

#### HRDC is set to begin their ninth season of providing tax preparation services through their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Individuals and households with incomes of

#### **HRDC** begins scheduling for ninth year of tax assistance

less than \$57,000 are eligible for tax assistance through VITA.

HRDC's VITA service will start on Monday, February 8th and go through Thursday, April 8th, 2021. Appointments are required for tax assistance. In an effort to maintain social distancing guidelines and keep everyone safe, services will be a drop-off/pick-up model instead of face-to-face. Customers will get details when they schedule their appointment.

In order to verify their identity, VITA customers must bring a photo ID and Social Security Card to their appointment. Customers must also

bring all applicable tax documents for the 2020 tax year (Forms W-2, 1099, 1098, 1095-A/B/C, charitable contributions) including Notice-1444 and Notice 1444-B reporting stimulus payments. If individuals are seeking direct deposit for their refund or payment, they will need their bank account number and their bank's routing number.

"VITA is one of the most effective ways to provide financial opportunity to individuals and families in our community. Of people we served last year, the average refund was around \$1,800. That can mean a lot to a household," says Marc

Graham, HRDC Financial Opportunity Coordinator.

Those interested in receiving tax assistance should call the appropriate location for more information. For appointments in Bozeman, Belgrade, Gardiner, White Sulphur Springs, or at the MSU Vet Center, call (406) 585-4848. For appointments in Livingston, call (406) 223-4479

For information about HRDC's VITA service, visit

thehrdc.org/financial-development/tax-assistance. For more information about any other HRDC service, visit thehrdc.org. •

## Annual fundraising event to benefit nearly 60 MSU projects

by Anne Cantrell, MSU News Service An annual 29-hour fundraising event that aims to build support and awareness for a wide range of Montana State University programs, causes and groups will run from

ships and more. Among them are: The African Student Association, which is raising funds for an African culture celebration.

The Bounty of the Bridgers MSU Food Pantry, which is raising funds to

GIVING DAY SHOW SOME LOVE MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

noon Thursday, Feb. 11, through 5pm Friday, Feb. 12.

Known as MSU Giving Day, the second annual event aims to raise funds for nearly 60 projects at MSU. MSU Giving Day organizers are hoping at least 2,000 donors will participate. The theme of the event is "Onward.'

"Despite unprecedented disruption brought on by the coronavirus, we remain focused on MSU's landgrant mission to integrate education, create knowledge and art and provide service to communities," said Samantha Brandon, associate director of the annual fund at the MSU Alumni Foundation. "It is part of our legacy to blaze new trails, explore new vistas, and transform lives and communities Opportunities like MSU Giving Day 2021 provide a map to our future."

Brandon said numerous student groups and academic units are seeking support for scholarships, research, internships, travel, competition, equipment, public partnerhelp combat student hunger.

Gallatin College MSU, which is raising funds to provide child care stipends for Gallatin College MSU students who have young children.

The MSU Hilleman Scholars Program, which provides eligible Montana high school graduates who show academic, leadership and career potential with financial and academic support throughout their four years at MSU.

The ASMSU Outdoor Recreation Program, which is raising funds for a 30-foot yurt to serve as an avalanche and wilderness education center in collaboration with Crosscut Mountain Sports Center.

The Veteran Support Center, which is seeking funds to help service members who are transitioning to MSU.

The MSU All Staff Council, which is raising funds for a scholarship program for MSU staff.

Students Against Sexual Assault, a student-run club that works to spread awareness of relationship violence, stalking and sexual assault, is seeking funds for provide monetary support to sexual assault survivors.

The Office of Sustainability, which is seeking support for a sustainability fellows program. Students

selected for the program will engage in co-curricular education designed to turn thoughts into action and empower students to become sustainability leaders on campus and in the community.

Towne's Harvest Garden, a diverse, 3-acre market garden and vegetable subscription program run by MSU students, is seeking funds for paid student positions focused on leadership development and outreach.

People are invited to participate by making a gift during the event at givingday.montana.edu. On the site, donors may view a list of groups and projects seeking funds and choose a specific group or groups to receive their gift. The website will also provide up-to-theminute progress, descriptions of all the projects in need of support, social media tracking, acknowledgment of donors and announcements of challenges and gift matches. Special challenges and gift matching opportunities announced throughout the 29-hour event will allow donors to magnify the impact of their gifts. The minimum gift amount is \$10.

Brandon said Giving Day provides fundraising support to organizations on campus that might not ordinarily receive it.

"Giving Day is an opportunity for the MSU Alumni Foundation to offer fundraising support to students, departments and initiatives on campus that need a relatively small level of philanthropic support," Brandon said. "Giving Day participants' generosity can have a huge impact on these campus efforts.

To learn more about MSU Giving Day, go to the MSU Alumni Foundation website at

#### www.msuaf.org/givingday. •

#### Science Center, Bozeman Health & Food Bank distribute STEAMkits



Montana Science Center, in partnership with Bozeman Health and the Gallatin Valley Food Bank has created take-home science kits to be provided to families throughout our community. 75 kits were delivered to the Gallatin Valley Food Bank and were distributed in January through the Food Bank's education department.

These **STEAMkits** focus on keeping the body healthy with a different topic for each of the kits. They are designed to encourage children in first through fifth grades to engage in science while at home through a series of hands-on activities.

"The pandemic has made it incredibly hard for families to engage in hands-on activities," says Abby Turner, Executive Director. "We are fortunate to have the support of Bozeman Health to create STEAMkits that bring hands-on opportunities in STEAM to kids in their own homes."

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. STEAMkits focus on the science of the brain, the heart and the skeletal system in three kits, filled with 4 activities each, including all of the materials needed to complete the activities. Staff at Montana Science Center also recorded videos of each of the activities as supplemental support for the STEAMkits. "It is the goal of both Bozeman Health and Montana Science Center to lower barriers to access to community education tools," Turner says. "This partnership allows us to create kits to be distributed to families in Bozeman regardless of their ability to pay. They also bring science information, healthy tips and learning through fun to youth in our community. In our partnership with the Gallatin Valley Food Bank, we are able to support families with school

aged children in a meaningful way by providing activities for them to do at home." Through this partner-ship, the kits delivered to the Food Bank are available to youth at no charge. Additional kits are available at the Montana Science Center.

