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ON THE COVER: Outgoing Managing Editor Tyler Allen will be leaving his post on Jan. 30. An inspiring colleague and dear friend, Allen has been a strong and steady editorial voice for EBS and Mountain Outlaw since 2012. He will be missed. If you see him around town wish him luck in his new endeavors. We certainly do. Photographed here in Cooke City, Allen gets after what he loves best: powder skiing the steep and deep backcountry. PHOTO BY WES OVERVOLD

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**PLUS: TEDxBigSky program** 

sustainability bar



RYDE had another great day of outfitting the Ophir School students for their ski days at Big Sky Resort on Jan. 14. They covered 42 students with helmets, some receiving their first protective headwear and other students replacing old helmets that had been involved in crashes. RYDE's founder and president, Scott Williams (right) and cofounder and vice president, Mathias Tellstrom, started the foundation to put helmets on local youth and anyone else in need who can't afford high-quality head protection. RYDE stands for Respect Your Dome Everyday. PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT WILLIAMS

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



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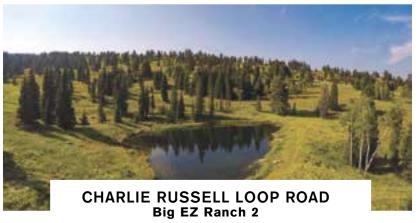


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**4** January 18-31, 2019 **Explore** Big Sky



## Big Sky Futbol Club receives local funding

#### **EBS STAFF**

The Big Sky Futbol Club, a nonprofit youth sports club recently announced it received three grants for a total of \$8,000 from community foundations. Moonlight Community Foundation gave \$2,500, Spanish Peaks Community Foundation provided \$2,500; and Yellowstone Club Community Foundation gifted \$3,000.

The funds will support items including the purchase of equipment and certification fees for coaches so that Big Sky FC will provide the highest level of instruction for the club's athletes. The club has already purchased indoor soccer gear to provide opportunities for players age 8-19 during the winter months.

In January, the club will be purchasing equipment and gear for spring 2019 when more programs will be offered, from recreational teams to travel teams.

The Big Sky Futbol Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit youth sports club serving Gallatin and Madison counties as well as surrounding youth soccer communities. For more information about programs and sponsorship, visit bigskyfc.org.

## Early winter snowfall hit or miss

#### NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE

After last winter's record setting snowfall, the mountains across Montana have received sporadic snowfall so far this year, leaving some river basins near normal for snowpack, and others below normal. Early season snowfall has so far favored regions along the Continental Divide in western and southcentral Montana.

For snow-water equivalent, however, the Gallatin River Basin is fairing best in the state and above the average, with 108 percent of normal and 97 percent of last year.

"What's been unique about this winter so far is that the snowpack in these regions would be below normal for this date if it weren't for the storm that dropped significant totals during the last week of October into early November," said Lucas Zukiewicz, hydrologist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

December temperatures were also well above average across the state, aside from a cold arctic air during the first week of the month.

"After a long and hard winter of shoveling and shivering last year, it's been a mild winter so far this year," Zukiewicz said. "While that's nice in some ways, it's the cold snowy weather during winter and spring that assures our water supply when it warms up in the summer."

Long-term forecasts by the National Weather Service aren't looking pretty, according to Zukiewicz, indicating above average temperatures and below average precipitation, he said.

## Super Bowl 5K tackles pediatric cancer

#### EBS STAFF

The second annual Super Bowl Fun Run 5K race kicks off Super Bowl Sunday morning, Feb. 3, at Bozeman's Rocking R Bar where proceeds from the event support local families whose children have been diagnosed with pediatric cancer. Last year, more than 250 runners participated.

Hosted by nonprofit Bozeman 3, the Fun Run starts at 10 a.m. with a Kiddo Kickoff, where kids 12 and under run a 0.3 mile route. The Fun Run 5K will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Following the race, Rocking R Bar will host extra activities, including a free Michelob Ultra from Cardinal Distributing, free ice cream from Sweet Peaks and \$5 chili bowls from High Country Grill. Each bib number will be entered to win prizes and additional prizes will go to the best-dressed racer. Each pre-registered race participant will receive a long-sleeved Super Bowl Fun Run shirt.

To register, visit runsignup.com/Race/MT/Bozeman/SuperBowlFunRun5K.

## Nonresident visitor spending up, visitor numbers down in 2018

#### **UM NEWS SERVICE**

MISSOULA – Approximately 12.2 million nonresidents visited Montana in 2018 and spent nearly \$3.7 billion in the Treasure State, according to preliminary estimates by the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at the University of Montana.

The number of travelers visiting the state last year appears to have decreased slightly, down 2 percent from 2017. Despite the slightly lower number of individual travelers, those who did travel to the state spent more, on average, per day. The net result is approximately a 10 percent increase in total spending over 2017.

Visitor spending during 2018 supported an estimated 42,700 jobs directly and over 58,000 jobs in total. Associated with those jobs is over \$1.1 billion of labor income directly supported by nonresident spending. An additional \$622 million of labor income is indirectly supported by what nonresidents spend while traveling in the state. Nonresidents contributed more than \$227 million in state and local taxes in 2018.

These figures will be updated this spring, with the most recent fourth quarter data from 2018 replacing the 2017 fourth quarter data used in these early estimates.

## Public lands rally draws 2k to Montana Capitol

HELENA (AP) – About 2,000 people filled the Montana Capitol for a rally to urge state and federal lawmakers to protect public lands.

A fired-up Gov. Steve Bullock told the crowd Jan. 11 that "public lands are our heritage" and must be preserved for future generations. He said, to cheers, that no state legislator has proposed a bill to transfer federal lands in Montana to state ownership.

Those who support land transfers argue the state could do a better job of managing resources, such as timber. Opponents counter management costs would be prohibitive, possibly forcing the state to sell to private owners.

Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Tester of Montana criticized Congress for failing to renew the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which spends oil and gas royalties on conservation and outdoor recreation projects. It expired in October.



## The Big Sky Ideas Festival is coming to Big Sky later this month. What big idea do you want to share that Big Sky should embrace?



Alexandra Shannon Big Sky, Montana

"I think having more healthy food options that incorporate organic and local food organizations would be really awesome. I just think at Compass [Café] we are trying to do a healthy food thing, but furthering that and having more companies local to the area would be really awesome for Big Sky."



**Christel Boelion** Netherlands

"My wish for Big Sky is that it won't ever get too big-that there would be some sort of stopping point so that wildlife and nature can be preserved as much as possible."



Karen Marshall Bozeman, Montana

"There are so many that have probably already been addressed. I think I would probably say for everyone who lives here, even though I realize it's probably easier to go to Bozeman, to really try and support your local community through shopping local, buying local, staying local. There is so much to do here in Big Sky and people that live here take it for granted ... for everyone that is here, in order to make this a viable community, we have to support each other through just those things."



Jake Scheinman Gallatin Gateway, Montana

"I think something that is interesting about places like Big Sky is the way the socioeconomic hierarchy is laid out, and to have some sort of economist come in, or some sort of individual related with finance, come in and do some sort of sociological study. ... I would think that would be interesting to hear about, just an analysis of it and how it affects the economy up here as a whole."



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## OUTLAW.

## News from our publisher, Outlaw Partners

## Becca Burkenpas brings organization to Outlaw Partners

BY BELLA BUTLER EBS CONTRIBUTOR

Outlaw Partners' newest hire, Becca Burkenpas, found herself excited by the opportunity to work as a controller in Big Sky when a friend recommended the position to her recently.

As a fifth generation Montanan, Burkenpas is already significantly acquainted with the area. Born and raised in Bozeman, she attended high school in Belgrade and received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Montana State University, where she studied business administration and professional accountancy.

Burkenpas said working at Outlaw Partners, a small and personal company, was a new experience for her. Before beginning as controller in December, Burkenpas was working in public accounting in a more corporate setting. "It's given me a lot of variety in my day," she said about her new position. "It's really, actually, interesting to see how it all works."

Burkenpas is not only excited about her new job, but also about spending some time in the Big Sky community. While living in Belgrade, her twice-weekly commute gives her an opportunity to breach the bubble of



an increasingly expanding Bozeman area. "It gets me out into some more wide-open space," she said.

Burkenpas' fiancé Tyler Elkins described her as being fun, adventurous and outgoing. These qualities are on display in her diverse array of passions and hobbies. Although Burkenpas considers herself "that weird Montanan that doesn't love skiing," she does enjoy four-wheeling as well as swing dancing and photography.

Despite the change from past professional experience, Burkenpas is enthusiastic about working at what she considers to be her dream job, and the Outlaw Partners team has made her transition a pleasant one. "All the people have been super awesome and nice and welcoming," she said.

Although Burkenpas hasn't been with the company for long, she has already found herself diving

into research and projects in an attempt to make improvements. She acknowledges that checks and balances on efficiency and productivity are always necessary, and her fresh set of eyes have already lent a new perspective to the logistical operations of Outlaw Partners. Her self-teaching nature is propelling her through the initial learning curve and into a dynamic and valuable role managing the company's finances.





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## **Obituary:**

## Erika Anni Macklin

A fighter from the first day of her life, Erika Anni Macklin never gave up throughout her life, and fought through to the end as well. On the evening of Jan. 4, 2019, Erika passed away in Big Sky, Montana, after a valiant effort against cancer. She was 77 years old.

The youngest of two, Erika was born in Germany in November 1941 to Kurt and Anni Wilinski. She spent her childhood as a refugee fleeing the war on foot with her mother and brother, looking for food, shelter and safety, and hoping to be reunited with her father. Reunited two years after the war, they attempted to live in war-torn Germany. With much of the landscape destroyed, her father reached out and applied for asylum in Canada and Australia. Canada answered "yes" first, and so their move to Hamilton, Canada occurred in 1952. After a few years, another opportunity arose across the border in Detroit, Michigan. The family once again moved and began a new life in earnest.

Graduating from Centerline High in 1960, Erika helped break barriers as she pursued her doctor of pharmacy at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where she graduated in 1965 as just one of a handful of women. Shortly after graduation, she and her college beau, Robert Bruno Macklin, got married in the Unitarian Church in Ann Arbor and promptly got into her newly purchased Chevrolet Malibu convertible and drove to California so that Robert could begin graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley.

Erika gave birth to her first and only child, Karen Erika Macklin in September 1972 in Oakland, California. Living and working as a clinical pharmacist for 25 years in California, Erika spent as much as her free time as possible outside,



hiking, biking, swimming, gardening and tending to her vast collection of violets, and then orchids. An avid backpacker and camper, she taught her daughter Karen to love the outdoors, and in 1994 Karen moved to Montana to get serious about living in the mountains.

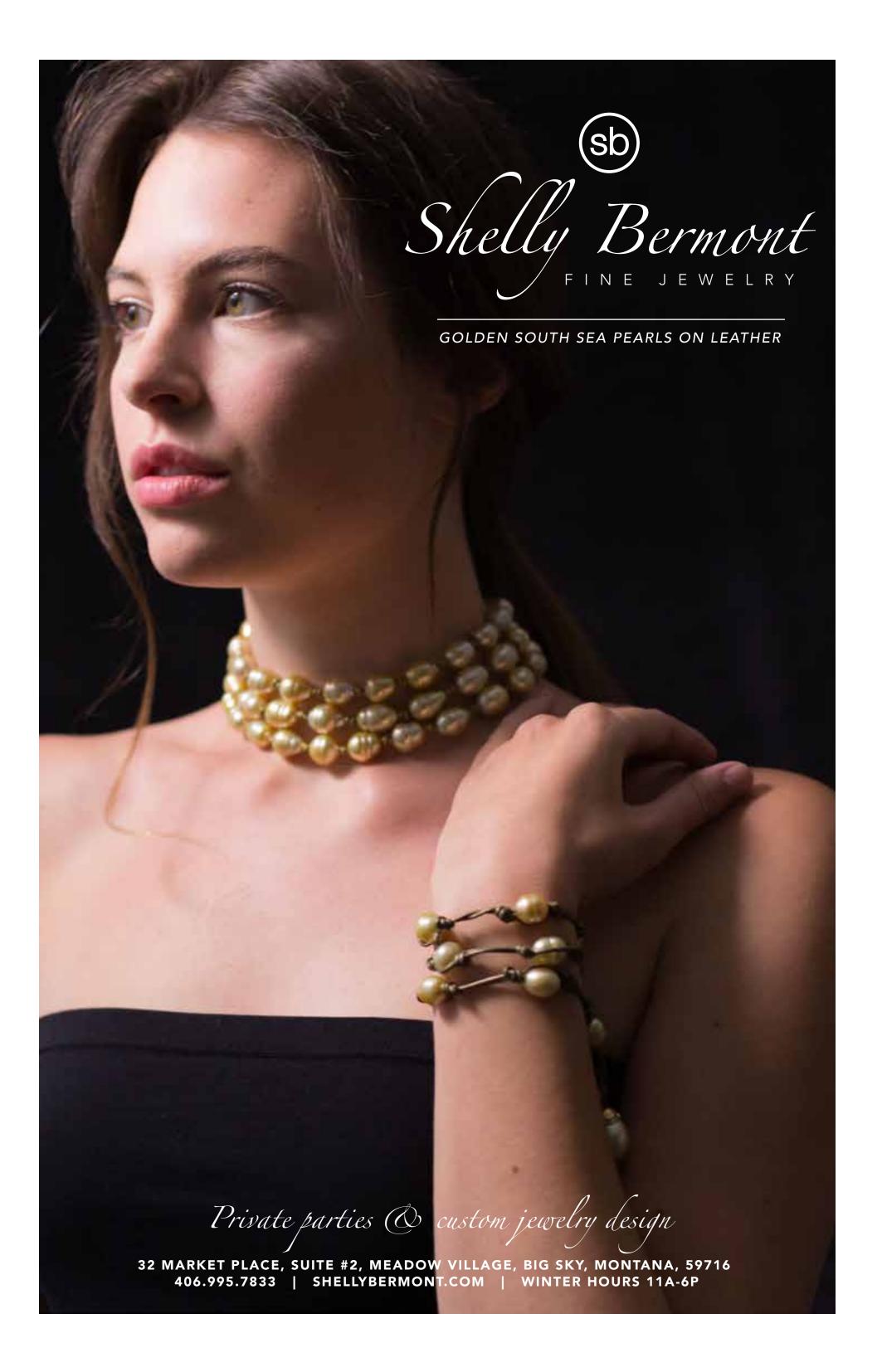
After the passing of her father in 1997, Erika moved to the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina, in Hendersonville, to care for her mother. She continued her career as a clinical pharmacist there, retiring in 2004. She could focus all of her attention there on hiking, her photography and was active in many clubs, including the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hendersonville and The Friendship Force, where she was able to travel all over the world.

Erika moved to Big Sky in 2016 to be closer to her daughter and son-in-law. She loved the mountains and had visited Karen and Don every summer since 1994 and spent miles upon miles hiking everywhere in the Gallatin Canyon,

exploring Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, and photographing all of the scenic vistas and spectacular summer flowers. Her favorite trips toward the end were to Yellowstone—the bison, bighorn sheep and elk safaris never disappointed. Her last couple of years were filled with daily hikes to Ousel Falls, winter concerts at Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, summer classical music concerts, attending the UUFB, lap time with her cat, and her magic touch with orchids.

Erika is survived by her daughter Karen, and her husband, Don Mattusch. A celebration of life will be planned for the spring of 2019. In lieu of flowers, consider making a donation to the Big Sky Community Organization to keep the trails she adored in good standing, at P.O. Box 161404, Big Sky, MT 59716.





## Legislative effort for additional infrastructure funding continues

## Resort tax board looks to unify community

BY TYLER ALLEN EBS MANAGING EDITOR

BIG SKY – At the Jan. 9 Big Sky Resort Area District meeting, the board discussed a number of topics, including an update on the community strategic plan, hiring the new position of district manager, streamlining the appropriation application, and enforcing business licenses for short-term vacation rentals.

Much of the meeting, however, was devoted to the lobbying effort in the 2019 Montana Legislature, and the draft bill to give resort areas and communities the ability to petition voters to approve an up to 1-percent increase in resort tax for infrastructure needs.

Board members Steve Johnson and Mike Scholz are on the district's legislative steering community and attended the West Yellowstone Town Council meeting Jan. 3. Scholz said the council unanimously approved funding half of the contract with lobbyist Taylor Luther Group, and signed off on the contract. The Big Sky Resort Area District will pick up the other half of the contract, which will total \$50,000 if the bill becomes law

The draft bill, available on the district's website at resorttax.org, currently reads: "Infrastructure' has the meaning specifically provided in the petition or resolution submitting the question of the additional resort tax to qualified electors." However, Scholz noted that the language could change as it moves through the legislative process, and the definition could be tightened by each resort tax community that chooses to put a petition before its voters.

"The legislation enables the individual resort tax entities to deal with a petition, it says you can do this, it doesn't say you have to," Johnson said. "What we anticipate may come out in the process is an itemized list of what does constitute infrastructure."

"Infrastructure ... will include not just water and sewer but we will expect to see, on that list somewhere, workforce housing," Johnson added.

As Scholz noted in a Jan. 16 interview with EBS, at least three major long-term community projects could necessitate funding in the future: the Big Sky Water and Sewer District is planning a nearly \$22 million wastewater treatment plant upgrade; a study done eight years ago on a potential wastewater treatment facility in Gallatin Canyon projected a cost of approximately \$20 million; and workforce housing in Big Sky is 400 to 600 units short of the current need.

The board discussed how different resort tax areas and communities will have different needs, and Treasurer Sarah Blechta mentioned how Whitefish is looking to address property-tax relief for its residents.

"A fundamental thing you've got to understand about this resort tax thing is that, in order to do anything, what you do has to be politically viable at two levels," Johnson said. "We've got to do something that we can get through the Legislature, and we've got to bring it back here and get something that we can through the local voter population."

Johnson also said that it's important to note that during their trip to West Yellowstone, one of their town councilmen said that Big Sky did not have a unified voice during the 2017 legislative session, when a similar bill earmarked for workforce housing died in a 25-25 vote in the Senate.

During the public comment period, Chairperson Kevin Germain read an email from Big Sky resident Dr. Alan Shaw, who also sent the email to West Yellowstone Town Manager Dan Sabolski: "I repeat my intention for all of us to work together to get this done in a smooth, non-contentious manner. In that regard, several of us who were involved in this matter at the last legislative session feel strongly that the word 'infrastructure' be clearly defined in the bill. Following is a suggested verbiage that you might find helpful. ... The term infrastructure for the purposes of this bill shall be considered to be defined to include the basic physical systems of a community or municipality and shall include transportation, communications, sewage, water systems, and electric systems.'

"I sure would love to go to Helena with one voice," Germain added. "I'll use an expression to make a point, but legislation is sausage making.

There's a whole lot of stuff that going into there, and here is a first draft."

Johnson and Scholz compiled a list of the organizations, governmental agencies around the state, and major Big Sky businesses that each board member would be responsible for contacting and educating about the legislation. As of EBS press time on Jan. 16, that process was ongoing.

"We just want to make sure everybody understands the bill and make sure we're as transparent as possible," Scholz said on Jan. 16. He added that the steering committee that emerges from the Big Sky Community Strategic Plan would be the ones to bring any petition before voters in this community, if the bill passes.



