$\mathbf{Explore}^{\mathsf{m}}$



Meadowview secured for workforce housing



Big Sky Biggie rolls through town

Bear-human conflict on the rise

Dick Allgood on recovery road



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CORRECTIONS

Please report errors to media@outlaw.partners.

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ON THE COVER: Riders race up Lone Mountain Ranch Road during the inaugural Big Sky Biggie on Aug. 25. PHOTO BY OLIVIA MULLEN

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Austin Samuels runs the ball while Cole March blocks for him. The Big Horns beat the Box Elder High Bears 58-30 in their first game of the season on Aug. 24. PHOTO BY BAY STEPHENS

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.

CORRECTION: In the Back to School section of the Aug. 17 issue of EBS, new Ophir teacher Julie Edwards donated all the possessions in her Park City home to Habitat for Humanity, not the house itself.



MARTHA JOHNSON

Vice President of Sales | Founding Broker THE BIG SKY REAL ESTATE CO.

Martha, a full time Big Sky resident since 1988, is the Co-Exclusive listing broker for Spanish Peaks Mountain Club and Moonlight Basin. CONTACT MARTHA FOR ANY OF YOUR BIG SKY REAL ESTATE QUESTIONS: (406) 580-5891 MARTHA@BIGSKY.COM BIG SKY .COM



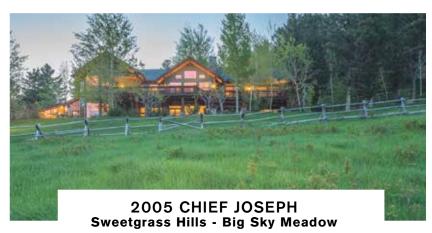
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Ski-in/Ski-out, Adjacent to Yellowstone Club 5 Bedrooms | 6 Baths 5290 SF \$5,750,000



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Winter transit service to remain unchanged District receives county funding

EBS STAFF

On Aug. 17, the Gallatin County Commissioners voted to provide \$50,000 to support Skyline bus service for fiscal year 2019. Last year Gallatin County provided \$73,500.

Big Sky Transportation District Coordinator David Kack received word Aug. 20 that Madison County approved \$80,000 in funding for Skyline in fiscal year 2019, the same amount it provided for fiscal year 2018.

Kack said the transportation district was asking for \$100,000 from each county.

"While the \$50,000 [from Gallatin County] is half of what we were asking for, it is better than nothing," wrote Kack in an email to EBS.

"We were hoping to be able to add one or two roundtrips between Bozeman and Big Sky with the additional funding from each county," he wrote. "However, with what was provided, we will likely have the same amount of service as last year, although we may make a few tweaks to the schedule [in terms of] stops and times."

Kack reported that local ridership increased 9.6 percent between fiscal years 2017 and 2018; and ridership on the Link Express service between Big Sky and Bozeman was up 3.3 percent for the same time period.

"We know that the demand keeps increasing, both for service within Big Sky, and between Big Sky and Bozeman," Kack said. "We are exploring options to find funding, so our service can try and meet the demand."

New strategy announced for improving national forest conditions

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Forest Service announced on Aug. 16 a new strategy for managing catastrophic wildfires and the impacts of invasive species, drought, and insect and disease epidemics.

Specifically, a new report titled "Toward Shared Stewardship across Landscapes: An Outcome-based Investment Strategy" outlines the USFS's plans to work more closely with states to identify landscape-scale priorities for targeted treatments in areas with the highest payoffs.

Both federal and private managers of forest land face a range of urgent challenges, among them catastrophic wildfires, invasive species, degraded watersheds, and epidemics of forest insects and disease.

The conditions fueling these circumstances are not improving. Of particular concern are longer fire seasons, the increasing size and severity of wildfires, and the expanding risk to communities, natural resources and firefighters.

"The challenges before us require a new approach," said Interim USFS Chief Vicki Christiansen. "This year, Congress has given us new opportunities to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with state leaders to identify land management priorities that include mitigating wildfire risks. We will use all the tools available to us to reduce hazardous fuels, including mechanical treatments, prescribed fire and unplanned fire in the right place at the right time."

A key component of the new strategy is to prioritize investment decisions on forest treatments in direct coordination with states using the most advanced science tools. Additionally, the report emphasizes the agency's commitment to a risk-based response to wildfire due to the rising rates of firefighter fatalities in recent decades.

Visit fs.fed.us/sites/default/files/toward-shared-stewardship.pdf to view the complete report.

Forest Service symposium explains science of forest planning

CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Just over half-way through revising the forest plan, the Custer Gallatin National Forest is hosting the Science of National Forest Planning Symposium at Big Sky Resort on Friday, Sept. 14, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Forest Plan Revision is a complex and lengthy undertaking and we live in a special area within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem," said Virginia Kelly, the forest plan revision team leader.

"As a forest, we are deep into working on the draft plan, and science is a critical component to that," she added. "Our aim is to highlight a portion of the topics we saw public interest in and provide an opportunity for deeper learning and understanding about the science that is being used."

Ten speakers will provide an overview and a deeper dive into respective topics, such as implementation of the planning rule, ecological integrity, setting the vision in a changing climate, fire as part of the ecosystem, the importance of riparian areas, and connectivity for all species. A panel discussion with five of the speakers will wrap up the symposium.

The speakers carry a wide variety of expertise and experiences, from holding positions on the Forest Service's National Advisory Committee, to positions with nationally-known nonprofits, to roles as research scientists.

This event will follow the 14th Biennial Science Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Sept. 11-13 in Big Sky.

A virtual option is available for those unable to attend the Forest Service Symposium in person. Visit usfs.adobeconnect.com/cgpm-500/ to tune in the morning of the event. Live streaming is anticipated on the Custer Gallatin National Forest facebook page as well.

 ${\it Visit fs. usda. gov/custergal latin\ to\ learn\ more.}$

Fish and Wildlife Commission approves 10 fisheries projects in Montana

EBS STAFF

Montana's Future Fisheries Improvement Program was funded for another cycle by the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission in August. This program, which is maintained in part by general fishing license dollars, was established in 1996 to support fish restoration and habitat improvement work.

Ten projects received funding, amounting to \$286,000 that will be used to improve Montana fisheries. This year's funding was matched by more than \$1.4 million from outside sources.

In the Bozeman area, the Mulherin Creek instream flow lease was renewed in Park County. The lease on Mulherin, which is a tributary to the Yellowstone River, has existed for 20 years.

"[The lease renewal] keeps water in the stream for one of the most important tributaries for spawning cutthroat trout," said future fisheries coordinator Michelle McGree. "Without that water available ... we wouldn't have as many cutthroat coming back into the Yellowstone River."

Work was also funded on North Fork Spanish Creek in Madison County. Working with Turner Enterprises and the Forest Service, McGree said Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks will continue with the installation of a barrier in the tributary to prevent nonnative trout from traveling upstream into Yellowstone cutthroat trout habitat.

Additionally, a barrier was financed on Wall Creek, which flows into the Madison River. This stream has been found to support 95-percent genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout and, similar to Spanish Creek, the barrier will protect native fish from downstream

Other projects will include fence installations to restrict cattle from streams, removal of undersized culverts to allow fish passage, moving roads away from waterways, and increasing flow to streams, among others.



Since Aug. 1, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks has relocated five black bears and euthanized two from the Big Sky area after the bears caused repeated conflicts with humans, getting in trash and homes. What do you do around your household in order to be bear smart in Big Sky and mitigate these conflicts?



Michael Pitcairn Big Sky, Montana

"Be sure that all our trash is put away and that our garage doors are shut, not left open because that's where we store our trash. ... If we're working around the house or doing something like that, we just try to make sure we're bear aware and sometimes we leave a bear spray outside of the house. [It's] just a good location for people if you ... didn't bring it out there with you."



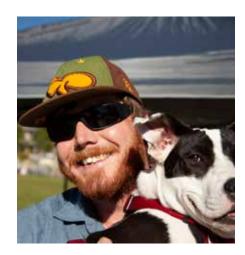
Patty Rhea
Big Sky, Montana

"A fed bear is a dead bear. ... Close your windows, and you need to get rid of doors [with] levers. We replaced all our exterior levers with knobs."



Jenn Steele Big Sky, Montana

"I put my trash in a locking trash bin, don't leave food outside and take it out of my car—I have a Jeep."



Tyler Hammond *Big Sky, Montana*

"Making sure that the dumpsters and the trash cans are properly secured. A lot of times I go up to them and [they're] closed but not latched, so just making sure the door's latched. ... And making sure I don't leave trash outside my place."



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Dick Allgood on the mend after medical scare

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – After seven months of mounting health issues and hospitalization, 74-year-old Dick Allgood is back home and on the mend. Thin, and hooked up to various tubes and equipment, you might not recognize him from the robust, sarcastic fixture of The Country Market, but according to close friends and family, it's a wonder he is still here at all.

His ordeal began innocuously enough back in December when an aneurism in the iliac artery in his right leg was detected that required an operation to stop the leak. The surgery was conducted at George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salt Lake City on Dec. 7, and Allgood returned home three days later.

But on Jan. 14, the day before he would accept the 2017 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation award, Allgood, a U.S. Air Force and helicopter rescue pilot during Vietnam and an active member of the American Legion since he moved to Big Sky 25 years ago, felt the first stab of back pain.

Scans came back inconclusive, but the backache continued until, by early April, he was unable to stand. Within days he was diagnosed with osteomyelitis, a bone infection in Allgood's spine.

During the next five months Allgood was dealt a succession of health blows that would shuffle him between hospitals in Bozeman, Billings and Salt Lake City. First there was back surgery, then a bloody nose that turned out to be a massive aneurysm landed him in intensive care on a ventilator. One of the three surgeries required to stop the bleeding rendered Allgood blind in his left eye.

Meanwhile, unable to do any rehabilitation after his spinal surgery, his wounds began to break down, and a bed sore developed.

On April 29, Allgood was transferred to Billings Clinic for respiratory distress. Fluid was building up around his lungs. Eventually it was determined that two of Allgood's heart valves had become infected. Now he needed emergency open heart surgery.

"The bug, or infection, was in my bloodstream and ate up part of the spine, which required surgery," Allgood explained. "It was later discovered that the bacteria or the bug had landed on two of my heart valves. It was either surgery or wait for the bacteria to eat the valves and die.

"I'm a member of the zipper chest club now."

In the days following the eight-hour procedure in mid-May, Allgood would be fitted with a feeding tube, undergo a tracheotomy, and a pacemaker implant. In mid-June, still fighting fluid build-up around the lungs, and now the heart, he was transported to a Salt Lake City hospital, where he stayed for nearly a month, weaning off the ventilator and gaining enough strength for his Aug. 1 release.

There has been no way to trace the bacterial infection that wreaked havoc on Allgood's body back to the initial arterial surgery on his leg, but his family seems to think that's where it originated.

The glass door to Allgood's apartment building is scrawled with get well messages and offers of assistance from the Big Sky community. Upstairs, Allgood breathes through oxygen tubes in his nose and is attached to a device that pulls moisture away from a surgical back wound through a large foam bandage—getting that to heal is his top priority.

I met with Allgood on the 26th anniversary of Hurricane Andrew—the 1992 storm that caused so much destruction, he decided to leave Miami and a career in commercial real estate to move to Big Sky, where he had been visiting since the late '70s.



On Jan. 15, Dick Allgood was presented with the 2017 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation which recognizes standout Montana veterans who served the country and continue to serve their communities. Allgood is pictured here with his daughter Alisa, grandson Wylie, and son-in-law Tyler. PHOTO BY SUSAN GIANFORTE

In 1993, a few months after arriving in Big Sky, he opened Allgood's Bar & Grill, which he ran for the next 18 years. After selling the business, now Broken Spoke Bar & Grill, in 2011, Allgood took some time off before taking on some administrative work for Lynne Anderson, owner of The Country Market.

Allgood has also been extremely active with the local American Legion since he moved here—a recent point of pride was raising a significant amount of money to help fund a veterans' cemetery at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Bozeman. The two-acre plot will be near the Vietnam memorial on the grounds.

Allgood said that he'll have to be on antibiotics every day for the rest of his life, but he's grateful to be here at all.

"I think it always makes you appreciate different things, people; I'm very thankful to the community for the support given, granted, thoughts, wishes and prayers along the way," Allgood said, dropping his gruff persona and choking up a bit.

Allgood said there were times he felt the end was near.

"I don't know if it was part of the anesthesia or if it was real, but if you're in danger of leaving the face of this Earth, I think you feel it—or at least I thought I did."

Allgood has set a goal to be substantially more mobile and stronger by the end of September.

"I kissed the face of the Lord twice and still got to wait awhile to go visit my friends Bernie [Feingold] and Devon [White]."

A GoFundMe campaign to raise funds to help the Allgood family with medical expenses can be found under the name Richard Allgood at gofundme.com.

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Pre-hibernation bear activity leads to spike in human conflicts

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – The bears around Big Sky know winter is in the air. Beginning in August and lasting until hibernation sometime in the fall, bears of the Greater Yellowstone set out on a quest for food. This period of intense food consumption is referred to scientifically as hyperphagia, and is likely the cause of the latest spike in bear-human conflicts.

At EBS press time on Aug. 29, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks bear management specialist Kevin Frey reported that five bears had been relocated from Big Sky during the month of August alone, one of which was subsequently euthanized after it moved from the relocation area into downtown Livingston.

A sixth Big Sky black bear was euthanized due to a long history of human conflict. "We try to give them a chance. It was just so habituated to things in Big Sky," Frey said.

He also reported that an adult female back bear was hit and killed by a car on Lone Mountain Trail near the entrance to West Fork Meadows during the weekend of Aug. 25 and 26. The presence of a small ear tag indicates that this bear had been captured in Big Sky five years ago and was relocated to the north end of the Crazy Mountains due to problems with humans.

"We can remove and issue, but it doesn't mean that it solves it," Frey said. "They can eventually find their way home.

"In hyperphagia, bears become a hair more bold," he added. "With all the effort that's going on in Big Sky, it's just unfortunate that bears are still finding access to open windows or unsecured areas."

Outside of hyperphagia, a black bear consumes between 5,000 and 8,000 calories a day, while the average man eats approximately 2,500 calories each day. In preparation for denning, that number could nearly triple, amounting to between 15,000 and 20,000 calories daily, said Kris Inman, the community partnerships coordinator for the Wildlife Conservation Society, who oversees the Bear Smart Big Sky initiative.

In a natural setting, bears will eat grass, late-season berries, insects and small animals, as they are available, Inman added. However, at the wildland-urban interface, a bear could easily encounter trash, bird seed or other human products that could become attractive.

Frey said for this very reason, FWP has received 32 reports of human-bear conflicts in Big Sky during 2018 since bears awoke from hibernation in the spring.

"Big Sky is a beautiful place to grow up and be a black bear. Bears are always going to be in Big Sky," Frey said. "So if we don't want conflict, we have to be very diligent."

At Big Sky Resort, all of their garbage receptacles are bear-proof, apart from four that are put out in the plaza every morning and brought in at night, said John Knapton, the resort's mountain manager. They are also working with an area contractor to develop bear-resistant grease receptacles for their restaurants.

"We want to be a good partner to the community and we want to be good stewards of the wildlife," he said.

Currently, through partnerships with Bear Smart Big Sky, 70 percent of homeowners are required to utilize bear-resistant garbage cans, which is enforced by a number of area homeowners' associations. Residents and visitors are also urged to keep windows and garages closed when no one is home and avoid putting out bird seed or using barbeque grills.

According to Ben Holst, the executive director of community associations for Lone Mountain Land Company, which oversees residential property in the Spanish Peaks Mountain Club and Moonlight Basin, as well as commercial areas throughout Big Sky, one challenge Big Sky faces is the number of parttime residents.

"There's an unfortunate lack of knowledge when you aren't here all the time," he said. "It's unfortunate because the bears were already here. When they [get into trouble], it's not because the bears are doing something wrong, it's because we're doing something wrong."



A black bear contained in a culvert trap awaits relocation. Culvert traps employ bait to lure the bear into a straw-lined, grated barrel that contains a sliding door that is triggered upon entry. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Holst added that LMLC maintains a security staff that routinely checks to make sure bear-proof garbage cans are being properly utilized, and they clean up trash if it's left out. While Spanish Peaks offers curb-side trash pickup, Moonlight Basin includes a centralized, fully bear-proof trash facility. Holst said that this decision was made because Moonlight Basin experiences greater bear activity.

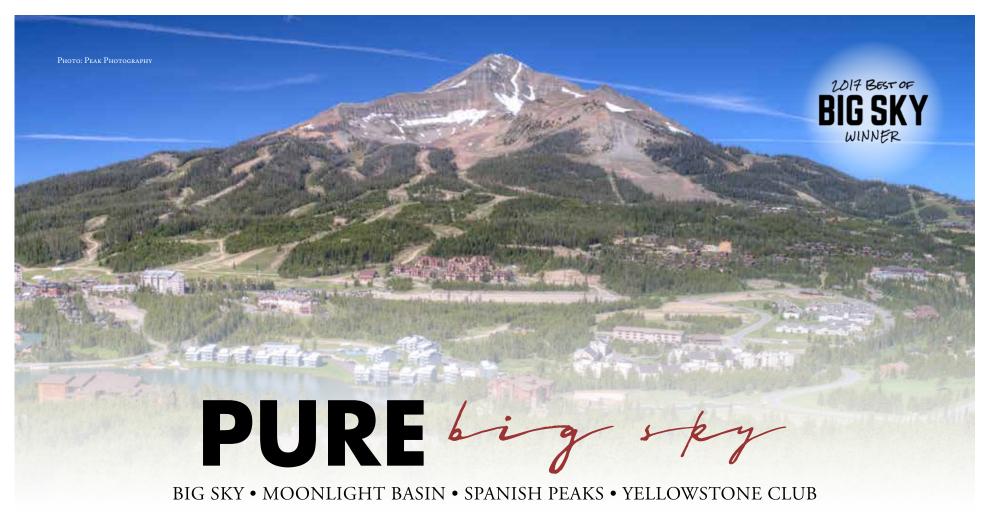
Properties in the Yellowstone Club are also serviced by a centralized garbage facility, in which garbage and recycling is stored indoors. Rich Chandler, the club's environmental manager, said this move is perhaps their biggest accomplishment for bears.

"We try really hard to keep [the club] as bear-proof as you can," Chandler said. "If we aren't proper stewards for wildlife, then we lose one of the most important reasons why people are attracted to live here—the wild and scenic nature of Big Sky."