Bozeman Health's Community Support Grant program provides them an opportunity to respond to requests and partner with eligible organizations, like Montana Science Center, whose work is aligned with Bozeman Health's Community Benefit priority areas. Specifically, they strive to support programming, education, and access initiatives. These STEAMkits are aimed to bring engaging, healthy learning opportunities to families to connect healthy bodies and science discovery.

Additionally, Gallatin Valley Food Bank's vision is to create a healthier, more resilient, foodsecure community in which all of the members are empowered and have the means to nourish themselves. The Food Bank will continue to advocate and support its community through our work, partnerships, and commitment to improving food security. Montana Science Center is fortunate to partner with the Food Bank to bring these science kits to youth through their educational programs. The Montana Science Center is currently offering virtual, takehome and limited onsite programs. During the closure this summer, staff developed extensive COVID protocols and adapted the building for safe, interactive experiences while limiting visitation numbers. "Our goal is to provide purposeful experiences in science while supporting families as they stay healthy, either at home or within our space." Visit www.Montana ScienceCenter.org

## **MTPBS** – **MT**'s legislative session series

From MSU News Service MontanaPBS is broadcasting and livestreaming a new weekly series, "The Rundown: Capitol Report," each Sunday at 5pm through the end of the 2021 Montana legislative session.

The program will offer an indepth look at Montana's 67th Legislature with weekly updates, analysis and interviews. The series began Jan. 3 and is expected to cover a range of issues, including COVID-19, public lands, education and energy development. The

series is hosted by Jackie Coffin. "The Rundown: Capitol Report" will rely on remote footage and media partnerships to maintain best practices in preventing the spread of COVID-19, Coffin said.

"I'm looking forward to providing timely updates on this legislative session for all Montanans," Coffin said. "In the midst of so much political change, I believe that these weekly reports from the Legislature will be of immense value to our viewers and help them connect directly with local government."

Viewers can watch "The Rundown: Capitol Report" on-air, online at montanapbs.org/live or on Facebook Live by following MontanaPBS at facebook.com/MontanaPBS. To view a full list of viewing options, visit montanapbs.org/watch.

To view more information, including new and previous episodes of "The Rundown: Capitol Report," visit www.montanapbs.org/rundown.

for additional information. •

# VISIT 🔇 HRDC FOR FREE TAX SERVICES

VITA services are free to those who make under \$57,000 annually. Volunteers are trained and certified to help you get the most money back this year.

## FEBRUARY 8TH - APRIL 7TH Call or text (406) 585-4848 to make an appointment.

VITA services are available in Bozeman, Belgrade, Livingston, Big Sky, Gardiner, and White Sulphur Springs.

For more information and a list of what to bring, call or text VITA staff at (406) 585-4848, email vita@thehrdc.org, or visit our website www.thehrdc.org.

#### BFS titles include foreign Oscar contenders, documentary film

Though the vaccine(s) are making their way into the arms of our fellow Americans, the local movie theater remains temporarily closed. But fret not: Bozeman Film Society continues to virtually stream independent titles for cinephiles. Watch safely at home with new films added weekly. Streaming sales directly support BFS. Here's a look at a few February options.

An encore screening of explosive documentary **Coup 53** is available through Feb. 4th. The film unveils the story of Operation Ajax, the CIA/MI6 staged coup in 1953 in Iran that overthrew the democratically elected Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh – with consequences that still shape the modern world. Director Taghi Amirani's 10-year tenacious investigation into this covert operation uncovers troves of never-seen-before source material, the recently recovered and uncensored transcript of the British spy who masterminded the coup (Norman Darbyshire), and oral histories of Iranian witnesses to the coup, including a play-by-play from the ousted Prime Minister's head of security. Not Rated with a runtime

of 118 minutes. Available through Feb. 11th is art documentary *My Rembrandt*.

Rembrandt's paintings have lost none of their appeal in the 350 years since his death. Rembrandt, the grandmaster of intimacy continues rock the art world. 350 years after his death, many people, even entire nations are obsessed with his paintings. Aristocrats cherish, experts rule, art dealers investigate, collectors hunt, museums battle. My Rembrandt provides fas-

cinating insight into what makes the work of this Dutch master technically so extraordinary. and why different people are so deeply affected by his oeuvre, or a specific work. Meanwhile, centuries after Rembrandt's death, his paintings are still a source of drama and gripping plot twists. Not Rated, the film runs 97 minutes.

Another documentary, City Hall, is also available through Feb. 11th. This glimpse of local government at work is as patiently observant as it is engrossing. A New York Times Critic's Pick and garnering a 100% score on Rotten Tomatoes, Master documentarian Frederick



Wiseman delivers an epic look at Boston's city government, covering racial justice, housing, climate action and more. Not Rated, the film runs 4 hours, 34 minutes.

My Little Sister, Swiss entry for Best International Film at the 2021 Academy Awards, is available through Feb. 11th. Lisa, once a brilliant playwright, no longer writes. She lives with her family in Switzerland, but her heart remains in Berlin, beating in time with that of her twin brother Sven, the famous theatre actor. Since Sven has been suffering from an aggressive type of leukemia, the relationship between

them has become even closer. Lisa does not want to accept this blow of fate, she does everything in her power to bring Sven back on stage. For her soulmate she neglects everything else and even risks losing her husband. Her marriage goes awry, but Lisa only has eyes for her brother, who reflects her deepest longings and awakens in her the desire to be creative, to feel alive again. A New York Times Critic's Pick, the film runs 99 minutes

Hungarian feature Preparations to be Together for an Unknown Period of Time, their entry at this year's Oscars, is available until Feb. 18th. Márta, a 40-year-old neurosurgeon, falls in love. She leaves her shining American career behind and returns to Budapest to start a new life with the man. But the love of her life claims that they have never met before. The romantic drama runs 95 minutes.

