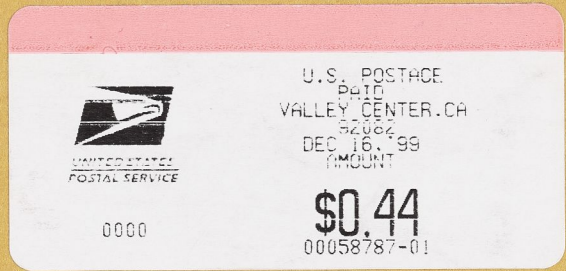




Gerald Ohlson  
28757 Calle De Encinas  
Valley Center, CA 92082-7405



FIRST CLASS

Esther Lilly  
2007 Sourdough  
Bozeman Mt. 59715

# Next Stop, Bozeman

Esther  
Here is that  
article on the  
weekend fishing  
getaway I  
mentioned.  
Wished more of  
us could do  
this.

## A Manhattan week

By Geoffrey Norman

## Montana getaway

high standards, it is a beautiful drive. We had a full moon and the peaks around us were covered in fresh snow that looked especially virginal in that weak light. We passed through Virginia City and then Nevada City. Virginia City had been the territorial capital of Montana just after the Civil War, when this was gold country, and it is still the seat of Madison County. It looks, however, like a ghost town, especially late at night. You can feel the spirit of the vigilantes who were active in the area and put at least three men in Boot Hill.

If Virginia City is a working ghost town, then Nevada City is closer to the real thing, though it still caters to tourists. Late at night, in September, it looks derelict and deserted. One and a half hours after departing the Bozeman airport, we arrived at Ruby

Springs Lodge, feeling vaguely and pleasantly haunted by the spirit of the old West. And ready for some fishing.

THEY SERVE BIG BREAKFASTS AT the lodge. Having given prudence the weekend off, I had eggs and potatoes and sausage. All fried. After breakfast, I met with John Sampson, one of the lodge owners. Sampson is a young man from Seattle, with the kind of agreeable confidence that seems to come from drinking the water in that town. (Or could it be Microsoft?) He and his partner, Paul Moseley, built the lodge in 1994 and run it with their wives, Krista and Jeanne.

Sampson recommended that we float one of the big rivers in the area. Tomorrow, he said, we could walk and wade on a smaller stream, perhaps a spring creek. The floats that are avail-

able, within an hour of the lodge, are some of the most coveted in all of angling. We had our choice, Sampson said, of fishing the Big Hole on the famous Divide to Melrose float; the Madison from Varney to Ennis; or the Beaverhead from High Bridge to Pipe Organ.

These were all four-star floats. I knew that and not much more.

"What do you recommend?"

"The Jefferson," Sampson said, without hesitation.

Most anglers in that part of the world consider the Jefferson a plow horse in a field of thoroughbreds. It is a flat, undistinguished river and suffers from chronic low water due to irrigation. But, Sampson explained, sometimes in early spring and the fall, it can be great. When that happens, you often have the river to yourself.



# Next Stop, Bozeman

## A Manhattan-to-Montana weekend fishing getaway

By Geoffrey Norman

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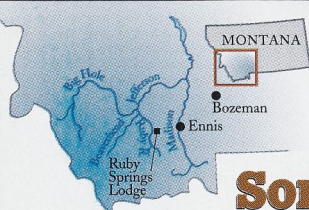
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## Some of the most coveted rivers in all of angling

“And,” Sampson went on, “it’s a short drive to where we put in. We’ve got to spend some time, this morning, getting your licenses. So if we go to the Jefferson, we’ll have more time to fish.”

WE HAD A SERENE SIX- OR SEVEN-hour float. There was plenty of water in the river and we had a fine view of the Tobacco Root Mountains, capped in fresh snow. We also caught fish, including two very nice browns. Our guide, a young man named Ryan, was handy with the McKenzie-style drift boat and had the bright, convivial personality that seemed a requirement for employment at Ruby Springs.

During a simultaneous lull in the fishing and the conversation, I looked at my watch and marveled over the fact that exactly 24 hours earlier I had been on a subway that had stopped for passengers at the Utica Avenue station.

IT HAD BEEN A COLD, SLIGHTLY overcast day, so I built a fire of split lodgepole in the wood stove in our little cabin. The fire warmed the room quickly. I had a glass of something dark and watched the Ruby River flow by me, 20 feet from my window, while my wife bathed. When we had both changed, we walked down to the main lodge for dinner. The sky was clearing and there were more than a few stars. It looked promising, then, for the morning. Tomorrow, I thought, was our last day. Today had been our first day. I had never been on a fishing trip like this, where there were no days between the first day and the last day.

“It’s the way we live,” Marsha said.

LIKE MOST OF THE NEW GENERATION of fishing lodges, Ruby Springs pays attention to the food and the wine list. In the old days, it was “hearty fare” and plenty of it. Back then, most anglers were not into wine, though they would surely drink it if nothing else were available. But if you

wanted Chablis with your supper, you brought it yourself. This will not do for the contemporary angler, who just might care as much about the amenities as he does about the fishing.

Ruby Springs had a chef (not, most emphatically, a cook) from Seattle and his creation this evening was a pork tenderloin with some kind of currant sauce, which he presented before serving. There were probably a dozen of us at the table and we all made the appropriate appreciative noises. For a moment, I could have sworn I was still in New York where, right after real estate, food is the principal topic of conversation.

IN THE MORNING, BEFORE BREAKFAST, I took a little run down a gravel ranch road with culverts that ran across irrigation ditches. There was a thin sheet of ice over the water near the banks. A pair of mallards spooked off one ditch. It was, I recalled, opening day of duck season.

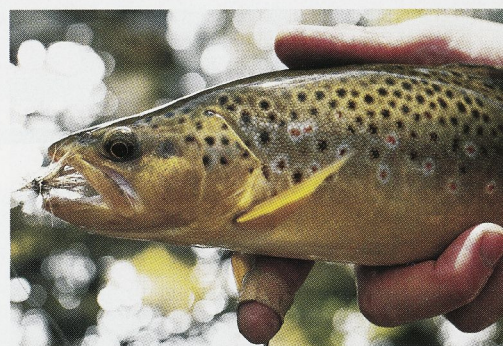
Prudence was still sleeping in, so I had eggs, potatoes and sausage for breakfast. Fried.

Sampson had a little stream nearby he thought I might be interested in. We would be casting from the bank to very wary fish in very thin water. For much of its length, Sampson said, the

stream was only six feet or so across. But it held very large fish. Sixteen- and 18-inchers were not uncommon.

I had fished somewhat languidly the day before. On previous trips West, I had always thought of the first day as kind of a warm-up, a time to get to know the river, reach down into the muscle memory for the old casting rhythm, and get in tune with the scene. But the first day had become the last day—literally overnight—and I needed to bear down. You want to leave a fishing trip with the feeling that you have at least fished hard. Not trying hard leaves a bad taste.

So I was eager. The stream flowed through one of those big, bent-grass meadows, unobtrusive except for the occasional willow growing along the bank. I tied on something that would pass for a grasshopper—a goofus bug, maybe—and went to work. I caught



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• 15 YEAR OLD  
• 21 YEAR OLD  
**ARDBEG**  
**AUCHENTOSHAN**  
**BENRIACH**  
**BOWMORE**  
**BRAES OF GLENLIVET**  
**BUNNAHABHAIN**  
**BUSHMILLS MALT**  
**CAOL ILA**  
**CENTURY OF MALTS**  
**CHIVAS REGAL**  
• 12 YEAR OLD  
• 18 YEAR OLD  
**DRAM SELECT**  
• 12 YEAR OLD  
• 21 YEAR OLD  
**DUFFTOWN**  
**GLENDRONACH**

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**GLEN KEITH**  
**GLENLIVET**  
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• 18 YEAR OLD  
**GLENMORANGIE FAMILY**  
**HIGHLAND PARK**  
• 12 YEAR OLD  
• 18 YEAR OLD  
**INCHGOWER**  
**KNAPPOGUE CASTLE**  
**LAPHROAIG**  
**LONGMORN**  
**MACALLAN**  
• 12 YEAR OLD  
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• GRAN RESERVA  
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# S

eptember in the East can feel like prison, especially if you are a sportsman. From Atlanta to Boston, the cities still have that hot, stifling, leftover August feeling that makes you think, more than ever, of escape. The problem is you—and everyone else—just got back to work after some time at the beach. The prudent side of your nature, which has also taken a summer break, cautions you firmly against taking any more time off, even if it is to go where the air already has some bite, the temperatures are hitting freezing at night, the aspen leaves have turned gold, there is snow on the mountain peaks, the elk are bugling and the trout fishing is absolutely splendid.

SPORTSMEN, HOWEVER, GENERALLY test low on prudence. Certainly this one does. So last September, when I decided I just couldn't take it any more, I broke out of the Manhattan jail one Friday afternoon and went to Montana for the weekend.

I caught the A train around the time the market closed. I was the only one on the subway with a fly rod, but there were guys with skateboards, some with guitars and women with baby carriages that looked big enough to haul Shaquille O'Neal.

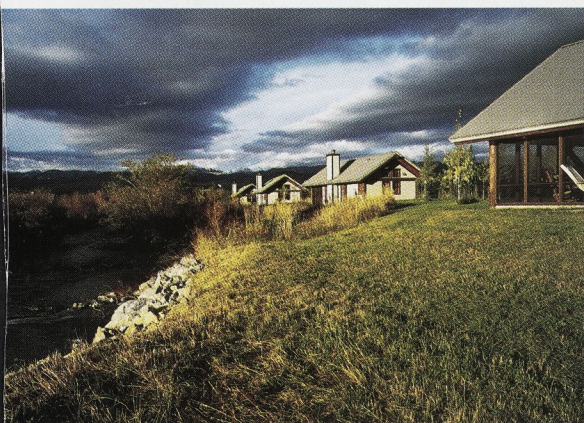
I met my wife at the terminal and we flew coach. After a brief stop in Salt Lake City, we flew on to Bozeman and pointed our rental sport utility toward Ennis.

You come down into the Ruby Valley off the Gravelly Mountains on Route 287 and, even by Montana's

## lie within an hour's drive of the lodge

Photographs by Tom Montgomery. Map by Christoph Blumrich.

Clockwise, top to bottom: Launching on the Jefferson; ledge cabins on the banks of the Ruby; floating the flat water; a nice spring creek brown trout



several small fish out of likely looking pools and then, as my fly drifted down a long cut bank, saw a heavy, spectral shadow that turned out to be one of those 18-inch fish. It took me into some willow roots and broke off.

I studied the sky and the profiles of the mountains. The Gravellys, the Tobacco Roots, the Rubys. Tied on another goofus bug. Walked upstream to the next likely looking pool and made another cast. I fished for a long time. Cannot say how long, since I did not look at my watch. Did not think

about the Utica Avenue station, either.

Toward evening, my wife and I reached a part of the stream flanked by 30-foot slag heaps, perhaps 100 feet back from the bank. They had a lifeless, almost lunar look.

"What on earth?" my wife said.

Sampson, who had joined us, explained that these were tailings from the extensive mining of gold that had gone on here from the end of the Civil War until the 1920s.

I knew some of the history and said, "Guess who ran the last of the mining operations? Who left us a legacy of these beautiful slag piles?"

"Who?"

"Harvard University," I said. Which was the only mention, all day, of life back East.

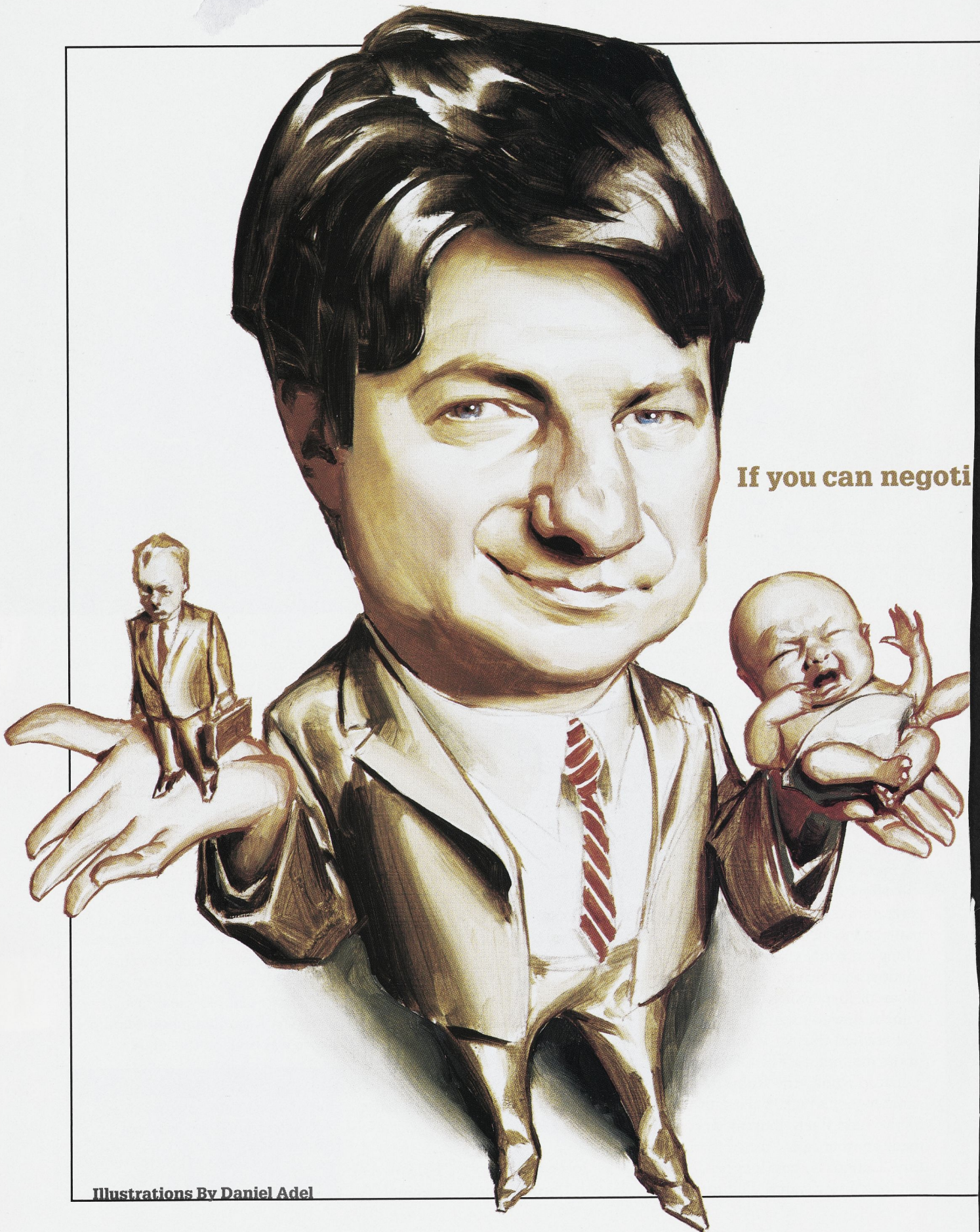
JUST BEFORE SUNSET, I CAUGHT the fish I needed for a grace note. A

brown of some 18 inches, in rich spawning colors. I worked the fish through some heavy weeds on the bank, admired him for a couple of seconds, then released him and reeled up so I could fly back to JFK.

But it wasn't quite that abrupt. There was lamb for dinner. More good wine. A clear night sky, full of stars, a good night's sleep, under quilts, in a cabin warmed by a wood stove with the sound of the river coming through the open windows.

In the morning, I ran again but didn't spook any ducks. I wondered if they had come to grief sometime during opening day. Back at the lodge, I had oatmeal for breakfast. It was Monday, I was flying home and prudence was back on the job. •

**Ruby Springs Lodge offers guided three-night and two-day fishing packages beginning at \$1,375 per person. Call (800) 278-RUBY or log on to [www.rubyspringslodge.com](http://www.rubyspringslodge.com).**



If you can negoti

Illustrations By Daniel Adel



# Spend a little time with Bud Lilly

You really should spend a little time with Bud Lilly.

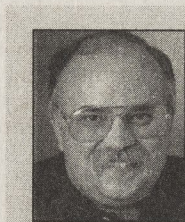
Lilly is a Montana original.

He has spent nearly 70 years with a fly rod in his hand and his fingers on the pulse of wild trout.

And, perhaps more importantly, he has helped to shape the past, present and future of fly fishing in both Montana and the Rocky Mountain West.

Lilly's early years were spent growing up in the Gallatin Valley at Manhattan. He operated a fly fishing shop in West Yellowstone for more than 30 years. He has guided trout fishermen for more than 50 years — among them some of the most famous of fly anglers.

Lilly still lives in Bozeman and operates "Bud Lilly's Angler's Retreat," a vintage 1908 railroad hotel in Three Forks that was in his mother Violet's family for more than 80 years and which he has refurbished and decorated as a unique destination spot for fish-



## Outdoors Commentary

By Mark Henckel  
*Outdoors Editor*

ermen.

Suffice it to say that a man with that kind of fishing longevity and firsthand knowledge of Montana trout fishing has more than a tale or two to tell.

Maybe that's why the new book, "Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the New West," is such a special read for anglers who live here and often stalk the same rifles and pools that Lilly has.

Written by Lilly and noted fishing and conservation writer Paul Schullery, who lives in Yellowstone National Park, the book covers a lot of ground in

regard to fly fishing.

Lilly traces his early years, talks about the West Yellowstone shop, then offers the benefits of his years of experience on the water, going through types of waters, types of flies, seasons of the year, tricks, tactics and, well, let's just call it his wisdom on trout and trout fishing.

For people who have spent a little time with Lilly, perhaps it's the sharing of that wisdom which you come to appreciate the most.

You also come to appreciate the simple, no-nonsense approach of Lilly, telling it like it is without mincing too many words. That means putting an end to many myths about Western trout, while paying homage to their many virtues.

For example, gems like this are scattered throughout the book: "Wherever it is, a trout stream is a trout stream. We have some

outstanding ones here in the West. But we don't have magic water that makes fish grow bigger than in other places. In fact, when I think of how short the trout's growing season is at this elevation, it surprises me how many really large trout we do have. We're lucky."

Or, Lilly's philosophies on flies, such as: "Anything with peacock herl on it seems to be better than anything without peacock herl." Or, his thoughts on the bitch creek nymph: "A thousand barroom debates have been held over the attractiveness of patterns like this one... Is it the ragged silhouette that makes them so great, or those wiggly rubber antennae and legs? I think it's both."

Nothing fancy — just plain trout fishing truths from Bud Lilly. This book is packed with them.

The bottom line is that if you're a fly fisherman, or just a western fisherman, "Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the New West" is a very good book, with some very good reading and would make a very good addition to your fishing library.

The 160-page book, with black and white photos and an eight-page color insert, sells for \$24.95 in soft cover and \$34.95 in hard cover. It is published by Frank Amato Publications, Inc. The book is available at area bookstores, by calling 1-800-541-9498 or it can be ordered over the Internet at: [www.amato-books.com](http://www.amato-books.com)

(Mark Henckel is the outdoor editor of *The Billings Gazette*. His columns appear Thursdays and Sundays. He can be contacted at 657-1395 or at [henckel@billingsgazette.com](mailto:henckel@billingsgazette.com))

their own," explained coach Pertuit.

"The TV is always on Fox Sports World. We are always either watching or playing soccer," said Nick.

Nicholas, who also began playing at the age of six, was featured in Sports Illustrated magazine's "Faces In The Crowd" section for leading the state in total points during the 1999 high school campaign. He is also a member of an elite Kalispell U-17 team, Flathead Force, that recently traveled to Dallas, Los Angeles and Las Vegas to compete in high-level national tournaments.

With a year of high school soccer remaining, he is one of the top players in Montana soccer.

"After the high school season, I got the

call from Sports Illustrated," Nick explained. "And they took 24 pictures of me."

Twins Oliver and Thomas recently played in San Diego competing in the Nomads Tournament, a U-18 college showcase tournament that exposes recruits like the Pertuits to the game at a higher level.

"Oliver and Thomas don't know where they want to go to college yet but the tournament could open up some doors for them," said coach Pertuit.

The twins also played varsity basketball for the Broncs, and Oliver was an Honorable Mention field-goal kicker on the high school football team. Thomas was selected as the Defensive MVP following

the Broncs' soccer season.

"They (the twins) want to play college soccer over anything," said Don.

Interestingly, the second weekend of Montana Youth Soccer Association play pitted Nick against older brothers, Thomas and Oliver, and the U-18 Magic City team.

"It was kind of weird playing my brothers," said Nick. "It was fun, but it got kind of competitive at times."

Not missing a beat from the high school season, Nick scored one goal and had an assist in the 3-0 win over Magic City.

After the game, play resumed to normal — in the household.

"They are all very supportive of each other," said Don. "After the games the

house always returns to normal."

The house might as well be labeled "soccer grand central", according to Mary.

"It's always soccer here in the house," Mrs. Pertuit explained (without having to glance at her bulletin boards).

Bridget has also begun play on the U-16 Magic City girls club team, an added rehabilitation period preceding her junior year for the Lady Broncs. The U-16 team is coached by, of course, her dad.

The passion for soccer and the busy schedules do not appear to be ending anytime soon.

"I would love to coach another 10 years and see Jacob come up," said Don of his 12-year old son. "But for now I would love to repeat as state (high school) champions."

Ecker forced a fumble and Willy Jacobson broke up a pass.

"That's heaven and hell," said Kramer of the quarterback sacks. "I'm glad the defense got the sacks, but chagrined because we were not able to hold them out.

"We didn't do anything real complicated and our defense didn't use any blitzes that we haven't used before. Three or four of them came via the safety route, and that's just a matter of the quarterback holding the ball too



## NEWS



## In Yellowstone Park

**Afternoon Talk in West** – 2:00 p.m. daily  
Each afternoon, a ranger will present a talk on a captivating aspect of Yellowstone's natural or cultural history in West Yellowstone. Meet at the Yellowstone Historic Center Museum at the corner of Yellowstone Avenue and Canyon Street or the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center at 201 South Canyon Street. Call 307-344-2876 for the location of the day.