Visit wcscommunitypartnerships.org/bearsmartbigsky or bscomt.org/natural-resource-council/bear-smart to learn more about how you can live appropriately in bear habitat.



This fall, Bear Smart Big Sky will be unveiling a new campaign called "Bernadette Bear," which focuses on bear safety and awareness in and around Big Sky and the Greater Yellowstone region. Bernadette will be the spokesbear for bear safety education, tips and best practices, in addition to social media alerts for bear sightings.





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ULERY'S LAKES LOT 7 | \$985,000

Located within the gated 500-acre community of Ulery's Lakes of Moonlight Basin, this homesite maximizes privacy and views. Enjoy fishing across the street and hiking, snow shoeing and cross country skiing in your own back yard as the subdivision allows usage of the lakes and community acreage. A short drive will take you to the Moonlight Lodge, ski hill, golf course and Big Sky Ski Resort. // LYNN MILLIGAN | 406.581.2848



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This beautiful 6.31 +/- acre homesite provides seclusion in a tranquil setting in a 5-lot development part way up the mountain, but it is just minutes from both the Mountain and Meadow Villages of Big Sky. Heavily treed with rolling terrain, the driveway is in and electric is to the lot. There is a charming surface water creek, so wildlife is plentiful. Build your Big Sky home here and enjoy peace and solitude with all of the area amenities of Big Sky nearby. // MARY WHEELER | 406.539.1745





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Big Sky, Montana



Planning board to recommend approval of Moonlight development plan

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

During an Aug. 27 meeting of the Madison County Planning Board in Virginia City, Lone Mountain Land Company's 10-year overall development plan for Moonlight Basin passed, with conditions. An advisory entity only, the planning board will make its recommendation for ODP approval to the Madison County Commissioners on Sept. 11.

The 2017 plan, a revised version of an approved decade-old plan, details the addition of 1,651 residential units in the Moonlight Basin area north of Big Sky Resort, 270,000 square feet of commercial space, an 80-room five-star hotel, dorm-style employee housing, and two new chairlifts for residential access.

But the most contentious part of the proposal—and the closest vote—had to do with altering the development plan for the Moonlight Territory Reserve, acreage west of Jack Creek Road and north of the golf course that, in the 2007 plan, was set aside as 19, 160-acre ranch parcels to offset increased development in other areas of club property.

Lone Mountain Land Company's revised plan proposed repurposing three of those ranch lots for the development of 84 housing units.

The development company voluntarily tabled the plan in June after conservation groups including the Jack Creek Preserve Foundation, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Greater Yellowstone Coalition voiced concerns about environmental impacts.

During the ensuing months some compromises were reached, including securing conservation easements instead of deed restrictions, having a recreation plan in place, and instituting a covenants enforcement officer to educate and monitor property owners living in the wildland-urban interface.

Limiting the Moonlight Territory development to the currently approved 19 exempt ranch lots failed by a vote of five in favor; six, opposed. A vote approving the 16 ranch lots and 84 units in the Moonlight Territory passed by a vote of nine to two. The second vote paved the way for Lone Mountain Land Company to develop a total of 84 residential units on three of the 160-acre ranch lots.

Madison County Planning Director Charity Fechter explained that the conservation easements are required to be placed on the "ranch" lots

within five years of ODP approval; that they would be in perpetuity, prohibit further subdivision, include designated building/disturbance areas, and prohibit multi-unit rental developments.

Bob Zimmer, the water programs coordinator for the conservation nonprofit Greater Yellowstone Coalition, has been part of the conversation between environmental groups, Moonlight Basin and Lone Mountain Land Company.

"We stand behind the planning board's decision but would have liked to see more analysis of wildlife impact prior to those development pods being approved," Zimmer said.

Moonlight Territory has not yet been developed, though two 160-acre properties have been sold.

Bordering Jack Creek Preserve and the Custer Gallatin National Forest, the Moonlight Territory is a high-use wildlife corridor, Zimmer said, adding that Greater Yellowstone Coalition would like to see that land protected as much as possible.

"I don't think we can say right now that it's a loss," Zimmer said, pointing out that plan still needs to be approved by the Madison County commissioners. "Any development, particularly in forested areas like that is going to have some impact. The question for us is can the developer put residential development in there without significant impact to wildlife—and that's just a big unknown."

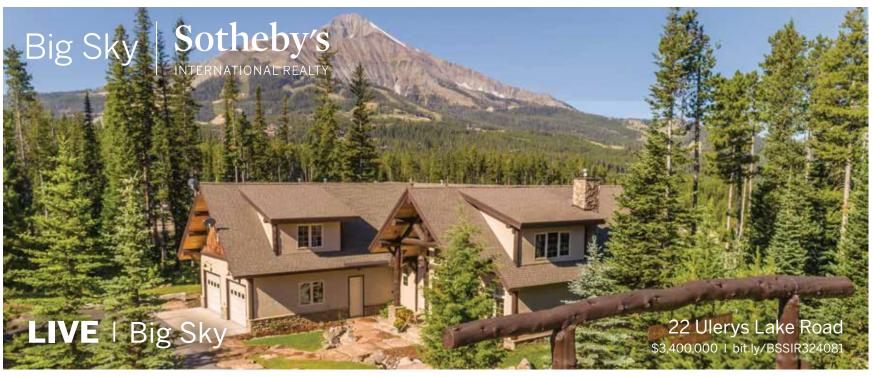
Planning Director Fechter said to remember that the ODP is a 10-year plan and the Moonlight Territory will likely be among the last land developed; and the numbers approved are the limit, not necessarily the exact number of units that will be put in place.

"It was a tremendous, collaborative effort with a lot of people involved, and at the end of the day we ended up with a much better plan than when we started," said Kevin Germain, Lone Mountain Land Company's vice president of planning and development. "I am extremely appreciative of all the third parties willing to commit their time to work with us."

The planning board will present their recommendations to the Madison County Board of Commissioners at 10 a.m. on Sept. 11 in Virginia City.





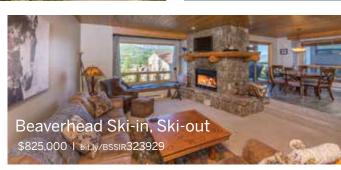








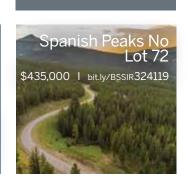


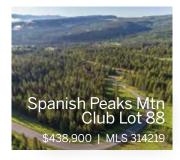
















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Purchase agreement for Meadowview property signed

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – On Aug. 22, the Human Resource and Development Council signed the purchase agreement for the Meadowview property northwest of the Big Sky Community Park, which will create 52 units of workforce housing. The Big Sky Community Housing Trust advisory council also finalized language Aug. 16 to determine eligibility for prospective homebuyers interested in a Meadowview property or in the HRDC's Down Payment Assistance program.

"Our President/CEO, Heather Grenier, and Jerry Scott deserve major kudos because this purchase agreement took a while to hammer out and required a lot of patience and hard work from both parties," wrote Brian Guyer, HRDC community development manager and acting director of the housing trust, in an email. "Now we're on to the closing."

In February, findings were released from a housing survey distributed in 2017 with 1,112 responses from Big Sky residents and others who commute in for work from elsewhere. A housing action plan drawing on these findings was released in June, which outlines steps to provide approximately 300 community housing units within five years, target a range of housing needs the market doesn't currently meet, and to provide community housing in step with job growth.

The Meadowview property is meant to address year-round Big Sky workers looking to buy homes but can't afford the inflated prices of a resort market. The Big Sky Resort Area District tax board bankrolled a \$1.75 million sum to subsidize the project, stipulating that the units be deed-restricted to ensure the housing stays affordable through multiple owners.

"If you only subsidize the first family then they'd get a big windfall when they sold and then we wouldn't have anything more for future families," said Britt Ide, a housing trust council member and executive director of the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation.

Still in early phases of construction, the Meadowview property represents a modest step toward final housing goals, but the housing trust intends it to be just the first of many projects.

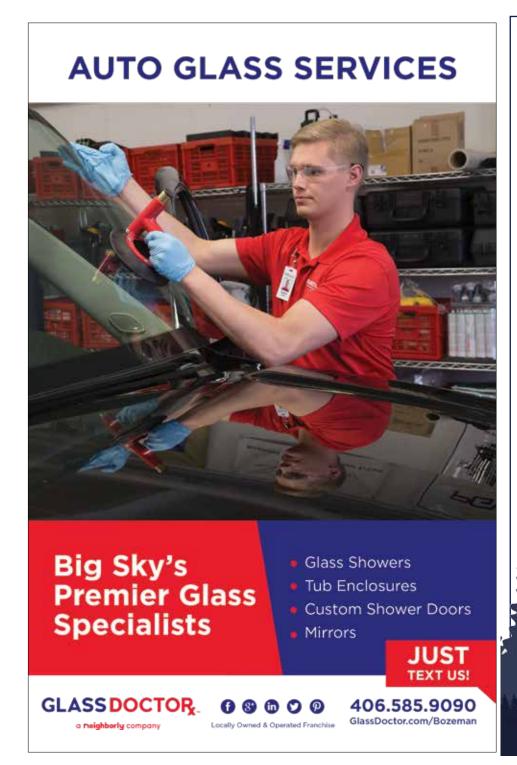
At an Aug. 16 meeting, the housing trust council finalized the language of the reference manual delineating qualifications that individuals must meet to purchase a Meadowview unit, including provisions for those who leave Big Sky for certain seasons but still consider it their primary residence. The handbook is intended for use in future projects as well.

The housing trust has avoided using a point system to determine eligibility due to confusion and discontent such a system has caused in the past. Instead, they have opted to use the eligibility requirements with priority determined by the date one submits their application. To apply for a Meadowview unit, qualified individuals must first participate in a home-buyer assistance class and a homeowner counseling session with the HRDC.

"This is a huge investment in our community, and it makes sense because the resort tax is paid a lot by tourists, and the people that are housed here are supporting the tourist economy," Ide said, referring to BSRAD's \$1.75 million of funding. "We can't have a town without people living here."

The housing trust council also put final touches on the qualifications list for the HRDC's Big Sky version of the Down Payment Assistance program, a separate project that targets a similar demographic as Meadowview. According to Ide, the YCCF and BSRAD contributed starting-funds to create the program which, instead of providing subsidized housing, will help qualified individuals pay the large down payment sum on a home.

Visit thehrdc.org to read the Big Sky Community Housing Action Plan released in June.







Task Force continues to study algae bloom in Gallatin

Gallatin River Task Force volunteer Mason Flood and U.S. Forest Service Gallatin River Ranger Andrea McElwain scrub rocks for a composite sample of algae species for analysis just upstream of the confluence of Wapiti Creek and the Taylor Fork. GRTF hopes to have conclusive results about the cause of the bloom this fall. PHOTO COURTESY OF GALLATIN RIVER TASK FORCE

Ophir eight grade raises funds with golf ball drop

Ophir Middle School's eighth grade class is raising funds for its annual Washington D.C. trip with a charity ball drop, scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 12, at 6 p.m. The event will be held on the ninth hole at the Big Sky Resort Golf Course, where a student will drop the balls from a Big Sky Fire Department ladder truck. Each participant will be entered to win a staycation for four at 320 Guest Ranch. For more information on purchasing balls for the fundraiser, email Tony Coppola at tcoppola@bssd72.org. PHOTO COURTESY OF CRISTINA CARVALHO







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School's back in session!

On a rainy mountain morning, students arrive for the first day of school on Aug. 27 at Big Sky School District. PHOTOS BY BAY STEPHENS















Proposed management of Continental Divide grizzlies open for public comment

MONTAN FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

The Fish and Wildlife Commission has approved language for a proposed administrative rule that would codify population objectives for grizzly bears in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem.

The decision on Aug. 9 sets into motion a public comment period that will run through Oct. 26. Public hearings will be held in Kalispell, Missoula, Great Falls and Conrad, during which time Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks staff will explain and answer questions about the proposed population objectives.

The population objective is for NCDE, which is one of six designated recovery areas for grizzly bears in the lower-48 states. Grizzly bears in the NCDE are currently listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, although they have met their recovery criteria and may be proposed for delisting in the future.

The NCDE subcommittee of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee released a revised conservation strategy for grizzly bears earlier this summer. This document summarizes the commitments and coordinated efforts made by state, tribal and federal agencies to manage and monitor the grizzly bear population and its habitat upon delisting.

The conservation strategy identifies a demographic monitoring area that is home to the core population of grizzly bears in the NCDE. The demographic monitoring area is comprised of the primary conservation area—which includes Glacier National Park and parts of five national forests including the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex—and a buffer zone outside the primary conservation area.

The objective in this area, as detailed in the conservation strategy, is continual occupancy by grizzly bears, which will require maintaining good habitat conditions and adhering to population criteria. The conservation strategy aims to maintain a population size above 800 bears with at least 90 percent certainty. Effectively, this would mean managing for a population of approximately 1,000 grizzly bears in the DMA.

A draft version of the conservation strategy was open to public review and comment in 2013. Since 2013, more research and analysis has provided the IGBC better information about the grizzly bear population and how it has changed. Public and peer comments also helped lay the groundwork for an improved monitoring approach for the NCDE. These changes are incorporated into Chapter 2 of the conservation strategy.

FWP would work with the NCDE subcommittee to incorporate any potential changes resulting from this public process.

Hearings will be held Sept. 18 in Great Falls, Sept. 19 in Conrad, Sept. 26 in Missoula, and Sept. 27 in Kalispell.

Comments can be submitted either orally or in writing during the hearings. Comments can also be submitted by mail to Grizzly Bear ARM, Wildlife Division, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, Montana, 59620; or e-mail fwpgrizzlybeararm@mt.gov, and must be received no later than Oct. 26.

Visit igbconline.org/n-continental-divide-subcommitte for more information or to view the conservation strategy for the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem grizzlies.





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SECTION 2: ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS, BUSINESS & DINING







The New West:

Experts call for national action on wasting disease



BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

Scott Talbott is—and has been—in a difficult spot. The way that politics work in his state, he is disincentivized to act on what the science is telling him.

The director of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department was sitting on an elevated stage at

a theater in downtown Bozeman on Aug. 27, attending a media summit hosted by the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.

The topic: deadly chronic wasting disease.

CWD is the always fatal plague—a cousin to dreaded mad cow disease—that strikes members of the deer family, including mule deer and whitetails, elk and moose. Its pathogen is a misshapen protein called a prion that turns brain tissue into the equivalent of swiss cheese.

Talbott was among a panel of wildlife experts discussing CWD's alarming progression which now has reached 25 U.S. states and three Canadian provinces. It was confirmed in Montana a year ago.

While there has not been a documented case of a human getting sick and dying from eating a CWD-infected animal, the possibility exists, and it was not discounted by experts gathered in Bozeman. Yet even without any cases of CWD crossing the species barrier and posing a threat to human health, fears about potentially devastating impacts on wild ungulates are significant.

Because of its imminent arrival in the heart of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, CWD is on the verge of making national headlines in a way that it hasn't before. Any day, the disease is expected to strike the National Elk Refuge or in any of 22 elk feedgrounds operated by the state of Wyoming.

In Bozeman, the call to action from scientists working on prion diseases was crystal clear.

Wyoming's Talbott was not in the hot seat per se, but he's feeling heat. As a professional public servant with three decades of experience, he answers to the governor, members of the politically appointed Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, and to laws put on the books by the state legislature. Within Wyoming, many lawmakers still appear to be in denial about CWD.

On the other hand, Talbott knows what the science says.

The overwhelming consensus from professional scientific bodies specializing in wildlife management and infectious diseases is that it's a bad idea—and tremendously risky—to bunch together thousands of animals around artificial feeding stations created by humans.

Yet that's exactly the real-world scenario that exists today in western Wyoming on the National Elk Refuge and state-run feedgrounds.

CWD is slow moving but believed to be population-limiting, if not population-devastating. Infectious prions are shed into the environment so even if casualties are removed from the place they died and then incinerated, they still leave contaminated particles in the environment through urine, feces, saliva and decomposition of bodily fluids that remain for a decade or longer.

Experts said that it's almost impossible to decontaminate vast areas of landscape once they become CWD hotspots, meaning they represent zones of possible continuous ongoing transmission of disease to healthy animals.

Further, what happens on the elk refuge and feedgrounds does not stay there. Animals move, and CWD-infected elk, mule deer and whitetails migrate over long distances and disperse CWD across a wider geography.

This means, for example, that elk wintering on a Wyoming feedground could carry disease into the central elk mixing zone in Yellowstone National Park, putting them in contact with other herds and thousands of elk arriving from Idaho and Montana.

When asked about Wyoming continuing to operate feedgrounds in the face of expert opinion decrying them, Talbott acknowledged the contradiction. Wyoming Game and Fish, he said, will soon embark on a new public outreach program to help educate citizens about CWD and experiments are underway to limit feeding and decrease elk densities, he said.

When CWD strikes Greater Yellowstone's herds, alarm bells will sound, public land managers will be forced to act, but the question is: what action? That invariably will be accompanied by citizen finger pointing at the state of Wyoming, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal agencies allowing feedgrounds to operate.

A number of panelists at the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership summit noted that another devastating consequence of CWD is the impact it's already had on the credibility of natural resource managers who are responsible for upholding the public trust.

Right now, no one can predict what the arrival of CWD means for Greater Yellowstone and its nationally treasured wildlife. The only certainty is this: if it turns out badly, it won't be just agencies that will be held to account, but also the people who are—and were—making the decisions.

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.







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The cleanest concrete you've ever seen

Geomatrix combines the cutting edge with ancient methods

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

LIVINGSTON, Mont. – Glass recycling is a hot topic in Montana; few programs process it, so the material populates landfills across the state. However, crushed and cleaned, some glass might get put to use flecking the Roman-like concrete of Livingston-based Geomatrix Inc.

While working as a research assistant at Montana State University in the early 2000s, owner Jon Cross developed a concrete made of recycled materials that was surprisingly strong and very clean. Using fly ash—a byproduct of burning pulverized coal for electricity—and crushed glass, he estimates the substance is 95-98 percent recycled materials before pigment is added for coloration.

"It's a seriously green, highly sustainable material," Cross said. His recipe revives ancient methods, such as those of the Romans, who used volcanic ash mixed with a mineral slurry to create concrete structures that still stand today.

"If they could do it then, why can't we do it now?" Cross said. He toured Italy when he began his research to learn from millennia-old structures like the Pantheon. "It made an impact on me."

After years of trial and error, Cross learned to control how quickly the flyash mixture hardened. The result was a compound that outstripped Portland cement, the material traditionally used to make concrete. Cement as the "glue," rock or sand is added as the aggregate, creating concrete.

