LPHS graduates reflect, look ahead

Ophir students design dream rec center

Your guide to summer fun

Q&A with pro golfer Dorsey Addicks

Making it in Big Sky: East Slope Outdoors
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ON THE COVER: Big Sky’s Ousel Falls on the South Fork of the West Fork of the Gallatin River on May 20, when the main stem of the river was running at approximately 3,500 cubic feet per second. At EBS press time on May 23, the Gallatin River was at 5,000 cfs and rising.

PHOTO BY COLTON STIFFLER

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Memorial Day Tribute

Soldiers Chapel in Big Sky was dedicated in 1955 by the Story family to honor the fallen soldiers of World War II. Memorial Day is Monday, May 28, and the federal holiday is meant to honor soldiers who died while serving this country.

PHOTO BY COLTON STIFFLER

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

CORRECTION: In the May 11 issue of EBS, LPHS valedictorian Nick Iskenderian was incorrectly identified as Alex Iskenderian.
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Resort tax board recommended for governing Big Sky

EBS STAFF

On May 15, Dan Clark, director of the Montana State University Local Government Center, presented his recommendations for Big Sky’s self-governing options, outside the path of incorporation.

Clark’s conclusion was to expand the function and authority of the Big Sky Resort Area District tax board to take more of a leadership role in the community, and would be the least complicated route to take. This echoed his sentiment in a preliminary presentation hosted by the chamber of commerce on April 4.

The purpose of this governing body, as expressed by the chamber, would be to facilitate communication and coordination across the many boards, committees, nonprofits and organizations now tackling interrelated issues independently, and to create a cohesive and effective voice for Big Sky that would more likely be heard by lawmakers.

The second and third options were the formation of a community council or a special, multi-jurisdictional district. But ultimately, Clark said, he favored the resort tax board solution because its members are voter-elected; they already field requests from all sectors of the community and hold the community purse strings; and, unlike the second and third options, it doesn’t require approval by higher levels of government.

Candace Carr Strauss, CEO of the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce, said the chamber’s board would reconvene to fully discuss Clark’s recommendations. Strauss has also invited Clark to present his conclusions directly to the resort tax board at a summer board meeting, as they pertain to a potential shift in resort tax board’s role in the community.

Signatures sought for initiative to protect Montana’s waters

EBS STAFF

According to Yes for Responsible Mining, a coalition of conservation organizations in Montana, the state has 3,500 abandoned mines, more than 200 of which are known to be discharging contaminants and polluting clean water.

In response to this statistic, the coalition is gathering signatures for a ballot initiative focused on preventing future hard-rock mines from permanently polluting Montana’s rivers and streams. Volunteers need to collect 25,500 signatures before June 22 for the initiative to appear on the November ballot.

Initiative No. 186 would require new hard-rock mines in Montana to have a reclamation plan that provides clear and convincing evidence that the mine will not require the perpetual treatment of water polluted by acid mine drainage or other contaminants such as arsenic, lead or mercury. It will not prevent future hard-rock mines in the state.

In a statement sent by Big Sky’s Gallatin River Task Force, who is partnering with Yes for Responsible Mining, it was reported that there have been five major mining company bankruptcies in Montana. After each of the mines closed, the reclamation bonds couldn’t cover the full cost of the clean-up and/or long-term water treatment, leaving Montana taxpayers to cover the reclamation costs.

GRTF will host a training for volunteers interested in gathering signatures on the petition for Initiative No. 186 on Thursday, May 31, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Big Sky Water and Sewer District conference room.

For more information or to express interest, contact kristin@gallatinrivertaskforce.org, call (406) 993 – 2519 or visit yeson186.org.

Big Sky Community Organization raises funds for Beehive Basin improvement

BIG SKY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

The Big Sky Community Organization was recently awarded $45,000 from a Recreational Trails Program grant administered through the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The funds will be used for Beehive Basin Trailhead improvements.

Following last year’s purchase of the 7.5 acres on which the Upper Beehive Basin Trailhead is located, BSCO is planning the installation of additional parking and needed trailhead amenities like a bear-proof trash can, a toilet facility and an updated trailhead kiosk. These improvements will enhance the existing trailhead facilities and improve safety by reducing the number of vehicles parking on the roadway, allowing better access for emergency services and the public.

BSCO also raised over $5,400 from 48 donors during this year’s Give Big Gallatin Valley fundraising event that will also support the Beehive Basin project. These donations totaled nearly twice those raised during last year’s Give Big event.

Prior to these two funding efforts, BSCO received $219,275 from private donors for the project.

The final funding piece for this project will be requested through the Big Sky Resort Area District tax grant. There will be a BSRAD appropriations Q&A on June 4 at 1 p.m. at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, during which time the public may offer comments on the request.

Visit bscomt.org for more information.

Interior moves to lift restrictions on hunting bears, wolves

BY MICHAEL BIESECKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Trump administration is moving to reverse Obama-era rules barring hunters on some public lands in Alaska from baiting brown bears with bacon and doughnuts and using spotlights to shoot mother black bears and cubs hibernating in their dens.

The National Park Service issued a notice May 21 of its intent to amend regulations for sport hunting and trapping in national preserves to bring the federal rules in line with Alaska state law.

Under the proposed changes, hunters would also be allowed to hunt black bears with dogs, kill wolves and pups in their dens, and use motor boats to shoot swimming caribou.

These and other hunting methods—condemned as cruel by wildlife protection advocates—were outlawed on federal lands in 2015. Members of the public have 60 days to provide comment on the proposed new rules.

Expanding hunting rights on federal lands has been a priority for Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, a former Montana congressman.

The Obama-era restrictions on hunting on federal lands in Alaska were challenged by Safari Club International, a group that promotes big-game hunting. The Associated Press reported in March that Zinke had appointed a board loaded with trophy hunters to advise him on conserving threatened and endangered wildlife, including members of the Safari Club.

The Humane Society of the United States said it would oppose the new rules.
The Big Sky Community Organization is in the exploratory phase of building a community recreation center in Big Sky. **What would you most like to see included in the facility?**

Aaron Yoder  
Bozeman, Montana  
“It would be cool if we had rock-climbing. A pool would be great, like a lap pool, something functional year-around.”

Jon Henry  
The Woodlands, Texas  
“A gym would be awesome, and like a pool. Something for sports, like Frisbee or soccer.”

Kendra Schwartz  
Big Sky, Montana  
“My husband would love an ice rink. I’d love to have a real workout facility that isn’t so expensive. Everyone loves a pool. A YMCA would be great!”

Jacob Thomas  
Bozeman, Montana  
“I would say a place to lift weights, a place that allows physical activity indoors during the winter time.”

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334 Town Center Avenue  
Emergency Department 24/7/365

Family Medicine Clinic  
Weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Retail Pharmacy  
Weekdays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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**BOZEMAN HEALTH**  
**BIG SKY MEDICAL CENTER**

406-995-6995 | BigSkyMedicalCenter.com
The coffee makers in the Outlaw Partners office worked overtime in May, as we sped toward the finish line for our two glossy publications, Mountain Outlaw magazine and Explore Yellowstone. We even had to upgrade to a commercial-sized system to keep up with the caffeine consumption.

Our 16th edition of Mountain Outlaw, which will be released June 1, celebrates small towns and the timeless stories found within them. Senior Editor Sarah Gianelli began a journey with a blindfolded dart toss that hit a quiet corner of a Montana map. She and our talented Outlaw video team drove to Georgetown Lake and Philipsburg, where they eventually found an old miner nicknamed “Wild Meat.” His story underscores the tension between a fading industry and the tourism economy that’s rapidly supplanting it.

Gardiner, Montana, has a long and rich tourism history, but it’s one that is now straining the community with the proliferation of vacation rentals, as Eric Dietrich found in his feature story about the scenery economy. Zachariah Bryan reported on a small town at an economic crossroads, as some residents of Libby, Montana, look to nearby recreation resources to chart their future.

Corinne Richardson traversed the Greater Yellowstone and beyond for our Outbound Gallery, recording stories of remarkable residents before their personal histories are lost. And publisher Eric Ladd discovered a culture and landscape reminiscent of the Old West in Argentina’s Patagonia region.

With the coming wildfire season, Emily Stifler Wolfe’s investigation into the Bureau of Land Management’s efforts to diversify its firefighting ranks, in the face of the #MeToo movement, is a powerful and timely read.

On June 8, you’ll find that our fourth edition of Explore Yellowstone hit a triple-digit page count for the first time, and has graduated to the big leagues with a glued binding—so long staples.

Explore Yellowstone is a guide to our first national park, and the gateway towns and ecosystem that surround it. You’ll read about grizzlies, hot water wildlife and how to make the most out of a day spent in Lamar Valley. You’ll also find pages to entertain the kids, when they tire of bison jams or geyser gazing.

We encourage you to dive into these two publications this summer, and savor the rich culture to be found in our region.

Email media@outlaw.partners to give us your feedback.
Jeremy Raymond Wheeler, age 26, left us on April 12 while traveling in Thailand. He was born in Bozeman and lived his adventurous life in and around the Big Sky and Bozeman areas, attending Ophir School, Bozeman High School and Montana State University. Jeremy loved skiing in his hometown of Big Sky, mastering the nooks, outposts and jumps of the mountain, exploring the various treed and pinnacled cliffs, and working endlessly in the terrain parks. He looked forward to trips to his family’s lake home in Michigan each summer, spending long days gracefully waterskiing, wakeboarding and fishing, and sitting around a night fire amid great conversation. He loved climbing, camping, golfing with that beautiful swing, yoga and spending outdoor time with his many friends and family. He never met a dog that wasn’t a friend and he had a real talent for interacting with children. He treasured the recent arrival of his infant nephew Abram and had looked forward to teaching him so many things. He loved to go hunting with his dad and brother, but all suspect it was mostly for the camaraderie, laughs and annual bonding it provided.

He enjoyed a great variety of music concerts, a favorite over the years, a trip to Seattle with his dad to see the Rolling Stones. He had recently taught himself to play the keyboard, guitar and mandolin and spent many late nights learning new songs and exploring different musical genres. He loved the peacefulness and satisfaction of fly fishing Montana’s streams and found great beauty in the rushing water, canyon vistas and the language of the fish themselves.

He was an understanding and loyal friend and made friends easily, wherever he went. He was a bright light to his beloved family, the closest of them calling him "Ray," and his striking blue eyes and infectious smile had the ability to light up a room or an entire event. His attentive personality let you know that he was interested in you and in what you had to say. He had a tender heart and over time wrote many thoughtful, treasured notes to the loved ones in his life. He is gone from this life too early and forever there will be a hole of loss in the hearts of those who loved him. He is reunited now with the beloved dogs he lost and grieved for over the years: Pete, Grace, Sage and Lance. It must be, that after they rushed to greet him, they are now curled up together again, on the furniture and under the covers.

Jeremy is survived by his father and mother, Brian and Mary Wheeler of Big Sky; his older brother Daniel Wheeler (Miranda), their infant son, Abram, of Bozeman; paternal grandfather John Wheeler of Marblehead, Massachusetts; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives and beloved friends across the country. His current family dogs, Margo and Jack, will miss the unique rough-housing and companionship that Jeremy was so good at providing them. His family asks to keep Jeremy’s memory alive and honored by speaking of him fondly and often, especially when in the beauty of the outdoors, hiking, fishing, skiing, camping and sitting around a campfire. We are grateful that we had him for a time and that there are many treasured memories of him to relive again and again.

A Catholic mass for Jeremy will be held at the Big Sky Chapel at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 9. A celebration of his life will follow at Montana Jack at Big Sky Resort from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Donations may be made in Jeremy’s name to these non-profit organizations that were close to his heart and that he supported with his time: Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter or Special Olympics Montana.

Obituary: Norman Douglas Paul

Dr. Norman Douglas Paul, 81, passed away May 2 at a Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs, Florida. Formerly he lived in Joliet, Illinois, where he was associated with the Joliet Medical Group, and in Auburn, Indiana, retiring from the practice of physician and surgeon in 2002.

Dr. Paul was born on Jan. 25, 1937 to the late Dr. Samuel and Norma Paul in Clarence, Iowa. He graduated in 1954 from Clarence where he achieved much success as an outstanding basketball player throughout the state. Among his many achievements was being inducted to the Iowa High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. An all-state basketball player in 1953 and 1954, he was awarded a full scholarship to the University of Iowa. While at the university, he was a member of the famous Hawkeye “Fabulous Five” team of 1955-1956 that were NCAA runners up.

Dr. Paul graduated from the University of Iowa, School of Medicine in 1958, followed by an internship and surgical residency at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served his country while stationed in Germany.

In 1963, Dr. Paul married Sally Chandler of Macomb, Illinois, and is survived by his wife. He is also survived by their two children: Meegan Braun (Kirk) of Leo, Indiana; and Marc Paul (Janice Molnar) of Estero, Florida; and five grandchildren: Connor and Caylin Paul of Auburn, Indiana; Alexa Braun of Bloomington, Indiana; Morgan Braun of Indianapolis; and Grant Braun of Leo, Indiana.

Dr. Paul was known as a talented and dedicated surgeon, but few knew he was also a gifted pianist as well. He spent countless hours at his piano lost in the contentment of his music. Photography also gave him many hours of pleasure, as did hiking the mountain trails of Big Sky. He was an avid big game hunter and many of his elk, deer, bison, moose and bear trophies line the walls of his Montana home.

Motorcycling, biking, downhill skiing, endless reading, and tennis and boating occupied his leisure time.