Also streaming through Feb. 18th is The Reason I Jump, based on the bestselling book by Naoki Higashida. The film is an immersive

cinematic exploration of neurodiversity through the experiences of nonspeaking autistic people from around the world. The film blends

Higashida's revelatory insights into autism with intimate portraits of five remarkable young people. It opens a window for audiences into an intense and overwhelming, but often joyful, sensory universe. The documentary runs 82 minutes.

Opening Feb. 12th is artist-musician Šia's directorial debut, Music. The musical drama will stream into early March. Zu (Kate Hudson) is a free spirit estranged from her family who suddenly finds herself the sole guardian of her half sister, Music Maddie Ziegler). The film explores the tenuous bonds that hold us together, and imagines a world where those bonds can be strengthened in times of great challenge: love, trust, and being able to be there for each other is everything. The film runs 107 minutes.

Cost and rental period vary per title. Public film screenings at the Ellen will resume when large gatherings can be safely scheduled. Follow BFS on social media for updates. Visit www.bozemanfilmsociety.org for film previews and further information - and "Keep 'Em Flickering!" •

### Timely lectures, primeval marine life & MORe to discover



A typically bustling Hager Auditorium has been closed to lecture-goers since the onset of COVID-19, but Museum of the Rockies continues to host virtual talks for interested members and others. MOR joins forces with the Smithsonian National Museum of American History to keep the discussion going in these isolating times.

This engaging series of panels offer perspective on the current pandemic. Curators and historians use important objects from the past as a springboard to a lively discussion of how critical explorations of the past help us to better understand the present.

Next up is "Race & Place: Yellow Fever & the Free

#### **Mingle with** business

#### **African Society in**

Philadelphia" on Tuesday, February 2nd at 2pm. The hourlong lecture will feature panelists Billy Smith, PhD, Montana State University; David Barnes, PhD, University of Pennsylvania; and Vanessa Northington Gamble, PhD, M.D., George Washington University.

'Essential Workers: Prestige Versus Pay" follows on Tuesday, February 16th at 2pm. Panelists include Peter Liebhold, National Museum of American History; Molly Kinder, Brookings Institute; and Jacob Remes, New York University, Gallatin.

Moderating each lecture is Alexandra Lord, PhD, from the National Museum of American History. Free for museum members, find the Zoom Registration Links through the MOR website.

Savage Ancient Seas, Museum of the Rockies' newest anging exhibition, is now Walk beneath what must be the fossil version of the Loch Ness Monster; a 42-foot-long Elasmosaurus. Dive into an ancient underwater world 70 million years ago when carnivorous fish and giant sea reptiles swam a vast, shallow sea spanning North America. See more than 50 prehistoric marine skeletons, many on display for the first time in Montana! While

**CLUB PILATES** 

**SPENDSIBLY** 

CALL KARRI CLARK

TACO DEL MAR

dinosaurs ruled the land, these strange, spectacular creatures ruled the sea.

In partnership with Triebold Paleontology, Inc., MOR creates an ancient underwater environment where visitors will experience enormous, vicious sea monsters of the Cretaceous Period. The exhibition includes numerous prehistoric marine fossils, both cast and real specimens, mounted in extraordinary three-dimensional displays. The skeletons are mounted dramatically, many suspended from the ceiling above, immersing visitors inside a fearsome ancient ecosystem.

Finally, MOR's Taylor Planetarium continues to host showings in a limited capacity. Wonders of the Universe and VOYAGER: The Never-Ending **Journey** are now playing multiple times daily. Planetarium shows are included with Museum admission. Seating is limited and available on come, first-served ba

#### Valentine's weekend gets crazy downtown

The Downtown Bozeman Association (DBA), downtown merchants and restaurants are proud to present Winter Crazy Days 2021. It's the biggest and best seasonal sale set this year for Friday through Monday, February 12th-15th from 10am-6pm each day (participant hours may vary).

Whether you've been eyeing that ski jacket all season, want to plan an unforgettable Valentine's with your sweetheart or just want to score some great deals, Downtown

Bozeman will have something for everyone on this fun double-holiday weekend. Find special Valentine's dine-in and take-out menus and the best Presidents' Day deals on winter merchandise.

This event is FREE and open to the public, and will go on snow or shine. Note: Please visit

www.downtownbozeman.org for details about what to expect from this year's offerings, as well as information about participating businesses.

#### **Online auction, snow** sculpting benefits Reach



The show must go on! Reach

will abound. For additional details and to preview the art, visit **reachinc.gives**mart.com. Call (406) 587-1271 with further questions.

Also this month, Reach presents its first ever Snow Sculpture Competition. Everyone is welcome to participate and have fun outdoors while raising important funding for those the nonprofit serves. Sign up as an individual or team for exciting categories and prizes. Register all month long at RunSignUp.com (search "Reach Inc. Snow Sculpture Competition").

Established in 1974, Reach Inc.

#### professionals at snowy season socials

Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce will present **Business** Before Hours on Thursday, February 4th from 7:30-8:30am. The event will be hosted by Residence Inn by Marriott at their location, 6195 E Valley Center Rd., on the edge of Bozeman. Bozeman's Residence Inn is a local branch of Marriott International, Inc., a leading global lodging company with more than 7,000 properties across 131 countries and territories.

A winter 4:44 (a) 4C will unfold at Arctic Spas Bozeman on Thursday, February 11th from 4:44–6pm at their location, 81341 Gallatin Rd., Ste. B, just south of Four Corners. The local showroom features a selection of hot tubs and spas that are of the most energy efficient, longest lasting, and easiest to maintain in the world

**Business After Hours** follows on Thursday, February 25th from 5:30-7pm. Habitat for Humanity of Gallatin Valley will host the event at its location, 230 Arden Drive, in Belgrade. Doing its part to address poverty housing issues, the local affiliate provides a helping hand-up to families who are ready for homeownership in Gallatin, Park and Madison counties.

Note: all Chamber events adhere to Gallatin County health guidelines. Masks are required indoors and physical distancing protocols are in place.

Bozeman Chamber gatherings and other forums provide a business networking outlet for members and others. Visit www.bozemanchamber.com to register for any of these events and to learn more. Event admission may be included with membership. The Chamber Center is located at 2000 Commerce Way in Bozeman. •

Please note: Because admittance is limited, MOR encourages visitors to make advance reservations. Walk-ins admitted if availability allows. Face-coverings are required for entry.

