

YGM launches virtual art exhibit highlighting wonders of Yellowstone

Yellowstone Gateway Museum has announced its first online exhibit, **"Exploring Yellowstone**

Through Art," featuring artwork by twenty-six local artists and the inspirational stories behind their work. On display on the top floor of the museum, the public may now view the exhibit through the YGM website.

Subjects are as varied as the park itself, including landscapes, geothermal features, wildlife and more. Artists chose varied mediums, including oil, oil encaustic, acrylic, watercolor, oil pastel, colored

pencil and stained glass. A brief story about the artist's inspiration behind each piece is included. Please contact the artist directly regarding their featured piece, which may be available for sale along with additional works. Some sales benefit the museum!



The museum plans to post more historical content online as time allows, including stories from "Pull Up a Chair: Tales

from the Seats of History," honoring Park County veterans, the new Farming & Ranching exhibit, the

> upcoming Ice Age Mammal exhibit, and more. The museum's goal is to make Park County history more accessible to everyone. Other new online offerings include "Glimmers of History," a weekly post on Facebook and Instagram, featuring photographs from museum collections and a brief history. A monthly enewsletter is now also available.

For more details about

and other museum information, visit www.yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org or find them on Facebook.

Virtual BZN grants access to expansive library of films, interviews

Already underway, there's still time to enjoy an array of independent film and bonus content from the safety of your home. The **BZN** International Film Festival is back in Southwest Montana - or anywhere else with an internet connection - for its third annual event. Extended to ten days this year, the celebration features independent filmmaking and creative expression by voices established and emerging. BZN runs through September 5th.

BZN showcases films that educate, encourage and inspire audiences to get involved and take action to protect our planet. Virtual attendees have an opportunity to browse more than 110 curated films and 40plus interviews with filmmakers and

creatives. Along with generous event sponsors, passholders are crucial supporters of this budding local celebration. Purchase yours to help ensure its return to Bozeman venues next year!

Originally set for June, the festival has been modified to proceed as an allvirtual event featuring online film screenings and an assortment of supplemental material. The physical portion of BZN has been postponed to 2021 in response to COVID-19.

Visit www.bozemanfilmcelebration.com to purchase BZN passes and to learn more about the

festival, including a look at the diverse film selection. Follow BZN on social media for the most up to date event details and announcements. •



MontanaPBS programming supports students learning at home, working educators

From MSU News Service

As schools balance in-person and distance learning, MontanaPBS will launch a fall Learn at Home curriculum of educational programming and provide corresponding free digital resources, all intended to support families and educators during the COVID-19 pandemic. The new schedule begins Sept. 8 and continues through Dec. 18.

As part of its efforts, MontanaPBS will dedicate its daytime weekday schedule to educational programming provided by MontanaPBS and the Montana Office of Public Instruction that is aligned with Montana state school standards. The 6:30am to 5:30pm weekday schedule includes specific blocks of time for prekindergarten through eighth grade levels and covers subjects including language arts, social studies, science and math. The regular MontanaPBS primetime schedule is not affected by this change.

"We have spent our summer learning from and reflecting on our spring Learn at Home initiative so we could bring back an even better version of the program this fall,' said Nikki Vradenburg, director of



MontanaPBS has curated corresponding free digital content for the Learn at Home programming to better support teachers navigating this new learning environment. Aligned to the same Montana content standards and topic areas as the broadcast service, MontanaPBS has created and shared the following free resources for teachers:

Distance learning webpage: MontanaPBS has published a webpage that will include the weekly broadcast schedules (with embedded links in each PDF that point to free digital resources), as well as articles and activities created and/or vetted by the MontanaPBS education team, other public media organizations and other

MSU Wonderlust hosts online reception featuring keynote by Raymond D. **Strother**

From MSU News Service

Montana State University Wonderlust will host its annual fall reception from 4 to 6pm on Wednesday, September 2nd, via Webex featuring keynote speaker Raymond D. Strother, a nationally known political consultant.

Strother's keynote, "Those **Annoying Political Television Commercials: The Evolution of** Political Television," will be followed by brief presentations, a O&A session with fall instructors. highlights of the upcoming side trip speaker series and door prizes.

The reception is free and open to the public, but registration is required. To register, visit

www.montana.edu/wonderlust/register. Upon registration participants will receive an email with the Webex link and instructions how to join.

In his keynote address, Strother will address the evolution of the campaign message from President Dwight. D. Eisenhower to former Vice President and current Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, including how the political message is crafted to solve problems and to position a candidate.

According to Strother, it is impossible this time of year to turn on a television and not be inundated by repetitious, annoying television commercials. Hundreds of millions of dollars are spent promoting or trying to destroy candidates. All the commercials look the same, but are they?

The first commercials recorded for reuse were used in the Eisenhower-Adlai Stevenson campaigns of 1952. Eisenhower hired Madison Avenue advertising specialists who used jingles and animation to win Eisenhower's election. This simple use of television has evolved an industry of political consultants, media buyers, pollsters, targeters, fund raisers and other specialists who control the campaign message.

The political consulting industry now has a trade association of thousands of members. Strother argues that consultants are so important that they have replaced smoke-filled rooms and political bosses. They have changed the way Democrats and Republicans are selected and elected. The political machine has rusted and been left on the side of the road and replaced by digits and video, Strother said.

Strother is a retired lifelong political consultant who has worked on presidential, vice presidential, senatorial and gubernatorial campaigns across the country. He is the



president of the consulting firm Strother-Duffy-Strother. His clients have included presidential candidates Gary Hart and Albert Gore and U.S. Sens. Max Baucus, Lloyd Bentsen, John Stennis and Mary Landrieu.

Previously Strother was a reporter with the Associated Press capitol bureau in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and a partner in Weill/Strother, a public relations firm in Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

Strother has garnered awards for his documentaries about Sen. Bentsen and U.S. Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, a figure in the civil rights movement. Strother has been named to the Louisiana State University Journalism Hall of Fame, the American Association of Political Consultants Hall of Fame and the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame. He is a former president and chairman of the board of the American Association of Political Consultants. Strother was a resident fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University and was named a fellow at the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas.

He has written essays for the Atlanta Constitution, The New York Times, Newsweek and The Washington *Post.* Strother penned the novel "Cottonwood," the story of a dishonest political consultant. His autobiography is entitled "Falling Up: How a Redneck Helped Invent Political Consulting.

Wonderlust is a lifelong learning program of MSU Academic Technology and Outreach offering a variety of noncredit classes, lectures, book discussions, workshops and other activities for the intellectually curious. All Wonderlust programs are open to the public. Wonderlust members receive course discounts and free entry to side trips, which are two-hour lectures on selected topics. To purchase a Wonderlust membership or to register for fall programs, visit

www.montana.edu/wonderlust.

education at MontanaPBS. "We're very honored to provide educators and families around the state with free online and over-the-air resources to support their learning endeavors this fall, in whatever form

that takes."

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS 'June 20 BATH PLANET OF MONTANA CALLIE MCINTOSH - ASPIRE REALTY CANNERY FLATS CHRYSALIS COUNSELING SERVICES FARMERS INSURANCE - RYAN OLSEN AGENCY GASLIGHT CREATIVE HDR IPRO BUSINESS SOLUTIONS MONTANA ACCOUNTING GROUP **BOZEMAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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trusted education partners. Visit montanapbs.org/learnathome

Digital media collections: View and download full resource collections on PBS LearningMedia that correspond with the TV broadcast schedule. Collections include curated media and lesson plans, which

are sorted by grade level and subject area. Visit

montana.pbslearningmedia.org

Unplugged learning menus: MontanaPBS created learning menus for kindergarten through 12th grade students to be used for home learning. All of the learning menus feature activities that do not require technology or an internet connection. These menus can be downloaded from the distance learning webpage at montanapbs.org/learnathome. •

Emerson galleries host paintings of the natural, whimsical & theatrical

Though the fall colors are about to put on a show of their own, there's a trio of new art exhibits opening at the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture. Three artists will showcase their work in each of the Emerson galleries into November.

Kelley Sullivan brings "Below the Wake" to the Weaver Room Gallery on September 4th. With nature as the heart of her inspiration, Kelley aims to create a complex, emotional landscape by building layer upon layer; dipping, soaking, and drenching the canvas after each application of paint until images emerge. Final





details are created with charcoal, oil pen, and other mixed media. 'Below the Wake' will be on display through Nov. 20th. In the Jessie Wilber Gallery, "Whimsical Escapes" opens September 11th and features the

work of Kayla Baker. Her acrylic paintings bring fun and quirky personalities to some of her favorite animals. By humanizing her subjects with clothing or humoresque situations, she hopes to make people realize these animals have a very important place in the world world. Baker's paintings invite the viewer to take a moment to escape from reality, emphasizing the importance of looking beyond tragedy, loss and negativity to focus on the joyous happy times in our lives. 'Whimsical Escapes' will be on display through Nov. 27th.