August 7, 2009

Volume 26, No. 32

The area's only local newspaper

**Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers**

Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) are plants and animals not native to the park and they can cause irreversible harm to the natural ecosystems in Yellowstone. Help prevent the spread of harmful exotic invaders. Be sure to clean your boat and gear before hitting the water.

**Festival of Strings Saturday, Aug. 15**

Students from around the region will perform several free concerts as Festival Strings of Bozeman, part of MSU's Summer Youth Orchestra Workshop. Performances will take place at 1 p.m. in the Old Faithful Inn and 8 p.m. in the Mammoth Hot Springs Map Room.

**Yellowstone Wildlife Olympics August 12—Madison Ranger Station**

Test your skills and compare your abilities with those of animals in Yellowstone. Who will win the gold? A bison, ground squirrel or you? How far can you jump? How well can you see and smell. Stop by any time between the hours listed below. Stay as short or as long as your schedule allows. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Free photography workshops**

The free workshops will take place three times daily (except Tuesday) from August 2 through August 9. The daytime workshops begin at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Old Faithful Inn. The evening program begins at 6 p.m. at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge. Participants should arrive approximately 15–30 minutes before the class begins.

**Numbers**

100 = the number of YARDS you must stay away from a bear or wolf  
25 = The number of YARDS you must stay away from all other wildlife  
45 = The maximum speed limit in the park unless otherwise posted

**WYPD gets grant to hire new officer**

By CAROL HOFFMANN

News Editor

In a July 28 letter from the U.S. Department of Justice, Police Chief Gordon Berger was advised that a CHRP grant had been awarded to his department and he could begin the process of hiring a new officer.

Called the Cops Hiring Recovery Program, the grant in the estimated amount of \$187,542 will pay all the benefits and wages for one officer for a period of three years. The Town of West Yellowstone will be required to cover the costs for the fourth year.

"We will finally have a full staff of five officers," Berger said, "after running short with four officers for almost two years."

It was March 16 when Chief Berger received the online "Solicitation for Application" form, fully 33 pages to be studied and filled out by the April 14 deadline.

"There were 11 sections in the application, and once you submit your application online, you cannot change it," he explained, "so mistakes were

more on Grant, page 15



Photo by CHRIS DANIELS

**Endless search**

On the north shore of Hebgen Lake, an eagle on its perch intently scours the area for prey. This photo was submitted as an entry in the West Yellowstone News photo contest. See page 2 for details.

**Visitors enjoy park in record numbers**

Summer visitation to the world's first national park continues at a record pace.

Over 900,000 people entered Yellowstone in July; up 11.4 percent from the same month in 2008, and up over the previous all time record of 847,000 visitors set in July 1995.

**Yellowstone Recreation Visitors**

	2009	2008	Change
Jan.	24,770	26,864	- 7.8 %
Feb.	28,355	33,557	- 15.5 %
March	17,317	19,147	- 9.6 %
April	24,831	24,433	+ 1.6 %
May	261,763	217,938	+ 20.1 %
June	643,844	593,406	+ 8.5 %
July	900,515	806,110	+ 11.4 %

Total YTD 1,901,395 1,723,545 + 10.3 %

All park entrances reported an increase in the number of visitors compared to year ago levels. The West Entrance remains the park's busiest, with over 385,000 visitors this July compared to 337,000 a year ago. The greatest percentage increase in visitation was recorded through the East Entrance, up 15.1 percent from July 2008.

July is typically the park's peak visitation month, followed by August, June, September, and May.

This is the second record setting month for the park this year. Visitation in June

more on Record, page 15

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**THIS WEEK'S WEATHER**

DATE	HIGH	LOW	DAILY PRECIP.	YEAR TO DATE PRECIPITATION
JULY 30	74	30	-	26.56
JULY 31	70	35	-	26.56
AUGUST 1	80	35	-	26.56
AUGUST 2	85	37	.06	26.62
AUGUST 3	81	45	.03	26.65
AUGUST 4	84	40	-	26.65
AUGUST 5	83	42	.03	26.68

## Trapper's Family Restaurant

Open for Breakfast Year-Round  
from 6:30-11:30 a.m

Located on the corner of Electric and Madison  
- inside the Day's Inn (406) 646-7656

*"Custer's Picks"*  
Crow Fair, Crow Agency, Aug. 13-17

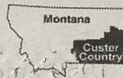
County Fairs  
Glendive, Aug. 12-16  
Baker, Aug. 13-16  
Terry, Aug. 6-9



Montana's  
Custer Country

Complete calendar of Custer Country events  
and vacation guide 1-800-346-1876  
Ext. 724 or CusterCountry.net

See website  
for Pompeys  
Pillar Loop



## bits & pieces

Happy Birthday this week to Darla Pearce, Alex Moldenhauer, Mike Klostrich, Kelsey Meitzel, Craig Borash, Jason Howell, Angie Search, Kelly Turner, Greg Forsythe, Mark Schulteis, Turtle Klaus, Shane Grube and Dixie Klostrich.

Music in the Park tonight, features the classic rock of Ironfront from 7 to 10 in Pioneer Park. Next Saturday, Aug. 15, is Locals Nite at Music in the Park with Kennedy & the Assassins, the Carter family and other local artists.

BBQ concessions during this weekend's Rod Run will benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of West Yellowstone, 10-3 p.m. in Pioneer Park on Saturday. Please come by for lunch to support this local youth program! Can you volunteer? Questions? 646-1015.

The Yellowstone Airport is having an open house beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8. Come tour the airport and the new Yellowstone Aviation building. Serving coffee and doughnuts to start and then hot dogs and hamburgers 'til they're gone.

A pictorial history in color of the local WOWs from 1985 to 2009, called Women of the Wild Hiking Club: WOW Trail Travelers, a book by Deb Townshend, is available for \$20, includes priority shipping. Send check to Deb Townshend, 709 Townsend Ave., New Haven, CT 06512.

Maggie Merriman of West Yellowstone opened the first fly fishing school for women in the West in 1978 and helped design the first fly fishing vest for women in 1982.

August in West Yellowstone is filled with activities, including the Mountain Man Rendezvous, the rodeo, the Rod Run, Crazy Days, the 50 year commemoration of the Hebgen Lake Earthquake, an art show, the Kirkwood Trout Cook-Off, the Painted Buffalo auction, free Music in the Park and the Pine Needle Stampede. See weekly listings in 8 Days a Week on page 8.

The Hebgen Lake Water and Sewer District Board of Directors meeting is Friday Aug. 14, at 7 p.m. at the Rendezvous Trail Building.

Game Warden Smolsczynski reports no tips on the gut pile found west of town as yet.



### Photo contest

The West Yellowstone News is proud to announce a semi-monthly photo contest. Twice a month a winning photo will be selected by The West Yellowstone News to be featured in the West Yellowstone newspaper. Visit [westyellowstonenews.com](http://westyellowstonenews.com) to upload your photos or to view photos that have already been submitted. So, hit the trails, take some shots and join the community at [westyellowstonenews.com](http://westyellowstonenews.com)!

# Hebgen Lake earthquake marks 50 years

The Gallatin National Forest is hosting a weekend of science, interpretation and commemoration in remembrance of the Hebgen Lake Earthquake.

50 years ago on August 17, 1959 the Hebgen Lake Earthquake, measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale, triggered a landslide that blocked the Madison River killing 28 people and forming Earthquake Lake. At the time, this was largest earthquake in the United States and resulted in the largest loss of life since the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake.

From Friday, Aug. 14, through Monday, Aug. 17, in West Yellowstone and at the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center on Hwy. 287, the site of the Madison slide, there will be survivor

**From Friday, Aug. 14, through Monday, Aug. 17, in West Yellowstone and at the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center on Hwy. 287, the site of the Madison slide, there will be survivor talks, field trips, a book signing, an open house, a memorial service and more.**

talks, field trips, a book signing, an open house, a memorial service and more.

For details contact the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center, Hebgen Lake Ranger District, 406-682-7620.



Courtesy photo

The 1959 earthquake caused parts of Hwy. 287 to fall into Hebgen Lake.

## Schedule of events: 50th anniversary of the Hebgen Lake earthquake

### Friday, August 14

- Opening ceremony 1 p.m. -

Earthquake Lake Visitor Center  
Geologic Guest speaker; Mike

Stickney, Director of Earthquake Studies

- Survivor Talk 2 p.m., Jerry Yetter
- Kids program, 3 p.m.
- Guided walks to the Memorial Boulder all afternoon
- Evening programs - Dave Lageson, M.S.U. Earth Science, 4 p.m.
- Jack Epstein, USGS Geologist in 1959, 7 p.m.

jumped at Refuge Point and Hebgen Dam will answer questions.

- Tour of West Yellowstone Interagency Smoke Jumper Base, Yellowstone Airport, 11 a.m.
- Open House at Holiday Inn for '59 Hebgen Lake Earthquake survivors, rescue workers and families. Bring memorabilia to share. 1 to 4 p.m. The public is welcome.
- Survivor Talk at 2 p.m. Holiday Inn, Presenters: Joann Gartand and Cookie Kobel
- Survivor Talk at 3 p.m. Holiday Inn, Presenter: Bill Conley
- Rescue Talk at 3:30 p.m. Holiday Inn, Presenter: S.W. Hancock
- Geologic Guest Speaker Lewis Kogan, UM, 4 p.m.: Holiday Inn. Public Welcome.

### Saturday, August 15

- Guided walk, 10 a.m. Refuge Point to Halford's Camp
- Cabin Creek scarp program, 11 a.m.
- Guided walk to Red Canyon, 2 p.m.
- Book signing by Doug Huigen at the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center, 3 p.m.
- Kids program, 4 p.m.
- Evening program - David Bittner, NPS, Mt. Holmes Lookout Eyewitness, 7 p.m.

### Monday, August 17, 2009

- Gallatin National Forest Officials to commemorate the 1959 Hebgen Lake Earthquake at the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center, 10 a.m.
- Survivor Talk at 11 a.m. Presenters: Martin Stryker
- Conclude with noon memorial service by Minister Paul Scott at the Memorial Boulder.

### Sunday, August 16

- Smokejumper Program and Proficiency Jump at Refuge Point, 9 a.m. 1959 Smokejumpers that



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# viewpoints



## Guest column

# Montana, national economies set for rebound

**By Patrick Barkey**

Director, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UM

The current recession in Montana has cruelly demonstrated the wisdom of Nixon-era economic adviser Herbert Stein, who famously deadpanned that “things that can’t go on forever usually don’t.” In this case it was the unsustainable trajectory of housing prices, propelled by easy credit, high leverage and speculative buying, that crashed and fell to earth, taking the world’s financial system – and

the swaggering confidence of those charged with managing the major world economies – down with it. As a result, asset prices of all kinds plunged, credit markets froze up and growth in almost every economy in the world came to a screeching halt.

In all likelihood we now stand at the trough of the U.S. downturn. Professional forecasters think that the first estimates of growth in the second quarter for the U.S. economy will show only a mild contraction, and that we can expect to be in the black,

growth-wise, for the remainder of the year.

The bottom is a depressing place to be. Unemployment is high. State and local governments are facing budget crises. And an uncomfortable percentage of our productive resources – from sawmills to railroad cars to motels and restaurants – are idle for lack of demand.

But the direction of change, at least, will soon change for the better. And even if the pain of the recession continues in many parts of Montana, it

is not too soon to start thinking about – and planning for – recovery in the economy.

The Bureau of Business and Economic Research at The University of Montana has just updated the state and local forecasts we delivered in nine Montana cities last winter, and the results are mixed. The economy remains on course to rebound in the second half of the year. But as the recovery gets closer, we can see more

more on **Rebound**, page 17

## Letters to the Editor

### Grateful for EMS team

To the Editor:

We were present recently when a Hebgen Basin EMS team (Irene, Ryan and Scott) arrived at 5 a.m. to take care of a neighbor. We live nine miles from town on Horse Butte and this team was prompt after a 911 call. We observed professional, caring and concerned people. They showed a genuine interest in the patient.

It is gratifying to know that we have these kinds of dedicated people to aid us in town and the outlying

areas in an emergency.

*Norval W. & Shirley Armstrong*

### Kayla’s dad thanks you!

To the Editor:

Now that the adoption of my new daughter Kayla Hurst became final in court on Tuesday, I want to thank all the people and town of West Yellowstone that helped make it possible, and for being such a great place to be.

Sincerely,

*Keith Hurst*

### In memory of my son

To the Editor:

COPS (Concerns of Police Survivors) WALK 2009:

I know what a tough time this is to be asking for donations, but this is a cause I can’t say no to, so I am asking you to support me as I walk 25 miles in two days with my friend Margaret. As you know the Kramer family lost Patrick in the line of duty as a police officer in 2006. The walk takes place in Washington DC in October.

One hundred percent of the

donations go to provide resources to help rebuild the lives of the families, friends, and coworkers who have lost someone they love in the line of duty as a police officer.

If you can help in any way, you can go to: [www.nationalcops.org/walkdonorslip.htm](http://www.nationalcops.org/walkdonorslip.htm) and select my name from the list of participants and donate on line. If you would prefer to write a check, you can make it out to C.O.P.S. and mail the check to Cops Walk, P.O. Box 3199, Camdenton, MO

more on **Letters**, page 17

# WEST YELLOWSTONE News

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*This newspaper office is located at 309 Canyon Street,  
West Yellowstone, Montana*

*Yearly Subscriptions are \$30.80 in Gallatin County,  
\$35.20 elsewhere in Montana and the United States  
and \$60 for international areas.*

*The West Yellowstone News is an edition of the  
Bozeman Daily Chronicle and is owned by Big Sky  
Publishing LLC.*

*Periodical postage is paid at the West Yellowstone, Montana  
United States Post Office under Permit No. 001105.*

## police reports Compiled by the WYPD

### July 27

- Report of suspicious vehicle driving very slowly and without the headlights on De Lacy Ave.
- Report of two mules going past the local newspaper office, heading south on Canyon St. – Escapees were apprehended by US Forest Service
- Individual reported being hit while riding their bike by a black SUV with Montana plates driven by a heavy set woman in late 40's heading northbound on Dunraven - Report taken
- Report of vehicle being shot up with a BB gun -Report taken
- Suspicious person snooping around with a flashlight in the Horse Butte area – It was a neighbor looking for their cat
- Report of a white pickup truck driving reckless on HWY 20 heading east – Not located
- Hebgen Basin EMS/FD were called out twice

### July 28

- A New Jersey man was arrested for DUI
- A Colorado woman was arrested for being under the influence of alcohol to the degree that would endanger oneself or another person
- Hebgen Basin FD volunteer responded to fire alarm at local hotel. – False alarm, breakfast burned
- Local hotel manager request officer assistance in removal of biohazard
- Officer assisted in civil standby by

- of two employee housing ejections
- Complaint of a running semi truck parked all night and disturbing guest of two hotels. – Officer made driver turn off engine
- Local hotel reported fireworks being set off far south end of Canyon St. – Officer confiscated fireworks and had the people clean the litter up
- An Oregon woman was arrested for possession, dealing of a controlled substance and interference
- Report of a deer hit on Hwy 287 – Montana Highway patrol notified
- Report of a hit and run crash on Canyon St. – Investigation pending
- Hebgen Basin EMS/FD were called out three times

### July 29

- Numerous fireworks complaints
- Officer responded to a report of two women yelling at each other at local apartment building.
- Complaint of a local woman breaking into an apartment and yelling at the reporting party while they were sleeping
- Request for officer assistance, guest a local hotel had .22 handgun stolen from their room. -Officer recovered and returned weapon. A citation was issued for theft
- Hebgen Basin EMS/FD were called out three times
- Air Idaho Life Flight was called in once for assistance

### July 30

- Complaint of loud music and partying at local apartment building
- Sewer Lift Station # 1 alarm activated in WYPD -Dispatch notified Public Works
- Pedestrian was hit by vehicle on Yellowstone Ave. – Local police and EMS responded. Victim is recovering. Driver was cited for failure to yield to pedestrian
- Report of individual loitering in front of local grocery store - Officer removed individual from area
- Complaint of two men dressed like hippies panhandling on the corner of Canyon & Madison - Officers removed individuals from area
- Hebgen Basin FD and volunteer responded to fire alarm at the UP Dining Lodge - False alarm
- Arrest warrant was issued for Ronald E. Welch extraditable in the state of Montana for failure to appear in court, original charge of DUI
- Hebgen Basin EMS/FD were called out five times

### July 31

- Officer assisted Montana Highway patrol in arrest on Hwy 191
- A Bozeman woman was arrested for DUI, possession of controlled substance and paraphernalia
- Officer responded to burglar alarm at local restaurant – False alarm, repairman did not have code
- Report of a neighbor shooting .22 rifle at the back of the caller's

- home in the Madison Addition – Investigation pending
- Report of wallet possibly stolen from local hotel - Investigation pending review of surveillance tapes
- Revocation papers of business license and citations served to local dog care business
- Report of man and women walking Firehole Ave. and Canyon St., wearing dresses, cowboy hat and "hooker boots" allegedly offering services
- Hebgen Basin EMS/FD were called out twice

### August 1

- Report of someone leaving local gas station without paying – Officer stopped and escorted individual back to station to pay for services
- Campers were causing disturbance at local campground – West Yellowstone Police Officer, Gallatin County Sheriff and Hebgen Basin EMS responded, individual had been sprayed with bear spray
- Caller was concerned about "crud" floating in the air, and that there was "too much of it to be pollen" and wanted to know if it was just at their house or all over town
- A Mississippi woman was arrested for disorderly conduct and interference
- Hebgen Basin EMS/FD were called out three times



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## Paul Shea authors historic picture book of West Yellowstone

By **CAROL HOFFMANN**  
News Editor

Former Yellowstone Historic Center Museum director and curator Paul Shea lived and worked in West Yellowstone and Yellowstone Park from 1979 through 2008. His new book, **West Yellowstone**, is one in the Images of America series from Arcadia Publishing that celebrates the history of towns and cities across the country.

Elected as president of the West Yellowstone Historical Society in 1993, director of the newly-formed Yellowstone Historic Center in 1998 and named curator of the museum in 2002, Shea was zealously involved in the collection and interpretation of the history of West Yellowstone and the surrounding area. He resigned in the fall of 2008 to work on his book.

Highlights of **West Yellowstone** include the Oregon Short Line Historic District, the largest intact rail complex built exclusively to

service a National Park, and photos of buildings that served the town and tourists in many ways: the Rainbow Tabernacle, a pool hall, and various stores and lodges. Stagecoaches, touring buses, early snow machines and the airport are featured, along with the west entrance to Yellowstone Park, the earthquake and fire.

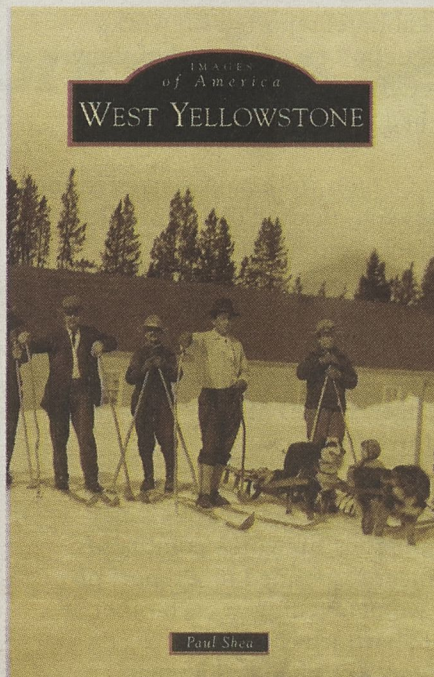
The history of West Yellowstone is documented in more than 200 vintage images in the new book and in a packet of 15 historical postcards, early photos most of which have not been published or seen, courtesy of the Yellowstone Historic Center.

Shea compiled **West Yellowstone** while living in Carson City, Nev., and has since moved to Livingston, Mont. and continues his work with museums.

A book signing will be held at the Yellowstone Historic Center Museum on Friday, Aug. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m., during which Shea will present a brief program at 5:30

called "Writing the History of West Yellowstone: Pictorial Histories."

On Saturday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m., Shea will be signing his book at the Book Peddler at 106 Canyon St.



## Smokey will help open new fire station

### Iconic bear celebrates his 65th birthday

The Hebgen Basin Fire District is joining with the U.S. Forest Service tomorrow in honor of Smokey Bear's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday.

At the community open house for the new HBFD Station No. 3 on the Denny Creek Road, Saturday, Aug. 8, from noon to 4 p.m., Smokey Bear will be honored.

Smokey's message, "Only You Can Prevent Wildfire," is just as relevant today as it was in 1944, when he first came on the scene.

Smokey and his friends will be sharing his birthday cake, showing off the new fire station with both Forest Service and Hebgen Basin Fire engines and giving important tips on fire safety. The fire department will be serving lunch, so come hungry.