MOR is now open from 9am-4pm daily. For more information about featured exhibits, membership details and to make a reservation, visit www.museumoftherockies.org. •

Inc. will host its 10th annual Have a Heart Art Auction on Saturday, February 6th from 6:30-7:30pm.

This free virtual program will include a silent auction of incredible art, exciting raffle prizes, and news from the Reach community. One hundred percent of sales and donations go to support the adults with developmental disabilities Reach serves. While warm weather may not be available, warm hearts

has grown to serve more than 100 clients. They support people 18 years or older who are diagnosed with an intellectual disability by providing residential, vocational, and transportation services. With its vocational Work Center, six fullservice residential facilities, and a growing fleet of vehicles, Reach provides substantial community support for adults with developmental disabilities.



Tell 'em, "I Saw It In The BoZone!" — The BoZone Entertainment Calendar • www.BoZone.com • 406-586-6730 • Volume 28, Number 03 - February 01, 2021 • page 3A

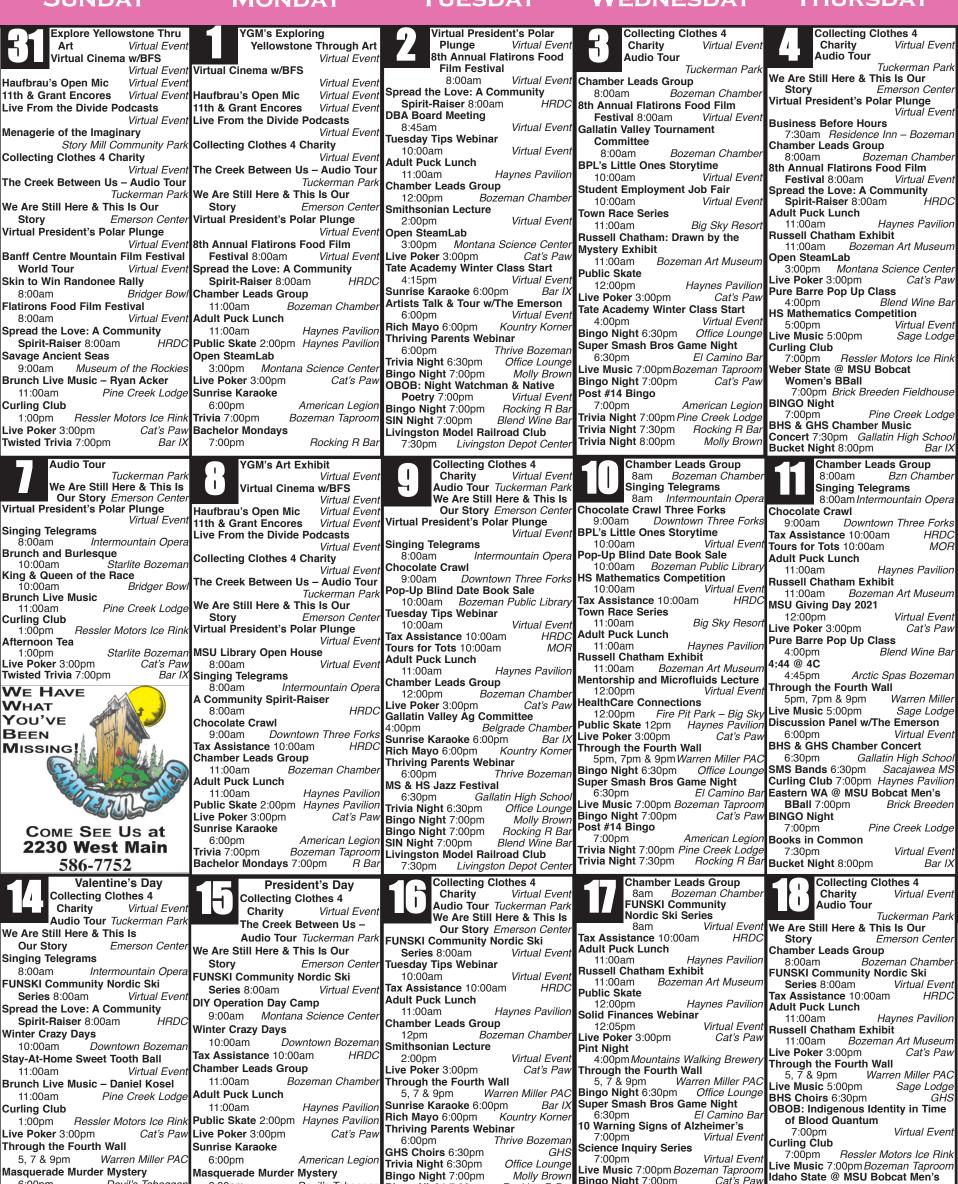
#### SUNDAY

#### IONDAY

#### TUESDAY



#### HURSDA



Twisted Trivia 7:00pm Bar IX	Masquerade Murder Mystery6:00pmDevil's TobogganTrivia 7:00pmBozeman TaproomBachelor Mondays7:00pm7:00pmRocking R Bar	Model Railroad Club 7:30pm Livingston Depot Center	Bingo Night 7:00pm Bozernan raproom Bingo Night 7:00pm Cat's Paw Post #14 Bingo 7:00pm American Legion Trivia Night 7:00pm Pine Creek Lodge Trivia Night 7:30pm Rocking R Bar	BBall 7:00pm Brick Breeden BINGO Night 7:00pm Pine Creek Lodge Bucket Night 8:00pm Bar IX
11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event Live From the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event Collecting Clothes 4 Charity Virtual Event The Creek Between Us – Audio	Live From the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event Collecting Clothes 4 Charity Virtual Event The Creek Between Us – Audio Tour Tuckerman Park Auction for the Arts Fundraiser 9:00am Lone Peak Cinema Tax Assistance 10:00am HRDC Chamber Leads Group	Tax Assistance 10:00am HRDC   Adult Puck Lunch 11:00am Haynes Pavilion   Chamber Leads Group 12pm Bozeman Chamber   12PM Bozeman Chamber   GVTBID Meeting 12:00pm Bozeman Chamber   12:00pm Bozeman Chamber   2:00pm Lone Peak Cinema   Live Poker 3:00pm Cat's Paw   Virtual Meet the Business Virtual Meet the Business	Tax Assistance   10:00am HRDC   Town Race Series   11:00am Big Sky Resort   Adult Puck Lunch   11:00am Haynes Pavilion   Russell Chatham Exhibit   11:00am Bozeman Art Museum   Auction for the Arts Fundraiser   12:00pm Lone Peak Cinema   Public Skate 12pm Haynes Pavilion   Solid Finances Webinar	Audio Tour Tuckerman Park Chamber Leads Group   8:00am Bozeman Chamber   Tours for Tots 10:00am MOR   Tax Assistance 10:00am HRDC   Adult Puck Lunch   11:00am Haynes Pavilion   Russell Chatham Exhibit   11:00am Bozeman Art Museum   Live Poker 3:00pm Cat's Paw   Pure Barre Pop Up Class   4:00pm Blend Wine Bar   Auction for the Arts Fundraiser
Brunch Live Music – Shelly Besler Kersbergen 11:00am Pine Creek Lodge Curling Club 1:00pm Ressler Motors Ice Rink Live Poker 3:00pm Cat's Paw Through the Fourth Wall	Adult Puck Lunch   11:00am Haynes Pavilion   Public Skate 2:00pm Haynes Pavilion   Live Poker 3:00pm Cat's Paw   Through the Fourth Wall 5, 7 &9pm   5, 7 &9pm Warren Miller PAC   Sunrise Karaoke 6:00pm   Book Club 6:00pm Virtual Event   Cribbage 6:30pm Office Lounge   Trivia 7:00pm Bozeman Taproom   Bachelor Mondays Notestan	Through the Fourth Wall   5, 7 & 9pm Warren Miller PAC   Sunrise Karaoke 6:00pm Bar IX   Rich Mayo 6:00pm Kountry Korner   Thriving Parents Webinar 6:00pm   6:00pm Thrive Bozeman   GHS Bands 6:30pm GHS   Trivia Night 6:30pm Office Lounge   Bingo Night 7:00pm Molly Brown   OBOB 7:00pm Virtual