Also opening September 11th, Kathleen Herlihy-Paoli's "Act **III"** will be on display in the Lobby Gallery. In this series of paintings, Herlihy-Paoli reacts to personal, political and world events using the frame of the theatrical stage as a vehicle to call attention and reflect truths about our culture and our lives, as a mirror which she hopes "allows us to see ourselves and our society more clearly." Many of these paintings include objects such as buttons or beads that are handstitched onto the canvas as embellishments. 'Act III' will be on display through Nov. 27th.

Located at 111 S Grand Ave., the Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture serves as a primary resource for the arts, arts education, and cultural activities in Southwest Montana. Learn more about these exhibits and other upcoming happenings at www.theemerson.org. •

page 2A • Volume 27, Number 17 - September 01, 2020 • The BoZone Entertainment Calendar • www.BoZone.com • 406-586-6730 — Tell 'em, "I Saw It In The BoZone!"

BFS offers scholastic slate of documentaries

While large gatherings are still on hold, Bozeman Film Society has partnered with movie distributors to virtually stream independent titles new and classic. Watch safely at home with new films added weekly. Streaming sales directly support BFS. Here's a look at a few early fall options.

Explosive documentary Coup 53 is available through September 3rd. While making a documentary about the CIA/MI6 coup in Iran in 1953, Iranian director Taghi Amirani and editor Walter Murch (Apocalypse Now, The Conversation, The English Patient) discover never seen before archive material hidden for decades. The 16mm footage and documents not only allow the filmmakers to tell the story of the overthrow of the Iranian government in unprecedented detail, but it also leads to explosive revelations about dark secrets buried for 67 years.

Working with Ralph Fiennes (*The Grand Budapest Hotel, Schindler's List, The English Patient*) to help bring the lost material to life, what began as a historical documentary about four days in August 1953 turned



a live investigation, taking the filmmakers into uncharted cinematic waters. The roots of Iran's volatile relationship with America and Britain has never been so forensically and dramatically exposed. Screening includes an exclusive Q&A with Fiennes, Murch and Amirani. *Coup 53* is Not Rated with a runtime of 120 minutes.

Another title available through Sept. 3rd, **Desert One** takes viewers to the skies above revolutionary Iran. It has been called "the most audacious, difficult, complicated, rescue mission ever attempted." Desert One uniquely blends emotion and bravado to tell the incredible tale of America's secret mission to free the hostages of the 1979 Iranian revolution. Two-time Academy Award-winning filmmaker Barbara Kopple discovers a wealth of unearthed archival sources and receives unprecedented access, engaging in intimate conversations with many of the soldiers closest to the story, some for the first time, as well as President Jimmy Carter, Vice President Walter Mondale and TV newsman Ted Koppel. Evocative new animation brings audiences closer than anyone has ever gotten to being on the inside for this history-making operation. Desert One is Not Rated with a

runtime of 107 minutes.

Music-based documentary Jazz on a Summer's Day is available through September 10th, Filmed at the 1958 Newport Jazz Festival in Rhode Island and directed by world-renowned photographer, Bert Stern, the film features intimate performances by an all-star lineup of musical legends including Louis Armstrong, Thelonius Monk, Gerry Mulligan, Anita O'Day, Chuck Berry, Dinah Washington, and closes with a beautiful rendition of "The Lord's Prayer" by Mahalia Jackson at midnight to usher in Sunday morning. Not Rated, Jazz on a Summer's Day runs 85 minutes and is presented in 4K restoration.

Another doc, Our Time *Machine*, will be available September 11th-25th. Shaken by the news of his father's dementia, artist Maleonn creates "Papa's Time Machine," a wondrous timetravel adventure performed on stage with life-size mechanical puppets. Through the play's production, he confronts his own mortality. Maleonn finds grace and unexpected joy in this moving meditation on art, the agonies of love and loss, and the circle of life. Directed by Yang Sun and S. Leo Chiang, Our Time Machine is Not Rated with a runtime of 86 min-

Cost and rental period vary per title. Public film screenings at the Ellen will resume when large gatherings can be safely scheduled. Stay tuned for details.

Bozeman Film Society seeks out and presents independent films which engage, entertain, and foster an understanding of the world community around us. Visit **www.bozemanfilmsociety.org** for film previews and further information – and "Keep 'Em Flickering!" . •

Science Center reopening w/ focus on 'hands-off, brains-on' learning

On Saturday, September 12th, **Montana Science Center** will reopen its doors to the public after temporarily closing due to COVID-19. Now found at 2744 W Main, the staff at MSC is excited to announce that the Center is ready for families and community members to visit safely again.

Located across from Gallatin Valley Mall, the new space is nearly double the size of the former location and features new exhibits, a new Science Station, expanded STEAMlab and a larger meeting space for programs and events. Current members of the Science Center will be welcomed back starting Monday, Sept. 7th. MSC has been working with the state and Gallatin County Health Department to implement health guidelines to reopen safely with limited capacity for a safe community.

Since the closure, MSC staff has been working full-time to make necessary adjustments to the physical space, exhibits and safety protocols to reopen in the best possible way for community families. Adaptations to the Center include new exhibit pieces that focus on "hands-off" but "brains-on" learning, decreased materials for increased cleaning viability, and pre-registration programs to enhance attendance. Additionally, enhancements to the building's HVAC system ensure hospital-grade filtering of the air.



"It has been an incredible project," says Executive Director, Abby Turner. "The staff's efforts have taken shape with building upgrades, program additions and design enhancements that promote engagement with STEAM topics while keeping our patrons safe. We are looking forward to inviting the community to become engaged in interactive STEM experiences, classes again."

In addition to new programs for students at home during the school year, the high-tech makerspace, STEAMlab will offer expanded opportunities. Programs include a weekly Science Class, daily STEAMlab Open Labs and coding clubs, STEM in the Park, and program partnerships with other area organizations.

"We have been working collectively with all childcare providers in the Valley to create meaningful experiences for children of all ages as we navigate the waters during these times," says Turner, "we hope to provide these experiences while meeting the needs of students no matter what mode of education they are learning by." All programs will be registration-required through the Science Center website.

As the community adapts to a flexible school schedule, MSC will flex STEM education offerings to meet the needs of parents, families, teachers and rural communities through programming. Additionally, MSC will be introducing two new exhibits for engagement this fall – a NISE Network exhibit entitled "Sun, Earth, Universe" and one developed by the MSC team called "Dangerous Nature."

Though the closure has left a gap this summer for activities for families with children, MSC looks forward to welcoming patrons back, safely, into the Science Center. New hours will include a "cleaning break" from 12–2pm daily, and MSC will be closed on Wednesdays for field trips and cleaning each week. Visit

www.MontanaScienceCenter.o rg for additional information.

Story Mill showcase commingles fly fishing, high art



Gary Snyder Fine Art continues to host an exhibition of new paintings by local artist **Ben Miller** at the Story Mill Pop-Up Gallery in Bozeman. Ben has developed a unique style of painting that he calls **"Fly Cast Painting."** The nineteen paintings in this exhibition take as subject matter the rivers of Colorado and Montana.

Ben Miller celebrates, and intimately paints, rivers, the lifeblood of our land. His paintings present the natural world as a place of pilgrimage, discovery, inspiration, beauty and worship.

Without witnessing Ben paint a painting, it is almost impossible to understand how they are made. He starts by setting up a homemade easel on the banks of a river, upon which he places a sheet of transparent plexiglass. Using traditional fly fishing rods, Ben substitutes handmade "fly-brushes" for conventional hooked flies, saturates them in acrylic paint, and casts from over twenty feet on to the plexiglass. Over the course of a day, he casts over one thousand times, the mark of each cast eventually making up a finished painting of a chosen river.

As if the process wasn't amazing enough, one comes to realize that Ben, in a sense, paints backwards – the actual finished painting is the



reverse of the paint covered transparent polycarbonate. Turned around, the first strikes of the day are "on top" of the painting and the last form the backdrop.

Ben Miller brings together two disparate cultures – fly fishing culture and high art culture – each with much to learn from the other. They breathe new life into an art world struggling to balance art and nature on our rapidly changing and endangered planet.

A percentage of all sales will go to river causes around the world.

Gary Snyder has been an art dealer for over 35 years. His galleries in New York City were known for pioneering American modernist art. He moved to Bozeman two years ago, and continues to advise in fine art acquisition and investment. Snyder worked with acclaimed cameraman Jon Dodson to create over one hour of video content at **www.flycastpainting.com**, allowing viewers access to the remote rivers that Ben has painted.

Located at 888 Hillside Lane, the Story Mill Pop-Up Gallery is in a raw 10,000 square foot industrial space that is part of the larger historic Story Mill just outside Bozeman. The gallery is open to the public Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1 – 7pm, and also by appointment. Ben Miller will demonstrate "Fly Cast Painting" at 3pm every Saturday. The exhibit will be on display through Sept. 20th.

For further information, please contact Gary Snyder at gary@fly-castpainting.com. •

Meet Buddy! Buddy is a handsome four year old looking for his new home. He currently has a nice view of our catio and likes to watch the birds fly by. He is very talkative and friendly. He also enjoys being a couch potato. You can meet him at Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter at 1549 East Cameron Bridge Road or call (406) 388-9399.