## **Economic profile to help define Big Sky**

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce hired Bridge Economic Development to create an economic profile for the Big Sky Resort Area District that outlines the viability of the area for prospective residents and business owners.

Essentially a snapshot of a community, an economic profile gives potential residents, business owners and investors an idea about how economically viable a city or town is. These range in size from simple documents to entire magazines, such as the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce puts out every year. Banks looking to fund a business venture in another town or city rely heavily on these profiles.

Big Sky's profile will include information such as home sales prices; community infrastructure information concerning schools and the hospital; energy data; and, in Big Sky's tourist economy, visitation data from Big Sky Resort and Yellowstone National Park.

"What we're trying to do is solicit Big Sky as attractive to live, work, play, visit and do business," said Candace Carr Strauss, CEO for the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce. She compared the project to an online dating profile aimed at drawing people who are the right fit to the area.

"It's kind of like our calling card," Strauss said.

Alisa Pyszka, Bridge Economic Development's president and founder, will be in Big Sky Jan. 24 and 25 with her consulting partner Steven Pedigo to familiarize herself with the market. The completed economic profile should be ready by mid to late March, Strauss said.

The chamber chose Pyszka in part because she worked with Leland Consulting Group to help Bozeman update its economic development strategy in 2016.

"We're trying to leverage some of that knowledge of being a part of this great Gallatin Canyon ecosystem, and the interplay between us and Bozeman and the airport and the university," Strauss said.

"We're in a data-driven economy and we lack data to help tell our story and to go after funding to solve our problems."

Although chamber-provided economic profiles are standard for cities and towns across the nation, Big Sky has never had an official profile. The chamber attempted something similar when it made a community profile in 2017, but an updated and more comprehensive version is necessary, Strauss said.

The economic profile will be a helpful tool for when Big Sky requests funding for infrastructure from the county and state, Strauss added, as it will show how much of an economic driver Big Sky is for the state and the associated struggles.

"We're in a data-driven economy and we lack data to help tell our story and to go after funding to solve our problems," Strauss said. Through the economic impact study, she added, "we're trying to solve the problem of not having data to represent our market so we can go out and better solve our problems."



## School board seeks to provide teacher housing

## BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – The Big Sky School District Board of Trustees continues to investigate the feasibility of partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build two triplexes on school property to provide housing for district faculty and staff.

At the Jan. 13 BSSD board meeting, Chair Loren Bough emphasized that the board is in the "feasibility process" of determining whether building six units on school property is possible in terms of permitting and financing. If the board gains full assurance that it can build the housing and ascertain the exact cost, it would then bring the proposal to the community to ask for general approval as well as financial and volunteer support since it's an attempt by the school to address a wider community need, said BSSD Superintendent Dustin Shipman.

Depending on permitting and financing, groundbreaking could take place this spring with construction wrapping up in October, according to David Magistrelli, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Gallatin Valley.

"We think that's feasible," Magistrelli told the board on Jan. 13.

Housing for teachers has been a perennial challenge in Big Sky, such that on two occasions Anne Marie Mistretta, BSSD superintendent from 2005-2010, put up teachers in her own home, according to a March 2017 EBS story on the "Penny for Housing" bill shut down at the state Senate.

Shipman has expressed the challenges of recruiting and retaining teachers in the face of the housing that is not only expensive, but scarce. He said there is a three to five year "shelf life" for the teachers commuting from Bozeman or Belgrade before they leave the Big Sky school system.

"They just start to seek employment closer to home," Shipman said. "And every school in Gallatin County is growing, so there's a lot of opportunity. The board is laser focused on helping with this [issue]," Shipman said, "and if this [project] doesn't work out we'll go back to the drawing board."

Shipman met with Laura Seyfang, program director of the Human Resource and

Development's Big Sky Community Housing Trust, and with Magistrelli in October to discuss options for a partnership between district and Habitat. Seyfang, who has worked with Habitat for Humanity in the past, said she approached Shipman with the idea for the housing project when she heard the school had its own land, a scarce resource that has made it difficult for the humanitarian organization to build in Big Sky.

According to Shipman, the school district owns approximately 28 acres and is considering locations for the triplexes south of the high school, off Beaver Creek Road near the school's tennis courts.

Unlike other developments Habitat for Humanity builds, the organization would not own this project, but would instead facilitate the construction process to provide housing owned by the school district. The district would then rent to teachers, although it hasn't gone through the process of deciding who would live in the units and how much rent would be, Shipman said.

Shipman said a price range for the project is unknown at this point because all the project's permitting and construction variables must first be determined. However, by virtue of working with Habitat for Humanity, building the units would be significantly cheaper than market price, he said. Shipman added that the district hopes to have the total project cost determined by the Feb. 21 school board meeting.

At a Nov. 12 board meeting, the board agreed to invest \$2,000 for Habitat for Humanity to draft a memorandum of understanding and move forward in determining what a housing project on school property might entail. Habitat also received an anonymous \$5,000 restricted donation designated specifically for BSSD's project.

With the combined \$7,000, Habitat for Humanity has hired ThinkOne Architecture, which is developing interior renderings for the school board to review, and Allied Engineering, which conducted a geotechnical analysis of the potential site on Jan. 16 to determine the appropriate type of foundation.

Magistrelli will meet with the county planning department on Jan. 24 in hopes of learning what type of permitting the project would require, whether there are restrictions concerning connecting the units to Beaver Creek Road, and what water and sewer adjustments the project would need.





## **Town Center filling out**

## Wilson and Plaza Lofts near completion

BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

BIG SKY – The Wilson Hotel, Big Sky Town Center's first branded hotel, is on schedule for a grand opening in June along with the adjacent mixed-use Plaza Lofts building. Both projects will bring additional restaurants and retailers to Big Sky. More residential development in Town Center is on the horizon, along with the potential for a night club and bowling alley.

The master plan for Town Center was approved by the county in 2000 and a hotel has been a key aspect of that plan.

"This has been a real long-term plan and one of the lynchpins is coming to fruition now, so we're really excited about that," said Bill Simkins of Simkins Holdings, LLC, the master developer of Town Center. "It's been a real missing element in the meadow area, not having a full-service hotel. We're really looking forward to its completion."

Lone Mountain Land Company, a development branch of CrossHarbor Capital Partners, acted as the project developer of the hotel, buying the land from the Simkins family for projects that align with the Town Center vision, abiding by architectural guidelines designed to create continuity. LMLC has developed several other buildings, such as 25 Town Center Avenue, which houses Compass Cafe and 47 Town Center Avenue, home to Lotus Pad. The new hotel stands to increase body heat in Big Sky's downtown, providing substantial lodging apart from the resort.

As a Marriot Residence Inn, each room will have a kitchenette giving vacationers the option to eat in, especially during extended stays of four to seven nights, a common length for ski trips.

The number of employees hired to run the hotel will be 40 to 50, excluding the restaurant and retail, vice president of planning and development for Lone Mountain Land Company Bayard Dominick said. LMLC is working closely with the Yellowstone Club on

workforce housing solutions but are not ready to announce a plan yet, according to Dominick.

The hotel's lobby windows will afford a direct view of Lone Mountain over an outdoor pool, which will be open year round and include a heated pool deck and barbecue area, while a sliding window will grant access to the lobby bar adjacent to the deck. Dominick said the pool will serve both hotel guests and locals.

"We look forward to having a lot of locals-friendly activities and events here to draw people in and make this a real community gathering place," he said.

Free breakfast is included for guests and will be integrated into the lobby area, overflowing into the 3,000-square-foot event space during peak visitation times of year. The

events room, capable of holding 300 people and dividing into two distinct spaces, has already been booked for two weddings. Dominick said they would like to use the space for events such as ski team banquets and community fundraisers.

On the hotel's south side, a 5,000-square-foot restaurant space will combine with two retail spaces of 1,800 and 4,000 square feet to form the commercial space. Dominick said LMLC is near finalizing leases with tenants but at this time is not ready to announce occupants.

Adjacent to this commercial space on the south side of the hotel is the Town Center Plaza completed this fall, which will be the new home of the summer farmers market as well as concerts and myriad other events. The hotel provides ATM access and public restrooms sized for events in the plaza. The restaurant spaces in both the Wilson and the Plaza Lofts building will interface with the plaza with patio seating.

"They've done an amazing job developing the plaza," Dominick said of Big Sky Town Center. "We think this is going to become a real critical hub of Big Sky and the amount they've invested here is really a testament to that."

Both Dominick and Simkins agree that overall, the Wilson will breathe life into Town Center and Big Sky as a whole.

"I think it's going to be real transformative, a gamechanger, because you're going to have a lot of visitors coming in and that will really spur on a lot more growth for our merchants," Simkins said.

Along with the Wilson, the Plaza Lofts is set to open sometime in April, followed by a grand opening in June, according to Dominick. The Blue Buddha Sushi Lounge and Sky Boutique have targeted openings in June as well, with The Barrel Room, a winery by Corx in Bozeman, also aimed at an early summer opening. Apartments will occupy the Lofts' upper levels.

Across the street directly south of The Wilson and Plaza Lofts, Dominick pointed out construction crews leveling the parking lot and



The Marriott Residence-branded Wilson Hotel is scheduled for a June grand opening and plays a key role in realizing the longtime Town Center vision. PHOTO BY RYAN WEAVER

footprint of another LMLC building, the designs of which are still being finalized. It would be similar to the 47 Town Center Avenue building that houses Lotus Pad, with apartments—three- and four-bedroom units—on the second and third floors and a ground floor of retail and restaurant space.

Dominick said of the restaurant space on this building: "We're actually putting in a full basement with extra height ceilings so we could potentially do a night club there."

Simkins said, based on their research and the scuttlebutt around town, that another hotel may be called for in the wake of the Wilson's completion, one that hits a higher-end demographic. He also said the team would love to add a bowling alley to Town Center, although there are no plans in place at this point.

After 20 years into the development of Town Center, Simkins said the project is approximately 55 percent built out.

"A lot of people think that it's pretty explosive growth but for us it's been a long time coming, so it's nice seeing the buildings going up," Simkins said. "Over the long period that we've worked on this project, it doesn't feel quite as explosive."

According to a Jan. 15 email from Town Center Project Manager Ryan Hamilton, 491 total residential entitlement units are currently approved for Town Center, which includes multi-family and single-family housing, and upper story "apartments" in the commercial district. Approximately 235 of these residential units are either built or under construction in Town Center.

More housing is likely to come online in the next 24 months, Hamilton said, depending on what project developers propose to Town Center. It's unclear whether that housing will help alleviate Big Sky's housing shortage as some may end up in the rental market and others up for ownership.

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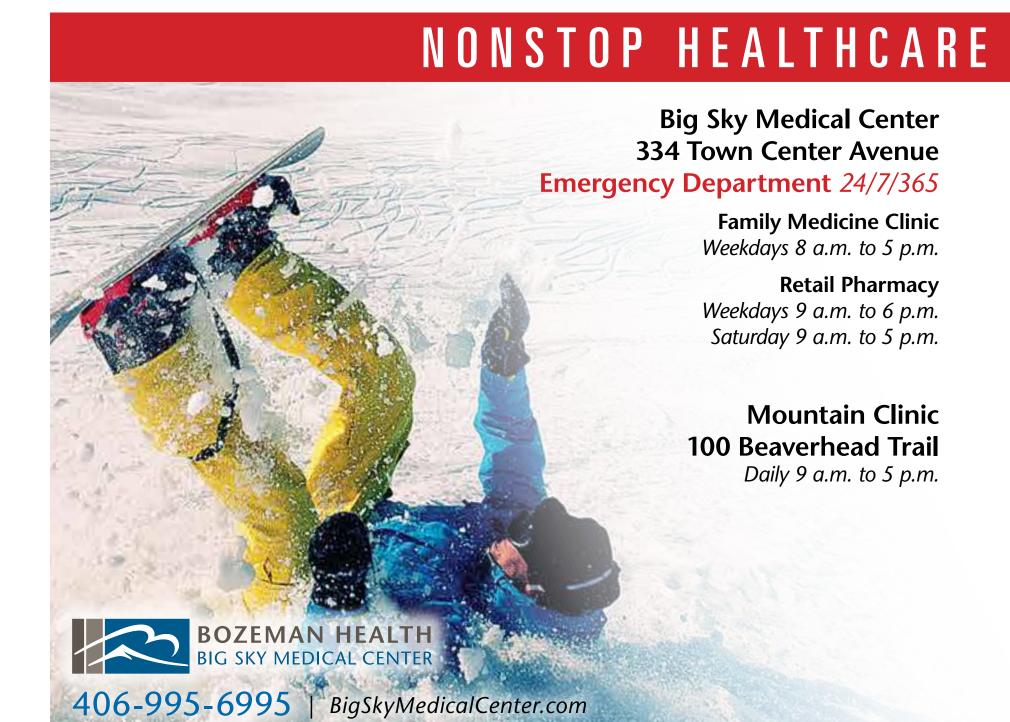
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## Lukas Nelson to play Jackson in February

#### **JACKSONHOLELIVE**

Lukas Nelson and Promise of the Real will play the Mid-Winter Snowdown on Feb. 17 with special guest Jalan Crossland. The event will be held at Heritage Arena at the Teton County Fairgrounds and all proceeds will benefit the JacksonHoleLive 2019 summer concert series.

Lukas Nelson and his band Promise of the Real have a devoted fan base in Teton County, and cosmic country soul and rock 'n' roll band is coming to Jackson on the heels of their appearance in the film, "A Star is Born."

Promise of the Real appeared as members of Bradley Cooper's fictional band, and Nelson wrote and produced a bulk of the film's soundtrack while working closely with Lady Gaga and Cooper, who co-wrote, directed and starred in the film. It's the first movie soundtrack to spend its first three weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard Music Chart in more than a decade, and the film's signature track, "Shallow," picked up four Grammy nominations including Song of the Year.

Nelson's slow burn of a career has reached epic proportions this year. The 29-year-old is one of few artists Teton County has seen evolve over the years. He first appeared on a Jackson stage with his father, Willie Nelson, as a 17-year old guitar slinger on Labor Day 2006 at Snow King Amphitheatre.

Not long after forming Promise of the Real, Lukas performed locally several times as a budding artist, and the buzz around those shows spread among local music connoisseurs.

Nelson's profile continued to rise when he contributed three songs and heavenly vocals to his dad's 2012 album, "Heroes." Then two years later, life took another turn skyward when Neil Young made POTR his touring and studio band. Young has guided the young musicians ever since, and they've backed the legend on tour around the world and on his two most recent albums.



Lukas Nelson and POTR performed at Big Sky Resort's Montana Jack in January 2017 kicking off the first annual TEDxBigSky event. OUTLAW PARTNERS PHOTO

"What's happened with us feels similar to the career trajectory of The Band," Lukas said. "They were already a great band when they started working with [Bob] Dylan, who lifted them up, which is similar to what Neil's done for us."

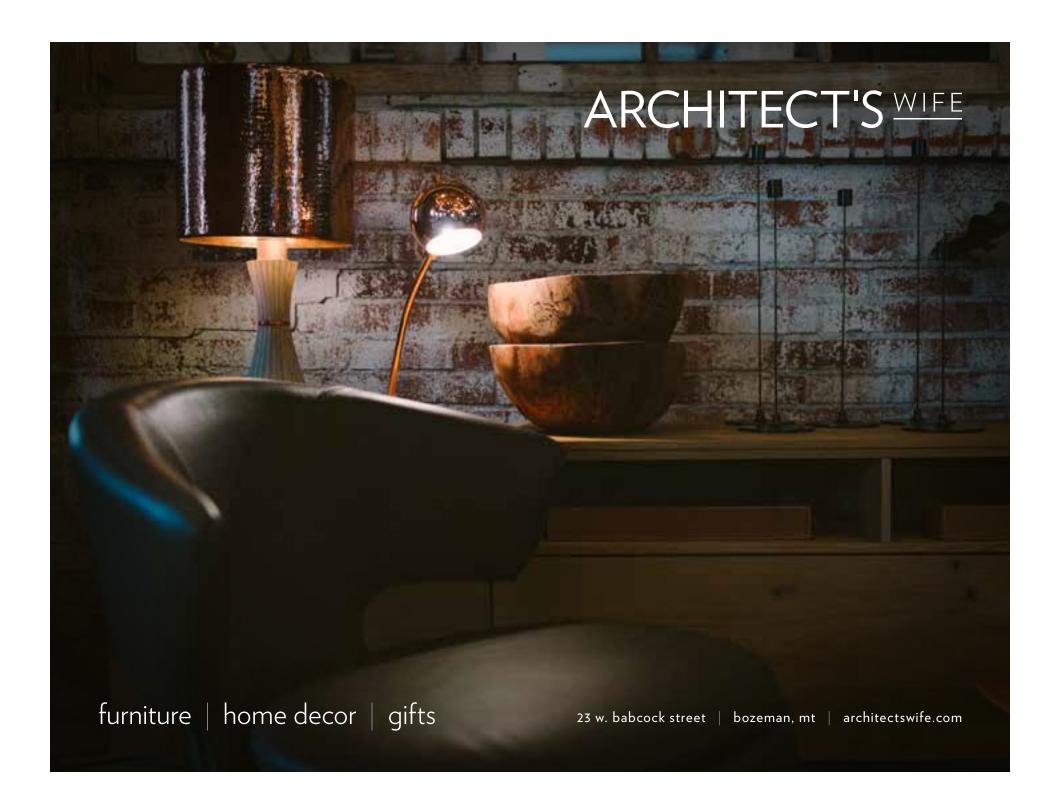
Bradley Cooper saw Lukas play at Desert Trip and the two met backstage. Soon afterward, the two met at Cooper's house and began working on musical ideas for "A Star is Born." Cooper ultimately based his character, Jackson Maine, off of Nelson's mannerisms, and Gaga cowrote her 2017 hit, "The Cure," with Nelson.

"At first I was just helping [Bradley] out, and then I started writing with Stefani [Lady Gaga], who's in the movie," Lukas said. "We connected and she and I became really close."

Jalan Crossland is an endemic Wyoming treasure. Widely acclaimed by audiences and critics, Crossland is a quadruple threat: premier acoustic guitarist, extremely fluid banjo player, phenomenal singer-songwriter, and an engaging showman. His extraordinary guitar work earned him National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship honors in 1997 and he was bestowed with the Governor's Arts Award in 2013.

Crossland has released seven albums of primarily his own songs. According to the New York Times, "his song 'Big Horn Mountain Blues' is so popular in Wyoming that it is practically the official state song."

Tickets will be available at jacksonholelive.org. Doors open at 6 p.m. Show is for ages 21 and up.





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SECTION 2: MONTANA, ENVIRONMENT, & SPORTS







## Legislative Roundup - Week 1

## House rules, Medicaid, public lands dominate first week of Montana Legislature

BY SHAYLEE RAGAR UM COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE UM SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

The 66th Montana Legislature opened for business Jan. 7 and lawmakers spent much of the first week discussing what they hope to see for hot topic issues and bills, like public lands and Medicaid expansion.

After newly elected senators and representatives were sworn in, the House voted on a temporary rules bill, which ultimately hedged off a battle among legislators that had been escalating in weeks leading up to the session.

The House rules are contentious because they have potential to greatly affect the way big bills like Medicaid expansion or infrastructure move through the Legislature.

