

Section 4 : Arts & Entertainment.....



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CORRECTIONS

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ON THE COVER: PBR Touring Pro Division came to Big Sky for the eighth year in a row, drawing bull riders and spectators alike. PHOTO BY MYLES WILSON/OUTLAW PARTNERS

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On Sunday, July 29, the third round of the Montana Enduro Series, or Lone Peak's Revenge, challenged many talented mountain bikers with some of the steepest and most technical terrain on Andesite and Lone mountains.

In enduro races, racers compete on a course that links a series of timed downhill stages with untimed transition stages that feature rigorous human-powered climbing or more casual lift-assisted ascents.

Pictured above, Jack Lovely, soon-to-be sophomore at Lone Peak High School, took home first prize in the Junior Male category with over a minute to spare. Soon-to-be senior at LPHS, Luuk Mackenzie finished on the podium in third place in the same division. PHOTO BY MIKE LOVELY

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



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4 August 3 - 16, 2018 **Explore** Big Sky



Fire danger creeps higher in Big Sky area

EBS STAFF

As we roll into August in southwest Montana, drying fuel sources and thunderstorms are increasingly posing a risk of fire to the area.

According to Yellowstone National Park wildland fire management officer John Cataldo, Aug. 20—known as Black Saturday to fire crews who fought the parks flames in 1988—is the peak of fire season in the Northern Rockies.

"What it comes down to ... is how wet the thunderstorms are," he said.

Recently, the Custer Gallatin National Forest increased the fire danger in the Gallatin Canyon from moderate to high, as have officials in Yellowstone.

Approximately 20 miles south of Big Sky, nearly 500 acres of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, Custer Gallatin National Forest and Yellowstone National Park have burned from the Bacon Rind Fire, which was detected July 20 on the south side of Highway 191.

While smoke and occasional flames have been visible from the highway, at EBS press time Aug. 1, the fire did not pose a threat to those travelling on the road. The highway remained open at press time, though the Bacon Rind Trail has been closed.

A community meeting will be held Aug. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Community Protestant Church in West Yellowstone, where fire managers will provide an update on the fire.

In Big Sky, burn permits have been closed in compliance with the high fire danger. Small recreational fires are still allowed.

Call the Big Sky Fire Department at (406) 995–2100 to learn more about area conditions and fire regulations.

BSCO seeks input on future programming

EBS STAFF

As Big Sky continues to grow, the Big Sky Community Organization is seeking ways to develop additional recreation options in the area. The nonprofit has experienced an increase in the requests for more recreational leagues, workshops and classes.

In addition to seeing more people out on the trails, BSCO reports a diversification in the types of activities people are interested in. From the development of a curling league in the winter, to sand volleyball and pickle ball courts, programing continues to develop in Big Sky.

To meet this demand, BSCO is seeking community input through an online survey to identify what activities, price points and times are of the highest priority for Big Sky residents.

The five-minute survey gathers demographic information, asks about your current participation in available activities, and gives you the opportunity to select the kinds of programs you'd like to see in Big Sky.

The staff at BSCO hopes to receive as much feedback as possible in order to gain a good representation of Big Sky's needs.

BSCO is a nonprofit organization that works to develop parks, trails and programing to connect people to recreational opportunities in Big Sky.

Visit surveymonkey.com/r/BSCOsurvey2018 to participate in BSCO's survey. Visit bscomt.org to learn more about the organization.

Grant program helps nonprofits save energy costs

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Energy Efficiency Program offered through the Montana Facility Finance Authority helps eligible nonprofits cover the upfront costs of an energy audit, which in turn identifies opportunities to save on future energy bills.

"This program is ideal for hospitals and other such facilities in rural Montana communities, where every dollar counts toward providing access to important services," said MFFA Executive Director Adam Gill. "Energy is one area where even small investments can have big impacts."

MFFA is partnering with the National Center for Appropriate Technology, which provides a professional engineer to perform the audit. Audits include a thorough review of all heating, cooling and lighting systems, as well as a look at the building envelope. The auditor then supplies recommendations with estimated costs and savings, and organizations may choose to whether or not to pursue the recommendations.

Previous audits have found an average savings of \$210,000 over a 15-year period.

The maximum grant available is \$15,000. The recipient is required to match 10 percent, which goes back into the pool to fund future awards. MFFA estimates it will be able to assist approximately 55 facilities in total with its available funding.

Eligible organizations include nonprofit hospitals, senior living facilities, group homes, prerelease facilities and clinics.

Visit mtfacilityfinance.com or call (406) 444-5435 for more information or to apply.

Prospera Business of Excellence Award nominations now open

EBS STAFF

Prospera Business Network is accepting nominations for their 2018 Business of Excellence Awards through Aug. 24. Three finalists from each category will be featured in their own complimentary promotional video shot by ABC FOX that will be shown during the awards ceremony on Nov. 9.

Award categories include Innovator of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, Montana Women's Business Center Award of Excellence, Economic Leadership Award, Business of the Year, and 2018 Business Excellence Award.

Award nominations for Gallatin or Park county individuals and businesses may be submitted by representatives from any company or organization to Prospera Business Network. Individuals are encouraged to self-nominate, submit multiple award nominations, or to collaborate with your nominee on the nomination details.

Award finalists in each category will be notified in early to mid-September.

Visit prosperant.org/events/awards to submit a nomination.



What was your favorite part of Big Sky's Biggest Week?



Sydney Finkbohner *Big Sky, Montana*

"I think it was probably the concerts every night. I enjoyed being able to go out and be social, and listening to live music is always fun."



Sam Lightbody *Big Sky, Montana*

"My wife and I have been to the PBR the past three seasons and this year we decided to leave town during all of the congestion and we went camping in Wyoming by the Shoshone River ... But [PBR]'s a great event for Big Sky."



Brianna Winter
Big Sky, Montana

"My birthday [was] last week, so it was really fun to go to PBR and just enjoy what Big Sky has to offer."



Janice Avant San Diego, California

"We bought a house here 14 years ago for the peace and quiet. So when the crowds roll in, we like to roll out. We visited Ennis, Virginia City, and then Jackson Hole. We made a trip through Yellowstone from the West Entrance to the North Entrance. My favorite memory from the last week might be the elk and bison burgers we had at The Corral in Gardiner."





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Letter: Balancing community values and reliable electric service for Big Sky

Late in 2016, NorthWestern Energy announced the need to construct a new, midmountain substation in the Big Sky community, which will enhance the reliability of existing electric service in the area and support the growth of the community.

After learning that nearby property owners had significant concerns regarding the first site we identified for the project, we began a process of engaging with the community in order to find a solution that better met the needs and desires of the Big Sky community, and the technical and regulatory requirements of NorthWestern Energy.

Over the past year, we have conducted 12 community meetings, gathered feedback and recommendations from across the community, examined additional potential sites and assessed the feasibility of alternative technologies for the substation. Based on all of the analysis we have conducted and the valuable feedback received, NorthWestern Energy will be moving forward with the permitting and construction of a low-profile substation to be located at the Rainham site.

The decision to select the Rainham site and a low-profile design was based on a number of technical, aesthetic and economic factors. From a technical standpoint, the Rainham site is large enough for the facility and the features of the property allow for its construction with a reasonable amount of site work. The Rainham property is also close enough to the existing electric infrastructure to effectively meet the enhanced reliability and growth needs of the system.

Aesthetically, the feedback we received from community members over the last year showed near-universal agreement that any new utility infrastructure should be sited so that its impact on the views along the entry corridor and for nearby residents be minimized to the greatest degree possible. The existing standing timber at the Rainham site will provide natural screening for the facility, minimizing the visual impact much more than at other potential sites.

Through the engagement process, we have also received recommendations from community members that will improve the features of the facility, including the design, color and height of perimeter walls for the substation. Finally, our analysis indicates that total project cost for constructing a low-profile substation at the Rainham site, which is expected to be about \$15 million, meets NorthWestern Energy's objectives of providing safe and reliable service to the community at reasonable cost.

One of most important findings from the community meetings held during the summer of 2017 was that many members of the Big Sky community felt that we had not done enough to communicate with affected property owners or the wider community, which in turn affected the community's trust of NorthWestern Energy as we proceeded with the project. We got the message and that is why we spent the extensive time that we did to understand the concerns and values of the community. We remain committed to transparency and thorough communications with the community as we proceed. We will continue to extensively and broadly communicate as we move forward with both the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application process with Gallatin County and the construction of a substation. We expect to make the CUP filing by late August.

I understand that there are community members that may like to see a different site chosen or a different technology utilized, such as a gas insulated substation. When all the available information is considered, it does not support these alternatives. The feedback and information gathered through the significant engagement process, and our assessment of available sites and technology, led us to our conclusion that the construction of a low-profile substation at the Rainham site is the option to best balance the interests of the community, NorthWestern and our other key stakeholders.

I want to express my sincere thanks to the Big Sky community for its constructive, candid input during the last year.

Mike Cashell

NorthWestern Energy, Vice President of Transmission



OUTLAW.

News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

Reflecting on the 200th edition of EBS



I am often asked, "Eric, why did you get in to the newspaper business; don't you know this a dying industry?"

I got in to the newspaper business for a few simple

- To strengthen the voice of our region and help promote Big Sky.
- To give local businesses a high-quality medium to market their goods and services; and tell their stories.
- To help create a legacy for Big Sky as we work together to build this incredible mountain town.

As Outlaw prints this 200th edition of Explore Big Sky, I am happy to report that the newspaper business in Big Sky is alive and well.

Outlaw Partners and the idea for Explore Big Sky (EBS) was launched deep in the economic recession of 2009, and ever since then we have seen yearly growth in all facets of the business, reaching nearly 1 million readers annually.

Our two-week print model works to ensure the papers are chockfull of thoughtful stories and allows us to deliver the most extensive free distribution of any newspaper in the state of Montana. We are proud that EBS is the voice for Big Sky, and print paired with content on explorebigsky.com allows for daily coverage of breaking news.

As Big Sky grows, Outlaw Partners is committed to the community and being a part of documenting the history we are all living. Our newly-seated 20-person advisory council for EBS is filled with locals who guide our editorial team toward topics and stories that are of interest and importance to cover.

Two hundred editions of a newspaper is no small feat. It has taken the painstaking work of our entire team to produce this award-winning product through the years. While other print publications have come and gone, I can assure you that no team is more committed to creating the highest quality newspaper for Big Sky for the long term.

I am grateful for each of you advertisers, readers, advisors and staff who have helped make this paper such a success. It takes a village to create a world-class place to live and we take great pride in each paper that goes to print.

Cheers to 200 issues and the future to come!

Eric Ladd Publisher

EXPLORE BIG SKY: THEN & NOW

EBS THEN (FIRST EDITION)

SIZE

READERSHIP

SUBSCRIBERS

DISTRIBUTION

150 LOCATIONS ACROSS SW MT

24 PAGES

8,000 / EDITION

EBS NOW (CURRENT EDITION)

OVER 500 LOCATIONS ACROSS SW MT

68 PAGES

40,500 / EDITION

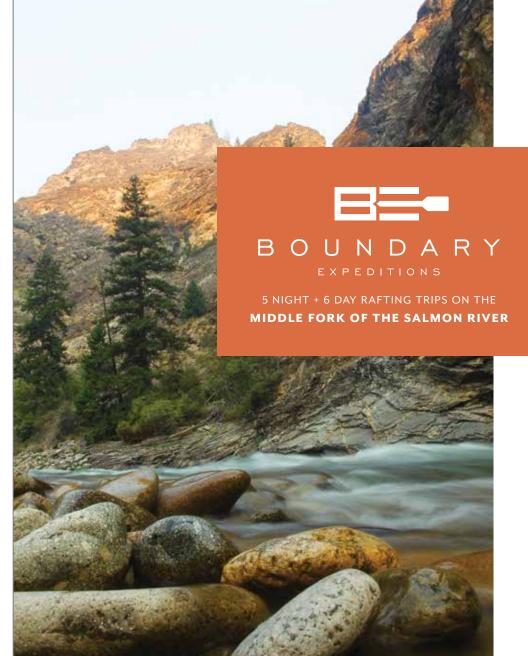
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Bucking and jiving: Big Sky's Biggest Week

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY - For the past eight years, the PBR Touring Pro Division has come to Big Sky; it has won national event of the year five times, and grown from a single night of bull riding to three. With a record-setting sell-out time and attendance this year, Big Sky PBR reached over 20,000 fans with four days of events that included a golf tournament and auctions raising money for charity, bull riding and concerts that lit up the night.

Co-produced by Outlaw Partners (the publisher of EBS) and Freestone Productions, and sponsored by Moonlight Basin, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, Simkins-Hallin, Yellowstone Club, Continental Construction, and many more, Big Sky PBR is packed with action and the Western pride that has become a staple of Big Sky events.

Wednesday, July 25

Big Sky's Biggest Week kicked off with the second annual Big Sky PBR Golf Tournament at The Reserve at Moonlight Basin, a fundraiser for Western Sports Foundation; followed by a street dance celebration on Town Center Avenue that evening.

One hundred golfers participated in the tournament, including nearly 40 PBR bull riders. The event raised \$25,700 for Western Sports Foundation's mission to



Big Sky PBR Street Dance with The Dirty Shame.

advance the health and well-being of rodeo athletes by providing medical, life counseling and financial resources to meet immediate needs and prepare for life beyond the dirt.

That night, the rockin' sounds of The Dirty Shame had people dancing under the lights strung across Town Center Avenue, while enjoying street-side provisions provided by Ousel & Spur Pizza Co., Beehive Basin Brewery, Moe's BBQ, Alta Palla and HiBall, Scissorbills Saloon, Crooked

Fox Bourbon, and Luxe Spirits & Sweets. It was a community affair where the excitement for the days of bull riding and live music to come was in the air.

Thursday, July 26

Before the first night of bull riding, art patrons gathered under the big tent at the PBR arena for the fast-paced Big Sky Art Auction to bid on more than 80 works of art with a total value of \$800,000. R. Tom Gilleon's nine-panel Native American-themed piece "The Setenant" took home the highest bid at \$40,000; with another of his pieces taking a close second at \$30,000. Kevin Red Star's "Full Moon Lodge" and Nicholas

Coleman's "Native Camp" both sold for \$20,000. Half of the \$1,500 sale price of Thomas Mangelson's photograph "Twilight of the Mustangs" will benefit Montana Land Reliance. Of local note, Big Sky jeweler Shelly Bermont sold a turquoise tribal necklace for \$13,000 in addition to her donation of a Tahitian pearl-on-leather bracelet with a retail value of \$1,200 to the winning bull rider.

For the first time since PBR stomped into Big Sky, a third night of bull riding was added on Thursday, accompanied by a Calcutta auction with a pot of \$9,250, \$4,625 of which was added to the pot for weekend's winning riders.

Announcer Brandon Bates and Montana-born rodeo entertainer, Flint Rasmussen, kept the crowd entertained and in step with the action. Designated Big Sky locals' night, the opening ceremony honored and celebrated community members and public servants.

Then, in classic PBR form, flames erupted from the arena dirt to spell out "PBR" while nearly 40 bull riders swaggered out, tasseled chaps swinging around their dusty jeans.

With little delay, bulls began bucking, drool catching the sunlight as it flew from their mouths, as riders clung one-handed to the bull rope, a tempest raging beneath them. Some rode the full 8 seconds, but most were pitched to the dirt before the clock hit the magic qualifying number.

In the second ride of the night, Montana's Matt Triplett rode a strong 86.5 on the back of Like a Boss. Taylor Toves wrested the lead from him four rides later, earning an 87 atop Crazy Horse. Later, Colton Jesse weathered



The Outlaw Partners and Freestone Productions teams. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTOS

the 8-second storm of Lost Soul to tie Toves for first place. By the end of the night, the leaderboard consisted of a double tie for first and second places, Stetson Lawrence having matched Triplett's score.

Bates explained to the crowd that, against all odds, they had to resort to a coin toss to decide the evening's winner because both the bull and ride scores were exactly the same for Jesse and Toves.

Then Bates indicated he was hearing some news from the back of house. "This just got heavy," he told Rasmussen.



Saturday night's Mutton Bustin' Champ, Sloan Knott.

"If I had a nickel for every time I heard that at a bull riding competition," Rasmussen replied. Apparently, Bates explained, a miscommunication between the judges and the announcers had taken place. Toves had actually scored an 87.5 for the win. Bates was sympathetic to Jesse, saying it was a rough way to lose.

Although Toves was already guaranteed a \$2,500 bonus for scoring the most points in the night, he had the opportunity to win another \$2,500 if he could ride out one more bull. Toves gave it his best shot but hit the dirt before the 8-second mark, rolling the \$2,500 bounty into the next night of competition.

Although disappointed, Toves still walked away with a \$2,500 check at the end of the first night of bull riding.

Fans filtered out of the arena and over to Town Center Park where Shovels & Rope played for the Arts Council of Big Sky's Thursday night concert series, Music in the Mountains. The crowd, a mixed audience of PBR attendees, locals, visitors, and fans from out of town, rivalled that of the Fourth of July concert, according to Arts Council Executive Director Brian Hurlbut. He estimated the audience numbered between 5,000 and 6,000 people.

Families and friends sat on blankets spread over the grassy field while, against a lavender sky, the moon rose behind the stage and Shovels & Rope delivered a twangy, soulful "Birmingham." The band's pace quickened as the night deepened, until reaching crescendo for the pulsing crowd dancing in front of the stage.



Friday night action on the dirt.

Friday, July 27

The Friday night Calcutta auction proved to be a different animal than that of Thursday night, racking up a \$34,750 pot, half of which benefitted the Gallatin River Task Force. Two carved antler sculptures were also auctioned off to raise money for the Western Sports Foundation, an organization dedicated to helping injured bull riders.

The evening transitioned into bull riding with a fresh energy, and many spectators dressed to the cowboy nines.

Bates introduced representatives from opening ceremony sponsor, Montana State University, including Athletic Director Leon Costello, Women's Basketball Director Jason Alvine, and Casey Currey, the rodeo team assistant coach who worked all three nights of PBR on the safety team, lassoing obstinate bulls from horseback.

Again, the bull riders entered the arena with their gritty cool, cowboy hats silhouetted by PBR flame plumes, only

By the end of Friday night, the Long Go-round leaders included Triplett with 86 points on the board, Andrew Alvidrez with 86.5, Mason Taylor with 87, and Alisson De Souza with the high-point ride of 88 on South Texas Gangster.

De Souza styled what Bates called a "picture perfect" 8 seconds on the bounty bull for a bonus \$5,000 in addition to his \$2,500 high-point bonus, electrifying the crowd and earning an 88.5. When Bates presented the mic to the Brazilian bull rider, he said, "No speak English. Thank you, Big Sky." The crowd roared out another night of bull riding.

With music that recalled a lonesome Western road cut through wide sage brush fields, The Steel Woods set the mood for a crowd of smooth swing dancing and tight two-stepping in the dirt parking lot just outside the arena. Dust kicked up by dancing boots caught the different colors of the lights painting both the stage and the audience as Jason "Rowdy" Cope made his guitar speak with a steely solo.



Big Sky's biggest PBR from the sky.

this time "MSU" burned in the arena dirt. Toves and Triplett stood on the chutes while the crowd took in the night's competitors. After a prayer and national anthem, cheers ushered in the bucking of bulls.

Rider after rider went toe-to-toe with the beefy bulls beneath them while Rasmussen kept the audience engaged—albeit with occasionally cringe-worthy humor. Every night, he chose people from the stands to compete in the Murdoch's Dance Your Boots Off contest, which awarded an upgrade to VIP seats on the YETI platform, and gave one lucky fan tickets to the PBR world finals in Las Vegas.

Saturday, July 27

If the bidding on Friday night was dramatic for a Calcutta auction, Saturday's was nothing short of stellar as bids rocketed the pot up to a total of \$62,500. With the pot split, Yellowstone Forever received \$31,250 to fund their many efforts in Yellowstone National Park as the park's official nonprofit partner. A beaded Native American War Shirt wall hanging was auctioned for \$13,500, all of which went to the Western Sports Foundation.

The bull riding was stiff
Saturday as rider after rider
hit the dirt before making 8
seconds. It wasn't until the ninth
bull of the night that Derek
Kolbaba finally pulled off a ride
for 88 points.

Neither Toves nor De Souza rode their bulls to time and Triplett, who was awarded a re-ride early in the night when his bull touched the chute, was bucked off his father's own bull. Bates pointed out that Big Sky PBR had been a two-score event for almost all the riders, few of them reaching time all three nights.