"If you can learn how to control the set, it's basically a really high-performance concrete, and it's a waste product," Cross said. With fly ash from a Billings powerplant, he's dialed the material to withstand pressure between 10,000 and 15,000 pounds per square inch. Typical concrete is rated for 4,000 pounds per square inch.

And instead of the 28-day curing time of traditional concrete, Cross said that the fly-ash concrete reaches full strength in approximately a week. During his research days, many academics were incredulous that fly-ash concrete could viably substitute Portland cement, yet it's all Cross has used the past 18 years; the past eight, it's been the bread and butter of Geomatrix. The company has been sought after for its use of crushed glass as the aggregate because ambers, greens and blues fleck the face of the concrete.

Geomatrix's concrete work stands in buildings such as the Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship at MSU, and the NorthWestern Energy headquarters building in Butte. On a project in Yellowstone National Park, Cross estimates they used 100 tons of crushed glass to make picnic tables, countertops and wall caps.

Recently, Cross and his employee, Joe Spidel, have focused more on residential work. They cast countertops, shower and floor panels, but, with a wealth of construction knowledge between them, they don't stop at concrete. From cabinets to rebuilding stairs, they've done work at homes in Big Sky's Moonlight Basin, Bozeman, Missoula, Butte and Paradise Valley.

And they haven't had to go far for fly ash: throughout the past 18 years, a Billings powerplant has supplied all that they need.



Recycled glass that has been crushed and cleaned flecks the surface of one of Geomatrix's flyash countertops. PHOTO COURTESY OF GEOMATRIX INC.



Geomatrix Inc. uses crushed glass shipped from Salt Lake City or Denver and fly ash from a Billings powerplant to make concrete similar to that of the Romans, yet far stronger. PHOTO BY BAY STEPHENS

"Burning coal is nasty," Cross said. "And that was the whole attraction for me ... they've already polluted and they're just throwing this ash away. If you take that and use it as concrete, you're not adding any more emissions in the process."

The same can't be said of Portland cement.

According to marketplace.org, as much as 10 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions result from the production of Portland cement. Production involves sending raw materials through a 2,700-degree kiln, which can be up to 12 feet in diameter and "longer in many instances than the height of a 40-story building," according to the Portland Cement Association website. The process is so energy intensive, estimates have been made that every ton of cement yields a ton of carbon dioxide.

Geomatrix used to source crushed glass locally, too, from just down the road, in fact. Livingston's Solid Waste Department used to crush glass and sell to Cross until they shut down the glass crusher a couple of years ago. After that, Cross bought glass from a Bozeman gravel pit before finally opting for glass out of Denver or Salt Lake City, the final destinations of any glass collected for recycling in Montana.

"We can get glass out of there for the same cost as we can get it from here," Cross said, noting the additional processing costs of cleaning local glass.

Since they decommissioned their crusher due to the manpower it required and a lack of floor space, glass has been a thorn in the side of Rich Stordalen, the Livingston transfer station foreman.

"I've got a mountain of glass that ain't doing nothing," Stordalen said.

He estimates that he's sitting on 250-300 tons of glass. For \$60 a ton, he can package and ship it to Momentum Recycling in Salt Lake City, but with the large quantities he receives, he said it's just not feasible. Instead, he could send it to a landfill for \$48 a ton.

Although Cross approached Stordalen about taking over the glass crusher, the costs and strings that the Solid Waste Department attached to it quickly shut down discussion. Stordalen said no one's come back after seeing the operation cost

"I just don't know what to do with glass," Stordalen said.

Although it would be convenient for Cross to source crushed glass locally, he's more focused on the other irons he has in the fire. Cross continues to experiment with mixtures, and his current projects are aimed at creating all-natural, mineral-activated geopolymers to use in lieu of Portland cement concrete and fly ash concrete for decorative applications. He's also ordered a computer numerical control router that will significantly change their capabilities when it comes to making molds for sinks and wall panels.

And whatever projects Cross undertakes next, he intends to keep things clean and green.

PRIVATE CLUB HOMESITES

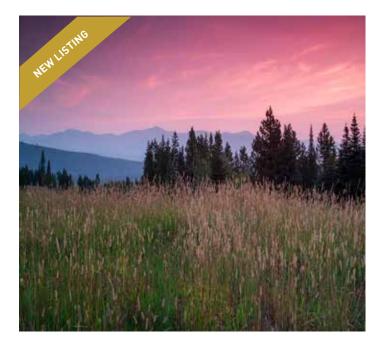


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Powell's vision of the West

Lines drawn by the land and its watersheds

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

Dubbed the "Arid Lands" by John Wesley Powell, the American West and its pervasive brown tint dismayed settlers as they moved from fertile eastern states to stake claims in the American frontier. Powell, the iconic, one-handed and self-taught geologist, professor, pioneer and statesman, recognized that water would be the limiting factor in western American development.

Powell sought to organize the sprouting communities in a way that united them around the scarce resource, which would have yielded a very different West than the one that we know today.

According to Dr. Mark Fiege, an environmental historian at Montana State University, the Land Ordinance of 1792 had sectioned the unsurveyed land in the western U.S. into square-mile tracts, or 640-acre parcels. Nearly a century later, the Homestead Act of 1862 and subsequent acts mobilized waves of settlers to the West, granting 160-acre parcels—a quarter of a square mile—to homesteaders with the promise of ownership.

In "Seeing Things Whole," a collection of Powell's writings, editor William deBuys writes that "the act guaranteed suffering and sorrow by encouraging people to stake their all on a gamble they were sure to lose," as less than 20 inches of annual rainfall in the Arid Lands wouldn't produce a marketable crop. Irrigation was essential to agriculture, but stream flows were diverted until they ran dry, and settlers were often pitted against one another to get enough water to their land.

Unless settlement patterns changed, Powell knew that contention over water would be the heritage of the West. "Powell was a realist when it came to appraising the environmental capacities of the mostly arid West," Fiege said. Powell saw another way.

During his extensive travels throughout the West, Powell encountered collectivist communities such as the Mormons in Utah and Hispanic villages at the base of Colorado's Sangre De Cristo Mountains, whose collaborative land management impressed him.

The system employed by the Hispanic villages involved a communal tract of optimally located farmland near the valley floor. A large irrigation ditch—an "acequía madre"—brought water from mountain streams to the farmland, forking into smaller acequías to reach individual plots. Plots were cultivated by separate families but not owned in the way that we define ownership today, Fiege said.

An "ejido"—Spanish for "common land"—surrounded the town and fields, and was unfit for agriculture, used instead as pasturage and timberland.

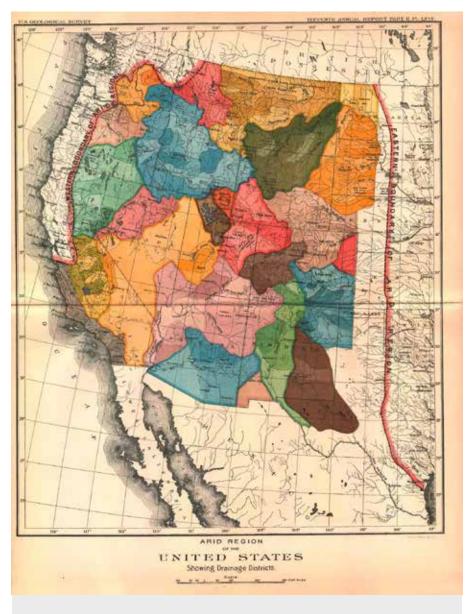
"You can see there is already imbedded in these lands a notion of collective or communal ownership and operation," Fiege said. Powell just wanted to scale it up.

He proposed dividing the West into water districts based on hydrographic basins, where those that lived in areas where the waters flowed into the same stream would be members of the same district. The federal government would initially conduct geographic and hydrological surveys to determine boundaries between districts, water volumes caught in each, and lands that could be sustainably cultivated with these waters.

It was a "[a structure] of local government [designed] to nurture the growth of communities in balance with the capacity of the land," deBuys writes.

Under Powell's system, the government wouldn't allow water caught in one hydrographic district to be used in another, or on land not designated as irrigable. That would be the extent of federal involvement, however.

"[Powell] believed that once the central government had established fair rules for economic and social interaction, it should get out of the way,"



John Wesley Powell, a polymath who explored much of the West after the Civil War, envisioned districts based on watersheds, ideally promoting cooperation between individuals sharing a hydrographic basin. MAP COURTESY OF LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

deBuys writes. It would be the responsibility of the people to govern themselves and their own water usage going forward, making decisions from the perspective of a community with shared interests.

Powell envisioned as many as 150 such commonwealths spread throughout the West. They would function similarly to county districts except the lines would be drawn by the land. Had Powell's proposals been implemented, the Gallatin-Madison county line wouldn't split Big Sky in half and satellite images of the western United States wouldn't reveal sprawling grids of farmland. Some of these watershed commonwealths would straddle two or even three states.

However, by the time Powell presented the most robust version of his idea to the U.S. House of Representatives committee on irrigation around 1890, an array of cultural, historical and political challenges caused Powell's vision to go unheeded.

It's difficult to know whether these districts would have been successful. deBuys discusses how, with 150 separate districts, there would have been "150 separate experiments" and as many different outcomes. The functioning of each district would be distinct from any other by virtue of disparate landscapes and watersheds and individuals. Some outcomes may have been little different from what happened in the water-starved West. Others could have exceeded the best of Powell's hopes for a cooperative agrarian community.

"We will never know," deBuys writes, "All we can be sure of is that the variety of results would have been greater than that which the Arid Lands have thus far known."

Golf Tips: Gimmes are not always good

BY MARK WEHRMAN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

If you've ever played golf, you're probably familiar with the term "gimme." If not, a gimme refers to a putt that's very close to the hole and is considered to be made without actually having to putt it into the hole.

That all sounds very harmless, but when it comes to posting a score, it'll hurt you in the long run. Gimmes are fun to accept and will make you believe you're scoring better than you really are. But, if you've ever played in any tournaments where you have to putt everything out, you know how difficult some of those 1- to 3-foot putts can be, especially under pressure.

I'm not going to lie to you and say I've never accepted a gimme from a playing partner. When the ball is less than a foot away from the hole, the probability of missing it is pretty low, so accepting the gimme will help keep the pace of play moving fast—and I'm all for anything that helps speed up the game.

But outside of that 1 foot, circumstances change drastically. When the pressure is there and it's required to hole every putt out, that 1- to 3-foot putt can appear to be much more than it is.

There are positives that come out of holing every putt. Psychologically, hearing the ball hit the bottom of the cup on every hole is a huge confidence booster. It was said to me earlier this year from a playing partner who putted every ball in the hole. When I tried to give him a gimme, he said, "That is the sound I pay for."



Hannah Smith set up over a gimme putt. PHOTO BY MARK WEHRMAN

That statement has stuck with me this year and I've now been putting everything out. I truly believe that the more of those short putts you make, the more confident you'll be standing over them. Like the old saying goes, "practice makes permanent."

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



THE LONE PEAK PLAYBOOK



BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

Football

On Aug. 24, the Lone Peak gridiron gang routed Box Elder High, 58-30, at home for their first game of the season. Box Elder had the weight on the mountain boys, but the Big Horns had the speed and connectivity when it came to the passing game.

Box Elder scored first but were immediately answered on the ensuing kickoff when Big Horn junior Austin Samuels ran the ball deep into enemy territory. On the next play, senior halfback Kegan Babick waltzed into the end zone, then did it again for the extra two points to tie the game, 8-8. Among other touchdowns and stellar plays, freshman Bennet Miller caught a high-flying pass down the middle from junior quarterback Frankie Starz and jogged into the end zone untouched: not a bad way to start off freshman year.

The next Lone Peak football game is at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 1, at Park City.

Volleyball

During the fifth Battle in Big Sky invitational volleyball tournament, Lone Peak took the contest at their home court Aug. 25 against six visiting teams: West Yellowstone, Shields Valley, White Sulphur Springs, Fromberg, Harrison/Willow Creek and Sheridan.

In an eight-game bracket with a three-game guarantee, both the Big Horn varsity and JV teams made it through all eight rounds. Head coach Missy Botha said that the tournament was a good way to warm up the team for the regular season, allowing them to get used to their positions and rotations.

"Our success during the coming season is going to boil down to how well we pass the ball," Botha wrote in an email. "I have been boring the girls to tears with passing drills and form. That is exactly what made the difference at the tourney.

"The solid passing from Kodi Boersma and Chloe Hammond made it possible for Ivy Hicks to put up some beautiful sets to Solae Swenson and Brooke Botha in the middle," she added.

The vibe on the court impressed Botha the most.

"These girls are clicking," she said. "They are supportive of each other, and communicate well both offensively and in the back row."

Botha said her captains made a strong showing that the younger players can look up to; she expects this to be a season to remember.

The next Lone Peak volleyball game is at home against Shields Valley at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 1. On Friday, Sept. 7, they'll face off against rival West Yellowstone on their home court at 7 p.m.

Cross-country

For the first time in school history, cross-country joins the fall sports lineup. Coach David Brekke, also head coach of the track team, has four boys signed up. Beginning the Tuesday after Labor Day, they'll practice five days a week running outside and will primarily compete on Fridays and Saturdays, Brekke said.

For this first year, Brekke said that all of their meets will be away from Big Sky, although their schedule hasn't been finalized yet. Brekke hopes others will join the cross-country team in its inaugural year.

Soccer

The new Big Sky Futbol Club will travel for their first match of the season Saturday, Sept. 8, at 4 p.m. in Great Falls. Their first home game is 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15, against Billings Christian Academy at the Big Sky Community Park.



Golden Goats repeat as Big Sky Softball tournament champions

The LPC Golden Goats finished the season strong, winning the regular season championship game against the Huckers 22-2. For the second year in a row, the Golden Goats also prevailed in the end-of-season, double elimination tournament, again facing the Huckers, who had a walk-off homerun against the Shedhorn Grillers, to make it to the finals.

The 16th season of the Big Sky Co-ed Softball League went smoothly again, thanks to the hundreds of volunteer hours put in by Lee Horning, Dave Schwalbe, Queen Jean Palmer, and BSCO's Whitney McKenzie.

The Goats were happy to slide past Cinemabear early in the tournament with a clutch hit by first basemen Pete Manka. Charlie Gaillard's pitching and lots of big hits helped them along the rest of the way. PHOTO BY KENE SPERRY



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.

You can keep the Gallatin River healthy















Making it in Big Sky

Grizzly Outfitters

BY SARAH GIANELLI **EBS SENIOR EDITOR**

BIG SKY - Like nearly all the businesses EBS has featured in this column, Grizzly Outfitters had humble beginnings. Owners Andrew Schreiner and Ken Lancey opened their first shop in what is now the lobby of American Bank in the spring of 1994. As two young friends who met in Big Sky Resort's rental shop, they tried their luck by renting bikes and selling t-shirts and Frisbees.

The following winter, they converted the 852-square-foot space into a full service ski shop. In their second winter, the tram opened and they expanded Grizzly into the space next door and used it for ski rentals. In 1998, Grizzly moved to the Meadow Village Center, and increased their inventory and employees.

During the summer of 2005 they rolled the dice again and built their current location in Town Center, where they have gradually expanded their ski rental and repair services, as well as the bike shop in the summer. In 2013, they added a dedicated fly shop and ski rental location in the canyon.

As part of this ongoing series, Schreiner and Lancey shared their thoughts with EBS about what it takes to make it as small business owners in Big Sky. They collaborated

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

on the answers below.

Grizzly Outfitters: Living, volunteering, playing, raising kids and working in a community that we care very much about. We don't focus on the competition; instead we have stayed focused on our customer. We give them the experience they expect while on vacation.

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

G.O.: Marc Noel and his family were our first customers and they still come into the shop every time they're in town.

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

G.O.: Seasonality is a huge hurdle. Big Sky still is busy for six months and not busy for six months. For us specifically, being dependent on the weather is a source of stress. We're always eager to get the next snowstorm.

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



Ken Lancey (left) and Andrew Schreiner met working in a ski rental shop at Big Sky Resort before venturing out on their own to open Grizzly Outfitters in 1994. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

G.O.: Big Sky has become a more cohesive community; it's now much less divided from the mountain to the meadow all the way through the canyon. Collaboration from all areas has made the tide rise and has helped our boat rise along the way.

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

G.O.: Big Sky is our home and there is no place like it.

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

G.O. During the recession, we hosted a "Black Friday Cost Sale" from 5 to 8 a.m. to raise some cash and help the locals of Big Sky get into some cheap gear. Pretty much the entire town showed up with a line of 30 people at the door at 4:30 in the morning. Let's just say it wasn't terribly profitable but it was a success in terms of helping out the community during a rough time. People still talk about it.

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

G.O.: I don't dare to comment—trends are always changing, and you have to constantly adjust and perfect your own operation to keep it relevant, fun and profitable.

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

G.O.: "If you work, you will succeed. If you don't, you will fail ... it's as simple as that."

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

G.O.: Stay open through the off-seasons to maintain a base of loyal locals. Post your hours and stick to them. Manage your cash flow.

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

G.O.: Hopping, just like the town of Big Sky.

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

G.O.: Being the best town to live in and visit in the Rocky Mountain West.

EBS: Would you do it all over again?

G.O. Without a doubt.

GRIZZLY OUTFITTERS - BY THE NUMBERS





YEARS IN BUSINESS:



LONGEST SERVING EMPLOYEES:

Andy Haynes, full-time, 6 years;

Nick Turner, winter, 9 years

Luxe rebrands as The Standard

Cocktail lounge adds brunch and small plates

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – As of its first Sunday brunch on Aug. 19, Luxe Spirits and Sweets is now The Standard, transitioning from small dessert items to more restaurant-style desserts and savory snacks to accompany their classic cocktails.

Still open from 4 p.m. until late at night, Tuesday through Saturday, The Standard will serve brunch every other Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through the end of October, when the business will close for offseason.

Owner Keith Robins said the brunch's emphasis is on drinking, with bottomless mimosas and a Bloody Mary bar to accompany savory menu items such as breakfast carbonara, brioche benedict, fried green tomato BLTs, and sweeter options like lemon ricotta pancakes.

The first brunch drew twice the crowd Robins expected, and he's gearing up for the next event on Sept. 2. The Standard will serve brunch every Saturday and Sunday when it reopens for the winter.

Serving dinner is not Robbins' intention, but rather to be the spot to go before and after.

"We're an after-dinner experience," Robins said. "[But] we recognize that there's a need in town for [somewhere] to go and get a nice cocktail while they wait for their reservation."