Democrats proposed an amendment to rules last month that would have lowered the number of votes needed to "blast" a stalled bill out of committee to the full House for debate. Rep. Tom Woods, D-Bozeman, said requiring a 60-vote majority for blast motions "buried" the talent of the opposing party.

"It's like the head football coach of the Griz picking the starting lineup of the Cats," Woods said in a committee hearing.

The 60-vote majority has sometimes led to bills getting stuck in "kill committees" where majority leadership could send a bill to die due to inaction. Democrats wanted a rules change to make that a simple majority, or 51 votes, and gained support from some moderate Republicans in December.

However, the moderates and GOP-conservatives were able to strike a deal before day one of the session and settled on a temporary rule mandating a 58-vote majority for a blast motion, the same number of Republican representatives in the House. Those rules had a Friday expiration debate.

On Thursday, the House of Representatives voted on HR 1 to enact the 58-vote majority rule. This is a compromise for conservatives like Kalispell Rep. Derek Skees, who also chairs the House Rules Committee.

"I would greatly prefer the majority in control," Skees said.

Another rule change mandates that a simple majority must approve changes to committee assignments, whereas before it was the solely the decision of the speaker of the House.

#### Medicaid bills take shape

Gov. Steve Bullock says he wants to shift the conversation on Medicaid expansion this legislative session.

At a press conference early in the first week, Bullock presented a study from the Montana Department of Revenue and the Department of Labor and Industry. Bullock used the study to make a case for Medicaid expansion's benefits to businesses and the economy since it passed in 2015.

"In almost three out of five businesses in our state, those businesses rely on Medicaid expansion to provide healthcare for some portion of their employees," Bullock said.

In 2015, a group of moderate Republicans broke away from conservatives to expand Medicaid. The program requires re-authorization from the Legislature to continue. The program gets a majority of its funding from the federal government, leaving a portion for states to cover. Nearly 100,000 Montanans are now enrolled, which is more than originally predicted.

Republicans say they are still hesitant about the size of the program and Speaker of the House Greg Hertz, R-Polson, says making Medicaid expansion sustainable and affordable will be a main concern.

"I think the goal of a lot of legislators is to try to continue the Medicaid expansion program but to put some sideboards on it," said Hertz, adding that work requirements, asset and drug testing are ideas floating around that could contain enrollment in the program.

Later in the week, Democrats presented a Medicaid expansion bill they plan to introduce called the Keep Montana Healthy Act.



The Montana House of Representatives voted on rules that govern its lawmaking process during the first week of the legislative session and added a few changes on Jan. 10. PHOTO BY SHAYLEE RAGAR/ UM COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

Rep. Mary Caferro, D-Helena, will carry the bill, which would remove the requirement that the program be reauthorized by the Legislature. Caferro said the bill would make only a few tweaks to the current program, which she called a "model for the whole country."

"We maybe need to work around the edges, but we have an excellent program," Caferro said.

#### **Public Lands Rally Fills Capitol**

A vocal, overflowing crowd filled the Capitol rotunda on Friday to show support for public lands.

Specifically, the rally was to support keeping Montana's public lands in federal management hands. In past legislative sessions, bills have been introduced calling for the transfer of federal public lands into state management. Opponents of transfer argue the state doesn't have the resources to take on the task, and that it would make selling public lands into private ownership easier.

"That ain't gonna happen," Bullock said in a keynote address.

The rally was organized by a number of groups, including the Montana Wilderness Association, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers and the Montana Wildlife Society.

Sen. Jon Tester made a surprise appearance and talked about efforts in Congress to protect federal management of public lands. He also criticized Republicans for a party platform that supports transfer and Congress' failure to renew the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Sen. Jennifer Fielder, a Republican from Thompson Falls, has often supported the idea of state taking over public land management. In response the rally, she sent an email saying the state would not sell or privatize any land.

"As more and more people realize that we can and must do better, more and more people are realizing that it is time to bring land management decisions closer to home -- where they belong," Fielder wrote.

No bills have been drafted yet to allow management to be transferred in Montana.

Shaylee Ragar is a reporter with the UM Community News Service, a partnership of the University of Montana School of Journalism and the Montana Newspaper Association. Shaylee can be reached at shaylee.ragar@umontana.edu.

# MSU ecologist to discuss career in Antarctic mammal research at Jan. 30 public lecture

#### MSU NEWS SERVICE

BOZEMAN – A Montana State University ecologist will discuss his insights gained from four decades of research of an Antarctic seal species during a January talk on campus.

Jay Rotella, a professor in the MSU's Department of Ecology, will deliver "Insights from 40 years of Study on Earth's Southernmost Mammal: Antarctica's Weddell Seal" at 7 p.m. on Jan. 30, at the Procrastinator Theater. Light refreshments will be served prior to the talk. The event is free and open to the public as part of the Montana Institute on Ecosystems' Distinguished Lecturer Series.

Rotella studies wild animal populations to better understand what makes population numbers and composition change across years and locations. He emphasizes research that informs conservation and management plans for wild animals. Over the course of his career, Rotella has worked on projects involving diverse species of birds, fish and mammals in Montana and the surrounding region.

Rotella has been involved with a long-term population study of Antarctica's Weddell seals since 2002, and his research has resulted in 108 peer-reviewed publications in more than 25 scientific journals and book chapters.

At MSU, Rotella teaches a senior-level course in ornithology and graduate courses on population dynamics and the analysis of population data. He said he is committed to training the next generation of wildlife scientists and managers.

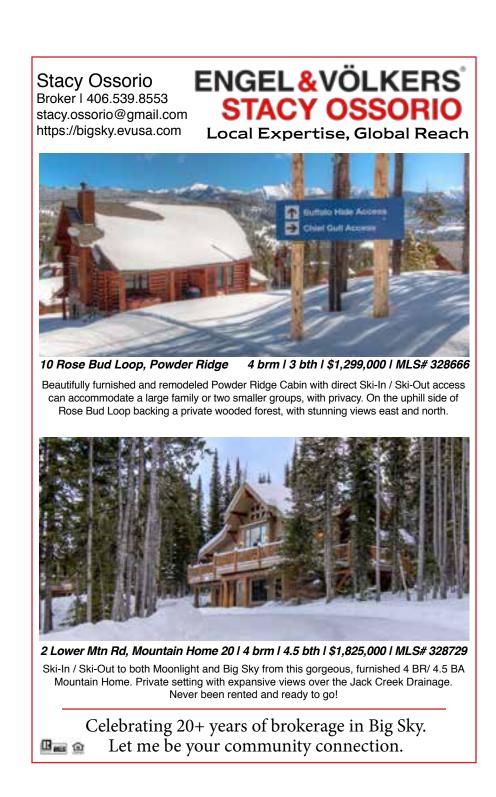
Prior to joining the MSU faculty in 1992, Rotella earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont, a master's degree from Washington State University and a doctorate from the University of Idaho.



The landscape of Antarctica. PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY ROTELLA

The Montana Institute on Ecosystems is a multi-institutional community dedicated to understanding complex ecosystems and the interconnectedness of people and nature.

Visit montanaioe.org for more information.







Presented by the Gallatin River Task Force and its partners, this recurring series highlights the conservation work done and environmental concerns found in our local watersheds.

## The elements of good snow

# Skiers, snow scientists differ on what a great snowpack looks like

## BY STEPHANIE LYNN GALLATIN RIVER TASK FORCE

Champagne powder, corduroy, corn snow, Sierra cement, crud.

Skiers have invented dozens of ways to describe snow conditions, which vary from bulletproof ice to effervescent powder.

Great skiing, according to Rich Chandler, environmental manager at the Yellowstone Club, arises from the serendipitous confluence of temperature, wind loading, snowfall intensity and total storm accumulation. "In a perfect world, it is a soft, but stable, underlying base with a storm that started warm and got colder, while depositing slightly less than an inch per hour with no wind for a couple of days," Chandler said.

By contrast, scientists predicting summer water supply envision ideal snowpack quite differently. Across the arid West, snowmelt feeds the river system throughout the dry season. Deep, dense snow ensures adequate summer flow for many sectors, including agriculture, recreation, fisheries and household use.

The Montana Natural Resources Conservation Service began monitoring snow in the early 20th century to predict water supply for producers. Their extensive monitoring network includes the Lone Mountain SNOpack TELemetry (SNOTEL) station, which continuously measures snow depth, density and temperature.

While light, fluffy powder offers off-piste bliss, dense, packable snow stores more water. Fresh "cold smoke" at Big Sky Resort typically has a moisture content between 3-5 percent, which is better for recreation than water supply. "As a reference, the famed powder of the Wasatch usually falls between 6-7 percent and 'Sierra cement' is closer to 12 percent," Chandler said.

Despite different density preferences, skiers and water forecasters do agree on their endorsement of deep snow. Winter conditions that merit a snorkel while you ski often drive above-average spring runoff. During a normal year, approximately 400 inches of snow pile up at Big Sky Resort while nearby Bridger Bowl receives around 350 inches.

Together, depth and density determine the amount of future water stored in the snowpack bank. This relationship, known as snow water equivalent (SWE), can be used to calculate how deep the water would be if you melted the entire snowpack at the same time. For example, at the time of writing, the Lone Mountain SNOTEL measured 32 inches of snow at 8,880 feet with a density of 25 percent to yield a SWE of 8 inches of water.

Across the Gallatin River watershed, the snowpack bank was average (108 percent of normal) on Jan. 1 according to the NRCS website. Time alone will determine whether or not snowmelt will provide sufficient runoff to satisfy anglers, paddlers and agricultural producers this summer.



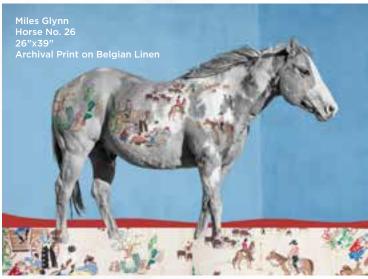
Montana State University and USDA Soil Conservation Service developed a snowmobile prototype in 1940 to collect snowpack data for agriculture. Old Lighting Sno Bug, pictured above in the Custer Gallatin National Forest in 1952, traveled 3 mph for over 1,000 miles. PHOTO COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES PHOTO ARCHIVE

# BIG ART SKY AUCTION

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## The New West:

## The return on investment in Yellowstone, Grand Teton should be celebrated



## BY TODD WILKINSON EBS ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMNIST

For many years now, the common refrain from Washington is that government needs to be run more like private sector businesses—not spending more than it earns; doing more with less; pursuing decision—making in faster, better and cheaper ways.

Who could argue with such sensible reasoning? And it might be possible, if only the analogy wasn't, as they say, comparing apples to oranges.

The U.S. military, for instance, does not take in more than it spends, nor were public lands established only to be short-term profit centers, for there's no way to account for the intrinsic worth of an elk migration corridor, the existence value of a grizzly bear, the awe of witnessing Old Faithful erupt or hearing the thunder of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone.

Yet preserving those natural things above, without monetizing them in the usual way, is a source for commerce.

Like the above, there isn't a calculated formula either for adequately ledgersheeting the value of dedicated federal employees who serve the interests of this country wearing all manner of uniforms.

Here are a couple of salient fact as the partial government shutdown reaches nearly a month long as of this writing: Today, a lot of people—civil servants—in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem are on furlough, owed to politics, certainly not because of any reason that would make sense were government agencies operated like private companies.

These employees, who are the human capital that holds together the remarkable, interconnected infrastructure of our region were already—prior to this mess—overworked, under-resourced, under-appreciated, and treated as second-class laborers.

They aren't not working because they choose to; they're not happy that our national parks and forests and wildlife refuges aren't operational. Most love what they do; it's the sense of higher purpose that leaves them committed even when there aren't a lot of good incentives or praise offered in return.

How lucky private businesses would feel to have workers like them.

The closure of government has ignited fascinating exchanges. Just this week on social media, I encountered a person who said, "Shut the government down, we don't need the feds."

This individual said citizens, such as farmers and ranchers, should be left to live their lives alone, free of government interference, regulations and hassle. The federal government, he said, is a tyrannical burden on freedom and liberty.

What's ironic is that we live in the interior West, whose infrastructure and services are heavily subsidized by the federal government—and there's no way the states could afford to do what the feds provide.

I reminded him that people who grow our food would beg to differ with his conclusion that federal aid, is, like federal employees, "non-essential." Mom and pop agrarians are not only worried about getting the subsidies their businesses and families rely on to survive, but many are hurting from the tariffs affecting markets for their crops.

I shared this passage written by an analyst, "The federal government spends more than \$20 billion a year on subsidies for farm businesses. About 39 percent of the nation's 2.1 million farms receive subsidies, with the lion's share of the handouts going to the largest producers of corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, and rice."

The author went on, "The government protects farmers against fluctuations in prices, revenues, and yields. It subsidizes their conservation efforts, insurance coverage, marketing, export sales, research, and other activities. Federal aid for crop farmers is deep and comprehensive."

Was this critique the opinion of a clueless liberal? No, it came from Chris Edwards, director of tax policy studies at the conservative Cato Institute on a website it manages called "Downsizing the Government: Your Guide to Cutting Federal Spending." (downsizinggovernment.org/about)

Indeed, there are two ways to reduce federal spending: One is shut the government down. The second, as Cato suggests, is to eliminate federal funding for a wide range of subsidized services. Many, however, happen to be the foundation for private-sector commerce.

Call those federal programs socialism if you like, but do conservatives and liberals really want to make the federal financial support system fueling American-style capitalism go away?

The federal government is the largest single employer in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

Besides thousands upon thousands of government jobs in our states—including those in the military—and their salaries that trickle throughout our local economies, and the contributions these employees provide, serving as volunteers in schools, coaches on youth sports teams, and other community activities, federal investment returns dividends in myriad other ways.

Every year, between Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks alone, more than \$1 billion in nature-tourism dollars are generated for the regional economy. Yellowstone's projected operating budget for 2019 is just shy of \$37 million, with Grand Teton's around \$15 million. Their mere presence is a powerful engine for secondary job creation too.

Were those parks private sector investment, they would be praised for delivering blockbuster results, making anyone who claims it's a wise, shrewd decision to shut government down look foolhardy.

Why are we punishing federal employees for doing things that benefit America?

Todd Wilkinson is founder of Bozeman-based Mountain Journal (mountainjournal.org) devoted to protecting the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and a correspondent for National Geographic. He also is author of "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek" about famous Jackson Hole grizzly bear 399 available only at mangelsen.com/grizzly.







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Please contact Kyle at 406-570-5733 to make a donation by Wednesday, January 23rd, or donate on our website: www.bigskyrotary.com

## Gallatin elk population rebounding slowly

BY JESSIANNE CASTLE EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BOZEMAN – A new blanket of snow covered the trees and towering cliffs of Gallatin Canyon when Bozeman Area Wildlife Biologist Julie Cunningham started taking tallies, seated in a fixed-wing plane earlier this winter. With light winds and a temperature of 17 F at takeoff, conditions were ideal for spotting elk.

Cunningham flew with a pilot over the timbered ridges and open meadows south of Big Sky, looping from Porcupine Creek south to Specimen Creek and then east to Taylor Fork and back north to Big Sky. She counted 636 elk, the most recorded in the area during the annual winter flight in over a decade. Cunningham also counted 14 moose and 15 mule deer, both of which were increases from past counts.

During the flight, Cunningham attempted to classify elk and record whether they were cows or bulls, however this was somewhat limited due to the heavily timbered area. She was able to spot at least 70 bulls, indicating that the bull-to-cow ratio aligns with the 10 bulls to 100 cows minimum management criterion. She said further ground-based assessments will occur throughout the remainder of the winter to determine calf-to-cow ratios.

Flight counts from the past five years indicate that the Gallatin Canyon elk population is trending upward, but there are still fewer elk than wildlife officials would like. In the area that includes Taylor Fork and Porcupine Creek, and extends south to Yellowstone National Park, Cunningham says she'd like to see 1,500 individuals on the landscape. This number was determined based on the carrying capacity for the winter range, and is also the approximate average of elk counts between the 1940s and 1980s.

"The story of the Gallatin elk is a long one and an imperfectly understood one," she wrote in an email to EBS. During the last three decades, the area's elk have seen the reintroduction of wolves and a steady increase in the number of grizzly bears.

"Concurrently, the Madison Valley land ownership patterns changed and elk refuges were created over on that side where they had not existed before," she added. "Since the earliest days of radio collars—1970s-1980s—elk always migrated between the Gallatin and Madison as the winter conditions suggested, often in January or February, or not at all. Now, elk seem to move early, as early as September, to the Madison Valley and places that are difficult for hunters to access."

Southern Gallatin Elk Population			
YEAR	Number of elk counted south of Big Sky		
2019	636		
2018	557		
2017	425		
2016	304		
2015	161		
2014	428		
2013	446		
2012	187		
2011	397		
2010	511		
2009			
2008	678		
2007	593		
2006	922		
2005	1574		
2004	1080		

Cunningham also pointed to growth in Big Sky. "I am seeing elk using the Big Sky subdivisions in some number, more than has been seen in prior years," she said. "I hypothesize elk are enjoying the shrubs and grass planted by homeowners, as well as enjoying the 'human shield' from four-legged predators, as well as exploiting refuge from hunters."

Lee Hart, owner of Broken Hart Ranch located three miles south of Gallatin Gateway, said he's seen changes in the elk migration patterns first-hand. Born and raised in the area, Hart has operated as a hunting outfitter on National Forest land in the Gallatin drainage for 50 years. "Way back when



Elk travel alongside the Gallatin River during the spring runoff. The species' numbers appear to be on the rise, but are not as high as wildlife officials would like. PHOTO BY ALAN JOHNSON

I originally started, there were lots of elk," he said. "I was the [only] permitted outfitter in some of the prime hunting of the state."

Following the 1995 reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone, Hart said he began to notice a change, agreeing with Cunningham that elk started moving into the Madison earlier. He also believes cow elk were losing their calves perhaps due to predators, after seeing many small groups without offspring.

"They just kept dwindling," he said. "It got so bad, I actually had to quit booking hunters. You can't do justice as an outfitter claiming you're taking them on an elk hunt. ... It's hard to operate that way. I'm there to give guests an opportunity to harvest an animal, but it's gotten so that I feel sorry for those elk."

While Hart was spotting fewer elk in the Gallatin, he began to see more elk making their way onto his alfalfa fields in the southern part of Gallatin Valley where the pressure from predators is less. "They've become urbanized elk. They don't go back to the mountains, they stay in the subdivisions," he said. "There they lay all day long, smiling at cameras. ... The people that are coming here now don't know the background of what it used to be like."

In recent years, with the Gallatin population beginning to slowly recover, Hart has had a few successful elk hunts, though he says they were pretty tough.

According to Cunningham, it's unclear exactly why Gallatin's elk population is beginning to trend back up.

"I can't say anything for a fact, but there are many possibilities," Cunningham said, adding that several hypotheses include the elk's response to habitatimprovement projects or to the generally light winters and good growing seasons we've had recently. It could also be a result of conservative management policies, such as completely limiting the harvest of cow elk in the area south of Big Sky for more than 10 years. "Perhaps even wolf hunters and trappers have reduced or changed local wolf dynamics, which could have influenced the herd. Perhaps [it's] some combination of all of this," she added.