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# Happy Birthday Smokey

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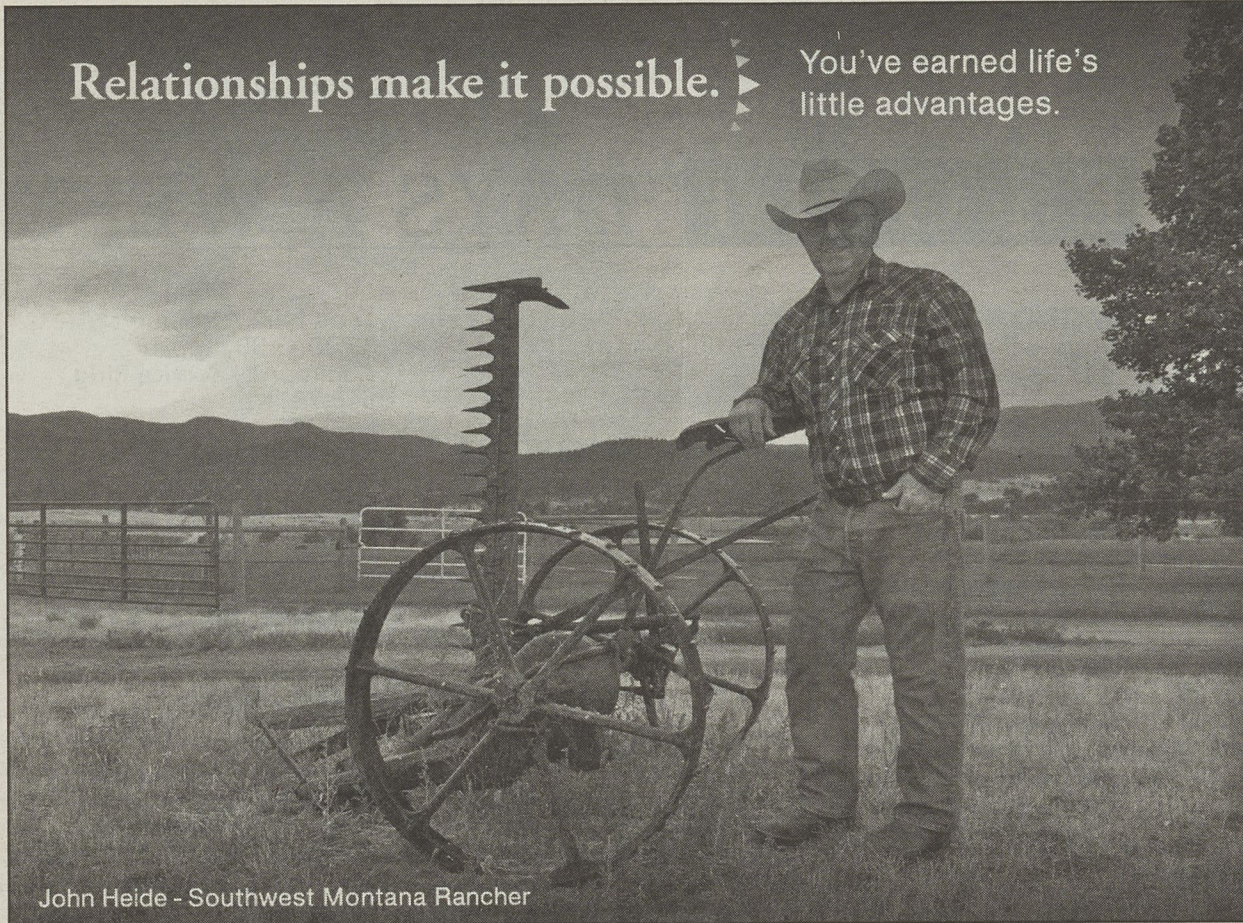
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A COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THINGS TO DO EIGHT DAYS A WEEK

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 7**

**Advanced pilates**—8 a.m.  
Pilates—12 p.m.  
433 Geyser St.—646-7744

**Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center**  
Open 365 days a year 8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. Pass is good for two days  
Call 646-7001 for details

**Smoking Waters Mountain Man Rendezvous and Living History Encampment**  
Through Aug. 9—9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily at the corner of Hwy 20 and Iris St. Events posted daily on site

**39th Annual Yellowstone Rod Run**  
Through Aug. 9

**Yellowstone Historic Center Museum**  
Open 9 to 9 daily  
646-1100

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

**Food bank/clothing center**  
12:30–3:30 p.m.  
Community Service Bldg.  
646-7311

**Senior lunch**  
11:30–1 p.m. at Povah Center. 640-0241 for details

**Teen Center (ages 12-17)**  
Povah Center 7–11 p.m.

**Music in the Park**  
7-10 p.m. In Pioneer Park

**Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo**  
8 p.m. Every Thurs. through Sat. – Six miles West of

town on Highway 20  
Tickets available at gate

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 8**

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

**Teen Center (ages 12-17)**  
Povah Center 7–11 p.m.

**Hebgen Lake Clean-Up**  
Barefoot Win party after clean-up for volunteers.  
barefootbeechrescue.com for info. 11 a.m.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 9**

**Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church**  
Saturday Mass—7:30 p.m.  
Sunday Mass—10:30 a.m.

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
Sacrament Meeting—10 a.m.  
Sunday School—11:10 a.m.  
Relief Society/Priesthood 12 p.m.

**Church of Christ**  
Sunday: Bible Study—9:15 a.m. Worship—10 a.m.

**Community Protestant Church**  
Adult Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
K-8th grade Sunday School 9 a.m.  
Worship Service—10 a.m.

**First Baptist Church**  
Bible Study—9 a.m.  
Worship—10 a.m.

**Free flycasting lessons**  
Meet at Jacklin's Fly Shop—7:30 p.m.

**AA meeting**—7:30 p.m. at Community Service Bldg

**MONDAY, AUGUST 10**

**Yoga**—9 a.m.  
433 Geyser St.—646-7311

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

**Food bank/clothing center**  
12:30–3:30 p.m. at Community Service Bldg.  
646-7311

**Women's kayaking trip with Lava Creek Adventures**—5:30 p.m.  
Meet at 433 N. Hwy. 20  
Call Debbie at 209-1387

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 11**

**WY Foundation bus**  
leaves 8 a.m.  
Call 646-1158 for reservations

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

**Food bank/clothing center**  
12:30–3:30 p.m. at Community Service Bldg.  
646-7311

**Historic bike tour of town**  
Meet Thor at FreeHeel & Wheel at 4 p.m.

**Intermediate Pilates**  
5:30 p.m. 433 Geyser St.  
646-7744

**Ultimate Frisbee**  
6:30 p.m. in the Town Park

**Living with Fire**  
Madison Historic Ranger Station – 11 p.m.  
Learn simple steps you can

take to protect your home from wildfire.

**WED., AUGUST 12**

**WY Foundation bus**  
leaves 8 a.m. – Call 646-1158 for reservations

**Yoga**—9 a.m.  
Stretch & strength class—10:30 a.m.  
433 Geyser St. – 646-7744

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

**Food bank/clothing center**  
12:30–3:30 p.m.  
Community Service Bldg.  
646-7311

**Senior lunch**  
11:30–1 p.m. at Povah Center - 640-0241 info

**AA meeting**  
7:30 p.m. at Community Protestant Church

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 13**

**WY Foundation bus**  
leaves 8 a.m. Call 646-1158 for reservations

**Pilates**  
8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
433 Geyser St.—646-7744

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

**Women's Mountain Bike Ride**  
10 a.m. at FreeHeel & Wheel

**Food bank/clothing center**  
12:30–3:30 p.m. at Community Service Bldg.  
646-7311

**Kids free tennis class**  
4 p.m.—courts on N. Electric

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 14**

**Advanced pilates**—8 a.m.  
Pilates—12 p.m.  
433 Geyser St. - 646-7744

**Food bank/clothing center**  
12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Community Service Bldg.  
646-7311

**Senior lunch**  
11:30–1 p.m. at Povah Center—640-0241 info

**Teen Center (ages 12–17)**  
Povah Center 7–11 p.m.

**Junior Smokejumper Program**  
9 a.m. Kitty corner from Town Park  
646-7209 for info

*To change an item or to add a new one call the News at 646-9719 by Tuesday afternoon.*



**GOT NEWS?  
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## Rodeo results – week #9

Week #9 of the Wild West Yellowstone Rodeo Series proved once again that the bull riders are in hot pursuit of the year-end buckle.

Beau Powers started things off with a bang in the Junior Bull Riding posting a score of 78. Not only did this give the rest of the bull riders a challenge, it also brought newcomer Seth Pierce into the picture with a score of 82 and encouraged past champions Mark Phillips and Aubrey Smith to cowboy up and ride to scores of 75 and 73 respectively.

These placings by both past champions will definitely heat up the race for the year-end buckle.

With only four more weekends of rodeo action left the competition in all of the events was very competitive as some of the fastest times posted in the breakaway roping, team roping and barrel racing reflected this past weekend.

Local contestants are printed in bold.

Bareback Riding:

**1st--Wes Saul 84**  
2nd--Matt Lodahl 81  
**3rd--Wes Saul 80**  
4th--Richard Wilson 78

Breakaway Roping:

1st--Jill Lufkin 2.57  
2nd--Max Kuttler 2.81  
3rd--Cassidy Klind 3.16  
4th--Kara Avery 3.19  
5th--Steve Sherwood 3.32  
6th--Bobbe McMillan 4.37

Saddle Bronc Riding:

1st--Thomas Nerlin 79  
2nd--Thomas Nerlin 73  
3rd--Kade Ensign 65

Barrel Race:

1st--Ashley Ouzts 14.97  
**2nd--Jill Georgio 15.05**  
3rd--Ashley Ouzts 15.68

more on Rodeo, page 15




Photo by TOM NESBITT

### Taking his best shot


**Scott Murdock competes in the 2008 Smoking Waters Mountain Man Rendezvous Black Powder Shoot. The Rendezvous will hold this year's shoot at the South Plateau Shooting Complex on Saturday, Aug. 8, registration at 8 a.m., shoot begins at 9. Spectators are welcome. The range will be closed to public shooting during those hours. The Mountain Man Rendezvous continues through Sunday.**

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# Town Council lifts freeze on hiring

By **BRENNAN SANG**  
Staff Writer

Tuesday morning the members of the West Yellowstone Town Council met for a work session at the Povah Community Center. Starting off the meeting with a public comment session, Glen Loomis discussed possibilities for changing the relationship between the town and the Yellowstone Historic Center (YHC).

Loomis presented the Council with a plan for the town's historic district developed by Seattle-based architecture firm The Portico Group. According to Loomis the Portico Group estimated that changes to the historic district could add up to \$400,000 dollars per year to the town's resort tax collection.

Loomis requested that the town and the YHC enter into a formal partnership to try and accomplish some of the goals set forth in Portico's plan.

"There's something that out there

that we can do that will make the historic district more than it is now, that will help out the town and help preserve those historic buildings," said Loomis.

"I would like the town to figure out whatever wording we need to form this partnership and to adopt it and get the ball rolling," said council member Tom Nesbitt in support of Loomis' idea.

The Council also met with Tony Bean to discuss wildfowl mitigation issues at the Yellowstone Airport north of town. According to Bean, following February's crash of US Airways flight 1549 in New York City, which is believed to have been caused when the plane struck several birds, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has ramped up its efforts to have airports work towards preventing future incidents.

The town's sewer lagoons are located on the airport, and provide a resting place for various waterfowl.

Several solutions were discussed, and Bean informed the Council that the airport intended to buy an audio system designed to frighten off the birds.

Bill Fogarty, head of the town's Public Services Department, explained that the audio system would play, "a recording that's very specific to whatever species you're targeting." Bean expressed his concern that if the FAA felt like the airport had not done enough to prevent possible bird-airplane collisions, that the airport could lose federal grant funding.

The council also looked at a proposal from a contractor to assemble a capital improvement plan (CIP) for the town. The CIP would outline the cost and source of funding for various projects and purchases for years to come.

Commenting on a CIP written for Whitefish, council member Drew Barney said, "Most of this stuff isn't rocket science to figure out, and

should just be in the budget. I went through the whole thing and I didn't see anything worth paying \$15,000 for."

The council agreed that a plan would be a good thing, but ultimately decided that the work should be done internally.

The council voted to lift the hiring freeze during Tuesday evening's town council meeting. The hiring freeze was put in place earlier this year to answer concerns about a possible large dip in resort tax collections.

While talking to the News, Town Clerk Elizabeth Roos said that resort tax collection was, "just slightly down."

According to Roos, "collections in July were down about two percent." With the drop in resort tax being small, the council agreed to lift the hiring freeze and they approved the hiring of a deputy town clerk and operator and a police patrol officer.

# Horse Butte bison controversy spills into court

By **DANIEL PERSON**  
Chronicle staff writer

Cattle producers argued in Bozeman court Tuesday that allowing untested bison onto Horse Butte Peninsula near Yellowstone National Park poses a danger to the Montana beef industry and asked a judge to force the state to remove bison from the area more quickly than in recent years.

But lawyers for the state, two conservation groups and Horse Butte landowners asked District Court Judge John Brown to dismiss parts of the lawsuit, saying the cattlemen can't dictate how the Department of Livestock follows its own procedures.

Horse Butte Peninsula stretches into Hebgen Lake, east of West Yellowstone. No cattle graze there, leading the Department of Livestock to be more tolerant of bison in the area in recent years.

The two-hour hearing focused on whether the Montana Stockgrowers Association and two ranchers in the West Yellowstone area can sue over how the state's livestock department implements the Interagency Bison Management Plan, an agreement between state and federal agencies setting protocols to prevent interaction between bison and cattle.

But the oral arguments often touched on the heated debate over how tolerant Montana should be toward the wild bison that roam out of Yellowstone.

John Bloomquist, a lawyer for the Stockgrowers Association and ranchers, said local ranchers could be devastated if bison are given more leeway in southern Gallatin County.

"We have two livestock producers ... whose herds, whose livelihoods and whose economic viability, whose entire operation, is at risk if the Department

of Livestock does not properly manage bison," Bloomquist argued in court.

Errol Rice, executive vp of the Montana Stockgrowers Assoc., said his group hopes to force the state to haze all bison back into Yellowstone by May 15, a date set by the IMBP, and only allow bison unexposed to brucellosis to leave the park.

Brucellosis is a disease that causes animals to miscarry. Bison are known to carry it, and ranchers fear the animals could transfer the disease to their herds.

Yellowstone bison, the last genetically pure herd of North American bison, migrate out of the park during the winter to reach lower ground.

As it stands, government agencies are still conducting massive hazes in mid-May to comply with the bison plan - to the chagrin of private landowners on Horse Butte who want

the bison on their land. However, managers have been treating May 15 as a target rather than a deadline, and this year allowed untested bison to roam on the peninsula.

The new policy is a legitimate response to the fact that cattle don't graze on the peninsula, lawyers for the state and conservation groups said.

The ranchers "seek to turn back the clock" to a time when cattle grazed on Horse Butte, said Tim Preso, a lawyer with Earthjustice representing eight landowners on the peninsula, the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Department of Livestock attorney Norman Peterson told Judge Brown it would be unrealistic to make May 15 a hard and fast deadline.

"The bison don't know borders. They'll come out where they come out. They'll come out when they'll come out," he said.



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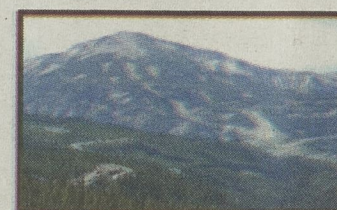
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# Jan Dunbar writes about Conrad Stewart Peterson

The bare facts concerning the death of Stewart Peterson speak volumes. They become more than facts when some of us recall the circumstances in West Yellowstone, so far from the Marianas islands.

My friend, Jean Young (Jean Peterson Cardon Young) would have been most gratified to see this plaque, as would her mother, Elizabeth Peterson, both West Yellowstone residents since they moved here from Idaho Falls, 1927. These special women have left us, taking with them the memories and the heartaches relative to the information about Jean's brother Stewart who was, of course, the son of Elizabeth and Con Peterson.

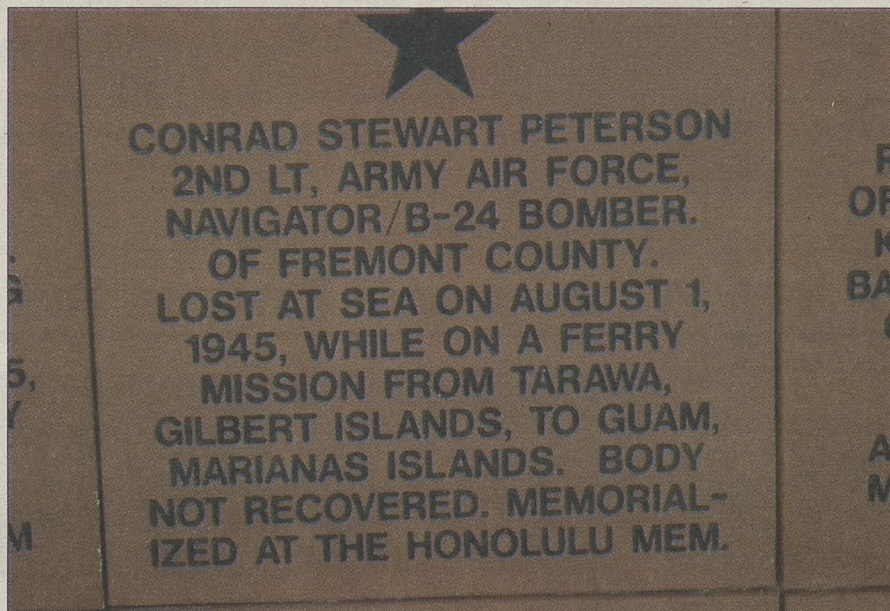
Stewart was less than three years old when Con and Elizabeth moved to West with him and three-month-old Jean. Elizabeth and the children arrived on the first spring train. Con and Elizabeth established their store on Canyon Street, Peterson's O. P. Skaggs. The Peterson kids went through the eight grades of West Yellowstone School, then graduated from Gallatin County High School in Bozeman.

My parents were good friends of the Petersons; I was in and out of their house many times, avoiding Jean's big brother Stewart as best we could since we were mere little sisters and therefore "pests." Stewart sometimes worked at "the store" bagging groceries and charming the world with his big smile.

## Birth Announcement

### Bryce Lee Morrell

Proud grandma Debbie Rossberg is delighted to announce the birth of her first grandchild, son of CeJay and Matt Morrell of Missoula. Bryce Lee was born the afternoon of May 29, 2009. He weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 21 inches long. His other grandparents are Walt and Patty Morrell of Providence, Utah, and Gerry and Laurie Rossberg of Butte, Montana.



This memorial plaque to Stewart Peterson is in a Rexburg, Idaho park and will be dedicated at a ceremony on Aug. 27.

The school had two grades in one room in those days, sometimes more, so Jean and Stewart were often together. Some of the local kids in their classes were the Hansons, (Norm, John and Mary), Calvin Fuller, Betty Martzel (Fleming), various Smiths, "Slick" Parmley, some of the Thompsons, the Gieschen brothers, Bob Hurless, Ellert Koski; the list is long. Standing in the class photos with them was their teacher, Antrium Barnes, the man who became Pat Barnes of fly-fishing fame. Many of them were involved in WWII. Only Stewart Peterson never came home.

I was at Jean's house, the new rock one on Dunraven, that August day sixty-four years ago when Deb Young

brought the ominous and dreaded telegram, announcing that Stewart's plane was lost with no trace, that he was missing and considered dead.

At 18, I suddenly grew up that day. It was as if a big black cloud descended over this tiny town, which oddly was celebrating the imminence and then the fact of VJ Day and the end of the war. It was, and still seems, something of a cruel joke. The family never really recovered from that loss. Con himself died four years later in a freak auto accident on Henry's Lake Flat.

Later, Jean had a son of her own to name Stewart. He and Jeanie never knew their young uncle. There could never be a suitable gravestone to adorn the resting place of this hero. Now there is a plaque, adding his name to the long list of eager young men who became fliers in that enormous theater of war so long ago.

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## Manager's message

By JAMIE GREENE

Here's an update on things that are happening that you ought to know about:

1. At the Tuesday morning work session, the Town Council first heard public comment from Glen Loomis regarding the future of the relationship between the Town and the Yellowstone Historic Center. Once public comment was closed, Yellowstone Airport Manager Tony Bean presented the FAA's concerns with the waterfowl that use the ponds at the sewer lagoon. Basically, the FAA is concerned that ducks are using the lagoon (which is on airport property) and that those birds might create a hazard to aircraft. The FAA is requiring the Town and the airport to take action to discourage that waterfowl from using the ponds. The airport is willing to cover the costs of initial mitigation efforts, which will involve the use of waterfowl predator noises/calls. After Tony Bean's presentation, the Council considered a proposal by MDG Consulting to assemble a Capital Improvement Plan for the Town at a cost of \$14,500. The Council's general consensus was that this was work that the staff and Council should accomplish in house. The staff will start to work on this project in the next few weeks. Finally, the Council reviewed the agenda for the evening meeting.

2. At the Tuesday evening Town

Council meeting, the Council adopted a new cemetery policy that was drafted by the cemetery board of trustees as a guideline for taking care of the Fir Ridge Cemetery; adopted Resolution No. 564 establishing Town Council health insurance options; renewed the Town's contract for legal services with the McKenna Law firm; adopted a revision to Policy No. 14 which is the Town's travel policy; appointed the members of the Revolving Loan Fund Loan Review Committee; approved an application by WYED to maintain an encroachment during the Buffalo Roam events; approved Modification #2 to the Town's interlocal agreement with the Hebgen Basin Fire District; lifted the hiring freeze on vacant Town positions; and adopted a revised staffing plan. The Council then went into a closed session to discuss pending litigation with the Town Attorney.

3. The Public Services Department will continue work on the surface of alleys A, B and C west of Faithful Street this week and next week. Once the dirt work is done, dust control will be applied to those areas.

As always, if you have a question or concern that involves the Town, call me at 646-7795 or email me at [opsmgr@townofwestyellowstone.com](mailto:opsmgr@townofwestyellowstone.com). I will do my best to get you an answer or address your concern in a timely manner. Thank you.

## Early start for Montana hunt-season talks

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is inviting hunters, landowners, outfitters and others to get involved earlier than ever before to help set hunting seasons for the next two years.

In years past, FWP would propose "tentative" seasons and season structures—from general regulations to types of special permits offered in specific areas—and then ask for comment on the proposals.

This year, FWP will more formally ask hunters and landowners to list or suggest things they'd like to see changed or considered for

any upcoming big game or upland game bird hunting season—before FWP develops tentative regulation proposals.

"Montanans are passionate about hunting and they represent a vast resource of ideas, choices and preferences," said Quentin Kujala, FWP's wildlife management section chief. "We want to hear what hunters and others are thinking much earlier in Montana's hunting season setting process. It just good business to seek

more on Hunt, page 14

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## Hunt from page 13

their suggestions before we develop proposals.”

Kujala said FWP will provide the public with opportunities beginning Aug. 4 to offer suggestions online at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov). A number of statewide open houses also are set for Aug. 27. The open houses will run from 6-9 p.m. at FWP's regional offices in Kalispell, Missoula, Bozeman, Great Falls, Billings and Miles City.

Proposals that emerge for the 2010 and 2011 hunting seasons will be presented to the FWP Commission in December with additional public comments on the proposals set for January.

