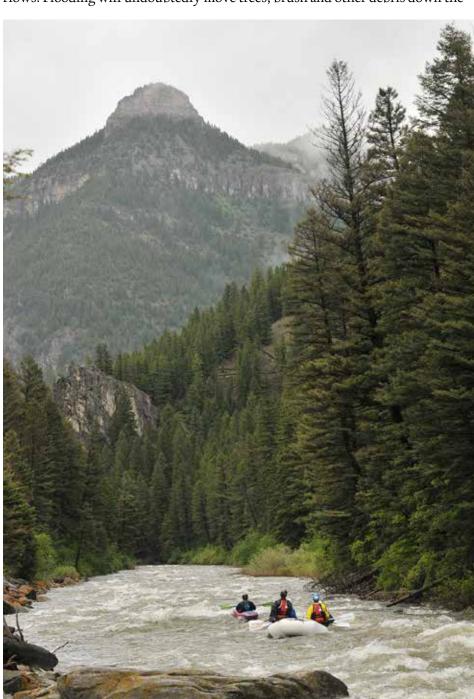
BY ERIC BECKER

Big Sky and the surrounding area experienced several substantial storms this winter and as a result the snowpack heading into summer is the deepest it's been in over a decade. The enthusiasm on the ski hill this season was ever-present, and now that warmer weather has arrived, anticipation of the river scene radiates the same energy. Whether you are a paddler trying to run whitewater and test your skills, or someone who just wants to take in the spring sunshine on the banks, there are precautions everyone should take during high water season.

Whitewater rafting and paddling

There are always risks associated with whitewater, even when rivers are running well within their expected limit. It is important that everyone on the water be properly equipped to self-rescue and prepared to rescue others. A personal floatation device (PFD), helmet and throw bag are the bare minimum necessities for most whitewater scenarios. Most days on the rivers in this region you will also need a wetsuit or dry gear because of the water and air temperatures. River trips are going to be wetter and colder than in recent years so extra layers and proper outerwear are going to be critical in preventing hypothermia and having a good time out there. Fleece, wool, neoprene and dry gear. That's the name of the game.

Decisions you make prior to put-in are going to be most important during spring flows. Flooding will undoubtedly move trees, brush and other debris down the



The Gallatin will be a different river this spring due to record snowpack levels.



Everyone is excited for river season, but spring flows will be intense and it's important to take safety measures both on the river and near its banks. PHOTOS COURTESY OF GEYSER WHITEWATER EXPEDITIONS

river. These hazards are especially dangerous when they are in motion, but also result in changes in the river as they settle in, such as strainers. Be aware and make smart choices about getting on the river if there are logs coming down the size of your kayak or raft. Keep in contact with the whitewater community so that you are informed of major river changes that others may have discovered.

Once on the river, the most important addition to your whitewater trips will be additional boats for safety. Injuries are possible regardless of water level. You should run all of your river trips so that there are multiple boats and experienced paddlers in your group. The more boats and trained people on the water, the more resources available in the event of a river accident.

Keep your family and pets safe

Anyone who slips into a river flowing quickly without a PFD is at serious risk. Take extra precautions by the riverside and recognize "no fall zones." For pets and children, constant monitoring near the riverside may be necessary. This is not just true of larger rivers during spring flows. The West Fork and its tributaries that run through Big Sky and along hiking trails can still pose serious threats to pedestrians and their furry friends, especially during spring flows. It is easy for someone without river experience to look at a river and not understand its power or how dangerous it can become downstream. Don't underestimate and tread carefully while hiking.

It's no news to area fisherman that river-wading can be dangerous. For those comfortable fishing and wading knee- to waist-deep in the Gallatin every year, it is important to recognize that the river will be different this year during spring flows. It is surprising what knee-deep water can do when it's flowing at 8,000 cfs and, as those in the trade will tell you, taking a swim in waders can be life threatening.

A fun and safe season

The warmer weather as spring unfolds is exciting. This year's ski season was one for the books and we look forward to another fun, whitewater-filled summer. We're really fortunate to have the Gallatin River in Big Sky to enjoy and share as a community. Let's make the most of it this season and stay safe.

Eric Becker founded Geyser Whitewater Expeditions in 1992. Since then, Becker has followed his passion for whitewater around the world, having guided professionally on 22 rivers and paddled over 100 more in 13 different countries. Visit raftmontana.com for more information.