Ten riders advanced to the championship round, of which only three laid down successful rides. In the middle of the pack, De Souza pinned 89 points on the back of Red Bandana. In the ninth ride, Jesse dialed himself to the maelstrom of No Prisoners, matching the bull move-formove until his flip dismount, scoring 91.5. The crowd was ecstatic and cheered wildly, then stayed on their feet



Big Sky PBR 2018 champion, Colton Jesse, holding his new guitar.



Thunderpussy's Molly Sides on the SAV stage.

to bring home the last rider of the night: Montana-born Matt Triplett.

Bad Moon Rising erupted from the chute gate and, for a long 8 seconds, Triplett did his state proud with a cool head and tight movements. The judges gave the 27-year-old athlete an 89.5, stripping Triplett of the lead he'd maintained through Friday and Saturday.

Triplett's aggregate score of 262 was just shy of Jesse's 263, while De Souza came in third with 177 points. Jesse hit the award jackpot, making out like a bandit with \$21,456, a Gibson guitar, a bronze statue worth over \$26,000, a bracelet for his special lady, a bottle of Bozeman Spirits' Montana 1889 Whiskey, a YETI cooler and, purring as it was driven into the arena, a brand new side-by-side ATV to carry it all.

When Bates asked him what he thought, Jesse seemed overwhelmed.

"Shoot, that's pretty unbelievable!" he said before thanking PBR CEO Sean Gleason, event producers Andy and Jacey Watson and the Big Sky audience. "And if anybody can help get this thing to Oklahoma, I sure would appreciate it."

Once free of the limelight, Jesse said he was ecstatic with his win: "Like they said, this is one of the biggest events of the year, especially during the summer. To get a win here ... I had to earn it but, heck, I'm just stoked."

The bucking now over, Big Sky rallied for the grand finale concert by Thunderpussy, an all-female rock band with a sound branded by the rebel spirit. The front row pressed against the stage—and once onto the stage when a man climbed up to join the band members before being escorted off.

After the show, the crowd surrounded the band's merchandise tent to talk to the musicians, take pictures and get autographs. The band was thrilled to be in Big Sky and to take be a part of PBR.

"Honestly, it's pretty cool to come here and be embraced as much as we have been. [I] didn't really know what to expect—never been to Montana before—and it's been amazing," bassist Leah Julius told EBS.

"[PBR] is a pretty extraordinary event because this place is beautiful and magical and the people here are the same," lead vocalist Molly Sides said. "I would say Big Sky has a big embrace."

Camp Moonlight engages youth for 6th year in a row



Approximately 200 kids between the ages of 5 and 17 participated in Camp Moonlight this year, enjoying a variety of outdoor activities and building relationships along the way.

Offered as two four-day sessions July 23-26 and July 30-Aug. 2, this camp explores the idea that good things come of authentic outdoor experiences. Kids learn about archery, try water sports, ride horseback, and even go camping.

Visit campmoonlightmt.com to learn more.





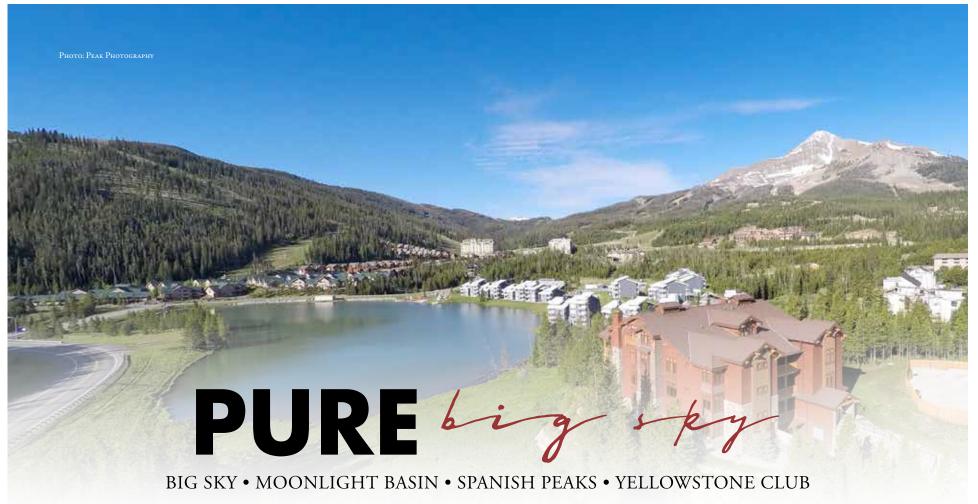








PHOTOS BY JEREMY HARDER





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Community Commercial located in Big Sky Resort's entry corridor! A rare find in our beautiful resort own, this 4.41 +/- acre commercial parcel is accessed directly from Lone Mountain Trail. All visitors driving to the Resort pass by this relatively flat lot giving you excellent exposure for your business. With beautiful views of Lone Mountain and the Spanish Peaks, this offering is extremely close to Meadow Village, Town Center and local hospital as well as on the route to Mountain Village, Moonlight Basin, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, and the Yellowstone Club. // LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848



16 SADDLE RIDGE ROAD, A-2 | \$819,000

This beautifully upgraded, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome is located just steps away from the Moonlight Lodge and offers a fantastic ski-in/ski-out location. This is the only Saddle Ridge townhome on the market with an additional family room/bonus room! Upgrades include slate entryway, tile floors and counter tops in the kitchen and bathrooms, stainless steel appliances, an oversized tub in the downstairs bathroom, and more! // SANDY REVISKY | 406.539.6316



TBD OUTLOOK TRAIL, LOT 1 | \$359,900

Gorgeous, hard to find 2.962 +/- acre parcel located in the Stony Creek Subdivision. Old growth trees, abundant wildlife, and live water flows through this unbelievable property offering privacy and seclusion with unobstructed views. Close to all Meadow amenities and offering immediate access to bordering groomed cross-country ski trails, and mountain bike trails. $\ensuremath{//}$ JACKIE MILLER | 406.539.5003



THE LODGES AT ELKHORN CREEK | \$1,165,000 +

Mountain Lifestyle Living at its finest! Phase 2 of The Lodges at Elkhorn Creek is now under construction! With beautifully balanced mountain contemporary interiors, and rustic Montana exteriors, these stunning condominiums provide the ideal mountain basecamp location! 9 single-level units are offered ranging in size from 2,050 – 3,150 sq. ft. and feature 4-6 bedrooms, 3-5 bathrooms, and a choice of 6 floor plans. Starting at \$1,165,000 // MICHAEL THOMAS | 406.581.2400



SUMMIT CONDOMINIUM 10806 | \$542,000

The Summit Hotel Condominiums offer the best-positioned lodging location Centrally situated in the base area with immediate proximity to the new 8-seater chairlift, a highspeed quad, and all area shopping, dining and other amenities. This corner, 8th level condo features 2 $\,$ bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, a fireplace, full kitchen, with fantastic straight on views of Big Sky's signature feature, Lone Mountain. The Summit offers owners and guests all of the services of a fine hotel with the advantages of private condominium ownership. // MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745



TBD LOOKING GLASS ROAD, LOT 45 | \$169,000

Close to Town Center and Big Sky Resort's Arnold Palmer designed Golf Course, this .36 +/- acre lot offers easy access to all Big Sky amenities. Wander over to enjoy the movie theater and shops, the Farmers Market and Music in the Mountains in the summer, the fire pit and ice skating rink in the winter or take the community shuttle $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ up the mountain for skiing. Views of the Gallatin Range and southern exposure add to your Meadow Village experience. // LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848







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NorthWestern Energy selects Big Sky substation site and design

Low-profile option to be constructed at Rainham site

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – On July 25, after a full year of dialogue between NorthWestern Energy and Big Sky residents, the utility company announced that the controversial substation will be a low-profile design—a compromise between the traditional and gas-insulated options—built at the Rainham site, off of Ridgeback Road north of Lone Mountain Trail.

The site options had been narrowed down to two, Rainham, which is slightly more expensive but would impact fewer residents, and Midway, which received adamant community pushback from homeowners in the Antler Ridge and Sleeping Bear subdivisions.

During the facilitation process, led by Eric Austin of the Burton K. Wheeler Center for Public Policy, community members expressed concerns that the facility would be an eyesore, adversely affecting property values and viewsheds; be detrimental to wildlife; and create noise pollution.

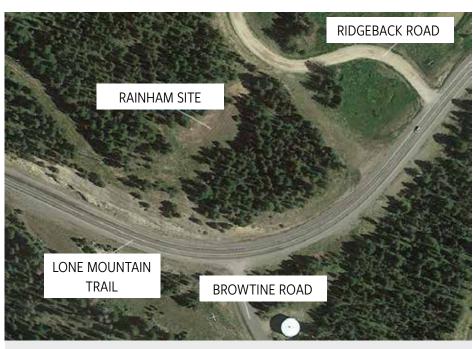
NorthWestern was considering a traditional design similar to existing Big Sky substations, the cheapest and least aesthetically-pleasing option; the middle-of-the-road, low-profile option they ended up selecting; and the least intrusive, but most expensive gas-insulated option.

In a phone call with EBS, Austin said the low-profile design would reduce the height of the facility by 20 feet and have an exterior that would blend into the surrounding landscape. Austin added that NorthWestern will continue to work with nearby residents to finalize the last aesthetic details. A letter from NorthWestern's vice president of transmission, Mike Cashell, can be found on page six.

He added that the stand of trees at the Rainham site, and its distance from the road, would further reduce its visibility from Lone Mountain Trail.

However, Maria Locker, a Ridgeback Road homeowner whose property borders the site of the future substation, is not convinced.

"I just wish NorthWestern Energy would man up and spend the extra money to put in a gas-insulated station. It's going to be visible from [Lone Mountain Trail], and the gas insulated option would be much nicer to look at. I know they say they can't recover the cost, but I just don't buy that."



NorthWestern Energy has decided the new low-profile substation will be placed at the Rainham site. MAP COURTESY OF NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

Locker, a member of the exploratory committee comprised of community and utility stakeholders, said she was certain the substation would affect her property values.

"I'm going to be looking at this every day," she said. "Do I like it? No. But it is what it is."

With a growth rate of 8 percent, eight times the statewide average, Big Sky's energy demand is expected to double in the next 10 years according to NorthWestern. A third substation would connect the Lone Mountain and Meadow Village substations, preempting future electrical needs and safeguarding against outages.

At the last meeting of the exploratory committee on June 20, Cashell said that he expected construction of the pad to begin in 2019, and that full completion of the station could be as far out as 2020.

Bozeman Health receives \$375K grant to extend primary care in Big Sky

BOZEMAN HEALTH

On July 19, Bozeman Health Foundation announced that Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center was awarded a \$375,000 grant from the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation and its member families to extend primary care services in Big Sky.

The grant will be used to hire an advanced care practitioner and cover additional supporting services to extend clinic hours to help Big Sky Medical Center serve those who aren't able to access the Family Medicine Clinic during regular weekday hours. Currently, Big Sky Medical Center Family Medicine provides primary healthcare services for pediatric, adult, women's health, and prenatal care from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Dr. Maren Dunn Chandler is the primary physician within the clinic, and Dr. Philip Hess, Dr. Jeremy Mitchell, and Dr. Kirk Weber care for patients in the emergency department and in the clinic.

Adding an advanced care practitioner—a family nurse practitioner or physician's assistant—will extend availability for patient care in the clinic as needed during the week and into the weekend.

"I'm thrilled that we can continue to advance the care of and for patients in our community, thanks to the generous grant from YCCF and its member families," said Chris Darnell, Big Sky Medical Center administrator. "We know that for a lot of people, especially employees in the hospitality and construction sector, having evening and weekend appointments will make care more easily accessible."

"The foundation is pleased to help develop extended primary care services in Big Sky," said Britt Ide, executive director of Yellowstone Club Community Foundation. "Same day and weekend appointments will be especially valuable to community members that work long and varied hours. We are grateful to our amazing and generous donors that support our community."



Dr. Jeremy Mitchell is one of the providers at Big Sky Medical Center. The hospital's hours and services will soon be expanded with the help of a grant from the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation. PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN HEALTH

Big Sky Medical Center is currently recruiting to hire for open positions and administrators hope to have the advanced care practitioner begin seeing patients this fall.

Bozeman Health Foundation also shared that the YCCF grant helped advance its Caring Forward Campaign, with Big Sky Medical Center as one of the campaign's top fundraising priorities. For Big Sky, the campaign, which has raised \$13.2 million dollars of its \$15 million goal, aims to accelerate the pace at which new specialties and healthcare services become available, in addition to enabling special equipment purchases and provide for emergency simulations and scenario-based training for BSMC employees.

Visit bozemanhealthfoundation.org for more information.

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Black bears raid bear-resistant garbage can

Homeowners advised to report when garbage can malfunctions

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – On the weekend of July 21 and 22, three black bears raided the contents of a garbage can in Big Sky. The vandals left a mess in the driveway, upset property owners, and added yet another mark to the list of human-bear conflicts.

One of the three was a subadult sow with a long history of trouble, and on July 24, she was captured for relocation. At three-years-old, the sow has likely spent its first full year on its own, kicked off from its mother. She was relocated from Big Sky to Forest Service land on the north end of the Bridger Mountains.

"These bears get a food reward, they become a nuisance, they get bolder, and then people start complaining. We're obligated to deal with the bear," said Kevin Frey, a bear biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

"This bear will get relocated one time and if it becomes a nuisance at the new location, it probably won't have much of a future," Frey added. "When the world was bigger and quieter, it was probably a higher success rate, but with so many people, it's hard to keep a bear from getting into trouble again."

According to Frey, this recent incident occurred after a vacationer used a malfunctioning bear-resistant garbage can. "From what we gathered, someone knew the latch wasn't working properly," Frey said.

"If you have a problem with the garbage can, either call for a replacement or repair, or, if you have a garage, put the garbage in there," he added.

To combat the high incidence of human-bear conflicts in our area, the Wildlife Conservation Society developed the Bear Smart Big Sky program in 2013, aiming to increase awareness about how to live in bear country.

Efforts from this program include initiatives to reduce bear attractions such as trash, bird feeders, grills, coolers and backyard chickens.



Recently, three black bears got into a malfunctioning bear-resistant garbage can at a vacation rental in the mountain base area of Big Sky. The sow pictured was captured and relocated after this incident, having a record of seeking food rewards in the area. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

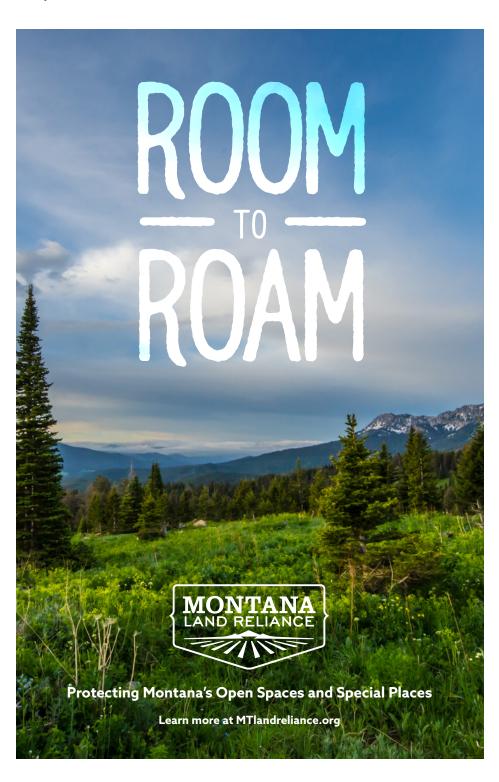
Kris Inman, a representative from the Wildlife Conservation Society, said that when the program began, 20 percent of homeowners in Big Sky voluntarily used bear-resistant garbage cans. Today, through partnerships with many homeowners' associations, 70 percent are now required to use these bear-safe products.

The challenge, Inman said, is that homeowners need to understand why bear-resistant receptacles are important and how to use them.

"For new visitors, they may not be accustomed to living in bear country. They might not be aware they're in bear country or they don't realize there are things they can do," she said. "There's a user error to bear-resistant trash cans. It can't be over filled, you can't leave garbage beside it, it has to be latched properly."

Visit wescommunity partnerships.org/bearsmartbigsky to learn more about living in bear country.





Family of Big Sky ski instructor involved in boating accident on the Yellowstone

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Gallatin County Sheriff's Office Captain Jim Anderson and his family were involved in a boating accident on the Yellowstone River on July 27.

Known in Big Sky as a world-class ski instructor, Anderson is an Alpine committee member of the Northern Rocky Mountain Division of the Professional Ski Instructors of America and has taught skiing lessons at Big Sky Resort for a number of years.

The family's drift boat capsized near a bridge on Highway 89 northeast of Livingston. Anderson and his daughter were able to make it to shore safely, but his wife, Angie, and 15-year-old son, James, did not.

According to officials, Angie passed away at the scene, while search efforts are still ongoing to recover James' body.



Between July 27 and 29, nearly 150 people participated in the search for 15-year-old James Anderson's body, following the boating accident that left his mother, Angie, dead. James' father, Jim, and sister survived the incident. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GALLATIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The bridge on Highway 89 crosses the Yellowstone just north of the highway's junction with I-90. It runs alongside a railroad bridge, and the river crosses beneath both bridges after an S-curve.

"That bridge is particularly treacherous," said Park County Sergeant Brad Bichler. "We get boats turned over in the river all the time."

"A lot of river dynamics are going on just in the fact that the river is turning and you have those pilings as well," he said, adding that the bridge pilings create fast-moving water

In the days following the accident, officials closed a stretch of the Yellowstone from Mayor's Landing to Sheep Mountain Fishing Access in order to thoroughly search the area. Boat teams, ground crews, search dogs, divers, a helicopter team and drone have all been used in the effort to recover James' body, coming from more than nine different counties.

In a statement posted on the Park County Sheriff's Office Facebook page, Bichler wrote, "Everyone involved feels frustrated that we haven't been able to find James. River searches are complex and always take large amounts of manpower and resources. They can last for weeks but every time we hope [it] will be different and we will find the person sooner. Our hearts go out to James' family and we are working hard to provide them and the community with closure as soon as possible."

As the search shifted from a rescue mission to an effort to recover the body, officials reopened the stretch of river on July 29. At EBS press time on Aug. 1, they continued to search the area.

"We'll continue to search as long as necessary," Bichler said. "Any time we have anyone lost in the river, particularly a child, we'll continue to search."

In a statement released by Gallatin County, Sheriff Brian Gootkin said, "Family is everything, it's why we do what we do and it's also why it hurts that much more when it's our family. We hurt for Jim and his family. They have a long, difficult road ahead but they are not alone. We will help and support them no matter what they need or how long it takes."

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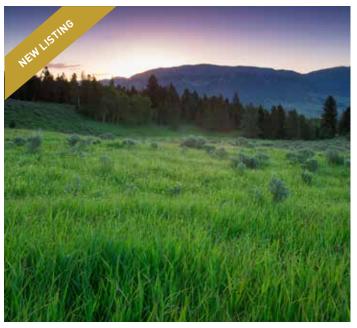
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SECTION 2: ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS, BUSINESS, DINING & HEALTH







The New West:

Sholly commits himself to being Yellowstone defender



BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Never before, in its storied 146-year-old history, has there been a changing of the guard in Yellowstone quite like this one.

Earlier this year, Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Dan Wenk, a 43-year-veteran, and his successor, Cameron Sholly, picked by Ryan Zinke and his political appointees, were put on a collision course.

Wenk was forced to take a transfer with just months remaining in his career, setting off an official inquiry in Congress. Sholly said he plans to arrive in Yellowstone in October. Meanwhile, Wenk will step down from America's oldest national park in September.

Despite the drama, Wenk and Sholly remain friends and professionals respectful of one another. Last week, Sholly spoke to me at Bozeman-based Mountain Journal, explaining his own thoughts about the controversy.

It's what he said about his mission to the National Park Service, one which transcends politics, that should hearten those concerned about the future of Yellowstone.

I asked Sholly about fears that Secretary Zinke might be aspiring to put a compliant "yes-person" in charge of Yellowstone who would not raise concerns about transboundary grizzly bears and bison, issues of exploding visitor use in the front country and how to address the park's \$800 million deferred maintenance tab without markedly expanding the human footprint.

"A few thoughts relating to your question about the secretary possibly putting a 'yes-person' in place," he said. "First, I think you'd be hard pressed to find someone I've worked with that would call me a 'yes-person,' at least as it relates to the context of your question."