The Standard is curing their own meats—wild game and bison among other cuts—to be featured on unique charcuterie plates. Robins said they'll offer appetizer-sized portions for groups headed to dinner, and bigger plates as a light dinner for those who couldn't reserve a table elsewhere. He expects the meats to be ready when they open for winter.

Robins also hinted at the future possibility of The Standard featuring a speakeasy poker room behind a hidden doorway.





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

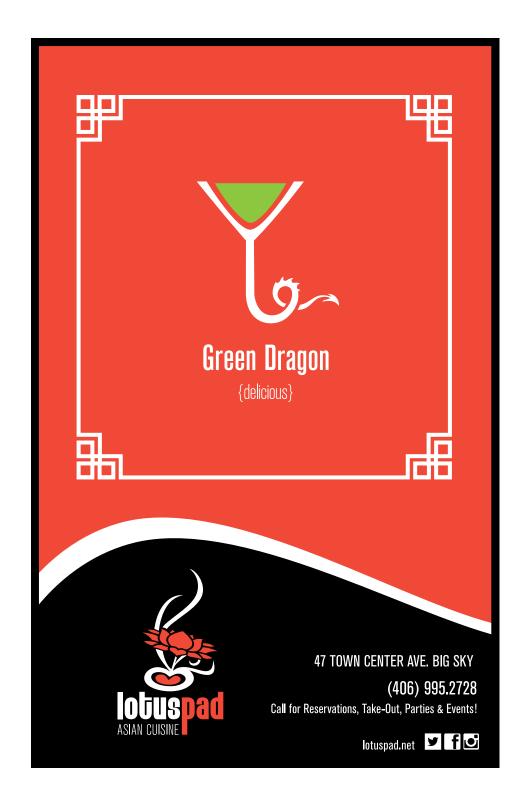
This bird hides thousands of seeds each year, and studies have shown that they can remember where they have hidden nearly all of their seeds.

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

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

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Lone Mountain Ranch hosts TASTE food festival

On Saturday, Sept. 1 from 1 to 8 p.m., Lone Mountain Ranch will host TASTE, a day-long food, spirits and music-focused event featuring Horn & Cantle restaurant favorites, cocktails, wine, local craft beers, and games. From 5-8 p.m. guest and ranch chefs will battle it out in a BBQ cook-off with live music provided by country and western band www.Twang. Visit lonemountainranch.com to make reservations. PHOTO COURTESY OF LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH



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.

Vanilla, anything but bland



BY SCOTT MECHURA EBS FOOD COLUMNIST

Why does vanilla get a bad rap?

Last month we learned a little more about saffron, the world's most expensive spice. Now let's explore the Park Place to saffron's Boardwalk.

"Plain vanilla." A term we hear frequently. We use it when a machine, car or piece of technology lacks any sort of bells

and whistles. Or to describe the droning background music played in elevators to fill the otherwise uncomfortable silence between strangers.

But to the contrary.

Vanilla is expensive, hard to propagate, and one of the most unique flavors in the world. With such a widespread use and hefty price tag, it fascinates me that one of the world's most sought after, prized spices would become synonymous with boring, and almost an afterthought in virtually any baking recipe in most cultures.

The fruit we know as vanilla is the pod of the Mexican flat-leafed vanilla orchid. At lengths up to 300 feet, it is among the top 20 longest vines in the world.

The Totonac people of eastern Mexico were the first to cultivate vanilla. When the Aztecs conquered the Totonacs, they called the pods of the orchid "black flower" because they dried and shriveled to their dark state shortly after picking.

The Aztecs almost immediately began flavoring their chocolate drinks with it, but Europeans believed it to be "a drink for pigs." It wasn't until the apothecary of Queen Elizabeth used it without chocolate that it took hold in Europe.

Various species of vanilla are grown in China, Madagascar, Tonga, Mexico, Turkey, Reunion, Comoros, Guadeloupe, and many places in between. But that wasn't always the case.

In the 1520s, Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes introduced vanilla to Europe, where they immediately coveted its sweet, floral aroma and flavor. However, it was almost exclusively enjoyed by the wealthy aristocracy because cultivating it in mass quantities proved challenging.

But in 1841, thanks to a 12-year-old slave by the name of Edmond Albius, and a stick, that all changed. He learned that these flowers could be hand-pollinated rather easily and quickly.

Soon plants were sent from the tiny islands of Reunion and Mauritius to several more islands along the coast of Africa, not the least of which, Madagascar, along with instructions on how to hand-pollinate them, sparking the beginning of global cultivation.

There are three major varieties of vanilla used for culinary purposes today. But the majority of vanilla is of the bourbon variety. There is a misconception out there that it got its name because the pods are saturated in American bourbon. This is not the case. As to the origins of its name, I offer my own theory.

Some contest the name of American bourbon and its connection to Bourbon County, Kentucky, claiming the timing doesn't add up. In what turns out to be a classic question of chicken or the egg, bourbon vanilla is from Mexico. Though not an appellation, bourbon is an American spirit, and American oak is coveted by wineries and distilleries worldwide for its distinct vanilla characteristics. To me, there's a connection in there somewhere.

So did the Totonacs take the name because the pods resembled the flavor from American oak, or did bourbon, as opposed to the name whiskey, get its name from aging in American oak barrels with the bourbon vanilla flavor profile?

Either way, vanilla is anything but plain.

My mother recently reminded me that even as a child, I asked why vanilla ice cream was called plain ice cream. "Vanilla is a flavor isn't it?"

"Well yes, I suppose so," she said.

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



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SECTION 3: OUTDOORS, HEALTH & BACK 40







INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



Gateway partners help ensure Yellowstone is preserved forever

BY CHRISTINE GIANAS WEINHEIMER YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

Every visit to Yellowstone National Park begins in a gateway community, and most of Yellowstone's millions of annual visitors do more than simply pass through. They depend on the restaurants, lodging, and other services provided in the communities surrounding the park. In doing so they also help keep these businesses thriving.

Last year, Yellowstone visitors spent nearly \$500 million in communities near the park—such as Big Sky and Livingston, Montana; and Cody and Jackson, Wyoming—and supported more than 7,000 jobs. Yellowstone Forever, the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park, created the Gateway Business Partners program to encourage businesses to be stewards of Yellowstone by joining a diverse regional network of like-minded companies.

"Many businesses and their employees have chosen to create lives in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem because of its unparalleled access to public lands," explained Daniel Bierschwale, director of gateway partnerships for Yellowstone Forever. "The Gateway Business Partners program offers assorted benefits while helping preserve the region's economic vitality attributed to Yellowstone."

Gateway businesses can demonstrate their commitment to the world's

first national park by becoming a partner at their chosen stewardship level. The funds they donate are invested in the preservation of the ecosystem that fuels the statewide economies of Greater Yellowstone.

"Nearly every business in the Greater Yellowstone region is influenced in some positive way by Yellowstone National Park," said Paul Robertson, general manager of Sage Lodge. The Paradise Valley resort, located just north of the park, has been a Gateway Partner since before opening its doors this summer. "Whether the impact is a direct driver of commerce, or a driver of quality of life for themselves and their employees, Yellowstone Park shapes our daily lives at work and in our communities."

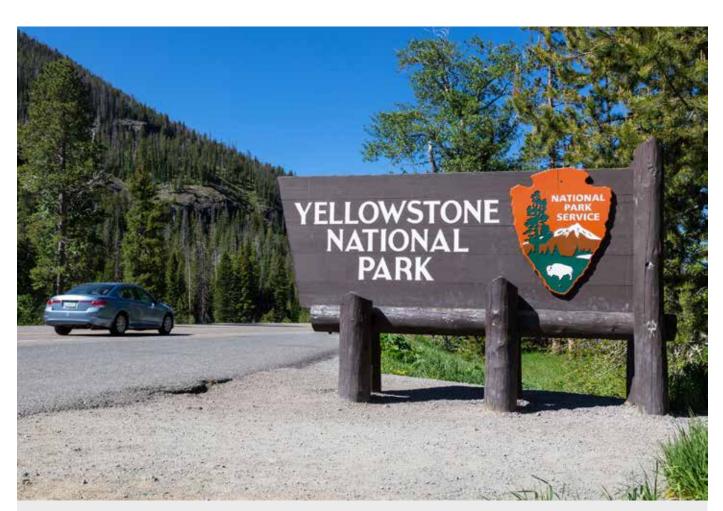
In addition to the economic and lifestyle benefits of doing business in close proximity to Yellowstone, many Gateway Partners say the program aligns perfectly with their company's core ethics and values.

"Oboz was actually inspired by the very place we live, work, and play, including the park itself and all the surrounding lands," said Christian Mason, vice president of sales and marketing for Bozeman, Montanabased Oboz Footwear. "It was an easy decision to support the park as a business partner and neighbor. We wanted give back and help the park's mission into the future—for visitors and wildlife, too."

At the entry level of \$500, Gateway Business Partners receive a windowcling to display at their business and an exclusive invitation to the preseason Yellowstone training hosted by Yellowstone Forever. At higher supporter levels, benefits may include access to Yellowstone maps for customer distribution, and business recognition on the digital honor wall at Old Faithful, bear boxes in campgrounds, or Yellowstone Forever's website.

"Gateway Partners have an opportunity to preserve the heritage of Yellowstone National Park—the heartbeat of this ecosystem," Bierschwale said. "In addition to helping fund park priorities, businesses can demonstrate their support of the park and promote stewardship. This will become essential as new generations experience the park and visitation grows."

To learn more or become a Gateway Business member of Yellowstone Forever, visit yellowstone.org.



Yellowstone Forever partners with gateway communities to preserve the park, which supports the many area businesses that depend on its visitors. NPS PHOTO

Boy injured by grizzly in Yellowstone

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – A 10-year-old boy was injured by a grizzly bear in Yellowstone National Park on Aug. 23 after he and his family encountered the bear on Divide Trail southeast of Old Faithful. This was the first bear attack reported in Yellowstone since 2015, though the park sees an average of one per year.

The Washington family was about a half-mile up the trail when the bear appeared out of the vegetation. According to a statement released by Yellowstone officials, the boy ran from the bear, but it chased and knocked him to the ground, causing injuries to his wrist, back and buttocks.

His parents deployed bear spray and it left the area.

Following the incident, the family returned to the trailhead, drove to the Old Faithful Ranger Station, and the boy was transferred to the Big Sky Medical Center for treatment.

Law enforcement and bear management staff returned to Divide Trail after the encounter in order to identify the bear species. Tracks were spotted that indicate the bear was a female grizzly with at least one cub born this year or last, likely foraging next to the trail when the encounter occurred.

As this was a surprise encounter where the female grizzly was likely defending its cub, park rangers do not intend to search for the bear.

"This incident could have been more serious. We applaud the family for traveling in a group, carrying bear spray, and knowing how to effectively use it during their emergency," said Yellowstone National Park Deputy Superintendent Pat Kenney in the statement. "We wish their son a full recovery from his injuries."

At EBS press time on Aug. 29, both Spring Creek and Divide trails remained temporarily closed while bear managers monitored the area for bear activity.



A sow grizzly is suspected of injuring a 10-year-old boy in Yellowstone in August, likely after being surprised while foraging with her cub. CC PHOTO

As black bears and grizzlies prepare for hibernation, they become hyperphagic and dramatically increase their food intake in order to gain weight for winter survival.

It's important for everyone visiting Yellowstone National Park in the fall to be especially bear-aware as the bruins are more active and potentially less aware of their surroundings as they seek food. To avoid surprise encounters, be alert, make noise and hike in groups of three or more. The park advises visitors to carry bear spray and try to stand your ground if charged by a bear.

Visit go.nps.gov/yellbearsafety to learn more.



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Demonstration at Artist Point

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Demonstration at bike path
near Old Faithful

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Native fish reintroduction efforts continue on Upper Gibbon River

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – During the last half of August, Yellowstone National Park staff moved forward with a native fish reintroduction project within the Upper Gibbon River drainage, which includes streams that flow out of Grebe, Wolf and Ice lakes into the Gibbon River.

Between Aug. 20 and 26, biologists removed nonnative rainbow trout and brook trout from the drainage by applying the piscicide rotenone, which is a fish toxin derived from the roots of tropical plants. Downstream of the treatment area, biologists added potassium permanganate to the water to limit the effects of the rotenone outside of the targeted waters.

Lori Iverson, a spokeswoman for the park, said staff are monitoring the streams to determine the effectiveness of the chemical treatment, though park biologists were unavailable to comment at EBS press time on Aug. 29.

During an April angling information meeting in Bozeman, fisheries biologist Jeff Arnold discussed the Upper Gibbon River drainage project, saying that managers treated the project area with rotenone in 2017 as well. The Lower Gibbon River Falls is a naturally occurring 20-foot cascade waterfall that serves as a barrier to upstream movement of fish into the treatment areas.

In October 2017, 2- to 3-inch-long cutthroat were introduced into Wolf and Grebe lakes. This mitigated the impacts of the 2017 fish removal on loons and swans living in the area, Arnold said.

This year's chemical treatment will be followed by reapplication in 2019 and, if needed, in 2020, to ensure the removal of nonnative fish. Once these nonnative fish are removed, reintroduction of native fish will begin. According to a statement released by park officials, reintroduction is slated for 2021.

The work on the Upper Gibbon is part of a larger reintroduction program aimed at



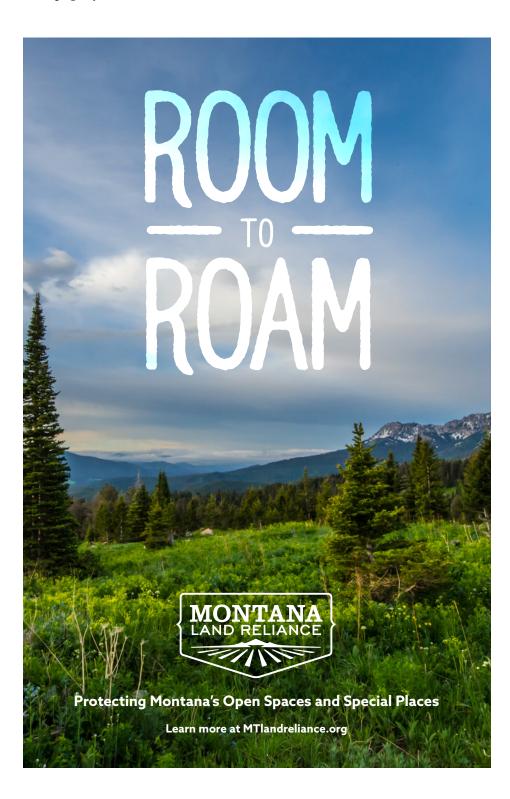
Young cutthroat trout. Following as many as three or four treatments of the piscicide rotenone, westslope cutthroat trout will be reintroduced into the upper Gibbon River in 2021. NPS PHOTO

restoring native Yellowstone and westslope cutthroat trout, as well as fluvial arctic grayling, to the park's waters. Historic stocking of nonnative species has increased competition and predation for many native species, leading to a decline in their populations.

In recent years, park biologists have worked to restore native populations in the East Fork of Specimen Creek, Goose Lake and Grayling Creek.

Visit nps.gov/yell to learn more about the Native Fish Conservation Plan.





Big Sky Biggie draws crowd of mountain bikers to local trails

BY DOUG HARE **EBS STAFF**

BIG SKY - On the morning of Aug. 25, Town Center was buzzing with activity well before 7 a.m. More than 200 riders were getting ready to tackle the inaugural Big Sky Biggie event, a 30- and 50-mile mountain bike race lacing through Big Sky's extensive

From the Meadow, up to Big Sky Resort and down the classic Mountain-to-Meadow trail, as well as newer additions to the local trail network like Ralph's Pass, all of the community's best dirt was featured.

"For our first-year event, I was incredibly pleased with the participation numbers and community support. It was honestly everything I dreamed it would be, and I'm so proud of our town, volunteers, sponsors, land partners, and of course our 'Biggie Board," said race director Natalie Osborne. "Our goals were to bring the community together, raise funds to improve the connectivity of the existing trail network, and to bring visitors to Big Sky. I think we nailed it."

Osborne and BSCO Executive Director Ciara Wolfe were able to navigate multiple agreements with private land owners, associations and businesses in order to provide a course that showed the promise that Big Sky's burgeoning trail network holds for riders from near and far-and one that will also help the BSCO's Master Trail Plan become a reality.

With nearly 270 registrations for the event, including the short-track race on Sunday, and a cap at 300, the event proved to be a near sell-out in its first year. According to Osborne, it was important to create a race with liberal registration policies for the inaugural event. So, up until the day before the race, competitors could transfer their race registration to someone else or defer their registration to next year, without penalty.

Osborne noted that she was emotional during the event, "thanks to a combination of sleep-deprivation and sheer joy." She said that she was able to hold it together on Saturday, even when Kevin Noble was presenting the Montanner award, for the fastest climb in the first 7 miles of the course, to young pro rider and recent MSU graduate Tanner Visnick. The award was named in honor of Tanner Scott Noble who tragically passed away at 18 years old while riding at Big Sky Resort last year.

"But at Sunday's short track event, when juniors and kids between the ages of 5-14 took to the course with huge smiles and laughter, I just lost it and had to walk off into the sage to cry," Osborne said. "I was just so happy."

Safety Director for the event, Phil Hess, was quick to give Osborne credit: "She brought together an incredible list of sponsors, attracted a premium field of riders, over [one-quarter] of the participants were women, had cash prizes—which is exceptional for a first-year event—and coordinated 60 volunteers. Just wow."



















KEVIN NOBLE, ASHLEY NOBLE,



50 Mile - Womens		
Amber Steed	Kalispell, MT	5:15:55
Jennifer Wolfrom	Jackson, WY	5:31:46
Ivy Pedersen	Bozeman, MT	5:42:06
50 Mile - Mens		
Tanner Visnick	Steamboat Springs, CO	4.12.12
Eric Chizum	Hailey, ID	4:12:13 4:30:38
John Curry	Bozeman, MT	
Joint Curry	bozeman, wn	4:34:30
30 Mile - Womens		
Sarah McCarthy	Bozeman, MT	3:28:37
Chelsee Pummel	Bozeman, MT	3:33:34
Marti Brandt	Whitefish, MT	3:35:36
30 Mile - Mens		
Eric Bowman	Bozeman, MT	2:48:39
Scott Makoutz	Bozeman, MT	3:01:07
Chad Wilson	Gallatin Gateway, MT	3:06:49
Short Track - Womens		
Heidi Makoutz	Pozoman MT	21.04
	Bozeman, MT	31:04
Sarah McCarthy Jessie Donahue	Bozeman, MT Anchorage, AK	31:48
Jessie Dollaliue	Alicilotage, AK	33:19
Short Track - Mens		
Jason Donald	Bozeman, MT	27:59
Lewis Elliot	Billings, MT	29:33
Scott Makoutz	Bozeman, MT	31:46

Millions of public acres are inaccessible in the West

Conservation fund identified as key to unlock public land

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – West of the Rocky Mountains, 9.53 million acres of public land is inaccessible, according to a report completed by the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and onX Maps.