“Hunters, landowners, outfitters and guides, and others have a real opportunity to help shape Montana's future hunting seasons,” Kujala said.

“FWP will consider any proposal to see if it's something that can or should be carried forward. Our hope is to build stronger relationships, more rewarding hunting experiences, and a better season-setting process by tapping more into some of the local wisdom of hunters and others interested in effective wildlife management.”

Kujala said the quickest and most convenient way to comment on any big game or upland game bird season is to visit FWP's Web site at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov)—click “Season Setting Suggestions.”

Mail written comments to:  
Hunting Season Setting Suggestions;  
Montana FWP Wildlife Bureau; P.O. Box 200701; Helena, MT 59620-0701.  
The comment deadline is 5 p.m., Sept. 4.

## Public can help design state's energy future

Montana lawmakers are asking the public to weigh in on how best to update the state's energy policy.

The Legislature directed its Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee to review the policy when it passed Senate Bill 290 earlier this year. Throughout August, committee members would like to hear recommendations and comments from stakeholders, state agencies, and the general public on three specific issues:

- Rebuilding and extending transmission lines;
- Integrating wind energy; and
- Maximizing the use of state land for energy generation.

The committee is especially interested in hearing about specific changes that may be needed to state law on these three topics.

The current state energy policy is “to promote energy efficiency, conservation, production, and consumption of a reliable and efficient mix of energy sources that represent

the least social, environmental, and economic costs and the greatest long-term benefits to Montana citizens.” (90-4-1001 MCA)

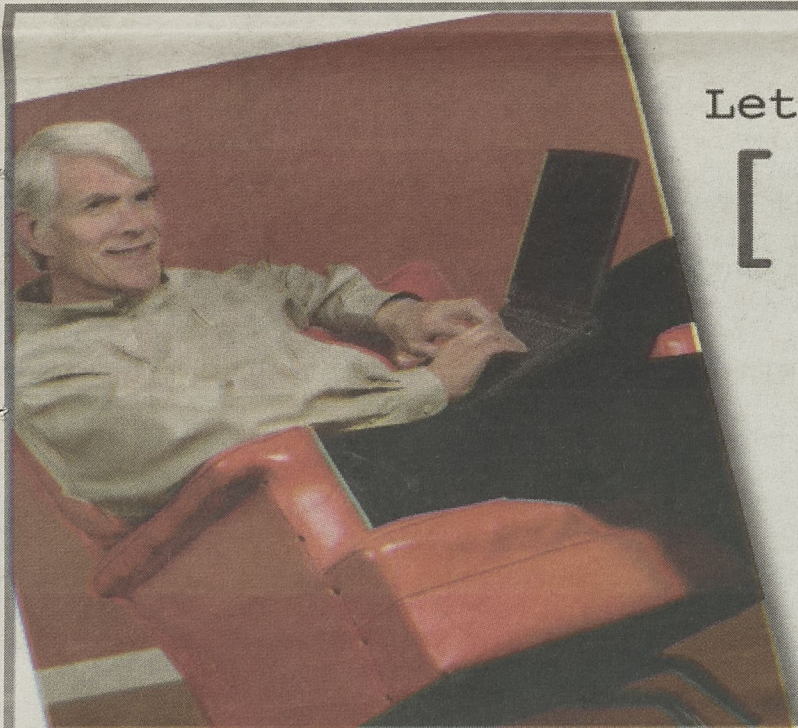
The committee hopes to draft legislation creating a more in-depth policy for consideration by the 2011 Legislature.

Over the next nine months, the committee will ask for public comment on other energy issues. More information is available under the “Energy Policy” link on the committee's Web page at [www.leg.mt.gov/etic](http://www.leg.mt.gov/etic)

To comment on the three issues outlined above, mail comments by Aug. 31 to Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division, P.O. Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620-1704. You may also e-mail comments to [snowakowski@mt.gov](mailto:snowakowski@mt.gov). Please put “Energy Policy” in the subject line.

Committee members will discuss the public comments at their next meeting Sept. 24 in Helena.

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WEST YELLOWSTONE *News*



## Grant from page 1

not an option.”

Town Operations Manager Jamie Greene on Monday commended the chief, saying, “Chief Berger spent a lot of time finishing the COPS grant application — and it’s a long application. His hard work has been rewarded and the Town will be the beneficiary of that hard work. The Chief is to be congratulated for his efforts.”

The application required extensive research and Berger enlisted the help of two of his fellow town department heads, Jack Dittmann of Social Services and Lanie Gospodarek, the town financial officer. “Jack was a big help as my researcher and writing editor and Lanie supplied the many necessary numbers,” he said, “I couldn’t have done it without them.”

The CHRP Office was

appropriated \$1 billion through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which Montana’s lone congressman Denny Rehberg (R) voted against, to make grants to create or save state, local and tribal law enforcement jobs. During the solicitation period, 7,272 applications were received totaling \$8.3 billion and requesting more than 39,000 sworn law enforcement positions.

Law enforcement agencies

in Montana received a total of \$5,124,413 in CHRP grants, according to information supplied by Chief Berger. There were 28 police, sheriff and tribal FWP departments awarded in all. Missoula received the funds for five new officers, Great Falls for four officers, Butte for two and “the rest of us got the funds for one officer each.”

The grants were awarded to 1,046 law enforcement agencies from all 50 states.

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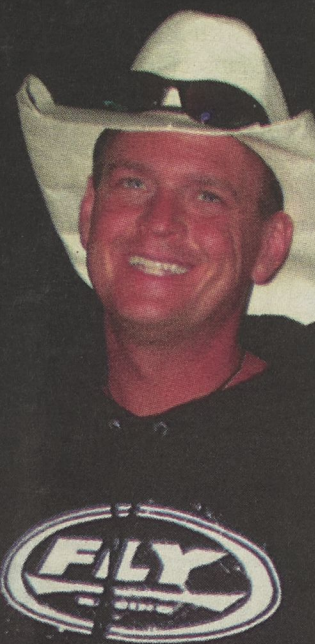
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**Everyone's Welcome**

## Record from page 1

was just under 644,000, well above the previous record of 609,000 visitors in June 2007.

For the first seven months of the year, over 1.9 million people have visited Yellowstone. That's up 100,000 from the previous record of 1.8 million recorded in 2007. The park may be on a pace to break the annual visitation record of 3.15 million set in 2007.

Park managers believe the decrease in gasoline prices from over \$4.00 a gallon last July to near \$2.50 a gallon this summer helped spur the increase in visitation.

The National Park Service is offering three fee-free weekends to encourage Americans to visit their national parks this summer. The free admission weekend of July 18-19 is also believed to have contributed to the high visitation levels. The next fee free weekend is set for August 15-16.

Detailed park visitation information is available at <http://www.nature.nps.gov/stats/park.cfm>.

## Rodeo from page 9

4th--Stefani Jennings 16.03

6th--Roy Brown/Travis Anderson 11.94

Team Roping:

1st--J. Singleton/Charlie Messerli 5.88  
2nd--Jerome Hutchison/Britt Newman 8.0

3rd--Jill Lufkin/Kara Avery 8.16

4th--Dave Burtenshaw/Terrill Lufkin 8.35

5th--Travis Anderson/Roy Brown 11.87

Jr. Bull Riding:

1st--Beau Powers 78  
No other qualified rides

Bull Riding:

1st--Seth Pierce 82  
2nd--Mark Phillips 75  
3rd--Aubrey Smith 73



# a Natural view

BY KATY DUFFY

The flower show has moved upslope. As arrowleaf balsamroots go to seed, mountain sunflowers paint the hillsides above Hebgen Lake vivid yellow. In Island Park, delicate white sego lilies carpet the roadsides and beyond. Because plentiful moisture has continued throughout July, the wildflower display within the Yellowstone caldera has been remarkable, too. But poor, gritty volcanic soils can't hold a candle to soils derived from sedimentary rock, soils that have much more calcium and other nutrients to nourish wildflowers.

The reward of jagged peaks and high country wildflowers offers an irresistible lure, so I left the caldera and hiked up Red Canyon to the Skyline Trail on July 19, feasting my senses on more than sixty species of wildflowers that lined the trail. To indulge myself with more "ice cream for the eyes," I hiked to Hilgard Basin the following weekend, where I enjoyed fifty kinds of flowers. At the highest parts of both trails, white spring beauty and yellow glacier lily were still flowering where snow melted just a few weeks ago—spring has finally arrived at 9,000 feet.

Where wildflowers flourish, their pollinators also abound. Before the proverbial afternoon thunderstorms darken the skies, butterflies will flit from blossom to blossom. Some butterflies, like monarchs, are easy to identify to species, but others can be tough because they look so much

like their close relatives. Identifying the blues and the sulfurs to species requires close views, usually of the undersides of their wings, which is not easy to accomplish. I recently received a gift that helps me separate similar butterflies. Butterflies of Grand Teton and Yellowstone, a brand-new book by Steven Poole, a resident of Wilson, Wyoming, has stunning photos and straightforward descriptions that clarify and simplify identification of confusing look-alikes. This helpful field guide is available in West Yellowstone.

Most kinds of birds are wrapping up their annual nesting efforts. This includes the traffic-halting bald eagle nest on the West Entrance road. Rich Jehle saw the lone eaglet flying at the end of the third week in July, so it is finally beginning the fledging process. Now we can count back to provide a better picture of what occurred at this nest. Incubation of bald eagle eggs lasts about five weeks, while the nestling phase takes about twelve weeks, for a total of approximately seventeen weeks. Counting backwards on my calendar tells me incubation in this nest started at the end of March, which is one month later than usual. Perhaps the eagles' first nesting effort failed and they started over in late March.

Insistent sibilant sounds indicate the presence of family groups whether one is walking around town or out in the backcountry. The youngsters emitting these food-begging sounds



Photo by GREGG PASTERICK

**A profusion of paintbrush, lupine, sticky geranium, yellow mule's ears and more in this most colorful of seasons in Yellowstone Country.**

are frequently hidden in the security of dense vegetation, so they are difficult to see, but their persistent calls betray their presence. Food begging reaches a crescendo when one or both adults arrive with food that consists of a choice insect or insect larva.

For shorebirds nesting in the arctic, southbound migration has already commenced. Cathy Bell watched from the Fountain Freight road as a flock of shorebirds dodged predatory swoops and dives by an adult male peregrine falcon at Midway Geyser Basin in mid-July. Steam rising from Grand Prismatic Spring provided cover as the sandpipers deftly eluded the agile peregrine. While the peregrine may still be feeding its young at a nearby nest, the shorebirds

have already finished nesting and are headed to their wintering grounds.

For those whose interests tend towards animals covered with fur, it's time to watch the spectacle of the bison rut in Hayden and Lamar Valleys as bison congregate for their annual breeding activities. One-ton bulls challenging each other present an unforgettable sight.

Greater Yellowstone offers something for everyone, from large mammals intent on breeding to a colorful palette of wildflowers and butterflies, also involved in reproduction. It can be difficult to choose which wonder to focus on, so I recommend getting it all—go outdoors and enjoy everything!



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## Rebound *from page 4*

clearly that it won't be a resumption of the booming growth of the mid-decade.

The good news is that the decline here was milder than in most parts of the country, and that the Montana economy should resume growing as early as this fall. The bad news is that growth will be sluggish. We expect to see high unemployment rates and very slow job growth continuing through the end of next year.

Housing and wood products stand out as being particularly weak in the years ahead. In spite of the mildness of our overall decline, the fall-off in home building in Montana over the last few years has been every bit as severe as anyplace else. Today building construction activity statewide is just 30 percent of what it was in 2005. Even three years from now, we will likely be only 70 percent of

our pre-recession building activity. And that's not welcome news for the state's struggling wood products manufacturers, either.

The news for other key pieces of the state economy is more positive. Signs of stability in commodity prices and the resumption of growth in some Asian economies, bode well for Montana natural resource employers. Federal stimulus spending has already shown up in tax rebates and aid to state and local governments, and direct federal spending is at last beginning to occur as well.

But even a tepid recovery sure beats recession. The end of the panic on Wall Street, the sense of normalcy returning to economic reports, and the revival of consumer confidence are all signs of better things to come. For recession-challenged businesses and governments, it can't come too soon.

## Letters *from page 4*

65020 or mail to my home address: 53 Evergreen Drive, Joliet, MT 59041. On the memo line please write my name and COPS Walk 2009.

If you have any questions about the walk or the COPS organization, please don't hesitate to ask, as I look forward to doing what I can to help

families who have gone through such a loss as we have as a family. All donations must be received by October 1st.

Thank you in advance for anything you can do to help.

Joyce Kramer

## Living with fire

Come to the Madison Historic Ranger Station at Dunraven and Firehole on Tuesday, Aug. 11, at 6:30 p.m. for an hour-long talk on the simple steps you can take to protect your home from wildfire.

The National Smokejumper Center is sponsoring this educational evening program called "Living with Fire," by Crystal Hagerman, FireSafe Montana's director.

Find out what resources and money is available to help you reduce hazardous fuels and create a survivable space, and how a community council can assist in protecting your area.



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# FISHING Report

BY BUCKY MCCORMICK OF BLUE RIBBON FLIES

**Hebgen Lake:** Tricos have been very strong around 8:00 am. A Size 20 spinner imitation has taken quite a few good fish. Look for Callibaetis duns and spinners to start around 8 or 9 a.m. One will want to have a nymph, sparkle dun, and spinner imitation for this hatch and fall. The fishing will be good until the wind picks up around 10:30 or 11. On calm days there can be trout rising well into the afternoon hours. All of the arms have been productive. There has been a large grizzly bear in the Cherry Creek area.

**Madison River (below Quake Lake):** The caddis flies have begun to wind down a bit, but are certainly still a factor. Spent caddis in the morning hours, and emerging caddis in the afternoon and again in the evenings will still bring a few trout to the net. Tan iris caddis in size 17 and 19 have worked best for me. Epeorus continue to emerge sporadically throughout the day with a heavier emergence in the later evening hours. Look for the spinners to fall just before dark. Ants, beetles, and small hoppers have begun to work well during the midday heat.

**Gallatin River:** Caddis flies have been the most prominent hatch in the upper reaches of this river. Afternoons and evenings are the best time to cash in on the dry fly fishing. One may also find Epeorus emerging throughout the day, along with small yellow stoneflies,

and then a decent spinner fall late. The spruce bud moths have not made a huge showing yet, but we are starting to see quite a few flying around the trees in the canyon. Any day these terrestrials could become very important trout fare. Our spent spruce moth pattern has been a favorite the last few seasons.

**Lamar, Soda Butte, and Slough Creek:** A few green drakes continue to linger on, but this hatch is about at its end. PMD's and caddis along with midges are far more prominent. PMD sparkle duns, improved x-caddis and zelon midges have all been productive. Terrestrial patterns are working well in the afternoons. A foam flying ant, longhorn beetle, and small Stalcup hopper are good choices. Keep in mind the road between Madison Junction and Norris is closed from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.

**Henry's Fork:** Tricos spinners in the morning hours have been fair. The area around Bonefish Flats is always worth a look. If one encounters a particularly difficult trout during the spinner fall try throwing a large beetle pattern. It does not always work, but has often enough to make it worth trying. The honey ants are starting to show. This is one terrestrial that can cause the trout to throw caution to the wind. A size 14 or 16 light colored flying ant pattern is perfect.

## Quote to ponder

When all the trees have been cut down,  
when all the animals have been hunted,  
when all the waters are polluted,  
when all the air is unsafe to breathe,  
only then will you discover you cannot eat money.

~ Cree Prophecy ~



BY

## The Night Sky

BY: GREGG PASTERICK

Stargazing in August usually means meteors. Lots and lots of meteors. This year, however, most of those meteors – primarily from the Perseid meteor shower – will be washed out by the full moon, which occurs on Aug. 6. Even peak activity on the 12th will mostly be swallowed up by the milky glow of the third quarter Moon.

But the Perseids aren't the only show in town. The Kappa Cygnids, active from the 3rd through the 25th, peak on the 17th.

Though only a minor shower, producing just a few slow moving meteors each hour, the Kappa Cygnid meteor shower is known for its fireballs, which are meteors as bright as magnitude -3.0 or brighter. Sometimes they're bright enough to cast shadows, occasionally exploding with multiple flares. The fireballs are thought to appear on a 6.6-year cycle, but even the experts are uncertain about this, which makes them a good shower to watch.

The Kappa Cygnids were first noted in by observers in Hungary in 1874, while observing the Perseids. They were next observed from England in 1877, but over the years that followed they continued to be overlooked because they got lost among the much busier Perseids. It wasn't until early in the 20th century when observers realized the shower was most active about a week after the Perseid peak.

The Kappa Cygnids were considered a very old meteor shower. One of the reasons was that the meteors were significantly dispersed along the meteor stream. An outburst of Kappa Cygnids in 1993, which indicated a concentration of particles in the stream, instead suggested the shower to be relatively young. In 2008 a new minor planet was discovered; known as 2008 ED69 (who names these things, anyway?), it is now believed to be a fragment of a comet

that broke up between 4000 to 1600 BCE (which isn't that long ago in cosmic terms), which in turn gave us the Kappa Cygnid meteor shower.

The Kappa Cygnid radiant, off the northern wing of Cygnus the swan and the star Kappa Cygni, is high above the horizon all night, which increases your chances of catching a fireball or two. And you'll also catch the last few Perseids, which dwindle down to nothing by Aug. 24, when the shower ends until next year.

### News flash!

This just in by e-mail: the peak of the Perseid meteor shower may be worth losing sleep over after all. A filament of dust from parent comet Swift-Tuttle has drifted across the Earth's orbit, and when we pass through it during the predawn hours of August 12, Perseids might streak across the sky at twice the normal rate.

The cometary filament was shed by Swift-Tuttle in 1610, and this is one of the first times the Earth will pass through it. In addition to passing through this new filament, the guts of the Perseid meteoroid stream, which we pass through annually, may be denser than usual due to gravitational enhancement by Saturn. A combination of these effects could result as many as 200 meteors per hour.

The Earth will pass through the new filament of debris sometime between 2:00 and 3:00am MDT (though beginning your observations at 1:00 wouldn't hurt) on the morning of August 12th (that's after midnight on the 11th). The bright third quarter Moon will gulp down the fainter meteors without so much as a belch, but even a third of those 200 possible Perseids are worth losing sleep over. And if the experts have underestimated the possible outburst, who knows how many Perseid you might see?



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BY ROBIN BERRY

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## Heart of the Valley names new executive director

Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter, a non-profit organization dedicated to sheltering the lost and surrendered pets of the Gallatin and Madison Valley's, has named Traci Weller as its new executive director. Weller succeeds Margie Taylor, who announced her retirement in June.

"With both a passion for animals and a proven ability in the nonprofit sector, Traci is uniquely qualified to lead the organization," said Nancy Palmer, HOV Board Vice President and Search Committee Chair. "The Search Committee received 50 applications from all over the United States and it is a tribute to Bozeman's talent pool that Traci was selected: an impressive candidate whose experience, enthusiasm and passion set her apart" said Palmer.

Weller brings over 17 years of experience working with nonprofits

and other organizations. Combining two of her passions – a love of animals and the satisfaction of working in the nonprofit sector, Weller first became involved with Heart of the Valley in 2004 and currently serves on the HOV Board of Directors.

"I am very gratified at having been selected as the Shelter's next Executive Director from a pool of highly qualified candidates," said Weller. "I have a profound admiration for the Shelter's commitment to the animals and I look forward to working with the Board of Directors, talented HOV staff, and loyal volunteers to build on that good work."

Weller and her husband Kevin Retchless, assistant director for the Moonlight Basin Ski Patrol, have been residents since 2002. They own two Labrador retrievers, Couder, an avalanche rescue dog at Moonlight Basin and Tonka, a puppy in training.



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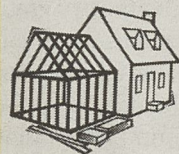
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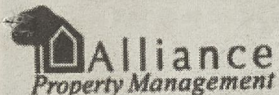
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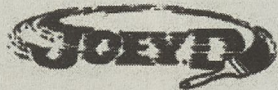
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All applications must be submitted to the West Yellowstone Job Service Office by close of the business (5:00p.m.) Monday, August 24, 2009. **TOWN WILL NOT ACCEPT FAXED APPLICATIONS.** Applications delivered by mail must be mailed early enough to allow for mail service delivery by the closing date. Applications that are incomplete or unsigned as of the closing date will not be considered in the selection process. Women, minorities and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Town is an EEO/ADA employer.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### INVITATION TO BID

### WEST YELLOWSTONE TRANSFER STATION IMPROVEMENTS

The West Yellowstone/Hebgen Basin Solid Waste Disposal District is soliciting sealed bids for safety modifications to the existing Transfer Station located at the solid waste handling site, West Yellowstone, MT. The scope of work includes installation of six new high pressure sodium lights, an exhaust fan, two fixed windows, a 26 inch convex mirror, the removal of two fixed louvers and a damaged exhaust fan. Sealed bids will be received by Allied Engineering Services, Inc. (AESI) at 32 Discovery Drive, Bozeman, MT 59718 until 4:00 p.m., local time on August 19th, 2009, as set forth in the bid documents. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the monthly meeting of the West Yellowstone/Hebgen Basin Solid Waste Disposal District to be held at the Povah Community Center, 10 South Geyser Street, West Yellowstone, Montana, on August 20th, 2009, at 1:30pm. The envelope shall be plainly marked on the outside with the words "Bid Response West Yellowstone Transfer Station

## LEGAL NOTICES

Improvement".

Each respondent is put on notice that they must review the Information to Bidders and Bid Specifications for specific details of specifications, procedures and selection criteria.

The West Yellowstone/Hebgen Basin Solid Waste Disposal reserves the right to reject all proposals or to waive any informality or technicality. Additionally, the district reserves the right to award various schedule combinations to various contractors in whatever manner it deems most advantageous. No respondent may withdraw a proposal for sixty (60) days after the date of opening.

Each respondent must agree to comply with all federal, state and local laws and regulations.

Copies of the Bid Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained for a non-refundable fee of \$15.00 from the Project Engineer, Allied Engineering, Inc. 32 Discovery Drive, Bozeman, MT., 59718 406-582-0221 Erik Garberg PE, Project Manager.