Section 4:ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT









Jim Dick: Harnessing of light and landscape

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Montana artist Jim Dick has been creating oil paintings of the mountains, rivers, valleys and plains for 45 years. A large body of his work concentrates specifically on Big Sky landscapes: Lone Mountain and neighboring peaks, Gallatin Canyon and the Gallatin River.

One of the most attractive aspects of Dick's paintings, besides the immediate recognizability of area landmarks and the artist's clear intimacy with them, is the interplay of light and shadow. Whether illuminating a steep alpine slope, or the tops of evergreens over a dappled woodsy path, his skillfulness creates the sense of sitting on that summit, walking through an aspen grove in fall, or lazing on the riverbanks.

His ability to convey a visceral sense of place, time and season likely stems from Dick's process, which begins with an on-location plein air study. With a portable easel and simple palette of paints, Dick has explored the Big Sky area extensively—including Jack Creek, Cedar Creek, Pioneer Mountain, Yellow Mule and the Taylor-Hilgard range.

"One of the best parts [of painting] is getting to be outside," he said, admitting that he doesn't have the best sense of risk, and often doesn't bring a cellphone with him. "I think when you're outdoors, when you're painting what's right in front of you, [it's easier to capture] the color harmonies."

Dick has painted a lot of scenes from the tops of mountains. He enjoys the birdseye view they afford, and the shift in perspective they encourage.

"It's a lot like life," he said. "We can get stuck in a rut in our thinking, and sometimes we just need to recheck our perspective. Everything looks different from the top of Saddle Mountain than it does from the bottom."

Dick paints because he loves to paint—not out of artistic ambition; and seems a bit at a loss when it comes to the trappings of modern society that most of us accept as part of life.

He grew up on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation and the prairies of northeastern Montana. In the early 1900s, his grandparents, one pair Russian immigrants, the other from Minnesota, moved to the area to acquire land opened up to homesteaders after the federal allotment was divvied up among tribal members.



Dick's process entails expeditions into the wilderness he loves to paint, where he will do a plein-air study before creating a full-size piece in his studio.



Oil painter Jim Dick has been painting the landscapes and landmarks of southwestern Montana for more than 40 years. PHOTOS BY DAYLE DICK

Raised on thousands of acres where the nearest neighbor was many miles away, Dick recalls an upbringing of near-complete self-sufficiency.

"We raised our own meat, had a vegetable garden, grew our own wheat and had a flour mill, used a pump jack for water, had chickens and horses," he said. "I don't remember hardly ever going to town or eating at a café."

After attending college in California, Dick quickly realized he didn't have the right temperament to work in an office environment. He said he wasn't shrewd enough for it, and preferred being outdoors to being inside.

When passing through Billings on his way back home for the Christmas holiday, he decided to stay. He took a daytime janitor job and painted at night.

In 1968, married with a 9-month-old baby, Dick moved his young family to an off-the-grid cabin in the Tobacco Roots. During the 12 and a half years they lived there, another daughter would be born, and many unforgettable—sometimes frightening—memories would be made.

He shared a story about friends who were snowshoeing the 7 miles and 2,000-foot climb to their cabin in 4 feet of snow. They finally arrived close to 2 a.m., having only survived by building a fire and eating the raw hamburger they were packing in. Years later Dick commemorated the experience with a painting of the tree stump where they had stopped.

"We don't conquer anything," Dick said. "We survive things."

Despite the fact that they could only drive out of their property four to five months a year—and otherwise had to hike or snowshoe the 2 miles to the nearest forest service road, and sometimes farther, those years on the mountain were some of the family's fondest.

But in 1981, with his daughters getting more involved in extracurricular activities, the family moved closer to Bozeman, where they have lived ever since.

"It seems like a real ordinary life to me," Dick said with customary humility. "I don't know if it is or not."

Jim Dick's work can be found at the A. Banks Gallery on Main Street in downtown Bozeman, and online at jimdick.com.



Division of Glacier Bank

Featuring a showing of art by Greg Alexander displayed by Creighton Block Gallery of Big Sky. Please stop by the bank lobby to see in person.







ACBS seeks submissions for Big Sky Art on the Street Deadline to enter June 8

EBS STAFF

The Arts Council of Big Sky is calling for artist submissions for the ongoing Big Sky Art on the Street project. The entry deadline is 5 p.m. on June 8. The fourth round of the program will wrap another 10 Big Sky utility boxes with imagery by area artists, bringing the total number of Big Sky boxes that have received an artful makeover close to 50.