*We are doing all services by appointment only so please call ahead.

(406) 388-9399 • 11:30 am - 5:30 pm • Mon.- Sat. 1549 E Cameron Bridge Rd Bozeman, MT 59718 *www.montanapets.org*



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Ghosts of Bozeman's Past Walking Tour 4:00pm Sunset Hills Cemetery Trivia Night 7:00pm Bar IX			Wednesday 7:30pm Rocking R Bar Brewery Follies 8:00pm H. S. Gilbert Brewery – Virginia City	Brewery Follies 8:00pm H. S. Gilbert Brewery – Virginia City
MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event Brunch Live Music – Ryan Acker 11:00am Pine Creek Lodge Western Rendezvous 3:30pm Eagle Mount Ghosts of Bozeman's Past Walking Tour 4:00pm Sunset Hills Cemetery	Live from the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event Open STEAMIab 3:00pm Montana Science Center Pints w/ Purpose – Sip & SLAM 5:00pm Bridger Brewing 100 Strong Gallatin Valley 6:00pm SHINE Beer Sanctuary Weston Lewis 6:30pm Red Tractor Pizza	Live from the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event September Site Tours 9:00am Bozeman Cohousing Neighborhood Yoga for All – Outdoors! 12:15pm Lindley Park Open STEAMIab 3:00pm Montana Science Center Arctic Spas Bozeman – Ribbon Cutting 4:00pm Arctic Spas Bozeman Rich Mayo 6:00pm	Live from the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event 19th & 20th Century American Art Exhibit 11:00am Bozeman Art Museum Business Sale Facts & Current Market 11:30am Bozeman Chamber of Commerce HIIT into Stride – Outdoors! 12:15pm Lindley Park Stimulus Package 7:00pm Bozeman Taproom Trivia Night & Wild West Wednesday 7:30pm Rocking R Bar	Live from the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event 19th & 20th Century American Art Exhibit 11:00amBozeman Art Museum Open STEAMIab 3:00pm Montana Science Center TGR presents Make Believe 7:00pm Starlite Drive-In Theatre 11th & Grant w/ Eric Funk – Dave Grusin 7:00pm MontanaPBS Bridger Creek Boys
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Friday



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Virtual Cinema w/ Bozeman Film Society

Virtual Event Live from the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Even Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Rails Across the Rockies: A Century of People & Places 10:00am Livingston Depot Center 19th & 20th Century American Art Exhibit 11:00am Bozeman Art Museum Open STEAMlab 3:00pm Montana Science Center Best of 406 Market 4:00pm Gallatin Valley Mall Donnie's Inferno 5:30pm Kountry Korner Café Brewery Follies 8:00pm

Saturday

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MSU Virtual Catapalooza 2020	Virtual Event			
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Brewery Follies 8:00pm H. S. C	Gilbert Brewery -	- Virginia City
11th & Grant w/ Eric Funk – Bac	kburner	
10:20pm		MontanaPBS
Austin City Limits w/ The Racon	teurs & Black	Pumas
11:15pm		MontanaPBS



Virtual Cinema w/ Bozeman Film Society Virtual Event Live from the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event MontanaPBS – 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event YGM's Exploring Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event Virtual Event Rails Across the Rockies: A Century of People & Places 10:00am Livingston Depot Center 19th & 20th Century American Art Exhibit 11:00am Bozeman Art Museum Fly Cast Painting Demo w/ Ben Miller Story Mill Pop-Up Gallery 3:00pm Brewery Follies 4:00pm H. S. Gilbert Brewery – Virginia City

Kountry Korner Café Donnie's Inferno 5:30pm H. S. Gilbert Brewery – Virginia City Brewery Follies 8:00pm H. S. Gilbert Brewery – Virginia City Austin City Limits w/ Buddy Guy & August Greene



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Virtual Event aufbrau's Open Mic – Pandemic Sessions Virtual Event	Thomas D. Mangelsen – A Life in the Wild	Virtual Event of the Rockies	CALL (406) 581-1280 OR VISIT WellnessSolutionsMT.com)
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September 01, 2020

The BoZone • Volume 27, Number 17

MUSIC IN AND AROUND THE BOZONE

Dead tribute finishes off virtual 'Music in the Mountains'

On Thursday, September 3rd, the Arts Council of Big Sky will host Dead Sky for the

final show in this summer's Music in the Mountains free concert series. However, for this event there will be no audience, the stage will be indoors and food vendors will be nonexistent. But, as they say, the show must go on - only virtually this time! The concert is

broadcasted from the Warren Miller Performing Arts Center in Big Sky and available to stream for free through the Arts Council's Facebook and YouTube pages. The music will start at 7pm.

Dead Sky is a Grateful Dead tribute band based out of Bozeman. It features members of Pinky & the

Floyd, MOTH, Kelly Nicholson Band, The Hooligans, The Dead



Yellers, SlomoJoe Trio and more: Luke Flansburg (guitar/vocals), Joe Knapp (guitar/vocals), Joe Kirchner (keyboards), Rich Robiscoe (bass), Brett Goodell (drums/percussion) and Kelly Nicholson (vocals).

Thanks to recent technology upgrades at WMPAC, the show will be streamed with high-quality audio

and visual production from Jereco Studios – the same engineers that

produce the sound and lights for the outdoor series. Several cameras have been installed in the theater, allowing for multiple angles. The 2020 Virtual Music in the Mountains concert series is made possible by Big Sky Resort Tax, First Security

Bank, Big Sky Landscaping, American Bank, the Spanish Peaks Community Foundation and Hammond Property Management.

For more information about the virtual Music in the Mountains and other upcoming events, visit www.bigskyarts.org or find them on Facebook.

Plan for a Saturday night in with Austin City Limits

After unlocking much of its series library as a gift to music fans, Austin City Limits continues to air back episodes on MontanaPBS as the COVID-induced live music moratorium rages on.

Enjoy sixty minutes of soulful rock & roll with the double-billing of The Raconteurs and Black Pumas on Saturday, September 12th. Nashville's Raconteurs spotlight their album Help Us Stranger, while Austin's Black Pumas perform tunes from their self-titled debut. The episode airs at 11:15pm.

Thrill to an hour of blues and hip-hop with Buddy Guy and August Greene the following Saturday, September 19th. Blues legend Guy plays hits and songs from his latest album The Blues is Alive and Well. Hip-hop supergroup August Greene performs songs from its self-titled debut. The episode airs at 9:43pm.

And on Saturday, September 26th, Billie Eilish ushers in a new generation of live music fanaticism.

The global pop phenomenon performs her off-kilter pop hits and songs from her acclaimed multi-platinum and GRAMMY-winning smash WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO? The episode airs at 10:43pm.

Please note: check MontanaPBS listings in the case of schedule changes. Air dates and times subject to change.

The longest-running music series in American television history, Austin City Limits showcases popular music legends and innovators from every genre. In addition to being honored by the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame as a rock n' roll landmark, ACL is the only television program to ever receive the National Medal of Arts, the nation's highest award for artistic excellence. A spinoff event, the annual Austin City Limits Festival has become a favorite for live music fans around the country. Learn more about the landmark series at

www.acltv.com.

11th & Grant

MontanaPBS will feature a pair of talents in upcoming episodes of 11th & Grant with Eric Funk, its signature music series. The encore airings will showcase one-time Bozeman foursome Backburner and Rocky Mountain native Dave Grusin.

Airing at 7pm on Thursday, September 10th, local jazz quartet Backburner was featured in an early episode of 11th & Grant's debut season. The group provides an energized performance of original tunes composed by Alan Fauque (saxophones), Eddie T. (electric bass), and program host, Eric Funk (piano). Mike Gillan (drums) fills out the quartet playing swing, Latin, funk and jazz waltz. The episode will air once again on Saturday, Sept. 12th at

10:20pm.

Following at 7pm on Thursday, September 24th, legendary Grammy and Oscar-winning film composer Dave Grusin performs selections from his vast library of original scores and time-honored jazz tunes. Grusin showcases his prowess in a memorable solo piano performance with music from Mulholland Falls, Random Hearts, The Milagro Beanfield War, and jazz classics from Bill Evans and Antonio Jobim. The episode will air again on Saturday, Sept. 26th at 9:45pm.

Previous episodes of 11th & Grant are available to stream anytime at www.11thandgrant.com or on the 11th & Grant app.

Music Mondays, other live sets take over Red Tractor this month

Live performances have largely been limited to livestreams through small screens for the past several months, but there are still one or two inperson shows out there. Red Tractor Pizza continues to host Music Mondays this month, as well as biweekly sets by some seasoned locals.

Lang Termes provides the tunes on September 7th at 7pm. His vocal style ranges from mellow folk ballads to growling boogie blues. His style of songwriting - both original music and lyrics - comes deep from the heart, or in some cases, bubbles up from his whimsical sense of irony. Lang's selection of covers ranges from early country blues to the full gamut of contemporary classics. A few of his biggest influences include Muddy Waters, Woody Guthrie, Bruce Springsteen, Eddie Vedder, and Townes Van Zandt.