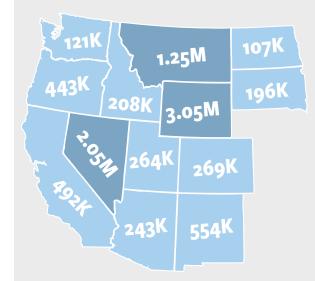
By utilizing geographic information systems, roads data and county records, TRCP and onX identified public land in 13 western states that is surrounded by private ownership and does not have legal access via a public road with a passenger vehicle.

The findings indicate that 1.52 million public acres are landlocked and inaccessible in Montana, while neighboring Idaho and Wyoming have a total of 208,000 and 3.05 million landlocked acres, respectively. In some of these cases, there may be existing access points, however the easements have not been secured legally and are not guaranteed into the future

Joel Webster, the TRCP western lands director, presented the report Aug. 27 in Bozeman during the TRCP Western Media Summit, an annual three-day gathering for writers, scientists, conservationists and government officials.

During his presentation, Webster cited the Land and Water Conservation Fund as one of the most important tools in gaining access to landlocked public land.

Public land without permanent legal public access in the West



Arizona: 243 K total landlocked acres California: 492 K Colorado: 269 K Idaho: 208 K New Mexico: 554 K North Dakota: 107 K South Dakota: 196 K Washington: 121 K Montana: 1.52 million Nevada: 2.05 million Orgeon: 443 K Utah: 264 K Wyoming: 3.05 million

Total: 9.52 million

The LWCF, established in 1965, is bankrolled annually by offshore drilling royalties and funds conservation and public lands projects throughout the U.S. It has been used to secure fishing access sites across Montana and develop several parks in Bozeman and West Yellowstone.

The LWCF is set to expire on Sept. 30.

"This is the tool to address this issue," Webster said. "If this program is not reauthorized, we've got a problem without a solution."

The TRCP and onX report, called "Off Limits but Within Reach," was recently distributed to the Department of the Interior, and will be sent to members of the U.S. Congress and related state agencies, in an effort to fuel conversations about improving public access in the West.

"The work is now to be done in pursuing a lot of these kind of policy opportunities that this information opens up," said Geoff Mullins, the chief operating and communications officer for TRCP.

Conservationists hope these efforts will garner support to permanently reauthorize LWCF after September, making \$900 million available every year for public lands and conservation projects, Webster said.

Visit unlocking publiclands.org to learn more.



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Montana general hunting season opens with archery Sept. 1

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT **EBS CONTRIBUTOR**

BIG SKY - The 2018 Montana hunting season is just around the corner and according to wildlife managers, herds in southwest Montana are healthy overall, but hunters should be prepared for potential hunter crowding.

"Herds are healthy, and there is plenty of opportunity for hunters to have a successful season," wrote Peggy O'Neill, information bureau chief for the Communication and Education Division of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, in an email to EBS. "South of Bozeman, hunter numbers have increased, including during archery seasons, so hunter crowding can be an issue."

She added that weather is still the biggest driver for successful harvest. "When it's warm and dry, game hears you coming and will scatter," she wrote. "If there is snowpack, game will concentrate and can be more easily accessible on winter ranges."

The general big game archery season opens Sept. 1, as do upland game bird seasons for mountain, sage and sharp-tailed grouse, as well as partridge. The general big game rifle season opens Sept. 15 and will run through Nov. 25, while pheasant hunting starts Oct. 6.

As is true for everyone recreating in southwest Montana, O'Neill said it's important that hunters be prepared in case of a bear encounter. Hunters should carry bear spray; hunt with a partner or tell someone about their plans; get harvested game out of the field quickly; be cautious and make noise if returning to a harvest site; and never attempt to haze a bear from a carcass, she added.

Montanans who plan to hunt out-of-state are reminded to know regulations and possible transportation restrictions in the state they are traveling to, particularly to avoid the spread of disease.

In Montana, it's illegal to bring in the heads and spinal columns of deer, elk and moose from states or provinces that have chronic wasting disease, a fatal neurological disease that was found for the first time in Montana's wild deer populations in Carbon and Liberty counties last year. Within the state, heads and spinal columns from deer, elk and moose from parts of Carbon and Liberty counties may not be moved outside of the area.

Visit fwp.mt.gov/hunting to learn more.



The general hunting season in Montana opens with a bow-only season Sept. 1-Oct. 14, followed by general rifle season Oct. 20-Nov. 25. Backcountry districts will open to archery Sept 1, followed by rifle on Sept. 15. PHOTO BY RYAN CASTLE



Inside the Big Sky

Big Sky is an 'R-Destination'

VISIT BIG SKY

There's poetry and beauty to the Big Sky experience, whether you live here year round or are just here for a visit. With so many opportunities to explore and engage with in the Big Sky area, we've boiled it down to three "R's" that define our destination so you can be sure to check them off your liet.

Recreate. This is a no-brainer as Big Sky is within minutes of year-round recreational activities, no matter where you are. Hike miles of trails, horseback ride through sweeping meadows, mountain bike the chute, ski or snowboard, whitewater raft, golf, camp, zipline ... there are so many ways to recreate a day away in Big Sky.

Relax. Take a deep, refreshing breath, and exhale. The crisp mountain air under the clear blue sky enhances a peaceful wade in the Gallatin River while fly fishing; an outdoor concert is the perfect setting to enjoy a picnic with good friends; a yoga class or spa service melts any stress away. The hustle and bustle of bigger cities fade, and is replaced by friendly smiles easily shared.

Respect. The reason we choose to visit or live in Big Sky is the natural beauty that thrives all around us. We appreciate what Big Sky has to offer and want to show our appreciation in return, through respect for the environment and the lifestyle it affords to ensure it remains a gift for generations to come.

Visit Big Sky has a new website. Visit visitbigsky.com where you'll see these three "R" words used throughout suggestions of what to do in southwest Montana, and descriptions of the services, accommodations, dining, shopping, businesses and lifestyle of the town we call home.



While in Big Sky don't forget to practice the three "R's": recreate, relax and respect. PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT BIG SKY





On the Trail: Respect

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

BY SARA MARINO EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Whether we lace up our hiking boots, saddle our horses, or put air in our mountain bike tires, there's something we should all have in common when we hit the trails: respect. It's easy to sometimes forget our manners, but here are a few reminders to help everyone have a positive day on the trails.

Respect Trail Users

There's a horse on the trail, what do you do? Or maybe a trail runner is coming up the hill while you're on your mountain bike coming down?

The etiquette is simple for mixed-use trails:

- Hikers, runners and bikers should always yield to horses.
- Bikers should yield to hikers and runners.
- Downhill traffic should yield to uphill traffic.

There may be a gray area where a biker riding uphill meets a hiker coming downhill. Use common sense and be polite. In a case like this, it may be easier for the hiker to step aside for a moment to let the biker continue their uphill momentum.

When encountering horses, step off the trail on the downhill side if possible. Speak to the rider in a relaxed tone so the horse knows you're not a threat and be sure you aren't hidden by bushes or trees, as this can appear particularly threatening to a horse.

Remember to be friendly. A simple "Hello" can make everyone feel good, and as a safety precaution, if something happens to you on your hike, it's helpful to have other people remember seeing you.

Respect Landowners

Big Sky is fortunate to have landowners who appreciate the fact that we choose to live here to enjoy the outdoor opportunities at our doorstep.

Ralph's Pass is a prime example. This moderate, 2.7-mile connector trail between BSCO's Uplands Trail and Ousel Falls Trail opened in June 2017, made possible by private landowner easements.

This multi-use trail is open seasonally from June 15 to Oct. 15, so be sure to get out there before it closes to protect sensitive wildlife habitat. Show the landowners your gratitude by staying on the trail and keeping your dog on a leash.

Respect the Trail

Keep it clean. Make sure to pack out any garbage you have, and pick up litter, even if it's not yours. This goes for your dog, too. Many trailheads have pet waste stations and bags if you forgot one. Pick your dog's waste up and throw it away. If you bag it and leave it on the side of the trail, you're not done.

Stay on the trail. Cutting switchbacks can be tempting, but it kills vegetation and causes erosion.

Stop the spread of invasive plants. Many invasive non-native plants grow aggressively and choke out native plants and overrun wildlife habitat. You can help by educating yourself on noxious weeds that need to be controlled, staying on the trail, and checking for seeds and burrs that like to hitchhike on your shoes, bike tires or your pet's fur.

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 sustainable places and programs for all.

Sara Marino is the new community development manager for the Big Sky Community Organization. She comes to Big Sky with 17 years of nonprofit experience from the Montana Environmental Information Center.

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Is this heaven?

No, it's the northeast corner of Yellowstone

BY PATRICK STRAUB EBS FISHING COLUMNIST

I've caught tigerfish on Africa's Zambezi River, giant trevally on Providence Atoll in the Seychelles, permit in the Caribbean, and trout in Patagonia. But if the fishing gods struck me down and sentenced me to only one more fishing day of my life, the choice of location is simple: Yellowstone National Park's northeast corner.

I've always been a Yellowstone cutthroat junkie. As a grade schooler I'd fish Soda Butte Creek. As a high schooler I'd dream about making out with girlfriends on the banks of the Lamar River. In college I began guiding these waters, and now in fatherhood, my daughters have a knack for enticing Yellowstone cutthroat trout to a dry fly.

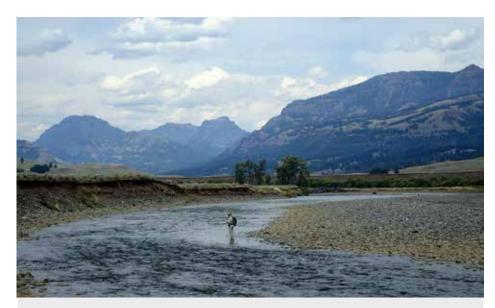
There are four distinct fisheries in the park's northeast corner. The Yellowstone River is large, voracious and intimidating. The Lamar is a multi-personality river with a meadow featuring textbook riffles and runs, and two inaccessible canyons where supposedly large trout live. Slough Creek is crystal clear and home to the world's most selective, yet consistently largest, Yellowstone cutthroat trout. And finally, the gem that is Soda Butte Creek.

The Yellowstone River tumbles out of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone near Tower Junction and flows to Gardiner, where it enters Montana. Accessing the river here is difficult, requiring long hikes or scrambles down steep banks. However, anglers are rewarded for their efforts with unpressured trout willing to eat large dry flies. Gear selection is simple—good hiking or wading shoes, plenty of drinking water, 7.5-foot 2X leaders with 3X tippet, and plenty of your favorite dry-fly patterns.

The Lamar River—named after Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar II, a corrupt Interior Secretary and Supreme Court justice who opposed voting rights for African Americans—is a hit-or-miss fishery. It features two distinct sections: the river downstream of the Lamar Valley, and the river in the Lamar Valley to its confluence with Soda Butte Creek. Downstream of the valley it's primarily canyon water featuring large boulders, and fast and deep pocket water. Home to rainbow and Yellowstone cutthroat trout, this water is relatively un-fished compared to the valley section.

The river in Lamar Valley is riffle and pool water, and home to gobs of cutthroat willing to eat well-presented dry flies. However, the moods, and movements, of these fish change daily. Anglers can have great success on one day in one riffle and return the next day, or a few days later, and get skunked. The Lamar has been this way for over 50 years and it will surely remain this way for another 50.

Slough Creek begins in Montana off the western slopes of Sugarloaf and Cutoff mountains. From its confluence with the Lamar River, Slough Creek consists of four meadows, each separated by short sections of fast and tight pocket water. The trout become consistently easier to catch the further you get from the first meadow, yet the hike becomes longer and longer.



Yellowstone National Park's northeast corner is home to Slough Creek (pictured here), Soda Butte Creek, the Lamar River, and the Black Canyon of the Yellowstone. A proverbial Murderers' Row of fly-fishing water, this is an ideal time to experience this unique area. PHOTO BY SHANE STALLING

If you have time, plan an overnight trip and camp at one of the several backcountry campsites along the trail. This is a must-do experience for any angler considering themselves a serious fly fisher. Bring plenty of dry flies—a favorite is a small black ant—and your favorite brand of 5X tippet. Master your reach cast and bring your camera, the meadows of Slough Creek are a place with no comparison.

Soda Butte Creek, aptly named after a geothermal feature near its banks, for years was the sleeper stream of the northeast corner waters. Because it's the smallest of the area's waters, anglers traditionally bypassed it, but Soda Butte Creek has been discovered. Remember that some good things come in small packages, and with a massive winter snowpack, Soda Butte Creek will have plenty of water through the fall. In fact, expect many of the trout residing in the Lamar River to migrate to the lower reaches of Soda Butte Creek.

Soda Butte has two meadow sections and plenty of canyon water. Large dry flies entice most of the fish to the surface, but if the trout are reluctant to rise, tie on your favorite size-16 nymph dropped about 18 inches from your favorite dry fly—that should do the trick.

When I fish these waters today, it's like stepping back in time. I can't cover nearly as much water as I could 20 years ago, nor can I make it to the second meadow of Slough Creek in less than 30 minutes like I could, but the fish and the scenery are as spectacular as ever.

Pat Straub is a 20-year veteran guide on Yellowstone National Park 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





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38 August 31 - September 13, 2018 **OUTDOORS Explore** Big Sky



RESORT ROUNDUP

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

THE RUT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

11:00 AM-6:00 PM | Rut Merchandise for sale at Big Sky Resort at Lone Peak Pavilion at the base of Swiftcurrent Lift.

1:00 PM | Lone Peak Vertical Kilometer start

4:00 PM | VK Awards Ceremony in the Big Sky Base Area

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

8:00 AM | Swiftcurrent Lift opens to the public (must have scenic lift ticket) Ramcharger lift to Andesite is closed due to construction in 2018

8:00 AM| Wave 1 28K start

8:05 AM | Wave 2 28K start

8:10 AM | Wave 3 28K start

10:00 AM-6:00 PM | Rut Merchandise for sale at Big Sky Resort at Lone Peak Pavilion at the base of Swiftcurrent Lift.

4:30 PM | 3rd Annual Rut Runts Run 1K

5:00 PM | 28K Awards Ceremony in Big Sky Base Area

7:00 PM | Speaker Series Event with the North Face Athlete Hillary Allen

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

6:00 AM | Wave 1 50K Race Start @ Big Sky Resort Base Area

6:05 AM | Wave 2 50K Race Start

6:10 AM | Wave 3 50K Race Start

6:45 AM | Swiftcurrent Lift opens to the public (must have scenic lift ticket) Ramcharger Lift to Andesite is closed due to construction in 2018 **8:00 AM** | Wave 1 11 K Race Start @ Big Sky Resort Base Area near Swift-

current lift base.

8:05 AM | Wave 2 11 K Race Start

8:10 AM | Wave 3 11 K Race Start

10:45 AM | 11K Awards Ceremony in Big Sky Base Area

6:30 PM | 50K Course officially closed

6:30 PM-7:00 PM | 50K Awards Ceremony @ Big Sky Resort Base Area near Swiftcurrent lift base.

8:00 PM-1:00 AM | Retro Themed Post Rut party at The Montana Jack in Big Sky Resort! Let's celebrate the end of summer! Costumes Encouraged! There will be live music and the Montana Jack will have drink specials.

SPECTATOR'S GUIDE TO THE RUT

= RUT TRAIL

BIG SKY BASE AREA

- Mountain Mall Mocha opens at 5 a.m. to accomodate runners
- Try Yeti Dogs for a quick lunch
- Check out Big Sky Resort retail locations for great end of summer sales

START & FINISH AREA

- Bring a cowbell or elk bugle to cheer on runners!
- Rut merchandise for sale
- Awards Ceremonies

EXPLORER VIEWING AREA

Purchase Scenic Lift Pass or hike to the top

RAMCHARGER VIEWING AREA

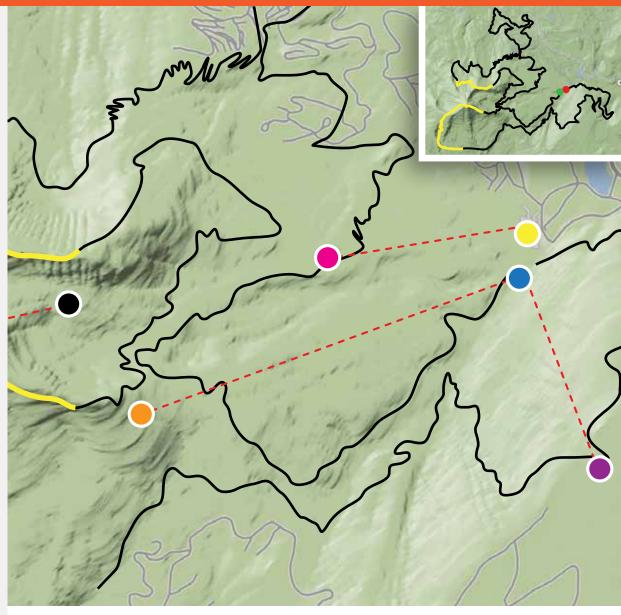
- Although ramcharger lift is closed, spectators are encouraged to hike up for spectating.
- Watch the race while enjoying a beer and lunch at Everett's 8800
- Everett's deck open until 6:30 p.m. Saturday!

SWIFT CURRENT VIEWING AREA

- Purchase Scenic Lift Pass or hike to the top
- Lift opens early at 8 a.m. on Saturday and 7:30 a.m. on Sunday to accommodate viewers.

TRAM TO LONE PEAK VIEWING AREA

• Lone Peak Expedition pass required



-- = CHAIRLIFT -

=OFF LIMITS

to spectators



- SUMMER ACTIVITIES - -



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.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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. See page 38 for race day tips.