He added, "Second, we execute actions for the people we work for, be it this administration or others. All of us have an obligation to uphold the law and mission of the National Park Service. That said, any notion that the leadership of any department can't direct legal actions, have conversations or differences in opinion about how we manage and operate, evaluate or change policies and priorities, is nonsensical."

For some, that response might be worrisome, but to make himself clear, he noted: "When it comes to substantive actions driven by any department, there is a line. On the wrong side of the line is illegality, ethical violations, and actions or decisions that compromise the integrity of the NPS mission."

Sholly didn't sugar coat anything in the interview with Mountain Journal, dishing out praise and acknowledging problems in the Park Service. "We have positive successes every day all over this agency. We have strong esprit de corps and morale in many areas of the organization. We also have the opposite, and have a lot of work to do, whether that be in continuing to build positive morale, or continued efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual harassment and hostile work environments. These are things that have plagued our agency for years and require substantial continued focus and attention in the future."

He also addressed what happened to Wenk. "As far as the question about him being forcibly reassigned, he has made his points fairly clearly," he said. Sholly also met questions head-on about bison and his experience dealing with Chronic Wasting Disease in other national parks.

Regarding stewardship priorities, he referenced one of Yellowstone's most prominent human-constructed landmarks. "The Roosevelt Arch at the northern entrance has 'For the Benefit and Enjoyment of the People' inscribed. People read that and think it's about the people. It is, and it isn't. It's not that simple," he said.

"The key word in that sentence is the word 'For.' For' is the park. If you don't have the park, you have nothing for the people to enjoy or benefit from. So irrespective of how you look at it, when there is a conflict between the park and the people, our priority has to be making decisions that serve in the best long-term interests of the park resources and values. If we don't get that right, the rest doesn't matter."

Science is an invaluable asset, but science doesn't deliver all the answers, Sholly said. For a Yellowstone superintendent, equally important are humility standing before nature and checking one's ego at the door.

"The bottom line is you can't know everything about everything, so don't even pretend. People will see right through you. Do you know what you don't know, and do you know how, who, and when to ask for help? Can you make and defend decisions, especially when they're not popular?" he asked. "At the end of the day, if you think it's all about you, get a different job."

Todd Wilkinson is founder of Bozeman-based Mountain Journal (mountainjournal. org) and a correspondent for National Geographic. He also is author of "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek" about famous Jackson Hole grizzly bear 399 featuring 150 photographs by Tom Mangelsen, available only at mangelsen.com/grizzly.



Future Yellowstone National Park Superintendent Cameron Sholly. PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Lone Peak graduate hired to start sustainability program in Big Sky

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Sayler Tatom cares about Big Sky, which means she cares about snow, plants and the environment. Originally from Dallas, Tatom moved to Big Sky at about 10 years of age and graduated from Lone Peak High School in 2017.

This summer, she was hired as an intern by Montana Land Reliance and Gallatin River Task Force in order to begin development on a sustainability plan for Big Sky.

"I think my most influential years were here," said the 19-year-old. "[Coming] from Dallas—which is nicknamed the Concrete City—it's hard not to appreciate it. You just have all of this beautiful space."

While Tatom is currently enrolled in the environmental engineering and dance programs at the University of Alabama and will begin her sophomore year this August, she returned to Big Sky this summer in order to help the community reduce its environmental profile.

"It's different for every community," she said, citing some of the biggest challenges for Big Sky as energy and transportation, water and conservation, and waste and recycling.

"If Big Sky is going to compete [as a destination], sustainability is important. ... Tourists want to know that where they are staying cares about the environment," she added. "Our economy is based on nature. You look around Big Sky and you don't see a problem, but if we don't look at it now, we'll have a problem in 30 years."

By researching other resort communities, such as Vail or Aspen, Tatom is developing potential sustainability models that could be used here.

"Without a plan, it's really hard for the entire community to do. I think our biggest issue is that Big Sky is unincorporated. ... For us, we're just banking on



Sayler Tatom, a 2017 graduate of Lone Peak High School, was hired this summer by Montana Land Reliance and Gallatin River Task Force to develop a sustainability plan for Big Sky. PHOTO BY KATHY TATOM

the good will of people," she said, comparing Big Sky's unique situation with other communities that have local governments that can regulate the use of plastic bags or require businesses to recycle.

According to Tatom, it might be a worthy goal for Big Sky to seek certification as a Mountain IDEAL Sustainable Destination.

This new accreditation is offered by Sustainable Travel International and this July, Vail became the first accredited destination in the world. Criteria includes appropriate tourism management and monitoring, destination planning, community engagement, and smart use of environmental resources.

"I think it's an exciting thing for Big Sky to get on that track because in 10 years, we could be on that list," Tatom said.

While Tatom will complete her work and return to Alabama on Aug. 16, MLR and GRTF will continue what Tatom started.

"We're going to be looking really hard at working with our community to get a Mountain IDEAL Sustainable Destination for Big Sky. It creates a vision for the community," said Jessie Wiese, the southwest manager for MLR.

Moving forward, Wiese said they will look at developing a governance council that can then seek funding and develop a communications campaign. "We feel that with this framework, we can really start to move forward," she said.

Visit sustainabletravel.org/mountain-destination-standard to learn more about the Mountain IDEAL Sustainable Destination certification.





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Golf Tips from a Pro: Big Sky Golf Course isn't just for golf

BY MARK WEHRMAN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Times are changing at Big Sky Golf Course. While we are known as the only golf course in Big Sky open for public play, we have so much more to offer. On July 28, we hosted our first-ever wedding, which took place on the driving range tee box. From events and food, to clinics and league play, the Big Sky Golf Course has you covered.

The Bunker Deck and Grill, located in the clubhouse, boasts the best deck in town, according to our locals. The Bunker Grill is now offering brunch on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., complete with bottomless mimosas. The Bunker also has a lunch and dinner menu offered daily.

The Big Sky Golf Course offers weekly golf clinics that are open to anyone and don't require preregistration. There are ladies clinics every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. We also have an open group clinic at 12 p.m. on Saturday. The professional golf course staff also offers private and group instruction for both adults and juniors.

The pro shop offers a variety of clothing from men's and women's polos, pants, shorts, skorts, hats, visors, golf balls, shoes, clubs, sunglasses, accessories and more. We even have a club repair station with the ability to re-grip clubs and shorten or lengthen shafts.

The golf course now has league play on Wednesday nights, along with many open tournaments. We have a large practice range with two putting greens and another small practice green with a practice bunker. The practice range is open to all, and you don't have to be playing golf that day to use.

To top it all off, we're very fortunate to frequently see wildlife on the course with the most common being moose, elk, fox, Canada geese, sandhill cranes and even the occasional bear.



The Bunker Deck and Grill, located at Big Sky Golf Course, offers weekend brunch, as well as lunch and dinner seven days a week. PHOTO BY MARK WEHRMAN

Certainly, the Big Sky Golf Course is the place to be in the summer months in Big Sky, even if you're not a golfer.

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



Pennant race underway

With three weeks left before the end of the regular season in the Big Sky Co-ed Softball League, only two teams remain undefeated: the defending regular-season champs the Huckers and the LPC Golden Goats. Those two teams are scheduled to square-off and put their unblemished records on the line Wednesday, August 8 at 7:15 p.m.

As the regular season winds down and the pennant race heats up, both teams know they cannot rest on their laurels. "Yes, we're still undefeated but we have lots of games left this month against good teams," said the shortstop for the Huckers, Lee Horning.

Pictured above, Dave Schwalbe, who has played in the league since the first season in 2000 and pitches for Milkies Big Dogs, about to demonstrate that he still knows a thing or two about how to get on base. PHOTO BY DOUG HARE



Remove mud, water, and vegetation from your gear and clean with water and a stiff brush. Chemicals are not needed.



Drain any water from your equipment (including bait buckets) at your access point. Use a sponge for items that can't be drained.



Dry your equipment thoroughly. The longer you keep your waders and other equipment outside and in the hot sun between trips, the better.

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Making it in Big Sky

Big Sky Fitness Fusion & Pilates

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY - Jolene Callahan, owner and head instructor of Big Sky Fitness Fusion & Pilates, has been working in the health and fitness industry as a personal trainer and group fitness instructor for 20 years. She has been a certified Pilates instructor for eight years, and a gymnastics teacher for 18. At one time, Callahan was a level 10 gymnast, one of the highest levels in the sport. Today she is an avid rock climber, snowboarder, mountain biker and hiker.

Big Sky Fitness Fusion & Pilates is a studio that focuses on functional fitness through a variety of class offerings including barre, yoga, Pilates equipment and mat, spinning, cross training, Power Pump, kickboxing and Zumba. She also offers a children's preschool and recreation gymnastics program.

As part of this ongoing series, Callahan shared her thoughts with EBS about what it takes to make it as a small business owner in Big Sky.

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

Jolene Callahan: Continually progressing my education and knowledge, hard work, dedication to my clients and business and a true passion for health and fitness.

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

J.C.: The overhead costs of living in a resort town, seasonal slow times, and finding the balance between work and life.

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

J.C.: Our growing community has brought more clientele into the studio, which in turn has created more class offerings, a broader client base and allowed me to employ more instructors.

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

J.C.: I choose to stay because of my clients, friends, family, quality of life and the outdoor recreation. As a Montana native, I know how wonderful Montana and Big Sky are and there is nowhere else I would rather be!

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

J.C.: My biggest client success is a lady who came to me after back surgery and told me she was hiking the Inca trail in Peru in a few months. She was having really bad back spasms and her back was not performing correctly. We worked together in the Pilates studio two times per week and she completed the Inca trail with no problems. Over a year later, she is still continuing Pilates and her back is functioning correctly. That is the best reward of my job.



Jolene Callahan attributes the success of her business to continually advancing her education, hard work, dedication and a true passion for health and fitness. PHOTO COURTESY OF JOLENE CALLAHAN

EBS: Why do you think so many new businesses fold relatively quickly?

J.C.: High debt-to-income ratio and lack of employees. As most of us know, Big Sky is a very expensive place to live, and owning a commercial property has a lot of overhead. And more businesses keep starting up, but then there are not enough employees to keep the business going.

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

J.C.: Be honest, genuine and constantly motivated to make your business a priority. It is such an honor to be a business owner in Big Sky, and all of the dedication, sacrifice and time is worth it.

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

J.C.: Hard work and dedication is the key to success.

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

J.C.: I see my business retaining its clientele, gaining new members and still focusing on functional fitness through core training and body awareness. I will continue to educate myself and my instructors so we are always expanding and progressing our knowledge.

BIG SKY FITNESS FUSION & PILATES – BY THE NUMBERS



8

STAFF:



YEARS IN BUSINESS:



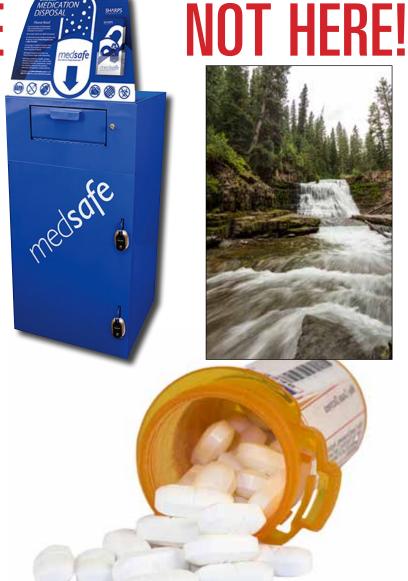
LONGEST SERVING EMPLOYEES:

Wendy Miller & Allison Gilley 4 years

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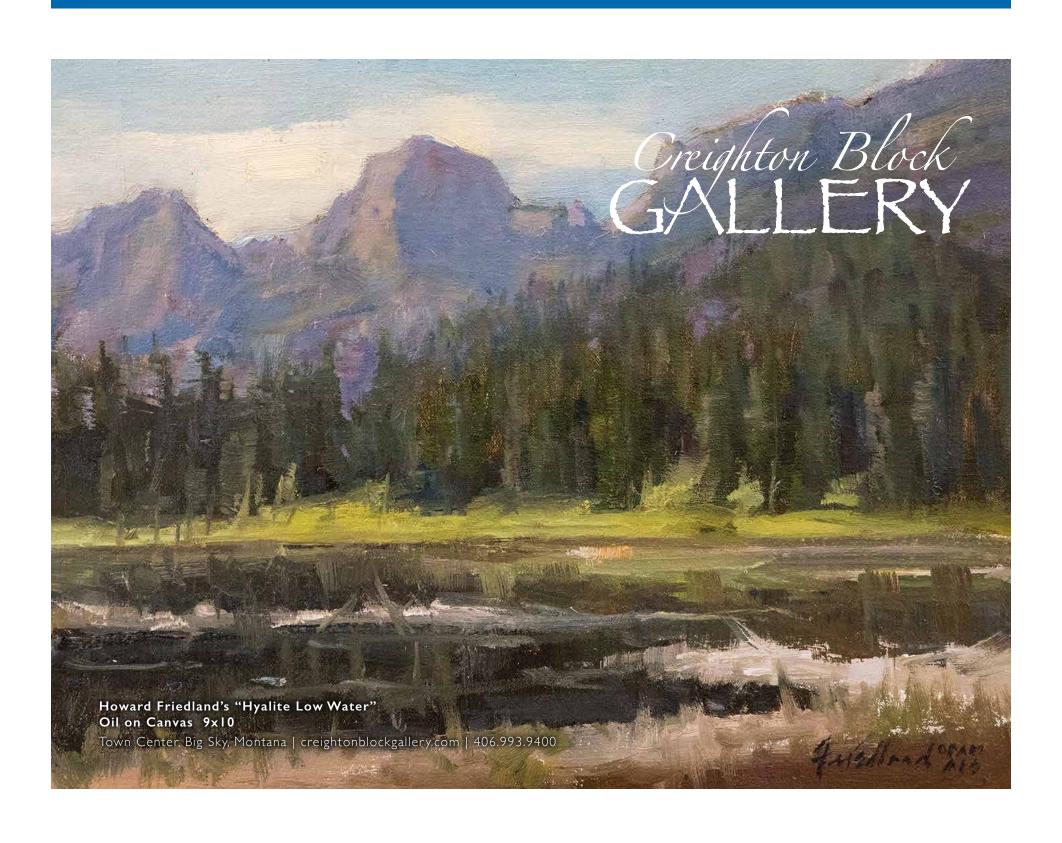
Big Sky Medical Center has a new medication disposal bin that is available and free to the public. On Friday, August 10, bring your expired or unused medications and dispose of them safely and responsibly.

Drug Drop-off Day Friday, August 10 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.





334 Town Center Ave | BigSkyMedicalCenter.org



Summertime crowds: How do they measure up?

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – Every year, during the same weeks in July and December, restaurants are packed; grocery lines, long; and roadways, bustling. This brimming of Big Sky was especially evident in July, beginning with record crowds at Music in the Mountains on the Fourth of July and culminating in the record-breaking attendance of Big Sky PBR and surrounding events.

But how does this summer compare to previous summers in terms of general busyness? While exact visitation numbers are difficult to establish, members of the community who are on the front lines engaging with the visitor sector most, provided anecdotal insight.

"The Hungry Moose has been busy," said Jackie Robin, owner of the market and deli. "As busy or more than last summer." Lines to buy beer or use the bathroom have been out the door at the Town Center location during the weekly Music in the Mountains concert series.

Brian Hurlbut, executive director of the Arts Council of Big Sky and longtime Music in the Mountains facilitator, had similar observations.

"I guess my perception is that it's at least as busy as last summer, if not busier," Hurlbut said. "I think the concerts are pretty similar to last summer. But I do feel like there have been more people in town overall."

He said concert attendance exploded last summer and thinks those numbers have carried over to this summer. He estimates a minimum of 2,000-3,000 people have attended Music in the Mountains each week, with the July 4th and Shovels & Rope concerts pressing into the 5,000-6,000 range, adding that the latter might've drawn the biggest crowd yet.

"That Shovels & Rope show, there were a lot of people there," Hurlbut said. He's certain the crowd that night outstripped the crowd at last year's equivalent show by the Turnpike Troubadours. Hurlbut admitted that it's difficult to accurately gauge the numbers from his perceptions, but judging from a July 4, 2012 photo, he's confident there are two-to-three times more people at concerts this summer.

Data from the Big Sky Community Organization backs that sentiment. In a July 31 email, BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe wrote that the Big Sky Community Park has seen an increase of 9,549 vehicles in June and July compared to the same months last year. At the Ousel Falls trailhead, the vehicle count for both months is up 1,197 from 2017.

Trails at Big Sky Resort are also seeing more use. This season to date, bikehaul visits on the lifts are up 39 percent year-over-year, according to the resort's vice president of business development, Annie Pinkert.

"Last weekend, with the Enduro Race in town, it was the busiest weekend on record for bike haul visits here at Big Sky," Pinkert wrote in an email to EBS.

The Grizzly Outfitters bike shop has ridden the bike wave this summer with increased bike rentals.

"It's been a big spike," longtime Grizzly Outfitters employee Andy Haynes said. "Especially with all the trails that are starting to be discovered around here."

He said the resort has done a good job making the mountain more approachable for inexperienced mountain bikers by adding trail options for beginner and intermediate bikers.

"They're starting to realize that scary trails don't sell lift tickets and season passes so I think they're putting some really good effort in up there," Haynes said.

Although it sounds like a consensus, the jury is still out, according to Candace Carr Strauss, CEO of Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and Visit Big Sky.

Strauss relies on numbers that haven't been calculated yet to gauge visitation to the area: visitation records from Yellowstone National Park



People fill Town Center Park for the Thursday night Music in the Mountains concert series, an event that has consistently drawn large crowds throughout the summer. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

paired with traffic at the West Gate, monthly resort tax collections, state lodging tax revenue, Bozeman airport traffic and data aggregated from lodging establishments around Big Sky.

At the park, May visitation numbers blew the top off past years and June was the second highest month on record. Similarly, the airport hit a new landmark for passenger counts, after posting year-over-year gains the past seven years.

In 2017, Big Sky's average occupancy rate for the year was 41.5 percent, Strauss said. She conceded that for the busiest three weeks of the year, lodging occupancy might hit 65-70 percent, but otherwise falls short of the ideal mark.

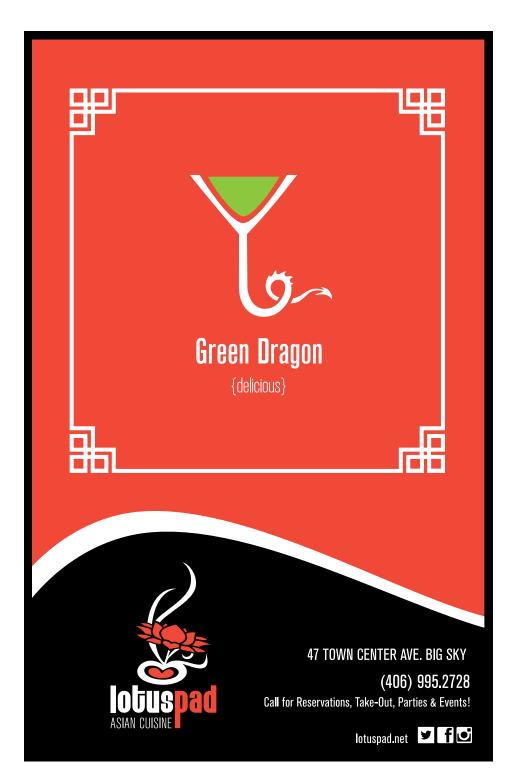
"In spite of seeing the park at record levels; in spite of seeing record flight numbers out of [Bozeman], we're a bit down this summer," Strauss said. "We're trying to figure out, what is that a result of?"

Strauss said that West Yellowstone and Glacier lodging businesses communicated similar findings.