He will be remembered as a quiet and introspective human being who was happiest helping others.

A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held on Saturday, June 2 at 11 a.m. at Feller and Clark Funeral Home in Auburn, Indiana. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Hope Hospice, 27200 Imperial Parkway, Bonita Springs, Florida, 34135. To send condolences visit fellerandclark.com.
Graduating high school is a significant milestone in one’s life. What are you going to miss most about Big Sky? What are you most looking forward to?

Kaleb Gale
Summer abroad in Isle of Man, British Crown
I am going to miss how close everyone here is — and how no matter where you go, there’s always an amazing view. I am looking forward to change — I have lived in the same place with the same people most my life, and am excited for a little variation.

KP Hoffman
Miles Community College, Miles City, Montana
I’m going to miss the intimacy of the small town setting where everyone knows everyone and where the whole community will come together to support a family in need. Also, I’ll miss the lift-line free, world class skiing out my back door. I am most looking forward to the new experiences and opportunities that comes with a more populated area.

Katie Middleton
Bates College in Lewiston, Maine
I am taking a gap year before college. I am going to India for six months to continue to study Hindi. In the spring I am going to the Bahamas to do an internship with the Island School as an EMT. I will miss living so close to Big Sky resort and having the opportunity to ski so much.

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Garrett Klotz
California State University, Chico, California

Jackson Wade
Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington
I am going to miss the close community that is Big Sky. I have lived here for all of my 18 years and I have grown to appreciate everything about this town and the people in it. I will miss all of my friends, but am also looking forward to making new friends in a different place.

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I’m going to miss the intimacy of the small town setting where everyone knows everyone and where the whole community will come together to support a family in need. Also, I’ll miss the lift-line free, world class skiing out my back door. I am most looking forward to the new experiences and opportunities that comes with a more populated area.
Explore Big Sky

May 25 - June 7, 2018

LOCAL

Anna Alvin
Greenville College, Iowa
I am going to miss the routine of high school, but I am also so excited to go somewhere where I am free to establish my own routine.

What: LPHS Class of 2018 Commencement Ceremony
Where: LPHS Bough Dolan Athletic Center
When: 1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 2

Rhett Leuzinger
Western Washington University, Bellingham
I’m going to miss the way of life that Big Sky has, Lone Peak and its sunsets, but most of all the friendships and bonds that I’ve made over the years. I’m looking forward to exploring life outside of Montana and meeting new and interesting people.

Julia Barton
University of Southern California, Los Angeles
Big Sky is located in such a beautiful and unique area and I am really going to miss all the opportunities that come with living here. I am also very excited to experience the business and excitement outside of our little community...and seeing what I can learn from other people in new areas.

Rubyann Smith-Hernandez
Santa Monica College, California
I will be moving back home to Miami for a year to reconnect with family, take a break from school and try out some real world experiences. I will [miss] all the lovely people I got to see every day. This community has taught me so much about helping others and how to succeed in competitive environments. I am most looking forward to what comes next for myself and my peers. I can’t wait to see the incredible things my class has to offer this world.

Delaney Pruett
Montana State University, Bozeman
What will you miss most about Big Sky? My dogs. What are you most looking forward to? Getting out of the “Big Sky Bubble.”

Bryn Iskenderian
University of Colorado, Boulder
I think I will miss the closeness of the Big Sky community when I leave, but I am also very excited to make new people and meet new friends.

Sarah Maynard
Montana State University, Bozeman
I will miss our senior class and the friendships that have developed, but I am excited to meet new people and still have an outdoor lifestyle.

Kuka Holder
University of Portland, Oregon
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Nick Iskenderian
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts
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Anna Alvin
Greenville College, Iowa
I am going to miss the routine of high school, but I am also so excited to go somewhere where I am free to establish my own routine.

Zach Cone
University of Denver, Colorado
I am going to miss the entire Big Sky community, and more importantly my friends and family. I am most looking forward to the newfound freedom and the great academic and social atmosphere that college [will] provide.

Jayleen Cole
Coffeyville Community College, Coffeyville, Kansas
What are you going to miss most? The friends I’ve made here.

Carter Johnson
Western Washington University, Bellingham
[I am taking a gap year] and traveling to South Korea and working in a language cafe, and then traveling around Southeast Asia. I am going to miss the community and the beautiful location that we live in. Throughout high school I have felt very fortunate for opportunities that have been given to us and the constant support that this community has shown. I am most looking forward to meeting others with different perspectives and growing as a person because of them.

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Ophir Students provide input on Big Sky community recreation center

EBS STAFF

On a recent field trip to Big Sky Town Center, Ophir Elementary School fourth graders were posed the question, “What do you think Big Sky Town Center needs to build?”

Among a sea of enthusiastic answers ranging from a bigger skate park to a pump track for dirt bikes, emerged a recurring response of “a rec center.” Inspired by the idea, the kids returned to the classroom, and for the next few weeks worked in pairs to design their dream rec center for Big Sky.

On May 21, the class presented the ideas to BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe and EBS publisher Eric Ladd.

The fourth graders worked on their design ideas with direction from their teachers, Jeremy Harder and Renee Zimmerman, to be efficient with space and think about what the community needs in a rec center. Some students used good old fashioned pencil and paper, while others used cutting edge architectural software to craft their designs.

When asked what needs to be in a rec center the most common responses were:

1. Pool. The students envisioned a mixed-use pool with slides, diving boards, a lap and kid pool and, as any good fourth grader imagination would lead them—a wave pool.
3. Multi-use courts for basketball, soccer, a rock climbing wall and walking track.
4. Kids room. But, one student said, “not babysitting; something way cooler and more fun.”
5. Coffee, juice and salad bar.
6. Yoga room.

Some of the more creative ideas included:

- A “foam pit” quickly became a crowd favorite as did a “batting cage” and “trampoline room.”

As the students presented their ideas, the need for a rec center to help host activities that Big Sky does not have dedicated space for became increasingly clear. When asked how many of the children’s parents drive them to Bozeman for extracurricular activities like swim lessons, gymnastics or other sports, more than 70 percent of the class raised their hands. When asked where they would like to see the facility built and why, the general response was “near Town Center,” somewhere close enough they could walk or ride their bikes to, “but somewhere not too busy so it’s safe to bring dogs and kids to play outside.”

Many expressed sentiments that there is not a lot to do at night during the winter and off-seasons, one of the primary reasons they would like to see a rec center built soon. There was also a strong thread about how much fun it would be to bring friends and visitors to a rec center to play, and give their parents a break.

Building a community recreation center in Big Sky is an idea that has been talked about for years, and groups have made efforts to make this a reality a few times, with no success. Recent efforts led by BSCO, Town Center developers and some passionate locals have made the project a potential reality again. And if the fourth graders of Ophir School have a vote, it was a 100 percent “yes” that Big Sky needs a rec center.
Plans for rec center emerge from BSCO’s Master Parks and Open Space Plan

EBS STAFF

The BSCO and Big Sky Parks, Recreation and Trails district completed the community’s first Master Parks, Trails and Open Space plan last fall. The plan outlined several next steps for the two entities to work toward together.

Within these priorities, BSCO has already begun to address some of the recommended actions, including the current plans for improvements at the Beehive Basin and Ousel Falls trailheads, completion of an updated Master Trails Plan, and planning for future recreation facilities.

According to the results of a 2017 community needs survey that informed BSCO’s Parks and Open Spaces Plan, an indoor community recreation facility was high on the wish list of local residents.

“Yes, the rumor is true,” said BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe. “We’ve listened to our community, recognized the need and we’re planning for the future. If this is something we decide to pursue, it will take our entire community to make it happen.”

Wolfe said the plan is intended to be a roadmap for the Big Sky Community Organization over the next five to 10 years.

“It was developed not to sit on a shelf somewhere, but instead to be put into action,” she said.

Visit www.bscomt.org for more information.

Priorities for Recreational Options:
Residents - Option that best meets recreational needs

Data provided by Peaks to Plains Design

Base: Total Residents (n=143)

According to a 2017 community needs assessment survey released by BSCO, building a rec center in Big Sky is the second top recreational priority for residents. The complete survey results can be found in the Big Sky Parks and Open Spaces Plan at bscomt.org.

Submit a letter to the editor at: media@outlaw.partners

Submissions must be:
• 250 words or less
• Should be respectful, ethical, and accurate
• Include full name and phone number

* Explore Big Sky reserves the right to edit letters
Community celebrates receipt of $10.3M TIGER grant

Grant will fund:

Left-turn signal at the intersection of Highway 191 and Lone Mountain Trail; 7 left turn lanes on Lone Mountain Trail ($5,954,145)
- Powder Light Subdivision (Ace Hardware - East)
- Powder Light Subdivision (Ace Hardware - West)
- Market Place (Meadow Village)
- Huntley Drive
- Big Pine Drive
- Andesite Road
- Big Sky Resort Road

Improvements to Lone Mountain Trail road safety ($547,700)
- Wildlife signage and pull-outs
- Curve warning signage
- Eliminate unauthorized roadway shoulder parking by Conoco (MT 64)

Improve safety conditions for pedestrians and non-motorized users ($1,302,950)
- Pedestrian tunnel at Little Coyote Road
- Pedestrian access the Big Sky Community Park; extend and connect the existing multi-modal trail system.

Expand Skyline transit services ($2,487,205)
- 4 new motor coaches and 6 vans for Skyline Bus system
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July 9: Celebrity Golf Tournament at Big Sky Resort

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Contact Jolene Clark at 406-855-6544 or jolene.clark@bbbs-gc.org for more information on how to participate or to sign up a team. Spots are limited!
**Voters to pick challengers to Tester, Gianforte**

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Montana voters will decide the challengers to Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Tester and Republican U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte in the June 5 primary election. Voters also will be picking candidates to run in the general election for 37 contested legislative races, two Public Service Commission primaries and two district judge races. A look at the top races:

**U.S. SENATE**

An influx of outside money has entered the four-way Republican contest to challenge incumbent U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, a seat the GOP has long coveted and sees as winnable after President Donald Trump's wide margin of victory in Montana in 2016.

State Auditor Matt Rosendale has benefited from more than $1.8 million spent on his behalf as of the first week of May by outside groups, including two political action committees bankrolled by a conservative Illinois billionaire.

Rosendale, a former state legislator who unsuccessfully ran for U.S. House in 2014, says he's the only one capable of beating Tester.

Retired state judge Russ Fagg of Billings has mounted an attack on Rosendale, the perceived front-runner, while playing up his own Montana roots. Fagg pledged to be tough on Mexican cartels that bring methamphetamine into the state.

Businessman Troy Downing of Big Sky says his experience as an Afghanistan combat veteran distinguishes him from the field. He's pumped $1 million of his own money into the race, but has been dogged by pending criminal charges accusing him of buying Montana resident hunting and fishing licenses when he was still a California resident. He contends the charges stem from a conspiracy against him by state wildlife officials.

State Sen. Al Olszewski has trailing in campaign donations. The Kalispell lawmaker says that makes him less beholden to the special interest groups that have backed his opponents.

**U.S. HOUSE**

Republicans have held Montana's only U.S. House seat for more than two decades, but the five Democrats running for their party's nomination say this is their party's year.

The crowded field of political newcomers — and one former legislator — wants to harness the political activism that has welled up since the 2016 election across the nation and in Montana through marches and protests. They say Republican Rep. Greg Gianforte is more vulnerable than past incumbents after he won a special election last year to fill Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's unexpired term.

Donors have favored two Democratic candidates who are making their first run for office. One, consumer protection attorney John Heenan of Billings, has a populist message that he says mirrors some of the themes Trump campaigned on, but hasn't followed through with: getting rid of corporate cronyism, improving health care and building infrastructure.

The other, former land trust leader Grant Kier of Missoula, also seeks to appeal to voters across party lines, saying many Republicans and independents feel abandoned in the Trump era. He said he would sit down with anyone who has good ideas and look to bring dignity and respect back to political discourse.

Former state legislator Kathleen Williams of Bozeman calls herself a progressive who is also business-friendly. She would be the first woman to hold Montana's congressional seat since Jeannette Rankin left office in 1943.

Rounding out the field are first-time candidates Jared Pettinato, a former U.S. Department of Justice attorney, and John Meyer, an environmental attorney, both from Bozeman.

**LEGISLATURE**

Of the 125 House and Senate seats up for election this year, 37 have contested legislative primary races to be decided on June 5.

Most of those contests are for open seats, but 10 are races in which incumbent lawmakers are being challenged by members of their own party. Nine are Republicans, while one Democratic incumbent, Rep. Kim Dudik of Missoula, has a primary challenger.

Republicans are looking to extend their streak of controlling both the Montana House and Senate to five straight legislative sessions, a feat that has been accomplished only twice before in state history:

Republicans now have a 59-41 majority in the House and a 32-18 majority in the Senate.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Two seats are at stake on the five-member Public Service Commission, which has been an all-Republican body since 2013.

The commission regulates investor-owned utilities that provide electricity, natural gas, water and landline phone service.

Vying to challenge Chairman Brad Johnson in a district that stretches from Lewis and Clark County to the Canada border are three Helena Democrats: Department of Commerce employee Andy Shirliff, retired UPS driver Henry Clay Speich and state Department of Transportation employee Tyrel Suzzo-Hoy.

Four Republicans are seeking to replace outgoing Commissioner Travis Kavulla as the northeastern commissioner: state Rep. Rob Cook of Shelby, former state Rep. Randy Pinocci of Sun River, rancher Mark Wicks of Inverness and railway test equipment operator Cory McKinney of Great Falls.