On top of it all, Cunningham said she could be getting better at flight counting after elk behavior changed following the cessation of logging in the 1990s. Once timber sales halted, the forests grew thicker and elk began to forage in smaller groups distributed in the denser timber, becoming difficult to spot from the air. "It's harder to see two cow elk hiding than 20 cow elk hiding," she said. "Perhaps your biologist is getting better at flying and counting as she gets more experience."

As Cunningham and other state biologists with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks continue to monitor the trends in the Gallatin elk population, they will adjust management policies accordingly, though for the meantime, Cunningham said she will continue to support conservative management in this district.

Visit fwp.mt.gov/fishandwildlife/management/elk for more information about Montana's statewide elk management plan.

## Roxy's green initiative attempts to effect change in Big Sky

## BY BELLA BUTLER EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Roxy's Market is leading the charge in Big Sky toward a less wasteful community. Over the last few months, the grocery store, now in its fifth year of business in Big Sky, has transitioned to becoming more conscious of the waste they produce.

The primary change the company has made is shifting from the use of plastics to biodegradable materials. Everything from the grocery and produce bags, to deli items such as straws and disposable cutlery, is compostable. In addition to these, the produce that cannot be sold by the store is transferred to a compost bin provided by YES Compost of Bozeman, where it is eventually converted to soil fertilizer.

The newest implementation in Roxy's green journey is the utilization of recycle bins located in the back of the store. Josh Treasure, Roxy's general manager, personally delivers the recycling to Big Sky's canyon location. Roxy's also pays to have their glass waste processed and recycled in Bozeman.

"The amount of waste that occurs, not only in the United States but throughout the world, is ungodly," Treasure said. "We can't change the world, but we are going to do our best to make an impact the best way we can, and hopefully other people see that, and they want to jump on board."

And indeed, they have. "The initiative is spreading," Treasure said, noting that Olive B's and Lotus Pad are two local businesses that have been working toward using compostable products, as well. He said they hope to see more businesses follow suit.

Roxy's green initiatives were largely inspired by owner Roxy Lawler herself. Treasure calls Roxy an advocate for the environment, something that goes hand-in-hand with her effort to focus her business around healthy and nutritious products. Lawler and her husband and co-owner, Mike, have put similar environmentally friendly practices in to effect in their two other Roxy's Market locations in Montecito, California and Aspen, Colorado.

Treasure said that the general reaction from the public has been positive. Despite minor grumbling about a small bag fee that is now applied to transactions, he believes that these changes are making an impact.



Roxy's Market General Manager Josh Treasure (right) and Assistant Manager Nancy Burger show off some of the store's green initiatives, including compostable shopping and produce bags, and the compost bins where they dispose of unsold produce. PHOTO BY RYAN WEAVER

"Generally, these [initiatives] are propelled by council mandates or city mandates," Treasure said, explaining why the unincorporated Big Sky may be behind other communities on this particular front. "We just want to try and propel everything in a positive direction."

Roxy's is currently engaging in conversations about larger-scale projects with issues such as energy, but their immediate focus is on smaller and cheaper efforts, like making recycling more accessible and feasible.

Although it is a substantial effort occurring in Roxy's Market, shoppers will see little boasting and signage about it throughout the aisles. "We're not really doing this for the PR or for advertising," Treasure said. "We're doing it because it's the right thing to do."





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## THE LONE PEAK PLAYBOOK

## Big Horns basketball teams look to find mid-season form

BY DOUG HARE **EBS STAFF** 

On Jan. 4, on their home court and for the first time in Lone Peak Big Horn basketball history, the girls team was able to topple a strong Twin Bridges team 44-38. Emma Flach, Carly Wilson and Solae Swenson each put up double-digit points to clinch the historic victory. Coach Ausha Cole also gave a lot of credit to her assistant coaches for getting the win, according to Athletic Director John Hannahs.

"That was a great all-around team effort," said Cole, coach of the Lady Big Horns. "I thought everyone on our team played hard the entire game."

The boys team wasn't as successful against the Falcons, losing by 45 points in a game that got away from them in the second half. Frankie Starz was the lone bright spot on offense that night, pouring in 14 points.

"West [Yellowstone] has an impressive team this year. I thought we played them well in the first quarter," said Coach Brian Van Eps. "We just came out flat in the third quarter and weren't able to finish."

On Jan. 11, the Big Horns hosted the West Yellowstone Wolverines. The Lady Big Horns came out slow and were never able to find their groove, losing 30-48. "Not to discredit West—they are a real good team—but I thought we had the pre-game jitters against a rival," said Coach

Senior Kolya Bough (pictured) and junior Frankie Starz have been leading a front court attack that has put up big offensive numbers over the past three home games. PHOTOS BY RICH ADDICKS



Cole. "We had 35 turnovers and about 80 percent of those were unforced. There was a lot of nervousness and poor decision-making."

The boys team manages to outfox the Wolverines 52-44 with stellar performances by Frankie Starz and Kolya Bough, who combined for 40 points. Coach Van Eps was pleased his team was finally able to put a whole game together and keep their composure.

On Jan. 12, the Big Horns teams played another home game against the Sheridan Panthers. While the Lady Big Horns won their game 28-16, Coach Cole was less than impressed with the team's efforts: "I thought we were too low energy, especially with Emma Flach coming off the bench."

Solae Swenson injured her hand during the match and is expected to miss one to three weeks. "We will still go out expecting to win every game and play up to our potential," said Cole. "But it will be tough now without our leading scorer."

The boys team also got the win against the Panthers, 51-40, with double-digit scoring by Bough, Starz, and Kegan Babick. "We were tired from the night before," said Van Eps. "But we had eight or nine guys who on the scoring sheet which is fantastic. It is nice to see the team gelling heading towards districts."

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All Levels Yoga

#### **TUESDAY**

7:30-8:30am All Levels Yoga

9:00-10:00am All Levels Yoga

5:45-7:00pm Heated Flow

#### WEDNESDAY

7:30-8:30am 8 9:00-10:15 All Levels Yoga

11:00-12:30pm The Practice (Level 2-3

4:15-5:15pm Apres Ski Yoga

7:00-8:00pm Awareness Wednesday

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5:45-6:45pm **Heated Flow** 

#### **FRIDAY**

9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga

12:00-1:00pm

Heated Flow

### **SATURDAY**

9:00-10:15am All Levels Yoga

5:00-6:15pm All Levels Yoga

7:30-8:30pm

Yoga Jam

## Ski tips: Solid skiing on rocky slopes

## BY DAN EGAN EBS CONTRIBUTOR

In big mountain skiing you have to get by bad snow to find good snow. Here in Big Sky there are often rocks above or near the surface of the snow that are waiting to trip up skiers and snowboarders. This requires strategy and tactics for skiing the slopes, and here are a few ways I break a run down when it appears rocky.

#### The Entrance

If the entrance isn't perfect, simply side step down until you can make turns. Make sure to have a good solid stance on your side step with your shoulders square to the hill and don't be afraid to use your poles as balance and as a brace. Move quickly down the slope because taking too long with a difficult entrance can throw off your mental game for skiing the slope below.

#### Have a plan

I like to ski rocky areas in sections. I move from pod of snow to pod of snow with a clear vision in my mind on where I am going to stop and start. This allows me to link a few turns together and then stop and start again.

#### Speed

Once you have a plan and you are by the entrance, move at a steady pace with a focus on two to three turns at a time. You don't want to move too slowly through the rocks as a bit of speed will help you avoid obstacles, but don't move at reckless pace.

#### **Power Slide**

If you can power slide down past the obstacles, do it. A good power slide is executed with your feet shoulder-width apart, hands and poles facing down the mountain, and your eyes looking down, not across the slope.

#### **Turning**

When skiing though rocky areas, keep your skis in the fall line. If you're going to nick the rocks it's better to be in a skiing position than with your skis sideways. I like to use hop turns in these situations.

#### Finding the way

Your eyes are the key to finding your way through a minefield of rocks. Remember, you go where you look, so look where you want to go. Keep your eyes looking down the fall line and concentrate on the snow, try not to look at the rocks.



Dan Egan skis from pod of snow to pod of snow in the rocky Headwaters Cirque at Big Sky Resort. PHOTO COURTESY OF RUMBLE PRODUCTIONS

#### Repetition

I like to ski the same runs several times as it has many advantages. The first time, you learn about the run, where the rocks are and what path to take. During the second run you can gain a bit of confidence, and by the third or fourth time you can actually start to ski the slope, knowing your path and where the obstacles are. Plus, more importantly, going back to the same run the next day or later in the week you can see how the slope has been changed by skier traffic and different conditions, such as new snow and wind. This will give you more and more confidence throughout the season.

Extreme skiing pioneer Dan Egan teaches clinics and guides trips at locations around the world including Big Sky, where he's be teaching this season (contact Big Sky Mountain Sports for availability). Find more information on his camps and clinics at skiclinics.com. Also, don't miss Dan Egan's Mountain Odyssey presentation, an evening of adventure, ski films and stories of his exploits to the most remote regions of the world skiing for Warren Miller, at the Yellowstone Conference Center Amphitheater at Big Sky Resort on Jan. 19 and March 9 at 7 pm.



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# Big Sky Town Series Jan. 16 race results

Big Sky Resort, in partnership with Outlaw Partners (publisher of EBS), hosted the first of seven Big Sky Town Series race days on Jan. 16. Locals and businesses assembled teams of four to six racers to go toe to toe on the resort's NASTAR course to determine Big Sky's fastest bunch.

PLACE	TEAM	SCORE	RANK
1	Ambulance Chasers	16.345	1
2	Big Sky Mountain Sports	16.163	2
3	Big Sky Sotheby's	13.693	3
4	Alpine Water	13.617	4
5	Lone Mountain Legends	11.210	5
6	VerMontanans	10.760	6
7	Lone Mtn. Sports	10.565	7
8	Scissorbill's	6.735	8
9	Outlaw Rippers	2.447	9
10	L&K Flyers	1.883	10



A skier flies across the finish line of Big Sky Resort's NASTAR course on Andesite Mountain during the first race of the Big Sky Town Race Series on Jan. 16. PHOTO BY BAY STEPHENS



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EVERY FRIDAY 8 PM-Close

Trivia Night at Lone Peak Cinema (Win free drinks, movie tickets, t-shirts, etc. Teams of 1-4)

EVERY SAT & SUN 9 AM-2 PM The Standard Weekend Brunch (The Standard Cocktails & Deserts at 47 Town Center Ave., Unit B1)

JAN 20

Full Moon Trails Event (Nordic ski, fat bike, snowshoe, and hike under the lunar eclipse on BSCO trails around Town Center and the Big Sky Community Park)

FEB 9-10

2nd Annual Best In The West Showdown (BSSA Skijoring, calcutta & awards celebration at Choppers Grub & Pub)

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## Pavelich Invitational showcases hockey for all ages

BY DOUG HARE EBS STAFF

BIG SKY – On Jan. 12, red and white Detroit Red Wings jerseys flooded the Town Center ice rink on a crisp, sunny Saturday. At noon, a team of Big Sky youth took on challengers from Bozeman, the first "home game" ever for local youth hockey players.

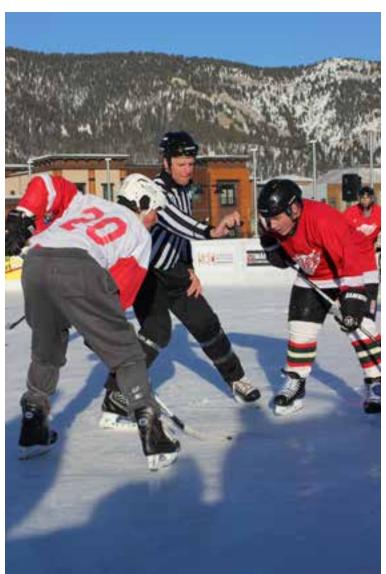
"Fantastic day. It was great to see 50 kids out there competing. It reminded me of my youth spent playing hockey outside in Canada," said Marty Pavelich, former Red Wings legend and the namesake of the event. "When I first moved out here there wasn't anywhere to play hockey, so I'm thrilled with this development."

A newly acquired, used Zamboni machine resurfaced the rink before two teams of local adult hockey players took to the ice for a friendly exhibition match marking the ninth annual Pavelich Invitational Hockey Game.

Pavelich has been impressed with the rink's improvements since last year—including a new refrigeration system and a new location that was leveled for less gradation end-to-end than its predecessor—noting that efforts from volunteers like Ryan Blechta and Gary Hermann have been essential to the recent progress. But the former NHL star also predicts more enhancements in the future.

"Hopefully, we'll have a stadium here one day. The current location and lighting are great, but I can picture a stadium that could hold 5,000 people and host different events throughout the year," Pavelich said. "I've seen it done before. They did it in Vail. It would be a great place to build community in this town."

Pavelich said he hopes that one day a Big Sky athlete will be able to get an NCAA scholarship to a school with a strong hockey program. "That would make all the effort worth it," he said. "Who knows? They could even make it all the way to the NHL."









The ninth annual Pavelich Invitational Hockey Game was played on the newand-improved hockey rink in Town Center with plenty of friendly competition under bluebird skies. PHOTOS BY TYLER ALLEN







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## BSSEF hosts first alpine races of season

## Nordic team starts strong, Freeride gearing up

#### BY LUKE KIRCHMAYR **EBS CONTRIBUTOR**

Over the past few weeks, the Big Sky Freeride team has been preparing for this year's competitions, including the upcoming Snowbird National Jan. 18-21 and the Jackson Regional Jan. 25-27. To help prepare for official events, they held a mock competition on the Obsidian terrain with an IFSAcertified judge present to expose the athletes to the judging process.

The team is also participating in an avalanche safety class from the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center on Sunday, Jan. 20.

### **Alpine**

The official start of the 2018-2019 alpine ski race season at Big Sky Resort was hosted by the Big Sky Ski Education Foundation with a U16 regional qualifier, Jan. 4-6. The races started with a giant slalom on Jan. 4, followed by two slaloms Jan. 5 and 6. The races were held on Tippy's Tumble and the Ambush headwall via the new connector built under the Ramcharger 8 chairlift. Conditions were perfect with sunshine and a hard, fast surface, and there were more than 80 racers competing from Montana and South Dakota.

On the same weekend, there was an additional race hosted by the Bridger Bowl Ski Foundation at Bridger Bowl Ski Area that was open to U8 through U16 racers. The event was well attended with more than 130 racers, including 20 competitors from the Big Sky Ski Team.

Racing continued in Big Sky with National FIS races Jan. 9-15. Some of the best national junior racers in the nation where present at this event hosted by the Big Sky Ski Education Foundation. The strong field of 190 racers was open only to competitors U19 and older, and with mostly blue bird days and bone-hard surface conditions on Tippy's Tumble and Ambush, the course was in ideal shape. Five members of the Big Sky Ski Team qualified for this very competitive

### Race results: Big Sky alpine team:

#### **U16 and older**

#### **WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 4**

5. St. Cyr, Maci (1:49:89)

7. St. Cyr, Franci (1:51:40)

9. Winters, Madison (1:52:24)

10. Winters, Mackenzie (1:52:27)

13. Carisch, Gracie (1:53:23)

14. Davis, Hillary (1:54:82)

24. Jarrett, Emma (2:08:19)

29. Jarret, Gracie (2:26:13)

#### **MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 4**

4. Johnson, Sam (1:47:14)

8. Hassman, Kjetil (1:47:97)

13. Kirchmayr, Luke (1:54:07)

19. Hoover, Miles (1:58:68)

#### **WOMEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 5**

4. St. Cyr, Macie (1:27:63)

9. Winters, Madison (1:30:17)

11. Winters, Mackenzie (1:32:29)

12. St. Cyr, Franci (1:32:52)

15. Carisch, Gracie (1:34:26) 16. Johnson, Winter (1:37:15)

20. Davis, Hillary (1:45:42)

25. Jarrett, Emma (1:51:94)

#### MEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 5

7. Beatty, Ryan (1:27:06)

9. Hassman, Kjetil (1:27:79)

10. Kirchmayr, Luke (1:27:82)

15. Johnson, Sam (1:33:16)

#### **WOMEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 6**

5. St. Cyr, Macie (1:36:71)

7. Winters, Madison (1:39:14)

10. Winters, Mackenzie (1:41:12) 12. St. Cyr, Franci (1:41:93)

14. Carisch, Gracie (1:43:89)

15. Davis, Hillary (1:43:98)

23. Jarrett, Emma (2:02:03) 28. Jarrett, Gracie (2:27:51)

#### MEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 6

8. Beatty, Ryan (1:34:42) 18. Hassman, Kjetil (1:45:77)

19. Johnson, Sam (1:46:77)

### U8 to U16 at Bridger Bowl

#### **WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 5**

4. Davis, Sophia (1:42:58)

24. Cook, Alice (2:03:03)

38. Wolfe, Olive (2:17:84)

44. Hardan, Cate (2:21:96)

### **MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 5**

6. Bourret, Cooper (1:43:66)

7. Pecunies, Ian (1:44:06)

14. Klug, Finn (1:47:78)

16. McRae, Finn (1:48:16) 17. Torsleff, Connor (1:49:43)

28. Dituillio, Dominic (1:54:96)

29. Dituillio, Anthony (1:56:13)

36. Gale, Eli (2:00:20)

46. Clack, Jed (2:07:00)

49. Sheil, Cullen (2:10:66) 50. Mittelstaedt, Ty (2:10:99)

54. Frank, Emerson (2:13:70)

57. Andrews, Charlie (2:15:08)

58. Ueland, Dane (2:15:47)

59. Efferson, Dylan (2:15:86)

#### **WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 6**

5. Davis, Sophia (1:42:35)

16. McRae, Maeve (1:52:08)

26. Cook, Alice (2:01:85)

30. Wolfe, Olive (2:03:23)

38. Wenger, Peyton (2:08:77)

40. Hardan, Cate (2:10:34)

### **MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 6**

2. Bourett, Cooper (1:40:20)

7. Pecunies, Ian (1:43:56) 13. Klug, Finn (1:46:73)

17. McRae, Finn (1:49:50)

20. Dituillio, Anthony (1:50:40)

25. Dituillio, Dominic (1:52:72)

26. Gale, Eli (1:53:99)

32. Clack, Jed (1:59:49)

40. Sheil, Cullen (2:01:65)

47. Ueland, Dane (2:06:33)

51. Andrews, Charlie (2:09:39) 52. Emerson, Frank (2:10:51)

53. Efferson, Dylan (2:13:89)

57. Klug, Gus (2:14:74)

### FIS Tech Elite at Big Sky Resort

#### **MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 10**

62. Johnson, Sam (2:19:96)

#### **MEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 11**

64. Johnson, Sam (2:20:38)



Big Sky Ski Education Foundation racers pause for a photo at the bottom of the racecourse at Big Sky Resort earlier this month. PHOTO BY KIM BEATTY

#### **WOMEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 12**

29. St. Cyr, Maci (1:53:66)

43. Winters, Madison (1:59:59)

49. Schreiner, Macie (2:06:33)

#### **WOMEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 13**

35. St. Cvr, Maci (1:58:77)

47. Winters, Madison (2:02:17) 53. Winters, Mackenzie (2:04:49)

**MEN'S SLALOM, JAN. 13** 54. Johnson, Sam (2:01:66)

### **WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM, JAN. 14**

37. St. Cyr, Maci (2:19:96)

47. Winters, Madison (2:22:22)

48. Winters, Mackenzie (2:22:50)

### **Upcoming Events:**

The U14 team will have a western regional qualifier at Terry Peak, South Dakota, Jan. 18-20.