SEPT. 28

Summer Closing Day



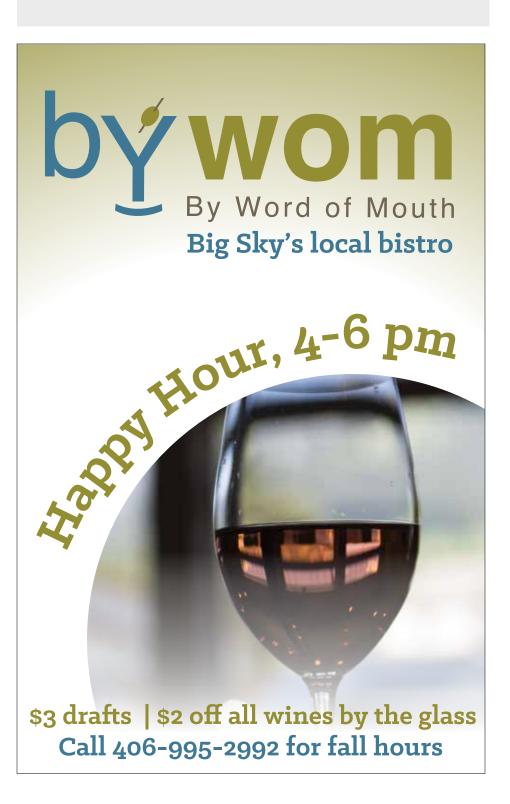
Resort golf course remains open through September

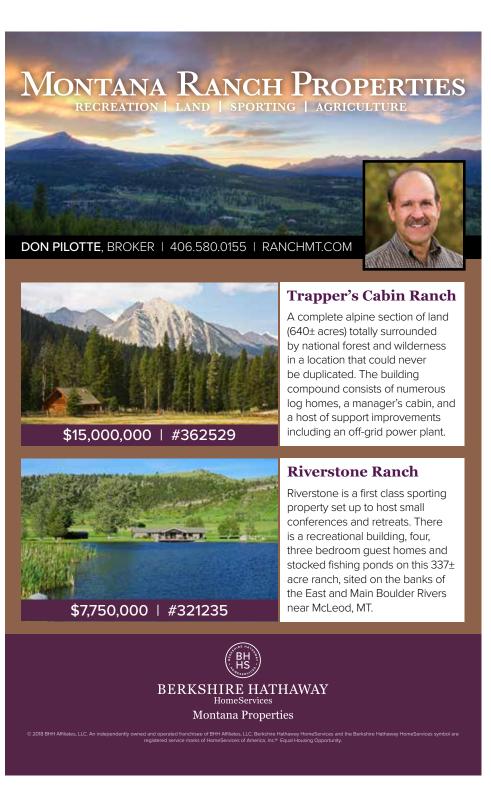
The Big Sky Golf Course remains open this September and won't close until Oct. 1. This means you still have time to hit a few balls on the green, participate in a clinic, or enjoy weekend brunch at the Bunker Deck and Grill.

The weekly Saturday clinics will continue Sept. 1 and 8, at 12 p.m., focusing on golf clubs and drills, respectively. The final Tuesday ladies' clinic will culminate in a tournament held Sept. 4.

During the last half of September, enjoy one of several golf tournaments: the IceHouse Open on Sept. 22, the Canyon Cup on Sept. 22-23, and the Ironman Open Sept. 29.

PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES









Yours in health

How emotions affect your health



BY DR. ANDREA WICK EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

One of the topics I am most passionate about in my practice is how emotions affect the physical body. Almost everyone agrees that stress can shorten the life span. There is also more awareness that over-working and constant stress can manifest into a health problem. You may know of people who have had a massive heart attack, have chronic stomach issues or suffer from anxiety, due to stress.

I believe that if we don't manage stress, and learn how to change our lives to decrease it, our physical pain will not subside. For example, suppose someone experiences a traumatic event, such as a car accident, divorce or death in the family. After the traumatic event they develop blood sugar problems or maybe even diabetes.

The brain and the immune system are interconnected. A psychological trauma can directly affect the immune system, specifically by triggering an autoimmune response, a condition where the body attacks itself. Type I diabetes is caused by the immune system attacking insulin-producing cells. Then the body no longer produces insulin, which is important in controlling blood sugar.

From my applied kinesiology training I have learned that every organ correlates with an emotion. The pancreas is related to the emotion of feeling "lack of control over events." The pancreas "controls" blood sugar. If life suddenly feels out of control it can directly impact the blood sugar.

If someone is complaining of constant indigestion or the formation of ulcers, the stomach is associated with "worry, nervousness and over concern." The heart is related to "lack of emotion," and suppressing the emotions—which can literally cause the heart to explode, according to the Journal of Emergencies, Trauma, and Shock.

Many times emotions start to affect the physical body due to programmed belief systems that were ingrained in us as children, or from a past experience that was so stressful the only way we knew how to deal with it was to suppress it.

For example, someone might always be worried about not having enough money—but in actuality may have more than enough—because of an experience they had in the past. It could be that their parents were always concerned about money, or struggled with employment in the past. This rolls over into a belief system that the next generation inherits. It's an environmental factor that forms our conscious reality.

There are many different ways to clear emotions including adopting a meditation practice, yoga, emotional clearing techniques, homeopathic remedies, counseling, reiki, and countless more. In this country we do not pay enough attention to the health of the emotional and mental body, and in my opinion, it's the most important! I encourage you to adopt a practice today that works best for you.

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.



From Jackie with love Is self-care a moral obligation?



BY JACKIE RAINFORD CORCORAN EBS HEALTH COLUMNIST

Do you think that self-care a moral obligation?

We may all have a different idea of what self-care is, but we can simplify the definition by stating the obvious meaning: to take care of yourself, whatever that means for you.

Most of us excel in some areas in life but fall short in others. Consider your physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, financial, professional and environmental health. Are you neglecting your own needs in any of these areas? Do you have a moral obligation to improve them?

Burton's Legal Thesaurus defines moral obligation as: "A duty which one owes, and which he/[she] ought to perform, but which he/[she] is not legally bound to fulfill."

This is where it gets interesting; to whom do we owe this?

If you're falling short in some area of self-care, let's take a moment to take this to an extreme outcome. Imagine you do nothing to improve this—and perhaps continue behaviors that worsen it—and the effects of this eventually compound 10 or 20 years from now. What is the worst-case scenario? What is the cost of this lack of care? Who will have to pick up the pieces, and how will this negatively impact their lives?

This line of questioning can shed new light on why it's important to use the necessary resources, such as time, to care for ourselves.

But many of us believe that self-care is secondary to managing our busy schedules. In this case, self-care can seem like a selfish act—which makes the

question at hand even more provocative. If one believes it's right, necessary and even noble to put their own health and well-being on the back burner, considering self-care a moral obligation requires an absolute paradigm shift. It's not possible to feel selfish at the same time we're doing something so that others don't suffer due to our lack of self-care.

When it comes to self-care, it's important to make a distinction between coping and caring. For example, if stress is being managed with a daily drinking habit, the body and spirit aren't truly being nurtured and the root causes of the problem aren't being addressed. Instead, the alcohol potentially increases inflammation—which is arguably the root of most, if not all, disease—and creates other negative consequences. This is coping, a method I've tried unsuccessfully and do not recommend.

I'm not saying that we shouldn't help each other out in times of need, even if a problem is self-induced. Nobody is perfect and supporting each other is an important part of being a compassionate and empathetic human. But we must also be aware of tendencies to enable others who are repeatedly creating self-induced problems. Again, are we caring for ourselves adequately if we continue to put ourselves at the mercy of someone who refuses to take care of themselves?

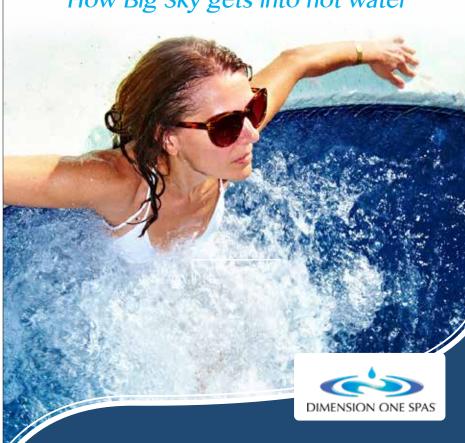
If you do think that self-care is a moral obligation, does this inspire you to change any behaviors? If you don't believe it is, why?

I'd love to hear your thoughts on this, so send an email to the address below if you'd like to share.

Jackie Rainford Corcoran is an IIN Certified Holistic Health Coach. Her purpose is to support others in becoming their best and healthiest version of themselves. Email her at jackie@corcoranhealth.com to schedule a complimentary 30-minute health coaching session. Check out her website corcoranhealth.com to learn more.



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Santosha hosts Sonic Bliss Bath and guest yoga teacher

Music in the Mountains may be over for this summer, but you can enjoy a different kind of Thursday night music at Santosha Wellness Center on Sept. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Using gongs, singing bowls and tuning forks, Will and Cache Hartzell will lead a sound and vibrational healing experience geared toward optimizing health and restoring inner balance.

That same weekend, Tara Eschenroeder will lead two very different yoga classes: Yoga for Cyclists on Friday, Sept. 7 from 6-7:30 p.m. and Finding Contentment Within on Sunday, Sept. 9 from 4-7 p.m., which will incorporate yoga, journaling and meditation. Visit santoshabigsky.com to register. PHOTO COURTESY OF SANTOSHA WELLNESS CENTER

WYDAHO BIKE FEST AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 3

The 9th annual Wydaho Rendevous Mountain Bike Fest is your chance to get together with other like-minded bike fanatics. There will be factory reps and product demos from the top brands in the industry, bike skills clinics, group rides, camping, and other fun activities for you and your family!

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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"

Back 40: Fortifying your home against wildfire

BY CHIEF WILLIAM FARHAT BIG SKY FIRE DEPARTMENT

While the recent changes in our weather pattern may seem to indicate that Fall is on the way, wildland fires are always a serious concern in the Big Sky area. There is much that we can do to minimize their threat in our community and together we can reduce the inherent risks.

Enjoying the beauty of our mountains and the activities they offer is what brought most of us here, but that also puts us in in very close proximity to the national forests that surround us, in the zone known as the Wildland-Urban Interface. Fires are also a natural and necessary part of the forest's ecology, so it's not a matter of if a wildland fire will occur, but more a question of when.

Fires in the WUI are always a challenge for fire departments as they can become large events quickly, and easily overwhelm local resources. For this reason, the preparations that citizens take before a fire are the best way to protect themselves and their property.

Stay informed. The best way to get official information on community-wide emergencies is registering your cell phone with Gallatin County's Community Notification System. All Big Sky residents, no matter which county you live in, can do so at readygallatin.com. If a fire is near, warnings will be sent to all landlines automatically and registered cell phones, giving you time to prepare. If an evacuation notice is given, you will receive specific information regarding the threat and the best evacuation routes.

Understand how a wildland fire can affect your home and neighborhood. This is key to keeping both safe in case you've had to leave the area. The California firestorm videos on the news during the past few years give one the impression that nothing can be done to stop the spread of a fire, but this is not the case. The trees, grasses and plants in Big Sky can certainly burn during our hot, dry summers, and during the years with extremely hot and dry conditions, local fires have become explosive in nature, but they are more the exception than the rule.



A fire behind Ophir School last summer burned dangerously close to a residence.



There are measures you can take to counteract the threat and impact of wildland fires to your home. PHOTOS BY SARAH GIANELLI

Wildland fires aren't a wall of flames that obliterate everything in their path. In fact, fire-behavior studies have shown that how we prepare our properties dictates the severity of the impact. Wildland fires normally advance with hot embers being blown ahead of the main part of the fire, starting their own fires. If a home has not been prepared properly, it can start to burn, intensifying a fire in a neighborhood and the resulting destruction. If a home has been prepared well, the chances of it withstanding a fire passing through the area improve greatly.

Simple steps you can take. Actions such as cleaning your gutters, removing dead vegetation and debris from under decks, not stacking firewood near your home, storing all outdoor furniture indoors and keeping the lawn around your home mowed and irrigated in at least 30 feet in all directions, are all helpful. Proper landscaping is also important: There should be no vegetation leading to the foundation of your home; there should be a 3-foot border of non-combustible crushed rock around the base of your home.

Woodchips are a hazard. A common issue I see is the use of woodchips for landscaping. This a dangerous practice as one ember can ignite the woodchips, "fueling" a fire in and around your home. To avoid promoting the spread of a fire, explore non-combustible options, as well as fire-resistant vegetation. In addition, all low-hanging branches should be pruned, to at least 6 feet above the ground so a fire does not have the ability to climb up the branches into the tree.

These are just a few ideas as much can be done to prepare an existing residence or construct a more "fire safe" home. The National Fire Protection Association has produced an excellent website, firewise.org, to provide in-depth information on how to minimize the damage caused by a fire. The Big Sky Fire Department is also always available to come to a property and consult with homeowners. Working together, we can all help keep our community safe and resilient.

SECTION 4: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT









BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – Cyrus Walker, 27, grew up in a small, rural Vermont community a stone's throw from the Canadian border. After one year at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, Walker took some time off to travel, work and explore, landing in Bozeman eight years ago, still of an "age when you'd piss on an electrical fence on a dare."

Before finishing his degree at Montana State University in 2016, Walker had already started his graphic design business, Cyrus Design Co., and has since created the logos for many area businesses, including Big Sky's Rad Bikes, and vintage-style poster art for ski resorts, Yellowstone National Park and rodeos.

Today, the young creative is at a milestone moment when the scales are starting to tip from a focus on commercial art toward that of fine art.

Walker's roots are in graphic design—something he attributes to spending a lot of time with an uncle in the advertising business—but he's also a talented illustrator, a skill not all designers have.



Drawing from advertising styles of the past, Walker creates custom poster art for rodeos around the West, including this year's Big Sky PBR. A limited number of these prints are still available for sale. Stop by the Outlaw Partners office or call (406) 451-4073 for details.

"You need to have a knowledge of form, line, texture and composition," said Walker, who took fine art classes at MSU in addition to design prerequisites. "All of these basics make you a more well-rounded artist and designer."

Walker has always been attracted to what he calls "the golden era of design" between the 1930s and 1950s—when all advertising was illustration-based—and this aesthetic comes through in both his commercial and fine art, and work blending the two, like the custom old-timey posters he creates for rodeo events all over the West.

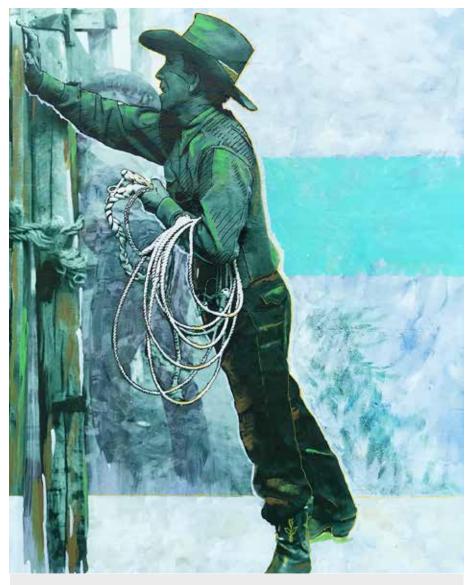
Walker said he's an "analog guy" at heart, but has embraced the digital as well. And he finds ways to make his process more difficult. "It's fun to use an image and try to back-peddle from that as much as you can—it's an interesting twist."

As with the rodeo posters, Western iconography is often the focal point of Walker's fine art, but through his mixed media approach he'll take an old photograph of a cowboy, for example, and place it in a visually contemporary context.

After blowing up and transferring a vintage photograph to a canvas, Walker will draw and paint over it, incorporate paper for added texture, resulting in the juxtaposition of the old with a bright, flashy pop-art aesthetic, a style that artists across the West and Southwest can be found working in today.

Bozeman is the biggest city Walker's ever lived in; his

Cyrus Walker: Western motifs in modern times



Cyrus Walker's fine art places vintage imagery in a contemporary aesthetic. PHOTOS COURTESY OF CYRUS DESIGN CO.

hometown is a place that everybody's leaving, not migrating toward. Art-making is Walker's way of trying to make sense of what he is seeing around him—remnants and relics of the cowboy lifestyle amid the rapid growth and change of Bozeman; a place that prides itself on its rustic, outdoorsy appeal while development paves over more and more of it.

"For me it's a reflection of what we're going through now and the new wave of folks coming here," he said. "The romantic ideal of the West is still very much revered, but I think it's something people are trying to capture but don't necessarily live anymore. When I see a new development in Bozeman, I'm torn because it's going to be a fantastic building in a great location, but it's replacing the classic Western culture ... it's amazing how fast it all changes."

Art is what comes out the other side of Walker's processing of the contradictions he perceives in his external world.

"I'm reflecting people and themes that I pick up on by living here, the things we can't quite put our finger on," Walker said.

Playing the devil's advocate, I asked Walker if he was focusing on Western subject matter because it has market appeal in the region, and we launched into a philosophical discussion about co-opting native material as a non-native.

"What does it even mean to be a Western artist?" he asked. "Does it have to do with what you're painting? Where you're painting? I think that you should have the freedom to paint what you feel, not only what you know. If I was only allowed to create work about what I grew up around, I'd only be allowed to paint pictures of dairy cows."

You can see more of Walker's art at Creighton Block Gallery in Big Sky and online at cyrusdesigncompany.com.

Mountainfilm tours through Big Sky

EBS STAFF

For the third consecutive year, the Arts Council is bringing a slice of Telluride, Colorado, and its acclaimed film festival to Big Sky. From Sept. 14-16, various venues will host screenings of 26 films total, including two feature length films, a day of family-friendly shorts, and an evening of documentary shorts for adults.

A selection of films curated specifically for the Big Sky community, Mountainfilm kicks off Friday night with a 7 p.m. screening of the feature film "Dark Money" at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center. A reception will precede the screening, and a Q&A with journalist John S. Adams will follow. Adams is featured in the film, which delves into the dark underbelly of campaign financing, while shining a spotlight on Montana in particular.

The Saturday schedule begins at 10 a.m. with a meet-and-greet with special festival guests in The Big Sky Real Estate Discovery Center at 25 Town Center Ave. The festival then moves up to the resort for a series of kidfriendly shorts that begin at 1 p.m. at the Big Sky Resort Amphitheater in the Shoshone Hotel.

Saturday night, Mountainfilm returns to Town Center for the main event at Lone Peak Cinema: a 6 p.m. reception followed by documentary short screenings at 7 p.m., an audience vote on best film, and live music beginning at 9:30 p.m.

This year the Arts Council is extending Mountainfilm with a free, outdoor screening of "Bikes of Wrath" at 8 p.m. Sunday in in Town Center Park. The film follows cyclists from Oklahoma to California as they take an in-depth look at today's America through the lens of John Steinbeck's seminal novel, "The Grapes of Wrath."