The winner will meet Democrat Doug Kaechter of Havre in the general election.

**COURTS**

Two district judgeships in the state have contested nonpartisan primaries in which the top two vote-getting candidates will move on to the general election.

In Billings, five people are running for a new judgeship created by state lawmakers last year over concerns of a judiciary overburdened by a high caseload.

In Butte, five candidates are competing to replace retiring District Judge Brad Newman.

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Explore Big Sky
Always aim true to yourself and to the world around you.

- ALEXIS DEATON-NOLAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

If you have the means and time allows, travel the world. Some of the richest experiences in my life have been those spent in foreign places.

- TYLER ALLEN, MANAGING EDITOR

“"If you can dream it you can do it." Walt Disney said. Follow your heart, go after your dreams and don't let anyone or anything deter you.

- SARAH GIANELLI, SENIOR EDITOR

Don't sign up for any 8am classes and call home on your mother's birthday.

- DOUG HARE, DISTRIBUTION DIRECTOR

You only live once, make time for adventures.

- MARISA SPECHT, GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Life is short. Take chances.

- BLYTHE BEAUBIEN, MARKETING MANAGER

Be grateful for life's experiences and enjoy every moment! Travel and see the world. Communication is key in everything you do; don't get caught up in drama; your attitude and approach has the power to shape a positive experience every time.

- MEGAN PAULSON, CO-FOUNDER & COO

Find love for yourself. Spread it to others.

- RYAN WEAVER, SENIOR VIDEO EDITOR

Don't put yourself in a box. Embrace your uniqueness, say yes to opportunities and never take anything in life too seriously.

- CARIE BIRKMEIER, LEAD DESIGNER

What they don't teach enough in college is that the people you will meet in the next 10 years will be more influential on your future and career opportunities than you could ever imagine - take advantage of every opportunity to network and get yourself out of your comfort zone.

- ERSIN OZER, MEDIA & EVENTS DIRECTOR

Go forth in joy and expectation, remaining bold enough to speak but humble enough to listen.

- JENNINGS BARMORE, LEAD VIDEOGRAPHER

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- MARISA SPECHT, GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Look out world! Here comes another batch of amazing Big Sky grads! Congratulations.

- ERIC LADD, FOUNDER, OWNER & CEO

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East Slope Outdoors

BY SARAH GIANELLI

BIG SKY – As one of the longest operating locally-owned businesses in town, East Slope Outdoors (originally East Slope Anglers and Mad Wolf Ski & Sports) has been providing locals and visitors with gear and guiding services since 1986. In 2013, East Slope Outdoors relocated to Town Center after 29 years of business on Highway 191 and expanded their space and offerings significantly.

Owner “Super Dave” Alvin began working for the business in 1993 and officially took it over in 2006. Alvin shared his thoughts with EBS on what it takes to make it as a small business owner in Big Sky.

EBS: What has been the key to your success?

Dave Alvin: Ultimately, I try to treat people the way I want to be treated. I try to be an honest, trustworthy person that builds relationships with our clients and customers. In my shop, I try to provide quality service and goods that people want. I also try to make sure we have personal interactions with every customer and that they leave feeling like they’ve had a good time. We consider ourselves “fun-brokers” so if people aren’t having fun, we go broke!

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

D.A.: I’ll say the same thing everyone in town says: being able to retain good staff despite a high cost of living and lack of affordable housing. And surviving off-season.

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

D.A.: There are definitely way more people here. It used to be kind of low-key and very seasonal, but we’ve gotten much busier overall and the seasonality has leveled off a lot. That trend is only going to continue.

EBS: What is it about Big Sky that compels you to stick it out through the hard times?

D.A.: It sounds cheesy but we all live here because of the joy of being able to live our lives immersed in the outdoors. Even when things get hard, we still get to go enjoy our outdoor pursuits. We are still living the dream that everybody else goes on vacation to get a piece of. We are still living the dream that everybody else goes on vacation to get a piece of.

EBS: Where do you see your business in 10 years?

D.A.: We intend to keep providing the same quality customer experiences in the skiing and fishing industry that the store has been providing since 1986. We’re in our “forever” location now so the future will just be about deepening our roots—building our customer base, dialing in our merchandise, expanding our services and continuing to strive to provide the best customer service in town.

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

D.A.: My most memorable moment personally was meeting and marrying my wife, Katie, because without her I wouldn’t be the man I am today—and the business wouldn’t be what it is either. My most memorable business moment was when we finally made the move from the highway to the Town Center. That was our goal all along, but it required taking a huge leap of faith in our community. And it has paid off.

EBS: What is one of the most memorable moments you have had as a resident/business owner in Big Sky?

D.A.: Be very, very careful and cautious about your great idea. Employee issues plus cost of rent and business seasonality make for big challenges. Be conservative. Don’t go big right out of the gate. It’s really easy to get sucked in by the promise of big bucks in the climate of big growth, but the reality is that managing cash flow year-round is challenging. Most of the successful long-term businesses in Big Sky started very small and have grown over time as the town has grown.

EBS: Where do you see your business in 20 years?

D.A.: Big Sky is obviously going to keep growing and growing. There will likely be some economic adjustments in the coming years, but Big Sky has definitely been discovered after this past winter. We still have some serious growing pains and issues to address like employee housing and infrastructure. But that’s not unique to Big Sky. Lots of other resort towns have dealt with the same thing. We just have to move forward as a community and deal with the challenges intelligently.

EBS: Would you do it all over again?

D.A.: Absolutely!
SAV and Earth Elements celebrate new collaborative space

On May 10, the innovative automation technology company SAV Digital Environments welcomed Earth Elements, a multi-faceted interior design and supply company, into their N. Wallace location with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the grand opening of their new Design & Technology Showroom, a collaborative space at 618 N. Wallace St. in Bozeman.

“It just made sense,” said Cory Reistad, president of SAV. “We share some of the same clientele, and this location is convenient for the Bozeman community.”

“I’m pleased with how it all turned out,” said Steve Taylor, owner of Earth Elements. “This will end up saving our employees and our customers time and fuel.”

Pictured above, audiophiles were treated to an extremely rare Steinway Lyngdorf Model B loudspeaker demonstration as they explored the new showroom and collaborative space enjoying hors d’oeuvres, refreshments and conversation. PHOTO BY JENNINGS BARMORE

Enoteca reopens June 1

The lights will flick back on and the fine wines will flow once again at Enoteca beginning June 1. The Big Sky Town Center wine bar will continue to serve rustic Italian small(er) plates, a wine list with refreshingly obscure offerings, and a new selection of amaro cocktails. Though June, Enoteca will open at 5 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. In July, the business will be open six days a week, closed Mondays. PHOTO BY SARAH GIANELLI

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WOMEN IN ACTION | Explore Big Sky
18 May 25 - June 7, 2018
Packing much into this impressive smart home, it takes advantage of the latest in IP distribution with
centralized sources and local control. From smart devices to enhanced wall plates, SAV fully automated
this home from floor to ceiling, thoughtfully mounting 4k TV’s throughout, including a SEURA TV within the
master bath mirror, in-ceiling audio in almost every room and sophisticated automated lighting and shade
control. This space is a great example of design and technology seamlessly working together.
Golf Tips from a Pro: Play ‘Ready Golf’

BY MARK WEHRMAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

As the game of golf is always evolving, so are the rules pertaining to etiquette. In layman’s terms, the game is becoming more laid back and less pretentious, or stuffy. Practicing good golf etiquette can be the difference between enjoying the round or not, especially for your playing partners. How the other players in your group conduct themselves can and will have an effect on how you each play and how much fun you have.

Most of all, when I think of good golf etiquette I think of pace of play. In golf, it has always been customary that the player farthest from the hole hits first. Although this still remains true for the golf we watch on TV, this type of etiquette doesn’t lend itself to a fast round.

One of the two biggest challenges golfers face is time and money. The time portion can be solved if all golfers play “ready golf.”

Playing ready golf means being ready to hit when it’s your time to play. More specifically, you should be choosing your club, making your practice swings, checking the wind, measuring the yardage, etc., while the other players in the group are hitting.

If you do these things while someone else is hitting, when it comes your turn to hit, all you have to do is pull the trigger or execute the shot. The pre-shot routine can easily slow each shot down by approximately one minute. This routine gets excessive with two and three practice swings, spending too much time reading putts from different angles around the hole, or backing off of shots because of wind and noise. These are all examples of pre-shot routines that, if not completed before it’s your time to hit, will drastically slow down the time it takes to play.

One of the biggest things I witness on a daily basis is when two people utilize a cart, one person always seems to be stuck to the cart while the other is hitting. The person who’s not hitting should get out of the cart at the same time and start thinking about their shot.

Q&A with professional golfer Dorsey Addicks

EBS STAFF

On May 14, after carding a 1-under-par 70 in her first LPGA qualifying tournament on the River Course at the Kingsmill Resort, Dorsey Addicks tied for first in a field of 36 golfers, clinching a spot in the LPGA tour’s Kingsmill Championship.

While she missed the cut during a rain-soaked tournament, Addicks’ spirits were still high when Explore Big Sky caught up with the 23-year-old athlete on May 22. Addicks discussed her swing, her recent success, and her ambition to make it onto the LPGA tour.

Explore Big Sky: Last year, you qualified for the Symetra Tour, the official developmental tour of the LPGA. What are your goals for this season on the Symetra tour?

Dorsey Addicks: Well, the big goal is to finish top 10 on the Symetra Tour’s money list and receive a full status LPGA card. But with more ropes and spectators.

EBS: What was it like to compete against the best female golfers in the world?

D.A.: Honestly, it felt like just another golf tournament but with more ropes and spectators. The only time I was nervous was on the first tee both days. I did not grow up idolizing these women, so I did not have that “ahh” factor while inside the ropes. It was a great venue and the hospitality was world class.

EBS: What parts of your game are you trying to improve?

D.A.: I am always working on my swing and just trying to make it more consistent. I recently put the new TaylorMade M3 driver in my bag, which has been a tremendous improvement over my old driver. I have mostly been focusing on my accuracy and ball control.

EBS: What events are you competing in next?

D.A.: I am currently in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, for the Valley Forge Invitational on the Symetra Tour. This will be my first Symetra-event. After that I may play in a few more LPGA Monday qualifiers and hopefully I’ll start to get into more Symetra events. It is tough this year to plan my schedule out in advance because I do not have the best Symetra status.

Explore Big Sky: Is to compete on the LPGA tour and to be able to qualify to play this early in my career is awesome. I have been putting in a lot of work on my game this past year and I believe that is heading in the right direction.

EBS: What was your swing like at the Kingsmill Championship?

D.A.: It was quite the experience. When I qualified on Monday, I could not stop smiling. So far, this was probably one of the best days of my golf career. My goal is to compete on the LPGA tour and to be able to qualify to play this early in my career.
U11 Big Sky Blitz girls soccer team continues to improve

While many of the girls on the team have been playing soccer together for more than five years in the recreational league in Bozeman, this year the team decided to play in the competitive league. This season also marks the first time the girls have played 9v9 games.

On May 19, the team garnered their first win of the season in their first tournament—the Helena Arsenal Invitational—beating the Flathead Rapids. After the win against Flathead, there was a celebratory "parent tunnel" and an obligatory trip to the Carousel for ice cream. This season, the team is coached by Jason Mittelstaedt, Heather Morris and Julie Willink and managed by Ellie Manka.

“We’re grateful to have 14 committed, talented and strong young ladies and a network of supportive and enthusiastic parents. We’ve also benefitted from having Kim Dickerson, who was a collegiate player and a long-time coach, work with the team on elevating our game," Morris said. "There’s a great soccer community in Big Sky and I hope the sport continues to grow in our town. The weather can make it challenging at times but it builds character, right?"

The U11 Big Sky Blitz have two more “friendly” Saturday matches in Billings and Bozeman (June 2 and June 9) and will close out their season in Helena at the MYSA Showcase Tournament on June 16-17. PHOTOS BY RYAN TURNER

The Big Sky Royals Minors finished their season strong.

In the end-of-season Belgrade Youth Baseball tournament, the Royals Minors squad coasted into the championship game after beating the Mets 10-0, sliding by the Mariners 16-15 in a nail-biter, and winning 12-5 over the Cubs.

In the championship game on May 23, the undefeated Red Wings took home first place by besting the Royals 6-2 in a hard-fought ballgame. "It was quite an accomplishment for the boys to compete at this level for the first time and come in second," said team parent Dave Pecunies. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES
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AMUSE-BOUCHE

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

What every (non)cook should know

BY SCOTT MECHURA
EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

From poaching an egg, to skilled knife handling, I believe everyone should have a basic working knowledge and unimpressed view of one of the most used rooms in their house.

In this first installment of a two-part series, I’ll go over some basics that will open up all sorts of refrigerator and oven doors for you whether you just want to expand your horizons or are trying to entertain friends.

Here are some things that we chefs think every non-chef should know.

How to poach an egg. All you need is a small pot, water that is just less than boiling with a couple drops of vinegar, a slotted spoon, and about 5-6 minutes.

Know your steak temperatures. Here are the basics. Blue rare: 115 degrees, cold red center. Rare: 120 degrees, room temp red center. Medium rare: 125 degrees, warm red center. Medium: 130-134 degrees, warm pink center. Medium well: 138-142 degrees, warm to hot barely pink center. Well done: hot center, no pink, enough said.