Bozeman Daily Chronicle/ West Yellowstone News

First Publication: 07/23/09  
Bozeman Daily Chronicle  
07/24/09 West Yellowstone News

Second Publication: 08/06/06  
Bozeman Daily Chronicle  
08/07/09 West Yellowstone News

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The Montana Department of Revenue, Liquor Licensing, an-

## LEGAL NOTICES

announces the availability of one (1) Montana Retail On-Premises Consumption Beer License for the West Yellowstone area as a result of the 2008 population estimates. The West Yellowstone area includes the incorporated city/town of West Yellowstone and that portion of Gallatin County situated within five (5) miles of the incorporated city/town limits.

In the case where more applications are received than there are available licenses a lottery drawing will occur. Any person intending to apply for this license is required to send a Lottery Application, Form LOTAPP. On this form please state the name of the applicant (s) including all potential owners, corporate stockholders, all partners of a partnership, and all members of a limited liability company. This application is due to the Department no later than 5:00 PM on the 8th day of September, 2009. Late, unsigned or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Only one (1) Lottery Application will be accepted per person for this area.

A "Person" as defined in the Administrative Rules of Montana is any individual, firm, partnership, limited liability company, corporation or association.

If a lottery is necessary, the drawing will take place in Helena to determine who has the opportunity to apply for this license. Applicants will be notified of the date, time and place where the drawing will take place. Applicants do not need to be present to be chosen.

Those successful in the lottery drawing will be required to send a License Application within 30 days. The License Application



# Officials confirm first human case of West Nile Virus in 2009

The Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) confirmed today the first human case of West Nile virus in Montana for 2009. The case was identified in a Lake County adult. According to health officials, the individual most likely acquired the infection in Lake County after receiving numerous mosquito bites.

In 2008 there were a total of five West Nile virus cases reported in Montana with no deaths. In 2007 there were 202 West Nile virus cases and 5 deaths. Jim Murphy, Bureau Chief for DPHHS Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, attributes the difference in reported cases from 2007 to 2008 to weather and mosquito breeding patterns. "The numbers can vary drastically," he said. "Weather conditions such as moisture and summer temperatures affect the breeding and numbers of mosquitoes. There has always been an up and down pattern to West Nile virus infections in humans since it was

first identified in Montana in 2002."

"Preventing mosquito bites is the best way to avoid West Nile virus infection," said DPHHS communicable disease surveillance specialist Elton Mosher. "More time spent outdoors means you have a higher chance of being bitten by an infected mosquito. Everyone should take precautions against mosquito bites when outside this summer."

Human cases of West Nile are typically preceded by reports of positive tests in mosquito pools and horses. According to DPHHS, the first positive test of West Nile virus in horses and mosquito pools was recorded last week.

Many people who become infected with West Nile virus experience no symptoms. Some individuals may develop a mild illness, called West Nile fever, which may last for three to six days. Generally, no treatment is needed. Other individuals, fewer than 1 out of 150, may become severely infected and

develop symptoms of encephalitis or meningitis. There is no vaccine available for humans.

To reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes that may carry West Nile virus, the state health department recommends the following tips from the 4 Ds West Nile prevention campaign. The 4 Ds include:

1. DUSK/DAWN: Mosquitoes are most active during this time. If possible, stay indoors during the early morning and evening hours.

2. DRESS: If you must be outdoors when mosquitoes are most active, dress in long sleeves and pants.

3. DEET: Before going outdoors, remember to apply an insect repellent containing DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide). DEET is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is the most effective and best studied insect repellent available. Use a repellent containing 25 percent to 35 percent DEET when it is necessary to be outdoors. Children ages 2-12 should

use repellent with 10 percent DEET or less. Products containing picaridin and permethrin have also been found to be effective in repelling mosquitoes, as has oil of lemon eucalyptus.

4. DRAIN: To keep the mosquito population at bay around your home, drain standing water in old tires, barrels, buckets, cans, clogged rain gutters, and other items that collect water. Change water in pet bowls, flowerpots, and birdbaths at least twice a week.

Symptoms of this disease may include headache, rash, high fever, stiff neck, mental confusion, muscle weakness, tremors, convulsions, coma and paralysis. Individuals who develop any of these symptoms should see their health-care provider.

For details about West Nile protection and detection, contact the Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section at 406-444-0273. Additional West Nile virus information can be found at the DPHHS Web site at <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>

## LEGAL NOTICES

drawing will be required to send a License Application within 30 days. The License Application needs to have identical ownership information as was provided on the Lottery Application.

All new licensees are required to meet the legal criteria of a license as outlined in the Montana Alcoholic Beverage Code and the Administrative Rules of Montana. The license cannot be used to conduct any gaming or gambling activity on the premises.

Application forms may be obtained from our website at [revenue.mt.gov](http://revenue.mt.gov).

Questions? Call toll free (866) 859-2254 (in Helena, 444-6900).

Mail or fax your completed Lottery Application to:  
Montana Department of Revenue  
Liquor Control Division  
PO Box 1712  
Helena, MT 59624-1712  
Fax: 406-444-0722

[http://mt.gov/revenue/forms\\_andresources/forms.asp#idlic](http://mt.gov/revenue/forms_andresources/forms.asp#idlic)

## LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE TO HEBGEN LAKE ESTATES WATER & SEWER DISTRICT MEMBERS

An election of 3 board of directors positions for the Hebgen Lake Estates Water & Sewer District Board of Directors will be held on November 3, 2009. Petitions for nomination for the election are available at the Gallatin County Election Department, Gallatin County Courthouse, 311 W. Main St Room 210, Bozeman, Montana. They must be filed with the County Election Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 20, 2009.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify all interested parties that The West Yellowstone Foundation, Inc., is applying for \$100,000 through the Montana Department of Transportation Transit Section. The funding is provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and administered by the Montana Department of Transportation. ARRA funds will be used to design and construct a bus storage facility located on a

## LEGAL NOTICES

parcel of land to be leased from the Town of West Yellowstone located on the south side of Yellowstone Avenue, in the middle of the block between Faithful Street and Geyser Street. Specifically located at a point beginning approximately 150 feet West of the back of the West side curb of Faithful Street, and measuring to 200 feet West of the back of West side curb of Faithful Street, then measuring South approximately 29 feet from the back of South side curb of Yellowstone Avenue, then measuring East 50 feet, then measuring North 80 feet returning to the original point and comprising an area measuring approximately 4,000 square feet.

The application is on file at the West Yellowstone Foundation, Inc., 435 Highway 20, Suite B, West Yellowstone, Montana. If requested, a public hearing will be held on August 10, 2009 at the Povah Center. For more information or for those who require accommodation for dis-

## LEGAL NOTICES

abilities, contact Mary Vaessen, Executive Officer, The West Yellowstone Foundation, Inc., (406)640-2030. Written comments may be directed to Mary Vaessen, Executive Officer, The West Yellowstone Foundation, Inc., P. O. Box 255, West Yellowstone, MT 59758-0255.

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Hebgen Lake Estates County Water and Sewer District will receive statements of qualifications for contract management of its water and sewer system. Please contact the District at PO Box 225, West Yellowstone, MT 59758 or [hlewsd@gmail.com](mailto:hlewsd@gmail.com) for information about the manager duties.

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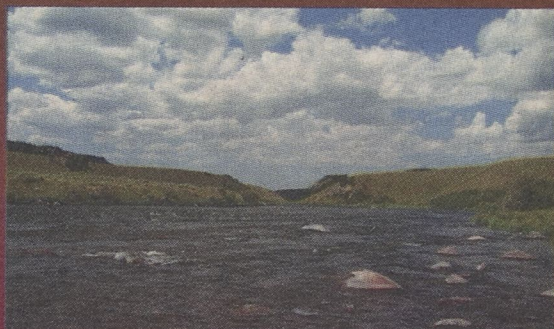
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# PATHFINDER



Vol XVI, No. 12

"Voices from the Valley"

Thursday, July 19, 2001

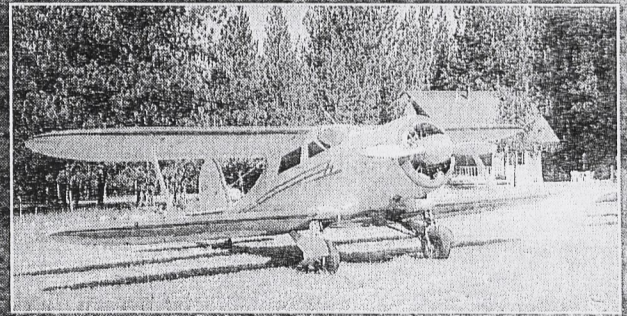
## Swan Valley's Future?

### Conservation Easements!

Conservation Easements are becoming more and more important in Swan Valley. See story inside.

Photo of Mission Mountains from the summit on Highway 83.

Watch for Staggerwing Aircraft this weekend



email: [pathfinder@montana.com](mailto:pathfinder@montana.com)

# Conservation easements growing in Swan Valley

## Swan Valley's Future The Landholder's Legacy

### A Magnificent Array

Why have you come to the Swan Valley? To partake of its breathtaking beauty, to enjoy recreation, wilderness adventure, water sports, solitude, time with family and friends, fishing and hunting? People have been coming to the Swan since before recorded time, drawn to the lush forests and plentiful water in its fens and bogs, streams, rivers and lakes. This abundant valley provides food and home to a magnificent array of plant and animal life, including the human population.

### A Vision for the Future

Long-term residents as well as more recent arrivals are looking to

the future of this jewel within the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem, and have a vision for the Swan Valley as it will be. Some see the opportunity for continued recreational, commercial, and timber development. Others reflect on the opportunity for their grandchildren to come and enjoy a wildlands experience similar to the experience that captivated them when they first arrived. One vehicle to insure a variety of experiences are available to future generations is through a conservation easement. A conservation easement is the legal glue that binds a property owner's good intentions to the land in perpetuity. Typically, no two conservation easements are alike. Despite common elements precluding subdivision, certain commercial developments, and activities detrimental to soil, water, and

by Candace Durran of the Montana Land Reliance

wildlife habitat, each conservation easement is tailored to the unique character of the land and the conservation desires of its owners. The landowner retains ownership and management, but certain rights, such as the number of home sites, are limited or restricted. Thus, protecting open space and wildlife habitat, and the economic viability of the land and region.

A number of landowners in the Swan Valley are placing conservation easements on their land and working with a land trust, such as the Montana Land Reliance, to ensure their legacy remains. Since 1978, the Montana Land Reliance (MLR) has been working with landowners across the state to create conservation solutions that include their long-term family, tax, and financial goals. As Montana's only statewide, privately funded, non-profit land trust, MLR and private landowners have conserved more than 440,000 acres of open space, productive lands, and wildlife habitat. Amy Eaton, MLR Regional Director, has been actively and creatively working with landowners in the Swan since 1993, and has helped 17 families to achieve their land management and estate goals by placing 1,941 acres in the Swan under conservation easements. Last year, MLR made its most significant conservation gains to date, adding five new projects and 870 acres.

Many of these landowners have lived in the valley for years, some for generations. Some operate businesses from their land, while others use it as recreational property. Stewardship, a common theme among these landowners, is a desire to responsibly manage the land to promote sustained timber growth, wildlife habitat, and watershed protection; a desire shared by many people in the Swan.

### Consuming Forest Fire Leads to Forest Management

In 1910, fire swept through the Swan Valley consuming much of the forest. Dense stands of lodgepole pine sprouted and grew after the fire. Today, the lodgepole pines are diseased and aging; some are

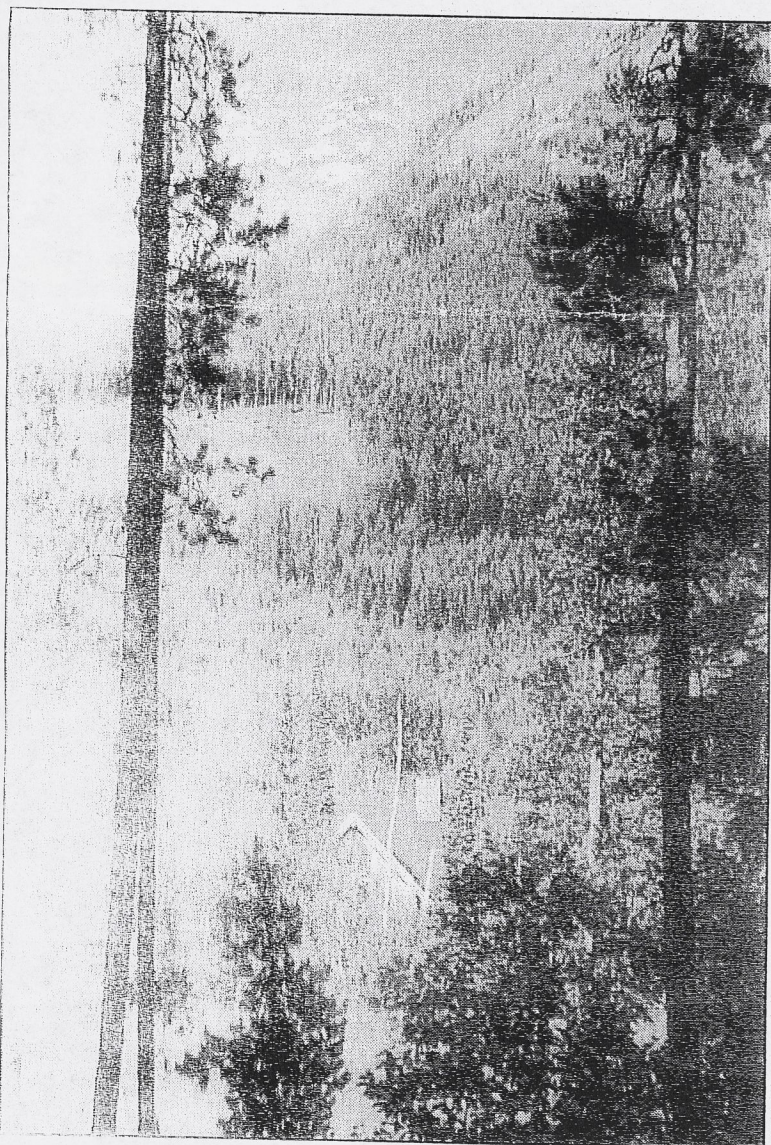
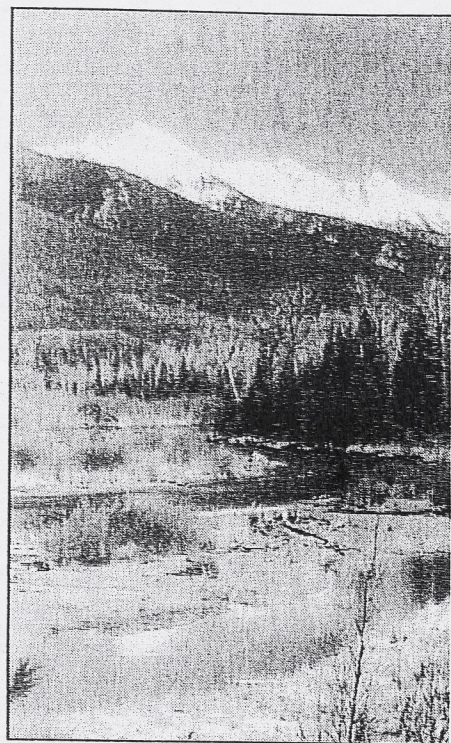
capsizing due to wind and heavy snow. Easement donors, such as Dave and Kay Owen, and Hal and Arlene Braun, are actively working to create a healthy forest. Thinning timber stands not only reduces fire danger on their land but also provides posts, poles, and some saw logs for sale. Propagating and planting seedlings of native species such as larch, grand fir, white fir, and Douglas-fir speeds up the forest succession process. All forest work is done in accord with forest plans for their land, some predating their conservation easements by years. Jane Kile, MLR Land Steward, provides forest management planning assistance for landowners with easements. Annually, she meets with each landowner to review the easement's provisions and tour the land. Her ability to listen is well received and her thoughtful suggestions are much appreciated.

### "Putting your money where your mouth is"

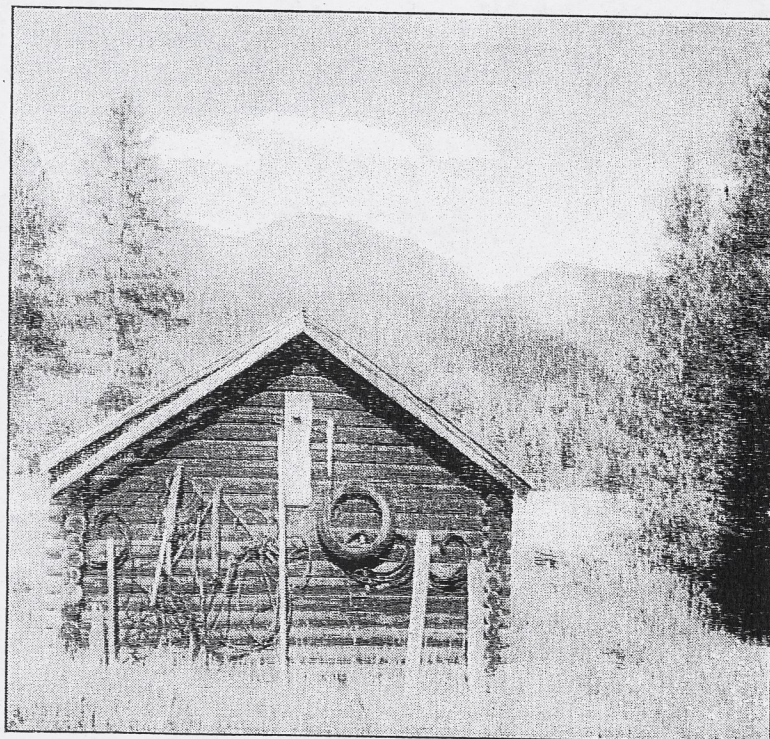
Tom and Melanie Parker own land which is under conservation easement and through which the Swan River flows. From this idyllic setting, they operate an education and research center called Northwest Connections. Business activities on the land are carefully choreographed to accommodate spring use by wildlife including

sandhill cranes, deer, elk, grizzly bears, black bears, and nesting geese. Tom felt strongly about "putting his money where his mouth is" and keeping the "functional connectivity" of their land intact. It was this philosophy which compelled him to donate the easement. MLR played a critical role in creatively putting together the pieces to allow the easement to happen.

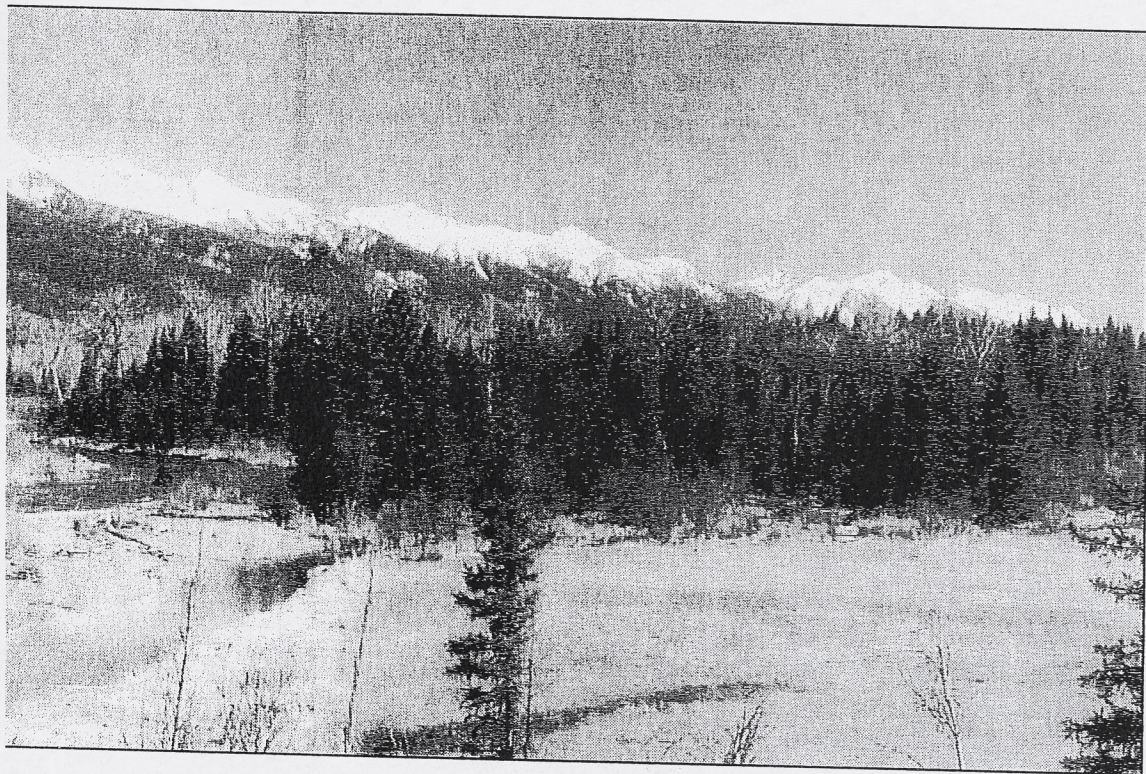
The Parker's interest in the land also has a historical connection. As a 25-year resident of the Swan, Tom leased pasture for years on land he ultimately purchased from Ed and Agnes Beck. Ed Beck's family homesteaded in the Swan in 1915. Ed grew up on the property now under easement with the MLR. His family raised cows, harvested timber, and sent milk and butter on the mail train to Missoula to be sold there. Tom says,



The Abolt house in the Cooney Creek drainage is nestled in the trees with mountains in the background, a clearcut surrounded by mature forest, and a more recent cut, in front of the house.



The homestead cabin on the Parker's property.



The Parker's property straddles the Swan River.

deer, elk, grizzly bears, and nesting geese. Ed was about "putting his mouth is" and keeping the land's connectivity" of the Swan. It was this philosophy that led him to donate the land to MLR. Ed played a critical role in putting together the conservation easement to hap-

Ed's interest in the land was a local connection. As a resident of the Swan, Tom spent many years on land he inherited from Ed and Agnes Beck's family home in 1915. Ed grew up on the property now under easement. His family raised timber, and sent milk to the valley on the mail train to the valley. Tom says,

"Ed and Agnes did an amazing job of land and resource management" in raising livestock and being vigilant with weeding. Agnes now resides in a home on the property near the old homestead buildings, and is pleased with the future of the land on which she spent so much of her life.