Event   Bingo Night 7:00pm Rocking R Bar   SIN Night 7:00pm Blend Wine Bar	Gastro Gnome Meals – Ribbon Cutting 4:00pm Gastro Gnome Meals Through the Fourth Wall 5, 7 & 9pm Warren Miller PAC Bingo Night 6:30pm Office Lounge Super Smash Bros Game Night 6:30pm El Camino Bar Beading Workshop & Discussion 7:00pm Virtual Event Live Music 7:00pm Bozeman Taproom Bingo Night 7:00pm Cat's Paw Post #14 Bingo 7:00pm American Legion	Live Music 5:00pm Lone Peak Cinema Live Music 5:00pm Sage Lodge Business After Hours 5:30pm Habitat for Humanity BHS Bands 6:30pm Gallatin High School Curling Club 7:00pm Ressler Motors Ice Rink Idaho at MSU Bobcat Women's BBall 7:00pm Brick Breeden Fieldhouse BINGO Night
Yellowstone Through Art Virtual Event Virtual Cinema w/BFS Virtual Event Virtual Event Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic Virtual Event Haufbrau's Open Mic Virtual Event 11th & Grant Encores Virtual Event Live From the Divide Podcasts Virtual Event Collecting Clothes 4 Charity Virtual Event Collecting Clothes 4 Charity Virtual Event Collecting Clothes 4 Charity Virtual Event The Creek Between Us – Audio Tour Tuckerman Park Apron Challenge 10:00am Bridger Bow Rocky Mountain Home And Garden Show 11:00am Gallatin County Fairgrounds Brunch Live Music – Canoe Dealers 11am Pine Creek Lodge Curling Club 1:00pm Ressler Motors Ice Rink Live Poker 3:00pm Cat's Paw Twisted Trivia 7:00pm Bar Ix				IN SOUTH OF

#### Friday

## SATURDAY





Get YOUR ad on The BoZone Calendar Call 586-6730 or email info@BoZone.com Please check venue to confirm event













February 01, 2021

The BoZone • Volume 28, Number 03

#### ENVIRONMENT • HEALTH • IN AND AROUND THE BOZONE

#### Wilderness Alliance drafts legislation to protect Northern Yellowstone Ecosystem

The Gallatin Yellowstone Wilderness Alliance recently announced their proposal for new Wilderness designations on the Custer Gallatin National Forest in Southern Montana.

GYWA plans to introduce a Wilderness Bill to the US Congress, titled the Gallatin-Yellowstone Wilderness Act. The Bill would designate about 800,000 acres of new Wilderness in the northern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and nearby federal lands. GYWA has identified Montana's Custer Gallatin as the epicenter of some of the most spectacular unprotected wild lands in the nation.

Phil Knight of GYWA offered, "It's a new year, after a very tough 2020, and we all need positive ideas. How about a fresh start by protecting more Wilderness? What could be better for the people, the wildlife and the land?'

George Wuerthner, author, ecologist and GYWA board member, said, "The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is part of the global heritage, and we have a responsibility to do everything we can to preserve it.'

"We are talking about protecting some of the top one or two per cent of wild country in the lower 48," added Knight. These wild lands are some of the best wildlife habitat in the country, providing a home for Grizzly Bear, Lynx, Wolf, Elk, Moose, Mountain Goat, Wolverine and Bighorn Sheep, and are the source of waters that support genetically pure Yellowstone and West Slope Cutthroat Trout.

Anne Millbrooke, GYWA board member, explained "Big open spaces are not actually open and certainly not wasted. Nature fills that space and uses it. As byproducts, nature protects our clean air and clean water. It even stores carbon."

The Custer Gallatin caps Yellowstone National Park like a crown of wild mountains. From Cowboy Heaven to the Tongue River Breaks, the Crazy Mountains to the Line Creek Plateau, the Gallatin



Crest to Lionhead, the Beartooth Front to the Pryor Mountains, there is no other national forest like it. GYWA believes that what the Custer Gallatin does best is provide for highquality wild lands. It is not the nation's wood box, nor should it be the nation's outdoor gymnasium.