At least one one-pot meal. Gather your ingredients for paella, pot roast or curry. Follow the recipe and lay them out on the counter in the order they are in the recipe. Add them when it’s time.

Proper nachos. The key is no ingredients so big that you can’t get at least three of them on one chip. And when you layer, make a middle layer instead of only piling everything on top.

A properly diced onion. Peel it, and cut it in half with the faint green lines that run end to end, not in half crosswise. Lay the half down on its cut surface and make to slice inward with your knife. Now make vertical slices across the onion. Lastly, make horizontal cuts across the onion and you will have a perfect medium dice.

Don’t be afraid of your broiler. Think of it as an upside-down grill. It gets really hot and cooks with dry, indirect heat. Great for asparagus, fish, chicken, and small cuts of meat.

Know at least two classic cocktails. How better to entertain than to offer a guest one of these while they watch you in the kitchen? Martini: 3 oz. gin, splash of quality dry vermouth, stir or shake over ice and garnish with an olive. Manhattan: 3 oz. rye or bourbon, splash of sweet vermouth, stir in ice, garnish with quality cherry. Negroni: 1 oz. dry gin, 1 oz. Campari, 1 oz. sweet vermouth. Stir and pour over rocks and garnish with an orange twist.

Roast a chicken. Pat dry. Rub with oil, salt and pepper and/or seasonings and herbs of choice. Preheat oven to 450 degrees; put in chicken, drop oven temperature to 350 degrees and roast for approximately 90 minutes, or until golden and juice (it’s not blood!) inside thigh runs clear.

Care for the cast iron. One of the great classic pieces of cookware. Nothing sears a rib eye better than a hot skillet. Cast iron takes a bit longer to heat and cool down but is consistent throughout its surface. After use, scrub vigorously, wipe dry as cast iron will rust, and spray with cooking spray or wipe with oil to create an oxygen barrier. If cared for properly, it will outlive you.

Guacamole. It’s simple. The basics are avocado, lime juice, chopped cilantro, diced onion (they, you know how to do that), garlic and salt. The mistake everyone makes is not enough salt. Think of an avocado as a bad friend. They take, and they take, and they take...

A basic vinaigrette. Vinaigrettes are just as good on a chicken breast or fish as they are on salads. Here’s a basic guideline. One part acid to four parts oil, three to one if you are adding something sweet like honey. Pinch of salt and pepper. A small diced shallot and a couple cloves of garlic, and two to three tablespoons of any flavor you want, such as herbs, spices or fruit.

Next, we’ll delve a little deeper and explore pickling, ethnic principles, simple wine pairings and leftovers.

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.
Saving ugly vegetables
Local fermentation company launches start-up campaign

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – Up to 40 percent of food in the U.S. never makes it to the dinner table or your fork, according to the National Resource Defense Council. Instead, many fruits, vegetables and crops end up in landfills or are simply tilled back into the soil.

The reason?
In part, food waste is made up of misshapen vegetables.

“They look a little bit different, but they took the exact same amount of time, energy, soil nutrients and water for the farmer to grow,” said Vanessa Walsten, co-owner of Farmented Foods, a company that buys organic vegetable “seconds”, or atypically shaped or otherwise unsellable crops, and turns the “ugly” produce into fermented goods.

“We live in a time where we have a lot of choices and it’s these choices that can have a big impact on the environment,” Walsten added while speaking at the monthly 406 Creatives lecture series at the Bozeman Public Library on May 18. “Why don’t we ever see this ugly one in the grocery store? When given a choice on the shelf, we’re always going to pick the normal looking one.”

During an interdisciplinary farm-to-market course at Montana State University, Walsten and fellow student Vanessa Bakken set out to address this food waste for a class project and the idea for Farmented Foods was born. They partnered with local farmer Dylan Strike to create a value-added product for his farm.

At the conclusion of the semester, Bakken and Walsten had devised a business plan to help farmers like Strike deal with their excess—they wanted to ferment the wasted vegetables.

Fermentation is a method of food preservation whereby naturally occurring bacteria converts sugars into lactic acid and enhances the nutrient content of the food. In addition to making nutrients more readily available, fermentation boosts the immune system and can improve cognitive function.

“Having a product that we feel not only helps the environment, but also increases the health of our customers, made us even more excited about our product,” Walsten said.

A year and a half after completing their farm-to-market course, the MSU alumnae are transforming and selling visually unappealing vegetables through their new Farmented Foods company.

“Choices are important, and if leveraged correctly, they can solve problems,” Walsten said. “As entrepreneurs and business owners, it’s our responsibility to help guide and influence our consumers and customers to focus on these factors.”

After many trials and much research, the duo released their first line of products—sauerkraut, radish kimchi and spicy carrot chips—five months ago at the Bozeman Winter Farmers’ Market and say they are thrilled by the community’s response.

“Neither Vanessa nor myself slept at all the night before [we released the products],” Bakken said. “We were afraid people weren’t going to love fermented foods as much as we had.” But she went on to say that people kept coming back and buying their goods.

Today, Farmented Foods is available at four retail stores in Bozeman and Livingston, and the duo is pursuing relationships with several local restaurants.

They also launched a subscription campaign on May 15, and will ship direct to customers all over the nation. The business partners initiated the campaign, which will run through June 3, with the goal of raising $3,000 as a push to expand the business. This goal was met in a matter of a week. Surplus funds will be used to support the release of two additional products and up their production from 500 jars a month to 1,000 by the end of the summer.

“I think one of the biggest challenges is, it’s just Vanessa and I. Expanding is a big variable,” Bakken said, adding that fermentation is labor intensive and they are looking for ways to ease the process and help with distribution.

She also said a challenge they face is that many people aren’t sure how to incorporate fermented foods into their lifestyle. To help with this, Bakken and Walsten share many recipes on social media and through a newsletter on their website, and they are always experimenting with new ways to add fermentation into their own diets.

“We’ve gotten really creative in the kitchen and we incorporate these fermented products into our everyday life. It’s pretty much in every single meal,” Bakken said. She enjoys the fermented veggies on eggs, sandwiches and more.

Beyond the fermented vegetable itself, Walsten said the brine leftover in the jar is jam-packed with nutrients and can be used in cocktails like bloody marys.

Each product made by Farmented Foods is made with organic excess crops, currently supplied by Strike and Terrapin farms in Bozeman and Two Bear Farm in Kalispell. Farmented products can be found in Bozeman at Joe’s Parkway Market, Daniel’s Gourmet Meats and the Gallatin Valley Farmers’ Market.

To learn more about Farmented Foods, visit farmented.com. To support the funding campaign, visit thelocalcrowd.com/communities/bozeman.
Healthy meal planning made easy

BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN
EBH HEALTH COLUMNIST

Does the question, “What’s for dinner?” make you want to run to the nearest restaurant? At the end of a busy day, having to make decision can feel like an enormous chore. But eating healthy, home cooked meals is good for the waistline, the purse and for an overall sense of well-being.

That’s why the app Mealime is a must have. This free and very intuitive meal planning service is available on iPhone, Android or for your laptop.

Consider it if you enjoy cooking with whole foods but want new recipe ideas, or if you’re just learning to cook. If you like having a well laid out meal plan, or you need a quick dinner idea on the fly, this app is for you.

Mealime provides these three essentials: customized meal planning, a comprehensive grocery shopping list and easy to follow cooking instructions. Here’s how it works: after you download Mealime to your device, create your account and choose your diet type from the options below:

Class: No holds barred
Flexitarian: Easy on the meat
Pescatarian: Vegetarian and seafood
Palo: Plenty of meat and plants, and no refined foods
Paleo: Plenty of meat and plants, and no refined foods
Vegetarian: Zero meat
Classic: No holds barred

The app then asks you what ingredients you’re allergic to, or just dislike.

After selecting how many people are eating—the options are two or four servings—begin creating your meal plan by browsing images of beautiful dishes and clicking on the ones you’d like to add. Voila! You’re meals are selected for the week.

When it’s time to buy your groceries, click on the “Grocery List.” All ingredients for each of the meals you chose are listed here. It even tells you approximately how many minutes your shopping will take. The items are grouped under different grocery store sections. For example, all veggies appear at the top of the list under produce, then meats, spices, etc.

As you put an item in your basket, or if you already have it at home, simply click on that ingredient and it vanishes from your shopping list. Another handy feature suggests substitutes for ingredients you might not be able to find.

Here you can open the “Cooking Mode” option. It brings up the instructions in a larger font, one step at a time. I appreciate that it tells you how much you need of each ingredient, in each of the instructions, so that you don’t have to refer back to the ingredients list.

Love what you’ve made? Click the heart to add favorites. The handy share button lets you easily send to a friend. It’s such a great app, it’s hard to believe it’s free.

Happy cooking!

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.
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.

The best cure for my worst pity party

BY DARYN KAGAN
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

This week I have the story of one lucky girl, a story that starts with a pathetic pity party. Mine. On a Sunday night, long ago. What is it about Sunday nights? How they magnify lonely and sad feelings. Which is what I cried to my best friend. It wasn’t the first time we’d had this talk. Which is probably why she cut short the empathy and sent me a link with a simple note: “I think you need to do this.”

It was a link to volunteer for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. I figured, “What’s the harm in giving a couple hours a month to a kid?” That’s how I met her. An 8 year old in pigtails with an impish grin. That first outing to buy giant M&M cookies at the grocery store bakery was the beginning of the rest of my life.

From two hours a month, to school events to trips across country. I have no doubt the act of caring about this tiny person opened my heart. Made me ready the following year when I met the man who would become my husband and his daughter.

Somehow, we fell into a foursome, spending weekends, traveling the world. By high school, my Little Sister was living with us full time. We never formally adopted her or even became her legal guardians. Her mom had some challenges to deal with and we were able to give her access to a better education, a home.

It hasn’t always been easy. About a year ago I called her mother and declared I was done. “Oh, no you’re not,” she replied. “All those years ago you promised me you would get this child to college. I don’t know how to do that. There’s one more year. So, no, you’re not done.”

“But she can be so sassy and disrespectful,” I complained.

“Don’t you know that’s what babies do to their mamas?” her mother counseled. “You’re her mama, too.”

Perhaps, this fills in some holes, Dear Reader. Who is this second kid you refer to in your columns? She’s ours. And she’s not. In this, we are not alone. Perhaps, you, too, are raising a kid who is kinda sorta yours. Maybe we all are. None of them are really ours, after all.

It is now 10 years later. Today is the last time I drive her to school. Last kid. Last ride. In a couple months she will, indeed, be off to college. “I hope you’re not crying when you read this,” she wrote in the card she left me. The one where she called me her second mother.

She knows better. I was bawling my eyes out. For this is the story of one lucky girl. That girl is me. The one who was sad, lonely, and pitiful enough to click on that link. To meet a little girl who showed me how to care about someone else. And changed my life forever.

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 Job, Finding Love, a New Career, and my Dog, Always my Dog,” and she founded darynkagan.com, a resource for uplifting and positive news.
American Life in Poetry:
Column 686

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

I’m writing this column in the earliest days of another spring, and here’s a fine spring poem from Rose King’s book “Time and Peonies,” from Hummingbird Press. The poet lives in California.

In Spring
By Rose King

I’m out with the wheelbarrow mixing mulch.
A mockingbird trills in the pine.
Then, from higher, a buzz, and through patches of blue as the fog burns off, a small plane pulls a banner, red letters I can’t read—
but I do see, over the fence,
a man in a sky-blue shirt walking his dog to the beach.
He says he missed it, will keep an eye out.
Four barrows of mulch around the blueberry bushes,
I’m pulling off gloves, and he’s back, beaming.
“It says, I LOVE YOU, MARTHA.
Are you Martha?”


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Produced with the support of Bozeman TBID funds
The New West: Zinke claims to be a born-again conservationist

BY TODD WILKINSON
EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Ryan Zinke recently did something that he should have done the first week he took over the helm of the Interior Department in 2017: meeting with a diverse array of American conservation leaders whose groups, in turn, represent tens of millions of people who care about environmental protection.

One person who was in the room told me: “It was just a meeting, nothing more. The secretary doing a lot of smooth talking. Anyone who believes he’s a born-again conservationist is a fool.”

The person said that akin to when Zinke, a former congressman from Montana, went through confirmation hearings to become Interior Secretary, he claimed he’d be emulating Theodore Roosevelt. “Instead,” the individual said, “the decisions he’s made have caused even some hook and bullet organizations to distance themselves from him.”

I’ve had an ongoing request to do a comprehensive interview with Zinke going back a year now. His press secretary, Heather Swift, said she “didn’t think it would be in the best interests of the secretary to sit down for an in-depth interview.”

A couple of things to note: When I told a few former Interior press secretaries I know, who have served under both Republican and Democrat Interior Secretaries, of Swift’s attempts to control the press, they replied that Zinke and Swift are mistaken if they believe interviews are only granted to advance Zinke’s personal best interests.

He is obligated to answer tough questions about his stewardship of the people’s landscape—hundreds of millions of acres of public land under his authority—and which belong to all citizens. Further, U.S. taxpayers fund the salaries of Zinke and Swift, not a political party, nor special interests who hold sway in the swamp.

To date, Zinke has, for the most part, only courted press opportunities with reporters whom he knows will not subject him to probing inquiries. I know many reporters nationwide who are also frustrated by Swift’s evasive behavior.

She has aggressively tried to deflect reporters eager to ask Zinke about his policies favoring, for example, the energy industry over the protection of finite things such as clean water and air, and wildlife habitat, as well as the fact that morale of federal land management agencies has gone into steep decline under Zinke’s command.