The same group will travel to Whitefish, Montana, Jan. 26-28 for another regional qualifier.

The U16 team will be in Red Lodge, Montana, Jan. 25-27 for a regional qualifier.

## Nordic

The BSSEF Nordic team had a strong showing in West Yellowstone on Jan. 5 during the first biathlon race of the season, with Big Sky skiers finishing in top places in several age groups. The day started out cold and foggy, but gradually warmed to upper 20s F making for fast snow and race conditions.

Several Big Sky athletes hit all their targets, known as a clean shoot, and did not have to ski penalty laps for missed shots. Jason Mittelstaedt, Orrin Coleman, Tobin Ide and Wats Littman all had clean shoots, and following Norwegian tradition, received a chocolate bar for each clean round. The race was a 4.5-km sprint with two rounds of shooting. It was a wave start by age group and skiers skied a 1.5-km loop and then shot five rounds, then skied another 1.5 km followed by another shoot and ended with the final 1.5-km lap.

The next Nordic event will be a 5-km race in Big Sky on Jan. 22 at 5 p.m. The 5@5 Town Series Race is open to all and will have a 1-km, 3-km and a 5-km race. Same day registration begins at 4 p.m.

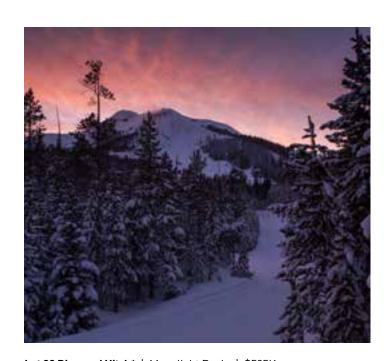
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# **SECTION 3:**OUTDOORS, BUSINESS, DINING & HEALTH







## INSIDE YELLOWSTONE



## Immerse yourself in Yellowstone this summer

Field seminar registration opens Jan. 30

## BY CHRISTINE GIANAS WEINHEIMER YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

While ski season is still in full swing, it won't be long until signs of spring appear in the Greater Yellowstone area. Bears will emerge from their dens, ice will start to melt from lakes and streams, and reddishbrown bison calves will join their herds.

Spring is also the time when new Yellowstone Forever Institute programs kick off, starting a season packed with 70 exciting field seminars from April to October.

A Yellowstone Forever Institute Field Seminar is a unique way to experience Yellowstone like never before. Led by experts in their field, these in-depth learning experiences allow participants to explore a specific topic of interest or try a new skill. Registration for spring and summer field seminars opens this month and popular programs will fill up fast.

"Because the summer season is more popular for park visitors, Yellowstone can at times feel a little crowded. However, by participating in one of our field seminars you can get away from the crowds and experience this remarkable landscape in a far more intimate and personable way," says Robert Petty, senior director of education for Yellowstone Forever.

Wildlife enthusiasts can choose from numerous courses led by naturalists and wildlife biologists that focus on animal tracking, behavior or research. Several field seminars let you explore the world of a specific species such as "Wolves:

Reality and Myth," or courses on cougars, bison, grizzlies, bats or owls.

Those who would like to nurture their artistic side can register for "Painting Moran's Yellowstone" or field seminars in nature writing, journaling or photography with Yellowstone as their muse. Other courses delve into the human stories of the Yellowstone area by exploring park history, conservation efforts and Crow or Lakota culture.

New programs including "Backpacking Basics" and "Outdoor Skills and Wilderness Survival" help participants build skills and confidence for their backcountry pursuits. Plus five fly-fishing courses are designed for everyone from beginners to advanced anglers.

Also new this year, the Institute is connecting several summer programs to the Citizen Science Initiative, a collaboration between Yellowstone Forever and Yellowstone National Park. Participants will have the chance to help scientists gather information for park research studies. These hands-on programs include red-tailed hawk monitoring and collecting data on pikas or ungulates, among others.

Those seeking to start a new career or continue their professional education may take a course to become certified as a Naturalist Guide or Interpretive Guide. In addition, the certification course in Wilderness First Aid is ideal for anyone who spends a lot of time working or playing in the backcountry.

For most summer field seminars, participants can reserve lodging with Yellowstone Forever at either the Overlook Field Campus in Gardiner or the Lamar Buffalo Ranch in Yellowstone's Lamar Valley.

Registration for 2019 summer field seminars opens Jan. 30 at 8 a.m. for Yellowstone Forever supporters, and Feb. 6 at 8 a.m. for the general public. Those who aren't yet supporters can join when registering for a program online.

While field seminar registration opens on these specific dates, registration is open year-round for other types of Yellowstone Forever Institute programs such as Lodging and Learning, Private Tours, Youth and College, or Teacher programs.

Yellowstone Forever is the official nonprofit partner of Yellowstone National Park. Learn more or register for a program at Yellowstone.org/experience.



Yellowstone Forever Institute will hold 70 field seminars between April and October on topics ranging from backpacking basics to wilderness survival. PHOTO BY JACOB W. FRANK/NPS

# Yellowstone gateway communities rally support during government shutdown

BY JESSIANNE CASTLE EBS CONTRIBUTOR

LIVINGSTON – Weeks into the longest partial government shutdown in history, communities around Yellowstone National Park continue to pull together. Both in Gardiner and West Yellowstone, business owners and volunteers are picking up the slack created when numerous government employees were put on furlough.

Amy Beegel, a guide for Two Top Snowmobile in West Yellowstone, said it's been quite the experience. Having taken private tours into Yellowstone for more than 20 years, Beegel has worked through other government shutdowns, though she said this is only the second time the park remained open.

"It has been so nice for all of us to have access," she said, adding that it's hard when a seasonal business has to cancel trips last minute, as would be the case if Yellowstone had been closed.

So far, Beegel said she hasn't seen anything drastic happen in Yellowstone—nothing like the cutting down of trees that occurred in California's Joshua Tree National Park during the first weeks of the shutdown—but she has caught people trying to illegally enter Yellowstone on snowmobiles without appropriate permits. In fact, she said some snowmobilers tried to gain access by traveling with her tour group.

"The law enforcement is still around though," she said, adding that guides and volunteers are also keeping their eye out for any inappropriate activity. "We all pull together as a big team. We're trying our best to do whatever we can."

Beginning on Dec. 22, after Congress failed to pass appropriation bills that would allocate funding to many federal agencies, the government was put into a partial shutdown and agencies were required to discontinue non-essential functions due to a lack of funds. Each federal agency follows unique guidelines during a shutdown, and in Yellowstone National Park all government-run operations and facilities were closed, though visitation has been allowed and permitted concessionaires may continue to offer services.

"Visitation remains strong," said Mike Keller, Xanterra Parks and Resorts general manager in Yellowstone. "We're still seeing a lot of people having a great time in Yellowstone National Park."

Responsible for running the only hotels in Yellowstone that remain open during the winter, Xanterra is picking up the expense to groom and plow Yellowstone's roads—a cost of about \$7,500 a day. Keller said even if there isn't any new snow, it's important to maintain the roads, as they can get rutted from snowmobiles and snowcoaches traveling back and forth.

Many of the companies operating in the park and benefiting from the grooming are reimbursing Xanterra for their service. For the 13 companies registered for guided tours, that amounts to about \$300 to \$500 daily.

For the first three weeks, the park was not staffed by government employees, and basic maintenance like trash collection and bathroom cleaning was not performed. To keep up with continued visitation, many guides and members of the gateway communities began cleaning bathrooms and picking up trash as volunteers, paying for supplies out of their own pockets.

"We're already there, so it doesn't take any more of our time to clean up garbage and make sure bathrooms are clean," Beegel said in what was, by other reports, a rather modest statement. A Jan. 6 article published in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle includes accounts of volunteers using windshield scrapers to remove frozen human waste from the sides of toilets, while others cleaned bathrooms with excrement, blood and vomit spread across the floor.

Beginning on Jan. 13, Park Service staff was called back to provide basic services such as trash pickup, bathroom maintenance, and snow removal at the Canyon overlooks. These services will be funded by fees collected from park visitors prior to the shutdown, which are normally used for future projects and improvements.

"As the lapse in appropriations continues, it has become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff have urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners," said Park Service Deputy Director P. Daniel Smith in a Jan. 6 statement. "We are taking this extraordinary step to ensure that parks are protected, and that visitors can continue to access parks with limited basic services."

While the Park Service works to keep up with visitation despite limited funds, former NPS Director Jonathan Jarvis says he's critical of the decision to leave national parks open in the first place, which was a decision made by the Department of the Interior.

"Leaving the parks open without these essential staff is equivalent to leaving the Smithsonian museums open without any staff to protect the priceless artifacts," he wrote in a story published in The Guardian on Jan. 3. "It is a violation of the stewardship mandate, motivated only by politics. While the majority of the public will be respectful, there will always be a few who take advantage of the opportunity to do lasting damage."

In addition to the concerns regarding National Parks, there are many worried about the impact of the government shutdown on furloughed employees. According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, an estimated 380,000 government workers were furloughed, while 420,000 employees are working without pay, including those with the weather service, the Transportation Security Administration and federal law enforcement, among others.

For many of these employees, their last paycheck came in December and it remains uncertain when they will see another. While Congress has agreed to provide back pay to federal employees, this will not come until Congress passes the appropriation bills and funding has been restored.

To help those experiencing a lapse in pay, many business owners are offering their services to furloughed federal employees. In Paradise Valley, Mountain Runner Shuttles is offering transportation, while in West Yellowstone several restaurants are donating meals.

"In light of the government shutdown, we want to help in the only way we can think of," wrote staff at the Madison Crossing Lounge in West Yellowstone in a Jan. 10 Facebook post, offering meals at a reduced cost for federal employees and their families.



LEFT: For the first three weeks of the partial government shutdown, Yellowstone National Park remained open to visitation, though entrance stations were unstaffed. Beginning on Jan. 13, staff was called back to operate the entrance stations, though other services remain closed. PHOTOS BY JESSIANNE CASTLE

RIGHT: A trash receptacle at Mammoth on Jan. 10 while basic services like trash collection were being performed by volunteers.

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

## Community ski racing, electronic dance music return to slopes

#### EBS STAFF

On Jan. 16, local racers kicked off the new Town Race Series, a recreational competition in which teams of four to six participants compete for bragging rights on the NASTAR course located on the side of the Ambush trail, near the base area and adjacent to the new Ramcharger 8 chairlift.

In partnership with Outlaw Partners (publisher of EBS), the resort will host weekly races for the next seven Wednesdays, except for Feb. 20, culminating with a grand finale barbecue celebration March 6, when individual and team champions will be announced. Team results will be calculated by the top four scores, including at least one female result.

With the reintroduction of the resort's NASTAR course in the 2016-2017 season, the resort decided to reinvigorate the town series—after a years-long hiatus—this season as a community building weekly event. With more than 10 teams registered this year, the NASTAR course will likely see more use than ever before.

Through a handicap system, participants are able to compare their times to competitors across the country, regardless of when or where they race. Participants will also be able to track changes to their handicap throughout the season, which can be altered based on results that measure the difference between their race time and the par time, which is set by U.S. Ski Team alumni.

Big Sky Resort mountain operations has also begun building the Snobar, preparing a stage, dance floor and a bar made out of snow at the base of the Swift Current chairlift. Featuring a premier lineup of DJs, psychedelic lighting displays, and go-go dancers, this year Snobar will take place over two consecutive Saturdays as revelers party to electronic dance music in a temporary venue under the night sky.



Now in its thirteenth consecutive year, Big Sky Resort's Snobar returns for two Saturdays this January featuring a bar, stage, and dance floor made out of snow. A premier lineup of DJs and go-go dancers will perform as revelers party on the slopes and under the stars. PHOTO BY GABE PRIESTLEY

### Jan. 19 DJ lineup:

K7NG: 6-7 p.m. Ph03nix: 7-8 p.m. Nate G: 8-9 p.m.

Downpour Musik: 9-10 p.m.

Go-go performances by: Lorin Sevilla and Nikki Ice

#### Jan. 26 DJ lineup:

Jack Dehio: 6-7 p.m. Twiggy Smallz: 7-8 p.m. Mitch Brady: 8-9 p.m. Dr. Fresch: 9-10 p.m.

Go-go performances by: Sarah Winn and Sofi Tsolakidis

Both Saturdays will feature 120,000 watts of audio support by PK Sound. Tickets are available at the door, and attendees must be 21 years of age and older. Montana Jack will host an after-party starting at 10 p.m.











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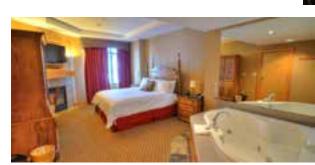
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# On the Trail: Ambassador spotlight

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

# BY ERIK MORRISON BSCO OUTREACH COORDINATOR

The Big Sky Community Organization's mission is to connect people with recreational and enrichment opportunities. On any given day this season that is exactly what you'll find our winter trails ambassadors doing.

Whether it be Nordic skiing, fat biking, snowshoeing or hiking, these volunteers are out there enjoying the trails, watching over and assisting friends and guests, providing area trails and event information, and gathering valuable user beta that will help inform and direct the future of Big Sky's parks and trails. They are the eyes, ears and helping hands of the BSCO. In this installment of On the Trail we caught up with one of our longest standing trail ambassadors, Bill Elledge.

Big Sky Community Organization: What's your favorite way to play on the trails, Nordic skiing, fat biking, snowshoeing or hiking?

Bill Elledge: Nordic skiing, for sure!

BSCO: How long have you been working with BSCO?

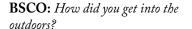
**B.E.:** Maybe 10 years. I have been volunteering both winters and summers as a trails ambassador since the program began three years ago and have been volunteering and supporting the efforts of BSCO for the past decade.

**BSCO:** What do like most about the program?

**B.E.:** Helping to serve and support Big Sky trails and this program that protects them. I feel that through our work there is a growing sense of its importance and place in our community. We are so fortunate to have these trail systems in our backyard.

**BSCO:** What is your favorite memory of your time on the trails over the years?

**B.E.:** One of my favorite encounters as a trails ambassador was with a couple from the Midwest who were longtime mountain bikers, and who traveled to Colorado every year to mountain bike. They had come to Big Sky last summer in desperation because of the fires in Colorado. They were so impressed with the trails, their proximity to town, the shape they were in, that they vowed to return to Big Sky every year in preference over Colorado. It made me feel really fortunate to have access to a great trail system!





Big Sky Community Organization Trail Ambassador Bill Elledge. PHOTO COURTESY OF LOVE STREET MEDIA

**B.E.:** I grew up in the Midwest, where there was very little opportunity for hiking, biking, climbing or skiing. I remember as a kid ordering USGS maps of places like Yellowstone and Glacier national parks and poring over them for hours at a time. When I finally migrated West I just couldn't get enough of the mountain outdoors, and I still haven't.

For more information about Big Sky's parks, trails and recreation programs, visit bscomt. org. The Big Sky Community Organization engages and leads people to recreational and enrichment opportunities through thoughtful development of partnerships, programs and places.

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# Finding time for each other

## New company provides transportation, childcare for couples

BY JESSIANNE CASTLE EBS CONTRIBUTOR

BIG SKY – Taking dedicated time to share experiences as a couple is very important to Roy and Gloria Branch. Even on family vacations, they take extra measures to ensure they can spend a little time alone together, whether it's a dinner date, dancing or enjoying a cocktail.

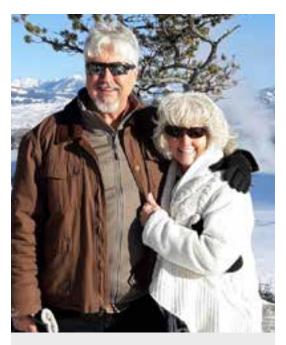
"It just really added to our vacation, because we made memories, just the two of us," Gloria said of past date nights while on vacation. "Even if it was just for a couple hours, it was just priceless."

This winter, the Branches decided to make it easier for other couples in Big Sky to also take time for each other by starting a company designed to simplify date nights. Called Vacation Date Night, the company provides childcare, eldercare, pet sitting and transportation so that couples can easily set aside time for each other.

An evening with Vacation Date Night begins when Roy and Gloria arrive at their client's lodging—whether the home of a resident, a hotel room, or other guest accommodations. Depending upon the couple's needs, Gloria will stay on-site to provide childcare, assist with

aging family members, or look after the needs of a pet. Meanwhile, Roy serves as the couple's personal chauffer, driving them to locations throughout Big Sky or Bozeman.

Vacation Date Night will tailor services to meet the needs of each individual couple. Whether parents want to take a day to hit the slopes without the



Roy and Gloria Branch, owners of the new company Vacation Date Night, pause in front of a thermal feature at Mammoth during a recent trip to Yellowstone National Park. Their company provides childcare and transportation services for couples in the Big Sky area. PHOTO COURTESY OF GLORIA BRANCH

kids, or they want to go for a movie and drink in Big Sky Town Center, Vacation Date Night will work to accommodate.

According to Gloria, who is certified for infant, children and adult CPR, this kind of service can give couples peace of mind so that they can enjoy themselves worry free. When providing childcare, she brings ageappropriate games such as puzzles or toy cars and asks parents to provide their guidelines on screen time, food specifics and bedtime routine. "It's very important to me that I stay on the parent's schedule for the children," she said. "Being a mom, I have values like that."

As additional security, Roy remains with the couple throughout the day or evening, available at the car in the parking lot should plans change.

Having personally faced the challenge of finding transportation and arranging for a separate childcare service, the Branches hope their company makes date nights easier for vacationing couples and residents alike.

"It's giving a couple the opportunity to have time for themselves," Roy said. "Me and my family seriously believe in vacations. We think it's very important, but I don't think couples should short-change themselves.

Couples need dates where they can get away from everything and just enjoy each other's company."

Visit vacationdatenight.com to learn more.





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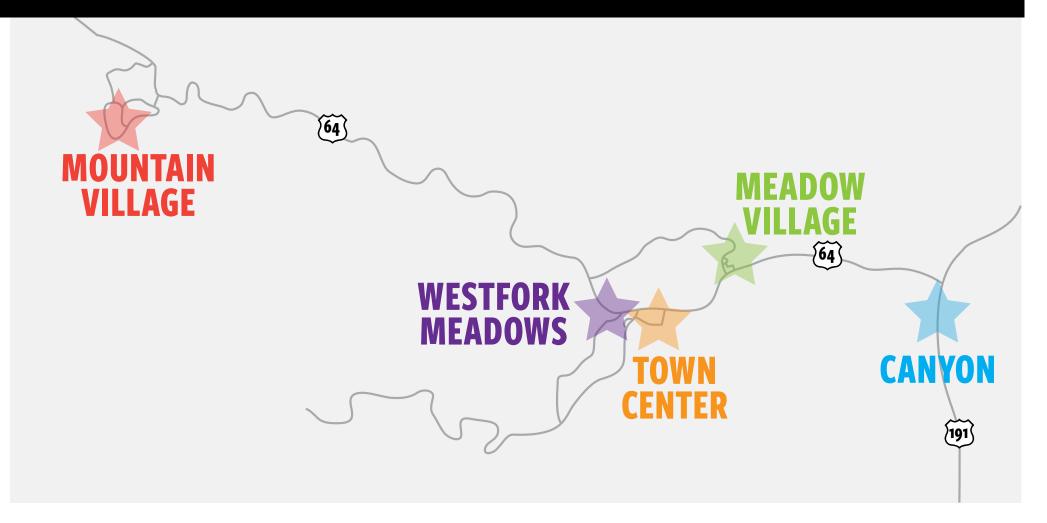
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# Making it in Big Sky: Monica's Salon

## BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

Monica Kulesza heard the mountains calling and moved to Big Sky in 2006 to see what all the fuss was about. Here, she fell in love with skiing, her husband Ryan and their little boy, Emmet. But she found more to love in the outdoors including cross-country skiing, hiking, hunting, fishing, riding horses, pack trips and floating rivers.

