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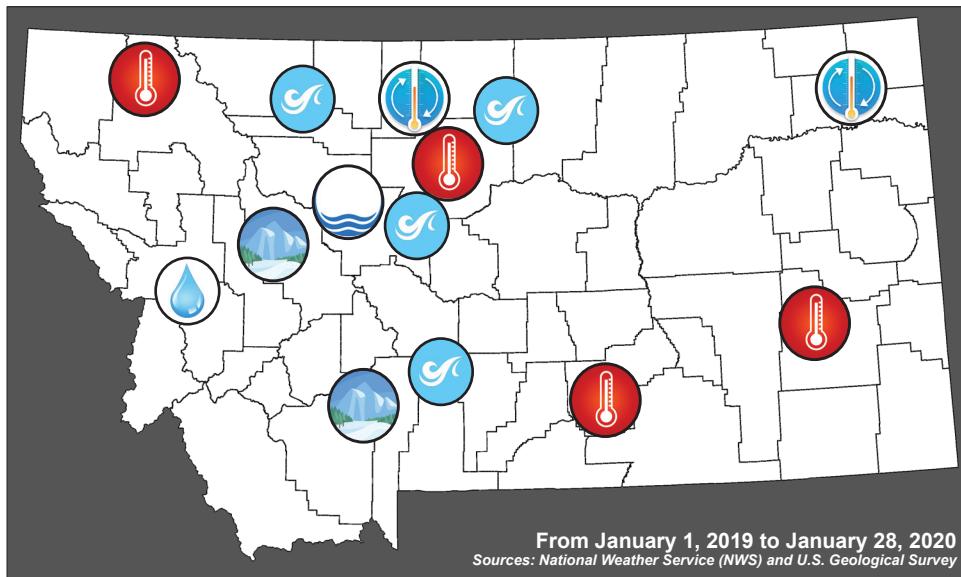
MONTANA PRESS

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ANNUAL GUIDE TO HOT POTS ACROSS MONTANA

MONTANA ALMANAC



Temperatures Across the State

Daily high temperatures were generally recorded in the 30s to 50s across the state. Eureka set a record for its warmest December with an average temperature of 34.6 degrees, breaking a record from 1974. Billings and Livingston also saw above average temperatures through December, with temperatures 6-7 degrees warmer on average. On Jan. 4, record high temperatures were tied in Billings at 56 degrees (2012) and in Miles City at 57 degrees (2012). The highest temperature for the recording period Jan. 1 through Jan. 28 was 58 degrees on Jan. 25 in Loma. The lowest temperature recorded in this period was -33 degrees on Jan. 15 near Rudyard. A wind chill of -39 degrees was recorded east of Plentywood on Jan. 10, precipitating a wind chill warning for Daniels, Phillips, Roosevelt, Valley and Sheridan counties. An arctic cold front moved into Montana on Jan. 10, bringing low temperature wind chills of -25 to -30 degrees in Great Falls, Havre, Cut Bank, Sun River and East Glacier Park through mid-January. Actual temperatures dropped to the -20s and teens in Browning, Havre, Choteau, Chinook and Sweet Grass on Jan. 15. On Jan. 16, temperatures across the north-central part of the state varied widely, from 41 degrees in Lewistown to -10 degrees in Cut Bank. On Jan. 17 a wind chill warning was issued for Hi-Line counties where temps outside felt like -45 degrees.

Wind Gusts Across the State

Strong winds were recorded across the state over the period from Jan. 2 to Jan. 3 and included gusts up to 60 mph in Lewistown, Winifred, Choteau, Inverness, Judith Gap and Great Falls; 65 mph in Zortman and 66 mph in Glasgow; up to 68 and 70 mph in Livingston; and up to 70 and 80 mph at Hornet Mountain, Cut Bank and Havre. The winds continued through Jan. 4, when the Cut Bank airport saw sustained winds of 55 mph and a peak gust of 76 mph. On Jan. 5, Deep Creek recorded 78 mph wind gusts. Bozeman, Fort Benton, and Hilger recorded 66 mph winds; Big Sky reported 63 mph winds and Virginia City and Great falls reported 62 mph winds.

Precipitation and Snowfall

On Jan. 1, Missoula recorded its wettest New Year's day ever. The Missoula airport measured .30" of precipitation, breaking the record of .28 set in 1997. Although Lookout Pass and Martin City reported a foot of snow in a 24-hour period on Jan. 13, locations across Montana saw varied light precipitation throughout the reporting period, including snow, dense fog and freezing rain. Accumulation was particularly scant across north-central Montana. 0.1" of snow was the first measurable snowfall recorded in Great Falls since Dec. 8, marking an entire month without measurable snow. As of midnight Jan. 15, Great Falls officially measured 63.5" of snow for this snow season (Jul. 1-Jun. 30). Normal snowfall for an entire season is 63.5". Only 3.1" of that snow was recorded since Dec. 1, however, with a record-shattering 60.4" falling from late Sept. thru Nov. 30. As of Jan. 25, Montana SNOTEL was still measuring snowpack at average or just above average for most of the state.