It’s extraordinary, on the face of it, that Secretary Zinke, who boasts of his service to country as a Navy SEAL, apparently doesn’t have the courage to field tough questions from the press.

Until only recently, he also snubbed meetings with the largest U.S. conservation groups, except a few that claim to represent hunters. Yet those organizations have not said a discouraging word about the Trump administration’s attacks on wildlife habitat protection, gutting of national monuments and environmental laws, overturning bans on toxic lead ammunition and proposals to allow oil drilling in sensitive coastal areas.

According to a story published by E&E News about Zinke’s recent meeting with about two dozen conservation and environmental leaders, Zinke is now considering making “a grand pivot” back to conservation.

This, only after he has come under unprecedented fire from moderate Theodore Roosevelt Republicans who say his actions are far more radical than those advanced by Interior Secretary James Watt during the Reagan years.

“It’s extraordinary, on the face of it, that Secretary Zinke, who boasts of his service to country as a Navy SEAL, apparently doesn’t have the courage to field tough questions from the press.”

A note to Heather Swift: “ideas” for how to protect America’s wildlife, air, land and water for future generations do not need to be “crowd-sourced.” They should be abundantly obvious. Anyone who claims to be channeling his inner Theodore Roosevelt knows that you don’t, as one of your first public actions, eviscerate one of TR’s greatest contributions to America’s conservation heritage—creating national monuments.

You don’t, by fiat, move to weaken the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling on behalf of oil and gas interests. You don’t lay the groundwork for new gas fields to sprout in the middle of important wildlife migration corridors. You don’t pretend climate change doesn’t exist or break promises you made to vigorously defend the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Let us hope some of the hook and bullet organizations that vouched for Zinke the first time around are not so gullible as to get duped again. Zinke has done a lot of damage that first needs to be undone.

Todd Wilkinson, founder of Mountain Journal (mountainjournal.org), is author of “Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek” about famous Greater Yellowstone grizzly bear 399 featuring 170 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 newstands.
BIG SKY – Yellowstone National Park is a place of wonder where humans can mingle with the natural world, free of excess pavement and tall buildings. It’s a place of knowledge and a sacred glimpse into a somewhat still wild earth.

Preservation of this Yellowstone is a complex task, one made all the more onerous by the rapidly expanding pressures of increased tourism.

In the past decade, annual visitation has increased by over 40 percent, leading to overflowing parking lots, traffic jams, unsanitary conditions around bathrooms, soil erosion and vegetation trampling, according to Christina White, Yellowstone's outdoor recreation planner.

To respond to these challenges, park managers are continuing to study visitor experience this summer, with the hopes of surveying visitor opinions on possible management changes next year.

“Our superintendent often likes to say that the least studied animal in Yellowstone Park is the human. And he’s right. We [need] to understand a lot more about our humans,” White said. “A big component of addressing the challenges that we’re facing here in Yellowstone is understanding how our visitors move through the ecosystem as a whole.”

To better understand visitor preferences, challenges and opinions, random individuals will be surveyed in-person this summer about their time at key attractions. Some visitors will also receive a digital tablet upon entering the park. These tablets will track the visitor’s route and ask specific questions about their experience as they travel through the road system.

There is also a continued effort to understand the extent of resource degradation. The Youth Conservation Corps will monitor tourist activity at focal attraction areas this summer, keeping track of non-compliant visitor behavior, such as littering or letting dogs off leash.

Another ongoing resource study includes social trail monitoring, which started back in 2014.

“A social trail is an undesignated trail that forms when people are walking to an area to, say, observe wildlife off the road, or to get to a fishing spot,” said Amanda Bramblett, a biological technician in Yellowstone who is leading the monitoring effort. “Having open, exposed ground leads to erosion and we can get invasive species into these areas.”

Bramblett and two additional technicians use a large Trimble GPS unit to map the extent of social trails, physically walking the paths and recording changes from year to year.

“It’s a valuable tool to us to better understand how our visitors travel through the backcountry and the front country,” said Yellowstone spokeswomen Morgan Warthin of Bramblett’s GIS mapping. Warthin added that the park hasn’t made any decisions based on the information.

In 2016, Yellowstone launched the first of its visitor use and transportation and vehicle mobility studies, which revealed that 84 percent of people are having a great time in the park. However, major challenges during a visitor experience included a lack of available parking, too many people and cars, and long lines. Additionally, 29 percent of roadways were shown to be over capacity during the peak season, and by 2023, White said they expect all of the roads in the park to exceed capacity.

“Whatever potential management strategies we end up using, whether it’s a shuttle system, reservation system, or limited length of stay, all of this comes with tradeoffs,” White said. “Now, we’re in the information gathering stage and there is more public engagement on the horizon.

“The next step is to start thinking about a more formal planning process. Any management strategies would involve significant public comment.”

To learn more about Yellowstone’s summer use planning, visit nps.gov/yell/getinvolved/summeruseplanning.htm.
New exhibition honors historic Yellowstone artists

By Neala Fugere
Yellowstone Forever Communications Coordinator

Art and photography have played a key role in the creation and preservation of Yellowstone National Park. This summer, a new art exhibit at the Yellowstone Heritage and Research Center will serve as a visual representation of how art inspired a nation to come up with “America’s best idea.”

The collection pays homage to Hudson River School masters Thomas Moran, Albert Bierstadt, and Sandford Robinson Gifford, and features bronze sculptures of the three artists by Greg Wyatt. The sculptures join a multitude of unique items at the Heritage and Research Center. The center houses one of the largest collections of historic and cultural artifacts in the National Park Service system.

Moran, Bierstadt, and Gifford are considered some of the most influential late 19th-century American landscape artists. The artistic works of Moran, in particular, were instrumental in persuading Congress to pass the Yellowstone Park Act—ultimately creating Yellowstone National Park. All three artists were members of the Hudson River School, America’s first true artistic fraternity. Hudson River School paintings depict peaceful American landscapes, and often illustrate common 19th-century American themes of discovery, exploration and settlement.

Contemporary sculptor Greg Wyatt was nurtured in the artistic tradition of his native Hudson River Valley at an early age by his father, William Stanley Wyatt, a painter and fine arts professor at Columbia University and the City College of New York. Wyatt’s style merges realistic images inspired by his readings of the Great Books with creative masses of form, space and energy. His work appears in collections across the country and around the world, from sculpture gardens and museum collections to state and private collections.

The Yellowstone Heritage and Research Center houses the park’s museum collection, historic archives, herbarium, and research library. The collection includes several million records, a research library with more than 20,000 publications, and more than 720,000 museum items, from historic vehicles to original Moran art prints.

The exhibition is on display through Sept. 28. The public is welcome and encouraged to tour the exhibit Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Yellowstone Forever is the park’s official education and fundraising nonprofit partner. Their combined operations include 11 educational Park Stores; the Yellowstone Forever Institute, offering in-depth educational programs for visitors of all ages; and a worldwide community of Yellowstone supporters committed to funding visitor education and park preservation. Visit Yellowstone.org for more information.

Capturing the Spirit: Wildlife Filmmaking in Yellowstone

AUGUST 7-10, 2018

Shoot a Yellowstone highlight reel or refine your film technique with wildlife filmmaker Bob Landis and Theo Lipfert, director of Montana State University’s School of Film and Photography.

The Yellowstone Masters Series offers in-depth field seminars with renowned experts in their field. All programs include private cabins and fully catered meals.

REGISTER TODAY
Yellowstone.org/masters
Volunteer work day to celebrate public trails

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY - Every year on the first Saturday in June, communities across the country participate in the American Hiking Society’s National Trails Day by volunteering to improve local trails.

This year, volunteers will not only work to enhance trails, but will celebrate in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System, an act of congress that established miles of public scenic and historic trails across the nation.

A number of area organizations will host organized work days on June 2 for National Trails Day, working toward the goal of enhancing 2,802 miles of trail—the distance across the U.S. You can also pledge to improve trails on your own by visiting americanhiking.org/national-trails-day.

Big Sky Community Organization

The Big Sky Community Organization will host a variety of work projects for National Trails Day. Volunteers will meet at the Big Sky Community park at 373 Little Coyote Rd. at 9 a.m. and may participate in installing new culverts, trimming branches and shrubs, repairing sign posts and gopher holes, and making a trash sweep.

Following the improvement projects, volunteers will meet back at the park at 12 p.m. for a barbecue. Volunteers should bring gloves, sunscreen, water bottles and trail-friendly footwear and clothing. Some tools are provided but additional shovels, rakes and wheelbarrows are welcome. For more information, call (406) 993-2112 or visit bscomt.org.

Gallatin Valley Land Trust

Bozeman’s Gallatin Valley Land Trust will concentrate efforts for National Trails Day around the west side of Bozeman this year. Volunteers will meet at 8:30 a.m. at Valley West Park on Clifden Drive to work on the trails and plant trees.

Gloves and close-toed shoes are recommended for these projects and volunteers are asked to bring extra wheelbarrows, rakes and shovels. Breakfast snacks will be provided, along with a picnic lunch at 12 p.m. once the work is complete. For more information, contact Matt Marcinek at mattm@gvlt.org.

Southwest Montana Mountain Bike Association

The Bozeman-based Southwest Montana Mountain Bike Association will host three separate work sessions for National Trails Day.

Throughout the morning, volunteers can stop in at Bozeman’s Pump Track at the Gallatin County Regional Park in order to smooth and clean up the remodeled portions of the trail. Drinks will be provided and participants are asked to bring their own snacks, sunscreen, gloves and shovel.

There will also be two work sessions at the Copper City Trails System near Three Forks. Spend the morning biking and working on basic improvements to the trail, or come at 2 p.m. to help with planning for additional trail building. SWMMBA has plans to complete 8 more miles of trail and install a vault toilet, picnic area, enlarged parking lot and signs. To register for the Copper City Trails work sessions, please contact SWMMBA at (406) 518-1849 or admin@southwestmontanamba.org. No registration is required for the work day at the Pump Track.
Bison quarantine approved as means to develop new herds

EBS STAFF

On May 14, the National Park Service Intermountain Regional Director, Sue Masica, signed the Finding of No Significant Impact for an environmental assessment that was released to consider the use of quarantine with brucellosis-free Yellowstone bison as a means to develop bison herds in other parts of the state.

With this approval, the NPS now has the authority to implement a quarantine program to test and certify groups of bison are free of brucellosis, a highly contagious disease that can cause abortion in elk, bison and cattle.

Once a selection of bison has been captured and tested negative for brucellosis, they will be held in fenced pastures and receive further testing for the disease. If they continue to be brucellosis-free, the bison could be released to augment or establish new herds of plains bison.

“Quarantine is a positive step forward for bison conservation,” said Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk in a statement sent by Yellowstone National Park. “The NPS will continue to work closely with tribes, the state of Montana, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and other stakeholders to implement this program.”

In 2014, the NPS conducted a 45-day public scoping period for the environmental assessment, which included public meetings in Gardiner and Bozeman. Following the scoping period, the NPS developed the environmental assessment and released it for a 45-day public comment and review session on Jan. 15, 2016.

After completion of the commentary period, the NPS reviewed public responses and worked with state, federal and tribal partners to develop the final document that was recently approved.

To view the corresponding documents related to the NPS decision on bison quarantine, visit parkplanning.nps.gov/bisonquarantine.
Take a step back in time on the Crail Ranch Trail, named after Big Sky’s original settlers. This 1.3-mile trail provides a leisurely walk, run or bike through the historic Crail Ranch meadow.

Starting from the trailhead at the Big Sky Community Park, walkers, runners and bikers will head west on a wide gravel trail. Shortly after departing from the park, the trail crosses Little Coyote Road and picks up again at Spotted Elk Road. The trail crosses one small bridge and meanders between both homes and the Big Sky Resort Golf Course, keeping Lone Mountain in view throughout.

Most individuals walk, run or bike the trail out and back for 2.6 miles total, but you can also utilize the trail to travel from the east end of the meadow to the west end, or vice versa.

Although this trail is located in a more residential area of Big Sky, it still provides excellent views, wildlife sightings and a serene environment.

This summer, the Big Sky Community Organization encourages you to detour about 100 yards south on Spotted Elk Road to visit the historic Crail Ranch for a walking history tour of the valley or a tour of the homestead museum itself. July through September, Crail Ranch will offer guided tours Saturdays and Sundays from 12-3 p.m.

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. To learn more about Big Sky’s parks, trails and recreation programs, visit bscomt.org.

A version of this article was first published in the Aug. 5, 2016 edition of EBS.
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<td>Beehive Basin Lots 11A &amp; 12A</td>
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<td>Lot 4 Beaver Creek West</td>
<td>20 ACRES, Private lot with incredible mountain views.</td>
<td>$539K</td>
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Top of the world mountain views bordering Forest Service land.

20 ACRES

Private lot with incredible mountain views.

Wooded 20 acres with well, incredible views of the Spanish Peaks and Lone Peak.

NEW LISTING

NEW LISTING

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Big Sky PBR
Big Sky’s Biggest Week!