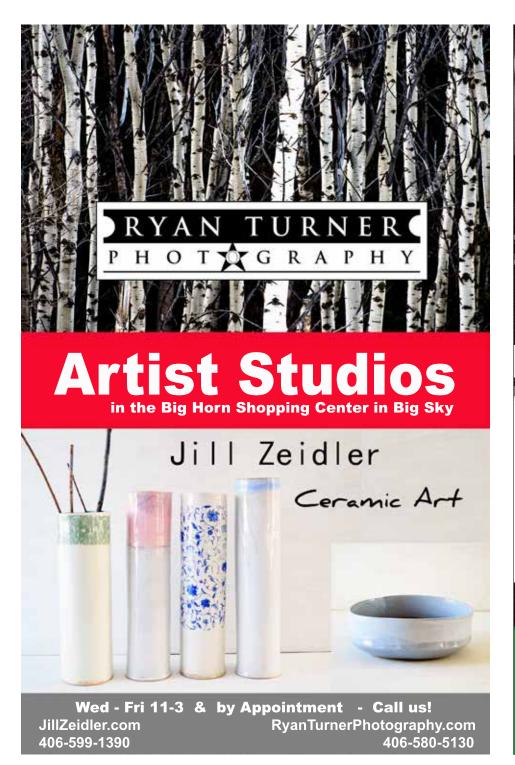
Price sensitivity seems to be playing a role, she said, as visitors are staying as far away the west entrance as Pocatello, Idaho, or Bozeman to save money on lodging. She mentioned that the presidential administration has contributed to curtailing international visitation, as well.

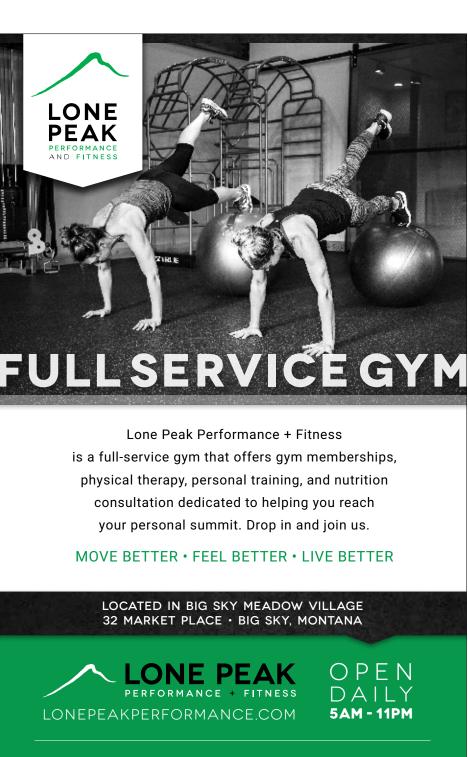
Strauss said Visit Big Sky's new website launch in August will help track gross numbers, but that numbers are only valuable to a point.

"More visitors does not equal success for Big Sky," Strauss said. "It's the right visitor, and the right visitor at the right time when we need the visitation."









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PROCEEDS BENEFIT -







A day on Sprig + Root Farm

Big Sky Farmer's Market purveyors don't miss a 'beet'

PHOTOS AND CAPTIONS BY ANTHONY PAVKOVICH



Nestled north of Three Forks, Montana, along the banks of the Missouri River, rows of vegetables spread out through the floodplain under parched, limestone hills. Rising early, Kacy Senger harvests beets for Wednesday's Big Sky Farmers Market.



Senger is hard at work learning to grow, market, and distribute local produce through her new business Sprig + Root Farm. Under the watchful eyes of Morgan and Chris Rasmussen, Senger is part of their opportunity farm—a program to encourage young farmers by providing land and mentorship.



At Cedar Rose, Senger has been given space to live, learn, and grow. The farm is a place to intimately connect with the rhythms of the season while practicing the small, daily rituals of growing food.



Already ahead of the curve, she's running both a weekly subscription service and has staked a claim as one of the few vegetable producers at the farmers market. Every week, she provides Big Sky with nutritious, local produce that highlights the bounty of Montana's summers.



Sprig + Root Farm also host a weekly "crew day" where CSA members and friends help out at the farm, camp, and enjoy potluck dinners. These days are a chance to connect with the community and share skills and experiences learned on the farm.



The next time you wander through farmers market, stop by her stand and say hello to Senger and her fiancé, Zach Altman. They'll be at Big Sky Town Center Fire Pit Park every Wednesday from 5-8 p.m. through September with a wide variety of tasty, local produce.







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10th Annual Big Sky Farmers Market (celebrating the best of Big Sky's mountain

culture)

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Revival, Pinky & The Floyd)

AUG 7

8 - 11 PM

FREE Movie Night At Center Stage (Featuring: A River Runs Through It)

AUG 10 - 11th

Big Sky Classical Music Festival (Featuring: Bella Hristova, Angela Ahn, Time For

Three, Big Sky Festival Orchestra)

AUG 25 - 26th

Big Sky Biggie Mtn Bike Race (50 mile, 30 mile, short track race, live music, vendors, and more)

Find more of the Big Sky Life @BigSkyTownCenter







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Big Sky Resort hosts 5th annual Vine & Dine Festival

BY MATTHEW HODGSON EBS EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

BIG SKY – Big Sky Resort's Vine & Dine Festival: A Wine and Food Affair is an opportunity for locals and visitors to taste the finer things in life while enjoying one of the most scenic views in the state. The fifth annual festival, taking place at various venues at the resort, begins on Thursday, Aug. 16, and concludes on Sunday, Aug. 19.

Vine & Dine welcomes sommeliers, winemakers, regional culinary specialists and distinguished guests to gather for wine, food and networking at the base of Lone Mountain at Big Sky Resort.

Nationally renowned chefs including Google Global Food Program chef Scott Giambastiani; Californian restauranteur Traci Des Jardins; and New York chef-consultant Elizabeth

Falkner will prepare lunches and dinners around the resort during the festival. In addition to celebrity chefs, educational opportunities include seminars led by master sommeliers Fred Dame and Jay Fletcher.

This year the festivities kick off with a seminar about Italian wines by fine wine specialist Don Jost, also an organizer of the event. "It's a celebration of food and wine, and the relationship between the two," he said.

Jost added that the festival is consumer-driven, and features wines and foods from local businesses rather than corporate suppliers. In addition to the tastings and social events, Vine & Dine also has a heavy emphasis on educational seminars, he explained.



Big Sky Resort's Vine & Dine Festival takes place Aug. 16-19 and offers a jam-packed schedule of food and wine-focused social mixers, pairing dinners, seminars and slope-side adventures. PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG SKY RESORT

Other festival activities include live music by The Hooligans, Jamie McLean Band and Reckless Kelly; cooking demonstrations, a silent auction, and exciting outdoor adventures that weave in food and wine components.

On Sunday, Aug. 19, the final day of the festival, Peaks Restaurant in the Summit Hotel will host Bottomless Recharge Brunch, at which guests will have an opportunity to take home their favorite Vine & Dine wines at a store set up specifically for the event.

Throughout the festival, the resort will host seven seminars about wine-related topics, from tasting notes to classes on wines from specific regions. There will also be eight formal wine-pairing luncheons and dinners at the resort's Peaks Restaurant, Andiamo Italian Grille, and Chet's Bar & Grill in the Huntley Hotel; Rosés on the Ridge for the adventurous gourmands, and the Live Big: Stroll and Market.

Rosés on the Ridge combines the Lone Peak Expedition experience and rosé tastings on an adventure that culminates with a high-altitude toast at the 11,166-foot summit of Lone Mountain.

The central piece of the Live Big: Stroll and Market is the Big Sky Grand Tasting Event. Set up like a farmer's market, the tasting event features 100 wines from approximately 40 national and international wineries and booths representing numerous local and regional restaurants serving samples of their culinary delights.

Visit bigskyresort.com/vine to purchase tickets and for a full schedule of events and seminars.



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.

Saffron, worth its weight in gold



BY SCOTT MECHURA EBS COLUMNIST

I still have vivid memories of making Moroccan couscous stock back at the St. Paul, Minnesota, restaurant Forepaugh's as a young cook almost three decades ago. We started with lamb stock and seasoned it with cumin, garlic, cinnamon and saffron—all dominant flavors in their own right. But it was the saffron that permeated the air above

the others with its mystique and nobility.

I remember the first time I handled it. Chef asked me to retrieve it from his desk, a big deal in itself. I was admiring the worldly yet understated little tin, and just as I rounded the corner, I dropped it, spilling the entire contents. In a panic, I hastily scooped it up off the floor behind chef's back and carefully put the delicate threads back in their rightful place. It's the only time I have invoked the five-second rule.

At an average price of \$16 dollars per gram, and accounting for labor, you can make a well-supported case, depending on the state of the commodities exchange, that saffron is more expensive than gold. And I would say it is worth its weight.

Historians believe saffron originated in Greece, although there is no concrete proof.

Deriving from the flower *Crocus sativus*, the spice we call saffron is made up of precisely three stigma from the center of a single flower. It takes about 1,000 flowers to produce one ounce of spice.

The flowers are a shade of purple that would have made Prince turn green with envy, yet the stigma, only three per flower, are the most vibrant of reds, then produce the most electrifying, day-glow yellow imaginable.

According to the United Nation Food and Agriculture Organization, Iran produces 85 percent of the world's supply. And much like a wine grape grower has to be in a constant state of readiness to pick at the moment of peak sugar content when fall harvest is upon them, the flowers need to be harvested on the very morning they bloom, or the window has closed.

Laced with antioxidants and beta carotenes, saffron contains approximately 150 volatile compounds, which gives it its distinct aroma and color. When asked what something tastes like that I cannot readily put into words, I use saffron as an example. As frustrating as it can sound, I tell them you just know it when you taste it.

A "saffron belt" runs laterally from Spain to Kashmir in northern India. Prized by royalty for centuries, the Romans spread it like hay for aesthetic purposes. It has also been said that Cleopatra bathed in saffron-infused mare's milk while preparing for a potential suitor.

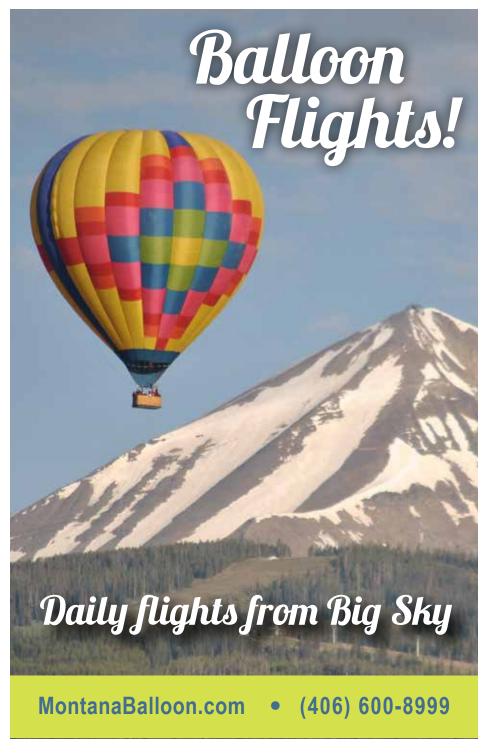
Saffron has been touted throughout the ages as a cure from everything from hemorrhoids to heartache. But, given its price, perhaps treating with gold would be more cost effective!

One of my favorite flavors is passionfruit. I metaphorically describe the flavor as what sunshine might taste like. Saffron, on the other hand, is like a drug for me—when I smell it or taste the spice, it triggers the urge to cook.

Saffron has all the sultry appeal of a James "Bond Girl." I wonder, is there another spice that has the value and allure of saffron? As a matter of fact there is, and it's actually far more familiar to the home cook. Until next time ...

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.







Life goes by fast—why waste it on FOMO?



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

Are you ready to usher in the "joy of missing out?" When Anil Dash coined the acronym JOMO, in his blog that focuses on making the tech world more humane and ethical, he was responding to a blog his friend Caterina Fake wrote in 2011, when she coined the acronym FOMO, or the "fear of missing out." FOMO leaves us feeling like we're never in the right

place and the right time because there is always something or someone more interesting elsewhere.

Social media has brought keeping up with the Joneses to a whole new level. According to data published in 2017 by the analytics firm Flurry, the average adult spends five hours a day on mobile devices and teens even more. And much of that time is spent on social media apps. Constantly comparing our lives to those portrayed online can cause feelings of envy, loneliness and unworthiness. So why not consider putting JOMO into effect instead?

JOMO isn't about isolating yourself and becoming an anti-social hermit; instead, it invites you to unplug, say no to invitations you don't have time for or sincere interest in, and then celebrate your choices.

Practicing JOMO is simple—it starts in the mind. Summer is full of exciting activities and at times, you might wish you could be in two places at once, but you can't. Instead, accept that fact and find peace and joy in your decision. This is beneficial to your mental well-being.

JOMO also requires you to notice when you're overdoing it and then stop that behavior pattern. When you're spread too thin, stress can set in which releases hormones like cortisol that signal to the body and mind that you're in danger. If you're chronically stressed, your immune system can become compromised and nasty illnesses can more easily inhabit your body—which can lead to a mandatory time out when you're sick in bed—not an ideal way to spend precious summer days.

Also consider practicing JOMO by making time to disconnect from social media, nightly news, emails and phone calls and do nothing. This can be so hard—the thought of doing nothing seems so anti-American. But even if it's just for 10 minutes or a mere 60 seconds, doing nothing but focusing on the breath and letting your nervous system know that everything is fine helps liberate the body and mind from stress mode.

Lastly, notice when FOMO creeps in. You'll recognize it by the stories you tell yourself and others like when you're lamenting about what you're missing out on, or when you're wishing you could live the life of someone else, or when you're complaining that you're exhausted by your busy schedule. Stop this demoralizing thought pattern in its tracks by bringing awareness to it, letting it go and moving on to a conversation that uplifts your spirit.

Life goes by quickly. Why waste it on FOMO? We can find comfort in this chaotic world knowing that we always have this precious moment, right here, right now. If you're looking for greater contentment, clarity and creativity, try embracing JOMO. Have a healthy and happy summer!

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



Yours in health

BY DR. ANDREA WICK, D.C. EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

According to the Vitamin D Council, 70 percent of Americans are vitamin D deficient. Vitamin D deficiency can lead to a higher risk of cancers, depression, autoimmune disease, arthritis and other health concerns.

Summer is the best time of year to increase your vitamin D levels naturally through sun exposure. Many patients ask me, "How do I do that safely? Isn't it dangerous to be exposed to the sun?"

The sun is our friend—as we learn in elementary school science, without the sun, life on our planet wouldn't exist. So why are we so afraid of sun exposure?

Too much of a good thing can be dangerous and over-exposure to the sun can lead to skin damage and certain types of skin cancers. However, 20 minutes of sun exposure without sunscreen is generally considered the "safe zone," and is enough time to allow your body to produce vitamin D on its own. After 20 minutes your body will no longer produce vitamin D.

The average American needs at least three 20-minute sessions of sun exposure per week to produce healthy vitamin D levels on their own, according to alternative medicine proponent Dr. Joseph Mercola, D.O.

After you achieve your recommended dose of vitamin D, then what? Using a sunscreen that protects against UVB rays is your best option. However, some sunscreens are extremely toxic and it is important to be aware of what you are putting on your skin.

Sunshine is not the enemy, but sunscreen may be

Oxybenzone is a popular ingredient used in most sunscreens, however it is a dangerous free-radical generator. Free radicals break down cell membranes, which accelerates aging and leads to many chronic disease processes. Oxybenzone is frightening because of its ability to penetrate into the blood stream. It mimics elevated estrogen symptoms which can cause reproductive conditions such as endometriosis in women and decreased sperm cell counts in men. It can also trigger allergic reactions similar to eczema.

Other ingredients to avoid that are found in common sunscreens include para amino benzoic acid, octyl salicyclate, avobenzoate, oxybenzone, cinoxate, padimate O, dioxybenzone, phenylbenzinidazole, homosalate, sulisobenzone, mentyl anthranilate and trolamine salicylate.

Zinc oxide is your best option for sun protection. It protects your skin against UVA and UVB rays and is non-toxic. Environmental Working Group (ewg. org) is the best resource to find non-toxic skin care options for you and your family.

We are what we eat, and having a diet—or what I call a "live it"—high in antioxidants helps protect against free-radical damage. Salmon, green tea, cruciferous vegetables (kale, broccoli, asparagus), and tomatoes help protect against free radical oxidation.

Dr. Andrea Wick is a chiropractor and applied kinesiologist. She graduated from Life University in Marietta, Georgia, and now practices in Big Sky. She has a passion for holistic health care and being active in the outdoors. Her practice, Healing Hands Chiropractic, is located in the Meadow Village Center. Visit drandreawick.com to learn more.





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SECTION 3: OUTDOORS, FUN & BACK 40







INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Twice burned, forever shaped

Yellowstone's evolving fire strategy

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. - Becky Smith remembers the 1988 fires that burned 793,880 acres of Yellowstone National Park. Then eight years old, Smith was on a family trip in her grandmother's box-van during the first days after the park reopened to the public following the burn.

"I was really awestruck," she said. "I had never seen more than a campfire or a burning ditch. I thought the helicopters were really cool, along with seeing the flames on a hillside with elk grazing below.

"I don't ever remember being scared while in the park, even though I remember seeing flames close to the roads and boardwalks," she added. "It was a memorable experience for a young girl from North Dakota who had never been to Yellowstone, or even the mountains."

Thirty years later, Smith serves as Yellowstone's wildland fire ecologist. Having completed a degree in natural resource management at the University of Minnesota, Crookston, she says she's often wondered about the impact her experience in '88 had on her choice of profession.

Smith said she wasn't surprised when she got the call in 2016, alerting her about a lightning-started fire burning near the western boundary. "I was surprised the meadows burned. Usually they don't burn in the park," she said. "It tells me how dry it was that year."

In 2016, 22 fires covered more than 70,000 park acres, becoming the most active fire year since '88, while the fire in question, known as the Maple fire, torched approximately 52,000 acres.

Standing in the overlap of the '88 and 2016 fire scars on July 23, Smith gestured to the charred knobs that were once 28-year-old lodgepole pines. She pointed to red shadows on a darkened soil, indications of where large logs burned at high severity and left nothing behind.

But she also directed our attention below the hill to a stand of still-green timber. "Other areas didn't burn as hot [in 2016]," she said, adding that some trees survived that year, and even others survived the '88 blaze. "You can see how diverse the landscape will be."

While perhaps unsurprising given the lack of precipitation that summer, the Maple fire was unprecedented in the years following the '88 burn.

"What's really significant for us about the Maple fire is that it's the first significant fire we've had in the '88 fire scar in 30 years," said John Cataldo, the wildland fire management officer for Yellowstone.

He added that the fire started, established, and burned in its entirety in the '88 scar. This was unique from previous fires, which hit the new growth and quickly burned out.

"We had to start looking at the '88 fire in a new lens. It was no longer a barrier to fire," Cataldo said. "Now the '88 scar is in play."

According to Smith and Cataldo, safety is always a priority when managing a fire in Yellowstone, but thanks to the 2009 federal fire policy, officials are able to manage fire for ecological benefit.



Yellowstone fire ecologist Becky Smith and wildland fire management officer John Cataldo observe the varied landscape within the 1988 and 2016 fire burn scars. PHOTO BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT

"Without fire, Yellowstone doesn't exist as we know it," Cataldo said. "Ecologically, it's almost invariably good to have a fire here."

In addition to impacts on nutrient cycling, fires aid in developing plant community composition and structure. Some native plants rely on fire to reproduce, such as the lodgepole pine and its serotinous cones.

Over the last 46 years, the park has averaged 26 fires per year. Of those, flames started by lightning are allowed to burn as long as there are no risks to human safety—it isn't until developed areas are threatened that managers step in to suppress the flames. However, human-caused fires must be controlled or suppressed.

"It's very important that even though fire is good, folks are very careful with fire in the park," Cataldo said.

Prior to 1972, Yellowstone's policy was to suppress every fire, but as paradigms changed, so too did fire management.

In 1972, naturally-ignited fires were allowed to burn in limited areas of the park, and slowly those areas became larger. Aside from a brief period from 1988 to 1992, when the "let it burn" policy was reviewed, this has remained the protocol.

Currently the federal fire policy is up for scheduled review after a decade of use, and policy makers are seeking input from managers and officials.

"With 80 percent of our fires started by lightning, I'm comfortable with the policy as it is," Cataldo said. "We're going to get the fire we need."

Instead of seeking a policy change, Cataldo said taking advantage of modern technology is an exciting option for the future. Specifically, he referenced early conversations about using drones to manage fire in national parks.

"Fire's interesting in that we have a lot of new technology that we use and that's all changed since '88," Cataldo said. "But we're still depending on people to use them."

Yellowstone's Biennial Scientific Conference comes to Big Sky

BY CHRISTINE GIANAS WEINHEIMER YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

What will the future bring to those who visit, protect and study the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem? That's the central question surrounding the 14th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The conference takes place Sept. 11-14 in Big Sky, and registration is now open.

Since 1991, the Biennial Scientific Conference has brought together scientists, students, academics, land managers and the general public, to build relationships and protect treasured public lands for future generations.