Tom Kirwan follows on September 14th at 6:30pm. He performs a blend of folk country and Americana. Tom's songs evoke nostalgia of long-ago dreams and people, while weaving stories of human longing both past and present.

Weston Lewis provides the entertainment on September 21st at 6:30pm. Lewis plays with a number of local bands, solo performances, and as a sit-in lead guitarist for artists including Andrew Hand Band, John Sherrill, Electric Sunday, Lang Termes, Mathias, and MOTH. His solo sets are comprised mostly of acoustic rock covers and some of his original songs. In band settings, he likes to play funk, jazz, country and more. Local folk/rock musician Jacob Rountree closes out this month's Music Mondays on September 28th at 6:30pm. His relatable songs are marked by contemplative and powerful lyrics that help build the soul. Pairing his vocals with a few different styles of guitar playing, Rountree captivates audiences and sponsors a rocking good time for everyone in attendance. Currently performing every other Thursday,



Bridger Creek Boys return to the stage at 7pm on Sept. 10th and 24th. The Boys are an acoustic bluegrass guartet steeped in old-time tradition, while also pushing the genre with newgrass. The band blends originals with covers of traditional bluegrass and more contemporary artists. Their style is confident, complex, and full of improvisation that will draw you in and get you shaking all over with bluegrass joy.

Also at Red Tractor on alternating Fridays, Jazz Night takes over the pizzeria at 7pm on Sept. 11th and 25th. This regular Friday night show begins at 7pm. Curated by guitarist and composer Alex Robilotta, these evenings feature the music styles of jazz, funk, latin, and more. Come out, get ready to groove, and hear America's only original art form as it exists and

evolves in the 21st century. Finally, catch special Saturday shows by Vibe



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Quartet on Sept. 12th and Jess Atkins on Sept. 26th, both beginning at 7pm. The improv four-piece fuses a variety of instrumental music ranging from jazz standards to original funk numbers and instrumental popular tunes. Atkins finger and flatpicking styles bring to mind players like Leo Kottke, John Fahey, Keller Williams and Dave Matthews. Along with his self-penned compositions, he easily blends timeless classics with other blues and country tunes.

Red Tractor Pizza is located at 1007 W Main in Bozeman. Check out their menu at www.redtractorpizza.com. Note: masks are required indoors, except when seated at your table.

MSU Wonderlust forum discusses public lands in the New West

From MSU News Service

Montana State University Wonderlust will host Betsy Gaines Quammen, a Bozeman-based environmental historian, writer and conservationist, for its Friday Forum event on September 11th. "Public Lands in the New West Past and Present: Entitlement, Conflict and **Conspiracy,"** will take place

online from noon to 1:30pm. The event is free and open to the public.

Quammen will discuss her new book, "American Zion: Cliven Bundy, God and Public Lands in the West," which explores the 27-year legal battle and land-use war in Bunkerville, Nevada, between the large Bundy family and local, state and federal governments. She will also discuss research for the book and ongoing conspiracy theories and will draw comparisons



to the current unrest between the government and the American public.

In "American Zion," Quammen argues that the Bundys represent an antagonism with the U.S. government that dates back to when adherents of the Church of Latter-day Saints came west, bringing militant beliefs, some legitimate grievances and their certainty of claiming a God-promised homeland they called Zion. She describes the book as a journey through the New West, one still haunted by 19th century white settlement, violence and an enduring sense of entitlement.

Registration is required. For more information and to register,

visit www.montana.edu/wonderlust.

Upon registration participants will receive an email with the Webex link and instructions to join the program.

> Friday Forums are a partnership between MSU Wonderlust and the Bozeman Public Library Foundation. Wonderlust is a program of Academic Technology and Outreach at MSU. ATO works across the university to support and advance its landgrant mission through unique and innovative opportunities for outreach and engagement.

Green Door features offbeat work of John Henry Haseltine

Green Door Gallery will host the work of John Henry Haseltine this fall. "Westward & Miserable" will be on display through October 28th at the Downtown Livingston space.

The artist, filmmaker and performer previously resided in Los Angeles and graduated from Emerson College with a degree in film production. He relocated to Livingston to dedicate more time to his art, finding inspiration in Montana's geography and history.

"Westward & Miserable' is equally influenced by the bizarre realm of western culture between John Ford films and Howdy Doody, and the practical realizations the socially conscious are able to make while inhabiting western regions today," Haseltine says. "Within a



painting, I don't worry about sepa-

ogy from more revisionist historical realities. because from my perspective, revising the mythology of the west is a practice as old as the myths themselves and is a fundamental part of

the medium. I paint with acrylic craft paint it's paint intended for derby racing cars, bird houses or paper mâché crafts, but it's also ideal on canvas if you want everything to look like a giant, unmovable roadside Paul Bunyan statue.

"So much of this region's aesthetics, history and rituals strike me as natural subjects for jarring narrative paintings. Apart from a tremendous amount of brush strokes, my job mainly comes down to figuring out how hunched over the guys in the painting should be, what beard lengths will be the funniest, and which people are crying or just about to start crying. I enjoy saddling these historical figures and stoic archetypes with some of the less glamorous emotions that occupy an awful lot of our brain space today (anxiety, neuroticism, self-centered despair...). It's why many of the 'heroes' look like babies or little boys. These emotions aren't ever included in our myths and folklore. but I find it hard to believe they weren't there when these stories happened to whatever extent they actually did."

The Synergigi-designed Green Door Gallery can be found just above Wheatgrass Saloon, a coldpress juice bar and eco-boutique in historic Downtown Livingston. Green Door celebrates the work of local and regional artists and presents a culturally engaging experience for the viewer. The gallery is located at 120 N Main St. Learn more by visiting www.wheatgrassa**loon.com**. Note: face coverings are

required for entry. Masks and hand sanitizer available.

HRDC celebrates 45 years of service to regional communities

In early August, HRDC officially celebrated 45 years of providing service across communities in Southwest Montana. HRDC is a Community Action Agency committed to responding to the community's most pressing needs.

According to HRDC's Impact Report, published the Aug. 10 Bozeman Daily Chronicle, in the last year, the organization has positively impacted the lives of more than 12,000 community members in Bozeman, Belgrade, Big Sky, Livingston and beyond. The nonprofit's broad-based initiatives address needs from hunger and homelessness to early childhood education and financial stability, and much more. HRDC's services support their customers on their own paths to growth and stability.

"We are so grateful for the sup-

Health'

port of our community over the last 45 years," says Kristin Hamburg, HRDC Development Director. "We know how important our volunteers, donors, staff, board members, and friends and neighbors are to our mission and vision. Without them, we could not do the work that we

"Although we have been providing services for many years, we are an ever-changing organization. Especially in the time of COVID-19, we are adapting and shifting to meet the needs of the people who live and work here. As we celebrate this milestone, we ask our community members to continue supporting us and our neighbors."

For more information about the Community Action Agency and its many programs, visit www.thehrdc.org.

Suds & sketch comedy in Virginia City

Last chance for a guaranteed laughing attack! The Brewery Follies continue to give audiences something to smile about at Virginia City's historic H. S. Gilbert Brewery. The variety show is finishing up another summer season of belly laughs, celebrity impersonations, sketch comedy and live music This hilarious comedy cabaret - accompanied by your favorite Montana microbrews and standard domestics - will leave your stomach muscles sore for days from laughing and guffawing.

The mission of the Brewery Follies is simple: to make you laugh while these crazy entertainers make fun of just about everything

you can think of in today's political and social landscape. However, you might want to find a sitter for the kids – with laughter and beer on tap, some of the Follies' antics can be pretty irreverent. Of course, the nasty "four letter words" are left out, but the jokes might mean what "those" words mean. The Brewery Follies is rated well beyond PG-13!

"...a cabaret show wild enough for any old-time miner." - Sunset

"If there's a funnier or more polished show around, I haven't seen it." - Christine Meyers, Billings Gazette

"For a night of inspired madness, nonsense, foolishness and

general absurdity, head to Virginia City and check out the Brewery Follies." – The Montana Standard

The Brewery Follies 2020 Season runs through September 19th. Showtime is at 8pm, Wednesday through Saturday. Two 4pm matinees also take place on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Reservations are required by phone only. Call (800) 829-2969 ext. 3 to make yours! Please note: face masks required and show schedule subject to change.

This comedy show will keep you talking for days! Due to mature content, parental guidance is suggested. Learn more at www.breweryfollies.net.

Starlite helps TGR kick-off winter w/ drive-in adventure screenings

Get ready, Bozeman! On Thursday, September 24th, join Teton Gravity Research at the Starlite Drive-In Theatre to experience the new ski and snowboard film, Make Believe, on the big screen. This will be the kick-off to winter celebration that everyone needs in their lives right now!