Monica's Salon opened its doors in May 2010 on the heels of the downturned economy, but says her perseverance paid off.

"I wanted to grow and have always had entrepreneur blood in me," Monica says. "I saw a lack of salons, especially in Town Center."

Today, Monica and her year-round team of stylists cut and style hair for all genders and ages, including coloring, as well as nails and facial waxing. The work, along with the lifestyle the Big Sky area affords, keeps her here, happy and making it in Big Sky.

"Just give me all the adventures!" she says.

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

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

**Monica Kulesza:** One thing I can count is that hair never stops growing and styles always change. That, folks, is a recipe for success ... Oh, and be really good and passionate at what you do.

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

**M.K.:** Yes! Bethany. I still had drywall that needed wallpaper and air hoses on the floor. The space was still unfinished. I decided to not wait until the space was perfect to get started.

EBS: What are the biggest obstacles to operating a small business in Big Sky and what compels you to stick it out through the hard times?

M.K.: [The biggest obstacle is] a lack of qualified employees that are licensed in this profession and who live here. The recreational opportunities, the friendships and the community [allow me to stick it out].

**EBS:** What are some challenges of running a hair salon that most people wouldn't be aware of?

**M.K.:** The emotional aspect. Really we do hair and we are therapists for life. Is there a dual license for that?

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



Monica Kulesza was drawn to Big Sky by the allure and outdoor opportunity that mountains afford; an entrepreneurial spirit spurred her to open a hair salon in 2010. PHOTO COURTESY OF MONICA KULESZA

M.K.: I seriously have too many to list. I feel very blessed. Seeing the same clients come back year after year. It's fun to hear their stories and how their kids are doing that are gone off to college and living adult lives.

EBS: Would you explain a bit of your approach to hairstyling?

M.K.: Consult, consult, consult! We live in a very active community so giving them something that is easy to style and low maintenance makes up most of my clientele. Consulting with the client is my way to find out what best suits their life and what they desire. Sometimes it's a more high-maintenance color or style. We can do that, too! Knowing the processes of giving them what they want and above all maintaining healthy hair and nails.

EBS: What's the best piece of business advice you've received and what advice would you give to small business owners just starting out in Big Sky?

M.K.: Never be afraid to fail; with failure comes knowledge. Just make sure your failures are on mannequins. Practice makes perfect. Start out with low overhead and just open your doors, stay open, work hard.

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

M.K.: Maintaining and growing our client base with the highest end services available. I have always dreamed of designing a salon from the ground up.

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

**M.K.:** Probably unrecognizable from when I first moved here. Loads and loads of growth, hopefully all for the positive.

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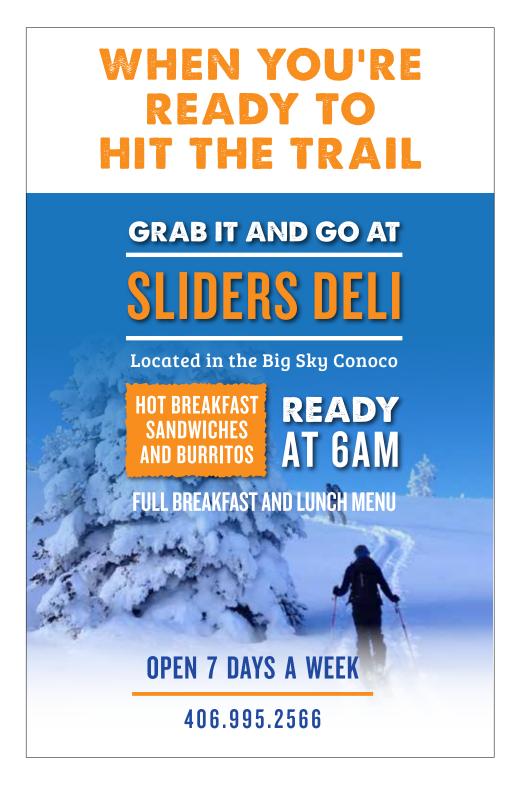
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# The lowdown on rice varieties

BY CARIE BIRKMEIER **EBS STAFF** 

Rice is a staple in many parts of the world and is among the highestyielding crops. A single seed of rice will produce approximately 300 grains of rice. In some cultures, this grain holds such importance it is incorporated into ceremonies and celebrations.

Many people have asked me how to cook rice or why, when they do, it turns out mushy or undercooked. The most common reason is the assumption that all rice should be cooked the same, with the same ratio of liquid to rice. Be sure to read the instructions on the container—some varieties require rinsing prior to cooking and adding the rice before or after bringing the water to a boil. These steps, although they may seem insignificant, will affect the end result. Some dishes, such as fried rice, require undercooking the rice so that it doesn't become mushy during the frying process.

Varieties of rice can be separated into three basic groups: long grain, medium grain and short grain. Each differs in size and starch content, resulting in different textures and uses.

Jasmine rice has origins in Thailand, and its flavor is floral and slightly sweet. After cooking, this long grain rice is soft and tender. Its delicate flavor makes it a good base for flavorful and spicy dishes such as curry.

Basmati rice, native to India, is similar to jasmine, but slightly less starchy. One of the longest grains of rice, when cooked properly, it should not stick together. I like to cook this variety in a flavorful cooking liquid, like broth flavored with herbs, or finish with a squeeze of lime and freshly chopped cilantro.

Brown rice comes in both long- and short-grain varieties. What distinguishes this rice from other varieties is that it's harvested with the bran still intact. This component contains a lot of nutrients and fiber and has a nutty flavor.

Sticky rice is grown primarily in Asia and has a high starch content. This is the rice you get on the side with Chinese takeout. It is also referred to as glutinous rice, although it does not contain any gluten proteins.

Wild rice, which is frequently grown in the Great Lakes region of the U.S., is not really rice at all—it's a type of grass. It grows in wet areas, such as river beds, and has a nutty, earthy flavor. It takes quite a bit longer to cook than true rice varieties, so keep that in mind if you're in a hurry.

Sushi rice is a very short-grained rice that comes in both white and brown varieties. It has a very high starch content, which allows it to hold its shape in sushi rolls or as the base for nigiri. It is also a great option to use in dishes such as rice pudding—its starch content will naturally help thicken the pudding.

Arborio is an Italian short-grain rice. It is commonly used to make risotto, because of its high starch content and ability to absorb a significant amount of liquid. The end result is a creamy, but not sticky, texture without the addition of any cream or dairy. Carnaroli rice, a northern Italian medium-grain rice, is also used to prepare this dish, and many consider it a more authentic risotto.

A version of this story was first published in the Dec. 22, 2017 edition of



# How to practice empathy

BY DR. ANDREA WICK **EBS CONTRIBUTOR** 

The definition of empathy is to experience and understand another person's thoughts, feelings and conditions from another point of view, or imagining what it's like to walk in another person's shoes. Why is empathy an important quality to have and practice?

Being empathetic enables a person to improve their relationships and the way they relate to other people. It can help you understand a different perspective and why people do what they do. Practicing empathy can allow healthier relationships to enter your life, decrease stress in the workplace, and make you a happier person.

According to Ronald E. Riggio, Ph.D., and Henry R. Kravis, there are three different types of empathy: cognitive empathy, personal distress and empathic concern. Cognitive empathy is understanding another person's perspective and putting yourself in another's shoes. Personal distress is literally feeling another person's pain or emotional state. Empathic concern is recognizing and feeling in tune with another's feelings and knowing how to appropriately respond or help.

Contemporary research at the Greater Good Science Center at University of California, Berkeley finds that being empathic increases one's desire to help others in need, reduces prejudice and racism, deepens intimacy, helps resolve conflict and decreases bullying. Empathic bosses and managers report having employees that are sick less often and have greater happiness with their jobs. Empathy is also important for healthcare. Doctors that have a high level of empathy improve patient satisfaction and improve their own emotional health. Empathetic police officers increase their confidence in dealing with crisis and feel less distant from the people they are handling.

According to Psychology Today, neuroscientists have fostered the concept of "mirror neurons," which are believed to enhance one's capacity to read and mimic emotional signals through understanding facial expressions and other forms of body language. These mirror neurons may help individuals share emotional experiences and become more empathic toward others.

Listening is the most important way to develop a higher level of empathy listening intently and allowing the other person to finish what they need to say before constructing a response. If you are having a disagreement with someone, put yourself in their shoes and see if their argument is valid from the perspective they are coming from. Make sure you are not overlooking positive intentions from the person.

Reading fictional books can help you understand the mental state of others. Science Journal found that people who read literary fiction temporarily enhance "theory of mind."

Dr. Joseph Mercola suggests practicing the "watch and wonder" technique where you imagine what a stranger's life is like. Is this stranger feeling happy? Frustrated? Are they having a bad day? Do they have a stressful job? What is their family like?

Empathy comes to some people easier than others, but practice can make you better at it. Why not adopt a practice that is proven to decrease stress and improve your quality of life?

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





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Krista Lee Evans - Blake Creek Project Management

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Chief Water Court Judge Russ McElyea - Montana Water Court

In addition, several local organizations will offer information on their programs and services.

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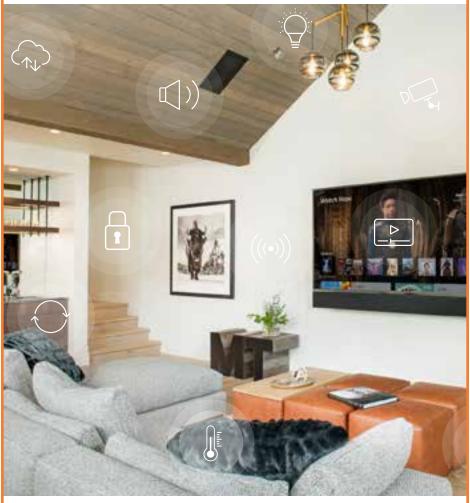
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# **American Life in Poetry:**

## Column 721

#### BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

I've had my eye on Americans' obsessions for more than seventy years and I can't remember a time when public lying got as much attention as it does today. Attention yes, but consequences, no. I recently happened upon this clever poem about lying by Judith Askew. It's from her book "On the Loose," from Bass River Press, South Yarmouth, Massachusetts, and she, too, is from Massachusetts.

Bakery of Lies

My favorite is the cream puff lie, the kind inflated with hot air, expanded to make an heroic-sized story.

Another is the cannoli, a long lie, well-packed with nutty details, lightly wrapped in flakey truth.

A macaroon isn't a little white lie, but it's covered with self-serving coconut.

The apple tart carries slices of sour gossip, only slightly sweetened with truth.

Then there's the napoleon, an Iago lie of pernicious intent, layer upon layer of dark deceit.

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 ©2016 by Judith Askew, «Bakery of Lies» from "On the Loose," (Bass River Press, 2016). Poem reprinted by permission of Judith Askew and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2019 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.

# Sudoku

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

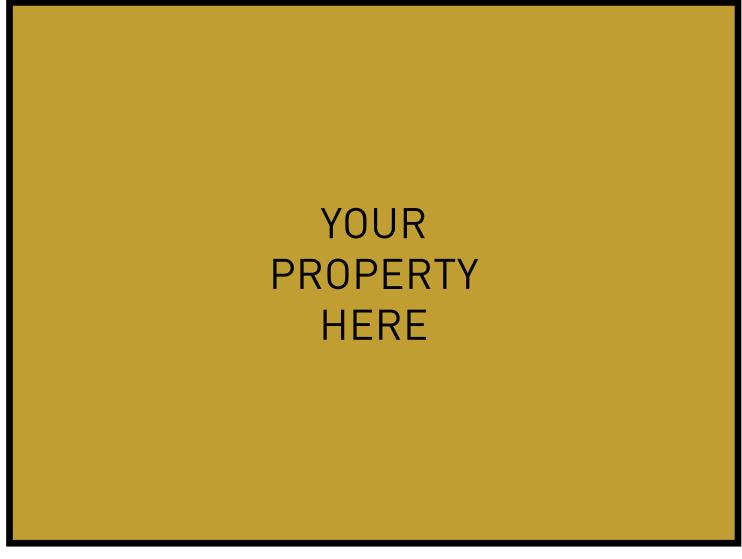
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# **SECTION 4:**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT







# Neuroscientist shares how light and sound can enhance meditation

## BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

Brain stimulation through ultrasound is called neuromodulation, and it could potentially be used to accelerate the benefits of meditation. Neuroscientist Jay Sanguinetti is at the cutting edge of what the human brain is capable of when aided by ultrasonic vibrations and electromagnetism.

Read more about his work and what he will share during his TEDxBigSky presentation on Jan. 26 and a special showcase of neuromodulation at the Santosha Wellness Center the following day, Jan. 27 from 1-3 p.m.

Explore Big Sky: What role has your training in philosophy played in your work as a neuroscientist?

**Jay Sanguinetti:** My philosophy training gave me a historical view of how thinkers have analyzed the nature of consciousness. This allows me to place my research within a historical context and to understand how the assumptions I make in my work are connected to the philosophical and rational traditions of the past.

EBS: In a nutshell, what is neuromodulation?

**J.S.:** Neuromodulation refers to the targeted delivery of energy, like electric fields, to specific sites in the body in order to alter neural activity. Neuromodulation is either invasive or noninvasive. Invasive neuromodulation involves surgically implanting electrodes in the body or brain to electrically stimulate a population of neurons. ... Noninvasive neuromodulation ... involves passing current, magnetic fields, or ultrasound across the skull without surgery.

**EBS:** What has your work with neuromodulation entailed so far? Where do you hope your research will lead?

J.S.: My research has focused on two main goals. First, I have investigated new noninvasive neuromodulation technologies like using ultrasound and light to simulate the brain. Since the brain operates on electric and chemical signals, ... many forms of energy, including mechanical vibrations (ultrasound) and light can ... alter brain function. I have used these new technologies to try to enhance cognitive abilities and to accelerate meditation training and have found that wearing a light helmet while learning a new task can double the learning rate of new material.

Secondly, I have attempted to apply these new technologies to the treatment of mental disease. My team has found that transcranial ultrasound can enhance mood, which we are developing into a novel treatment for depression and anxiety.

My ultimate goal is to develop inexpensive, wearable neuromodulation devices that can be used to enhance well-being and to treat neurological and psychiatric disease. These technologies have the potential to alleviate suffering on a massive scale, especially when combined with meditation practice.

**EBS:** What led you to investigating neuromodulation as a mode of accelerating the benefits of meditation?

J.S.: When I was an undergraduate, I saw the Dalai Lama speak at a neuroscience conference. He encouraged the audience to develop an [invention] to give him the benefits of meditation without actually having to meditate so he could do other things like read about science. I became fascinated with this idea, [but] I needed to learn how to meditate first. One of the biggest challenges was finding the time to meditate. [So], it was natural to wonder whether I could use noninvasive neuromodulation to accelerate meditation practice.



Dr. Jay Sanguinetti adjusts an electroencephalogram cap on a volunteer's head to record brain activity. PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY SANGUINETTI

EBS: How does your research stand to benefit humankind?

**J.S.:** Scientific experiments demonstrate that meditation has many positive health effects, from lowered blood pressure, less stress response and inflammation, and a better functioning immune system. Meditation can reduce pain for chronic pain patients and can help [improve] psychiatric symptoms in depression and addiction.

Meditation [also] helps us to counter negative emotions and thought patterns, instead fostering the conditions that give rise to happiness and well-being. By happiness, I don't mean a fleeting emotional state, but instead the type of happiness that the Greeks spoke about, the kind that gives us full, rich, and meaningful lives. We come to see that the conditions for our happiness are not external—car, job, spouse—but instead come from the inside.

**EBS:** What are some themes that you will touch on during your talk at TEDxBigSky?

J.S.: My TEDxBigSky talk will give an overview of my current research with [meditation master] Shinzen Young, [in which] we are looking for a proper "technoboost" for meditation. Shinzen and I found a fascinating disorder of consciousness called athymhormia [that] gave us an interesting clue about where to stimulate in the brain to accelerate the effects of meditation. I will give an overview of this issue, show what the stimulation protocol looks like on a subject (Shinzen), and discuss the incredible effects we have discovered so far.

**EBS:** What will your special event at Santosha Wellness Center the Sunday after TEDxBigSky entail?

J.S.: I'm very excited about this event. We are inviting members from the community to experience a meditation technoboost themselves! ... For the first part, I will show the ultrasound device to give the audience a sense of the technology so they can ask questions. For the second part of the event, people will get to try low-level light stimulation as they meditate, ... wearing helmets with LEDs that emit near-infrared light into the brain. Near-infrared light enhances brain function and reduces inflammation, and decades of research demonstrate that it can be safely used on the body and brain. People who attend the event will get to meditate for 30 minutes or longer while they wear the light helmet and they should experience a boost to their meditative experience.

Visit santoshabigsky.com for tickets to the Jan. 27 event at Santosha Wellness Center. TEDxBigSky tickets have sold out.

# Ulla Suokko shares insights into music, stories and transformation

## BY BAY STEPHENS EBS STAFF WRITER

Finnish flutist, performer and transformational coach Ulla Suokko has serenaded crowds in the most renowned concert halls across the globe, having her start with the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Juilliard School and calls Cusco, Perú, home.

Ticketholders will have the opportunity to hear her speak at TEDxBigSky on Saturday, Jan. 26, and to witness a live performance the following evening at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center at 5 p.m.

EBS asked her a few questions to gain a glimpse into what is in store for Big Sky at these events.

Explore Big Sky: What role has music played in your life?

**Ulla Suokko:** Music is my life. I am music. In fact, we all are music in this beautiful, powerful, vibrational existence!

EBS: What led you to begin playing the flute?

**U.S.:** It was as if flute chose me. I really wanted to play any instrument, and my teacher suggested the flute. I said YES, and the rest is history.

EBS: When you perform, what affect do you hope to have on your audience?

**U.S.:** I love this question, because it is important to me. I invite the audience on a journey with me, to feel and to imagine. My programs are varied from classical to popular to ancestral music, with stories that are both wise and funny and reflect life back to the listener. Many times, people think that stories are for children, but they really are for all of us!

EBS: What does it mean to be a transformational coach?

**U.S.:** I facilitate change in peoples' lives. I have been doing this for about 20 years and love it. My work is very intuitive, so while I have studied many modalities and effective ways of life transformation, the exact combination of the tools and the way to use them with any individual will only unfold as we journey together. It is such a joy to see the expansion and true transformation in my clients. By true transformation I mean a shift in thoughts, habits and life experiences.

EBS: Why did you choose to live in Perú?

**U.S.:** Perú [has called] me since I was a child, I didn't know why and to what extent, until I went there, and then I felt deeply at home. I [will] touch upon this in my TEDx talk.