The theme of this year's conference is "Tracking the Human Footprint," and focuses on the human experience and the role scientific research and communication will play in shaping future management of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

Workshop topics range from ungulate migration and climate trends, to strengthening community partnerships. Several sessions relate to this year's theme on the human experience, such as analyzing visitor-use patterns and managing traffic congestion in and around Yellowstone National Park.

An impressive and diverse group of more than 100 presenters from around the U.S. will speak at the conference, including environmental economist Dr. Ray Rasker, who will deliver the keynote address. In addition, exhibitors whose efforts focus on scientific research, provide educational materials related to the conference theme, or who contribute to scientific knowledge in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem will be present at the event.

Big Sky Resort will serve as the venue for this year's conference, which is hosted by Yellowstone Forever, the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. Members of the public who are interested in Yellowstone's ecosystem and the protection of public lands are encouraged to attend.



Managing traffic congestion in and around Yellowstone National Park is one of many topics to be covered during this year's Biennial Scientific Conference in Big Sky Sept. 11-14. NPS PHOTO

Conference registration is limited to 350 participants and is required for attendance. One-day registrations may be an option based on availability, and special student rates are offered.

Visit tracking the human footprint 2018. org to learn more or to register. Visit yellowstone. org to learn more about the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park.



How Big Sky gets into hot water

Yellowstone opens lottery for 2018-2019 snowmobile program

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

On Aug. 1, Yellowstone National Park began accepting applications for the 2018-2019 winter lottery for permits to snowmobile in Yellowstone without a commercial guide.

Authorized in 2013, the Non-Commercially Guided Snowmobile Access Program allows one group of up to five snowmobiles to enter Yellowstone from each of its four winter entrances per day. Trips can be for a maximum of three days in length.

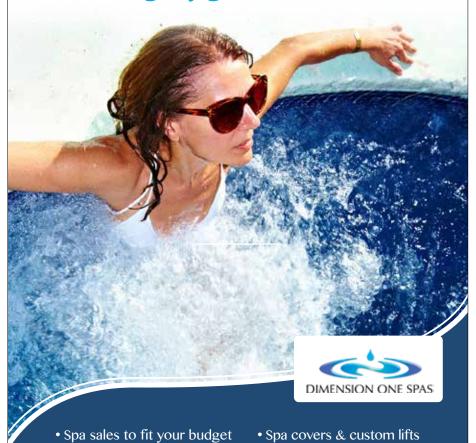
This year's lottery will be open on recreation.gov through Aug. 31. Successful applicants will be notified in mid-September.

Permit holders are considered non-commercial guides and must be at least 18 years old on the first day of their trips. All snowmobile operators must possess a state-issued driver's license and successfully complete the free online Yellowstone Snowmobile Education Certification program.

Anyone can take the course to learn more about park rules that help visitors safely enjoy the unique experience of winter in Yellowstone while also protecting park resources. All snowmobiles must meet the park's New Best Available Technology standard.

Unclaimed or cancelled permits will be made available via recreation.gov on a first-come, first-served basis beginning on Oct. 9. There is no waiting list. Cancellations may occur throughout the winter season, so check the website often for openings.

Visit nps.gov/yell/planyourvisit/ncgsap.htm to learn more about the Non-Commercially Guided Snowmobile Access Program.



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Inside the Big Sky

Fire lookout towers: A room with a view

VISIT BIG SKY

Many visitors to Big Sky come for a break from their routine, to experience a taste of the solitude and beauty that the wilderness of this region can provide. One way to maximize that experience while visiting southwest Montana, is by staying in a historic U.S. Forest Service cabin or an even more unique fire lookout tower.

Fire lookouts are a unique piece of Montana history. They were predominately used to aid Forest Service rangers in spotting wildfires at the beginning of the 20th century. During the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps was assigned work projects across the country, including the construction of more than 600 fire lookouts.

The advent of new technology and systems to detect fires has led to the decommission of many fire lookouts, but some have been given new life as short-term vacation rentals and guest accommodations.



The Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout is one of many U.S. Forest Service cabins available throughout the state to rent by the general public. PHOTO COURTESY OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Here in the Custer Gallatin National Forest, the Garnet Mountain Fire Lookout is available for rent. This particular lookout location has existed since 1930, although the current structure was built in 1962.

It's a bit of a hike, but worth the reward: grand views of the surrounding peaks and valleys with ample opportunities for wildlife spotting. This unique lodging experience sleeps up to four and is available year-round.

In the Big Sky area, additional Forest Service cabins are available at Spanish Creek, Windy Pass, Yellow Mule and Wapiti. They can be a bit of a trek, but the experience of history, natural beauty and solitude is one to remember.

Visit recreation.gov to learn more or to make reservations at any U.S. Forest Service cabin, nationwide. For more information about Big Sky and southwest Montana, see Visit Big Sky's blog at visitbigskymt.com/category/blog/.



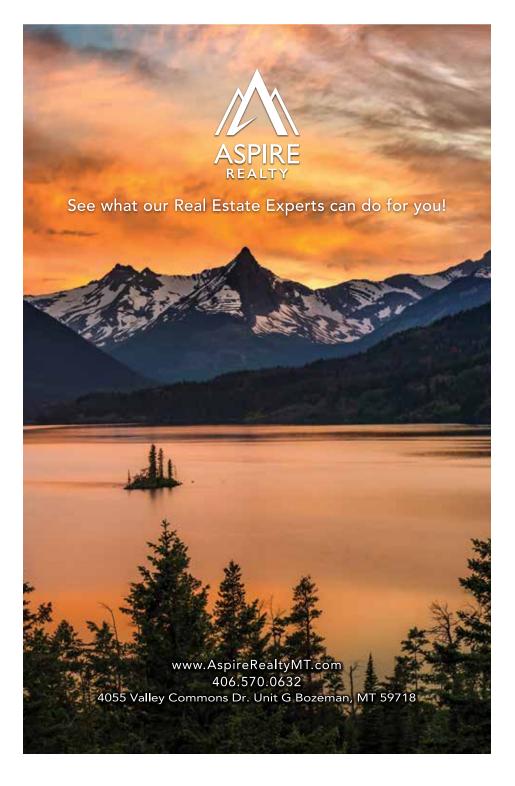


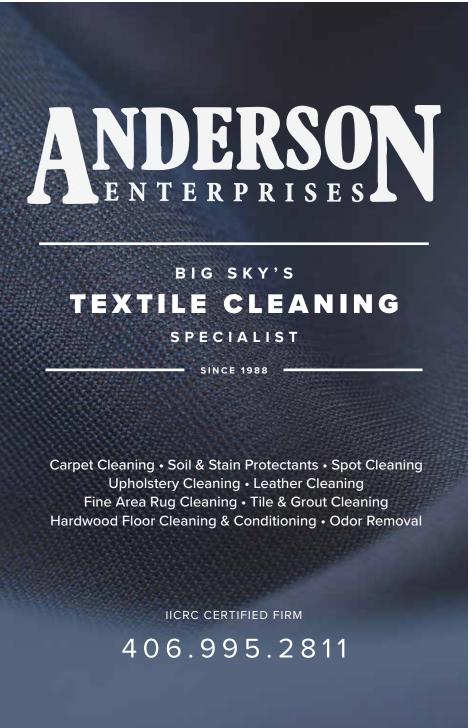
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On the Trail: 5 Best Hikes with Kids

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

BY CIARA WOLFE BSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hiking with my children is one of my favorite ways to spend time with them during the summer months. They began in a front-carry pack as infants, graduated to a backpack as toddlers, and now my oldest, who is 12, will soon surpass me in speed.

Taking that time together in the outdoors has fostered many incredible conversations, teaching moments, and confidence-building experiences for both of my children. Here I'll share my five favorite trails in Big Sky to hike with kids. They're listed in no specific order.

Little Willow Way

This is an easy, 1.6-mile roundtrip trail. It's wide and gravel-surfaced, best for wading in the adjacent river, beginner hikes and a short walk in nature.

Hummocks Trail

The 3-mile, dirt-surfaced intermediate level Hummocks Trail is a popular hike in Big Sky. It provides excellent vistas, views of wildflowers, and the chance to loop back early if your hike isn't going as planned.

South Fork Loop

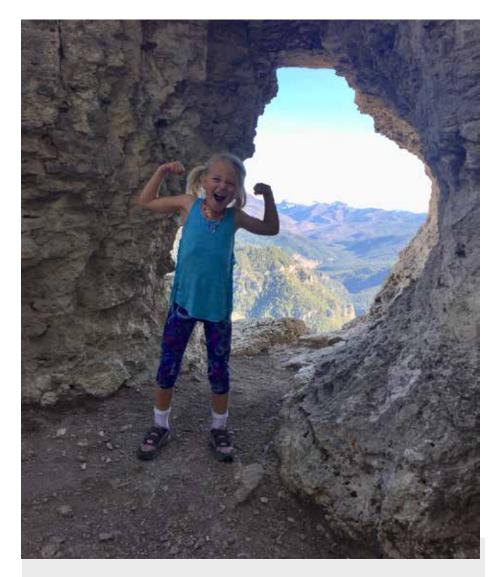
This intermediate dirt-surfaced loop is 1 mile in length. It's an excellent short hike right here in town, and has both an uphill and downhill section, providing training for the longer hikes to come.

Upper Beehive Basin

As a 6.3-mile roundtrip journey, Upper Beehive Basin is an intermediate level hike along a dirt-surfaced trail. With a gradual climb and the destination of a glacial lake surrounded by the jagged Spanish Peaks Mountains, this trail makes for the ultimate first-time long hike for almost any age. It will help to foster a love of nature, and you'll probably spot wildlife along the way.

Storm Castle Peak

It's 4.7 miles out-and-back to the summit of Storm Castle Peak, the most prominent rock outcrop in Gallatin Canyon. With a steep incline where you can see your end goal throughout much of the hike, this trail is an excellent goal for budding mountain climbers and intermediate-level hikers. It can serve as a self-confidence boost as your kids become king or queen of the mountain and look out across the Gallatin Canyon.



Olivia Wolfe, at six years old, stands atop Storm Castle Peak. The trail to this outcrop is a great one for kids, as the steep incline and expansive views help to develop self-confidence. PHOTO BY CIARA WOLFE

I encourage you to get out on the trail no matter what age hikers you are guiding. Just remember to bring lots of snacks and extra water. My secret hacks to help the kids have fun on the trail include designating a special adventure pack that they get to carry when they hike—starting as young as possible—as well as distractions like "I Spy," trail treats, and nature scavenger hunts while we walk.

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



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Staying safe in rattlesnake habitat

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – When you venture beyond Gallatin Canyon to areas that are drier and warmer than Big Sky, it's important to be aware of the presence of rattlesnakes.

The only venomous snake species in Montana, the prairie rattlesnake makes its home in more arid parts of the region, such as along the Madison River near Ennis, the northern reaches of Gallatin Valley, and Paradise Valley from Livingston to Yellowstone National Park.

The prairie rattler can be 48 inches or longer with a green, brown, gray or yellowish body. Dark brown splotches bordered by white run down it's back, and the tail ends in the tell-tale rattle, which is used to warn potential predators of the snake's presence.

Generally, rattlesnakes den in rock outcrops on south-facing slopes, and are known to be defensive rather than aggressive. When left alone, a rattlesnake won't bother people, but if alarmed or threatened it may bite.

Rattlers rely on a pair of hollow, hinged fangs for their defense. These teeth fold back against the roof of the mouth when relaxed, but extend when the snake strikes.

The prairie rattlesnake's venom glands contain moderate amounts of venom, which does have the ability to kill a human adult, though this is rare.

According to Shireen Banerji with the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center at Denver Health, there haven't been any deaths due to rattlesnake bites reported to the Montana Poison Center in at least 10 years. On average, about 16 people get bit by rattlesnakes each year in Montana, with minor or moderate medical outcomes.

Most often, a person is struck on the hand, calf or ankle and at the time of the bite, there is intense pain. Symptoms may also include difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting, swelling and gangrene.

For anyone traveling through rattlesnake habitat, knowing these simple first-aid steps, advised by the Montana Poison Center, can be the difference between a fast recovery and serious complications:

Keep calm and avoid exertion. Physical activity will increase venom absorption.

Remove jewelry and clothing that could constrict the area as it swells. Immobilize the bitten area with a splint or sling. This should be applied loosely to ensure circulation isn't cut off.

Keep the bitten limb lower than heart level.

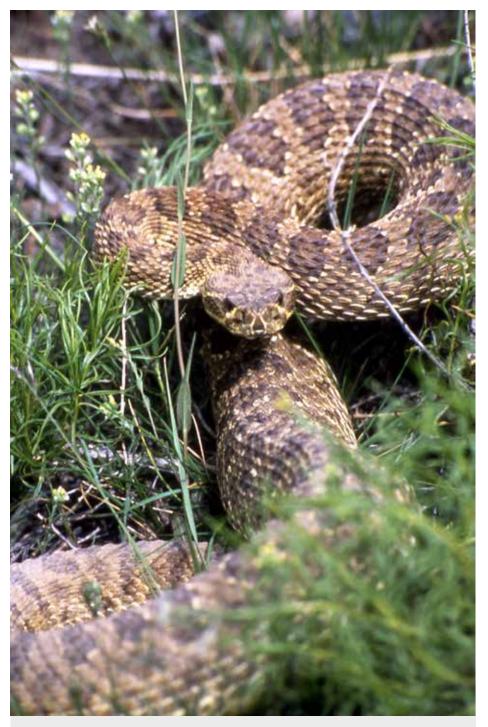
Slowly make way to a vehicle or place where emergency personnel can be met. Keeping the heart rate as low as possible will slow the spread of venom.

Go to the nearest hospital or call the Poison Center at (800) 222-1222.

Don't attempt to extract the venom; don't use ice, heat or a tourniquet; and don't try to capture the snake.

Dr. Sydney Desmarais of Lone Peak Veterinary Hospital said rattlesnakes can also be a threat to your dog.

"The number one thing you can do is make sure you have a dog who's well-behaved and listens to you. If they run off, they're more likely to get bit," she said, adding that rocky areas or areas of dense brush are of highest concern.



Of the 10 snake species that live in Montana, only the prairie rattle snake—or western rattlesnake—is venomous. CC PHOTO

If your dog is bitten, Desmarais said it's critical to get to a veterinarian as soon as possible. It's possible your dog's airway could swell closed. To decrease the anaphylactic response, consider offering your dog Benadryl at a dosage authorized by your vet.

While there is a rattlesnake vaccine approved for use in dogs, it does not prevent a dog from reacting to a bite. Instead, Desmarais said it can buy the owner a little bit more time before serious symptoms set in. It's still important to seek immediate veterinary care to increase the likelihood of survival and decrease the severity of clinical symptoms, she added.

Prevention can go a long way in rattlesnake country, and according to Desmarais, one of the best defenses against canine rattlesnake bites is to take your dog to a rattlesnake training class. This course teaches dogs to avoid rattlesnakes, and while it isn't offered regularly in Gallatin Valley, Desmarais said it is certainly worth attending when and where courses are available.



RESORT ROUNDUP

Your guide to events, activities and news at Big Sky Resort



Enjoy a weekend of fine food and wine at the base—and maybe the summit—of Lone Peak

The fifth annual Vine & Dine festival comes to Big Sky Resort Aug. 16-19. Read more about the many wine and food-centric events, adventures, seminars, tastings and pairing dinners offered during the festival in the dining section on page25. PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG SKY RESORT



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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 Runs

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, and alpine ridge lines all the way to the summit of Lone Mountain.

SEPT. 28

Summer Closing Day



AUG. 16-21

Moonlight MusicFest

MADISON BASE

This inaugural event will celebrate the spirit of music, mountains and Montana, bringing together headliners like Grace Potter, Bruce Hornsby and the Noisemakers, and the Chris Robinson Brotherhood.

AUG. 16

The Hooligans

Montana Jack, 10 p.m.

AUG. 17

Jamie McLean Band

Montana Jack, 10 p.m.

AUG. 18

Reckless Kelly
Montana Jack, 10 p.m.



SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT BIG SKY RESORT

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.

Mountain biking: Explore over 40 miles of bike trails. Enjoy the advanced and expert downhill trails off Thunder Wolf and Swift Current lifts and beginner and intermediate routes off Explorer lift.

Lone Peak Expedition: Enjoy a guided trip to the top of Lone Mountain, where you'll take chairlift, expedition vehicle and tram all the way to the summit. You'll be able to enjoy views from 11,166 feet!

Zipline tours: Ride up and down on one of Big Sky Resort's two ziplines. Enjoy the Adventure Zipline made for speed, or take the family-friendly Nature Zipline.

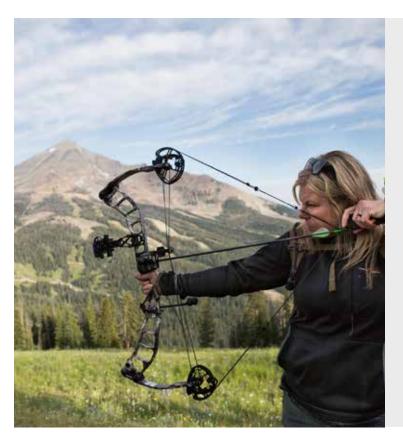
Scenic lift ride: Take Swift Current or Explorer chairlift to get a bird's-eye view of the mountains surrounding Big Sky.

Adventure Mountain: Find fun for the whole family at Adventure Mountain at Big Sky Resort. Hop on the bungee trampoline, mine for gemstones, try out the climbing wall, or get a rush on the giant swing.

Hiking: Take a scenic lift ride up the mountain, then enjoy a leisurely hike down to the base at Big Sky Resort. You can also participate in a number of guided hikes on Huckleberry Trail, around Lake Levinsky or along Moose Tracks Trail.

Archery: Try out Big Sky Resort's archery course, and learn to shoot a Genesis compound bow.

Disc golf: Enjoy disc golf at the base of Mountain Village. You can play on your own time and either hike or take a chairlift to access the intermediate/advanced 9-hole Explorer course.



Annual archery challenge draws national crowd

Approximately 1,200 archers from 33 states and Canada took to Lone Mountain on July 20-22, to participate in the fifth annual Yeti Total Archery Challenge presented by Mtn Ops.

Designed as a fun, family-friendly event where people can improve their skills in the off season, the Total Archery Challenge consists of a variety of archery courses based on skill level, complete with more than 100 3-D targets that replicate deer, elk, bear and more.

Bozeman backpack manufacturer Mystery Ranch served as the local event sponsor and hosted a special 3-D "local's" course.

PHOTOS BY MORGAN MASON

Big Sky toasts to annual Brewfest

The 13th annual Brewfest returned to Big Sky Resort on July 21, with unlimited samples available from over 30 breweries, while local band The Well played a variety of tunes. PHOTO BY KEVIN MCAVEY





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Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance is funded in part by resort tax funds.

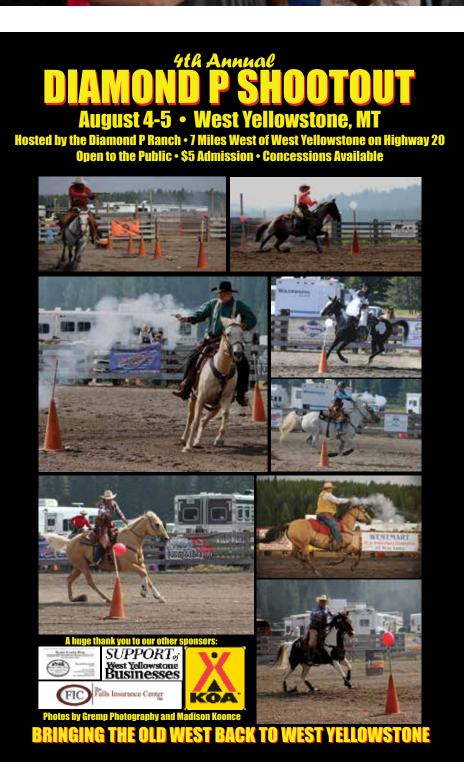
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Sunshine: our worst enemy in late summer

BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

July is behind us, and gone are the salmon-fly hatches, golden stones, and wondering when we'll get through runoff. For nearly two full months now we've had fishable waters; and more often than not, long days filled with intense sunshine. Visions of these days danced in our heads as we shoveled near-record snow this winter, but as this fishing guide rests his head on the pillow each night, he dreams of overcast and rainy days.