Artists must reside in Gallatin, Madison or Park counties and all ages are encouraged to apply. Only original artwork will be considered and artists may submit more than one piece. The ACBS is looking for work with strong visual impact, that will work logistically on the boxes, and subject matter that is relevant to and representative of the Big Sky community.

Big Sky Art on the Street was started by former Lone Peak High School student Dasha Bough with the wrapping of seven boxes in 2015. Since then, the Arts Council has taken lead on the project, wrapping five to eight boxes each summer with funding from resort tax, ACBS and the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation.

The program is a partnership with Bozeman's Clean Slate Group, a city beautification company that prints high resolution images of the original artwork onto vinyl wrap material, and sends a team to Big Sky to complete the installs.

Visit bigskyarts.org for more information and complete submission guidelines.



ACBS is calling for submissions for an ongoing public art program that beautifies utilitarian boxes with the work of local artists. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY





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'Icarus'

BY ANNA HUSTED EBS CONTRIBUTOR

I couldn't help but think of the Ben Stiller and Judd Apatow kid comedy, "Heavy Weights," while watching the 2017 Oscar-winning documentary "Icarus." Stiller's super-athlete camp director character in "Heavy Weights" tells the story of the Greek mythological figure Icarus whose wax wings melted when he flew too close to the sun, and he fell to his death.

In the film, Stiller says "we are all like Icarus" to a bunch of overweight middle schoolers. While Stiller's remark is in the spirit of comedy, the documentary "Icarus" suggests the same: in our expectations of great athletes we push them to a level beyond what is ethical.

"Icarus" is told from the perspective of its director, Bryan Fogel, who wants to find out why his hero Lance Armstrong chose to take performance enhancing drugs. Fogel decides to go on a strict doping regimen to see if it changes his own cycling performance. He teams up with Russian World Anti-Doping Agency scientist Grigory Rodchenkov for the experiment.



"lcarus" is a documentary that explores the realities of doping by professional international athletes. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JEWISH JOURNAL

What transpires is more than Fogel planned. Not only does he discover what happens to his body when he takes performance-enhancing drugs, but he and Rodchenkov uncover one of the greatest doping scandals in the history of sports: Almost all Russian Olympic athletes have been doping for decades.

Without giving away how deep the Russian athlete doping scandal runs, the issue of doping in the Olympics or the Tour de France goes beyond issues of right or wrong. If many, or perhaps most, athletes are doping, and we know professional sports have a long history of doping, why do we expect otherwise? We want athletes to win fairly, but we don't want to pay them fairly or watch dull competition.

"Icarus" explores the many facets behind doping in sports, including the human component. In following Rodchenkov, who worked for the World Anti-Doping Agency as a drug tester for decades, Fogel shows us that, for Russians, choosing not to take performance-enhancing drugs could be a life or death choice.

"Icarus" starts out with a bang, but ends with a whimper. With investigations still ongoing, too much is left unanswered, but it opens up a deeper contemplation of this international issue. Rodchenkov reads from George Orwell's "1984" multiple times throughout "Icarus," but the standout quote for me was "there is strength in ignorance."

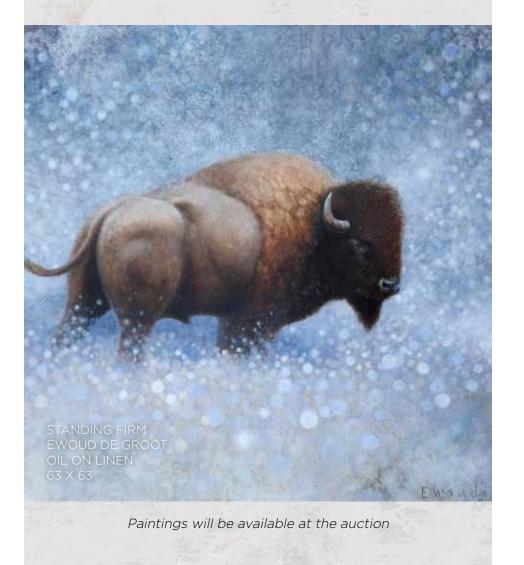
Perhaps we want to remain ignorant of the questions "Icarus" proposes. Are other nations also doping and it just hasn't come to light yet? Does doping even make someone a better athlete? Do we take into account that Russian athletes do not have the freedom of choice? Is justice separate from politics?