BIG SKY PBR
Touring PRO Division

WEDNESDAY JULY 25

Big Sky PBR Golf Tournament
to Benefit the Western Sports Foundation
Moonlight RESERVE Golf Course,
Registration at 9am | Shotgun Start at 11am
bigskypbrgolftournament.eventbrite.com

Big Sky PBR Street Dance
presented by LEVI’S®
Town Center Ave | Big Sky Town Center
7 pm | FREE

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  |  Shovels & Rope to start playing
immediately following that night’s bull riding  |  FREE

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

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

July 25-28, 2018  |  BIG SKY, MT

MORE INFORMATION, SCHEDULE & TICKETS AT BIGSKYPBR.COM
**2018 Schedule of Events**

**THURSDAY, JULY 26**
- Third Annual Big Sky Art Auction
  PBR Arena Tent | 3-6pm | FREE
  [www.bigskyartauction.com](http://www.bigskyartauction.com)
- Big Sky PBR Local’s Night
  Bull Riding Night 1
  PBR Arena | 6-6pm
- Music in the Mountains
  Featuring Shovels & Rope
  sponsored by Big Sky PBR, presented
  by Arts Council Big Sky
  Town Center Park | Shovels & Rope to start playing
  immediately following that night’s bull riding | FREE

**FRIDAY, JULY 27**
- Big Sky PBR Bull Riding Night 2
  PBR Arena
  6pm – 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**
Music in the Mountains
Thursdays, June 21-Aug. 30, Big Sky
The 2018 lineup for the Arts Council of Big Sky’s popular weekly concert series includes national acts such as Mandolin Orange, Shovels & Rope and the Jeff Austin Band, as well as local favorites The Tiny Band and Pinky and the Floyd.

Red Lodge Songwriter Festival
June 21-23, Red Lodge
This annual festival attracts country singer-songwriters from near and far to workshop, network, perform and jam at various venues across Red Lodge. Nashville hit songwriters Hugh Presswood, James Dean Hicks and Wynne Varble headline the event, with proceeds to support music education and programming in local public schools.

Music on Main
Thursdays, June 29-Aug. 14, Bozeman
Presented by the Downtown Bozeman Association, the weekly Main Street concert series features a diverse array of sounds, from jazz to folk and funk from bands like John Roberts Y’ Pan Blanco, Ryan Shupe and the RubberBand, Scott Pemberton and Shakeswell.

Targhee Fest
July 13-15, Alta, Wyoming
Going strong since 2005, Grand Targhee Resort’s festival celebrates music and the mountain culture against the backdrop of the Tetons. The 2018 headliners include Joe Russo’s Almost Dead, the Wood Brothers, The Funky Meters and Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe.

Red Ants Pants Music Festival
July 26-29, White Sulfur Springs
Growing exponentially each year, Red Ants Pants Music Festival celebrates and supports the culture of the rural West with street dancing, hay wagon rides, a yodeling contest and performances by big name artists Dwight Yoakam, Pam Tillis, Lorrie Morgan, Shovels & Rope and many others.

Sweet Pea Festival
Aug. 3-5, Bozeman
In its 41st year of supporting the arts, the Sweet Pea Festival offers a week’s worth of art, live music, film showings, theatrical performances, a vendor village featuring local food, art and crafts, and fun runs that culminate in the weekend festival on the grassy expanses of Lindley Park.

Groovin’ on the Gallatin
Aug. 9-12, Gallatin Canyon
An intimate local festival, Groovin’ on the Gallatin takes place at the Storm Castle retreat between Bozeman and Big Sky. While the 2018 lineup has not yet been released, the bands will likely be representative of the festival’s foundation of groovy vibes, creativity and sustainability.

Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival
Aug. 10-12, Alta, Wyoming
One of the most established bluegrass festivals in the Northern Rockies celebrates 31 years with its annual Targhee Music Camp and stage performance by Greensky Bluegrass, The Infamous Stringdusters, I’m With Her and many others.

Rockin’ the Rivers
Aug. 10-12, Three Forks
Located at the bridge near Three Forks, Montana, this music festival features heavy rocker headliners Everlast, Theory of a Deadman, Tommy James and The Shondells, and Skid Row.

Wildlands Festival
Aug. 10, Bozeman
A celebration of wild and open spaces and the nonprofits that protect them, the inaugural Wildlands Festival will take place in Montana State University’s Romney Oval with country rockers Robert Earl Keen and Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real co-headlining the event.

Moonlight MusicFest
Aug. 17-18, Big Sky
Hosted by Moonlight Basin at Big Sky Resort’s Madison Village, the weekend festival offers camping, artisan, food, and drink vendors, and a lineup of Grace Potter, Anderson East, Chris Robinson Brotherhood, Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers, The Wood Brothers and more.

Pine Creek Lodge Music Festival
Aug. 18-19, Livingston
Laney Lou & The Bird Dogs, the Dodgy Mountain Men, and Tales from Ghost Town headline the second annual music festival situated in the heart of Paradise Valley, just 10 minutes outside of Livingston.
Get cozy in a Forest Service cabin

BY FELICIA ENNIS
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

We drove slowly up the winding road to our cabin tucked a half mile into the woods, then parked, and carried a box of food and sleeping bags down a narrow trail. The log cabin was just as I dreamed it: front porch, small windows, woodshed and outhouse on one side, creek on the other.

Inside we set things down and quickly went to work as homesteaders. As I unpacked the food, my friend started a fire in the wood stove. Soon, we were heating water for tea over one of the stove’s hot plates.

While the cabin was rustic, it was clean and comfortable, and it felt cozy having our own private getaway in the woods for the weekend.

The U.S. Forest Service has more than 100 public cabins in Montana that are available to rent. Some are roadside, and others are deep in the backcountry.

Many of the cabins were built in the 1920s and ’30s as field headquarters for forest rangers and crews working on trails, fires, and range and forestry projects. While many are rustic, they vary in amenities from running water, electricity, wood-burning cook stoves, bunkbeds, and dining tables and chairs.

Below are descriptions of just a few nearby.

Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout
Custer Gallatin National Forest/Bozeman District

The Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout sits atop Garnet Mountain, on the eastern flanks of Gallatin Canyon. It’s the only fire lookout available in the district, has outstanding 360-degree views of the surrounding mountains, and is far from the reaches of civilization. Several trails wind up Garnet Mountain to this cabin, ranging in length from 2 to 6 miles. Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout sleeps four. Note that firewood is not provided at this cabin from June 1 through Sept. 30.

Window Rock Cabin
Custer Gallatin National Forest/Bozeman District

Beautiful forests surround this secluded and comfortable getaway in Hyalite Canyon south of Bozeman. The cabin, which sleeps four, is easy to access in the summer via a well-maintained, paved road. It was built in 1940 and is open year-round. The surrounding area offers great hiking, fishing, mountain biking and rock climbing, while the nearby Grotto Falls Trail is wheelchair accessible.

Big Creek Cabin
Custer Gallatin National Forest/Yellowstone District

The Big Creek Cabin is set in a flat clearing surrounded by spruce and fir trees approximately 30 miles south of Livingston. Big Creek Flows 50 feet from the back porch. This cabin is very accessible all year, and is perfect for those who love the solitude and natural wonders of the forested lands in the Gallatin Range. With five rooms and two porches, it’s the largest in the Yellowstone District and will accommodate up to 11 people.

Reservations are required and can be made online at recreation.gov or by calling (877) 444-6777. After making a reservation, visitors are given a combination to open the cabin door.

A version of this article was first published in the summer 2012 issue of Mountain Outlaw magazine.

Remember that one time...
A summer camp for every kiddo

Camp Equinox
June 11-July 6; July 16-Aug. 9, Bozeman

Now in its 23rd year, this theater day camp encourages kids to explore their creativity while getting a hands-on education about various aspects of the theatrical arts.

campsequinox.com

Camp Big Sky Classic: June 11-Aug. 24, Big Sky

For first through fourth graders, and located in the yurts at Big Sky Community Park, Camp Big Sky Classic is a Monday through Friday day camp program of the Big Sky Community Organization. Each day of the week consists of a different schedule of activities occasionally led by special guest naturalists, artists and educators.

Adventurers: June 11-Aug. 24

For older campers in fourth through sixth grades, the four consecutive half-day itineraries are theme-based and will culminate in the creation and development of some type of product or skill set. The 10 mini-camps have diverse themes that range from fly fishing and golf, to go-kart building, robotics and filmmaking.

bscomt.org

British Soccer Camp
June 25-29, Big Sky

Camp runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Big Sky Community Park.

Email Liz McRae at elizabethmooremcrae@gmail.com

ArtSplot Summer Camp
July 16-20, July 30-Aug. 3, Big Sky

Email Chelsea at chelsea@artsplot.com for details.

TATE Academy theater camp
June 18-29, July 23-Aug. 3 (grades 1-12), Bozeman

Held in the Ellen Theatre, this workshop is designed to explore various acting skills with a focus on theater games and exercises to stretch the voice, body, and mind, as well as scenes and improvisation to encourage students to develop their technique.

tateacademy.org
Big Sky Resort events

June 8
Summer Opening Day
Join Big Sky Resort in celebrating the opening of the summer season with ziplining, golf and the Lone Peak Expedition, a ride to the Lone Mountain summit via chairlift, expedition vehicle and tram.

June 23
Mountain Biking Opening Day
Take a lift up and bike down on 14 different downhill trails at the resort. Rent a bike or bring your own. Bike haul passes can be purchased at Different Spokes Bike Shop.

June 29-July 1
Kids Adventure Games
This annual adventure challenge course is designed for kids between the ages of 6 and 14. Teams of two will be able to race through a variety of obstacles and challenges in an outdoor environment.

July 13
Liv Ladies AllRide
This women’s mountain bike skills camp is among a series of workshops held throughout the U.S. Participants will go through climbing drills and perfect their skills on large grassy areas and single track. This event is already sold out; however, names are being taken for the waitlist.

July 20-22
Total Archery Challenge
The 3D archery challenge sponsored by Yeti and produced by Mtn Ops is a family-friendly event where those of all skill levels can have fun with a bow. More than 100 3D targets will be set up in a variety of courses and you’ll be able to compete for prizes or just practice your skill.

July 27-29
Rut Training Camp
This weekend workshop is open to anyone who wants to explore Lone Mountain, though it is designed as an opportunity for runners to prepare for The Rut Mountain Running Festival. During the camp, runners will have a guided sneak peak at some of the toughest sections of The Rut course.

July 29
Lone Peak’s Revenge
This extreme biking challenge will return to the slopes of Lone Mountain as a part of the Montana Enduro Series. Complete with timed downhill stages and untimed transition stages, Lone Peak’s Revenge includes some of the toughest terrain in the series, with the course traveling across Lone and Andesite mountains.

Aug. 16-19
5th Annual Vine and Dine Wine and Food Festival
This premier destination event brings together sommeliers, winemakers and regional and celebrity culinary talent for a multi-day festival of wine tastings, seminars, cooking demonstrations, outdoor adventure, and beautifully prepared meals.

Aug. 31-Sept. 2
The Rut Mountain Running Festival
This world-class mountain race attracts professional runners from all over the world, with a course that traverses all types of terrain, including jeep roads, forested single track, alpine ridge lines and all the way to the summit of Lone Mountain.

Sept. 28
Summer Closing Day

Golf
Enjoy the game at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course this summer and participate in a variety of clinics or compete in one of many tournaments. Clinics are held weekly on Tuesdays and Saturdays. For a complete schedule of events at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course, visit bigskyresort.com/while-youre-here/summer-activities/golf.

Big Sky Biggie

This August, the inaugural Big Sky Biggie will showcase the dramatically expanding mountain bike trail network in Big Sky.

On Saturday, Aug. 25, 300 competitors will be put to the test on either the 30- or 50-mile race, which will travel across rugged Forest Service trails and newly built single-track maintained by the Big Sky Community Organization. A portion of the trails are normally closed to the public and will be opened up exclusively for this event.

Following the long-distance competition, there will be a Kids Stryder Bike Race and short-track race on Aug. 26, held in Big Sky Town Center.

To learn more information about the Big Sky Biggie or to register for the event, visit bigskybiggie.com.

A mountain biker descends the Mountain to Meadow Trail in Big Sky at sunset. The Mountain to Meadow will be part of both the 30- and 50-mile Big Sky Biggie racecourses in August. PHOTO BY TYLER ALLEN
We like to consider Big Sky a playground for everyone, but there are some activities that are more suited for actual children than for the kid inside all of us.

The Big Sky Community Park has climbing boulders, a swing set and plenty of room to run, making it the perfect place to take the kids for an afternoon. We’re also fortunate to have the brand new treehouse fort in the secluded sanctuary of Kircher Discovery Park. Enjoy a short trek from the trailhead on Lone Mountain Trail at the intersection of Little Coyote Road down a gravel path to a multilevel tree fort, designed to look like a ship, with slides and a climbing wall.

There are many ways to get the little ones engaged in a high thrills Big Sky adventure. Strap into a zipline harness and soar through a canopy of trees for amazing views of the canyon; gear up and take on the whitewater rapids of the Gallatin River, or saddle up for a trail ride through alpine meadows. Or, if you can’t pick one, you can book an outfitter package that includes both rafting and ziplining with Montana Whitewater; or choose a saddle and paddle adventure with Geyser Whitewater.

With so many activities suitable for the whole family in Big Sky, the most challenging part of your adventure will be choosing which one to take. Read more about Big Sky and southwest Montana at Visit Big Sky’s blog, visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/.
Did you know that landscaping accounts for about 85% of all residential water use in Big Sky?

As much as 30% of water may be lost to inefficiencies in your irrigation system, including leaks. We can fix this with regular and proper maintenance.

One of the things we do to stay healthy is preventative care- we get checkups!

Your sprinkler system needs a check up too.

Even better, save money while saving money. Apply for a $100 rebate when you get a checkup.