Inspiration is evoked spontaneously and without intention... Sometimes it comes in the form of a photograph, a chance encounter on a chairlift, or a glimpse at a mountain never seen before. When combined with motivation, the spark of inspiration becomes a dream, and when pursued gives our lives a new purpose.

For 25 years, TGR has focused

on turning Make Believe into reality, from exploring powder stashes in backyard playgrounds to first descents on unnamed peaks, the ethos of "live the dream" has defined these adventures. This film features a segment shot locally in the mountains of Montana - don't miss out!

Make Believe will screen at the Starlite Drive-In on Sept. 24, with an early 7pm showing and a late show to follow at 9:30pm. Tickets are \$30 per vehicle (includes two passengers), plus \$10 for each additional passenger. Gates at 6pm and 8:45pm, respectively. Visit www.tetongravity.com to reserve your parking spot.

There will be prize giveaways

from partners like Sierra Nevada, The North Face, ATOMIC SKI-ING, VÖLKL, YETI and more! Plus, all attendees will have a chance for the tour grand prizes - including trips to TGR's hometown Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, to British Columbia with Tourism Whistler, or prize packs from film sponsors.

One of the world's leading action sports brands, Teton Gravity Research has produced dozens of award-winning featurelength films, numerous television series, and national television commercial spots. TGR is known for its cutting edge media and leading online destination. TGR works with the top athletes in their respective disciplines, capturing, celebrating, and bringing to life the passion and enthusiasm associated with action sports.

The Montana chapter of Interfaith Power and Light believes their Zoom online conference "Cultivating Soil, Soul, and **Health"** will help answer that question. It will be held September 25th-26th

'Cultivating Soil, Soul &

Speakers will use our current food system as a focal point to explore climate, health, and structural vulnerabilities and inequality, as well as opportunities for restoring soil, health, air, and water quality, making healthy food affordable for the poor, increasing the viability of small farms, reducing waste and pollution, and enhancing social, economic, and spiritual

resiliency

Sustainable Food and Bioenergy Systems (SFBS) undergraduate degree program at Montana State University (MSU), and, at 10:30am, find out how Casey Bailey, a Montana grain farmer, transformed his Clearlake Farm in Fort Benton, using regenerative practices.

Conference organizer Connie Campbell-Pearson, Deacon at St. James Episcopal Church in Bozeman says, "I hope this conference will give folks a chance to step back from their daily interaction with food and take a deeper look into where it comes from, social inequities of food access, and what impact our appetites have on our precious earth. I also want people

ADVENTURE IS BREWING



The conference kicks off Friday evening, Sept. 25th at 6:30pm with keynote Fred Bahnson, Director of Food, Health, and Ecological Health Well-Being at the Wake Forest School of Divinity and author of Soil & Sacrament. Bahnson's talk on 'Contemplative Ecology' will guide us to re-imagine our place in, and responsibility for, the natural world. Drs. Rob and Lori Byron follow at 7:50pm, sharing their insights on Climate Change and Human Health in Montana. An internist and pediatrician respectively, the Byrons helped start Montana Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate.

The conference resumes at 8:45am Saturday morning, Sept. 26th with 'Just Food Systems' presented by Mary Stein, Program Leader of the

to find community and have actionable items when they go home."

Interactivity is woven into the conference structure and breaks are included. After each speaker, participants will join in moderated small groups to brainstorm ways they can act on a personal level, as well as effective actions and opportunities for collaboration they can take back to their social or faith groups. The conference will be capped with a plenary discussing "Where do we go from Here?," wrapping up at 12:30pm.

The conference costs \$15, including downloadable resources and access to recorded presentations after the event. For registration and additional information, including detailed schedule, please visit www.fscaconference.org.



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Mail ballots let Montanans get out the vote early

Days remaining are in the double digits and counting down. Another Election Day is upon us, and even though they say it every cycle, this one is perhaps the most crucial.

Decisions made on November 3rd will determine the course of our country long after the terms of featured candidates expire, up and down the ballot. Gone are the days of political off-seasons, but now is not the time to let, albeit justifiable fatigue keep Montanans from fulfilling the civic right and responsibility to cast their vote.

Everything looks different post-COVID, including the upcoming election. In early August, Governor Steve Bullock directed the expansion of voting by mail and early voting, still requiring in-person voting opportunities whether or not counties opt for increased mail ballots.

"I am in agreement with our bipartisan election administrators - who are the ones on the ground with the first-hand knowledge of how to successfully conduct an election - that we must protect Montanans' right to vote, while protecting the public's health," he said. "Locally elected officials best understand the voting needs of their communities, and taking this action now ensures they will have time to make the right decisions for their localities. With this approach we can protect that fundamental right to vote, while easing crowding and pressure on voting on Election Day.

Numerous Montana counties, including Gallatin and Park, have since announced their plans to hold mail-ballot elections for the coming general contest. These and other participating counties hope to replicate the success of their June primary elections, which were conducted by mail statewide and saw record turnout.

Voting procedure has always differed from state to state, county to county, but having to constantly improvise our daily lives has made it difficult to keep everything straight. This digest is meant to clear up any lingering confusion about how local voters can ensure their tallies are accounted for come Election Day.

New Voter

torate is fundamental to any democracy. This body of citizens decides who runs things and how they're run, in the short and longterm. To contribute with your vote, registration is required through your local election office.

voters 18 years or older and residents of the

Treasure State for at least 30 days prior to the election will need a valid Montana Driver's License or ID Card, Social Security Number, or accepted alternate identification to register. Montana is one of only a handful of states that allows registration up until the close of polls on Election Day. One caveat: voters must appear in-person after the late registration period has begun, 30 days before the election. The deadline for regular voter registration is Oct. 26.

Registration & Voter Status

If you're not sure about the status of your voter record, log on to votinginmontana.com and click 'My Voter Page' to be rerouted to the Montana Secretary of State's voter information service. Enter your first and last name with date of birth for registration status, whether you're an active or inactive voter, and sample ballots (available 30 days before the election). This page also displays absentee status and the location of your polling place during a typical, COVID-free voting year.

Ballot Dispersal

As is routine for absentee voters under normal circumstances, this year's official ballots will be mailed to ALL registered voters

on Oct. 9. Once received, electors will complete fill out their ballot and return in the included security envelope. Postage will be provided.

Ballot Collection

Completed ballots MUST be received by 8pm on Election Day to be included in the official count. Given our transition to a predominantly vote-by-mail election, timeliness will be essential once blank ballots are received.

Gallatin County election officials have worked with the local United States Postal Service offices to eliminate long-distance mail processing in Billings and Great Falls. In the week leading up to the election, ballots will be sorted from other mail and delivered to the local election office directly. That being said, time is of the essence. Returning ballots early is strongly encouraged.

Be on the lookout for an announcement regarding official drop-box locations, which are set to be installed around the county one month before the election. These receptacles will be as secure as any mailbox, but exclusive to ballots.

Those who wish to vote in person will still

be able to do so at the county election department, which expands office hours to 7am-8pm on Election Day. Additionally, plans to open date-specific satellite offices in the county's rural communities like Manhattan and Three Forks are underway. These sites will allow for registration and voting in person. Public health protocols will be enforced at all official election sites.

Election Service Opportunities

All eyes are on the approaching general election and our county offices may need some extra hands. Serve as an election judge to be a part of the process! The State of Montana conducts fair, secure elections with the help of these individuals who staff polling places and counting centers. Those interested must be registered voters 18 years of age or older and residents of the county for which they will serve. Visit sosmt.gov/elections/judge or contact your county election administrator for additional information.

Be Prepared, Vote Early

With the fluid state of affairs and seemingly endless politicization of our institutions, the safest way to guarantee your vote is among those confirmed and counted is by doing so early.

Research the issues. Learn more about each candidate's platform. Understand the verbiage of proposed measures. These can largely be done before ballots are mailed out. Decide where you stand now, so you can grab that blue or black pen and turn it right back around.

Send it through the mail, find a dropbox, or walk the ballot envelope into the election office during regular business hours if you're looking for that extra sense of security. Bottom line: DO NOT DELAY. If we had to pick an overused adage to sum up life in the time of COVID, it would be to expect the unexpected. This is not the time for procrastination or indifference.

The somewhat gradual receipt of completed ballots will ease the burden on our election officials on what will be a hotly contested Nov. 3rd. Political affiliations aside, it's imperative we make a plan now to vote early.

These are all the Democrats running in Gallatin County.

Find their Websites, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter feeds. This about our Democracy!





House District 63



Colette Campbell House District 67



House District 64

House District 68



Raph Graybill MT Attorney General



MT Auditor



Chris Pope Senate District 31



Melissa Romano MT Superintendent of Public Instruction





Mike Cooney



Bryce Bennett MT Secretary of State



Tom Woods



Steve Bullock United States Senate



Kathleen Williams United States Representative



Joe Biden United States President

The Bozone's Best of Bozeman 2020

Thank You

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Voting

Yes, there's reason to celebrate in 2020: *your* Best of Bozeman

The beginning of a new decade is meant to be a time of revival, a chance to start anew. Optimism was widespread as the clock counted down on New Year's, teeing up 2020 and all the opportunities it would bring. We got off to a good start: shortcomings of the old calendar were packed away with holiday decorations, spring and summertime vacations were booked, the usual hundred million or so still gathered for the big game, coffee was hot and flannel was worn.