"Icarus" is available for streaming on Netflix.

Anna Husted has a master's in film studies from New York University. In Big Sky she can be found at the movies at Lone Peak Cinema or on the slopes. When not gazing at the silver screen or watching her new favorite TV show, she's running, fishing or roughhousing with her cat, Indiana Jones.



BIG ART SKY AUCTION



July 26, 2018 | 3-6pm

Big Sky PBR Arena Tent | Big Sky Town Center

bigskyartauction.com







Blues, puppets and Science on Screen at the Rialto

EBS STAFF

Saturday, May 12 @ 6 and 9 p.m. An evening of blues with Guy Davis

Blues musician Guy Davis cites a diverse array of influences that include Blind Willie McTell, Big Bill Broonzy, Lightnin' Hopkins and Babatunde Olatunji, but he gives most credit for his harmonica skills to the blues master of the instrument, Sonny Terry. Davis brings 20-plus years of songwriting and performing to the Rialto stage for a two-show evening of blues.

Friday, May 18 @ 8 p.m. Saturday, May 19 @ 6 and 9 p.m. 'Freak Out: The Musical'

An original psychedelic, rock 'n' roll musical with larger-than-life puppets and a live four-piece rock band, "Freak Out" tells the story of two counter-culture motorcyclists in the late 1960s. While on a journey of self-discovery, the bikers unwittingly get embroiled with a cult determined to take over the world.

Sunday, May 20: Bozeman Film Society Sundays 6 p.m. 'Infinitely Polar Bear'

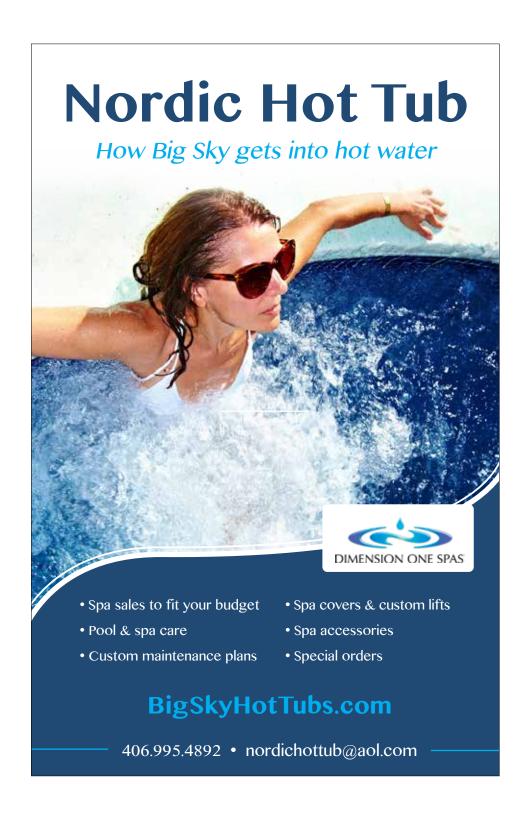
Bozeman Film Society presents a Science on Screen event that focuses on issues of mental health. The evening will feature guest speakers Jessie Close, a representative of Bring Change to Mind, a national organization whose mission is to eradicate the stigma and discrimination surrounding mental illness; and Director of the Gallatin Mental Health Center, Michael Foust, who will moderate the evening's panel discussion.

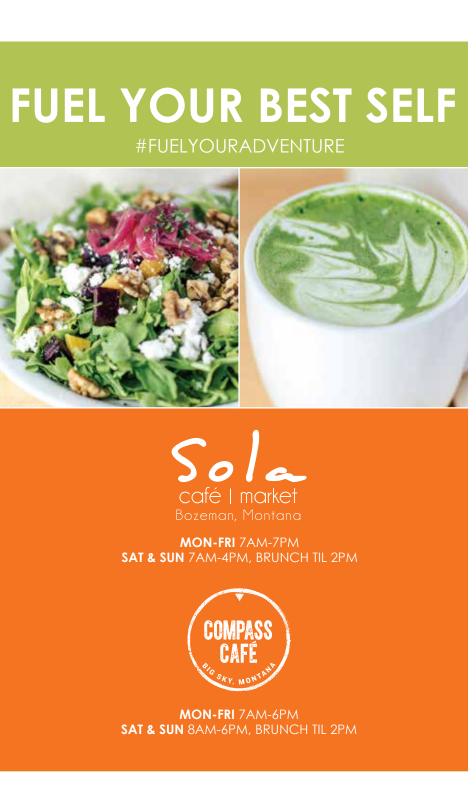


Featuring larger-than-life puppets and a live four-piece rock band, "Freak Out" tells the story of two counter-culture motorcyclists in the late 1960s. PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