"Mountainfilm is a great event for our Big Sky audience," said Katie Alvin, the Arts Council's program and education director. "These inspiring films fit in well with our adventure-loving, outdoor oriented lifestyle."

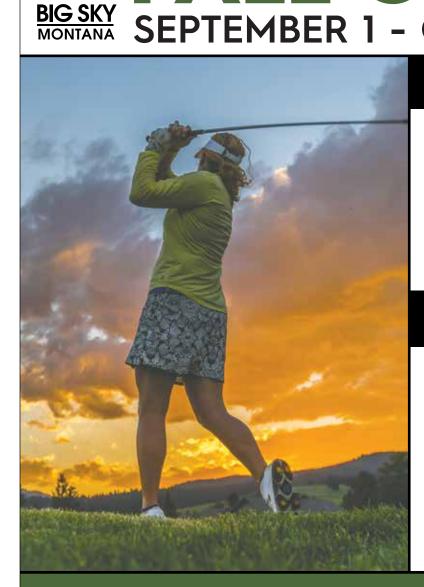


"Escape," which follows a risk-averse, non-athletic, native Rwandan across Canada to the Arctic Ocean in an attempt to break the record for the longest, continuous, fixed- gear bike ride," is one of 26 films screening in Big Sky from Sept. 14-16. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

The films will explore the themes that express Mountainfilm's mission to use the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world. Mountainfilm began in 1979 and is one of America's longest-running film festivals.

"The community has really embraced the Mountainfilm event," said Arts Council Executive Director Brian Hurlbut. "We're excited to add even more screenings this year to further inspire people of all ages."

Visit bigskyarts.org for tickets and more information.



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Bozeman library to add labyrinth to grounds

Fundraising efforts continue to meet \$80K goal

BY SARAH GIANELLI EBS SENIOR EDITOR

BIG SKY – David Kingman moved to Bozeman from Minneapolis in January of 2016, a year after his wife of 31 years, Rocel, succumbed to the ovarian cancer she had been diagnosed with five years earlier at the age of 58.

During Rocel's experience with cancer—she refused to call it a "battle," Kingman explained, because "losing" implied a failure of some kind—she embarked on a personal spiritual journey that led her to many Eastern and Western religions, philosophies and practices, including labyrinth-walking.

Not to be confused with a maze, a labyrinth is an ancient spiral formation constructed on the ground that can be used as a tool for mindfulness and meditation.

"It's meant to be easy to follow, but also requires concentration because you have to pay attention," Kingman said, referring to the turns that need to be taken in order to reach the center of the spiral.

While walking the grounds of the Bozeman Library, through the sculpture garden and along the meandering trails, Kingman had the thought that a labyrinth would be the perfect addition to the artfully cultivated landscape.

"The setting is beautiful," he said. "Walking, the quiet of the library, and the sculpture ... all of those elements made a labyrinth—also a form of sculpture—seem like a great addition."

Soon thereafter, Kingman presented the idea to the library board and they were very receptive. After two years of fine-tuning the design, settling on a location and jumping through the hoops of obtaining city and county approval, the installation process is set to begin in the next week, and expected to be completed within sixto-eight weeks.



Since ancient times, labyrinths have been a meditative tool for calming and quieting the mind. CC PHOTO



This rendering shows the design of a new labyrinth soon to be installed on the grounds of the Bozeman Public Library. RENDERING COURTESY OF DHM DESIGN

They settled on a fairly conventional-style labyrinth—a nine-circle path, 60 feet in diameter, comprised of regional stone and vegetation that will organically fit into the landscape. Sandstone from a Montana quarry will be incorporated, as well as reclaimed granite cobblestones from the streets of Butte. Kingman also envisions grottos with stone seating and the labyrinth as a potential spot for ceremonies, celebrations and yoga classes.

Kingman said they are close to meeting their fundraising goal of \$80,000 but donations are still welcome.

The majority of funds raised for the labyrinth came from family and friends back in Minneapolis, which Kingman said has formed a bridge of sorts between his former life and his relatively new one in Bozeman, where one of his three sons lives.

Kingman said that while his wife inspired the labyrinth, it is not intended to be a memorial.

"I'll always remember her whenever I see it," he said. "But it's not meant as a memorial; it's meant as a gift to the community."

Visit bozemanlabyrinth.com to learn more about the Bozeman Public Library Labyrinth Project.







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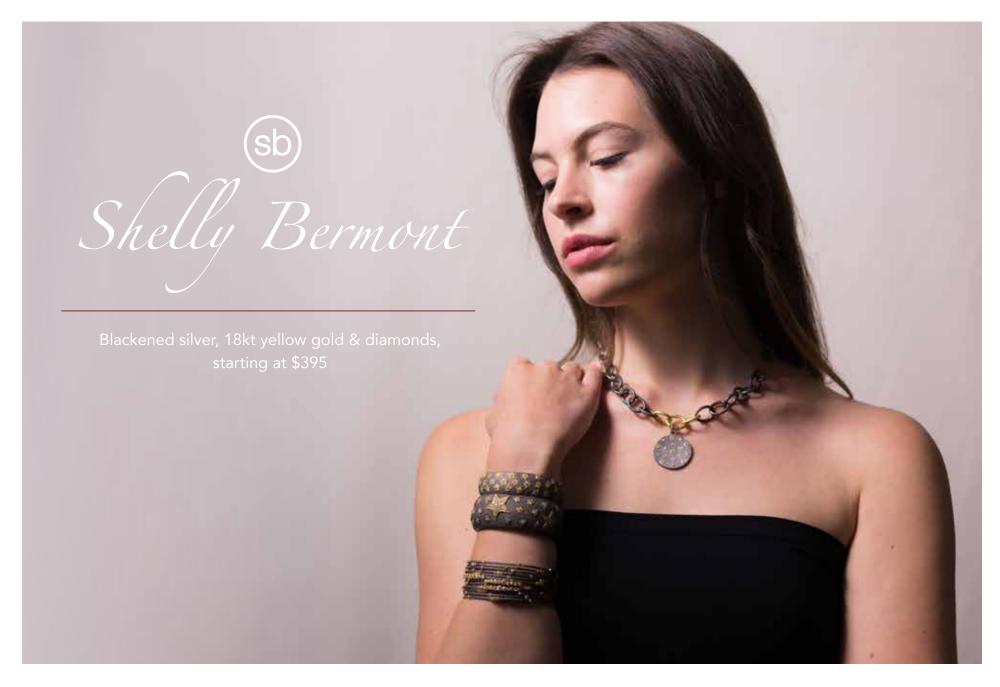
Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance is funded in part by resort tax funds.



Find bargains on fine art

Buck's hosts private art sale Sept. 1-2

Big Sky residents Fern Hilton (left) and Donna LaHue, both organizers of the Art for Everyone sale, hang a Cate Allen original in preparation for the event. Featuring more than 100 works of art from private collections, the sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 1-2 in the Buck Ridge room at Buck's T-4 Lodge. PHOTO BY LINDA GOLDINGER



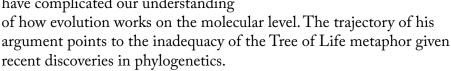
Our Yellowstone presents David Quammen

Author discusses 'The Tangled Tree'

EBS STAFF

On Thursday, Sept. 6 at 7 p.m., Our Yellowstone presents a lecture by Bozeman-based author and science writer David Quammen at the Bozeman Public Library. Quammen will discuss his latest book, "The Tangled Tree: A Radical New History of Life," and work concerning Yellowstone National Park.

In a March review of "The Tangled Tree," EBS staff writer Doug Hare explained that Quammen's "latest work explores how recent advances in our understanding of the human genome have complicated our understanding



"But even in an off-the-cuff response," Hare continued, "Quammen's ability to distill and analyze complicated, technical information and synthesize it in a way that makes it accessible to the layman, but also eye-opening for the expert, is undeniable. He is erudite without ever being pedantic, scholarly yet never boring."

Quammen is a science, nature, and travel writer and the author of fifteen books. He has published hundreds of pieces of short nonfiction in magazines such as Harper's, National Geographic, Outside, Esquire, The Atlantic, Powder, and Rolling Stone. He has been honored with an Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts & Letters, and is a three-time recipient of the National Magazine Award.

Our Yellowstone is a unique series of arts and cultural programming, speakers, and exhibits in celebration of the park. Visit bozemanlibrary.org for more information.



Pony up and name this horse

Deadline to enter Sept. 15

Leave your mark on Big Sky history by naming the life-sized horse sculpture by Deborah Butterfield that will be installed in Town Center Plaza this fall. The \$10 entry fee to the contest comprises the last phase of the Pony Up! campaign to fund the piece, pictured here with the artist (left) and Big Sky resident Patty Rhea. Visit bigskyarts.org/ponyup/ to enter. PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

Community dance project celebrates 10 years of "IndepenDANCE"

EBS STAFF

The nonprofit dance collective IndepenDANCE celebrates the culmination of its 10th season with its annual, eclectic performance at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday Sept. 8 at The Ellen Theatre in Bozeman.

Featuring 24 local choreographers and more than 90 dancers, each component of "IndepenDANCE 2018: X" will reflect the individuality of its participants. Bozeman's Steve Harris-Weiel will emcee the event.

The IndepenDANCE season begins with an open call for choreographers and open auditions, during which selected dancers form groups and are assigned a choreographer who works with them all summer to help bring their vision to life. Every year's performance is entirely different from those before, as the final piece is a natural extension of those involved.

"Each year, our group varies greatly from the past, as the styles and vision come from the choreographers' ideas and the connections we've facilitated with dancers from the community," said IndepenDANCE Director Stevie Peterson,



The Bozeman nonprofit IndepenDANCE celebrates the finale of its 10th season with a night of eclectic, collaborative dance on Sept. 8. PHOTO COURTESY OF INDEPENDANCE

adding that this year's production is no exception. The audience can expect 23 pieces in total, featuring modern dance, hip hop, jazz, tap, bellydance, and styles from India and Peru.

The mission of IndepenDANCE is to inspire, unite, and nurture dancers and choreographers of all backgrounds and abilities while celebrating diversity and creativity through movement. The volunteer-run organization provides its participants the ability to create all types of dance together and showcase their work in a variety of settings.

"Truly, these participants are the reason this project continues to exist," Petersen said. "And as we have great plans for the future of IndepenDANCE, they are the driving force behind our success and the factor behind each decision we make for this organization."

Tickets are available at the ellentheatre.com and The Ellen Theatre box office in downtown Bozeman. Visit independence project.org for more information about the organization.

Windhorse Equine Learning hosts barn dance Sept. 8

BY JESSIANNE WRIGHT **EBS CONTRIBUTOR**

BOZEMAN - There's just something about a horse. Their soft eyes, honest character, even their sheer size, all contribute to their positive impact on humans, according to Darcy Minter, the founder of Bozeman's Windhorse Equine Learning assisted therapy center.

"Working with horses is such a confidence builder because these animals are big and they can be really intimidating," she said. "Horses are transparent. You can be yourself."

Windhorse provides an array of programming for youth between ages 8 and 18, offering six-week sessions throughout the school year. The center also holds a number of summer camps each year, through partnerships with Montana State University, YMCA and Big Sky Youth Empowerment.

"We are teaching skills. Horsemanship of course, but also we're teaching skills like leadership, responsibility and trust," Minter said.

Any child is welcome at Windhorse, she added, saying that horses can be particularly helpful for kids experiencing high anxiety.

During most programming, kids will have the opportunity to work with a horse on the ground and eventually ride. After several sessions addressing safe



Windhorse Equine Learning is a Bozeman-based equine-assisted therapy center that reaches children between the ages of 8 and 18. PHOTO COURTESY OF WINDHORSE EQUINE LEARNING

conduct around a horse, kids begin learning how to properly catch, groom and lead a

From there, the kids learn how to work a horse on the ground by lunging, or sending the horse around them with a long lead rope. In the more advanced levels, kids also ride horseback.

"Horses are just another way of helping kids," Minter said. "They get [assigned] a horse and it's like a switch turns on. ... We see the transformation begin very quickly, but over the six weeks it's really exciting to see the kids come into themselves."

Through fundraising efforts and donations, Windhorse is able to offer scholarships for approximately half of the youth in the program.

On Sept. 8, the equine center will hold the first annual Kick up your Heels for Kids barn dance benefit at Foster Creek Farms in Belgrade.

This family-friendly event, which begins at 4 p.m., will include dance lessons by Big Sky Ballroom and an open dance floor complete with tunes from the country and western band www.Twang. An enchilada dinner will be provided by Food for Thought catering, and a live and silent auction will finish off the night.



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Locals Fishing Report from Gallatin River Guides

Brought to you by Jimmy Armijo-Grover, General Manager



Can't help but feel that fall is setting in with fresh snow in the mountains and daytime highs averaging in the 60s. Angler pressure drops considerably this time of year and fishing will start to improve as water temperatures cool down and and fish start to recover from a long, busy summer.

Fall is a great time of year to be on the Madison. Fall spawners will start to make their annual migration upstream from the Missouri River, Ennis, Quake and Hebgen Lakes. Many anglers are attracted to the slow bends of the Madison within Yellowstone National Park in search of a brown of a lifetime. An area of the Madison that is relatively neglected this time of year is the walk wade section between Quake Lake and Lyons Bridge. This can be a great stretch of river to get away from the crowds and still have a good shot at a great fish. And for the lower below Ennis Lake water temperatures drop and the tubers quickly dissipate with the start of the new school year at MSU and the end of swimsuit weather.

Fall baetis and midges are about all we have to work with as far as aquatic hatches go, but we can piggy back some on terrestrials like ants and hoppers for a few more weeks. Wherever you go, dry fly fishing will likely be sporadic, so the willingness to cover lots of water and/or fish subsurface will increase your odds of putting fish in the net. If you're having a slow day try twitching your hopper, fishing smaller flies or dead-drifting a smaller streamer above a small nymph. And if they aren't eating your flies on a dead-drift get your flies to move somehow and see if you can provoke a more aggressive reaction.

The Yellowstone is in great shape this time of year and should fish well into fall. Terrestrials and baetis will be the name of the game on the surface. Although you may still have a few good days on hoppers and bigger dries it is likely baetis patterns, small attractors and ant patterns will win the day on the surface.

The window to take advantage of small streams and high mountain lakes will start to close in the coming weeks, so if you've been putting off hiking to a favorite high mountain lake or fishing your favorite little stream this is the time to act.

Time to head outside and enjoy the cool, crisp air of September.















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The Emerson calls for art submissions

Holiday Bazaar and Celebration of the Arts to showcase local artists

EBS STAFF

The Emerson Center for Arts and Culture has put out a call for art for two upcoming events, the Holiday Bazaar, to be held Nov. 15-Nov. 17; and their annual Celebration of the Arts exhibit, which will open Dec. 14 and run through Jan. 25, 2019.

The deadline to submit artwork for the Holiday Bazaar is Oct. 12, and the deadline for the Celebration of the Arts exhibit, Nov. 2.

The Emerson's Holiday Bazaar is a celebration of local and regional artists, and a fundraiser for the center. To qualify, all artwork and crafts must be original and handcrafted by the exhibitor. Applicants must submit five digital photos of recent work representative of work that will be sold at the bazaar. Judges will make their selections based on originality, quality, individuality, creativity, and craftsmanship. Artists will be notified of their acceptance by Oct. 19.

The Emerson's annual Celebration of the Arts event on Jan. 25, 2019 is the center's biggest fundraiser of the year. The event celebrates arts and culture with an evening of quick-draw artists, live and silent auctions, fine dining, drinks and dancing.

The Emerson is now soliciting original art donations for this year's auctions. Selected pieces will be featured in a special exhibition in the Emerson's Jessie Wilber Gallery that will open on Dec. 14, enabling the community to preview the pieces prior to the January event. All proceeds from the live and silent auctions will benefit the Emerson's art education, exhibits and restoration projects.

The Emerson is accepting all forms of artwork for the Celebration of the Arts



Artists who are selected to participate in The Emerson's annual Celebration of the Arts event on Jan. 25, 2019 will be featured in a special exhibit that opens on Dec. 14. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EMERSON CENTER FOR ARTS & CULTURE

exhibit. A maximum of two pieces will be accepted for each artist. Selected artists will be notified by Nov. 9.

Visit the emerson.org for complete submission guidelines. Submit requested materials to Alissa Kost, education curator, at education@theemerson.org.

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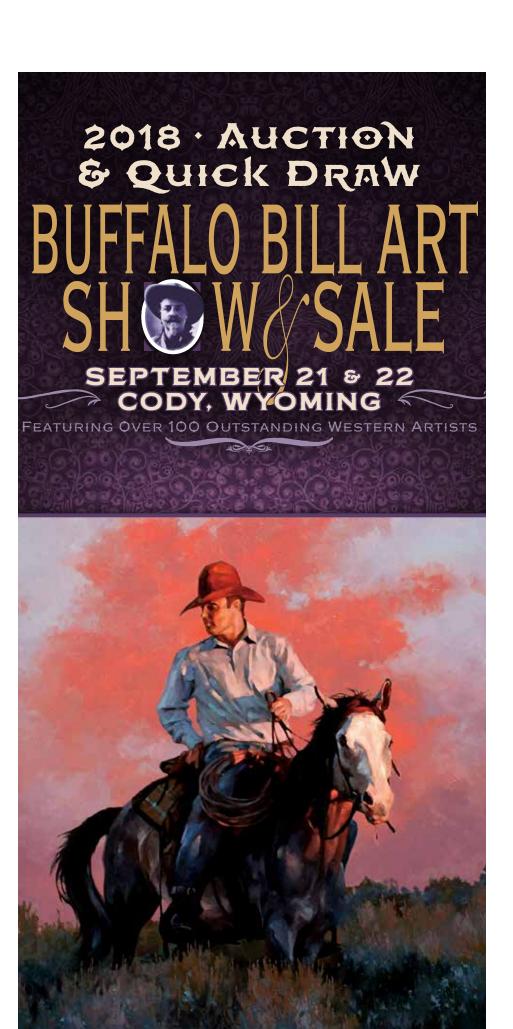


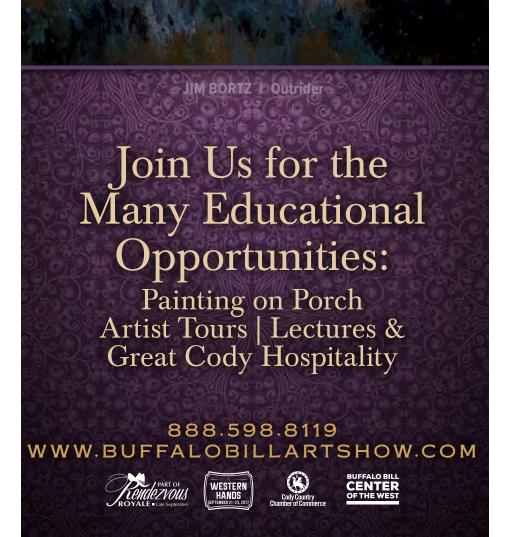


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REEL REVIEW

'The Meg'

BY ANNA HUSTED EBS FILM CRITIC

"The Meg" is the perfect summer movie. While it's not likely to win any awards, "The Meg" is entertaining with great one-liners, non-stop action and a dopey, yet endearing oversized cast. Did I mention every scene features British actor Jason Statham fighting a giant shark?