Wild lands protection is critical to the quality of life of the region's communities, and essential to the outdoor economy that draws visitors, as well as contributing to the wellbeing of residents, providing clean water, important fish habitat, critical wildlife habitat, scenic beauty, and solace for people in troubled times.

According to Conservation Biology principles, larger protected areas are better than smaller patches of habitat. So it is important to conserve larger unprotected wild lands, especially if they are contiguous to existing protected areas such as

Yellowstone Park.

In addition, some wild lands are critical corridors for the movement of wildlife between other protected landscapes. For example, the Bridger Mountain Range can serve as a corridor connecting the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem to other wild lands further north.

You can view GYWA's draft wilderness legislation at www.gallatinyellowstonewilderness.org. •

## **MT Conservation Voters launches Montana Pushback**

MontanaPushback.org to safeguard public lands, clean air and water

Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund recently launched Montana Pushback, a new campaign to keep all Montanans informed and equipped to protect the Treasure State's clean air, water and public lands.

Executive Director Whitney Tawney released the following statement:

"While elected leaders across the political spectrum pledged to support and defend Montana's outdoors in last year's election, it's up to us as Montanans to make sure they live up to their promises. Montana's brightest days are ahead, but it will take

committed Montanans from across the state standing up and pushing back against ill-conceived ideas that will deprive future generations the clean air, clean water and public that so many of us often take for granted."

On Nov. 3, Montana voters elected an almost entirely new state government.

Almost every candidate who ran for office said they would protect Montana's outdoor heritage and expand access to our public lands. Now the MCV Education Fund is taking on the task to make sure they live up to their promises.

The MCV Education Fund is facing another unprecedented threat: the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic is forcing all Montanans to work in a completely different way, but also means changes to the Montana Legislature. It will be easier for politicians to pass unpopular legislation without public awareness or participation.

The MCV Education Fund launched MontanaPushback.org to keep all Montanans informed and equipped to protect Montana's clean air, water and public lands. As the new legislature begins and Montana's new governor takes over, the MCV Education Fund is staying vigilant to the task ahead.

The campaign's website is now live at

#### www.MontanaPushback.org. •

#### **Food Bank Network** releases Voices of Montana: **COVID-19** Edition

Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN) is pleased to announce the release of **Voices of Montana**: COVID-19 Edition report.

The report illustrates the impact of COVID-19 and the resulting economic downturn on hunger in Montana through data and in-depth stories. Data were collected through surveys of individuals seeking food assistance at MFBN's partner agencies and programs across the state. The organization received 917 responses from 30 counties.

Results show that 70 percent of adults reported a loss of income due to reduced hours, furlough or job loss. Additionally, more than 40 percent reported receiving food from a food pantry for the first time after the onset of the pandemic, indicating how many people have needed

help for the first time as a result of COVID.

The report also details MFBN's response to the pandemic through both food distribution and advocacy, and shares examples of how community partners have adapted and responded to local needs. Finally, the report highlights the stories and experiences of real Montanans impacted by COVID.

The report will be used to educate policymakers and community partners of the current status of hunger in Montana and the impacts of COVID-19. It will also help to inform MFBN's policy work to support programs and policies that reduce food insecurity in Montana.

The full report can be viewed online at

www.mfbn.org/research. •

# **Reservations Required** for **ALL Services this Season**



The BoZone Entertainment and Events Calendar is Bozeman's Best at informing you of community events including art, music, theatre, dance, literature, and culture.

The BoZone is the most informative of any Bozeman magazine out there. Every attempt is made to provide accurate and reliable information. For everything happening in Bozeman, we are the Bozeman magazine where you will find it. The BoZone Entertainment and Events Calendar or staff can not be held responsible for misprints or wrong information. Phone numbers are provided for your convenience to check showtimes. If you can provide information on future community events, please send it by the 3rd & 18th of the month. If you would like to be contacted regarding advertising, please send correspondence to:



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## Calendar/Social Media



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### MSU epidemiologist featured in Rolling Stone article

by Reagan Colyer, MSU News Service

Montana State University associate professor and epidemiologist Raina Plowright was recently featured in a Rolling Stone article examining how pandemics like COVID-19 come about.

The article, "How Climate Change is Ushering in a New Pandemic Era," was published Dec. 7 and features Plowright alongside Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and one of the nation's leading experts on COVID-19. The piece examines how viruses such as the coronavirus move from animal populations into humans and the role a changing climate may play in the frequency and severity of potential future pandemics.

Many animal species, writes the story's author Jeff Goodell, are experiencing habitat changes due to climate change. As a result, some animal populations migrate closer to humans than previously recorded, bringing with them unique pathogens. Animals may have evolved to coexist with those unfamiliar pathogens, but when they infect humans, the results can vary widely.

Plowright, an associate professor in the College of Agriculture's Department of Microbiology and Immunology, is a trained veterinarian who has also studied ecology. At MSU, she studies the viruses carried by bats, which are thought to be one of the sources of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

"Climate change is affecting bats in profound ways," said Plowright in the article. "Many bat species are insectivorous, and so climate change has a big impact on their food sources, as well as on their physiological stress and where they live and how they interact with humans.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to the COVID-19 virus, Plowright has studied the Hendra and Nipah viruses, both pathogens that were traced back to bats after causing outbreaks in 1994 and 1998, respectively. She calls the emergence of so many pathogens from one host animal "unprecedented" and focuses her research at MSU on how bats interact with the viruses

they carry - and how to prevent spillover events where an animal transmits a virus to a human host.

Unlike the virus that causes COVID-19, said Plowright, neither Nipah nor Hendra virus became widespread because they cannot be transmitted asymptomatically. That made it much easier to identify and isolate infected individuals. However, she calls each potential spillover event a "roll of the dice," in that it is impossible to know what the emerging virus may look like in a human population.

With the possibility of spillover increasing as animals come into more contact with humans, Plowright said the study of pandemics and the study of climate change are linked, each influencing the other.