Some landowners, such as Mary Phillips, simply enjoy the tranquility and solitude of their land. She has lived along Rumble Creek since the 1970's, and manages her forest to reduce fire danger and keep it healthy. Her goal is to insure that the solitude she enjoys is available to her children in the future. Her children are "in total agreement" with her decision to place a conservation easement on her land, and Mary feels "supported by

both her family and the MLR staff" in her decision to maintain the integrity of her land.

#### Stewardship Leads to Legacy

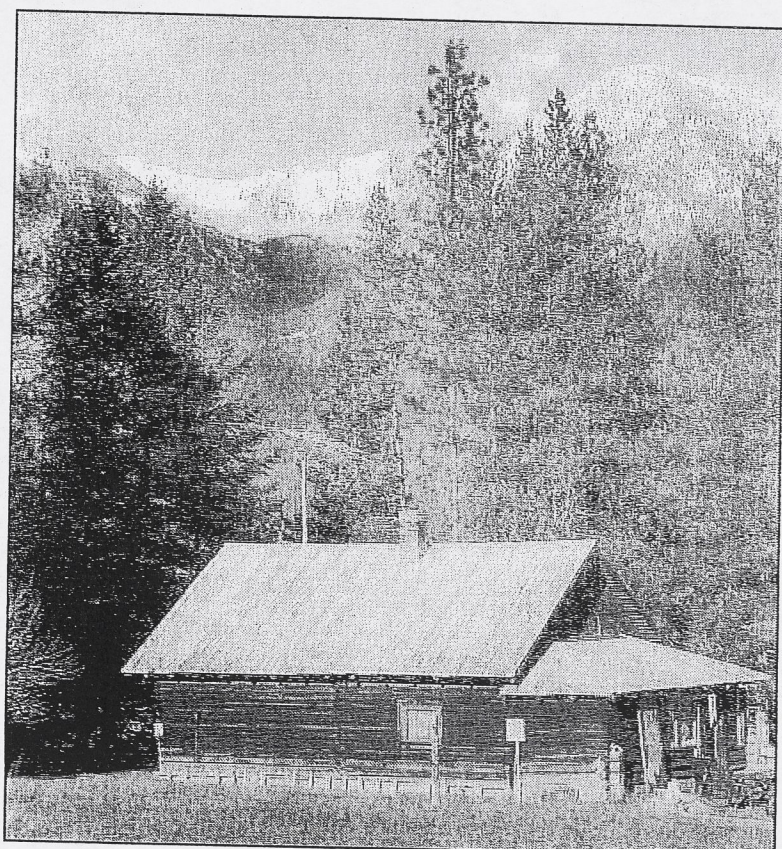
While stewardship is a common theme among easement donors, a sense of neighborhood and common goals is also a recurrent theme. Russ and Lorraine Abolt are more recent arrivals in the Swan, and felt an "instant connection with the land". They also feel a connection to the community through the shared beliefs and goals of fellow easement donors. In 2000, MLR found that 70 percent of easements donated were within five miles of existing ease-

ments. This is because neighbors talk to each other, find out the benefits of an easement, and want to participate in the program. We call this clustering of conservation easements "neighborhood conservation." Individual conservation decisions evolve into neighborhood decisions, which in turn amplify the cumulative impact. In the Swan, "neighborhood conservation" is particularly noticeable in the Rumble Creek, Buck Creek, and Cooney Creek drainages, where landowners are working with MLR and The Nature Conservancy.

John and Judi O'Steen wanted "to help maintain some of the Swan's character" when they placed a conservation easement on their Rumble Creek property last year; to allow future generations to enjoy the same wilderness beauty that they enjoy. Leaving a legacy is another factor considered by conservation easement donors. Often when a landowner dies, family members are left wondering how to manage or dispose of the land. Conservation easement documents take care of those concerns because intentions are clearly stated, and transfer with the land in perpetuity. The conservation easements may help to reduce the market value of the land so heirs may be able to afford to inherit the property. Recent federal tax law changes may facilitate this in the future, but conservation easements offer immediate estate tax relief.

Legacy also relates to the non-human part of the natural system. While people can ask for what they want, the resources that make the Swan such a desirable and special place to live - water, forest, and wildlife - cannot speak for themselves. Many of the landowners feel that certain places have inherent value, whether it is historical, social, or ecological, which require special management to insure these values remain over time.

The Montana Land Reliance has worked for over 20 years with landowners on a vision for the future, a future which allows for economic growth and ecological conservation. On August 1, 2001, the Montana Land Reliance will hold an Open House at the Swan Valley Community Hall at 7:00 p.m. MLR staff will provide information about its work and be available to answer any questions regarding the conservation easement process. For additional information, contact the MLR Glacier/Flathead office in Bigfork at 837-2178.

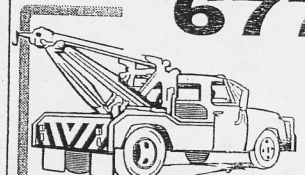


Seeley Swan Pathfinder — Thursday

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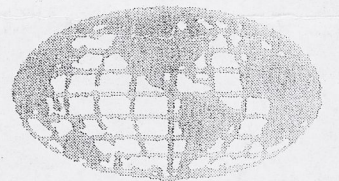
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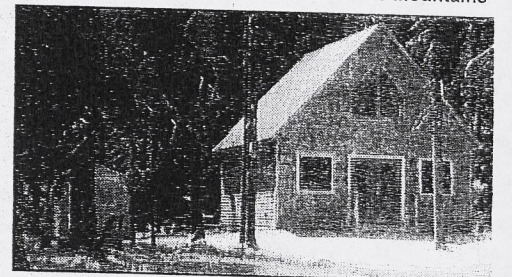


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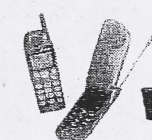
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Bud: This was the national story that ran across the country. Rob

## Protection in question for interbreeding cutthroat

By KATHERINE PFLEGER of the Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is wrestling with a sexy little question. Should it protect a fish when it may be mating itself out of existence?

The westslope cutthroat trout, which was plentiful in Western waters when Lewis and Clark made their expedition, has been interbreeding with rainbow trout that are stocked in its native lakes, rivers and streams.

The result is that the fish has harmed its chances for survival, and the Endangered Species Act isn't clear about how to handle this type of situation.

In deciding a suit filed by five environmental groups and a sport fisherman, a U.S. district judge in Washington last week told the government to rethink its 2000 decision not to protect the cutthroat under the Endangered Species Act.

Judge Emmet Sullivan said the agency should have better weighed the risks created when the native cutthroat breed with nonnative fish.

In a ruling that touches on genetic purity and species protections, Sullivan was particularly troubled by the government's decision to count the hybrid fish when they tallied the westslope cutthroat population, and still conclude that interbreeding threatens the fish.

Within one year, he wants the government to finish a new review about whether to protect the fish.

Lynn Kaeding, Fish and Wildlife's supervisory fishery biologist in Bozeman said he doesn't know what the agency will do next, though it is considering an appeal.

"This is a head-scratcher," he said. "I have a hard time personally and professionally coming to the conclusion that the (hybrid) fish isn't important."

Kaeding thinks the ruling may mean the agency has to improve the criteria used when it decides whether a fish is close enough to a cutthroat to be counted as one.

That may require more biochemical testing, which means the fish have to be killed to study them. This is less than desirable and costly, Kaeding said.

Westslope cutthroats live in parts of Montana, Idaho, northwest Wyoming, eastern Washington and the John Day River Basin in Oregon. In 1997, American Wildlands and other environmental groups petitioned the Fish and Wildlife Service to have the fish protected as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

Cutthroats are highly dependent on clean, cold streams. But logging, mining and other development in wild lands are making it more difficult for the trout to find suitable habitat.

Other trout that have been introduced in the westslope cutthroat's waters - including rainbow and brook trout - are also out-competing the cutthroat.

Cutthroat trout can be distinguished from rainbows most easily by the bright red-orange slashes of color under their lower jaws. Unlike rainbows, they have teeth in their throats between the gill arches, and typically have longer heads and jaws.

Colorations vary, but the dark spots on the cutthroats' sides are generally larger than those on rainbows. Anglers know them as the most aggressive biters of the trout species, making them easier to hook than rainbows, brook trout or German browns.

Rob Ament, executive director of American Wildlands, and other environmentalists see the case as the first major suit to question interbreeding and hybrid fish.

If the cutthroat disappear, Ament believes the country is in danger of losing a piece of its heritage. Lewis and Clark described the cutthroat in 1805 during their expedition west, and the fish's scientific name is *Oncorhynchus clarki lewisi*.

Abigail Dillen, an attorney with Earthjustice, which represented the environmentalists, said the government can take actions to limit hybridization. Those include prohibitions on stocking nonnative fish, putting up barriers to isolate fish and even using poisons and other means to kill hybrid fish and replace them with pure ones.

"The fact is that you are really taking a gamble with hybridized fish," she said. "It is not an abstract concern about the genetic makeup of the fish."

Monday April 8, 2002

*"these trout are from sixteen to twenty three inches in length, precisely resemble our mountain or speckled trout in form and the position of their fins, but the specks on these are of a deep black instead of the red or gold colour of those common to the U. States. These are furnished long sharp teeth on the pallet and tongue and have generally a small dash of red on each side behind the front ventral fins; the flesh is of a pale yellowish red, or when in good order, of a rose red."*

— Meriwether Lewis.

Journal entry of June 13, 1805, describing a westslope cutthroat trout taken from the Missouri River near present-day Great Falls

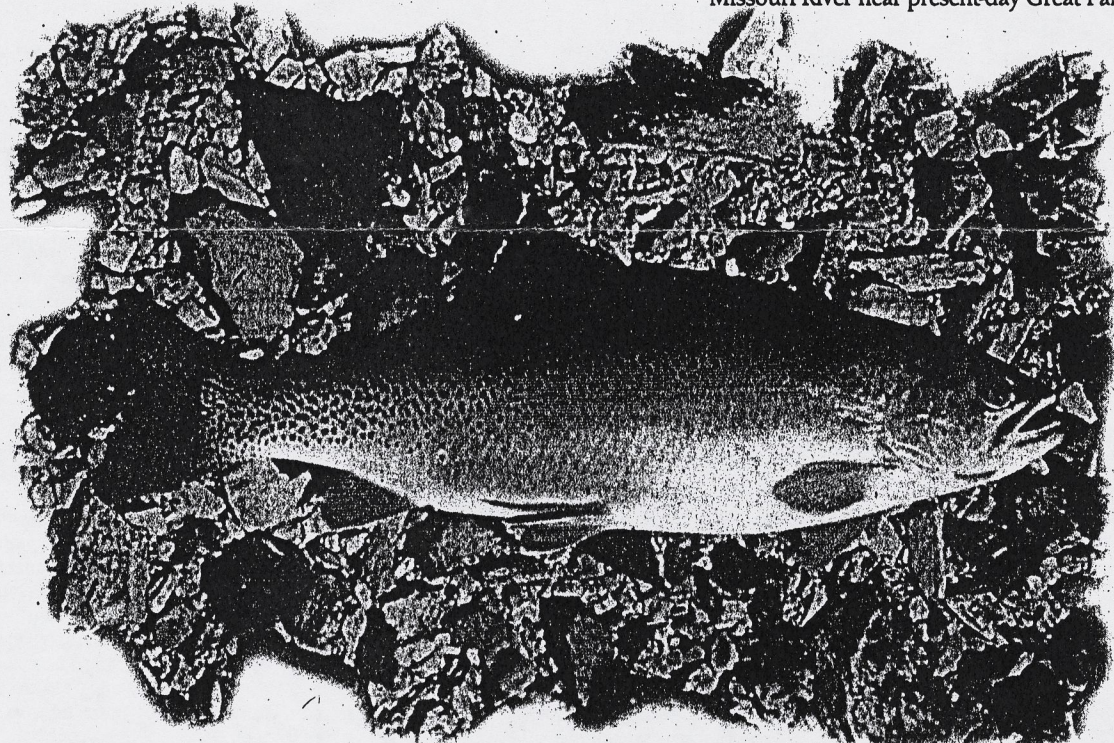


Photo courtesy of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

# Cutthroat controversy

State's proposal to stock native trout in high mountain lakes raises concerns

By **BRETT FRENCH**  
Gazette Outdoor Writer

In northwestern Montana, a wild fish is struggling in a wilderness.

Brian Marotz wants to protect one of the purest strains of native stocks of westslope cutthroat trout in the wild. The fish live in the headwaters of the South Fork of the Flathead River drainage.

"It's the last remaining stronghold of pure westslope cutthroat trout in existence," said Marotz, a fisheries biologist for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Kalispell.

But to protect the fish, the department has suggested poisoning some lakes in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear wilderness areas where non-native fish have been stocked. The fear is that the non-natives may trickle down into the native fishery and breed with the westslope cutthroat, fouling the gene pool. To prevent such a scenario, the agency would use rotenone, a chemical extracted from a root, to poison the non-native fish.

Using a poison in high mountain wilderness lakes is enough to ignite an environmentalist's wrath, but that's only part of the proposal.

To transport the poison and new fish to the high mountain lakes, Fish, Wildlife and Parks is



Courtesy of the Flathead National Forest

**The South Fork of the Flathead River is one of the last strongholds of the native westslope cutthroat trout.**

considering using helicopters. Once dumped in the water, the poison would be stirred into the lake waters with a small motorboat.

After the non-natives — such as rainbow trout or rainbow-cutthroat hybrids — have been killed off, genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout would be restocked. A wild fish — Montana's state fish — would return to the wilderness.

George Nickas, executive director of Wilderness Watch in Missoula, is not too keen on the restocking proposal. He doesn't want to see motorized equipment used in the wilderness and he opposes restocking lakes that initially did not contain fish.

"The wilderness is not a place where we go in and manipulate things to meet our needs," Nickas said. "Once it's designated wilder-

ness you let nature manage it."

Wilderness Watch posted an alert on its Web site attacking the proposal. "Removing one introduced species and replacing it with another continues to detract from the area's wilderness character," the story said.

Even the American Wildlands conservation group, based in Bozeman, which has fought to gain threatened species status for westslope cutthroat trout, takes issue with Fish, Wildlife and Park's suggestion to use helicopters and motorboats.

"We're supportive of the restoration project," said Rob Ament, Wildlands executive director. "But there might be more sensitive ways to proceed."

Please see **Cutthroat**, 2C



# Cutthroat

Continued from 1C

Ament also said American Wildlands would prefer to see lakes that were fishless before initial stocking return to their fishless condition.

## A little fish history

The westslope cutthroat stocking project is being funded by the Bonneville Power Administration. The stocking is part of a reparation program to compensate for the construction of Hungry Horse Dam, completed in 1952. The dam sits near the mouth of the South Fork of the Flathead River, part of the upper Columbia River system.

Because the federal agency is funding the program, it is in charge of conducting the environmental assessment. The draft document should be available to the public later this month or early in May, according to BPA.

Although the funding will come from the federal government, oversight and execution of the program is in the hands of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in concert with the Forest Service.

Officials recognize this is no easy task. The cutthroat is near and dear to Montanans. Meriwether Lewis first described the westslope in 1805 while traveling up the Missouri River during his exploration of the West for President Thomas Jefferson.

More recently, Montana recognized the westslope as a fish of special concern. In 1999, the state wrote an agreement to conserve westslope cutthroat and created management objectives to ensure the fish's survival. Fish, Wildlife and Parks' recovery plan for the westslope cutthroat seeks to establish 10 healthy populations in five drainages, each at least 50 miles long.

Right now, the fish's toehold in Montana is a bit tenuous. According to Ken McDonald, special projects bureau chief for FWP, the westslope is found in only 30 to 40 percent of its historical range. The fish is especially threatened east of the divide in Montana, where it occupies only about 5 percent of its historical range.

At one time, westslope cutthroat trout inhabited all major river drainages west of Montana's Continental Divide and the Missouri River drainage as far east as Fort Benton. Other strains of cutthroat are found across the West.

But over time, the fish has been crowded out, eaten or inbred with more aggressive species stocked by humans since the early 1900s. The fish has also seen its habitat diminished or altered by the side-effects of logging, grazing and mining.

## Breaking it down by genes

Prior to the 1970s, the westslope and its cousin, the Yellowstone cutthroat, were thought to be the same species. But with new technology, fish biologists can more closely define pure strains of westslope vs. those that have interbred. As a result, biologists have determined that the South Fork of the Flathead River has one of the purest remaining strains left in the wild.

"A lot of people don't realize what a gem that population is, when you look at it from a native perspective," said Marotz, the

## To comment

The Bonneville Power Administration will release the environmental assessment of the westslope cutthroat trout project sometime this month or next. A public comment period will follow the release of the environmental assessment. To comment, write to

Colleen Spiering, Environmental Project Manager, Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, OR 97208-3621.

You can also telephone (503) 230-5756 or e-mail [caspiering@bpa.gov](mailto:caspiering@bpa.gov) to be put on the list for notification of the document's release. When the EA is released, it will be posted on BPA's Web site at [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov).

fisheries biologist. "The movement of nonnative fish has led to the gradual erosion of the native species population."

Why is it important to have genetically pure strains of fish? Fisheries managers say that the westslope has specifically adapted over thousands of years to Montana's quirky environment.

Rainbow and brown trout might not be able to handle a 20-degree change in the temperature, said Bruce Farling, with Montana's Trout Unlimited office. "But the cutthroat evolved in this region with our squirrely climate."

Another reason to protect the westslope cutthroat is because they are so rare and such a great sport fish. Anglers find cutthroat are gullible, rising greedily to large dry flies presented by even the most novice fly casters.

For outfitters guiding anglers into the South Fork, the chance to catch 20 to 100 westslope cutthroat trout in a day is a big selling point.

Eureka outfitter Steve Hawkins, who's been guiding in the South Fork for 30 years, said he's all for protection of westslope cutthroat trout. "I don't want anything to come along and jeopardize that (fishery)," he said. "We need to keep some of these areas strictly native habitat. If they list native cutthroat as an endangered species, then you won't be able to fish anywhere on that river."

Hawkins said he has no problem with a helicopter coming in to deliver poison and fish, and doesn't think his clients would mind much, either.

"Whatever is easiest on the land and most efficient," he said.

## Working in the wilderness

Marotz said using a helicopter is the best way to do the job quickly and with fewer people.

"It would be less obtrusive because it would happen faster," he said.

Marotz said the BPA's environmental assessment would set out guidelines for deciding whether to use a helicopter or horses to pack supplies into the wilderness.

"From my perspective, though, it's a lot less expensive and obtrusive to get it over with quickly," Marotz said. He said using pack stock would take more time and people.

Wilderness regulations outlaw the use of "all wheeled mechanisms (except wheelchairs) including motorized equipment, mechanized equipment, bicycles, wagons, carts and wheelbarrows. All landings of aircraft (except at designated airstrips) and hang gliders are prohibited."

Helicopters and airplanes have been grandfathered in for use in some wilderness areas to fight fires and to stock high mountain lakes with fish. The fish-stocking flights are typically made in the spring, before most backcountry users arrive. The preferred time for the poisoning would be in the late fall when lakes are low, the water's oxygen content is reduced and fewer people are around.

"Some of these lakes, if we're going to be effective, we have to consider mechanized use because of the distance and volume of poison," said Deb Mucklow, the district ranger at Spotted Bear, near the mouth of the South Fork of the Flathead.

If pack stock were used, some of the lakes would require new trails, she said.

"We're trying to balance the impact to resources," Mucklow said.

## Poisoned waters

Even without involving helicopters and wilderness, past fish poisoning proposals have generated controversy.

Cherry Creek, which runs through media magnate Ted Turner's property southwest of Bozeman, was proposed for poisoning and restocking of westslope cutthroat. But a local group opposed the plan, taking the state to court to stop the project.

The Montana Mining Association jumped on the bandwagon saying the state was sanctioning degradation of a public water supply. A district court judge recently ruled against the claims.

"There's always a segment concerned about using toxins, and in the wilderness? That sounds mad, insane," Marotz said. "But we're talking about a derivative of a root. It degrades very rapidly. It only harms gill-breathing organisms."

Marotz said bug life is quick to rebound, and salamanders, frogs and other reptiles are largely unaffected.

Trout Unlimited's Farling said the organization has seriously studied poisons and is comfortable with fishery agencies using them in a safe, limited manner.

Although the poison doesn't affect the reptile wildlife, federal studies in the Cascade Mountains of the Pacific Northwest have suggested that stocking high lakes with fish may change the lakes' food chains. Zooplankton and some salamander larvae may become scarce in stocked lakes, studies have shown. Removing trout from a few lakes boosted the number of salamanders.

But Marotz said there's no proof that removal of fish would increase the number of frogs and salamanders.

## A long-term project

As an alternative to poisoning the lakes, FWP could approve "swamping" the lakes with pure westslope cutthroat. Swamping is a way to raise the genetic purity of the resident fish by planting more pure-strain trout. But swamping is less than effective at ensuring pure-strain trout.

Under the proposal, about 24 lakes are being considered for restocking. Of those, about 14 lakes are in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear wilderness areas. Some of the lakes are located in the heavily utilized Jewell Basin hiking area, atop the Swan Mountains, as well.

"A lot of them are the popular lakes, like Clayton Lake," Marotz said.

Marotz said if all goes well the project would take about 10 years to complete, tackling two or three lakes a year.

Farling, of Trout Unlimited, said he's cautioning Fish, Wildlife and Parks to go slow. "Whether stocking these particular lakes is the best idea right now is still open to question," he said.

He said TU is also advocating using nonmechanized means to get the job done. "There may have to be some compromises," he said.

Marotz acknowledged that the project raises some people's hackles.

"There's an emotional attachment to Montana's state fish," he said. "When you see how productive the South Fork of the Flathead River is considering its low nutrient content, it's a resource to protect."

"That's why we feel this is one of the most important things we can do to protect and sustain native westslope cutthroat trout into the future."