Jonas Taylor (Statham) is the only surviving member of a deep-sea expedition that was thwarted by a megalodon shark, the largest predator to ever live on earth. Years later, a group of scientists that includes Jonas' ex-wife, accidentally runs into the beastly shark and allows it to pass through a heat pocket so that it is able to rise to the surface. The only man on earth who can stop the shark from wreaking havoc across the Asiatic coast is Jonas.

Jonas teams up with the largest supporting cast since "Avengers: Infinity War," but the larger the cast, the more characters



Shark thriller "The Meg" is a fun summer flick now playing at Lone Peak Cinema. PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

the meg can eat. Few come out unscathed, but they're not on screen long enough for viewers to even remember their names, let alone figure out what other TV show or movie we know them from. Some key players include Suyin (BingBing Li), her father Zhang (Winston Chao), and her daughter Meiying, who are all on board an underwater research center when the meg starts to attack.

Then there's the billionaire funding the research, Morris, played by an underused Rainn Wilson, and let's not forget about Jaxx, the scientist who invents a diving cage she swears is shark-proof: "It's unbreakable," she says. But destruction isn't the only threat because the megalodon acts like a 70-foot anaconda, swallowing the cage whole.

Sure, the plot has holes, and holes in the ocean floor have unscientifically-based heat pockets, but the movie is hilarious and action-packed. "The Meg" references almost every shark movie you can think of from "Finding Nemo" to "Sharknado" to "Jaws," and does so in a way that makes you laugh even though it takes its shark-killings seriously.

With quite a few scares and surprises that will make you jump, "The Meg" doesn't disappoint and doesn't try to be anything but a summer popcorn flick.

As we know from Statham's turn as Deckard Shaw in the Fast and the Furious franchise, his cheesy comedic one-liners mid-stunt is his signature move. And it works in "The Meg" just as well as it did in "Fate of the Furious."

Between Statham's gravitas in such a frivolous movie; the movie's stereotypical ethnic jokes; and the meg's ability to sneak up on everyone, including the audience, "The Meg" makes for a downright pleasing summer film.

And if I've learned anything from "The Meg" it's that what you think you know might still come back to bite you.

"The Meg" is playing at Lone Peak Cinema through Sept. 6.

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.

Explore Big Sky August 31 - September 13, 2018 **55**



Between the Shelves

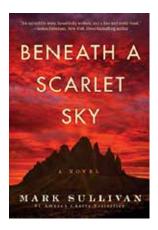
BY AMY HUNTER ASSISTANT COMMUNITY LIBRARIAN

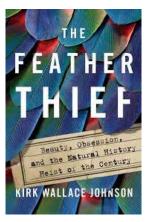
There is nothing better than a community-wide event. Here at the Big Sky Community Library, we wanted to do our part this summer, and offered an adult "bingo" reading program and "One Book Big Sky," both opportunities for the community to participate in reading together.

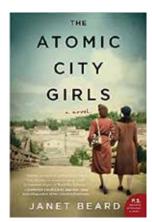
In conclusion of our summer programs, "One Book Big Sky" author Mark Sullivan will visit the library to talk about his book "Beneath the Scarlet Sky" on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 6:30 p.m. That evening is also the culmination of reading "bingo." A raffle-winner will be drawn for readers who achieved bookbased bingo.

It has been fun to see the community get behind "One Book Big Sky" this summer. The library has 16 copies of "Beneath the Scarlet Sky," and there were never more than three copies in the library at one time. Chances are, if you ask four people in Big Sky, one of them has read the book.

Please tell us what you thought of our summer programming and what you would like to see throughout the year. If you are looking for an interesting read now that school has started, check out "The Feather Thief" by Kirk W. Johnson or "The Atomic City Girls" by Janet Beard.







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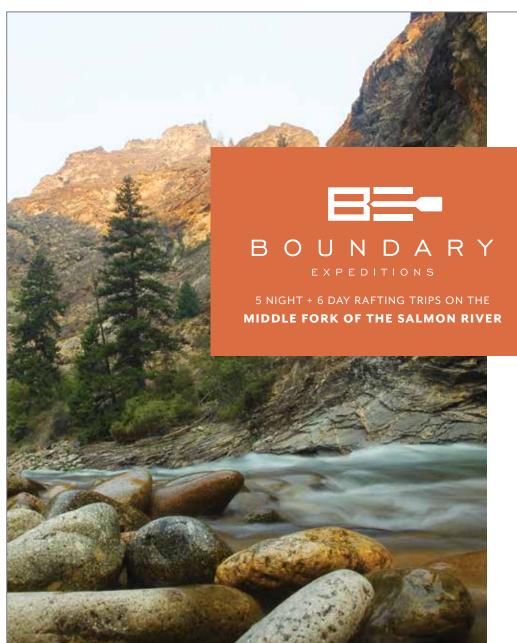
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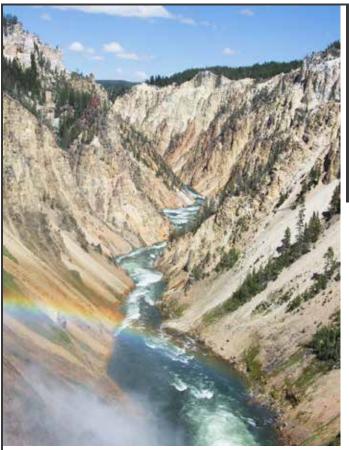
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Travel in comfort to Big Sky, Bozeman, and West Yellowstone in one of our spacious private vans. Our charter vans seat up to 7 passengers and provide the most economical transportation option for groups of 5 or more. Prices include door-to-door transportation,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

SERVICE BETWEEN:

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.

SHARED TRANSPORTATION

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.

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Little ones read 1,000 books before kindergarten

Congratulations to Norma Troxler, Ingrid Davies, Eli Van Eps, and Bode Jorgenson (not pictured) for achieving their goal of reading 1,000 books before entering kindergarten—no small feat! The young bibliophiles were recognized during a ceremony at the Big Sky Community Library on Aug. 20. PHOTO BY BAY STEPHENS

CROSSWORD P 39 Manufacturing (abbr.) 41 Sour milk drink In this place D O W D A L A E Peak RIOT 43 Island Crew HEAVENLY 12 Foment 13 To (Scot.) 48 Term HAGAR 50 Amer. Assn. of Retired 14 Wholesome I S L A Y B L D G 15 Musical Persons instrument (abbr.) 51 Here (Fr.) 52 Reduce (string) 17 Domain RENOUNCE AMIR 18 Noun-forming (suf.) 19 Silk fabric 53 Thaw FLOE MOORE 54 N.Z. woody vine |G|N|O|M|E| 55 Sacred Egypt. 21 Preserve 22 Vein (pref.) EDENTATE TUBACEA ACAD KAN bull 23 Mentally DOWN 25 Stage extra 28 Queenly 31 People Geological vein Orbit point Arabic letter Scala (2 words) or lamb 25 Old-Eng. jurisdiction angle Ivory (Lat.) 32 Afr. bowstring hemp Trust 10 Title of Athena 26 Sp. article 33 Taro 34 Retinue List-ending abbreviation 11 Stingy 16 Elbe tributary 27 Minx (2 words) 28 Radio Free 36 Nevi Hindu soul Europe (abbr.) 29 Presidential 20 Horse 37 Asian weight Freedman in 22 Wax match 38 Latitude (abbr.) Kentish law 24 Leg of mutton nickname 30 Lily (Fr.) 32 Church (Sp.) 35 Moray 36 Animál hair 38 Female vampire 39 Madam 40 From (Scot.) 18 42 Nod 43 Nipa palm 44 Yesterday (Ital.) 45 Very (Fr.) 47 Prone 49 Health resort

American Life in Poetry: Column 701

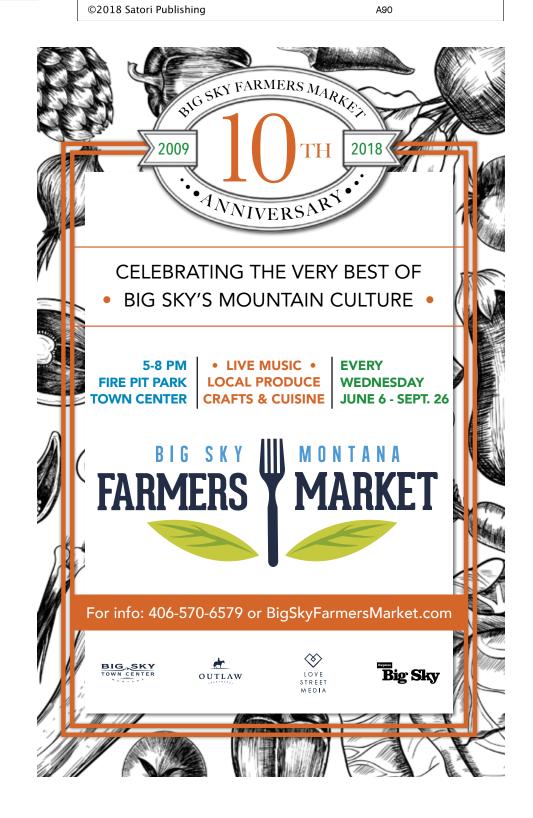
BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

To celebrate the end of summer, here is a sonnet full of explosions by Maryann Corbett, who lives in Minnesota. It's from her book "Street View," published by Able Muse Press.

State Fair Fireworks, Labor DayBy Maryann Corbett

Look up: blazing chrysanthemums in rose shriek into bloom above the Tilt-a-Whirls, hang for a blink, then die in smoky swirls. They scream revolt at what the body knows: all revels end. We clap and sigh. Then, no—another rose! another peony! break, flame, roar, as though by roaring they might make the rides whirl in perpetuum. As though we need not finally, wearily turn, to plow back through the crush of bodies, the lank air, two buses that inch us, sweating, across town. As though we were not dropped in silence there to trudge the last blocks home, the streetlamps low, the crickets counting summer's seconds down.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2017 by Maryann Corbett, "State Fair Fireworks, Labor Day," from "Street View," (Able Muse Press, 2017). Poem reprinted by permission of Maryann Corbett 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.



EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

If your event falls between Sept. 14 and 27, please submit it by Sept. 5 by emailing media@outlaw.partners.

BIG SKY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

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

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Community Fitness Class Headwaters Fitness, 8 a.m.

Art for Everyone Auction Buck's T-4 Lodge, 10 a.m. Sept. 1-2

Saturday Open Clinic: Golf clubs and specific uses Big Sky Golf Course, 12 p.m.

Taste, food and music festival Lone Mountain Ranch, all afternoon/evening

Volleyball: LPHS v. Shields Valley LPHS, 6:30 p.m.

Transform, storytelling Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Community Yoga Town Center Stage, 12 p.m.

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Hike and Learn with Scott Hoeksema South Fork Trail, 10 a.m.

Ladies Clinic: Tournament, party and awards Big Sky Golf Course, 10 a.m. and 5:30

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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.

Surviving Cancer Support Group Santosha Wellness Center, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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

Al-Anon Meeting Big Sky Chapel, 4 p.m. Triangular Football: OMS v. West and Gardiner OMS, 4 p.m.

Sonic Bliss Bath with Will and Cache Hartzell Santosha Wellness Center, 7:30 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Fish Fry BYWOM, all evening

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

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Community Fitness Class Headwaters Fitness, 8 a.m.

Saturday Open Clinic: Drills and training aids Big Sky Golf Course, 12 p.m.

Football: LPHS v. Joliet LPHS, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

West Yellowstone Ski Education Foundation Golf Tournament Big Sky Golf Course, all day

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

14th Biennial Scientific Conference Big Sky Resort, Sept. 11-14

Big Sky Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 a.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

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.

One Book Big Sky: Mark Sullivan Big Sky Community Library, 6:30 p.m.

Awareness Wednesday Santosha Wellness Center, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

Al-Anon Meeting Big Sky Chapel, 4 p.m. A.A. Meeting Big Sky Chapel, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Science of National Forest Planning Symposium Big Sky Resort, 8 a.m.

Mountainfilm on Tour Sept. 14-16

BOZEMAN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs, music Rialto, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all morning

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

"Love's Labour's Lost," Shakespeare in the Parks MSU, 6 p.m.

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

Blackalicious, music Zebra Cocktail Lounge, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

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

Bozeman Symphony Bozeman Public Library, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

MSU Wonderlust, adult education reception Country Bookshelf, 5 p.m.

Gallatin River Grill-Out Gallatin River Lodge, 6 p.m.

"Eighth Grade," film Ellen Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Alex Williams, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Clovis Burial Site, lecture Belgrade Community Library, 6 p.m.

Our Yellowstone: David Quammen Bozeman Public Library, 7 p.m.

A Night of Comedy with John Dick Winters Rialto, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Our Yellowstone: Acoustic Atlas Bozeman Public Library, all day Sept. 7-14

"Our Yellowstone," exhibition opening Bozeman Public Library, 6 p.m.

Karaoke Night Rialto, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Gallatin Valley Farmers' Market Gallatin County Fairgrounds, all morning

TwoFly Family Day Museum of the Rockies, 10 a.m.

IndepenDance, performance Ellen Theatre, 2 and 7 p.m.

Kick up Your Heels for Kids Barn Dance fundraiser Foster Creek Farms, 4 p.m.

A Night of Country with Mission Spotlight, Sam Plats and the Great Plainsmen Rialto, 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Bozeman Marathon All Day

Columbia Jones Trio, music Bozeman Hot Springs, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

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

Lincoln Durham, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Bozeman Business and Professional Women's Social Ghost Town Coffee Roasters, 7:30 a.m.

Nextgen Pedal Parade GVLT, 5:30 p.m.

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

Jonathan Tyler and the Northern Lights, music Live From the Divide, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

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

Our Yellowstone: John Clayton Bozeman Public Library, 8:30 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

can help if you think you might have a drinking problem. Call (888) 607-2000 to talk to a member of A.A., or go to aa-montana.org for meeting times and locations.

WORTH THE DRIVE

Billings, MT

"Masterworks from the 20th Century"

Yellowstone Art Museum

The Yellowstone Art Museum is hosting an ongoing exclusive exhibition of five works by three of the most distinct and recognizable artists of the twentieth century. The exhibition opened Aug. 14 and will run through Nov. 25. The slate of special loans includes Hans Arp's cast bronze sculpture Fleur dansante, Jean-Michel Basquiat's monumental painting Flesh and Spirit, Joan Miró's cast bronze sculpture Personnage, and his iconic painting Femme entendant de la musique. artmuseum.org

Virginia City, MT

Splendid Feast

Elling House Arts and Humanities Center | Sept. 14 and 15, 6:30 p.m

The historic Virginia City home that is the Elling House will be beautifully decorated, inside and out, for this special occasion. It will be an evening of delicious food, splendid music and wonderful fellowship. Tickets are available by calling (406) 843-5454.

Virginia City, MT

William Boyce Thompson: From Copper Mines to Arboretums, the Virginia City-Born Magnate

Elling House Arts and Humanities Center Sept. 9, 2 p.m.

The fifth history speaker in the 2018 program, Christina Koch will present on the highlights of William Boyce Thompson's dense life and the legacy he left behind. Born in Virginia City on May 13, 1869, William Boyce Thompson revolutionized Western American mining and influenced the mining business from Canada to Africa, while using his immense wealth to help the world in many philanthropic endeavors. ellinghouse.org



Traditional and Contemporary Western Art







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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 15A BEAVER CREEK WEST | \$530,000 #324111 | CALL DON

Stunning views of Lone Mountain, Spanish Peaks and Buck Ridge. Forested west facing lot with abundant grassy meadows. Two adjacent lots also available to create one 54+/- acre block.



LOT 24 BEAVER CREEK WEST | \$500,000 #220532 | CALL DON

Bordering Forest Service land, the 20± acre parcel has incredible views and privacy in a forested location. Minutes away from Meadow Village and Town Center. Adjacent 20± acre lot available.



LOT 23 BEAVER CREEK WEST | \$500,000 #309549 | CALL DON

Beautiful 20± acre property bordering the Gallatin National Forest and a trail leading directly into public land. Lot sits at highest elevation in the subdivision. Adjacent 20± acre lot available.



SUMMIT HOTEL #10402 | \$599,000 #312593 | CALL DON

Big Sky Mountain Village's premier hotel, with the best location in the Mountain Village. West facing, 2 bd, 3 ba, condo with impressive views of Lone Mountain and the surrounding area.



LOT 22B TIMBERLOFT DR | \$475,000 #206525 | CALL DON

Large sunny grassy meadows with forested building site! Outstanding forested 20± parcel with views of Lone Mountain. Accessed via private electronically gated road. Very secluded!



14 WHITE BUTTE | \$339,000 #309556 | CALL DON

Beautiful lot in the highest part of Cascade Subdivision, this lot borders Ulery's Lakes Subdivision to the north so no homes or development on the northern side of this lot.



LOT 22A TIMBERLOFT DR | \$425,000 #206527 | CALL DON

Outstanding forested 20± acre parcel with views of Lone Mountain and Spanish Peaks. Grassy meadows with forested building site. End of the road privacy!



LOT 15B BEAVER CREEK WEST | \$399,000 #324556 | CALL DON

West facing lot provides impressive views of Lone Mountain as well as the Spanish Peaks and Buck Ridge. Largely level parcel for a variety of building sites for your new home!



LOT 149 FOURPOINT ROAD | \$240,000 #214051 | CALL DON

The BEST Antler Ridge lots with views of Lone Mountain, Yellow Mountain and looking east the Gallatin Canyon. As a ridge lot it is very sunny and has a great building site.



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

Beautiful large homesite over 15,000± sf. allowing flexibility in positioning a home. Preserved views of the surrounding mountains and walking distance to numerous recreation trails.