Then March happened. Events were canceled en masse as we confined to our homes and obsessively refreshed news feeds. The future near and distant became one big collective ? with phrases like 'uncertain times' and 'together apart' becoming regular utterances, the value of toilet paper and Lysol exceeding palladium. Without rehashing every detail of that shared experience, the last six months have been undoubtedly difficult. But the Bozeman community made adjustments and forged ahead, making the best of Montana's sunniest, typically crowdhappy months.

The annual Best of Bozeman survey was only one occasion postponed by matters more urgent, but the time has finally come for the constituency to bask in the glow of its official selection. Huge thanks to all who voted way back when returning to business as usual will be reason enough to celebrate, though a blue ribbon might be just the bonus your favorites need! Here's a deep dive into Bozeman's premier bars, restaurants, service industries, live entertainment venues, small businesses, local destinations and more.

One of the greatest perks of living in Montana is access to its vast outdoor playground, something few of us took for granted this summer when entertainment options were so drastically limited. Biking is a regular activity among locals who can be found at **Owenhouse Cycling** when they're not on the asphalt or trails. The downtown shop won Best Bike Shop for its spokes and accessories. Their ride-obsessed team will make sure you find the perfect set of wheels.

Though cyclists have ample space to pedal, **Hiking** is the overall Best Outdoor Activity with Lava Lake taking Best Trail. Hyalite beat out Lava this year for Best Hiking Trail. Be sure to fill your pack with all the necessities from **REI**, your Best Outdoor Gear Shop and Best Sports Equipment Store. A large portion of the co-op's sales is returned to the community it serves.

A leisurely day on the green is sometimes preferred to strenyous mountainside activities. **Bridger Creek** is your *Best Golf* Course for its 18-holes beneath an impeccable view of the namesake mountains. Get your games in and enjoy the fall colors. In Four Corners, one half of The River's Edge locations stock what fishing people need to cast a line in one of our famous rivers. The other Best Fly Fishing Shop storefront can be found in Downtown Bozeman. Pick your shop and fill the tackle box! Though it may be more popular for fishermen and women, the Gallatin River just lost out on Best River to the Madison River. The slow-moving waterway is the go-to for floaters with a low turnout unheard of when the sun is shining.

It'll be winter before we know it, which should satisfy local snow bunnies. Best Ski Area is the hill for locals, Bridger Bowl. Its recent season was cut short so passholders will be eagerly awaiting the first couple dumpings. Their new RFID technology will make it easier than ever to "Ski the Cold Smoke."

It's not snowing yet! Other outdoor hotspots that can be enjoyed right now include Best City Park Story Mill Community Park, taking first place in its debut year. The massive space features a dog park, amphitheater for live entertainment, adventure playground and plenty of room to roam. Voters, however, awarded Snowfill Recreation Area with Best Place to Take Your Dog. The space is great for our furry friends to get out all that extra energy.

Yellowstone National Park is this year's Best Place to Experience Nature. Whether you're a Montana native or visitor to the Treasure State, a trip down to Old Faithful is always an occasion - but please don't pet the wildlife!

In a year when gatherings were largely put on hold, event promoters got creative. Best Local Event again went to Music on Main. Known to pack a multi-block span downtown, the summer tradition moved ahead with a livestream of its 2020 concerts.

It was a photo finish for Best Festival with Sweet Pea taking the top honor from SLAM, last year's winner, by less than one percent. Though the Sweet Pea Run wasn't able to proceed this summer, the arts fest and runner-up teamed for the "Tour d' Arte" to showcase local artists who would have been featured during both events.

True to form, Pinky & the Floyd jammed their way to Best Local Band. The tribute group put on a couple outdoor shows this season for those lucky enough to score golden tickets.

The **Rialto Theater** – winner of *Best Music Venue* and *Best* Event Venue - has hosted numerous Pinky concerts since reopening its doors. Live entertainment has been one of the hardest hit industries this year. When your favorite acts return to this stage and others, plan to take in a show! (Like you needed a reminder.)

You don't have to be a working musician to entertain. Hit the high notes at Best Karaoke Venue the Eagles Bar on

OFF MAIN - BOZEMAN, MT

Thursday nights. Terri & Co. from Sunrise Entertainment will bring the binders of songs, you bring the pipes!

Voters circled the wagons and awarded Dave & Ally of XL Country the Gallatin Valley's Best Radio D7s for another year. Their lively morning show makes the prospect of commuting to work a little more bearable. Our friend Michelle Wolfe came in at number two for her 'Moose Mornings' show. As for Best Radio Station, XL Country lassoed the top prize away from last year's winner, KGLT.

It's been a headline-heavy couple months and KBZK-CBS hasn't missed a beat. Montana's News Leader scooped its competitors with back-to-back wins for Best TV Morning and Evening News shows.

Best of Bozeman continued on Page 2D



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20 Best of Bozeman Continued

We've got a busy couple months ahead of us, so find your remote!

Montana artists have some of the best source material around, as well as display rooms to showcase their work. Altitude Gallery claimed Best Art Gallery once again this year. The cozy, contemporary space is located in Downtown Bozeman and features a rotating mix of paints, photography, glass works and more.

Creativity meets elegance with programs by Elizabeth DeFanti's Montana Ballet Company. Bozeman's Best Dance Studio recently hosted the 'Dancing Under the Big Sky' summer intensive and looks forward to welcoming back local audiences during a future performance.

The folks behind 'Damn Yankees,' 'Annie' and 'Oklahoma!' most recently brought to life Charles Dickens classic 'A Christmas Carol' at Best Live Theater Venue the Ellen Theatre. May this extended intermission give our wonderful local performers a chance to polish their monologues ahead of what's sure to be another stage smash! Montana Shakespeare in the Parks again won Best Live Theater Group. The traveling troupe plans to perform 'Cymbeline' and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' next summer.

Rocky Rex is but one of the attractions that helped

Museum of the Rockies claw its way to Best Place for Family Fun and Kids' Activities. Featuring live specimens, their scaly rotating exhibit 'Reptiles: The Beautiful & the Deadly' has piqued the curiosities of children and adults alike. There's still time to check it out - exhibit closes Sept. 13th.

With fall settling in and nights getting cooler, the natural waters of Chico Hot Springs will be a welcome warm-up when the foliage turns yellow and orange. Chico is your Best Overnight / Weekend Getaway and Best Hot "Wada" nearby. Bozeman Hot Springs was a close second for the

latter category. Rejuvenation comes in many forms. Reset with an afternoon at **The Loft Spa**, the area's Best Day Spa and Place for a Massage. Popular for their array of services for body and mind, the downtown escape recently added acupuncture to their menu. A personal day wouldn't be complete without a new 'do! Theory is the Best Hair Salon in Bozeman for their vibrant, culture-inspired styling. The studio is now located across from the Lark downtown. Whether staying in shape or embracing a

healthier lifestyle, the **Ridge Athletic Clubs** feature the equipment, classes and morale you're looking for.

The Best Gym / Fitness Center has locations in Downtown Bozeman and the west end for busy bod-

ies looking to squeeze in a

workout. For a more serene, full-body workout, try Best Yoga Studio Your Yoga. Each of their classes are intimate and unique. The studio is also offering virtual sessions so you can participate from home. Montana Mixed Martial Arts is Bozeman's Best Martial Arts Gym. Those interested in learning the art of Jiu-Jitsu have an open door at the northside

club. Glove up! Sponsors of Best Timed Foot Race 'Run to the Pub' and other local races, Bozeman Running Company has the soles and accessories for every competitive or recreational athlete. That's why they're the Best Running Shoe Store another year ... running! Here's hoping virtual contests are a thing of the past come 2021. For now, keep up the conditioning with a run around Best Jogging Trail area Peets Hill / Burke Park. Sourdough Trail clipped heels in second.

And though it won Best Shoe Store, Schnee's Boots & Shoes also deals in outdoor gear and apparel to go with every pair of new kicks. The downtown shop has been a Bozeman mainstay for decades.

Walking everywhere is more of a thing for city folks, save a few hardcores who brave the mountain elements year round. Best Car Dealer Ressler Motors is the place to find an all or 4WD to suit any household. The lot features models by Toyota, Chevrolet and Cadillac, as well as quality pre-owned vehicles. Ressler also won Best Automotive Repair.

If your rig isn't under warranty, make an appointment at **A&D Auto Body** next time you're in a fender bender. They won Best Autobody Repair. There's a reason A&D takes this prize year after year: their technicians are experienced and efficient, reuniting owners with their vehicles quickly without skimping on quality.