"Infinitely Polar Bear" stars Mark Ruffalo as Cameron, a man suffering from bipolar disorder. After a breakdown lands him in a halfway house, he attempts to rebuild a relationship with his two daughters and win back the trust of his wife Maggie (Zoe Saldana). When Maggie decides to go to business school in New York, Cameron moves back in to care for the kids, which leads to a series of quirky, funny, and sometimes frightening episodes due to his condition.

Visit rialtobozeman.ticketfly.com for more information about events at Rialto Bozeman.





EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MAY 11 – THURSDAY, MAY 24

*IF YOUR EVENT FALLS
BETWEEN MAY 25 AND JUNE 7,
PLEASE SUBMIT IT BY MAY 16
BY EMAILING
MEDIA@OUTLAW.PARTNERS.

BIG SKY

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Locals Lowdown: Brian Stumpf, music Rainbow Ranch, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Big Sky Resort Golf Course Opens

Match Play Big Sky Resort Golf Course, all day

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Service Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Natural Resource Council Meeting BSCO Office, 10:30 a.m.

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

Local Government Discussion with Dan Clark Water and Sewer Conference Room, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Caregivers Support Group Santosha Wellness Center, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

BSCO Board Meeting BSCO Office, 1 p.m.

OMS/LPHS Spring Concert WMPAC, 7 p.m.

A.A. Meeting Big Sky Chapel, 8 p.m.

Big Sky Tiger Grant
Celebration
Tour of Pedestrian Tunnel
Fire Pit Park, 3:30 p.m.
Parade
Lone Mountain Trail, 4:15 p.m.
Celebration
Town Center, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Locals Lowdown: Mathias, music Rainbow Ranch, 5 p.m.

"The Great Gatsby," play WMPAC, 7 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY. MAY 21

Service Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

Moose Creek Flat Work Day Moose Creek Flat, all day

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Yellowstone National Park frontline worker training Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, 10 a.m.

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

Business After Hours Lone Peak Lookout, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

A.A. Meeting Big Sky Chapel, 8 p.m.

BOZEMAN

FRIDAY, MAY 11 Emerson Open House and Birthday Celebration Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 5 p.m. Giuseppe Verdi's "Falstaff," play Willson Auditorium, May 11 and 13, 7 p.m.

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m. Adventures in Conservation, presentation Museum of the Rockies, 7 p.m.

Contra Dance Bozeman Senior Center, 7:30 p.m.

Zoso, music Rialto Bozeman, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Winter Farmers' Market Emerson Ballroom, all morning

World Migratory Bird Day Celebration Various locations, all day

"Oklahoma," musical auditions Hope Lutheran Church, all day

Kumamoto Montana Sister State Family Day Museum of the Rockies. 10 a.m.

Guy Davis, music Rialto Bozeman, 6 and 9 p.m.

Juice Box Band, music Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

Pickin' in the Park: Stuart Weber Story Mansion, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Lazy Owl String Band, music Red Tractor Pizza, 6 p.m.

The Wind Drifters, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Montana Threat Assessment Conference Strand Union Building, MSU, May 14-16

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Science Inquiry Lecture: Astronomy Museum of the Rockies, 7 p.m.

Bozeman High School Jazz Guest Artist Concert Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Erin Enderlin Live From The Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Extreme History Project Lecture: Story Cattle Drive Museum of the Rockies, 6 p.m.

Small Space Gardening, class Bozeman Public Library, 6:30 p.m.

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

Mathias, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Downtown Bozeman Partnership Breakfast Baxter Hotel Ballroom, 7:30 a.m.

Farmented Foods, lecture Bozeman Public Library, 9:30 a.m.

Conserving Open Space in Gallatin Valley: A Look Toward the Future, lecture Bozeman Public Library, 12 p.m.

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

"Freak Out," musical Rialto Bozeman May 18, 8 p.m. May 19, 6 and 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

If These Walls Could Talk, history course Gallatin County Court House, all day

Open Lands Bike Tour Sacajawea Middle School, 9:30 a.m.