Ice Jam Flooding on Spring Creek

Choteau declared a State of Emergency on Jan. 17 in order to access county, state and federal resources to assist with flooding after up to 80 homes had to pump water from crawl spaces and basements. On Jan. 19 all homes in the city limits of Choteau using private wells were under a boil order due to the flooding activity. Much of north-central Montana faced issues from the break up of river ice and flooding during the week of Jan. 19.

Be Avalanche Aware

The Flathead Avalanche Center continued avalanche warnings into the New Year as two weeks of storms punctuated by rain, inversions, and wind created persistent avalanche danger throughout the month. The Gallatin National Forest reported a cornice collapse that broke three to four feet deep at Lionhead on the morning of Jan. 19, indicating that continuing avalanche danger in the backcountry was a concern. Large avalanches continued to trigger throughout the month and recent activity indicated that weak snow layers were unstable. Experts advise avoiding avalanche terrain and avalanche runout zones when recreating in these conditions. Information about safely navigating the backcountry during the winter season can be found on regional avalanche center forecasting websites and feeds.



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Presenting the annual statewide guide to Montana's steamy treasures: over a dozen notable public hot springs.

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ON THE COVER *Chico Hot Springs in Pray, Montana near Yellowstone National Park is a perennial favorite for soakers across Montana. Photo by Lindsay Wells.*

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Contributors

Rob Brezny, Brian D'Ambrosio, Mazana Boerboom, Jen Eames, Jessica Flammang, Chad Harder, Breeana Laughlin, Jason McNeil, Jay MacDonald, Nikoleta Morales, George Ochenski and Geneva Zoltek.

Staff Photographer

Lindsay Wells
photo@montanapress.net

Distribution

Courtney Lehman, Tim Weavers

Publisher/Editor

Reilly Neill
info@montanapress.net

Copy Editors

Kenneth Neill, Brad Snow



@MontanaPress

PHONE

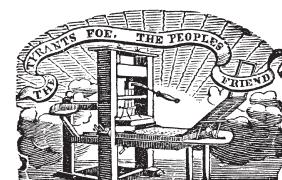
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BYGONE DAYS

Bygone Days are compiled from archives of Montana newspapers. Current years featured are 1896, 1935 and 1961. For daily Bygone Days, follow online at: @MontanaPress on Facebook.

The Anaconda Standard
February 3, 1896

“The coming of Sousa and his concert band to Anaconda Feb 9th is an event of the season that will arouse great enthusiasm. Sousa draws his admirers from all classes with whom the love of music finds a lodgment. To the classical mind, Sousa is admired because he interprets in a masterly way, and with fidelity of purpose, the work of the masters. To the mind of the casual music lover, Sousa is an object of regard because he appeals to the general intelligence and popular mind. Sousa is peerless, because he plays the music of the people, his own magnetic marches, and with a dash and swing that will carry all before them. There is no need to enlarge on Sousa’s fame as a composer of military marches. His position as a march king is as firm as the rock of Plymouth, and as each new inspiration flows from his fluent pen, new beauties of melody and new combinations in tone, color and new ideas of brightness and life in music are discovered. John Philip Sousa and his band began at Washington on Jan. 5, the eighth semi-annual tour of the organization. A grand journey across the American continent – and this city will be the theater of their orchestra, on Feb. 9.”

Columbia Falls Columbian
February 6, 1896

“Livingston’s Loss. The Hefferlin Opera House Burns and the City is Without a Thespian Temple... The Livingston opera house was totally destroyed by fire early Friday morning. The fire was discovered

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in the rear portion of the house at 4:45. Fire soon broke out through the roof, and the whole building was in flames. The fire department fought hard and succeeded in confining the flames to the opera house portion of the block. The opera house was built in 1891, at a cost of nearly \$15,000. The insurance is \$21,000.

The Helena Independent
February 8, 1896

“Astral Courtship. A Psychic Experiment with an Unexpected Result. ‘Four or five years ago,’ said a bachelor in conversation with a reporter, ‘I had a sweetheart that I was deeply in love with, and wanted to marry, but I was afraid to ask her... I was making a study of psychic phenomena... and it occurred to me to make a psychical proposal by projecting my subjective mind around the corner to where the girl lived... I went to see her Thursday evening and felt sure that if I asked her I would get her, notwithstanding she was about equally interested in a friend of mine, whom I shall call George. Having doubts of my courage, I determined to make a test the next evening instead of going to see her, so I retired early... and, according to formula, I exerted my mental faculties to their utmost... and willed with all my power that she accept me. For half an hour... I shut out every thought but this important one, and went to sleep, or into a trance, under the mental strain. I awoke an hour or so later and felt that my efforts had been a success, and that it would be all right the next day, when I called... At three o’clock next afternoon I called to make my real proposal. I talked to her on some trivial subject or other for half an hour, and then came to the all-important matter. ‘Did you feel any peculiar mental or emotional sensations last evening?’ I asked. She blushed violently and I was sure that my subjective proposal had hit center. ‘How did you know anything about it?’ she replied, laughing somewhat nervously. ‘Oh, that’s all right,’ I smiled triumphantly. ‘What time did it occur?’ ‘Really, I don’t know, but it must have been about 9:30. I remember that I thought it odd that the clock should strike just as it happened...’ ‘Wasn’t it remarkable [?]...’ I was coming to it by degrees, and wanted to see just where I was. ‘No, I don’t think it was,’ she answered indignantly. ‘George has always loved me and his proposal last night was quite what I expected. We are to be married in June.’”