Sun, and the warmth it provides, has a time and a place to help our fishing. But by early August trout have grown tired, and sensitive, to the sun's penetrating rays. However, it's not just the trout that take cover in deeper water, undercut banks, or in the lowlight hours of the day, anglers also need to make several adjustments to enjoy successful fishing for the next few weeks. Here's some advice.

Start early or late, and avoid the heat of the day. If you're a trout in a local water there is always something larger than you that is looking for a meal, whether it's a bigger trout or a river otter. Like us, trout want to continue living, so this time of year they are most active during lowlight conditions. Fish early in the day before the sun gets high, usually around noon, then again in the late afternoon or early evening.

Protect yourself so you can fish longer. The dangers of prolonged sun exposure are well documented. Clothing manufacturers have responded, and our local fly shops are well-stocked with protective items. Start your day by applying sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30, immediately after bathing. A wide-brimmed hat is an important first layer of defense. Underneath the hat wear a facial sun-mask to protect your face and neck. The tops of your hands see substantial sun exposure as well, invest in sun gloves—a lightweight fingerless covering—to protect this exposed area.

Your eyes are a very important tool, so protect them. Polarized glasses are a must, but choose glasses that provide 100-percent UV protection from both UVA and UVB rays. Photochromatic lenses add another safeguard, as does choosing the largest lens possible. Style is one thing, but ensuring your eyes are healthy for the long haul is paramount. Choosing quality sunglasses is an investment in protecting our eyes now and in the future.

Learn proper fish handling techniques. As the sun gets high in the middle of the day, the water temperatures rise as well. For fish you plan to release, keep them in the water at all times while removing the hook. When taking a picture have the camera ready before the fish is raised into view. Shoot a few pictures and immediately return the fish to the water. If you still need more pictures let the fish recover, then do round two.

While releasing the fish, face it into the current so that water can flow through the gills, and release it into calm, yet flowing water. Gently cradle the fish and release it once it can swim off under its own power.

Stay hydrated. Sunshine drains your energy, but you can combat that with drinking plenty of fluids. Steer away from sugary drinks, sodas and alcohol. Water is best and drink it before you feel thirsty, because if you feel thirsty, your body is trying to catch up.

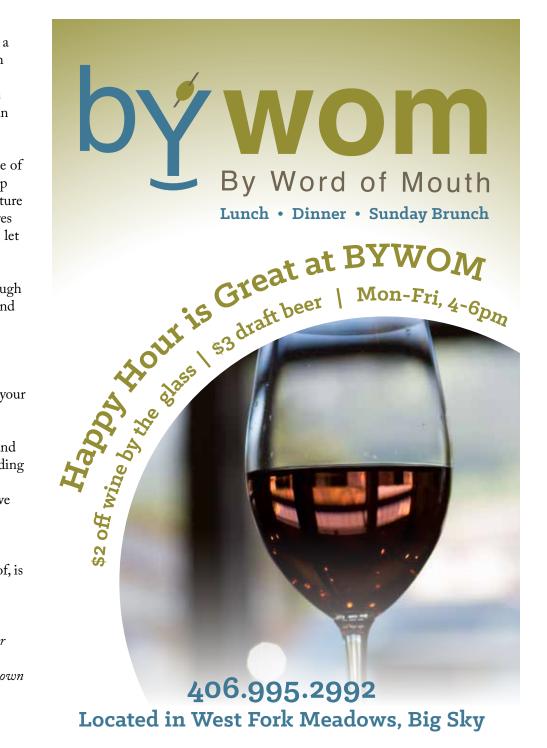
Some of the year's best fishing can happen in late summer—grasshoppers and nocturnal stoneflies will soon be found on our local waters—but understanding the sun's role is often overlooked. Soaking up rays is good for the soul and vitamin D production is important. However, as much as we love the sun, we need to understand its impact.

The fish adjust their habits based on water temperature, available food, and protection from predators. Dealing with sunshine, abundance or lack thereof, is vital to a trout's survival and your enjoyment as an angler.

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.



Bright sunshine is commonplace on our local waters, so protect yourself from its harmful rays. A wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses are a good start. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER GUIDES



BIG SKY ——— **WATER CONSERVATION**

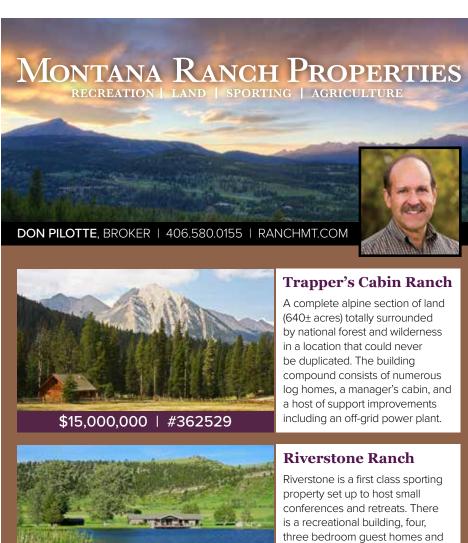
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American Life in Poetry:

Column 696

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

My teacher and mentor, the late Karl Shapiro, once said of opera, "I'm afraid, Ted, that it's sort of silly." Here is a poem by Richard Schiffman, an environmental journalist from New York, that has a little fun with the hair-on-fire excesses of grand opera. It's from his book, "What the Dust Doesn't Know," from Salmon Poetry.

After the Opera

By Richard Schiffman

The curtain parts one last time and the ones who killed and were killed, who loved inordinately, who went berserk, were flayed alive, descended to Hades, raged, wept, schemedvictims and victimizers alikesmile and nod and graciously bow. So glad it's finally over, they stride off suddenly a bit ridiculous in their overwrought costumes. And the crowd—still dark, like God beyond the footlights of the world rises to its feet and roars like the sea.

We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2017 by Richard Schiffman, «After the Opera,» from "What the Dust Doesn't Know," (Salmon Poetry, 2017). Poem reprinted by permission of Richard Schiffman and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2018 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004–2006.



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BACKLI

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

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

A day in Gallatin Canyon

Annual historic tour features Big Sky area

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD OF GALLATIN COUNTY

The Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County will host its seventh annual Historic Tour on Saturday, Aug. 11, providing a rare opportunity to view a variety of sites in Gallatin Canyon and learn from select historical experts at each stop.

Between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., people are invited to spend a "Day in the Gallatin Canyon" on a tour that includes 10 stops, which can be taken in any order. Participants are to provide their own transportation.

The tour is a yearly fundraiser for the preservation board. Profits from the tour are returned to residents of Gallatin County in the form of small grants for historic preservation purposes.

This year's historical tour features the following sites:

Rockhaven Church Camp

Founded in 1925, Rockhaven is owned by the First Presbyterian Church of Bozeman. It is at the base of Sheep Rock on the Gallatin River. The chapel was built in 1927 by Eugene Crail using logs from the canyon. The chapel and four original ranch buildings served the needs of the Rockhaven program until a new kitchen, dining room and dorm were built in the 1950s and '60s.

Gallatin Canyon roads and bridges

Early 1800s passage through Gallatin Canyon consisted of a variety of trails. Hunters, trappers and prospectors traveled the canyon in the 1880s, but it was the need to supply the 400-500 men at Walter Cooper's Tie Company at Taylor Fork that led to the creation of the first good wagon road in the 1890s.

Gallatin County struggled with impassable mountainous terrain and lack of funds, but started building a road in 1898. By 1911, road work from Bozeman to Yellowstone was underway to facilitate automotive travel.

Storm Castle Bridge and Shenango Ranger Station

The Civilian Conservation Corps was responsible for building the concrete bridge across the Gallatin River and the Shenango Ranger Station at Storm Castle. The structures were built in the mid-1930s as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Program, which taught young men vocational skills so they could secure work. Classes such as forest protection and habitat management were offered to the young men. Logs for the buildings came from the Rat Lake area.

Karst Ranch

Pete Karst arrived in the Gallatin Canyon in 1902 and witnessed its many changes through his 90 years of life. Karst Ranch began as a freight company providing service to the Cooper Tie Camp at Taylor Fork, but over the years, it morphed into a dude ranch, sawmill, hydroelectric power plant, and an asbestos mine.

Crail Ranch

Historic Crail Ranch was first homesteaded by Frank Crail in 1902. For a half century, the Crail family raised sheep, cattle, hay and wheat, expanding their holdings to 960 acres. Today, the Crail Ranch is preserved as a homestead museum, offering guided tours on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 p.m. June through September. The museum grounds are open daily for walking tours and picnicking.

Lone Mountain Ranch

When Paul Butler purchased land homesteaded by Clarence Lytle in 1917, it was named the B-K Guest Ranch. For over 100 years, Lone Mountain Ranch has given travelers a true ranch experience. The original settlers cabins and some of the outbuildings have been preserved and are still in use. Located just 18 miles from the northwest border of Yellowstone Park, the ranch offers a place to enjoy the Western way of life.

Soldiers Chapel

The Soldiers Chapel was built in 1955 as a tribute to Nelson Story IV and the soldiers in the 163rd Infantry Regiment who died in New Guinea during World War II. It's a non-denominational church designed by Bozeman's Fred Willson, and includes a view of Lone Mountain. The cemetery, which is full, is for fallen soldiers and residents of Gallatin Canyon.

Ophir School

The first school was opened in 1906 and the Ophir School District was established in 1912. The name, Ophir, was derived from the biblical reference to Solomon's gold mines. The one-room log school house built in 1929 by Eugene Crail east of the Gallatin River was used until 1964 when a new building was constructed across the road. The school had grades K–8, and high school students were bused to Bozeman. In 2009, legislation was enacted which allowed the district to expand to K–12.

Porcupine Ranger Station

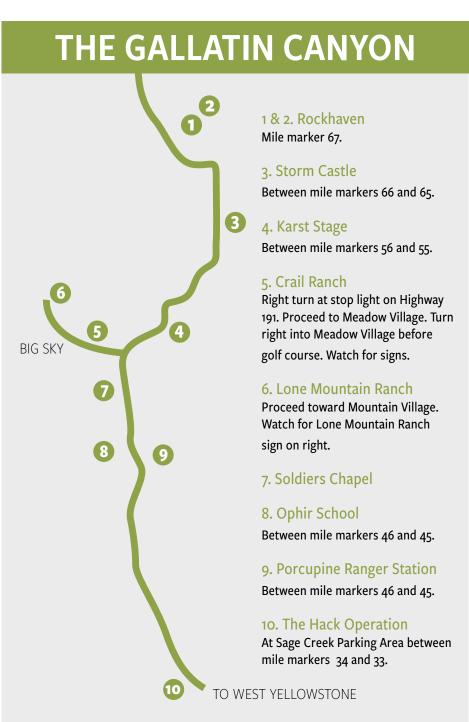
Located just east of the Gallatin River and Highway 191, the Porcupine Forest Service cabin is accessible by a dirt road. A docent will not be available at this location, but signage explains the history.

Tie Hack Operation

The great expansion of the Northern Pacific Railroad in Montana gave rise to a pronounced demand for quality railroad ties. The Cooper Tie Company began a "tie hack" operation up the Taylor Fork in 1902 and continued until 1907, creating an estimated 2.5 million railroad ties, which were floated down the Gallatin River to Central Park, a since-closed station on the Northern Pacific line located west of Belgrade.

Tickets are available in advance at First security Bank in Big Sky, and in Bozeman at the Gallatin History Museum and Lewis and Clark Motel. They may also be purchased the day of the event at any of the tour sites.

Call (406) 581-1311 or (406) 581-1444 for more information about the tour or the Historic Preservation Board of Gallatin County.



SECTION 4:ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT







Lukas Nelson on working hard and staying humble

Nelson to co-headline concert with Robert Earl Keen at MSU Aug. 10

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

Like Robert Earl Keen, Lukas Nelson and his band Promise of the Real are on a tour that never seems to end. "It's just constant," Nelson said during a July 23 interview with EBS. "For 10 years now ... I'm always traveling [and] if I have any time when I'm not playing shows, I'm working on a movie project or recording [in Austin, Texas, or Los Angeles]. But for Nelson, the lifestyle fits.

EBS caught up with the musician while he was in the Hamptons in between a string of shows on the East Coast.

Explore Big Sky: What kind of conditions do you find most conducive to making music?

Lukas Nelson: I really like being on the road traveling—there's a lot of time to write when we're driving down the road.

EBS: The Aug. 10 Wildlands Festival in Bozeman is a celebration of Montana's wild and open spaces, and a portion of the proceeds will benefit three nonprofits that work to protect them. What is your favorite wild and open space?

L.N.: Montana is a great wild and open space, that's for sure. Big Sky is one of my favorite places. Alta and Jackson, [Wyoming]; Canada—there's a lot of great space out there that I love.

EBS: What role do you think music plays in effecting social change?

L.N.: I think music can really inspire people, even in very subtle ways, and when people are inspired they make changes in their lives and in other people's lives. Because music has the power to inspire, it also has the power to create change.

EBS.: What do you hope your music inspires in listeners?

L.N.: The other night somebody came up to me and said they lost their whole family in a tragic [incident] and they were feeling super numb, and my music was the only thing that made them feel anything in the last year. Even if [my music] just inspires people to keep going, that's enough for me.

EBS: Between Hollywood projects with Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper, touring with Neil Young, and a slew of high-profile press, critics are saying that 2018 is



Lukas Nelson and Promise of the Real consists of Nelson on guitar and vocals, percussionist Tato Melgar, drummer Anthony LoGerfo, Corey McCormick on bass and vocals, Jesse Siebenberg on steel guitars, Farfisa organ, and vocals; and pianist Alberto Bof.



Lukas Nelson and Promise of the Real will join Robert Earl Keen on Aug. 10 in a double-headliner outdoor concert in Bozeman on the campus of Montana State University. PHOTOS BY MYRIAM SANTOS

your year. Do you feel like you and your band Promise of the Real have crested some tipping point? If so, what do you attribute it to?

L.N.: I think that you just keep working hard and practicing. The main issue is just not being afraid of putting in as much effort as an Olympian puts into practicing their sport. As long as you do that, I think everything turns out OK—you may not be super famous but you'll be able to make a living.

EBS: How do you keep your promise to "the real" in the face of rock 'n' roll fame?

L.N.: It's nice to have your band name as "Promise of the Real" because it reminds you to do just that—stay real, keep your integrity, and try not to bow down to the pressures the industry might bring to you.

EBS: In a recent interview with Robert Earl Keen, he told EBS that one of most memorable moments of his career was sharing a stage with your father, his hero, Willie Nelson. How does it feel to hear those words and to be soon sharing a stage with the man who said them?

L.N.: I have a lot of respect for Robert Earl Keen, and I feel grateful that he has those feelings toward me and my family. I look forward to playing with him.

EBS: You have been performing regularly in Big Sky for more than half a decade, and now, in Bozeman. Is there something you look forward to, or something special about playing in Montana specifically?

L.N.: It's a great community of people. Everybody is really into live music and the outdoors which I appreciate. We seem to connect and I'm looking forward to coming out.

EBS: If you had to distill it down, what words do you strive to live by?

L.N.: Stay humble and breathe.

Wildlands Festival, featuring Lukas Nelson and Promise of the Real and Robert Earl Keen will take place on Aug. 10 at Montana State University's Romney Oval. Visit wildlandsfetival.com for tickets and more information.



Steve Oiestad: Coming full circle

Artist to lead pastel workshop in Big Sky Aug. 24-26

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Great Falls artist Steve Oiestad sold his first painting in 6th grade. It was of a caribou, he remembers, and he made it in the same medium he still works in today—pastels.

"I like the color better because you're working with pure pigment," Oiestad said, explaining that if you extracted the oil out of oil paint, pure pigment is what would remain. He also prefers the relatively obscure medium because pastels are light—convenient for painting in plein air—dry fast, and don't fade.

"I like the brilliance of the color and it doesn't change ... what you put down is basically there forever," he said.

But many years would pass before that young boy sketching animals on his family's ranch near Big Timber, Montana, would dedicate himself full time to his passion for art-making, as he does today.

Oiestad pursued a degree in art at Montana State University but soon switched majors to agricultural education.

"During that period everything was pretty much modern art with a 'do your own thing' [approach], and I didn't feel like I was learning anything," he said.

Oiestad is glad he took the path he did. Working in the agricultural industry allowed him to live in places like Poland and Africa.

But in the early 2000s when he was relocated to Great Falls for work, Oiestad began to turn his focus back to art, and began to cultivate relationships within the healthy community of Western artists in the region. He took a part-time job preparing exhibits at the C.M. Russell



Oiestad created "Evening Overview" for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Public Lands Council's 50th anniversary. The scene depicts ranchlands northwest of Red Lodge, Montana.



Artist Steven Oiestad will lead a weekend pastel painting workshop in Big Sky Aug. 24-26. Weather permitting, the Sunday session will be held outdoors. Visit bigskyarts.org for details. PHOTOS COURTESY OF OIESTAD STUDIOS

Museum, and rented a downtown studio where his neighbors were other working artists. Many of them remain close friends and are fellow members of the Montana Painters Alliance, a group that gets together twice a year for "paint outs" in different parts of the state.

"It's really unique," he said about the tight-knit community. "I've never been anywhere else where all the artists basically get along, and there's no competitive thing [among us]." Every Thursday the group meets for an artist lunch, and every year they participate in the big C.M. Russell Exhibition and Sale during Western Art Week.

Today, Oiestad works out of a home studio on a ranch in Fort Shaw, Montana, 25 miles outside of Great Falls. Set along the Sun River, it overlooks wheat fields, cows, and a duck preserve.

It is almost as if the artist has come full circle—painting the wildlife, Western landscapes and cowboy scenes that were part of his day-to-day life as a child.

"I know about [ranch] life and have a lot of respect for what they do," said the artist. "They're tough people but they're also really, really, good people. I want to capture that."

He believes people are drawn to iconic scenes of the West because they have a calming effect, and represent a dying lifestyle as small ranch owners are being displaced by corporate agricultural operations.

"It's a way of life that's kind of fading. There's a real nostalgia to the cowboy life, but for the cowboy it's a pretty tough life. It's kind of like the art business," he said, lightening the mood. "You never know where the next paycheck is going to come from."

Steven Oiestad will lead a pastel painting work shop in Big Sky over the weekend of Aug. 24-26. Visit bigskyarts.org for more information.

Moonlight MusicFest to rock Big Sky

Tickets still available for Aug. 17-18 festival

EBS STAFF

During the weekend of Aug. 17-18, a stacked line-up of big name acts will take the stage at Moonlight Basin's Madison Village at Big Sky Resort.

The festival, presented by Lone Mountain Land Company, features two days of diverse national and local talent including Friday night headliners The Wood Brothers, and Bruce Hornsby and the Noise Makers; and on Saturday, Chris Robinson Brotherhood and Grace Potter.

Other acts throughout the weekend include the Sam Bush Band, Hawthorne Roots, Mission Temple Fireworks Revival with Paul Thorn and the Blind Boys of Alabama, The Suffers, Anderson East, and Big Sky's Kylie Spence and The Well.

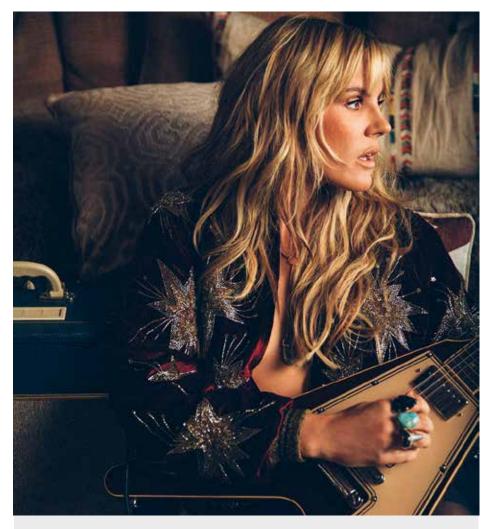
In addition to the soulful, rockin', bluegrass-jamming line-up, there will be arts and crafts vendors, food trucks, kid-friendly activities, and Montana-made craft beers and liquor, all against the backdrop of Lone Mountain and the Spanish Peaks.

"We are thrilled to be a part of such an incredible music festival this summer," said Tom Garnsey, owner and president of Vootie Productions. "The line-up is the perfect start for an annual event, with many well-known national artists and some local bands as well. The setting is intimate and welcoming with stunning views in every direction at the base of Lone Peak, amongst Moonlight's incredible wilderness area. To have a weekend in Big Sky with this caliber of music and all the outdoor pursuits available will put this event on the list of must-go festivals."