Building an Herb Spiral, class Blunderbuss. 10 a.m.

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

SUNDAY, MAY 20

"The Horse Whisperer," film Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 5 p.m.

"Infinitely Polar Bear," film Rialto Bozeman. 6 p.m.

Dan Dubuque, music Red Tractor Pizza, 6 p.m.

Diamond, music Bozeman Hot Spring, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 21 Passive House Tradesperson training Cheever Hall, MSU, May 2124 all day

The Lucky Valentines, music Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Hops & History: Trivia Brew Party Montana Ale Works, 6 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 Can Wildfires be Managed? Lecture Verge Theater, 6 p.m.

Jazz Night Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

"Mountain," film Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Bozeman Cultural Council planning meeting Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 11 a.m.

Conservation Bus Tour Gallatin History Museum, 5:30 p.m.

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

Red Glow Buffalo, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.



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Two Big Sky Resort Area District tax appropriation meetings will be held in June. On Monday, June 4, at 1 p.m. the BSRAD board will hold a question-and-answer session, followed by the release of final appropriations on Monday, June 18, at 6 p.m.

BZN International Film Festival announces June lineup

EBS STAFF

From June 7-10, the BZN International Film Festival will showcase more than 60 films from around the world—eight from Montana—that champion women's voices and environmental activism. The festival will screen films at nearly a dozen Bozeman venues that include Montana State University, the Museum of the Rockies, the Rialto, the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture, the Ellen Theatre and the Willson Auditorium.

Opening night of the BZN International Film Festival will take place June 7 at the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture with a 7:30 p.m. screening of James Redford's "Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution" in the Crawford Theater.

A nod to the sustainability efforts of the theater's benefactors Tim and Kathy Crawford, "Happening" explores the developments and future of clean energy in America. As he crosses the country promoting solar power, Redford speaks with business and political leaders, scientists, and advocates for clean energy including actor Mark Ruffalo; Nevada senator Patricia

Spearman; and Lisa Jackson, vice president of environmental policy at Apple.

The film has screened at DOC NYC, Mill Valley Film Festival, and the American Film Showcase, among others. A pre-event reception for Gallatin and Hyalite passholders will begin in the Emerson Ballroom at 5:30 pm.



"Happening," a documentary that explores the future of clean energy in the U.S., screens in the Emerson's Crawford Theater on June 7, opening night of the inaugural BZN International Film Festival. PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOZEMAN FILM CELEBRATION



"Sami Blood" is a 2016 Swedish coming-of-age drama about a 14-year-old girl who experiences prejudice at a nomad school for Sami children, and decides to escape her town and disavow her Sami heritage. The film will screen June 8 at the Ellen Theatre.

Other standout films include "Rainy Mountain," based on the life of Pulitzer Prize-winning author N. Scott Momaday, and "Mankiller," the story of the Cherokee Nation's first woman principal chief, both set in Montana or the broader American West. One panel discussion will explore the nuances of filming in Montana.

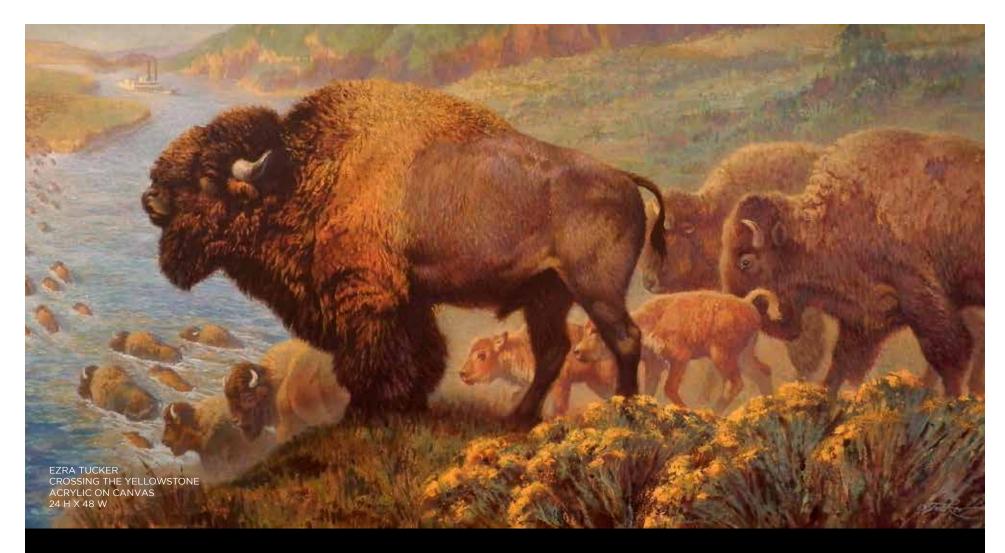
Ken Burns' "Not for Ourselves Alone," the story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, will screen at the MSU's Procrastinator Theater on June 8. A pass is not necessary to attend this Emmy Awardwinning documentary or "The Long Shadow," in which filmmaker Frances Causey investigates the roots of racism.