"You can imagine a network of food caches across a landscape [for bats]," said Plowright. "Some bats are moving from one patch to the next. ... You start taking away those patches, get to a point where there's no food, so they end up in people's yards, or at horse stables, or anywhere food is plentiful."

The full Rolling Stone article can be read at



www.rollingstone.com (search "Climate Change Pandemic Era"). •

#### Plunge from a distance in support of Special Olympics MT

Support Montana's Special Olympics athletes with a harsh dip into icy winter waters! The 2021 Virtual President's Polar Plunge will conclude with a video presentation on Saturday, February 13th.

This year, participants are asked to come up with a fun and safe way to take the Plunge. Take photos or record a no more than 60-second video of yourself or your team freezin' for a reason! Create a fundraising page to share on social media along with your Plunge content using the hashtags #Plunge406 and #BelowZeroHero. Awards for the most creative plunge and top fundraisers.

Photo and video submissions must be received by Feb. 7th. Find a How to Virtual Plunge Flyer through the event website. Thousands of plungers have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars since 2002 with this annual event. Let's take this haul to the next level!

**Questions?** Visit

www.somt.org/plunge for registration, to create a fundraising page, as well as further event information.

Special Olympics Montana is a nonprofit organization determined to provide yearround sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

#### Schedule spring wellness checks with mobile heath events

Bozeman Health continues to offer HealthCare Connections - Mobile Health Screenings at locations in and around the Gallatin Valley.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, appointments are now required in advance. Masks must be worn while receiving services. Here's a look at when and where upcoming events will be held.

The next event is set for Wednesday, Feb. 10th at Big Sky Town Center's Fire Pit Park, with appointment availability between the hours of noon and 4pm. On Saturday, Feb. 20th, the mobile health bus heads to Main Street in Downtown Harrison from 8am to 10am, before moving to Three Forks Community Library from noon to 3pm. Looking to a new month, Bozeman Public Library will again play host on Wednesday, March 3rd from 10am to 2pm.

Regular preventive health screenings and immunizations are essential to good health. Sometimes we postpone these medical necessities because we can't afford it, however, none of us can afford to get sick. That's why Bozeman Health is offering FREE health screenings and select immunizations for those who need it including the uninsured and underinsured. Protect your health. Stay healthy. Get screened and know your risks.

Screenings include breast and colon cancer, high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, bone density, obesity, and HIV and HepC. Additionally, select vaccinations are offered including Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis), pneumonia, and flu. Please visit

www.bozemanhealth.org/healthcare**connections** for further information and to schedule an appointment.

## 'Ski the Cold Smoke' with slopecide contects

return with remote format The Montana State University Women's Center will present virtual Sack Lunch Seminar "Mentorship & Microfluids: High Quality Medical Care for All" on Wednesday, February 10th. Dr. Stephanie

**Informative lunchtime seminars** 

McCalla, Associate Professor in Chemical and Biological Engineering, and Chemical Engineering senior Mikayla Wood will present from noon-1pm. This online program is part of the MentHERship: Women in STEM series

Dr. McCalla and Wood are working to engineer faster and cheaper alternatives to current medical diagnostics with the goal of improving access to medicine. They use tools like microfluidics, which are miniature devices that can manipulate small volumes of fluids, to detect and quantify indicators of disease. They will also discuss the important role that mentorship plays in the lab for women in STEM

"The Lives & Landscape of Working-Class Women in the West" another virtual Sack Lunch Seminar, is set for Wednesday, March 3rd. Crystal Alegria, Director of the Extreme History Project, will present from noon-1pm.

Alegria will examine working women's lives in the 19th Century West. She will do so through the historic lens of three women; a midwife, a businesswomen and a prostitute. By looking at the challenges and opportunities of the landscape these three women navigated and negotiated during their lifetimes, we can better understand the structure of working

women's lives in the 19th Century West. Note: These seminars will be held virtually and are open to the public. Contact danforth@montana.edu for access info.

The MSU Women's Center is a department in the division of Student Success and was created to promote greater responsiveness to the needs of university women. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9am-4pm during the academic year, when classes are in session. Lectures are FREE and open to the public. For more information about these and other events, visit www.montana.edu/women.





Bridger Bowl is now open to skiers and snowboarders of Southwest Montana - with daily reservations required this year. Take in some alpine competition to keep ski season interesting. Here's a look at what's coming up.

Though the traditional Ridge hike-a-thon

won't be happening this year, take part in the King & Queen of the Race. The modified benefit event has been extended to two days: Saturday and Sunday, February 6th and 7th. Race with friends of all ages on alpine skis, tele skis or snowboards. Take one run on the blue course and one on the red. Best of two timed runs.



Funds raised during this weekend event help support avalanche education in Southwest Montana – 100% of proceeds go to the Friends of the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center. \$175,001 has been raised since 2003!

The Bridger Gully Freeride follows on Saturday, Feb. 20th. This judged freeriding event off Bridger's Ridge grades participant runs based on various criteria. It is designed

for skiiers and snowboarders of all disciplines.

The always exciting Terrain Park Jam is set for Saturday, Feb. 27th. This slopestyle competition features a variety of rails, rollers, boxes, banks and barrels.

> Skiiers and snowboarders will take two judged runs and a jam on a feature chosen by each age group.

The rescheduled **Apron Challenge** 

closes out the month on Saturday, Feb. 28th. This timed hiked up the Apron features a wild descent down an offpiste GS course. Open to citizen alpine, telemark and snowboard

racers of all ages.

Note: Find additional registration information through the Bridger Bowl website. Event occurrences subject to change. Follow Bridger on social media for up-to-date details and announcements.

The ski area is located on the east slope of the Bridger Mountain Range. For daily pass information and reservations, as well as upcoming event details, visit www.bridgerbowl.com. •

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February 01, 2021

#### The BoZone • Volume 28, Number 03

#### **MUSIC IN AND AROUND THE BOZONE**

## Local band takes live streaming up a notch



## Pine Creek pairs weekend eats with intimate acoustics

Pine Creek's popular Brunch Live Music Series is held on Saturday and Sundays in February. The tunes begin at 11am and run until 1pm.