To kick off the weekend in Big Sky, Lone Mountain Land Company and The Big Sky Real Estate Company will host the weekly Music in the Mountains on Thursday, Aug. 16. The show will feature opening act The Two Bit Franks, followed by the Jeff Austin Band in Big Sky's Town Center Park.



The legendary Bruce Hornsby and his band, the Noisemakers, headline the Friday line-up of musicians. PHOTO BY KAT FISHER



Grace Potter broke out on her own in 2015 after 13 years being backed by The Nocturnals, and has since amped up the pop in her rock. The singer-songwriter closes out the festival on Saturday night. PHOTO BY JOSH REED

All proceeds from Moonlight MusicFest will benefit the Arts Council of Big Sky and the Moonlight Community Foundation.

"The Arts Council is thrilled to partner with Lone Mountain Land Company, The Big Sky Real Estate Company, Moonlight Basin, and Big Sky Resort to kick off the music festival in Big Sky's Town Center Park," said Arts Council of Big Sky Executive Director Brian Hurlbut. "Partnerships like the one we have with Moonlight Basin are critical to the success of the Arts Council, and emphasize our efforts in building the community and its art-centric culture. It's going to be another fantastic weekend in Big Sky."

Festival camping is sold out. All parking will be at Big Sky Resort with shuttle-bus transport to the venue. People are also encouraged to take the Skyline bus up to the resort, as parking is limited.

Visit moonlightmusicfest.com for tickets, more information and a full schedule of events.





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Arts Council brings three days of classical music to Big Sky

Free outdoor performances, master classes, and youth music camp

EBS STAFF

The Big Sky Classical Music Festival is a three-day event Aug. 10-12 that consists of two free outdoor performances in Town Center Park, a ticketed event at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, a youth music camp, and master classes for student musicians.

The Arts Council event begins at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center with a ticketed chamber music concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 10 featuring violinist Bella Hristova, and Angella Ahn and Friends. Acclaimed for her passionate, powerful performances, beautiful sound, and compelling command of her instrument, Hristova is a young musician with a growing international career.

Ahn, professor of violin and viola at Montana State University and artistic director of the Big Sky Classical Music Festival, is well-known for her career with the Ahn Trio. She will be bringing an established group of musicians to join her and Hristova on the stage.

The next morning the public is invited to the Talus Room at Big Sky Resort to observe a 10 a.m. student master class led by Hristova and Ahn. At 1 p.m., Time for Three, the string trio performing in Town Center that evening, will host an open rehearsal and discussion in the same location.

Saturday evening, music will begin at 6 p.m. in Town Center Park with a free, outdoor performance by the MSU Summer Music Conservatory. Time for Three, a band Arts Council Executive Director Brian Hurlbut calls "one of the hottest groups in the country right now," will follow at 7 p.m. Defying traditional genre classification, Time for Three plays music from Bach to Brahms and beyond. They have premiered works by Pulitzer Prize-winning composers William Bolcom and Jennifer Higdon, and play originals and inventive arrangements of genres that include bluegrass and folk, as well as mash-ups of hits by the Beatles, Kanye West, Katy Perry, Justin Timberlake and others.



Peter Bay of the Austin Symphony Orchestra conducts the Big Sky festival orchestra each summer at the Big Sky Classical Music Festival. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

At 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12, the MSU Summer Music Conservatory will perform a free concert at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center.

The event concludes with a performance by the Big Sky Festival Orchestra in Town Center Park at 5 p.m. Sunday. Led by Austin Symphony music director, Maestro Peter Bay, and featuring Hristova as a soloist, the program will include Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Major, Haydn's Symphony 94 in G Major, and selections from Milhaud and Fauré.

"The Big Sky Classical Music Festival is truly a signature event for Big Sky, bringing in some of the most well-known performers in that genre to Big Sky each summer," Hurlbut said. "It's a great, family-friendly event that showcases amazing musicians and beautiful music."

Visit bigskyarts.org for details.



Big Sky Artisan Festival returns to Meadow Village Center Aug. 10-11

EBS STAFF

Featuring the handmade goods of at least 30 Montana artisans, the second annual Big Sky Artisan Festival returns to the Meadow Village Shopping Center on Friday, Aug. 10 and Saturday, Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors will showcase paintings, pottery, textiles, metalwork, woodwork, jewelry, soaps, oils and many other mediums and crafts. There will also be food trucks on site, a bounce house, dunk tank (Saturday only), and live music by professional musicians and area youth.

Throughout the festival, local artists will participate in a plein air paint out, the fruits of which will be auctioned off on Sunday, Aug. 12, during the free classical music concert presented by the Arts Council of Big Sky in Town Center Park. All proceeds will benefit the Arts Council of Big Sky.

The Big Sky Artisan Festival was initiated last year in an effort to increase visitation to Big Sky while showcasing Montana's vibrant creative arts community.

 ${\it Visit\ bigs kyartis an festival. com\ for\ more\ information.}$



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Between the Shelves

BY AMY HUNTER ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

What is it about reading books during the long days of summer that is so appealing? What is your favorite type of book to read in the summer?

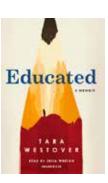
This summer we started a Summer Reading Program for adults. Participants get a bingo card with different types of books that need to be read in order to get bingo and enter a raffle for prizes.

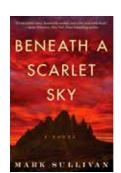
If you haven't picked up your bingo card yet, you still have one month to read five books, including a book that was made into a movie like "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows; or a memoir like "Educated" by Tara Westover.

The middle square is our One Book Big Sky pick—"Beneath the Scarlet Sky," by Mark Sullivan. The summer reading program will culminate with a visit from Sullivan on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. That will also be the last day to submit completed bingo cards as your raffle entry.

We will also be celebrating the end of the youth summer reading program on Aug. 7 at 6 p.m. in the library. All youth in sixth through 12th grades are invited.







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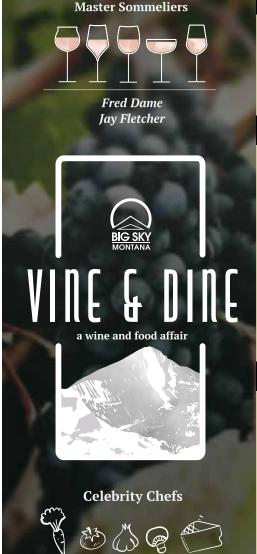
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2018

SEMINAR | Weird-Os! Wonderful Italian Wines You've Never Heard Of | 5:00pm-6:30pm | Peaks Restaurant, Summit Hotel | FREE

OPENING RECEPTION | Montana Summer Barbecue | 6:30pm-9:30pm | Summit Hotel Terrace | \$95 **MUSIC** | The Hooligans | Montana Jack | 10:00pm-1:00am | FREE | 21+

FRIDAY AUGUST 17, 2018

SEMINAR | Tasting the Master's Way | 11:00am-12:30pm | Talus Room, Summit Hotel | \$45

LUNCHEON | Alpine Spice : A Google Inspired Luncheon l 12:30pm-2:30pm | Peaks Restaurant, Summit Hotel | \$65

SEMINAR | Art of the Aperitif | Summit Boardroom | 1:00pm-2:30pm | \$25

SEMINAR | Biodynamic Farming in the Vineyard | Talus Room | 2:30pm-4:00pm| \$35

VINTNER DINNER | Scarpetta Wines | Andiamo | 7:00pm-9:30p | \$125

VINTNER DINNER | Wild About Zin | Chet's, Huntley Hotel | 7:00pm | \$75

FEATURE DINNER | Altitude & Attitude : Traci Des Jardins & Elizabeth Falkner | Peaks Restaurant, Summit Hotel | 6:30pm-9:30pm | \$180

MUSIC | Jamie Maclean Band | Montana Jack | 10:00pm-1:00am | \$15 | 21+

SATURDAY AUGUST 18, 2018

BRUNCH | Bottomless Recharge Brunch | Peaks Restaurant, Summit Hotel | 8:30am-11:30am | \$29. **PRO START EDUCATION** | Pro Start Student Town Hall I Dunraven/Obsidian, YCC I 10:30am-12:00pm **SEMINAR** | Why You Should Be Drinking Grower Champagnes | Mammoth Room, Mountain Mall | 11:00am | 12:00pm | \$45

SEMINAR | "Cheese & Wine...One Stinky Good Time" | Talus Room, Summit Hotel | 1:00pm-3:00pm | \$58

11:00am-12:00pm | \$45 **SEMINAR** | From Farm to Bottle : The Art of Napa Cabernet | Mammoth Room | 1:30pm-3:00pm | \$45

ADVENTURE | Rosés on the Ridge | Starts at Basecamp | Departure Times vary from 10:25 | \$155

STROLL | Live Big : Stroll & Market | Resort Grounds | 3:30pm-6:30pm | \$80

FEATURE DINNER | Mediterranean & Montana : : Traci Des Jardins & Elizabeth Falkner | Peaks Restaurant, Summit Hotel |7:30pm -10:30pm | \$335.00

MUSIC | Reckless Kelly | Montana Jack | 10:00pm - 1:00am | \$22 | 21+

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018

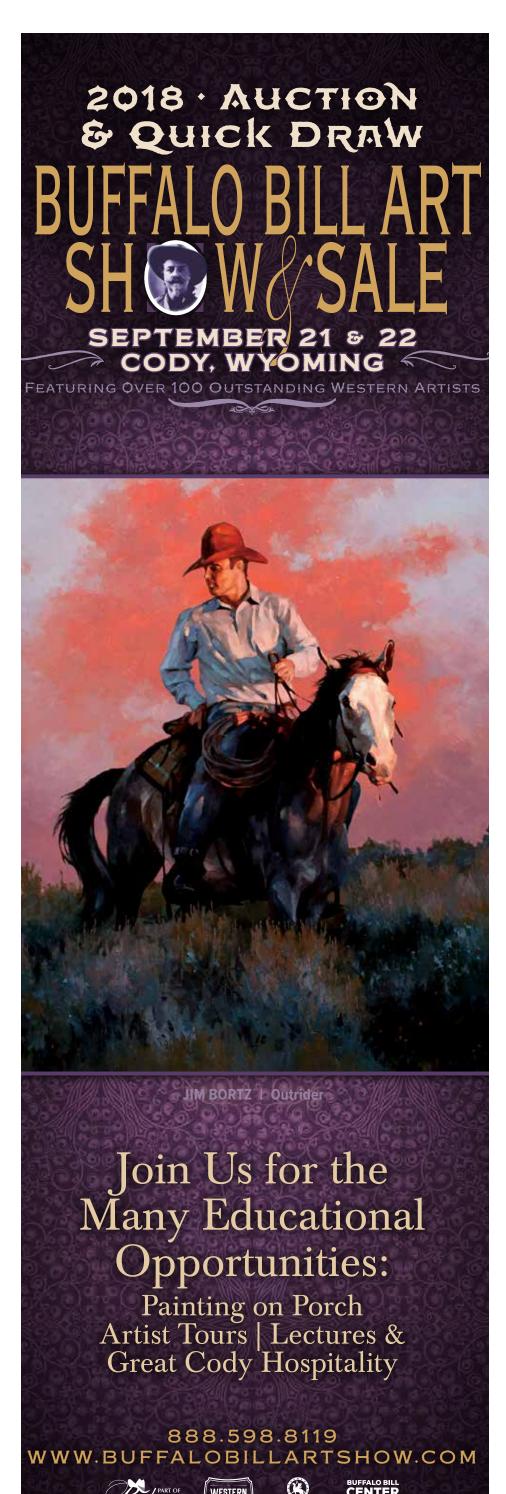
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Traci Des Jardins

Elizabeth Falkner Scott Giambastiani

BRUNCH | Bottomless Recharge Brunch | Peaks Restaurant, Summit Hotel | 8:30am - 11:30am | \$29







Historic interpreter illuminates the life of Calamity Jane

Historical interpreter Mary Jane Bradbury will bring the colorful personality of frontierswoman Calamity Jane to life from the perspective of her best friend on Aug. 5 beginning at 1 p.m. at Historical Crail Ranch in Big Sky.

Calamity Jane—whose real name was Martha Jane Cannary—is a legendary, flamboyant character and icon of the American West. In a presentation sponsored by Humanities Montana, Bradbury reveals the woman behind the myth through her portrayal of prominent Deadwood, South Dakota, madam, Dora DuFran, a Black Hills pioneer and close friend of Calamity Jane. Visit bscomt.org for more information about summer programming at Crail Ranch Homestead Museum.



Celtic and bluegrass roots dominate next two Music in the Mountains

The Elders; Eric Austin and Two Bit Franks take Center Stage in August

EBS STAFF

The Elders—a band of six musicians with a shared passion for music rooted in Americana and Celtic folk rock—return to perform at Music in the Mountains in Big Sky Town Center Park on Thursday, Aug. 9 at 7:15 p.m.

Founded in 1998, The Elders weave together vocals, percussion, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo, bass—even a whistle—into a timeless sound that combines storytelling and music that is progressive while remaining grounded in tradition.

Their eighth studio album, "True," builds upon The Elders' reputation for strong song-writing and narratives that explore history, legends, tall tales and real-life experiences in a mesh of styles, textures and harmonies. This latest album also includes a few straight instrumentals.

The Elders have headlined major Celtic festivals in North America and Europe and, for the past 14 years, the band has sponsored a 12-day tour of Ireland during which fans join them on excursions to historical and geographical sights during the day, and attend gatherings at local pubs or ballrooms at night for pints and performances by The Elders.

On Aug. 16, the Jeff Austin Band—no stranger to Big Sky—performs with special guests, and opening act Two Bit Franks.

Both Austin and Two Bit Franks are veterans of the Big Sky Resort's annual Big Sky Big Grass festival and crowds can probably expect some jamming between them.

Austin, a founding member of Yonder Mountain String Band who left the band in 2014 and now tours with his own band, is known for his high-energy jam-infused bluegrass. This Music in the Mountains performance is the kick-off concert for the Moonlight MusicFest, which takes place the following two days at the Madison Village base area.

Featuring some of the finest bluegrass musicians in Montana, Two Bit Franks



Celtic-influenced The Elders play Music in the Mountain on Thursday, Aug. 9. PHOTO BY BRIAN RICE

are John Lowell, Tom Murphy, Russ Smith, Jeff Shouse and Kevin Fabozzi. Creative solos, driving rhythm, hot vocals and interesting arrangements have earned the group regular slots at the Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival, Big Sky's Big Grass Bluegrass Festival, Missoula's River City Roots Festival, the Livingston Summerfest and many more.

The Two Bit Franks—a name that evolved out of a package of frozen "skinless franks"—formed more than five years ago out of Lowell's desire for a tighter, more polished outfit to play with than the looser jam-style bluegrass groups.

The Two Bit Franks take the stage at 7 p.m.; Austin will follow Two Bit Franks at 8:30 p.m.

Visit bigskyarts.org for more information.

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WMPAC presents Aug. 9 choral performance by The Crossing

Performing arts center partners with chamber choir for 4-year project

EBS STAFF

On Thursday, Aug. 9 at 5:30 p.m., in conclusion of the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center's annual summer residency program for professionals and novices in dance, music and theater, revolutionary choral group The Crossing will give a sneak-preview performance of a new work developed during their 2018 stay in Big Sky.

Winners of the 2018 Grammy Award for Best Choral Performance, The Crossing, a professional chamber choir committed to making original, socially-relevant works, has participated in the summer residency program since its inception in 2015, and returned this year to further solidify their connection to Big Sky.

Now, the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center is partnering with the group, composer Michael Gordon and filmmaker Bill Morrison to develop a 24-hour live performance work for chamber choir and film.

All 24 members of The Crossing collaborated with Gordon and Morrison to create a new work inspired by their time spent creating in Big Sky. The hour-long work of unaccompanied choir and film draws on the land, history, beauty, struggles and expanse of Montana and is the first installment of the long-term project which will culminate in a 24-hour original choral work and film that focuses on place-based themes.

Over the next four years, the WMPAC team will work with the artists to develop this multidisciplinary performance project, which will explore environmental themes surrounding biological degradation and regeneration, explained John Zirkle, artistic director of WMPAC, and one of The Crossing's most enthusiastic fans.

Working with the Montana Historical Society and Yellowstone National Park, and with support from National Geographic, WMPAC will engage individuals and organizations who are integral to contemporary and historical narratives of Montana. Each year, lead artists will participate in the Conservatory residency for 10-14 days to develop the ambitious original piece in phases while involving the community.

The Crossing has performed at Lincoln Center, Walt Disney Concert Hall, The Kennedy Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Carnegie Hall, the



WMPAC has embarked on a four-year music and film project with The Crossing, an avant garde choral group out of Philadelphia that has been participating in the performing arts center's summer residency program since 2015. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WARREN MILLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Cleveland Museum of Art, the National Gallery in Washington, and many other prestigious institutions.

While the conservatory is the least visible of WMPAC's programs in terms of public performances, it's arguably the most important. The purpose is to foster creativity that will lead to finished works with an indelible tie to Big Sky but with a reach that stretches far beyond southwestern Montana. The Conservatory also serves to further cultivate the exceptional talent of program fellows, predominantly regional youth aged 12-18, whose names are potentially the next to go up in lights.

Prior to the Aug. 9 performance in Big Sky, The Crossing will host the annual Big Sky Community Sing Saturday, Aug. 4 at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, and perform a concert with the Aoide Chamber Singers that evening in Bozeman at 7 p.m. at Montana State University's Reynolds Recital Hall.

Visit warenmillerpac.org for more information.

WaterWorks 2018 concludes with "Cherry River: Where the Rivers Mix"

A temporal public art event staged at the Headwaters of the Missouri River

°EBS STAFF

A collaboration between indigenous scholar Shane Doyle and multi-media artist Mary Ellen Strom, "Cherry River: Where the Rivers Mix," to be held Aug. 23-24 at the Missouri River Headwaters State Park, is the culminating event of Mountain Time Arts' three-year series "WaterWorks."

These innovative public art projects have engaged internationally-known artists along with hundreds of local community members including ranchers, scientists, conservationists, engineers, ethnobotanists, Native American scholars and politicians to promote a better understanding of the region's complex water systems—and each other.

Featuring the Fox Family Fiddlers, Jamie Fox and the Northern Cree Singers, the central scene of this art series finale is a ceremony to rename the East

Gallatin River, one of the three tributaries that join to form the Missouri River, to the Plains Indian name Cherry River.

The Northern Cree Singers, a powwow and round-dance drum and singing group based in Maskwacis, Alberta, Canada, have been nominated for six Grammy Awards. Métis fiddler Jamie Fox from the Fort Belknap Reservation in Montana currently lives in Denmark. Fox is a celebrated player of Métis fiddle music, a style grown out of a mixture of Celtic, French, and Native American cultures. She will be joined by her father, Jim, and her brother, Vince.

Doyle and Strom's project examines the history and ecology of this significant site using the flow of the three rivers as a narrative structure and a cultural bridge. Live musicians will perform on drift boats floating on the three rivers toward the confluence of the Missouri or what Native Peoples called "where the rivers mix."



The three-year public art series "WaterWorks" concludes with a musical performance, Native American ceremony and multimedia installation at Missouri Headwaters State Park Aug. 23-24. PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNTAIN TIME ARTS

A choir of local singers, who both sing and speak, will be positioned on the river bank. The work will be composed and arranged by music director Ruby Fulton. Large-scale sculptures will feature the color of local chokecherries, a deep magenta and red ochre which is a pigment found in the region.

The chokecherry shrub was an essential staple for numerous groups of Native Peoples and continues to provide crucial sustenance for bees, birds, small mammals and bears in the Rocky Mountain West.

Lewis and Clark designated this portion of the river as the East Gallatin in 1805. Naming the piece "Cherry River" is meant to raise awareness about the health of southwestern Montana river systems and recognize the area's indigenous history.

Employing a collaborative art project to generate new knowledge of the region's prominent cultural

and environmental issues, "Cherry River" shines a spotlight on the indigenous cultural and environmental narratives of the Headwaters location, and hopes to bring together diverse perspectives to work toward comprehensive and informed solutions about strained water resources.

"Mountain Time Arts is dedicated to producing public art that explores the history, culture and environment, and with 'Cherry River,' to value and share Indigenous knowledges that will help us grapple with river health in our changing climate," said Dede Taylor, one of the founders of the arts nonprofit.

A celebration with indigenous food and libations will follow the event.

The event is free and open to the public but reservations are required. Visit mountaintimearts.org for details.