Visit bigskywaterconservation.com for details.
You read that title correctly, and I know I’m not alone in my admiration of whitefish. Since runoff is in full force in our local rivers—keeping many anglers in a holding pattern until streamflows drop—I thought it would be a good time to put the spotlight on one of our native, and much maligned, fish species.

Mountain whitefish (Prosopium williamsoni) is affectionately known as “mighty whitey,” “bugle lips,” “mountain bonefish,” “rock roller,” among many other nicknames. The whitefish is a widespread native species found in rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs in Montana. Some anglers disdain whitefish, others are impartial to their existence, and some share my feelings of admiration and respect.

Here are some reasons why mountain whitefish deserve a little love during this angling season.

**They belong here.** As a native salmonid, whitefish have toughed it out. They’ve seen arctic grayling come and go, and non-salmonid brook trout establish themselves; and they co-exist with introduced rainbow and brown trout.

**What you don’t know can’t hurt you.** It happens dozens of times a year in my boat: A large fish is hooked and a nice fight ensues. Anticipation builds as the camera and net are at the ready. The fish is brought to the surface and … doh! It’s a whitefish. Celebrate the size and the fight in the fish—if a rock roller fought well enough to keep its identity a secret, then it deserves accolades.

**Trout with training wheels.** For beginning anglers, whitefish are ideal for learning to hook-set, fight, land, and properly release fish. They tend to be less selective than trout, which plays well to the marginal skills of novice anglers. A whitefish on the line is a reward for a successful presentation of a fly.

**Small whitefish make bigger trout.** The Yellowstone River is home to some massive brown trout, as well as an abundance of whitefish. Predatory trout seek out other fish, such as small whitefish. Whitefish roe—eggs released during their fall spawn—provide an abundant food source for trout as they prepare for a long winter.

**Morale booster.** A fish in hand feels better than catching no fish at all, and it’s OK to admit you prefer to catch trout. However, don’t rain on someone else’s parade if a whitefish is brought to hand. If you don’t have anything nice to say—well, you know the rest.

**Indicator species.** Large populations of whitefish indicate a healthy river system—one that has a diverse insect population, consistent fish-friendly flows and runoff cycles, and plenty of trout. Whitefish are a food source for osprey, otters and eagles, among other animals. If a river’s whitefish population drops, those animals aren’t going to the grocery store, they’re going to eat trout.

**The state record is attainable.** If you want to make it in the record books, a whitefish might be your best chance. The typical whitefish is going to be 10-12 inches, but larger fish are not uncommon. The Montana state record is 23 inches and 5.1 pounds, caught in Hauser Reservoir in 2007. Many hardcore anglers may have caught a whitefish that big, but those catches often go undocumented. Start keeping track because the record is swimming out there somewhere.

**Equal opportunity feeders.** Whitefish are opportunistic feeders. Sure, their willingness to eat removes the guessing game or challenge of catching a fish with a fly, but it’s OK to have times fishing when the catching is easy. Whitefish often eat dry flies with abandon and seeing a fish eat a fly that you presented is fun, regardless of the species.

**Guilt-free fish.** If you want to catch, keep and eat fish, the whitefish is for you. In a Montana State University study, participants found that whitefish, when cooked, were similar to trout in texture, aroma and juiciness. Fillet, remove any brown fat and skin, coat with your favorite breading, and fry in light oil. Or season the boned and skinned fillets and sauté, being very careful not to overcook. Usually three minutes a side is all it takes.

My favorite nickname for the mountain whitefish is “Rodney.” Why? Because Mr. Dangerfield got no respect and neither do these fish. Whitefish have been around since long before anyone fished our waters and like it or not, they are going to stick around long after we’re gone.

A version of this story was first published in the Feb. 5, 2016, edition of EBS.

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.
GETTING TO KNOW BIG SKY’S WILDFLOWERS

BY LAUREN RIESCHEL
EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Montana is known for its beautiful scenery, and few things exemplify that more than the wildflowers that dot the hillsides and line the trails during the summer. Below are some facts and details about some of the more common flowers that can be found around Big Sky.

**Silvery Lupine (Lupinus argenteus)**
Family: Pea family
Season: May – August
Trivia: With its bold, spiked lavender-blue flowers, silvery lupine is an iconic wildflower in the West. There are at least 10 different species of lupine in Montana. The plants, and particularly the seeds, can be toxic if ingested.

**Glacier Lily (Erythronium grandiflorum)**
Family: Lily family
Season: Early season
Trivia: The glacier lily is commonly found in moist and/or shady habitats at all elevations. Its flower and seedpod are edible and favored by bears. It is known by several common names, including yellow avalanche lily, glacier lily, and dogtooth fawn lily.

**Wild Rose/Woods’ Rose (Rosa woodsii)**
Family: Rose family
Season: June – August
Trivia: The dry rose hips left on the plant after flowering provide an important vitamin-rich food source for animals during the cold winter months. Rose hips are also used by humans in a variety of teas to help prevent colds or influenza.

**Indian Paintbrush (Castilleja)**
Family: Figwort family
Season: May – September
Trivia: There are perhaps 9 species of paintbrush in Montana and the fiery blooms range from pale yellow to scarlet red to deep fuchsia pink. The Indian paintbrush flowers are edible, and the long white corolla tube can be pulled out to eat the sweet nectar at the bottom.

**Mountain Harebell/Bluebell (Campanula rotundifolia)**
Family: Bellflower family
Season: June – September
Trivia: Traditionally linked to fairies and magic, the mountain harebell’s name originates from English and Scottish folklore that said that witches squeezed the juice from the flowers and used it to turn themselves into hares.

A version of this article was first published in the July 26, 2013, edition of EBS.
Darla Myers: An ancient medium enters the mainstream

BY SARAH GIANELLI
EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – The ancient medium of encaustic—heat-fused layers of beeswax, resin and pigment—has been relatively obscure until the last decade or so, when contemporary artists seem to have discovered the technique in exponential fashion. Across the board, encaustic artists say they enjoy the sculptural aspect of the process, building up the layers to create luminous, translucent depths that transcend the two-dimensionality of acrylic or oil paintings.

Bozeman artist Darla Myers is no exception. I talked to Myers while she was on a road trip delivering artwork to Persimmon Gallery in Bigfork, Montana, and Whitefish’s Walking Man Frame Shop & Gallery.

“You can leave things partially hidden but they’re there,” said Myers, who occasionally incorporates mixed-media into her encaustic pieces. “You can actually look into the painting, rather than just the surface.”

A self-taught artist, Myers began painting 20 years ago. Living in Alaska at the time, she took a watercolor class and had her “aha” moment. She had loved color as a child but was inhibited by her belief that she couldn’t draw. After some basic lessons, she found out this wasn’t the case.

“I didn’t know art was something you could actually learn,” she said. “I thought it had to pour out of you.”

Eight years ago Myers took an encaustic class and was hooked. She’d like to do more oil painting, but says she’s lazy—impatient might be a better word—and likes how quickly the wax cools and hardens, allowing her to continue working on it.

Today, on the brink of retiring, or a hiatus, from a 30-year nursing career to devote herself full time to her creative pursuits, she art does seem to pour forth—bright, poppy nature-driven works that lie somewhere between the representational and the abstract.

While exploring the trails, rivers and mountains of the region, Myers keeps her phone on hand to snap photos of the little moments that catch her eye, like “pops of light in the forest, shafts of light [filtering] through a stand of trees.”

“There’s something about being in the trees that is very reassuring to me,” she said. “Walking through the forest is so calming and meditative—the fresh air, stuff that moves in the wind. Not to be cliché, but that’s when I get a lot of my ideas.”

Myers will then often use software programs to manipulate her photographs, simplifying the shapes and playing with the colors to further guide her art-making.

“My students are always asking me what color is for me,” Myers said. “I think in colors … I try to make subdued paintings but I can’t.”

She is also always striving to make her works more impressionistic, asking herself how she can convey the feeling of being in nature, without having recognizable components of nature in the composition. But above all, Myers wants her pieces to be uplifting.

“I want people to see the world through bright, happy eyes,” she said. “There are enough painful things in life,” many examples of which she’s seen as nurse. “[I hope to] bring people a little more to the joy side of things … when people say my art makes them smile or reminds them of a really happy memory—that’s what my art is about.”

Myers also leads monthly encaustic workshops, and hosts small classes on demand, and said the experience has affected her both personally and artistically.

A mixed-media encaustic series grew out of demonstrations she would give to her students. Informally she calls it her “mod series” and the abstractly whimsical pieces are a distinct departure from her more representational landscapes.

She began incorporating image transfers of simple plant drawings, marking, and pages from airplane manuals cut into organic shapes, enjoying the juxtaposition of seemingly unrelated content and finding a way to make it work together.

Although it’s been a long, gradual progression from coffee-shop shows to actual gallery representation, and there is still room for growth, Myers says she’s content with where she is currently at with her art-making. Whereas she used to struggle deciding what to paint, now, she says, her sources find her.

Despite all that remains unknown—an aspect of the creative process that all artists must make peace with—she’s certain that one day her divergent encaustic styles will come together.

“Someday the two are going to fuse into something … I just don’t know how yet, but I’m going to keep doing them and someday they’re going to cross over—I’m sure of it.”

Myers was selected to participate in the Arts Council of Big Sky’s 2017 Art on the Streets initiative. Her imagery can be found on an art-wrapped utility box in Meadow Village Center outside of Michaelangelo’s Ristorante Italiano. Visit darlamyersart.com to see more of the artist’s work.
Explore Big Sky

ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

On May 17, The Arts Council of Big Sky announced the lineup for the 2018 Music in the Mountains summer concert series at Center Stage in Town Center Park. From June 21 through Aug. 30, there will be 15 free events, including 11 Thursday night concerts, the eighth annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival and a performance from Montana Shakespeare in the Parks.

ACBS kicks off the summer concert series with the Bozeman-based Kitchen Dwellers on Thursday, June 21. The quartet is gaining a reputation for high-energy live performances and a unique approach to traditional music that fans have dubbed Galaxy Grass. Formed while attending college at Montana State University, the group quickly climbed the ranks of the bluegrass music scene, sharing the stage with popular acts such as Railroad Earth, Greensky Bluegrass, The Infamous Stringdusters and Twiddle.

In 2017 the Kitchen Dwellers released their second studio album, “Ghost in the Bottle,” which continues to push the boundaries of their genre. Big Sky’s The Well opens the evening with a lively set featuring original music and select cover songs. This concert is part of the second annual Big Sky Soul Shine event, put on in conjunction with the Hungry Moose Market and Deli.

In addition, the eighth annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival, with special guests Angella Ahn, Bella Hristova and Time for Three, will take place Aug. 10-12. Montana Shakespeare in the Parks will perform in the park on July 31, and the third annual Mountainfilm on Tour caps the summer on Sept. 14-16.

Town Center park opens at 6 p.m. for each concert, with the music starting at 7:15 p.m. There will be a variety of food and beverage vendors, as well as an arts activity tent for kids. Dogs are not allowed in the concert area.

Visit bigskyarts.org for more information.

Arts Council announces Music in the Mountains lineup

Kitchen Dwellers kick off summer concert series June 21

The Kitchen Dwellers kick off Music in the Mountains on June 21, the first of 11 free Thursday night concerts sponsored by the Arts Council of Big Sky through Aug. 30. PHOTO COURTESY OF SILKY SHOTS

Arts Council hosts summer painting workshops

Plein air workshop with Tom English June 29

The Arts Council of Big Sky launches its summer painting class series with a plein air workshop led by C.M. Russell Skull Society artist Tom English. The two and a half day workshop begins on Friday, June 29 from 6-9 p.m. with classes 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The workshops will be held in the Ophir School library and, weather permitting, outdoors in true plein air fashion.

English will cover all aspects of plein air painting, including the basics of color theory, composition development, impressionistic painting techniques, painting outdoors, and provide personal guidance for beginning and experienced painting students. Students can expect to complete two paintings per day.

Originally from Austin, Texas, English has been a Montana resident since 1991. He’s an avid outdoor painter as well as a studio painter. His work is widely collected, and he has participated in many prestigious museum and gallery exhibitions, and auctions. English is also a founding of the Montana Painters Alliance.

Future Arts Council workshops include pastel painting with Steven Oestrad from Aug. 24-26; and drawing for painting with Whitney Hall, Oct. 5-7.

Visit bigskyarts.org for more information.

Arts Council announces summer painting workshops

Plein air workshop with Tom English June 29

Practice your plein air painting skills in a workshop led by artist Tom English and sponsored by the Arts Council of Big Sky. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

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"I Feel Pretty" is "Shallow Hal" meets "The Hot Chick" with just as many laughs, but with more emphasis on feeling good about the body you have and less on the worn out "it's what's on the inside that counts."

Written and directed by Abby Kohn and Marc Silverstein ("Never Been Kissed"), "I Feel Pretty" is about a "normal" young woman named Renee Bennett (Amy Schumer) who works for a New York City cosmetic company. Renee looks good and dresses cute, but struggles with her self-image and wishes she was one of the company models rather than working in the IT department. When she hits her head during a spin class she thinks she has become the model she has always wanted to be, but everyone else sees the same Renee. Her new self-imposed model image gives her the confidence to ask the cute guy out and apply for the job she's always wanted.