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**S**

eptember in the East can feel like prison, especially if you are a sportsman. From Atlanta to Boston, the cities still have that hot, stifling, leftover August feeling that makes you think, more than ever, of escape. The problem is you—and everyone else—just got back to work after some time at the beach. The prudent side of your nature, which has also taken a summer break, cautions you firmly against taking any more time off, even if it is to go where the air already has some bite, the temperatures are hitting freezing at night, the aspen leaves have turned gold, there is snow on the mountain peaks, the elk are bugling and the trout fishing is absolutely splendid.

SPORTSMEN, HOWEVER, GENERALLY test low on prudence. Certainly this one does. So last September, when I decided I just couldn't take it any more, I broke out of the Manhattan jail one Friday afternoon and went to Montana for the weekend.

I caught the A train around the time the market closed. I was the only one on the subway with a fly rod, but there were guys with skateboards, some with guitars and women with baby carriages that looked big enough to haul Shaquille O'Neal.

I met my wife at the terminal and we flew coach. After a brief stop in Salt Lake City, we flew on to Bozeman and pointed our rental sport utility toward Ennis.

You come down into the Ruby Valley off the Gravelly Mountains on Route 287 and, even by Montana's



# Next Stop, Bozeman

## A Manhattan-to-Montana weekend fishing getaway

By Geoffrey Norman

high standards, it is a beautiful drive. We had a full moon and the peaks around us were covered in fresh snow that looked especially virginal in that weak light. We passed through Virginia City and then Nevada City. Virginia City had been the territorial capital of Montana just after the Civil War, when this was gold country, and it is still the seat of Madison County. It looks, however, like a ghost town, especially late at night. You can feel the spirit of the vigilantes who were active in the area and put at least three men in Boot Hill.

If Virginia City is a working ghost town, then Nevada City is closer to the real thing, though it still caters to tourists. Late at night, in September, it looks derelict and deserted. One and a half hours after departing the Bozeman airport, we arrived at Ruby

Springs Lodge, feeling vaguely and pleasantly haunted by the spirit of the old West. And ready for some fishing.

THEY SERVE BIG BREAKFASTS AT the lodge. Having given prudence the weekend off, I had eggs and potatoes and sausage. All fried. After breakfast, I met with John Sampson, one of the lodge owners. Sampson is a young man from Seattle, with the kind of agreeable confidence that seems to come from drinking the water in that town. (Or could it be Microsoft?) He and his partner, Paul Moseley, built the lodge in 1994 and run it with their wives, Krista and Jeanne.

Sampson recommended that we float one of the big rivers in the area. Tomorrow, he said, we could walk and wade on a smaller stream, perhaps a spring creek. The floats that are avail-

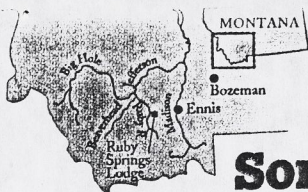
able, within an hour of the lodge, are some of the most coveted in all of angling. We had our choice, Sampson said, of fishing the Big Hole on the famous Divide to Melrose float; the Madison from Varney to Ennis; or the Beaverhead from High Bridge to Pipe Organ.

These were all four-star floats. I knew that and not much more.

"What do you recommend?"

"The Jefferson," Sampson said, without hesitation.

Most anglers in that part of the world consider the Jefferson a plow horse in a field of thoroughbreds. It is a flat, undistinguished river and suffers from chronic low water due to irrigation. But, Sampson explained, sometimes in early spring and the fall, it can be great. When that happens, you often have the river to yourself.



## Some of the most coveted rivers in all of anglin

"And," Sampson went on, "it's a short drive to where we put in. We've got to spend some time, this morning, getting your licenses. So if we go to the Jefferson, we'll have more time to fish."

WE HAD A SERENE SIX- OR SEVEN-hour float. There was plenty of water in the river and we had a fine view of the Tobacco Root Mountains, capped in fresh snow. We also caught fish, including two very nice browns. Our guide, a young man named Ryan, was handy with the McKenzie-style drift boat and had the bright, convivial personality that seemed a requirement for employment at Ruby Springs.

During a simultaneous lull in the fishing and the conversation, I looked at my watch and marveled over the fact that exactly 24 hours earlier I had been on a subway that had stopped for passengers at the Utica Avenue station.

IT HAD BEEN A COLD, SLIGHTLY overcast day, so I built a fire of split lodgepole in the wood stove in our little cabin. The fire warmed the room quickly. I had a glass of something dark and watched the Ruby River flow by me, 20 feet from my window, while my wife bathed. When we had both changed, we walked down to the main lodge for dinner. The sky was clearing and there were more than a few stars. It looked promising, then, for the morning. Tomorrow, I thought, was our last day. Today had been our first day. I had never been on a fishing trip like this, where there were no days between the first day and the last day.

"It's the way we live," Marsha said.

LIKE MOST OF THE NEW GENERATION of fishing lodges, Ruby Springs pays attention to the food and the wine list. In the old days, it was "hearty fare" and plenty of it. Back then, most anglers were not into wine, though they would surely drink it if nothing else were available. But if you

wanted Chablis with your supper, you brought it yourself. This will not do for the contemporary angler, who just might care as much about the amenities as he does about the fishing.

Ruby Springs had a chef (not, most emphatically, a cook) from Seattle and his creation this evening was a pork tenderloin with some kind of currant sauce, which he presented before serving. There were probably a dozen of us at the table and we all made the appropriate appreciative noises. For a moment, I could have sworn I was still in New York where, right after real estate, food is the principal topic of conversation.

IN THE MORNING, BEFORE BREAKFAST, I took a little run down a gravel ranch road with culverts that ran across irrigation ditches. There was a thin sheet of ice over the water near the banks. A pair of mallards spooked off one ditch. It was, I recalled, opening day of duck season.

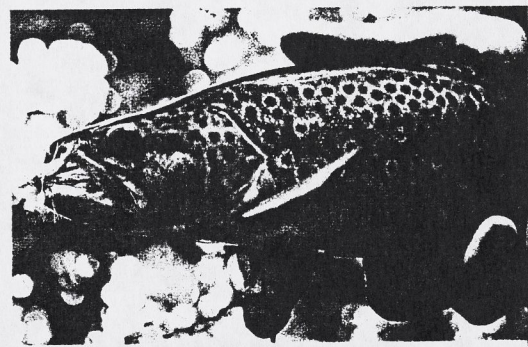
Prudence was still sleeping in, so I had eggs, potatoes and sausage for breakfast. Fried.

Sampson had a little stream nearby he thought I might be interested in. We would be casting from the bank to very wary fish in very thin water. For much of its length, Sampson said, the

stream was only six feet or so across. But it held very large fish. Sixteen- and 18-inchers were not uncommon.

I had fished somewhat languidly the day before. On previous trips West, I had always thought of the first day as kind of a warm-up, a time to get to know the river, reach down into the muscle memory for the old casting rhythm, and get in tune with the scene. But the first day had become the last day—literally overnight—and I needed to bear down. You want to leave a fishing trip with the feeling that you have at least fished hard. Not trying hard leaves a bad taste.

So I was eager. The stream flowed through one of those big, bent-grass meadows, unobtrusive except for the occasional willow growing along the bank. I tied on something that would pass for a grasshopper—a goofus bug, maybe—and went to work. I caught



## lie within an hour's drive of the lodge

Photography by Tom Montemayor, Marble Cliffs, Colorado

Clockwise, top to bottom: Launching on the Jefferson; lodge cabins on the banks of the Ruby; floating the flat water; a nice spring creek brown trout

about the Utica Avenue station, either.

Toward evening, my wife and I reached a part of the stream flanked by 30-foot slag heaps, perhaps 100 feet back from the bank. They had a lifeless, almost lunar look.

"What on earth?" my wife said.

Sampson, who had joined us, explained that these were tailings from the extensive

mining of gold that had gone on here from the end of the Civil War until the 1920s.

I knew some of the history and said, "Guess who ran the last of the mining operations? Who left us a legacy of these beautiful slag piles?"

"Who?"

"Harvard University," I said. Which was the only mention, all day, of life back East.

JUST BEFORE SUNSET, I CAUGHT the fish I needed for a grace note. A

brown of some 18 inches, in rich spawning colors. I worked the fish through some heavy weeds on the bank, admired him for a couple of seconds, then released him and reeled up so I could fly back to JFK.

But it wasn't quite that abrupt. There was lamb for dinner. More good wine. A clear night sky, full of stars, a good night's sleep, under quilts, in a cabin warmed by a wood stove with the sound of the river coming through the open windows.

In the morning, I ran again but didn't spook any ducks. I wondered if they had come to grief sometime during opening day. Back at the lodge, I had oatmeal for breakfast. It was Monday, I was flying home and prudence was back on the job. •

**Ruby Springs Lodge offers guided three-night and two-day fishing packages beginning at \$1,375 per person. Call (800) 278-RUBY or log on to [www.rubyspringslodge.com](http://www.rubyspringslodge.com).**

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# CAST

MONTANA'S BAKER CREEK WAS GIVEN UP FOR DEAD.

# AWAY

TODAY ITS "TROPHY WATERS" FLOW ONCE MORE. BY PHILIPP HARPER



## Bud Lilly, legendary fly-fishing guide

and stalker of wild trout, measures the fallen cottonwood with practiced eyes, his face framed by the peaks of his upturned collar and shielded from the sun by the brim of his Stetson. • "I used to sit under that tree all day and catch fish," says Lilly, 75, who was raised just a few miles up the road in Manhattan (Montana, not New York). • Lilly caught those remembered fish, mostly brown trout, many in the 20-inch range, more than 50 years ago in the briskly flowing bend of Baker Creek now spanned by the cottonwood. In the decades since, the creek has suffered the ravages of agricultural use—grazing cattle breaking down its banks, water diversion—and no longer is the fishery it once was. But that figures to change, and soon. • Just a few hundred yards

from where Lilly contemplates his boyhood fishing hole, earth is being moved. Trout ponds, configured to hold monsters, are being dug, and feeder creeks are being restored—and in some cases created—to serve as prime spawning grounds. By spring work will be completed on Baker Creek itself, a hidden treasure in the catalogue of Montana's spring creeks and the central attraction of a residential development, Baker Springs, that is being marketed as a "private fly-fishing community."

• The claim is true. It would be difficult to find a greater concentration of world-class trout fishing than on Baker Springs' 232 acres, which lie hard by Interstate Highway 90 about 15 miles west of Bozeman in Montana's Gallatin Valley. Much of the \$1 million being spent to develop the property and its 11 home sites has been earmarked for creek rehabilitation and pond creation. Additionally, the West Gallatin River, itself a blue-ribbon trout stream, flows across one corner of the development. • Admittance to this fishing feast will not be cheap: When the 20-acre home sites go on the market sometime this summer, they'll be priced from \$450,000 to \$600,000.

Photograph by Denver Bryan



If the multiresidential scope of Baker Springs represents something of a new wrinkle in the development of southwestern Montana's water resources, the underlying equation is familiar. Since the early 1980s, wealthy individuals with a passion for fly-fishing have been buying their private slices of trout heaven, roughly defined as the waters within a 100-mile radius of Bozeman. Streams formerly described as "trophy waters," to denote the size

alchemy practiced by Urbani and others has won the approval of state officials who manage Montana's water resources. As long as restorations stay within the stream's original footprint, says state fisheries biologist Pat Byorth, the result is "by and large positive." In some cases, he acknowledges, owners are "taking a spring creek with very little habitat and improving it dramatically."

More controversial than the work itself is the idea of

## FISH-LOVING, WELL-HEELED LANDOWNERS SEEM TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVING THE WATER THEY ACQUIRE.

of the trout they held, have themselves become the trophies. Already on Baker Creek, for instance, Bob Emery, CEO of investment banker Robertson Stephens and an avid fly fisher, has restored several miles of the stream for his personal use.

The trend is being driven, says Bozeman attorney Tom Anacker, by the "power of the fish." Referring to "clients who come here and buy property and like to make things perfect," Anacker, an officer of Trout Unlimited's Montana chapter, adds, "the common denominator is the fishing experience."

These fish-loving, well-heeled landowners may not be achieving perfection, but they do seem to be significantly improving the water they acquire. By hiring one of the half dozen or so Montana-based restoration firms, it is possible to take a degraded stream and return it to near pristine condition in a few fishing seasons. The process, says Joe Urbani, a kind of *éminence grise* among Montana stream restorationists, is all about "digging it and pitching it"—taking away here, augmenting there—with the goal of creating a habitat that not only attracts trout but allows them to prosper and grow fat.

Urbani, who is overseeing the work at Baker Springs, says spring creeks have an inherent advantage as habitats because their underground water sources ensure a constant temperature, generally in the vicinity of a trout-friendly 50 degrees Fahrenheit—a characteristic that confers the added benefit of allowing spring creeks to be fished year round. Water flow and quality are other critical variables, as is creek-side vegetation, which provides both food, in the form of insects, and cover from predators.

Put the right ingredients together in the right measures, says Urbani, and the result is a "primordial soup" in which fish thrive. Referring to the work Urbani's eponymous Bozeman-based firm is doing at Baker Springs, Dudley Lutton, a principal in the development, says, "You can take a piece of property that has been tampered with and leapfrog 50 years of evolution."

For the most part, and somewhat counterintuitively, the sort of aquatic

taking a finite state resource (water) and severely limiting access to it. Byorth estimates there are no more than 20 major spring creeks—supplemented by "50 to 70 minor trickles"—within the celebrated 100-mile radius of Bozeman.

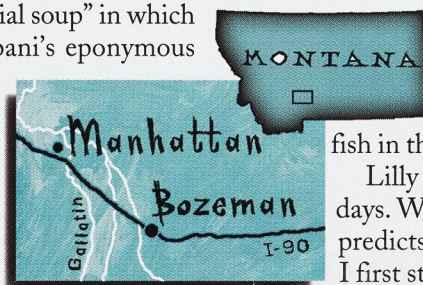
Some of that water, such as the renowned Armstrong-Nelson-Depuy's spring creeks in Montana's Paradise Valley near Livingston, is open to the public on a fee basis. And, Byorth concedes, even when fisheries are effectively removed from public use—most famously the miles of streams restored by Ted Turner—a greater good results because privately restored streams often serve as incubators for trout that will migrate to the state's larger, publicly accessible rivers.

In any event, a case against the privatization of Baker Creek is difficult to make because the ten-mile-long stream never was fished very heavily. Still, it has loomed large in the lives of some of Montana's most celebrated fly fishers. Tom Morgan, who would gain fame as a maker of premium fly rods, guided on Baker until acquiring the R.L. Winston Rod Co. in the mid-1970s. He remembers Baker as a "terrific" stream with several big fish "in every pool you came to," but can't recall ever seeing another angler on the stream.

If he'd been on the stream in the 1930s and '40s, Morgan likely would have seen Lilly, who, though most famous as a Yellowstone River guide, is linked to Baker in some personally memorable ways.

When two scouts for the Cincinnati Reds arrived in Manhattan to check out Lilly's skill as a second baseman—a possible pro career was preempted by World War II—he took them fly-fishing on Baker. And he was on the stream duck hunting when he first learned of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Perhaps most indelible, though, was the day in the mid-1930s when he watched his father battle a nine-pound brown, finally landing the fish in the dark with the aid of a flashlight.

Lilly does not rule out a return to those glory days. When Urbani's restoration is complete, he predicts, "some spots may fish better than when I first started here." •



Map by Kandy Littrell

# Outdoors

# C

INDEPENDENT RECORD



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peggy.oneill@helenair.com



## One man, one creek, one private community

**BUD LILLY DEMONSTRATES HIS EXPERTISE** on one of the four man-made trout ponds at Baker Springs. Lilly, 76, is taking on a new role as stream manager and fisheries adviser for the private development. Below, four newly created ponds, stocked with rainbows, will be for the exclusive use of residents of the new Baker Springs: A Private Fly Fishing community.

### Bud Lilly returns to the stream of his youth as fisheries adviser

Stories and photos by DICK WESNICK

For The Independent Record

On a sun-drenched summer day, a peaceful dog-days lull has settled over the western valleys of Montana.

A tanned, brown-haired youngster picks up his telescopic steel Bristol fly rod and stuffs a box of wet flies into his pocket. He climbs onto his bicycle and pedals the straight, flat two-and-a-half-mile stretch of road from his home in Manhattan, to a small sparkling creek that winds its way through meadows and farm land before spilling into the Gallatin River.

The year is 1935. The boy is 10 years old, and although he's been fishing with his father for several years, this narrow, slow moving spring creek is one of the first places he's been allowed to fish alone.

He stands beside a giant cottonwood tree in the knee-high grass — thigh-high to a 10-year-old — and flings a double-hung pair of snelled wet flies to the top of a pool that stretches out along a bend in the creek. A large brown trout flashes out from the under-cut bank, snatches the fly and whiplashes against the tugging youth.

The trout ultimately loses the struggle. In those days, before that same youth would become fly fishing's most ardent advocate of the catch-and-release ethic, the brown trout was destined for the dinner table.

It wasn't anywhere as large as the nine-pound brown that his

father once caught here, finally landing it well after dark under the glow cast by a flashlight held by the youngster after what seemed to be an hours-long battle.

But this brown was nothing to scoff at either. In fact, to this day he never scoffs at the size of any trout. He is perpetually in awe of them.

In the intervening decades, that angler's passion for fly fishing and conservation efforts earned him an international reputation as one of the sport's most celebrated enthusiasts.

That lad was Walen Lilly Jr., better known as Bud Lilly.

And now, 66 years later, he is returning to Baker Spring Creek as stream keeper and senior fisheries adviser in a precedent-setting — and expensive — endeavor called "Baker Springs: A Private Fly Fishing Community."

In August, Lilly and his wife Ester will move from their home in Bozeman to a meticulously renovated farm house in the midst of the development where the price of lots run from \$400,000 to \$700,000. Houses are "slightly" extra.

From the south windows of his new home, Bud Lilly will be able to see the spot where that cottonwood of his youth once stood. That tree toppled over long ago, and rests along the spring creek shoreline, but others have risen tall in its place.

They represent the effort that is turning typical tired Montana farm land into revitalized habitat for fish and wildlife, and a Mecca for well-heeled humans that the developers hope will soon follow.

### The Man

Restoration improves fish habitat

The hopper pattern was in a slow dead drift when a chunky brown trout darted out from under a log and nailed it cold.

A few minutes later, he was unhooked and released back into the private stretch of Lewis and Clark Spring Creek, formerly known as Crest Creek.

"When they're on those hoppers, they take it immediately," said Bud Lilly, my companion and tutor for the next two days.

Only a decade ago, the mile-long stretch of creek that flows into the Gallatin River above Three Forks was typical of many streams that run through farm and ranch land: trampled by cat-

tle, eroded, heavily silted and virtually barren of trout. Today it serves as an example of what can be achieved through the joint efforts of individuals, conservation organizations and the state of Montana.

The project involved Trout Unlimited; Future Fisheries of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and Fish America, an organization of fishing equipment manufacturers.

"It was part of the original homestead until about 15 years ago when a large corporate ranch bought it," Lilly said. "They later sold it to a man who recognized its potential." After restoration, it was again sold to a private individual from out of state.

"It was down to a point where cattle had destroyed the banks. There was no (trout) reproduction," Lilly said.

More RESTORATION, page 2C

### The Stream

### Development combines world class fishing and exclusivity

Dudley Lutton walks through tall lush grass to the edge of a spring creek, one of two that have been sculpted from former farmland.

He directs a visitor's attention toward the log jutting from the shoreline, providing cover for a brown trout. He notes the gravel beds along the stream bottom, an occasional large rock or two, the undercut banks capped by overhanging vegetation.

If you didn't know better — or weren't told — you'd assume the landscape was created by nature, that it had existed in this state for eons.

He points out the former location of "pits" or deep depressions that were filled with earth dug to create new spring creeks and ponds, or with silt from the original Baker Spring Creek.

The dredgings also were used to create a large berm that separates the development from the north frontage road of Interstate 90.

Lutton steers his gray Suburban along a gravel road that traverses

Baker Springs, stopping to relate the genesis of a rainbow-filled pond that grew out of an empty field.

The aquatic grasses, the thick vegetation that anchors the shoreline and prevents erosion, even the insects that skate along the pond's surface were planted by hand. They sprang from the creative minds of the developers of the private fly fishing community called Baker Springs.

The restoration of Baker Spring Creek and the creation of the two spring creeks and the four ponds were the work of Joe Urbani of Bozeman.

The 232-acre project lies about 15 miles west of Bozeman, and only five strategic miles from the Belgrade airport, providing easy access to out-of-state property owners.

Baker Springs is the ambitious effort of two former Billings men: Lutton, who coached football in the 1980s and later was involved with Grouse Mountain Lodge and Big Mountain developments near Whitefish; and Don DuBeau, who



### Restoration improves fish habitat

The hopper pattern was in a slow dead drift when a chunky brown trout darted out from under a log and nailed it cold.

A few minutes later, he was unhooked and released back into the private stretch of Lewis and Clark Spring Creek, formerly known as Crest Creek.

"When they're on those hoppers, they take it immediately," said Bud Lilly, my companion and tutor for the next two days.

Only a decade ago, the mile-long stretch of creek that flows into the Gallatin River above Three Forks was typical of many streams that run through farm and ranch land: trampled by cat-

tle, eroded, heavily silted and virtually barren of trout. Today it serves as an example of what can be achieved through the joint efforts of individuals, conservation organizations and the state of Montana.

The project involved Trout Unlimited; Future Fisheries of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and Fish America, an organization of fishing equipment manufacturers.

"It was part of the original homestead until about 15 years ago when a large corporate ranch bought it," Lilly said. "They later sold it to a man who recognized its potential." After restoration, it was again sold to a private individual from out of state.

"It was down to a point where cattle had destroyed the banks. There was no (trout) reproduction," Lilly said.

More RESTORATION, page 2C



was president of Big Mountain Development Corporation, the developers of the Big Mountain Ski and Summer Resort, and also the CEO of Eagle Bend Corporation, developers of a planned golf community.