'Sorry to Bother You'

BY ANNA HUSTED **EBS CONTRIBUTOR**

The aspect I love most about the science fiction/horror genre is its ability to comment on current issues and the social milieu of our times. "Sorry to Bother You" is really a dark comedy, but in the third act, it transitions into a freaky sci-fi thriller about which I can't share too much detail in fear of spoiling the plot twists for first-time viewers.

Set in an alternate, dystopian interpretation of present-day Oakland, "Sorry to Bother You" follows African-American Cassius Green (aka "Cash is Green," played by Lakeith Stanfield) on his journey up the corporate ladder at Regal View Telemarketing, where all employees start out selling encyclopedias. Green and his artist girlfriend Detroit (Tessa Thompson) live in his uncle's garage and barely make ends meet, but it's still a step up from the shanty towns that populate this Oakland—at least they have a TV and each other.

Green is thankful for his job at Regal View because at least he has work, but he still can't pay his rent, which would help his uncle from losing his house. He and his co-worker friends, Salvador and Squeeze, decide to stage a walkout until a livable wage is granted to the telemarketers.

Before the walkout, Green finds success after veteran telemarketer Langston (Danny Glover) tells him to use his white voice to make sales to white people. In the midst of the protest, Green gets promoted to the top floor where he finds himself selling slavery, but making enough money to pay rent at his uncle's house and then some.

On the surface, "Sorry to Bother You" asks difficult questions like can one justify making money at the expense of another human being if it supports those in their personal life? On a deeper level it asks if providing the bare necessities to those at the bottom of a corporation rationalizes how that money is made, no matter how corrupt the practices. The problem with capitalism—and many "isms"—is someone is always at the bottom, no matter how friendly it looks on paper.

"Sorry to Bother You" is meant to make you uncomfortable. From the white voices of comedians Patton Oswald and David Cross dubbed over the black actors, to watching scenes from "I Got the Sh*t Kicked out of Me," the most popular television show in this alternative universe, to the horrific plot twist toward the film's end, it's a movie that shook me to my core.

It made me ask, what racist stereotypes am I perpetuating? Does the throwaway culture of the United States keep some people at the bottom so we can buy the latest cell phone here at the top?

While I laughed a lot at the Terry Gilliam-esque gags and absurdist realism at play in the film, I am haunted by the places it took me and how that hilarious horror story translates to real life.

"Sorry to Bother You" is now playing at Regal Gallatin Valley Cinemas (no, not Regal View).

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

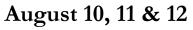


Set in a dystopian modern-day Oakland, "Sorry to Bother You" takes a hard look at the disenchanted workforce and the rationalization of corporate corruption. PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNAPURNA PICTURES

Make it a weekend!

August 10 & 11

2nd Annual Big Sky Artisan Festival



8th Annual Big Sky Classical Music Festival



Artisan Festival August 10 & 11

More than 20 juried artisans creating beautiful works of art in a variety of mediums; kids activities, music, food trucks and more!

bigskyartisanfestival.com

Classical Festival August 10, 11 & 12

Meadow Village Center WMPAC & Town Center

Featuring free concerts with Time For Three and the Big Sky Festival Orchestra, and an indoor recital with Bella Hristova, Angella Ahn and friends!

bigskyarts.org



Raison D'être Dance Project debuts at The Ellen

Two-act show features Baroque and ballet, post-rock and modern dance

EBS STAFF

On Saturday, Aug. 18 at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m., Raison D'être Dance Project will perform "Perfection of the Symphonies" and "Ranges in Motion" in their premiere at the Ellen Theatre in downtown Bozeman.

The two-act show begins with "Perfection of the Symphonies," a ballet choreographed to a live performance of a Vivaldi suite by a Baroque chamber ensemble comprised of violinist Carrie Krause, Sarah Stoneback and Briana Gillet on trumpet, and cellists Else Trygstad-Burke and Peter Landeen. Renowned New York City bassoonist Ben Matus will also perform with the ensemble.

The second segment of the evening switches gears with "Ranges in Motion," a contemporary dance exploration of the soundscapes of instrumental Bozeman post-rock band, Ranges.

Raison D'être Dance Project was founded in 2017 by longtime performing arts devotees Erin Levy and Genevieve Trygstad-Burke in Bozeman. The idea grew out of their deep-rooted love of dance and music, the desire to share their artistic passions with the community, foster collaboration between performing artists and philanthropic organizations, and provide an avenue for visions and ideas.

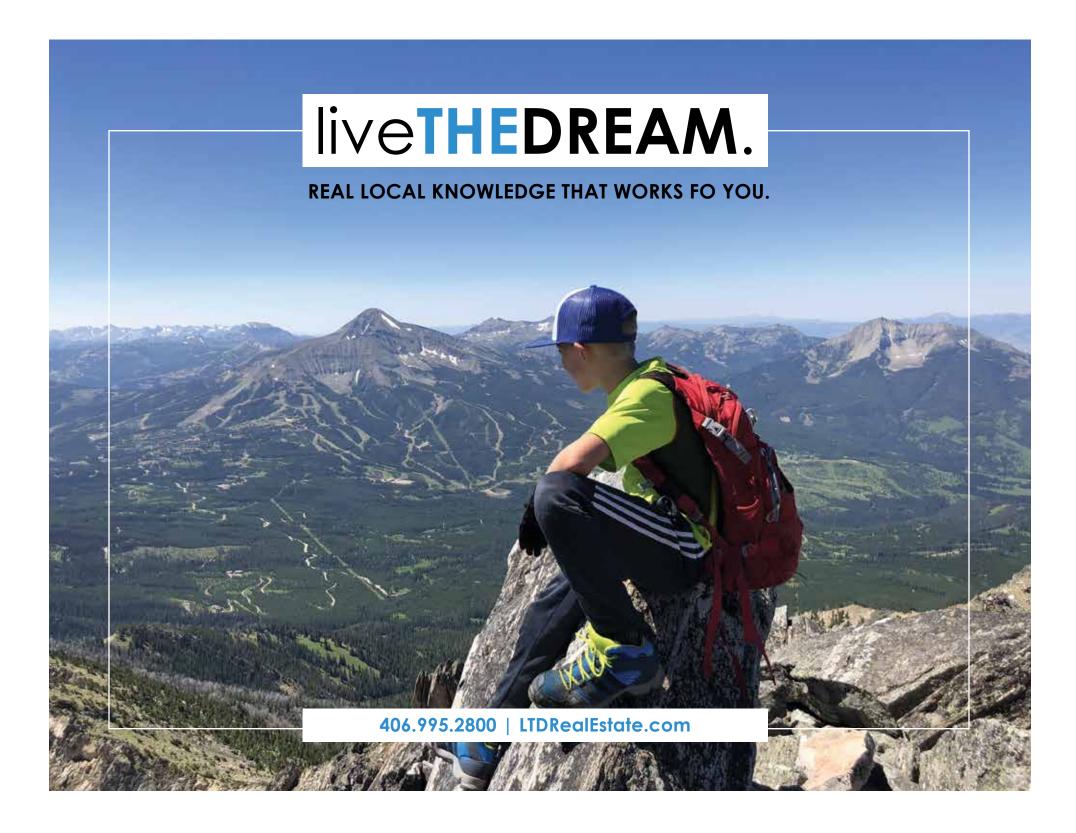
"We were inspired to start Raison D'être Dance Project to give life to our vision of creating original, collaborative contemporary dance productions in Bozeman and beyond," wrote artistic directors Trygstad-Burke and Levy in a press release about their organization. "We believe that art is fundamental to connecting communities and opening the minds and hearts of those who can experience it. We want to share our lifelong passion and dedication to dance with the community we care so deeply about, and give artists a platform for working together to produce innovative and profound works of art."



Explore Big Sky

RDE company dancers Erin Levy, Michelle Kolodin, Kaitlin Benda, Suzann Kienast-Brown, Courtney Haynes and Melissa Dawn in "Trinity," choreographed by Kelsey Elkins. PHOTO COURTESY OF SPEED CREATIVE

Performances will take place at 1:30 pm and 5:30 pm on Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Ellen Theatre. Tickets are available at raisondetredance.org, in person at the Ellen Theatre Box Office or by calling (406) 585–5885.



'Dark Money' reveals dark side of campaign financing

Award-winning documentary shines spotlight on Montana

BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

On Friday, Aug. 10, Bozeman Film Society and PBS Distribution present the Sundance Film Festival award-winning documentary, "Dark Money" at 7:30 p.m. at the Ellen Theatre.

This political thriller examines how the influence of untraceable corporate money in U.S. elections and elected officials is a threat to American democracy. The film takes viewers to Montana—a frontline in the fight to preserve fair elections nationwide—to follow an intrepid local journalist working to expose the real-life impacts of the U.S. Supreme Court's Citizens United decision.

Montana has endeavored to keep its politics clean for more than a century. In 1912, after a brazen attempt by copper magnate William A. Clark to bribe his way into the United States Senate, the state prohibited corporate campaign financing. That changed with the U.S. Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United ruling, which classified campaign expenditures by corporations as free speech and allowed donors to remain undisclosed.

As a result, "dark money" began to flood elections nationwide. Hailed by Variety film critic Dennis Harvey as "a potent ... harrowing portrait of democracy under threat," this gripping story exposes the shocking reality of how American elections are bought and sold.

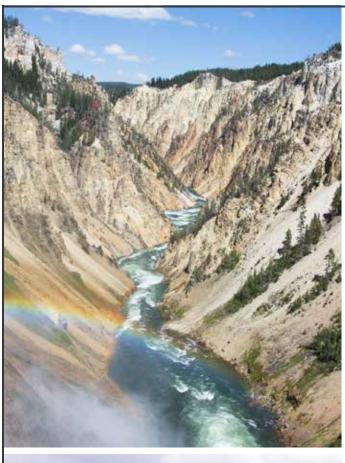
Directed and produced by Helena native Kimberly Reed the film's story is told through the lives of real people and makes a concerted effort to share



"Dark Money" is a dark, award-winning documentary that looks at the impact of anonymous campaign financing on American democracy, with a focus on Montana in particular. PHOTO COURTESY OF BOZEMAN FILM SOCIETY

stories from both sides of the aisle. Subjects interviewed include investigative reporter John Adams, Sen. Jon Tester, Montana Supreme Court Justice Mike Wheat, Gov. Steve Bullock, former Montana Senate Majority Leader Art Wittich, campaign law enforcement official Jonathan Moti, Federal Election Commissioner Ann Ravel, and many more.

Visit bozemanfilmsociety.org for more information.





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Travel in comfort to Big Sky, Bozeman, and West Yellowstone in one of our spacious private vans. Our charter vans seat up to 7 passengers and provide the most economical transportation option for groups of 5 or more. Prices include door-to-door transportation, airport meet-and-greet with flight tracking, and an optional complimentary stop to pick up pre-ordered groceries.

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Bozeman - Big Sky: \$199 Bozeman - West Yellowstone: \$398 Big Sky - West Yellowstone: \$199 Big Sky local transportation: from \$25

Inquire about our private SUV rates.

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Smaller groups can take advantage of a shared ride between Bozeman and Big Sky.

1 passenger: \$1402 passengers: \$80 / person3 passengers: \$60 / person4+ Passengers: \$47.50 / person

Please note: Prices one way.

All BZN airport pickups are subject to an additional airport tax.

Pickups and drop-offs in Yellowstone Club, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, and Moonlight Basin may be subject to an additional surcharge.

406.995.4895 | BIGSKYTAXI.COM

EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 - THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

BIG SKY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

Fish Fry BYWOM, all evening

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

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

Open Clinic: Putting Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 12 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

Live Music

Compass Café, 11 a.m.

Calamity Jane Living History Presentation Crail Ranch Museum, 1 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 6

Community Yoga Town Center Stage, 12 p.m.

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

Ladies Clinic: Releasing the Club Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

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

Youth Summer Reading Program Big Sky Community Library, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

Chuckwagon BBQ 320 Guest Ranch, all evening

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

Home Buyer Education Class Water & Sewer Office, 5 p.m Registraton required

Rotary Club of Big Sky Meeting Buck's T-4 Lodge, 5:30 p.m.

Awareness Wednesday Santosha Wellness Center, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

Groovin' On Festival Storm Castle Retreat, Aug. 9-12

Bridge Big Sky Water and Sewer District, 10:30 a.m.

Home Buyer Education Class Water & Sewer Office, 5 p.m Registraton required

The Crossing in Residence, choir Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 5:30 p.m.

Music in the Mountains: The Elders Big Sky Town Center, 6 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

Big Sky Artisan Festival Meadow Village Shopping Center, Aug. 10-11

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

Big Sky Classical Music Festival Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 10-12

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

Open Clinic: Bunker Play Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 12 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

Ladies Clinic: Golf Clubs and Specific Usage Big Sky Resort Golf Course, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

Chuckwagon BBQ 320 Guest Ranch, all evening

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

Rotary Club of Big Sky Meeting Buck's T-4 Lodge, 5:30 p.m.

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

Wildflower and Weed Walk Beehive Basin, 10 a.m.

Bridge Big Sky Water and Sewer District,

10:30 a.m.

Vine and Dine Big Sky Resort, 5 p.m.

Music in the Mountains: Jeff Austin Band Big Sky Town Center, 6 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

Moonlight MusicFest Moonlight Basin, Aug. 17-18

BOZEMAN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

Sweet Pea Festival Downtown, Aug. 3-5

Eli Young Band The Emerson, 7 p.m.

Rialto Rumors: A Storytelling Series Rialto, 7 p.m.

Jake Worthington, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all morning

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

SLAM Festival Bogert Park, 7 p.m.

Tsunami Funk, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 6

American Aquarium, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

Gallatin River Grill-Out Gallatin River Lodge Pavilion and Ponds, 6 p.m.

The Big Country, film The Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Drew Kennedy, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

Music on Main Downtown, 6:30 p.m.

Bozeman Stampede Rodeo Gallatin County Fairgrounds, 7 p.m.

Rod Morrison, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

Wildlands Festival, music Montana State University, 5:30 p.m.

Art Walk Downtown, 6 p.m.

Dark Money, film Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all morning

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

Tea Tasting Townshend's Bozeman Teahouse, 1 p.m.

Music on the Green with David Gerald Bozeman Public Library Front Plaza, 5 p.m.

GVLT Evening on the Land, fundraiser auction Bridger Canyon, 5:30 p.m.

Amy Obenski, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

Courtney Patton, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

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

Game Night Townshend's Bozeman Teahouse, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 15 The Scalphunters, film Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

River Whyless, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

Music on Main Downtown, 6:30 p.m.

John Floridis, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

*If your event falls between August 17 and August 30, please submit it by August 8 by emailing media@outlaw.partners.

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.

WORTH THE DRIVE

West Yellowstone, MT

Annual Smoking Waters Mountain Man Rendezvous and Living History Encampment

Custer-Gallatin National Forest | Aug. 3-12, 9:30-5:30 p.m. daily

This annual event is a reenactment of an 1800's encampment featuring entertainment, demonstrations and seminars related to trades and crafts of the 1800's. This includes storytelling, traders row, beading, leatherwork, primitive bow making and shooting, flint knapping, and a knife and hawk throw. Contact Sunshine Kilpatrick at (406) 646-7931 or DMAwestyell@omsds.com for more information.

Livingston, MT

Livingston Gun Show

Park County Fairgrounds | Aug. 10-12

There will be 200 tables loaded with firearms, ammunition, tactical gear, western memorabilia/artifacts, and an assortment of other goods. There will be food available as well.

Alta, WY

Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival

Grand Targhee Resort Aug. 10-12

One of the most established bluegrass festivals in the Northern Rockies, the Grand Targhee this year with it's annual Targhee Music Camp. Stage performances are by Greensky Bluegrass, The

Visit grandtarghee.com/event/grandmore.

Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



Can't believe it's August already! Spruce moths are usually the talk of the town on the Gallatin this time of year. Always hard to know exactly what to expect as far as how many of them we'll see and how long they'll stick around, but be prepared with a variety of your favorite patterns. The most typical size is a 14, but flies that are most successful range from size 12-16.

Other than moths we can expect to see midges, a variety of caddis and maybe some lingering PMDs and Epeorus mayflies. We'll likely start to see some nocturnal stones soon as well, so throwing a Pat's Rubber Leg in 10-12 in lighter colors could be a good option. On the surface, fishing smaller parachute and cripple patterns, small hoppers, midge dries and maybe even a nocturnal stone dry. Subsurface we'll mostly be fishing small patterns, such as Lightning Bugs, Zebra Midges, a variety of serendipities in 16-20.

The Yellowstone River is shaping up for a great August currently. Flows are still really healthy and water temps are good despite a relatively warm summer. If you want to catch fish on dries out of the boat this will be the place to go. Generally dry fly fishing is superior upstream of Livingston, but a lot of that is due to increased populations of both whitefish and cutthroat trout. If that sounds like fun to you this will be the place to be. If you're searching for bigger trout and fewer whitefish most anglers will focus on the sections near Livingston and downstream towards Big Timber and beyond. A typical rig when searching for bigger trout is a medium sized streamer under a strike indicator with a small nymph dropper.

With the Yellowstone River in play the Upper Madison has become a bit less crowded both in the float and walk wade sections. Fishing has been consistent and water temps have remained healthy, although on the edge of too warm closer to Ennis in the afternoons. Dry fly fishing will require patience and persistence. Nymphing can be very good if you crack the code and find the right water.

The high country is a great place to be this time of year. Small creeks and high mountain lake fish tend to be very opportunistic this time of year. You'll likely find good numbers of spruce moths in those areas

temperatures.











Although water temps are staying relatively healthy it is important to handle trout carefully and keep them in the river with the hotter air



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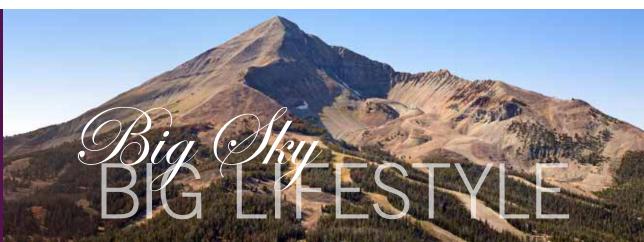
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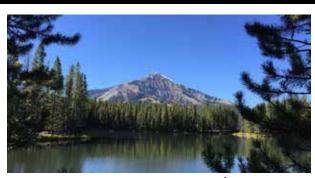
TBD TAYLOR'S FORK RD | \$15,000,000 #321234 | CALL DON

640± acres surrounded by national forest and the Lee Metcalf Wilderness. Privately held since the 1930's, Trapper's Cabin Ranch has never been offered for public sale until now.



235 FOUR POINT RD | \$1,985,000 #320061 | CALL DON

Ridge Home in Antler Ridge with views of Lone Peak. Reclaimed beams, granite, high-end appliances, and convenient mid-mountain location. Designed by Jerry Locati. 3 bd, 4.5 ba.



LOT 17 ULERY'S LAKE RD | \$1,350,000 #215952 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

The chance to own approx. 1/2 of the Lake and shoreline with stunning views of Lone Mountain. 500± acres of private community with mature trees, secluded homesites and great views.



LOT 8 NORTH FORK RD | \$1,300,000 #301292 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

Simply stunning $20 \pm acre$ lot in coveted, private Triple Triangle Ranch in the North Fork. Gently sloping with mature Doug Fir trees. Driveway and all utilities in place.



10 ROSE BUD LOOP | \$1,249,000 #216776 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

Beautifully furnished Powder Ridge Cabin with direct Ski-in (Bozeman Trail)/ Ski-out (White Otter Lift) access. Ponderosa plan on 3 levels with 2,567± sq. ft. of livable area. 4 bd, 3 ba.



LOT 26 DIAMOND HITCH | \$795,000 #210453 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

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1840 LITLE COYOTE RD | \$779,000 #319997 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

Offering 6 bd, 3 ba this IS the perfect home for a large family or as a second home. South facing living room with a wood burning fireplace and views to Lone Mountain and Pioneer Mountain.



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LOT 9 SUMMIT VIEW DRIVE | \$395,000 #218470 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

Capture the BIG, spectacular Lone Mountain and surrounding mountain range views from this elevated, large 3.17± acre corner lot located in the highest point of Summit View. Gated Entry.



LOT 46 LOOOKING GLASS RD | \$299,950 #220254 | CALL STACY OR ERIC

A 1/2± acre elevated homesite in the heart of Big Sky's Meadow Village. Stunning top of the world views. Convenient walking distance to Town Center for dining, music, and farmer's market.



TBD ANACONDA | \$159,000 #304137 | CALL DON

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