**Cole Decker** opens the month on Feb. 6th. The Mississippi-born singer/songwriter pulls from his musical roots of old school country. He draws influence from the likes of Waylon Jennings and newer artists including Chris Stapleton, Brent Cobb and Jason Isbell.

**Chandler Huntley** performs on Feb. 7th. The South Carolina native draws influence from Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Guy Clark, John Prine, Robert Earl Keen and other country greats, from the current and past. His upbeat, fingerpicking guitar style and soulful voice are something to behold.

Local musician **Joe Knapp** takes the stage on Feb. 13th. Frontman of multi-piece SlomoJoe, he's a favorite around town for his mastery of a variety of styles including Americana, rock n' roll, old time and country music.

**Daniel Kosel** serenades for Valentine's Day, Feb. 14th. His poetry, soulful vocals and guitar work make a delightful listening experience best described as "Crues Music," a self-styled blend of country, rock and blues.

Maggie Hickman is back in

Paradise Valley on Feb. 20th. The Bozeman singer/songwriter performs a blend of originals and notable covers, often showing off her stingwork on guitar.

**Shelly Besler Kersbergen** follows on Feb. 21st. The Livingston-based singer/songwriter counts Patty Griffith, Wilco and Katie Herzig among her influences.

One half of Americana duo Sweet Sage, **Amanda Stewart** brings an intimate show to the Lodge on Feb. 27th. She performs acoustic, alternative and country covers – not to mention plenty of her own original music.

**The Canoe Dealers** perform Feb. 28th. This duo featuring Lena "Laney Lou" Schiffer and the Last Revel's Ryan Acker blends their complimentary voices and musical inspirations to provide listeners with songs both familiar and new.

These shows are FREE of admission, but space is limited. Current health guidelines will be observed in the dining area. Performance dates subject to change.

Please visit **www.pinecreek**lodgemontana.com to learn more about these and other upcoming events. Pine Creek hosts Trivia on Wednesday nights, BINGO Thursdays and Open Mic on Friday. • Dave Walker joined Sam Platts and The Great Plainsman January 17 for a rousing round of Johnny Cash's 'Folsom Prison Blues'

Montana's community of musicians has been without live opportunities to perform for close to a vear. When Sam Platts and his band, the Plainsmen, found themselves looking for a way to continue sharing music they wanted to do something that would be sustainable and bring together other musicians. In a stroke of luck, they connected with Pat Lokken, a videographer and technology guru from Bozeman, and together, they have created a weekly livestream. After the first shows, Tessy Lou Williams, who moved back home to ride out the COVID-19 pandemic, joined as a weekly featured guest.

Hosted at a restored barn near

Norris, the show is designed in the vein of the old country variety shows, like the Porter Wagoner Show and The Johnny Cash Show. While casual livestreams from musicians' homes have been a great way to connect with fans during the COVID-19 pandemic, Platts wanted to design something that could stand on its own as a recorded video, and with the help of Lokken, the show is filmed and streamed live on a stage with multiple cameras and high-quality sound. Doing the show live is important, as the band wants to bring the closest thing to a live performance possible into people's homes. Each taping is live, and streamed as-is

without editing.

Having their own avenue to share music has been great for the band; however, connecting with other musicians has been the biggest highlight. Past guests have included acts like **Marcedes Carroll, Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs, Brigid and Johnny Reedy, Kostas, Dave Walker** and **Montana Rose**. Like Sam Platts and the Plainsmen, other musicians are looking for new outlets to share their music.

To this point, the show has been a labor of love for Platts and the band, using tips to pay for the video production. With a solid catalog of livestreams under their belt and increasing viewership, the group plans to begin offering sponsorship opportunities with the goal of being able to pay guests a competitive wage, comparable to when they could play live. Platts also plans to continue the show into the future, post social distancing. Montana is lucky to have many acts travel through, and from more guest appearances to adding limited audiences, he sees a lot of potential in the show far beyond our current situation.

To see past shows, find and follow Lokken Productions on YouTube. To learn more about the founding band, visit www.facebook.com/samplattsmusic or www.samplatts.com. •

"We were a little down this sum-

Ringsak. "We had just finished our

second record, and we were looking

forward to playing around and shar-

mer," said mandolinist Justin

## Montana musicians release album recorded in Forest Service cabin

The music of the **Road Agents** has always had a rustic feel, and the Montana band embraced that aesthetic while crafting their fourth release. *Exile on Moose Creek* was recorded entirely in the Forest Service cabin at Moose Creek west of Helena over three days in Sept. 2020, and mixed and mastered later that month at Vigilante Cabin on the Ruby River. The band released the final product earlier this month on iTunes, Spotify and Bandcamp. "Most of our songs are set in the lonelier parts of the state, in the places we grew up," said songwriter, singer and guitarist Jeff Peterson. "Doing an album in a Forest Service cabin fits right in with what we want this band to be."

After more than 40 gigs across the state in 2019, the Road Agents, like musicians around the country, were forced to cancel everything and stay off the road in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.





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#### **RACHEL BARTON PINE** PLAYS SAINT-GEORGES

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Having another musician on board encouraged the group to add more variety to their sound, incorporating shaker, cajón, handclaps, and layered singing along with Corrado's guitar embellishments.

"We try to get an authentic roots-folk sound when we record," Ringsak said. "We track most parts live all at once in only a couple of takes, so what you hear on our records is what you would hear if we were playing live at the brewery or in your kitchen. This album was a bit different. We recorded the main parts with all three of us together around the wood stove, then the next day we'd move the mics around and one or two of us would sing harmonies or slip in some percussion while the other guy was in the kitchen making coffee and cooking bacon."

The album's title, *Exile on Moose Creek*, is a nod to the Rolling Stones' classic, *Exile on Main Street*.

"We're definitely not the Stones," said Peterson. "But, with all that happened last year, we did kind of feel like exiles. We're lucky that Montana is full of hidden treasures like the Moose Creek cabin. If you're going to be exiled, might as well be hiding out in the mountains, making music with your friends."

Learn more about the band and access the new album, as well as their back catalog, at **www.montanaroadagents.com**. •

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