Don't miss out on the Best Oil Change in town at Speedy **be**, just up the road from A&D. Their full-service operation makes sure your car, truck or SUV is running smoothly for daily errands and longer weekend road trips. Look for the roadrunner on 7th! Another favorite Montana activity is taking it off-road and spinning out some dirt! Summit Motorsports was named Best ATV/Motor Sports Store for its selection of new and used allterrain models ready to hit the dry earth or snow-covered hills. Before we continue our shopping excursion, make a withdrawal from First Security Bank. The Gallatin Valley is home to several branches and ATM locations. Voted Best Bank, First Security encourages its staff to get involved with nonprofit organizations throughout the community.

Preserve memories made with The Frugal Frame Shop, just beating Old Main for Best Frame Shop.

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The west Bozeman store offers custom framing services at competitive rates. Simple mat, canvas stretching and shadowbox treatments are just a few things they offer.

The frames at Advanced Eyecare helped lock in the prize for Best Optical Shop, a new category this year. Their opticians provide comprehensive eye health services and access to a large array of eyewear. Advanced Eyecare serves the Gallatin Valley from offices in Bozeman and Belgrade.

The crowning of **Cashman Nursery** as Best Garden Shop / Nursery shouldn't come as a surprise to longtime residents. Their varied selection of trees, shrubs, perennials and more has been growing and beautifying backyards since 1898.

A professionally designed arrangement from Labellum, winner of Best Florist, will add a splash of beauty to any foyer or dining room table. The contemporary flower boutique mixes natural elements and rich textures into its work, ensuring each arrangement tells a unique story. Langohr's came in a close second.

And for the greens of another variety, Juniper Cannabis overtook Spark1 for Best Dispensary. The downtown shop assists Montana medical cardholders with the best CBD solutions available, brought in from their rural growing facility. Their menu features a strain for each unique patient.

East Main Ink has opened its shop to body art enthusiasts for almost a decade. Located on the east end of town, Bozeman's Best Tattoo Studio puts out some incredible work. Colorful. Intricate. The artists' years of experience keep bringing people back.

Accessorize with a gorgeous piece from Miller's Jewelry, the Best Place to Buy Jewelry. They specialize in Montana sapphires and diamonds, and recently wrapped their annual estate show. It's always a great opportunity to find pre-owned items from local sellers.

And if you're looking for a lovingly used record by your favorite musician, check the racks at Cactus Records – the "weirdo" Best Record / CD Store in Bozeman. The charming downtown shop is also a great place for quirky gifts, cards for any ole reason, and other souvenirs. Make music of your own with a new set of strings from **Music Villa**. The reigning champ of Best Musical Instrument Store has a large selection of guitars, gear and other instruments. They also schedule private lessons with experienced instructors.

Set the Kindle aside and curl up with a spine from Country Bookshelf. There's nothing quite like the smell and feel of an actual book, and our Best Bookstore has something for fans of any genre. They also host author events, which will hopefully return in a physical form in the coming months.

For those who still enjoy the thrill of picking out a movie from the shelf, Movie Lovers is Bozeman's pick for Best Video Rental Store. Skim the new releases and classics ahead of your next movie night. They've got tons of titles not found on streaming services and you won't have to deal with any annoying buffering issues.

Nights in are better enjoyed in a well-maintained dwelling and home improvements are part of having a mortgage! Find the tools and tips necessary of any project at Owenhouse Ace Hardware, repeat winner of Best Hardware Store. The shelves are fully stocked at two locations: downtown and on Bozeman's west side.

UFS (Used Furniture Store) takes care of any necessary refurbishments before sending its customers home with their new, quality used pieces. The furnishing connoisseurs tallied the majority of votes for Best Furniture Store, new and used. Drop in and talk with a staff member about their available styles and eras. and price ranges. A knowledgeable and courteous staff is always available to help. They also buy used furniture!

Complete the room with a hidden treasure from Best Antique Store, The Antique Barn. Their Gallatin Gateway showroom has everything from reclaimed furniture and farm finds to rare vintage finds from numerous vendors.

And if you're on the hunt for steals on clothing, trinkets and more, swing into **Sacks of Bozeman**. The repeat winner for Best Thrift Store also claimed Best Clothing Store this year. The downtown shop is a great supporter of our local Help Center



programs and is known for its constantly rotating stock.

Best Craft / Hobby Store again went to Michaels for their niche materials and customer service. Hobby Lobby didn't open in time for this year's survey, but we're guessing it'll give Michaels a run for its money next year.

Best Grocery Store goes to Town & Country Foods once again. The regional supermarket chain recently opened a store in Lewistown, but was voted number one by those polled in Bozeman, Belgrade and Livingston. The stores have pantry and fridge-filling goods for every family or individual, and also offer delicious lunch specials from the deli. T&C also won Best Store to Buy Beer.



The Bozone's Best of Bozeman 2020

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Large gatherings may be encouraged against, but cocktail hour only requires one or two. **Montana Spirits & Wine** is your *Best Package Liquor Store* and *Wine Shop*. The proof is in the pudding: Whether you're looking for a nice bottle of red or a fifth of something stronger, the knowledgeable staff is eager to assist. Thirsty patrons are cautioned to browse the bottles at their own risk!

Fire up the Traeger to grill some sirloins from *Best Place for Meat*, **Daniels Gourmet Meats**. The artisan market deals in the highest quality, locally sourced beef, pork and poultry fit for any occasion. A.1. encouraged against! Forgot something? Hit **Joe's Parkway** for those items you forgot to write on the grocery list. Your long-standing *Best Convenience Store* has all the essentials, odds and ends.

Our four-legged companions aren't to be neglected during an errand day. **Dee-O-Gee** is the *Best Place for Pet Supplies* as well as *Best Pet Groomer*. Peruse its natural products, chew toys and more – and schedule a much-needed puppy bath while you're at it! Locations at 19th & Oak and downtown.

Health to match canine hygiene: **Baxter Creek Veterinary Clinic** reclaimed *Best Veterinary Services* from Cottonwood Veterinary Hospital this year. The centrally located vet offers wellness check-ups, vaccinations, dental care, an in-house laboratory, as well as drop-off appointments, acupuncture and surgery.

Expand your family by adopting an animal in need through *Best Nonprofit* **Heart of the Valley**. The shelter matches homes for the lost and surrendered pets in Gallatin and Madison Valley, enhancing the lives of people and companion animals through pet adoption and education.

Perhaps you've a significant other to spoil. **Heyday** continues to be the *Best Place for Unique Gifts* and *Best Place for Gifts for Her.* Offering a fresh approach to everyday celebrations, the lifestyle boutique houses an assortment of creatively designed, unique products you won't find anywhere else.

And don't forget the fellas: *Best Place for Gifts for Him* is **Revolvr Menswear**. Quality denim, shirting, footwear, and accessories for men abound at this downtown retailer, Bozeman's only true clothing store geared toward men. What's a sleek new outfit without a trim to match? **The Barber Shop & Shaving Parlor** is the *Best Barber Shop* because of their awesome staff and shop ambiance. They offer the very best in fine men's haircuts and hot lather shaves.

All dressed up and nowhere to go. Make it a date night and check out Bozeman's *Best New Restaurant*: **Tanglewood**. Located off Huffine, the casual dining spot serves steaks, seafood and pizza, also popular for its weekend brunch menu. Look for "The Market" sign and get your name on the list!

Long weeks seem to abound lately, but that's nothing a nice cocktail can't fix. **Wildrye** once again took *Best Distillery* thanks to its house-infusions and talented mixologists. Head down to the Cannery District before the sun sets on summer to enjoy the cozy patio. The start of the weekend never felt so good.

Another option for local cocktailers is **Plonk** downtown. The Montana chic lounge is always in vogue and shakes up some delicious concoctions, hence their win for *Best Cocktails*. Start your evening here with a glass of fine wine or order something off the food menu. Plonk was also voted *Best Bar* and *Best Place for Girls Night Out*.

Hit **Copper Whiskey Bar** with the boys for Burger and a Beer Night Wednesdays. The *Best Place for Guys' Night Out* features a wall of whiskey and plenty of flavors on tap. Locations in Downtown Bozeman and Big Sky's Town Center.

Perhaps you're looking for a place to catch the game with a side of beer and apps, especially without the option of watching from the stands. **Spectators Bar & Grill** isn't fumbling to local competitors for *Best Sports Pub*. The stadium-adjacent pub will have to wait until spring for home Bobcats games but will continue broadcasting national matches on its many big screens.

Decades-long supporters of MSU and Bobcat Athletics, game day wouldn't quite be the same without a stop into the **Rocking R Bar**. The downtown hub for college students and local sports fans is the place to continue the tailgate when the scoreboard counts down. The R Bar won three prizes – *Best Nightlife, Place to Dance* and *Place to Meet Singles* – in this year's survey. Game on!

After coming up just short for several years running, **Stacey's Old Faithful** moved into first for *Best Authentic Montana Ambiance*. The steakhouse and saloon has sat in Gallatin Gateway since the days of Prohibition and sees folks from all walks of life. The long-standing winner of this category, the Western Café, is right behind at number two. **MacKenzie River Pizza** is the survey pick for *Best Kid-Friendly Restaurant*. Order a couple pepperoni pies for the youngins, a specialty round and local brew for the adults. The rollinos and pesto lodgepoles never disappoint. Another favorite pizza hall is **Tarantino's Pizzeria**, winners of *Best Late Night Grub*. Soak up some of the night's revelry with a pair of slices or the whole shebang. They're located in the Bozeman Hotel building and open until 3am on weekends.