EBS: How has living in Cusco, Perú, influenced your work?

**U.S.:** Quite a bit. I feel the living energy of the Andes Mountains. You can relate to that in Montana! I take a lot of time to be in nature, to hike in the



Celebrated Finnish concert flutist, storyteller and transformational coach Ulla Suokko will speak at TEDxBigSky on Jan. 26 and perform at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center on Jan. 27. PHOTO BY ADRIANA PERALTA

mountains, but also make a point to go to the Pacific Ocean on the coast and play with the energies of the ocean.

**EBS:** What are some themes that you will touch on during your talk at TEDxBigSky?

**U.S.:** My talk is [titled] "Do you See the Signs of The Universe?" I feel it is important to be present and to pay attention moment to moment so that we can actually move from drifting to directing our own life. In my talk I walk the audience through some personal stories, where the listener can determine if a sign was given and perhaps be inspired to see more [within] their hearts.

**EBS:** What can Big Sky audiences look forward to in your performance the Sunday after TEDxBigSky?

**U.S.:** The performance will be a multimedia musical storytelling event. I am looking forward to sharing my heart with the people of Big Sky! It is not about me, it is about all of us creating magic together.

Visit warrenmillerpac.org for tickets to Ulla Suokko's Sunday, Jan. 27, performance. TEDxBigSky is sold out.



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# Annual Auction for the Arts slated for March 30 at Moonlight Lodge

#### ARTS COUNCIL OF BIG SKY

The Arts Council of Big Sky will be hosting its seventh annual fundraising art auction event on Saturday, March 30, at the Moonlight Lodge from 6-10 p.m. The event is sponsored by Big Sky Sotheby's International Realty and tickets will go on sale on Friday, Jan. 18.

The evening begins at 6 p.m., with a "quick finish" session with well-known artists, including Kevin Red Star, John Potter, Ben Pease, Carol Speilman, Michael Blessing, Harry Koyama, Meagan Blessing, Julie Chapman, Todd Connor, John Potter, Tom English, Shirle Wempner, Mike Barlow, Barb Schwarz Karst, and Rocky Hawkins, among others.

These artists will be finishing their work during the first part of the event, and then the final pieces will be auctioned off later in the evening. People are encouraged to come early and watch as the pieces come to life, and then are finished and framed in front of them. There will also be several other finished works auctioned off, including new pieces from R. Tom Gilleon and Joe Kronenberg.

During the quick-finish session, heavy appetizers will be passed around and the lodge will be open with a full bar. Light jazz music from the Adam Greenberg Trio will be playing as well. This year will again include a silent auction, featuring local and regional artists, and the night will finish with dessert and more music.

The live auction for the artwork will be called by renowned auctioneer Troy Black, getting the bidding going in the Moonlight Lodge dining room. Half of the proceeds from the live auction will go directly to the Arts Council of Big Sky, to help offset the costs of producing more than 20 events throughout the year—many of them free—and to support our other programs such as



Auctioneer Troy Black gets the bidding going on a Harry Koyama painting during the 2018 Auction for the Arts in Big Sky. PHOTO BY DAVE PECUNIES

public art, education and cultural outreach. Part of the auction will also be a paddle raise. This auction is a great way to acquire some incredible artwork and contribute to the Arts Council at the same time.

Visit bigskyarts.org or call the Arts Council of Big Sky office at (406) 995-2742 for more information.



# **BIG SKY EVENTS CALENDAR**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

If your event falls between Feb. 1-14, please submit it by Jan. 23 by emailing media@outlaw.partners.

#### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 18**

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

Basketball: LPHS v. Ennis LPHS, 5:30 p.m.

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 19**

Community Fitness Class Headwaters Fitness, 8 a.m.

Curling League
Town Center Ice Rink, 5 p.m.

Kent Johnson, live music Choppers Grub and Pub, 5 p.m.

Round one of Snobar, music Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.

Eighth Blackbird, music Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 7:30 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 20**

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

Adult Drop-in Hockey Town Center Ice Rink, 7:30 p.m.

#### **MONDAY, JANUARY 21**

Industry Night Lotus Pad, all evening

Youth Hockey Clinic Town Center Ice Rink, 5:30 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 22**

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

3 on 3 Hockey League Town Center Ice Rink, 6 p.m.

Adult Broomball
Town Center Ice Rink, 8 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23**

Rotary Club of Big Sky Meeting Town Center Conference Room, 6 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 24**

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

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

# Fireside Presentation about Bear 399 with Todd Wilkinson

Horn and Cantle Saloon at Lone Mountain Ranch, 4 p.m.

Youth Hockey Clinic Town Center Ice Rink, 5:30 p.m.

Adult Drop-in Hockey Town Center Ice Rink, 7:30 p.m.

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

#### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 25**

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

Trivia Night Lone Peak Cinema, 8 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 26**

Community Fitness Class Headwaters Fitness, 8 a.m.

TEDxBigSky Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 5 p.m.

Tom Marino, live music Choppers Grub and Pub, 5 p.m.

Round two of Snobar, music Big Sky Resort, 6 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 27**

Live Music Compass Café, 11 a.m.

#### Jay Sanguinetti – Stimulating the brain with light and sound to boost meditation

Santosha Wellness Center, 1 p.m.

#### Ulla Suokko, music

Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 5 p.m.

Adult Drop-in Hockey Town Center Ice Rink, 7:30 p.m.

#### **MONDAY, JANUARY 28**

Industry Night
Lotus Pad, all evening

Youth Hockey Clinic Town Center Ice Rink, 5:30 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 29**

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

# Alcoholics Anonymous can help if you think you might have a drinking problem.

Call Alcoholics Anonymous 888-607-2000 to talk to a member of A.A. or go to aa.montana.org for meeting times and locations.

3 on 3 Hockey League Town Center Ice Rink, 6 p.m.

Adult Broomball
Town Center Ice Rink, 8 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30**

Rotary Club of Big Sky Meeting Town Center Conference Room, 6 p.m.

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 31**

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

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

# Basketball: White Sulphur Springs (Senior night)

LPHS, 5:30 p.m.

Youth Hockey Clinic Town Center Ice Rink, 5:30 p.m.

Adult Drop-in Hockey Town Center Ice Rink, 7:30 p.m.

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

## **WORTH THE DRIVE**



#### MISSOULA, MONTANA

# **Frost Fever**

#### Fort Missoula Regional Park Jan. 25 at 8:30 a.m. through Jan. 26

Frost Fever combines summer and winter activities with a Nordic race kicking the day off Saturday, followed by the Winter Triathlon, Fat Tire Bike Race and the Frozen Frolic Run/Walk.

On Sunday, participants break winter's spell with warm-weather sports. The Frost Fever Disc Golf Tourney plays through downtown Missoula and its riverfront parks, the Sports and Wellness Center in the City Life Community Center hosts a pickleball tournament, and the Snowshoe Poker Run starts at noon. Register for events at ci.missoula.mt.us/221/Runs-Special-Events and enjoy some recreation in the Montana winter.

# Broadway talent returns to WMPAC in February

#### WARREN MILLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Hot off her run starring as Carole King in Broadway's "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical," Abby Mueller will return to Big Sky to play the lead in "The Last Five Years," an award-winning off-Broadway musical coming to the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center for a three-show run in February.

Mueller's relationship with Big Sky began last year, when she joined an all-star cast of singers during the "Concert for America" at WMPAC.

The idea to bring "The Last Five Years," specifically starring Mueller, was hatched last year during that performance. "Abby has this unbelievable voice, she loves Big Sky, and the intimacy of the WMPAC stage means it's perfectly suited for a musical as personal as this one," said John Zirkle, the arts center's executive director.

The musical narrates the rise and fall of a relationship between two New Yorkers, Jamie, a novelist, and Catherine, an actress, and does so with a highly unique narrative structure. In the opening scene of the musical, Catherine is grieving the last day of their marriage and goes on to tell—or rather, sing—the story of their relationship in reverse.

Jamie tells his story chronologically, from when he first meets and falls in love with Catherine. By the end of the musical, Catherine is celebrating the blush of new love as Jamie despairs their impending divorce. The couple meets on stage only once, at their wedding in the middle of the show.

Starring alongside Mueller in "The Last Five Years" will be Ben Jacoby, who co-starred with Mueller in "Beautiful" on Broadway this winter as Carole King's first husband, Gerry Goffin.

"The story itself is powerful, and the music will knock your socks off, but it's really the talent coming in to join our community that will make this show exceptional," Zirkle said. "I fully expect this to be the best show of our season." It's unusual for professional actors to have opportunities to perform outside of



Actors Abby Mueller and Ben Jacoby will star in "The Last Five Years" at Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, Feb. 22-24. PHOTOS COURTESY OF TORI PINTAR AND CAITLIN **MCNANEY** 

the major theater hubs like New York and Chicago, so a place like WMPAC gives actors a chance to expand their professional repertoire.

"We're establishing Big Sky as a Broadway outpost in the West," Zirkle said. "Big Sky is a destination community for people from all over, and we want artists to be a part of our community makeup as well."

"The Last Five Years" will be performed at the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center on Friday, Feb. 22 and Saturday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 24 at 5:30 p.m. Tickets and more information are available at warrenmillerpac.org.



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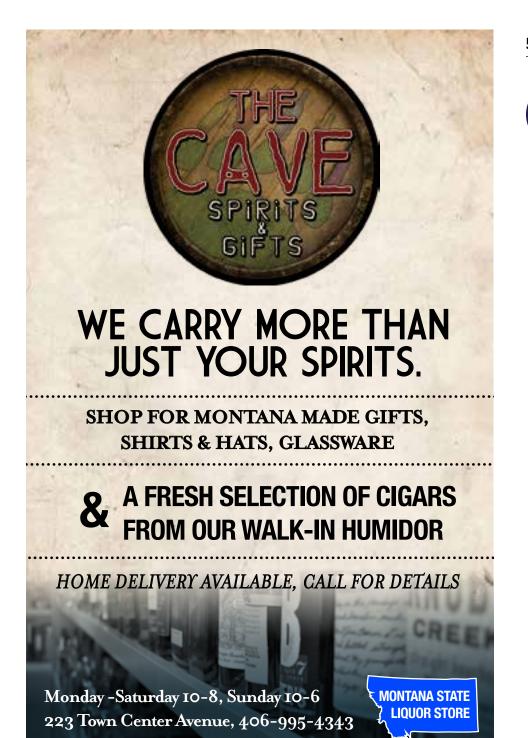




Dates: June 7th to 13th

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# My top 20 films of 2018

BY ANNA HUSTED EBS FILM CRITIC

Moviegoing in 2018 continues to support Disney's Marvel Cinematic Universe and Warner Bros. with "Aquaman" and the "Fantastic Beasts" franchise, but this year also saw a continued increase in independent film distribution for Fox Searchlight and A24.

My list of top 20 films of 2018 reflects these monetarily diverse companies, leaning toward the independent. I also must disclose that I haven't seen such films as "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" starring Melissa McCarthy or "Bohemian Rhapsody," which won the Golden Globe for best drama motion picture.

I also still need to catch up with such indie favorites as "Bad Times at the El Royale" and "The Favourite." That said, here are my top 20 films of 2018 and a few honorable mentions.

- 1. "Sorry to Bother You"
- 2. "Paddington 2"
- 3. "Leave No Trace"
- 4. "Blackkklansman"
- 5. "Roma"
- 6. "This Mountain Life"
- 7. "Support the Girls"
- 8. "The Rider"
- 9. "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse"
- 10. "Annihilation"
- 11. "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs"
- 12. "To All the Boys I've Loved Before"
- 13. "Happy as Lazzaro"
- 14. "The Death of Stalin"
- 15. "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"
- 16. "RBG"
- 17. "What They Had"
- 18. "Ready Player One"
- 19. "Private Life"
- 20. "Eighth Grade"

#### Honorable Mentions:

- "Mission: Impossible Fallout"
- "Three Identical Strangers"
- "Night Comes On"
- "The Invisibles"
- "Outside In"
- "Christopher Robin"
- "Hereditary"

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



After a riding accident leaves him unable to compete on the rodeo circuit, a young cowboy searches for a new purpose in "The Rider." PHOTO COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

# **CLASSIFIEDS**

An audit of the affairs of the Big Sky Resort Area District has been conducted by Homes & Turner (a professional corporation.) The audit covered the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.



Section 2-7-521, MCA, requires the publication concerning the audit report including a statement that the audit report is on file in its entirety and open to public inspection at 11 Lone Peak Drive Suite 204, Big Sky, MT 59716 and that the Big Sky Resort Area District will send a copy of the audit report to any interested person upon request.

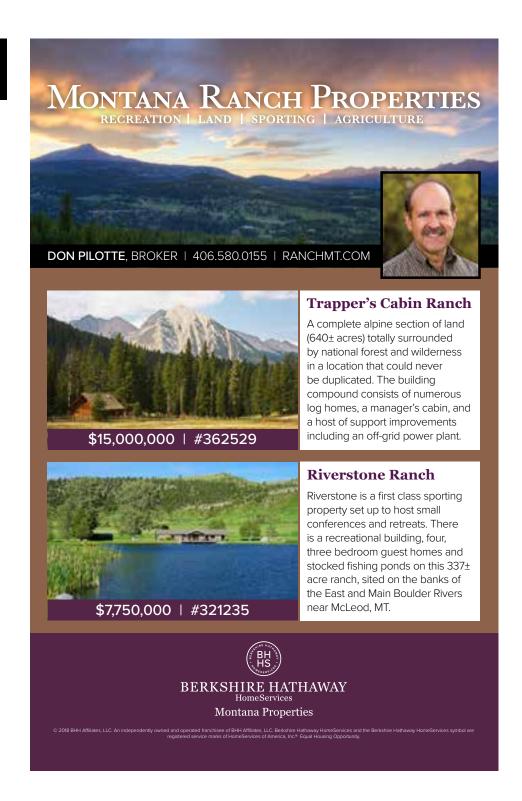
Sincerely, Big Sky Resort Area District

## NOTICE TO THE BIG SKY FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE DISTRICT MEMBERS

An Election of two trustees for the Big Sky Fire District Board of Trustees will be held on May 7, 2019.

Declaration of Candidacy forms for the election are available at the Big Sky Fire Department, Station #1 - Westfork Meadows, 650 Rainbow Trout Run, Big Sky, Montana and the Gallatin County Election Department, Gallatin County Courthouse, 311 W. Main Street Room 210, Bozeman, Montana.

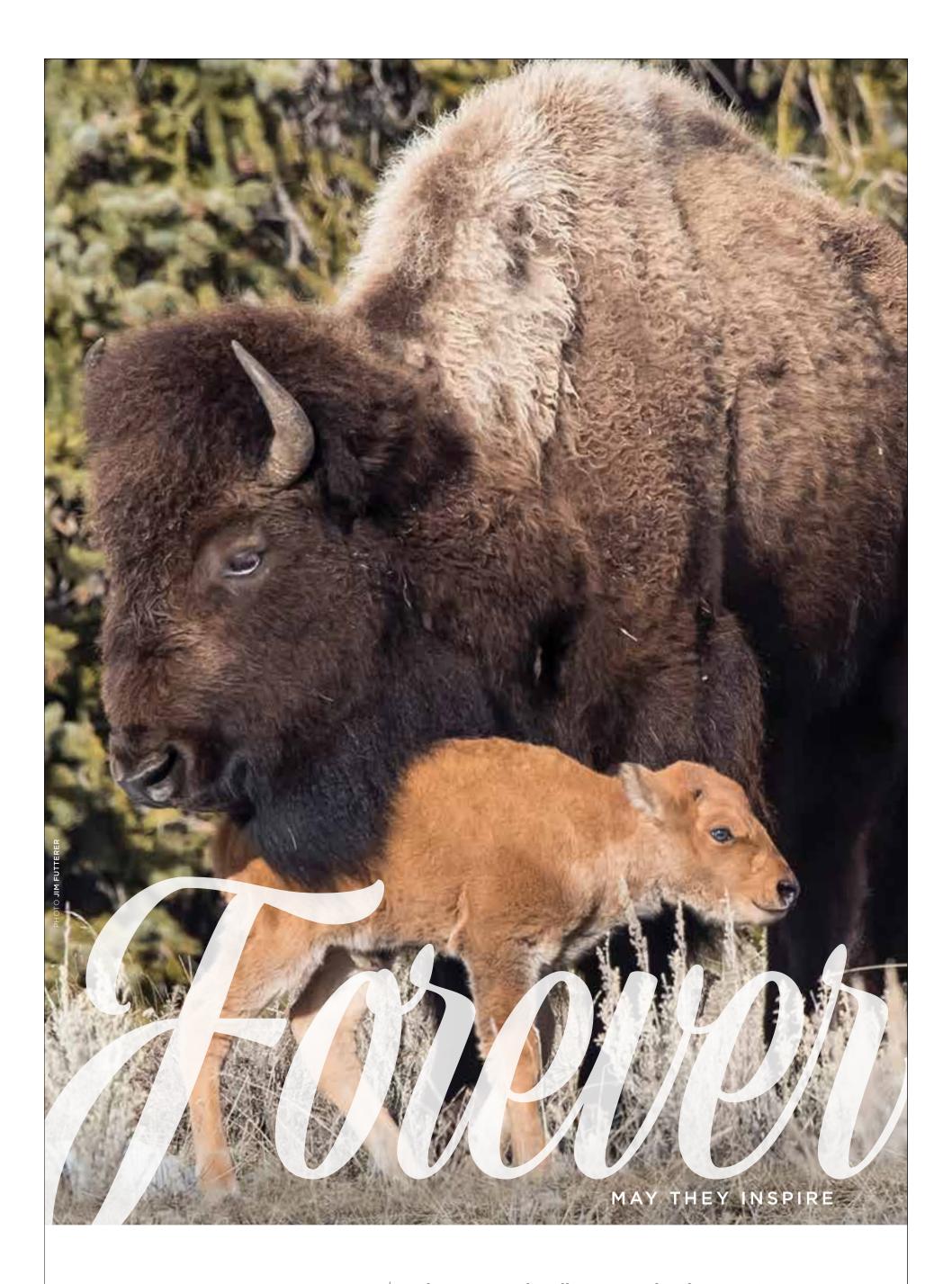
Original Declaration of Candidacy forms must be filed with the Gallatin County Election Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 11, 2019.





### Traditional and Contemporary Western Art







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# TED BigSky

# x = independently organized TED event

OFFICIAL 2019 EVENT PROGRAM

# **JANUARY 26, 2019**

WARREN MILLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER DOORS OPEN AT 4, SHOW STARTS PROMPTLY AT 5

TED×BIGSKY EVENT IS PART OF THE:





#### **DOUG SMITH**

SHOULD HUMANS RULE THE WORLD? USING WOLVES TO CONNECT WITH NATURE AND HELP ALL LIFE FORMS ALONG THE WAY

#### LYNNE DALE

THE MAGICAL POWER OF GIVING

#### JAY SANGUINETTI

A TECHNOBOOST FOR MEDITATION

#### **ULLA SUOKKO**

DO YOU SEE THE SIGNS OF THE UNIVERSE?