Also on the docket are two films from Venezuela: "They Call us Warriors," about the Venezuelan women's football team overcoming gender discrimination for a chance to win the first World Cup for their country; and "Ivana," a film noir-style story about a female assassin in a corrupt and morally ambiguous society.

In an effort to encourage discourse, organizers anticipate the attendance of 30 filmmakers that will host panel discussions throughout the multi-day event. The panel conversations will examine topics that relate to the films presented,

such as sexuality and gender identity, familial relationships, and local and global worldwide environmental efforts. A spotlight will also be cast on Bozeman's community of female entrepreneurs.

Visit bozemanfilmcelebration.com for tickets and the full lineup of films.



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Between the shelves

BY AMY HUNTER ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

It feels like certain types of knowledge are a bit like technology—out of date as soon as we get them. There are always new studies happening about so many different topics. If we learn something new every day, think about what that means for what we knew one year ago. We know more now, using some of that knowledge as a building block, even though it could be disproven by additional information we learn in the subsequent year. It can feel overwhelming sometimes, especially seeing so many books arrive at the library that I don't have time to read right away.

One of the perks of working in the library, however, is also having access to all the periodicals that come in. It is easier to stay in the library a few minutes longer to read an article, than to read an entire book. We have so many magazine options that most people in Big Sky will be able to find something that interests them, from Backpacker, Ski, or Montana Outdoors, to Real Simple, National Geographic, and Time. Come to the library to explore our entire periodical collection and keep increasing your knowledge.



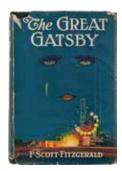






Big Sky Community Theatre presents 'The Great Gatsby'

All-female cast performs the F. Scott Fitzgerald classic



BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Community Theatre presents one major show a year, a grassroots production comprised of local actors, directors, set designers and crew.

On Friday, May 18 at 7 p.m. the Big Sky Community Theatre will perform "The Great Gatsby" featuring an unconventional all-female cast at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

Whether it was required reading in high school or you've seen the 1974 or 2013 film adaptations, most people are familiar with F. Scott Fitzgerald's most well-known novel. Set amid the glamorous decadence of the Jazz Age, it tells the story of Jay Gatsby, a self-made millionaire and his blind pursuit of the elusive Daisy Buchanan. The book's narrator, Nick Carraway, is a newcomer to Long Island and gets drawn into their world of obsession, greed and danger.

Local thespians Livi Langan, Emily Potts, Ashley Dodd and Shawna Winters perform the lead roles of Jay Gatsby, Daisy Buchanan, Nick Carraway and Tom Buchanan, respectively. Supporting roles are played by Hanna Powell, Vanessa Wilson, Crystal Snook, Lander Bachert and Olivia Bulis.

"I am excited about this production for several reasons," said Director Mark Kuntz.
"I'm thrilled to get a chance to work in the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center [and] collaborating with Big Sky artists, since I do most of my work in Bozeman."

Kuntz is a professional actor, director and filmmaker whose experience includes 18 tours with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks & Schools and 10 as a company manager. He has also performed with Montana Repertory Theatre, Seattle Children's Theater, Seattle Repertory Theater, the Ellen Theatre, and Bozeman Actor's Theatre.

He portrayed Jay Gatsby in the 2015 Montana Repertory Theatre national tour of the play and brings an intimate familiarity with the story to his role as director. "'The Great Gatsby' is one of my favorite stories of all time," he said. "I wanted to re-imagine it in a different way [and it] has been nothing short of fascinating and electric to watch these talented women bring all these great roles to life in a way I think no one has seen before."

Visit warrenmillerpac.org for more information. Email John Zirkle at john@ warrenmillerpac.org or Jeremy Harder at jbarder@bssd72.org to learn how to get involved with Big Sky Community Theatre.

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