#1!

Montana is quickly becoming a destination for devotees of craft beer. With so many great breweries to pick from, samplers often look for another feature to pair their suds with. Look no further than the atmosphere at MAP Brewing, who poured their way to Best Brewery. The open floor plan gives folks plenty of room to breathe while checking out the Bridgers through a wall of windows. Their al fresco seating is also a major draw, in fact, it's the Best Outdoor Patio. MAP also won Best Tasting Room, Best Local Beer Crafter and

Best Local Beer Flavor for its **Midas Crush IPA**.

Across town sits **Bridger Brewing**, another choice brewer among residents and visitors alike. They claimed the prizes for *Best Pizza* and *Best Lunch* for another year. Grab pizza by the slice during a lunchtime meeting to go along with a round of beers (we won't tell), or stop in for dinner for a full pie and salad to share featuring local greens. We recommend the Chop, Eloté and a pint of Lee Metcalf! Bridger took the silver for Best Brewery, Local Brew Crafter and Tasting Room.

Winners of *Best Beer Selection* certainly didn't stop there! **Montana Ale Works** is premier Bozeman with top victories in the categories for *Best Restaurant, Casual Dining* and *Happy Hour.* The laid-back freighthouse assembles the fruits of regional growers, brewers and distillers on a single menu. Diners are treated to the fresh tastes of Montana in this vibrant gathering place that bookends Downtown Bozeman. Ale Works also won *Best Appetizer, Bar Food, Chef, Dessert* and *Restaurant Service*.

Backcountry Burger Bar has earned its moniker with the repeat win for *Best Burger*. Their beef is sourced locally, the orders are swift, and the beers ice cold. Sip on one of 18 regional brews while enjoying an appetizer, or bring home supper from this downtown burger joint.

Fink's Delicatessen stacked its way to *Best Sandwich* in 2020. The northside shop has made a name with its traditional sammies, new classics, specialty cheeses and meats. Their grabn-go lunches are great for those last minute mountain excursions and the charcuterie platter comes in sizes small to large. The Pickle Barrel came in second.

Bozeman loves its backyard barbecues come summer, but **Bar 3 BBQ** is here to keep the spirit alive when the lawn chairs go into storage. Order up a family serving of Bozeman's *Best BBQ* for your next cook-in: traditional chicken, beef brisket, pulled pork and ribs are just a few things on the menu. Bar 3 has locations in Belgrade and Bozeman, the latter currently undergoing renovations. Though she moonlights as a Bozeman City Commissioner, I-Ho Pomeroy is also a local businesswoman who takes home plaque for *Best Korean Food*. Her aptly named **I-Ho's Korean Grill** has long been a town fixture for its zesty dishes. Their traditional kimchi is also available on area store shelves. Whistle Pig Korean came in second. *Best Indian Food* once again went to **Saffron Table**, but the local escape featuring the diverse flavors of South Asia sadly closed its doors following the spring shutdown. We wish the best to Andleeb Dawood and hope to benefit from her future endeavors. Still looking for authentic Indian cuisine? Give

runner-up Pakeezah a try. **El Rodeo** has proved a to be welcome addition to our foodie community in the last few years. Their genuine tacos and burritos have helped secure *Best Mexican Food* and *Best Food Truck* / *Cart* in 2020, ousting Fiesta Mexicana and Mo'Bowls, this year's second-place finishers, respectively. El Rodeo serves Bozeman from its taco truck outside Dollar Spree and the Gallatin Valley Mall food court.

Best Take-Out goes to a new recipient this year, a favorite food truck-turned-indoor restaurant. **Thai Basil** activates the senses with its diverse menu and modern dining space. Their dishes are prepared to order and feature traditional curry pastes directly from the Land of Smiles.

Our pals at **Dave's Sushi** have lots to celebrate by virtue of their gorgeous rolls. The *Best Sushi* in Gallatin Valley has secured this onetime hole in the wall its bragging rights. Take a seat on the patio, order some sashimi to-go, or bring in that special someone to the *Best Place for a First Date*.

Best of Bozeman continued on Page 4B

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Dave's also won Best Asian Food and Place to Eat Seafood. Montana Fish Company claimed Best Place to Shop for Seafood. We hope they're back to business soon!

The Bozone's Best of Bozeman 2020

Open Range put up a good fight, but Sir Scott's Oasis again took the golden belt buckle for Best Steak. They serve the juiciest, most tender cuts from their Manhattan steakhouse and are always worth the trip. Head out for date night or Sunday dinner and taste for yourselves.

Dessert for dinner, why don't we? Best Ice Cream Shop goes to Sweet Peaks for its mountain made scoops. Treat yourself to an ice cream cone, dish of sorbet or other treat at this choice confectionery. Two thumbs up for ice cream mustaches.

Best Italian Food stays with Blacksmith Italian for another year. You'll find hand-crafted pasta on every of this ristorante, as well as the perfect wine to enjoy with each entrée. Make a reservation for dinner and enjoy a night of great food and conversation. Squisito!

Blackbird Kitchen, the second place finisher for Best Italian, once again took Best Fine Dining thanks to their intimate space and organic, wood-fried fare. If you're in the mood for some southern comfort without breaking the bank, check out Roost Fried Chicken. They're the Best Inexpensive Restaurant in Bozeman.

A few years back, the Roost was featured on Food Network's Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives' alongside Storm Castle Café, winners of Best Hangover Food Cure this year. Their farm-fresh plates, friendly service and big ole mimosas might help to ease the pain.

Now that we're on the topic of the most important meal of

the day, Best Breakfast is still ordered at Jam! The downtown eatery is the place to go when your party can't decide what they're hungry for. Their savory dishes and specialty mimos, particularly, are a match made in brunch heaven.

But if you're on the go and there's not

enough time to sit, grab a box of goodies from Wild Crumb or Granny's Gourmet Donuts. Bozeman's Best Bakery and Best Donuts / Pastries will ensure smiles light up faces when you show up with the goods glazed or garnished. Their various offerings go great with morning meetings and Sunday gatherings. Wild Crumb and Granny's were runners-up in each other's winning category.

It would be pure negligence to forget the coffee. Call in a company order or fuel up before a day of adventure at Treeline Coffee Roasters, Bozeman's Best Coffee. The small batch, artisan roasters source only the most flavorful beans and take pride in every drip served. Treeline has locations on North Wallace and at The Lark.

Rendezvous over espresso and paninis at Wild Joe*s Coffee Spot, this year's winner for Best Coffeehouse. This downtown pillar has long been the meeting place of delicious coffee, bites, live music and the work of local artists. Cold Smoke Coffeehouse came in a tight second.

We've got a draw in 2020! Best Coffee Hut belongs to both Espresso to Go and Bumble Bean Espresso. Each hut pours its morning java from roadside locations in Bozeman, Four Corners and Belgrade. And they say one vote can't make a difference...

'Tis the season of cool evenings and cardigans. Curl up with a hot beverage from Townshend's Bozeman Teahouse, the Best Teahouse in town. They offer a wide selection of leaves, chai and bubble tea, all fine alternatives for those deterred by the bitterness of coffee.

7/5

Voting

Ihank

Pack in the nutrients with an all-organic juice or smoothie from the Flying C Café, located upstairs in the newly remodeled Community Food Co-op. It's the Best Juice Bar for its fresh presses and eats to go with. Along with its downtown location, the Co-op also took the top spot for Best Eco-Friendly Products. Their stock of natural items, supplements and wellness products is unmatched.

Okay, that was a journey. Now it's time to complain, even if just a little. We've earned it! The intersection of Max & Catron outside Costco was overwhelmingly decided to be the Best Place for a New Traffic Light. There's got to be some sort of plan in motion. How about a roundabout? Sourdough & Kagy might also benefit, your second place pick.

Voters were also asked What Could Make Bozeman Better and the Best Use of Taxpayers' Money. Their repeated answers? Affordable Housing and Rent Control. It's become increasingly difficult for working class folks to make a good enough living to enjoy Bozeman's public access and many amenities. Developments by nonprofits like HRDC are welcome additions to the area, but we need more. Hopefully we can focus on making that more of a community effort in the coming year, from the top down.



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We can't end on a sour note. Your Best THING About Bozeman is a new one: The Great Outdoors. Votes for this year's survey were cast largely before COVID-19 upended our lives, so it may be only a coincidence that our collective favorite thing became our primary means of entertainment this summer. Let us not take for granted this awesome place we live, a place where we can hit the trail in 20 minutes, ski some of the best slopes mountains have to offer, wade in the river in the hope of reeling in a whopper, or just sit in the yard and enjoy the fresh air and biggest skies around. We're lucky when so so many aren't. Let's rave about that - just not too loud. •



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