#### **TWILA MOON**

EMBRACING ICE: A STORY FOR ACTION

#### **DARYL DAVIS**

IN THE FLOW OF A YEAR

#### CORD MCCOY

HOW TO WIN THE AMAZING RACE OF LIFE; COWBOY STYLE

#### JAMIE MCLEAN

MUSICAL GUEST

Grizzly		399	2
What	is	TEDx?	3
Speaker Notes		Profiles	5-7

## Surrender to the flow

Welcome to the third annual TEDxBigSky, the capstone event for the Big Sky Ideas Festival. As curator of the speaking series I am humbled by this lineup and grateful to share these speakers with you.

The theme of this year's TEDxBigSky event is "flow," the state of consciousness a person achieves when they're so involved in an activity and the moment that they lose track of time and self-awareness.

You will enjoy the presence of eight inspiring people all from different walks of life. Daryl Davis shares his story of connecting and respecting his adversaries, who then become friends; Ulla Suokko, a Finnish flutist who calls Peru home, is here to share with you her ideas about how the universe connects us all; Doug Smith shares his stories of connecting with Yellowstone's wildlife; Lynne Dale honors her daughter and the gift of giving; Big Sky resident Twila Moon inspires us to take action against climate change; musician Jamie McLean will take to the stage with his acoustic guitar; Cord McCoy will share his story of being a

professional rodeo athlete and TV personality; and neuroscientist Jay Sanguinetti helps us understand how technology can enhance the flow state of meditation.

Throughout the week are ancillary events we have scheduled with speakers and experiences to help you apply what you learn at TEDxBigSky deeper into your daily lives. See the events schedule for times and details.

I hope to see you all at these events throughout the week and look forward to welcoming you to the third annual TEDxBigSky on Jan 26!

Ersin Ozer TEDxBigSky Curator

# LMR hosts fireside presentation of Grizzly 399 with Todd Wilkinson

Of the myriad animal species in the Greater Yellowstone region, the grizzly bear is among the most celebrated and most controversial. And one bear in particular may offer the best lens to peer into this hallowed ecosystem. Known as 399, this grizzly sow is widely considered the most famous bear on Earth. Indeed, 399 counts anthropologist Jane Goodall among her millions of fans around the globe.

On Thursday, Jan. 24, as part of the Big Sky Ideas Festival, noted Bozeman-based journalist Todd Wilkinson will deliver a fireside presentation on 399 and her importance in the Greater Yellowstone at Lone Mountain Ranch's Horn and Cantle restaurant from 4-6 p.m.

Titled "Grizzly 399! Living on the Edge with the Most Famous Mother Bear in the World," Wilkinson's talk will be replete with stunning images by renowned wildlife photographer Thomas D. Mangelsen.

"I want to walk people through the life of 399, and what it means to live in an ecosystem of grizzly bears," said Wilkinson, who collaborated with Mangelsen on the award-winning book, "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek: An Intimate Portrait of 399," and who has given more than 50 talks on the famous bear. "Grizzly bears are one of the extraordinary things that make the Greater Yellowstone different and special."

The life of mother grizzly 399 symbolizes that dramatic struggle involved with bringing back an imperiled bear population in the modern world. With millions of admirers, this matriarch who has 17 offspring in her bloodline, has survived harrowing life and death encounters. Having given birth to three sets of triplets, 399's story is not only a remarkable tale of conservation but also a reminder of what's at stake for grizzlies prowling the backcountry near Big Sky.

"What's poignant is that her life is ephemeral," Wilkinson said. "Someday she's going to pass from the scene. It will be saddening when we lose a bear like 399 but there's a mother with cubs like her in every drainage in the area. I want to engage people whether they live here or don't: Grizzly 399 belongs to all of us."

Wilkinson began his celebrated journalism career as a violent crime reporter with the City News Bureau of Chicago and has been published in National Geographic, the Christian Science Monitor and The Washington Post, among others. He is also the founder of the nonprofit media organization Mountain Journal, and his column "The New West" appears in each edition of Explore Big Sky.

Wilkinson's fireside presentation of Grizzly 399 is free and will be held on Jan. 24 from 4-6 p.m. at Lone Mountain Ranch's Horn and Cantle. LMR will serve beer, wine and light appetizers. A short Q-and-A with Wilkinson will follow the event.



Todd Wilkinson in Jackson Hole last autumn not far from the home range of Grizzly 399 in Grand Teton National Park. PHOTO BY TONI VAN PELT



# x = independently organized TED event

#### What is TEDx?

The TEDx program is designed to help communities, organizations and individuals to spark conversation and connection through local TED-like experiences.

At TEDx events, a screening of TED Talks videos—or a combination of live presenters and TED Talks videos—deepen conversation and spark connections at the local level.

TEDx events are planned and coordinated independently, under a free license granted by TED.



#### Founded in 2009

TED, the parent series to TEDx, began in 1984 as a conference where technology, entertainment and design converged, and today covers almost all topics—from science and business to global issues—in more than 100 languages. Meanwhile, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world.



#### 1 billion+ TEDx video views

#### The 10 most popular TEDx talks

#### Sir Ken Robinson

Do schools kill creativity?

#### **Amy Cuddy**

Your body language may shape who you are

#### **Simon Sinek**

How great leaders inspire action

#### **Brene Brown**

The power of vulnerability

#### **Mary Roach**

10 things you didn't know about orgasm

#### **Julian Treasure**

How to speak so that people want to listen

#### **Jill Bolte Taylor**

My stroke of insight

#### **Tony Robbins**

Why we do what we do

#### **James Veitch**

This is what happens when you reply to spam email

#### **Cameron Russell**

Looks aren't everything. Believe me, I'm a model.



TEDx talks are spoken in 100+ languages



TEDx talks are 18 minutes or less in length



An average of 17 page views per second on TED.com



TEDxBigSky views from 2017 and 2018 = 350k+ views

"I've learned about the poetry and the wisdom and the grace that can be found in the words of people all around us when we simply take the time to listen." - Dave Isay, "Everyone around you has a story the world needs to hear"



CREATING **CONNECTIONS**. INSPIRING **ACTION**. BRINGING TOGETHER **BIG IDEAS** IN BIG SKY.

#### **THURSDAY JAN. 24**

Fireside Presentation about Bear 399 by Todd Wilkinson

Horn and Cantle Saloon at Lone Mountain Ranch | 4-6pm

FRIDAY JAN. 25

Jamie McLean Band concert

SATURDAY JAN. 26



Warren Miller Performing Arts Center | Doors open at 4pm | Tickets and info at tedxbigsky.com

#### **SUNDAY JAN. 27**

Jay Sanguinetti — Stimulating the brain with light and sound to boost your meditation practice Limited to 15 people!

Santosha Wellness Center | 1-3pm | Tickets: \$45 at santoshabigsky.com

The Flute of the Infinite — An Evening with Ulla Suokko

Warren Miller Performing Arts Center | 5-7pm | Tickets: start at \$22 at warrenmillerpac.org

























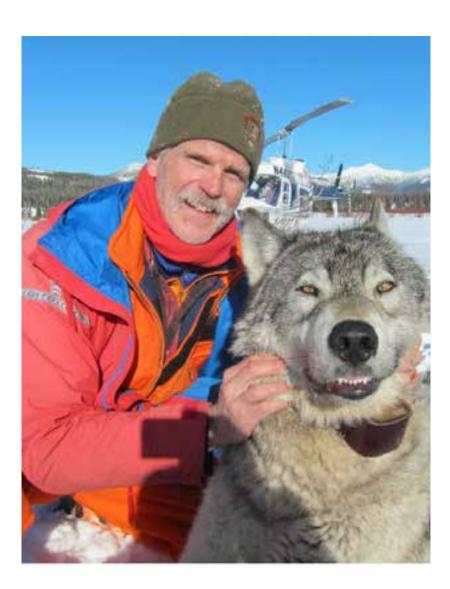






# x=independently organized TED event

# SPEAKER PROFILES





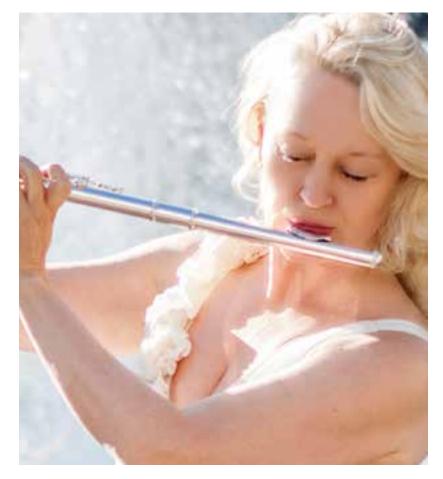
# **Doug Smith**

Douglas W. Smith, Ph.D. is a Senior Wildlife Biologist in Yellowstone National Park. He supervises the wolf, bird and elk programs—formerly three jobs now combined into one under Doug's supervision. His original job was the Project Leader for the Yellowstone Wolf Project which involved the reintroduction and restoration of wolves to Yellowstone National Park. He helped establish this project and position. Doug received a B.S. degree in Wildlife Biology from the University of Idaho in 1985. While working toward this degree he became involved with studies of wolves and moose on Isle Royale with Rolf Peterson, which led to long-term involvement (1979-1994) with this study as well as a M.S. degree in Biology under Peterson at Michigan Technological University in 1988. He then moved to the University of Nevada, Reno where he received his Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology in 1997 under Stephen H. Jenkins. He has published a wide variety of journal articles and book chapters on beavers, wolves, and birds and coauthored three popular books on wolves ("The Wolves of Yellowstone" and "Decade of the Wolf"—winner of the 2005 Montana Book Award) as well as publishing numerous popular articles. The third book, "Wolves on the Hunt," came out in May 2016 and his fourth book summarizing wolf restoration in Yellowstone is due out in a year. He has participated in numerous of documentaries about wolves for National Geographic and British Broadcasting Company (BBC). He is interviewed widely and speaks often about wolves to audiences all over the world. He is a member of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Team, the Re-Introduction Specialist Group, and Canid Specialist Group for the IUCN. Besides wolves, birds, elk, and beavers, he is an avid canoeist preferring to travel mostly in the remote regions of northern Canada with his wife Christine and their two sons Sawyer and Hawken.

# **Lynne Dale**

Lynne Dale is an award-winning television producer who spent more than two decades in network news. Her investigative work for ABC's Primetime and Dateline NBC earned her many awards, including the duPont-Columbia, the Peabody, and the Edward R. Murrow. Her work took her undercover, using hidden cameras to reveal unsanitary conditions at a major grocery store chain, age discrimination in hiring practices, and illegal methods used by the moving industry. She currently lives in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is a residential real estate agent and the president of Team Summer.







# JAY SANGUINETTI

Jay is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of New Mexico and Assistant Director of the Center for Consciousness Studies in Tucson, Arizona. He was trained in philosophy, neuroscience, and cognitive psychology, and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona on the neural processes of conscious and unconscious visual perception. His current interests include using noninvasive brain stimulation to enhance cognition and well-being. Jay is presently investigating whether focused ultrasound can be used to augment meditation practice.

# **ULLA SUOKKO**

The Finnish performing artist and concert flutist Ulla Suokko, holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Juilliard School and currently makes her home in the Peruvian Andes where she leads healing journeys. Having performed at some of the most prestigious concert halls on the planet, she now travels the world from capitals to remote villages inspiring her audiences through music and stories. Passionate about always learning, she shares practical tools and timeless wisdom as a transformational coach and workshop leader helping people to connect with their hearts and to know their unique path and purpose.

# TWILA MOON

Dr. Twila Moon is a scientist, leader, thinker, communicator, and enthusiastic learner. As a Research Scientist at the National Snow and Ice Data Center, based at the University of Colorado, she studies Earth's glaciers and large ice sheets, Greenland and Antarctica. Her focus is on understanding how 'big ice' reacts to and interacts with the climate, ocean, and biosphere. Most of Twila's research uses satellite data and computers to examine ice across very large areas, but she can also be found in the field checking GPS stations in Greenland or setting up remote cameras in Alaska. Twila has a B.S. in Geology (Stanford) and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Earth and Space Sciences (University of Washington). Her research has been published and highlighted in top journals such as "Science and Nature" and received media coverage around the world, including National Public Radio, the Associated Press, and the BBC. Twila is passionate about and active in communicating science to policymakers, the media, and the public. Her message focuses on the joy of discovery, the remarkable recent changes in our earth system, and inspiring curiosity and action around the critical issue of climate change. Twila is also the co-founder and co-director of the Wheelhouse Institute, a Big Sky-based nonprofit that facilitates skill sharing and networking to affirm and amplify visionary women's leadership across arts, science, and communication. Twila lives in Big Sky and spends her free time exploring the outdoors with her husband or enjoying the woodstove with her cats.

# DARYL DAVIS

Originally from Chicago, but currently residing in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC, Daryl Davis is a musician, actor, author and lecturer. He is not white. He's not even light-skinned. Make no mistake about it: he is black. Yet, "Klan-Destine Relationships" author and "Accidental Courtesy" film star Daryl Davis has come in closer contact with neo-Nazis and Ku Klux Klan members than most white non-members and certainly most blacks—short of being on the wrong end of a rope. In today's racially charged climate, he is one of the most unique and controversial race relations experts and activists making a difference. As a musician he tours nationally and internationally leading The Daryl Davis Band. As an actor, he has also appeared in the critically acclaimed HBO series "The Wire" along with other stage and screen roles.



# **CORD MCCOY**

Cord McCoy, a cowboy through and through. He was raised on a ranch in southeast Oklahoma and competed in his first rodeo at the age of five. He competed professionally in the sport of rodeo for twenty five years, where he found himself having to rely on his faith more often than he ever intended. He and his brother, "The Cowboys" raced around the world during three seasons of CBS' hit reality television show, "The Amazing Race". A fourth generation rancher, Cord resides on a ranch where he raises cattle and horses with his wife Sara and daughter Tulsa.



# **JAMIE MCCLEAN**

A celebrated guitarist, vocalist and songwriter, McLean "incorporates New Orleans soul, Delta blues, middle America roots and New York City swagger" into his music. Jamie McLean Band is currently touring internationally behind their new critically acclaimed album "One and Only." McLean gained much of his professional experience while playing with the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, a New Orleans-based powerhouse that brings brass band music to a variety of genres. He also tours with four-time Grammy-award-winner Aaron Neville, renowned for his evocative and one-of-a-kind voice. McLean and his guitar will close out the night with storytelling intermingled with solo musical performance.





# Technology-enhanced mindfulness with Jay Sanguinetti —

Stimulating the brain with light and sound to boost your meditation practice



#### Sunday, January 27 | 1 pm | Tickets \$45, buy at santoshabigsky.com

Limited to 15 people!

Participants will get a chance to try low-level light stimulation while they meditate and will have an opportunity to discuss their phenomenological experience at the end.





An Evening of Music, Stories and Poetry with

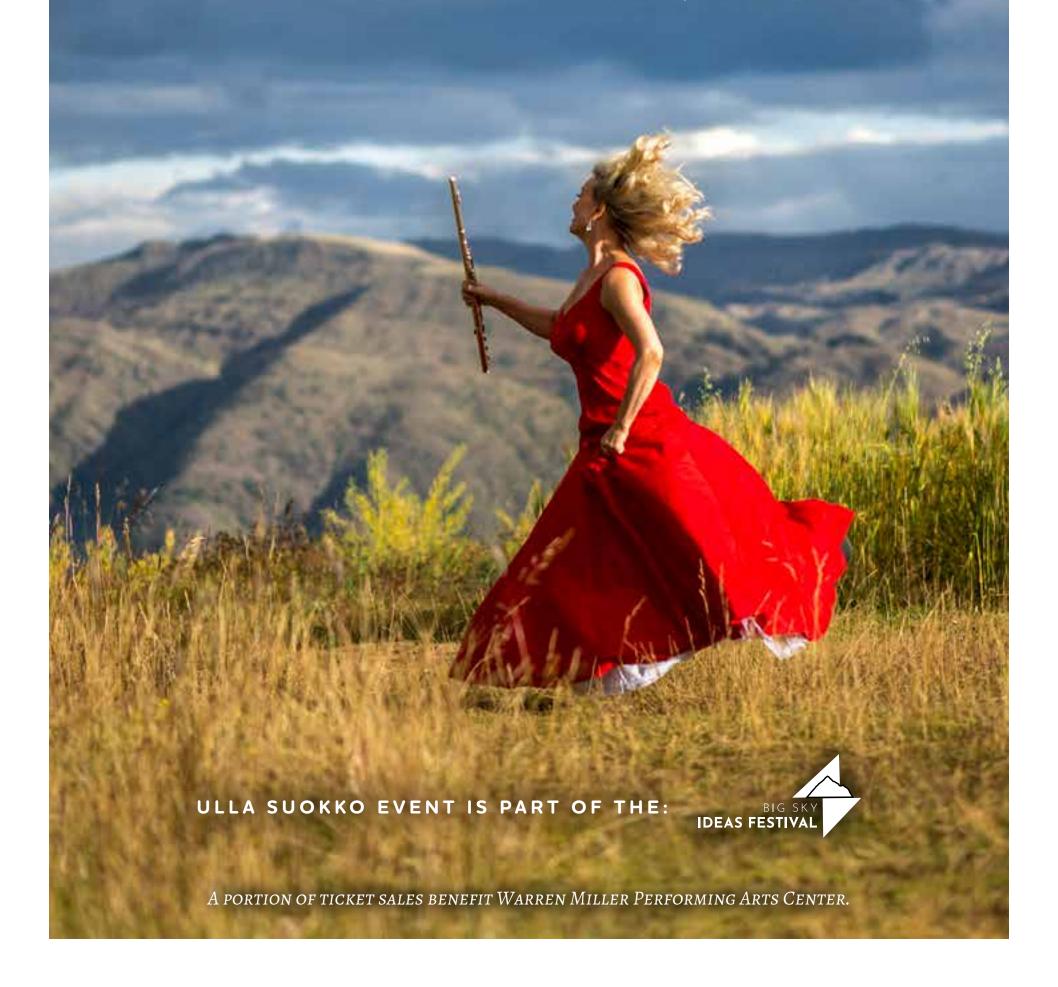
# Ulla Suokko

SUNDAY JAN 27 - WARREN MILLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

#### TICKETS ONLINE AT WARRENMILLERPAC.ORG

Doors open at 5 p.m., Show starts at 5:30 p.m. Meet & Greet with Ulla in lobby at 6:30 p.m.

ULLA IS A DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS FROM THE JUILLIARD SCHOOL







#### **ABOUT THIS PRESENTATION:**

Not far from Big Sky, in the northern reaches of Jackson Hole, lives the most celebrated grizzly on earth. The life of mother grizzly 399 symbolizes that dramatic struggle involved with bringing back an imperiled bear population in the modern world. With millions of admirers, this matriarch who has 17 offspring in her bloodline, has survived harrowing life and death encounters. Her story is not only a remarkable tale of conservation but a reminder of what's at stake for grizzlies prowling the backcountry near Big Sky. Writer Todd Wilkinson will discuss her history and use photos by renowned photographer Thomas Mangelsen with whom he collaborated on the awardwinning book, "Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek: The Story of Grizzly 399, the Most Famous Bear in the World."

TODD WILKINSON EVENT IS PART OF THE:



# FEELING INSPIRED? JOT IT DOWN!

Doug Smith	Jamie McLean
Lynne Dale	Twila Moon
Jay Sanguinetti	Ulla Suokko
Daryl Davis	Cord McCoy



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