Lutton and DuBeau form the nucleus of the Cold Water Group

LLC, which was established in Bozeman to "create strategies for preserving and enhancing fish and wildlife habitats in the context of innovative residential development."

Lutton was no stranger to the

More DEVELOPMENT, page 2C

### Keep out; Montana is all mine

By PEGGY O'NEILL  
IR Outdoors Editor

Who's the snob here? Me or them.

By them, I mean the elite few who can afford the life I dream of — a house with a few acres, easy access to a blue ribbon trout stream, few neighbors within shouting distance and a view that is not cluttered with other people who want the same thing.

In short, I want it all and I want it all to myself.

But until I can afford to be one of "them," I can't help but hate them. They are the people who block access to my favorite public spots. There's the guy who built his house at the trailhead of one of my favorite mountain biking trails. There's the guy who built a monstrous castle on the shores of my favorite river. There's the development company that's about to turn my favorite little ski hill into the next playground for the wealthy.

I'm a long way from fitting in with the cash crowd. Sometimes, I don't even have enough money in my pockets to cover the user's fee at the local public recreation areas.

So, I take advantage of all the free public access I can find.

Me and a thousand other recreationists. So then I find myself getting upset with other people who dare to hike the same trail that I choose

to hike. I give dirty looks to people who I feel are too close to me when I'm fishing. If someone is participating in an activity that disturbs my own nature experience and sense of solitude, I become irate.

PEGGY O'NEILL



### Breath of Fresh Air

It's a dilemma. Do I hate the few who force me to share with the many? Or do I hate the many who force me to want to become one of the few?

What's a young upwardly stagnant person like me to do? Some argue that wealthy landowners can preserve and restore large areas of land, Ted Turner's Flying D Ranch, the Baker Springs development near Bozeman and the Stock Farm near Hamilton are just a few examples.

While these ranches and developments, which attract mostly out-of-staters, can claim they serve a noble purpose, I find this claim to be insulting. It's as if the people of Montana aren't responsible enough to protect their own land so these noble rich folk come in, put the prices out of our reach and don't allow us in.

What are we, children?

Well, some of us act that way. While fishing on a stretch of the Missouri, I found at least 10 cans of Keystone Light that someone left in a fire pit.

While hiking in the Scapegoat Wilderness, I passed a bunch of trails that someone had worn to make a shortcut up some switchbacks.

While cross-country skiing in a well-signed non-motorized area, I encountered a full-sized pickup truck on the trail.

After snowmobiling (and enjoying it) for a story in a place where snowmobiling is allowed, I was snubbed by some of my friends.

But isn't blocking a popular Forest Service access, building an eyesore of a home on a beautiful stretch of river and inviting only the rich people to come and play also a little childish?

Isn't wanting it all to myself infantile, unrealistic, not to mention selfish?

Grow up. That's the answer. Aren't grownups supposed to respect each other? Don't grownups take good care of their possessions? And don't grownups share?

That's what I was always told as a child.

## OutdoorsBriefs

### Rod and gun club hosts walleye tourney

Broadwater Rod and Gun Club is sponsoring a one-day walleye tournament Aug. 11, on Canyon Ferry Reservoir.

The event is limited to 50 teams and a \$1,000 cash first prize based on a full field. Three categories of two-person teams will compete in the tournament: female-female, male-female and adult-child (under 12). The entry fee is \$80 per team.

A mandatory pre-tournament rules meeting will be held at the Broadwater Rod and Gun Club indoor shooting range on Canton Lane, one mile northeast of Townsend at 7 p.m., Aug. 10.

Contestants are asked to mail their entry forms as soon as possible to facilitate preparation by tournament organizers. For more information call Doug Breker at 266-5279 or 266-3102 (until 8 p.m.).

### Campfire program features bird sightings

Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park's summer campfire program, "Bird Sightings of Lewis and Clark," will be presented by Carla Wambach at 8 p.m., Friday, at the campground amphitheater.

As a result of President Jefferson's directive to make detailed observations of all flora and fauna encountered during their expedition, Lewis and Clark included in

their journals remarkably descriptive documentation of all birds sighted.

There is a \$4 daily entry fee per vehicle or entrance is free with a Montana State Park's Passport. For additional information, call Lewis and Clark Caverns at 406-287-3541.

### FWP offers upland bird hunting seminar

A seminar on upland bird hunting will be offered to the public 7 p.m., Aug. 17, at Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula.

Four members of the Big Sky Upland Bird Association will share their knowledge about hunting upland birds in Montana.

Topics presented during the meeting will include how to find a place to hunt; bird hunting ethics; nine species of upland birds; habitat, hunting tactics, and conservation concerns; bird dog breeds; training and use of bird dogs; game bird cuisine; wing shooting skills; firearms and safety.

### Comments sought on turkey transplant

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks requests public comment on a Draft Environmental Assessment of a proposal to transplant Merriam's wild turkeys to the Ninemile area west of Missoula.

An initial transplant of 10 to 50 wild turkeys may be followed by

two to three additional transplants over a 10-year period. It is expected that the birds will be trapped in eastern Montana.

FWP is contacting major landowners in the Ninemile area to acquire their agreement to conditions of a transplant, including reasonable use of the habitat and public access for hunting and viewing.

The project was proposed by the Missoula Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, which will provide labor and partial funding for the transplant.

A copy of the environmental assessment may be obtained from FWP, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59804. Comments will be accepted at the same address until Aug. 31.

## Restoration: Lilly pleased with stream project

continued from 1C

As a member of the Montana Land Reliance, Lilly consulted with the owner and the contractor who was hired to restore the stream.

"Restoration started about seven years ago," Lilly explained. "It took from a year to a year and a half, including cleaning out the creek, planting grasses and willows, placing rocks and deadfall for cover. They narrowed the creek, put in gravel and planted trees for shade, a necessity for trout habitat and reproduction. They cleaned out the pools and got down to the gravelly bottom. The created undercut banks. Now browns are coming out of the Gallatin and reproducing."

Lilly said that nearly 90 bends in the mile section of stream were scooped out and restored, each with pools three to four feet deep that now hold trout in water that is a constant 50 degrees.

"This is a specialized type of fishing that a lot of people are not familiar with," Lilly said.

The stream is only a dozen feet wide, and three to five feet deep. And its trout are skittish.

You stand 10 to 15 feet back from banks, keeping your visibility to a minimum, and cast over the top of tall grass and brush.

It was a setting and a scene so perfect that it could bring tears of joy to even the most veteran fly fishermen. The heavy overcast was accentuated by sporadic downpours and laced with rolling thunder and lightning that sent us scurrying for shelter several times.

The browns, which this day ranged between 10 and 13 inches, made the

weather-induced discomfort worthwhile. Lilly noted that a couple of years ago his granddaughter took a 19-inch brown in the same water.

The example of restoration on Lewis and Clark Spring Creek provided a segue to Lilly's newest life endeavor, stream manager and senior fisheries advisor for a development called Baker Springs: A Private Fly Fishing Community.

For Lilly, Baker Springs is the opportunity that dreams are made of: returning to the land of our roots and turning back the clock nearly seven decades.

Bud Lilly was born and spent his early childhood in Manhattan, just two and a half miles west of Baker Springs.

He will live in the midst of the Baker Creek project and oversee the continuing restoration of Baker Creek fishery, as well as the fisheries in the newly created spring creeks and ponds.

His life and careers were multifaceted. He served as a Navy navigator in the South Pacific during World War II, earned a degree in applied sciences and started teaching in Roundup in 1948 and continued teaching, off and on in Bozeman, until 1970.

But he garnered distinction as one of Montana's premier fly fishermen and conservationists while he owned a fly shop and guide service in West Yellowstone from 1951 until 1982. The fly shop still bears his name although he hasn't been involved with it for nearly 20 years. His name and worldwide reputation alone are still enough to draw customers.

He chuckles and agrees when I suggest that it's almost easier to list the conservation-dedicated organizations that he has not been involved with over the years. In addition to the Montana Land

Reliance, he has served with Trout Unlimited, the Governor's Task Force on Whirling Disease, the Whirling Disease Foundation, the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and the Federation of Fly Fishers, among others.

He has co-authored, with Paul Schullery, three books: "A Trout's Best Friend," "Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the West," and "Bud Lilly's Guide to Fly Fishing the New West." And he was featured in a video produced by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks called "Three Men, Three Rivers."

Lilly was spotlighted for his devotion and knowledge of the Madison River. Also featured in the film were the late Dan Bailey on the Yellowstone River and George Grant on the Big Hole.

From Manhattan, he and his family moved to Three Forks in the late 1930s where his mother, Violet, became owner and operator of a railroad hotel built near the end of the Milwaukee Road line in 1910.

Violet died in 1994, and the hotel is now "Bud Lilly's Angler's Retreat," an extensively remodeled 18-room haven for fly fishermen.

In the entry of Angler's Retreat is a framed poem by Roger J. Aziz called "The Angler" that aptly describes Lilly's life and philosophy.

It begins, "Bent rods do not the angler make, nor do the fish that he might take, nor fancy vest and wicker creel, Qrvis rod or Hardy reel..."

It sums up Bud Lilly with these words: "A gentleman, who does not boast of always having caught the most. A sport, that he may fish each day and know it was the fairest way. A man, whose legacy will be the many fish that he set free."

## Development: 11 homes planned for construction

continued from 1C

property. He began fishing Baker Creek in 1970 while he was playing football for Montana State University.

There only will be 11 home sites in the 232-acre development, which also has another 150 acres of "recreational easement." Each 2.6-acre home site will be surrounded by common areas with hiking trails, a mile of Baker Creek, a stretch of the West Gallatin, four man-made ponds, four man-made ponds stocked with rainbows, and two man-made spring creeks that feed into Baker Creek. The man-made creeks already have natural brown trout populations, while the ponds have been stocked with rainbows that now run 18 to 19 inches.

Baker Creek now closely resembles the creek where Bud Lilly, the development's stream keeper and senior fisheries adviser,

fished nearly seven decades ago.

Lutton said, "These types of creeks get degraded over time. Fish quit spawning and over time it begins to degrade the waters they feed such as the Gallatin. We want to improve the quality of the Gallatin, too. It's not always practical for organizations such as the Nature Conservancy to (restore them) so often it's up to private landowners."

"You can treat these little streams like gardens — they always come back," Lutton said.

Lutton explained how Baker Springs came about. "Our first objective was to find a great piece of land. You want to develop a strategy to develop it, whether it's ranching or a limited development concept. It's designed to complement nature, not screw it up. We wanted to protect

and preserve the natural habitat."

The project started a year ago in June. Working from a master plan, they began work on the streams and ponds, put in access roads, underground utilities, and removed eight or nine old farm buildings and a corral. They erected a small building that will become a fly shop, and began renovating a large barn that will be used as a sort of community hall for property-owner activities.

On a recent July day, a

bevy of construction workers were busily at work on the old farmhouse that will be home to Bud and Ester Lilly.

Before summer's end, Lutton expects ground to be broken for the first of the 11 homes that eventually will dot the development, which has already garnered national attention.

It was recently featured in Forbes magazine and on ABC News with Peter Jennings.

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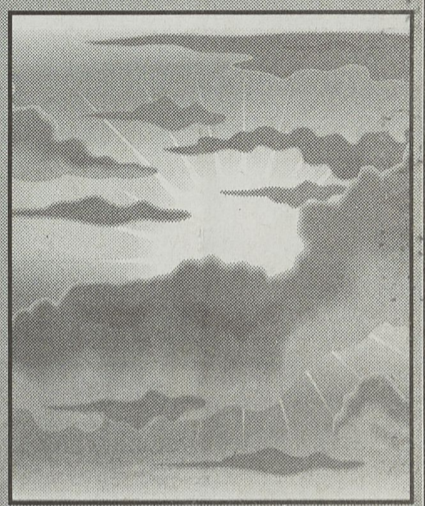
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Date	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
02 Thursday	4:15	10:25	4:25	10:50
03 Friday	5:05	11:05	5:20	11:30
04 Saturday	5:45	11:50	6:00	0
05 Sunday	6:30	12:15	6:50	12:40
06 Monday	7:15	1:05	7:45	1:30
07 Tuesday	8:05	1:55	8:30	2:15
08 Wednesday	8:50	2:40	9:15	3:00

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# Outlook

November 22, 1999

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Enclosed is a copy of an article scheduled to run in an upcoming issue of *Mature Outlook*, a magazine for more than 700,000 members of Sears' Mature Outlook club. We focus on topics of interest to readers over 50, including health, money, travel, hobbies, people and more.

We would like you to check the appropriate items for accuracy and return it to us with your comments and approval to use the information included. We certainly want to correct any factual errors, but please note that due to space constraints, we are unable to add significantly to the text as it appears.

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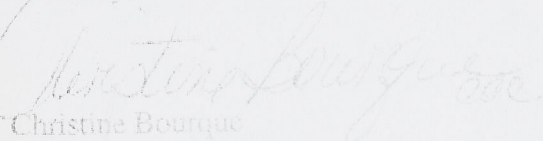
If your address appears in our article and you would like to be able to track responses from our readers, simply add "Dept. MO" to your address on the checking copy before returning it to us.

And we really need your help turning this story around. Last minute changes necessitated its move to much earlier in the editorial schedule. To that end, please fax us your approval or changes by **Wednesday, December 1, 1999**. Our fax number, 515-284-2064.

Also, if you have any transparencies or 35mm images to complement the story, would you please FedEx those to Brian Shearer, Art Director, *Mature Outlook*, 1716 Locust, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. Our FedEx account number is 0503-0001-3.

Thanks for your help. We'll be sure to send you copies of the magazine when the article appears.

Sincerely,



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### IT'S NOW OR NEVER

If you've ever longed for a fantasy adventure, this is the time to turn it into reality.

By Diane Bair & Pamela Wright

Somewhere in your head, buried under all those must-do lists, is the gotta-do list. As in, "Sometime in my life, I've gotta climb a mountain, fly in a hot-air balloon, learn to sail ...". Why not make a vow that, this year, you'll give yourself the ultimate gift and make your wish come true? Herewith, some classic dreams and where and how to make them happen.

#### Up, up and away

It's a sensation like no other. You step into the basket and, with a burst of flame, the balloon rises up, up, up, seemingly weightless. The ultimate place to experience this ride: the Kodak Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, the largest ballooning event in the world. Held annually from the first Saturday through the second Sunday in October, the New Mexico event draws more than 800 balloonists. Rainbow Riders (1-800-725-2477) is the official ride operator of the event, and they promise breathtaking views of the Sandia Mountains and Rio Grande River. A 40- to 50-minute ride costs \$175 to \$199 per person. Once you're back on terra firma, there's plenty to enjoy at the festival. For more information, visit the Balloon Fiesta's website at [www.aibf.org](http://www.aibf.org) or call the Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau toll free at 1-800-733-9918 or visit its website at [www.abqcvb.org](http://www.abqcvb.org).

#### Sail away

Do you have a vision of yourself at the wheel of a sailboat, guiding the vessel through turquoise waters to a secluded cove—just you and the salt-kissed air? Steve and Doris Colgate will teach you to sail in just three days. As the founders of Offshore Sailing School, they've been teaching landlubbers to sail since 1964. You learn at sea, aboard 26- or 27-foot sailboats, with just four students and one instructor per vessel. At the end of the three-day session, you and your crew chart a course and sail on your own, without an instructor. Learn to Sail courses are offered in eight locations, including Barnegat Bay in northern New Jersey, with protected water and reliable summer sea breezes. The cost is \$595 to \$650 per person; accommodations are not included. The season runs from May to mid-September. For more information, call the

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Bud Lilly

Offshore Sailing School toll free at 1-800-221-4326 or visit its website at [www.offshore-sailing.com](http://www.offshore-sailing.com).

#### Swim with dolphins

Admit it: Ever since seeing *Flipper*, you've dreamed of frolicking with sleek, playful dolphins. Make it happen at Florida's Discovery Cove, a new adventure park at SeaWorld Orlando for folks who want to get up close and personal with exotic marine life. What's so unique about this park? Discovery Cove features three rocky, deep-water bays where you can swim and snorkel with Atlantic bottlenose dolphins. You'll start your adventure with just two other guests and a trainer, meeting a dolphin in the shallow lagoon and learning about dolphin behaviors. Then it's an amazing, one-on-one encounter. Feeling adventurous? Swim among southern and cownose rays at the ray lagoon, and get close-up views of sharks and barracuda, which are separated from you by underwater partitions. Daily attendance is limited to 800 people, part of the plan to avoid crowds and lines, and to provide a high level of personal attention. The all-inclusive price is ???; advance reservations are required. (NEED TO FOLLOW UP; I'M ON the MAILING LIST) For more information, call Discovery Cove toll free at 1-877-434-7268 or visit their website at [www.discoverycove.com](http://www.discoverycove.com).

#### Write a book

Is there a potential best-seller inside you, itching to get out? It's time to unleash the writer within. Meet like-minded souls and work with instructors—themselves published authors—at the Iowa Summer Writing Festival at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Weeklong and weekend sessions (noncredit) are held in June and July and are open to writers with no previous experience. Last year the festival offered 142 workshops, crossing the genres from memoir to poetry, romance to sci-fi, kid-lit to crime. The fee is \$375 to \$400 per week and \$175 per

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weekend. Participants stay in campus dormitories or other nearby lodgings. For information, call the Iowa Summer Writing Festival at 319-335-4160.

#### Run with the dogs

Does your favorite fantasy feature you and a team of handsome Huskies winning the Iditarod? Though it may take a few years of training to get your mittens on that prize, you'll be amazed how much you can learn in just one trip. Mush your own team of five to eight dogs up to 30 miles a day on a dog sled expedition run by Boundary Country Trekking in Grand Marais, Minnesota. An experienced guide leads you and three other participants. You don't need experience, but you should be moderately fit and able to walk several miles a day. Trips run from two to 11 days; a favorite is the three-day trip through the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Superior National Forest. Lodging is in cabins and yurts. The season is from January to mid-March, and the rate is \$995 per person, including all meals and equipment. For more information, call Boundary Country Trekking toll free at 1-800-322-8327 or visit its website at [www.boundarycountry.com](http://www.boundarycountry.com).

#### Undersea fantasy

"Life is much better down where it's wetter," according to Sebastian the Crab in *The Little Mermaid*. If you agree, now's the time to learn to dive. And there's no better place to learn than St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The water temperature ranges from 76 to 84 degrees, and the island boasts dramatic underwater coral walls and reefs, home to a dazzling variety of sea life. Buck Island Reef National Monument is a favorite with beginners because much can be seen at shallow depths. Several local dive companies offer instruction. The Dive Experience (toll free 1-800-235-9047) has introductory classes for \$80 per person. This class consists of a pool session and two open-water dives. The Dive Experience also offer an accelerated, four-day Professional Association of Diving Instructors Open Water Certification course for \$300. For information, call the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism toll free at 1-800-372-8784 and request its free dive guide.

#### Soaring on pillows of air

It's called the purest form of flight. You're 5,000 feet in the sky, without an engine, relying on currents of air to keep you soaring. Spread out before you is a gorgeous panorama of craggy peaks, fractured granite, alpine lakes and color-drenched forest. The Stowe, Vermont, area boasts three types of air currents or "waves" for pilots to ride, coupled with splendid views. You and your pilot are towed aloft, then set free. There are no acrobatics, but the ride can be a little bumpy, depending upon wind conditions. For the ultimate fall-color tour, fly during the fall foliage season. Stowe Aviation, which operates daily from the third week of April to the end of October, offers 30-minute rides on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost is \$114 for one or two people. For information call Stowe Aviation at 802-888-7845.

#### May the G-Force be with you

Would you be first in line if NASA issued an open call for a space shuttle crew? Then launch your fantasy at the Space Academy for Adults, run by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. During a weekend of space camp, you'll train like an astronaut, putting your skills to the test in training simulators and on simulated missions. Teams of 12 people take part, suspending reality along with gravity. You'll take roles in mission control and on the crew during two different space-shuttle missions. You'll put on a space suit, experience weightlessness and four Gs of force, and feel like you're walking on the moon. Another simulator gives you the sense you're tumbling through space, out of control, living one of those "Houston, we have a problem" moments. The program is offered on a limited number of weekends from September through December. The cost is \$500, including supplies, room and board. For information, call the U.S. Space & Rocket Center toll free at 1-800-637-7223 or visit its website at [www.space-camp.com](http://www.space-camp.com).

#### Hook a trophy fish

Picture yourself on the banks of one of the greatest trout-fishing streams in the world, surrounded by glacier-sculpted mountain peaks jutting into Montana's famed Big Sky. And, as long as you're fantasizing, why not put

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a nine-pound brownie on that line? If anyone can make this fish story come true, it's Bud Lilly. After a 40-year reign as Montana's premier fly-fishing guide, Lilly now focuses on running his fishing lodge, Bud Lilly's Anglers Retreat, and making sure his guests have the ultimate angling experience in area trout streams. This rustic lodge, located in Three Forks, is about 90 miles from the west entrance of Yellowstone National Park. Rooms range from \$60 to \$145 per night. If you want to learn or brush up your fly-fishing skills, Lilly will fix you up with the perfect guide, who will typically cost about \$300 per day. Plan your trip for late June through October, the best time for fly fishing in these parts.

For more information on Bud Lilly's Anglers Retreat, call 406-586-5140. For information on Montana, call Travel Montana toll free at 1-800-847-4868 or visit its website at [visitmt.com](http://visitmt.com).

#### **Climb a mountain**

You're an avid walker, you're in pretty good shape and you believe the best way to explore is on foot. But you're ready for bigger challenges, steeper terrain. In other words, you're a peak-bagger wannabe. (In hiker's parlance, once you climb to a mountain summit, you've bagged a peak.) A fun way to tackle a mountain--and get hiking experience--is on a guided group day hike. Check out the Appalachian Mountain Club, which offers a wide range of hikes. On the Fall Foliage Day Hikes, you'll hike to the summits of some of New Hampshire's famed White Mountains, taking in glorious vistas and getting a good workout, while enjoying the camaraderie of a group of other outdoors-lovers. The fee for nonmembers is \$45, which includes a hearty trail lunch. For information, call the Appalachian Mountain Club at 603-466-2727 or visit its website at [www.outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org).

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# Outlook

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