Schumer is a one-woman comedy show while breaking down body stereotypes and sexist walls. Her jokes are delivered with perfect timing and her slapstick humor can't be beat by anyone in Hollywood right now—except maybe Melissa McCarthy. Schumer wants women to know that being sexy is about being yourself. She demonstrates this by participating in a variety of atypical activities for her very normal body size and type, such as entering a bikini contest.

"I Feel Pretty" works great on the comedic level, but falls short because it fails to divvy up the humor among the supporting cast. The plot also gets muddled when Renee hits her head again and continues to live in a confused state, contradicting the theme of female empowerment by making her come across as dumb. Her continued fugue state makes for more laughs, but at Renee's intellectual expense.

Busy Philipps, Aidy Bryant, Rory Scovel, and Michelle Williams make up the supporting cast, but most of their lines fall flat (Williams being an exception), and Bryant gets almost no jokes despite her creative humor in previous roles. Williams was the unexpected highlight of "I Feel Pretty." Known for more serious roles, Williams tapped into a surprising Marilyn Monroe-esque persona to great comedic effect.

In contrast to the supporting cast, the women on the sidelines were model-perfect, which is fodder for many punch lines, but also detrimental because it reinforces how "average" viewers already feel that they are not skinny enough.

While a version of this film written and directed by Amy Schumer would likely have a clearer plot and be more character-driven, "I Feel Pretty" is still pretty hilarious.

"I Feel Pretty" is playing at the Regal Gallatin Valley Cinema in Bozeman.

Anna Husted has a master's in film studies from New York University. When not gazing at the silver screen at Lone Peak Cinema or watching her new favorite TV show, she's running, fishing or roughhousing with her cat, Indiana Jones.
James Redford and Jeff Bridges are among the filmmakers attending and participating in the inaugural BZN International Film Festival in Bozeman from June 7–10. Featuring more than 70 films, panel discussions and events, the festival casts a spotlight on women in film and films aimed at raising environmental awareness. Venues include the Rialto, the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture’s Crawford Theater, the Ellen Theatre, the Willson Auditorium, and locations at Montana State University.

Redford’s “Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution” opens the festival on Thursday, June 7 with a 7:30 p.m. screening in the Emerson’s Crawford Theater. The following evening, also at the Crawford, director Susan Kucera and Jeff Bridges, producer and narrator of “Living in the Future’s Past,” will lead a Q&A following the film’s 8 p.m. screening.

Friday morning at Museum of the Rockies, Redford will join the architects of Love Schack to discuss sustainability in the West as it pertains to clean building, and the viability of clean energy in Bozeman.

“Adapting for the Screen,” is a discussion about the joys and challenges of translating a book into the medium of film with producers, writers and directors Carl Effenson, Devon Jersild and Mark Gordon. Other conversations will examine film-related topics such as sexuality and gender identity, familial relationships, local and global environmental efforts, and highlight Bozeman’s female entrepreneurs.

Festival-goers are also invited to participate in a Seed & Spark pitching seminar, and explore the nuances of filming in Montana. Montana films in the festival include “Bella Vista,” “Consexual,” “Montana Vets, Montana Waters,” “Willow Creek Road,” “Love Stuck,” “Red Ants Pants,” “We the Conquerers,” and “Tiny Homes: A Housing First Solution?”

Among the documentaries are “It’s Criminal,” a film about an incarcerated woman working with Dartmouth College students, “Catching Sight of Thelma & Louise,” which takes a deep look at the truth of women’s experience in the world, and “Awakening in Taos,” the story of Mabel Dodge Luhan’s personal evolution as a writer, salon hostess, art patroness, and social activist.

“Big Boom” depicts the history of humanity and of our planet in four minutes of animation. “Edge of Alchemy” casts silent film stars Mary Pickford and Janet Gaynor in a surreal epic that upends the Frankenstein story with contemporary undercurrents about hive collapse; while “Men Talk About Mother” is an amusing but poignant look at processing difficult emotions.

Old Main Gallery & Framing will host artist receptions for Gallatin Peak Passholders on Friday, June 7 and Saturday, June 8 from 5-6 p.m., in celebration of artists Kevin Red Star and Louise Johns, respectively. Gallatin Peak Passholders are also invited to a quick finish event by Red Star on Friday from noon to 2 p.m.

Visit Bozemanfilmcelebration.com for more information.
FRIDAY, MAY 25 – THURSDAY, JUNE 7

*IF YOUR EVENT FALLS BETWEEN JUNE 6 AND 21, PLEASE SUBMIT IT BY MAY 30 BY EMAILING MEDIA@OUTLAW.PARTNERS.

BIG SKY

FRIDAY, MAY 25
Locals Lowdown: Lauren Jackson, music
Rainbow Ranch Lodge, 5 p.m.

Trivia Night
Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 27
Live Music
Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 28
Service Industry Night
Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, MAY 29
Town Center Open House
Town Center Office, 9 a.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30
Chuckwagon BBQ
320 Guest Ranch, all evening

THURSDAY, MAY 31
Yes for Responsible Mining training
Big Sky Water and Sewer District conference room, 4 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 1
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Administrator Recertification
Buck’s T-4 Lodge, 8 a.m.

Ophir Elementary School Spring Concert
WMPC
K-2 at 9 a.m.
3-5 at 10 a.m.

Fish Fry
BYWOM, all evening

Locals Lowdown: Live music
Rainbow Ranch Lodge, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2
National Trails Work Day
Big Sky Community Park, 9 a.m.

Lone Peak High School Graduation
Bough Dolan Athletic Center, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3
Live Music
Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 4
Resort Tax Q&A
Resort Tax office, 1 p.m.

Service Industry Night
Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, JUNE 5
Top Shelf Toastmasters
Town Center Sales Office, 12 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6
Surviving Cancer Support Group
Sanctuaries Wellness Center, 7 p.m.

Chuckwagon BBQ
320 Guest Ranch, all evening

THURSDAY, JUNE 7
A.A. Meeting
Big Sky Chapel, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8
Big Sky Resort Summer Opening Day

SATURDAY, JUNE 9
A.A. Meeting
Big Sky Chapel, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11
Emerson Open House and Birthday Celebration
Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12
Giuseppe Verdi’s “Falstaff,” play
Willson Auditorium, May 11 and 13, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15
Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

George Winston, music
Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 7 p.m.

“Ch Rapids,” film
Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Body and Soul: A Funk, Soul, and Disco Dance Party
Rialto Bozeman, 8 p.m.

Matthew Salaschetka, music
Live From The Divide, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16
Bridger Creek Boys, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17
Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

“Vince Motherboard’s The Most Unknown,” film
Rialto Bozeman, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17
GVLT Summer Trails Challenge
June 2-22

Bozeman Pet Expo
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all day

National Trails Work Day
Valley West, 8:30 a.m.

Fermfunk, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22
Emerson Open House and Celebration
Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23
Giuseppe Verdi’s “Falstaff,” opera
Willson Auditorium, May 11 and 13, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28
Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

George Winston, music
Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 7 p.m.

“Ch Rapids,” film
Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 27
Bridger Creek Boys, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28
Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

“Vince Motherboard’s The Most Unknown,” film
Rialto Bozeman, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28
GVLT Summer Trails Challenge
June 2-22

Bozeman Pet Expo
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all day

National Trails Work Day
Valley West, 8:30 a.m.

Fermfunk, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 27
“The Gold Rush,” film
Ellen Theatre, 2 p.m.

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

MONDAY, MAY 28
American Legion Memorial Day Parade
Down Town, 9-30 a.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 29
Hops and History: Local Beer, Free History Museum of the Rockies, 5-30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30
JP Westbroek, music
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Animal Years, music
Live From The Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 31
Bridger Creek Boys, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1
Jazz Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

“Vince Motherboard’s The Most Unknown,” film
Rialto Bozeman, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2
GVLT Summer Trails Challenge
June 2-22

Bozeman Pet Expo
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all day

National Trails Work Day
Valley West, 8:30 a.m.

Fermfunk, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3
Moth, music
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 4
Mike Comstock, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 6:30 p.m.

The Dirty Dosen Brass Band, music
Rialto Bozeman, 8-30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5
Bogert Farmers’ Market
Bogert Park, 5 p.m.

Lane Nurberg, music
Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

Larry Kiff, music
Red Tractor Pizza, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6
Comedy Night
Red Tractor Pizza, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7
GBN International Film Festival
Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture, 10 a.m.

Jordan World Circus
Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous can help if you think you might have a drinking problem.
Call (888) 607-2000 to talk to a member of A.A., or go to aa-montana.org for meeting times and locations.
Rialto presents plenty of funk
Plus stand-up and Vice documentary premiere

**Friday, May 25 @ 9 p.m.**
A funk, soul and disco dance party

Don your best ’70s gear and take to the dance floor to move to the sounds of DJs Jason Root and Chris Sage. Think mirrored disco ball, laser lights, rainbows, afros and bell bottoms and let your freak flag fly.

**Saturday, May 26 @ 8 p.m.**
Burn Box open mic comedy night

If you’ve ever wanted to try standup, are already seasoned to the stage, or just want to watch, Rialto’s new comedy series is your chance to provide, or enjoy, a few local laughs.

**Saturday, May 26 @ 8:30 p.m.**
Rialto Funkdown with Shakewell and Dash

On horns, drums, bass and guitar, the seven-piece Missoula-based Shakewell thumps out funk, neo-soul, and rock ‘n’ roll. Dash delivers more of the same with a powerhouse sound born of a love for rockin’ soul music, and a desire honest and entertaining lyrics supported by a powerhouse sound.

**Friday, June 1 @ 8 p.m.**
Vice’s Motherboard documentary “The Most Unknown”

The Rialto is one of a few select theaters that will premiere “The Most Unknown,” a documentary from Motherboard, Vice’s tech and science arm. Presented by Bozeman Film Society, the media outlet’s first documentary looks at why scientists explore the unknowns of the universe, and the existential questions that have fueled scientific inquiry for generations. Bozeman’s Dr. Luke McKay, one of the film’s stars, will introduce the documentary and field questions during a Q&A after the screening.

**Saturday, June 2 @ 8:30 p.m.**
Matt Flinner Trio

Mandolinist Matt Flinner, guitarist Ross Martin and bassist Eric Thorin have been performing their unique brand of acoustic music around the country since 2006. Whether you label it “Americana,” “new acoustic,” or “chamber grass,” the blend of bluegrass, jazz and Celtic sounds will be familiar, while fresh and original.

**Monday, June 4 @ 9:15 p.m.**
The Dirty Dozen Brass Band

Celebrating 35 years of performing, the New Orleans-born Dirty Dozen Brass Band has been compared to a pot of “musical gumbo” for the heaping portions of R&B, jazz, funk, Afro-Latino grooves sprinkled with Caribbean flavor it has been dishing out for 35 years.

**Saturday, June 9 @ 8:30 p.m.**
Mitski, Jessica Joyce

Since releasing “Bury Me at Makeout Creek” in 2014, Mitski has received international acclaim for her distinct, arresting sound and profound lyrics. Pitchfork applauded the release as “inventive and resourceful,” while Rolling Stone celebrated her “deep-cutting lyrics.” Jessica Joyce is a Bozeman singer-songwriter, audio engineer, and filmmaker who makes films out of archival footage to accompany her compositions.

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

Music on Main line up announced
Diverse acts take the stage at Bozeman’s summer concert series

Presented by the Downtown Bozeman Association, the 18th annual Music on Main summer concert series will take place Thursday evenings from June 28 through Aug. 16. The event, which also features family-friendly activities and food vendors, begins at 6:30 p.m. and runs through 8:30 p.m. on Main Street between Rouse and Black avenues.

The music kicks off at 7 p.m. June 28 with the world music sounds of John Roberts Y Pan Blanco, followed by Vandoliers, an alt-country band with punk roots, on July 5; and Ryan Shupe & the RubberBand’s bluegrass-rock on July 12. July 19 brings Pacific Northwest “timber rocker” Scott Pemberton; July 26, alternative pop-rockers The Brevet; followed by soulful locals Cole and the Thornes on Aug. 2. Polson, Montana’s Off in the Woods performs on Aug. 9; with funk-driven Shakewell closing out the season on Aug. 16.

From 6:30-8 p.m. families are invited to spend time in the Kid’s Zone on South Bozeman Avenue, where bouncy houses, hula hooping and other activities will keep the little ones entertained. Rotating food vendors and local non-profits will be on site, and some downtown businesses will stay open late. The City of Bozeman’s Water Bottle Fill Station will be parked on the side of First Security Bank.

The Downtown Bozeman Association, the City of Bozeman and the Bozeman Police Department would like to remind the public of the rules and regulations regarding the Open Container Waiver for the 2018 Music on Main summer concert series, which allows for anyone over the age of 21 to have an open container of alcohol within the event area that was purchased by one of the licensed beverage establishments also within the event area, only.

Visit downtownbozeman.org for more information.
Between the shelves

BY AMY HUNTER
ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

Since the library opened to the public in 2000, we have relied on the Friends of the Big Sky Community Library and resort tax to provide the resources for operation. The library is not part of the Montana State Library system because Big Sky is unincorporated. Our library is a non-profit organization and we rely on your support to be able to serve the entire community.

Our goal is to provide valuable resources in addition to the traditional purview of a library—books to strengthen minds. For example, we have computers, printing and copying services, and wi-fi available to the public. We have story time for toddlers and pre-school age children every Monday at 10:30 a.m. We will also offer summer reading programs for grades K-5, grades 6-12, and adults this summer. Check out my next article for more information about the summer reading programs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for all of your support. For those who come to the library, thank you and please keep coming. For those who have not yet made it to the library, please stop in to meet us.

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