The River Press, Fort Benton, Montana
February 12, 1896

“The horrid man who recently secured a patent on bloomers should be ostracized by the community. He is no respecter of the comfort of lady bicyclists and apparently has no sympathy with the male admirers of the beautiful on wheels.”

Columbia Falls Columbian
February 13, 1896

“State Land Agent James M. Page, in his annual report filed with the governor, says that the forests of Western Montana are being destroyed at an alarming rate. He thinks

something should be done at once to prevent corporations and persons from laying waste the forests as they are now doing. He says that the law permitting the cutting of timber from the public domain should be amended so as to restrict the business, else in a few years there will be little valuable timber left on lands of public domain. Mr. Page urges the necessity for a complete survey of the timbered lands by the general government so the state may complete selections to fill the grants. The most valuable of the public lands are unsurveyed timber tracts and he wants the state to get possession of them before the timber on them is marketed. He recommends in his report that the state sell no timber without, at the same time, disposing of the land on which it stands.”

Havre Daily News
February 16, 1935

“House sets an All Time Record For Bills Introduced. 500 Measures Stacked up in 40 Day Period... Long Night Session... Eclipsing by a wide margin all previous records for an ambitious legislative program, the Montana house of representatives closed tonight its 40-day period of bill introduction with more than 500 measures docketed. When a recess was taken for dinner the lower chamber had undergone the tedious double reading of more than 80 titles to the measures which then numbered 491. The heaviest previous house docket was in 1925 when bills totaled 462. At 8:30 the gavel fell again for a protracted night session during which the remaining odds and ends were given a chance to get under the wire...”

Big Timber Pioneer
February 17, 1935

Missoula, Mont... Dispatches from Little America, Antarctica, today brought pleasure to hundreds of Missoula residents in reporting the safe return to Admiral Byrd’s headquarters of Quinn A. Blackburn, head of the geological party that had been in the field 88 days. ‘I knew he’d come back all right,’ Dr. J. P. Rowe of the State university geology department declared, ‘he’s built for that sort of work.’ ‘It’s ten years since he ran two miles for Montana track teams,’ Dr. W.E. Schreiber of the athletic department said, ‘but he still can make a stretch run—a fine boy.’”

The Billings Gazette
February 22, 1935

“Babcock Theater is Swept by Flames. Arouse Tenants in Apartments As Fire Spreads. Cigarette, Cigar or Match Dropped Into Air Space Under the Stage is Blamed... Believed to have originated from a carelessly dropped cigarette or match, fire broke out at the ringside of a boxing program in the Babcock theater Thursday night and devastated the historic structure before it was brought under control at midnight. The loss was tentatively set at \$150,000, confined almost entirely to the playhouse. Prompt action by firemen and ringsiders averted a panic among the 1,000 spectators who were engrossed in the semifinal match when the blaze became apparent at 9:25 p.m... The fire was brought under control at midnight after gutting the interior of the theater... Fire Chief Vincent H. Steele said it could have been caused only by a cigarette, cigar or match falling into the air space under the stage...”

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The Billings Gazette
February 23, 1961

“Railways Are Busy With ‘Air Travel.’ The nationwide airlines strike is having a not-too-glum effect on most other public transportation in and out of Billings. ‘We’re just hounded to death,’ said a reservations clerk at Union Station... Frontier Airlines, the only airlines operation out of Billings since Saturday, said business is a little heavier than local personnel can handle... The Union Station reservations clerk said the extra business is heaviest on the Northern Pacific North Coast Limited... Most of the additional passengers are taking long-distance trips, the reservations man said. ‘There’s lots of Democrats in Yellowstone county going to Washington.’ Grippers among travelers forced to switch from plane to train, he said, are primarily those on expense accounts or government bureau personnel. ‘But they’d probably complain about airlines, too. Pleasure travelers seem to enjoy taking the train.’”

Butte Montana Standard
February 28, 1961

“Butte Monday was designated a food stamp pilot area. The project is expected to start in the very near future but no details were received in the information phoned the *Standard-Post* by Sens. Mike Mansfield and Lee Metcalf in Washington. The senators said: ‘We have just been informed by the White House and by Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman that Butte has been designated a food stamp pilot area, the first west of the Mississippi... Butte will be one of the areas used in the department’s study looking toward the possible establishment of such plans throughout the nation... Recipients of the stamps can take them to any grocery store where they can buy all but a few isolated items with them... Within a day after President Kennedy proposed a pilot food stamp program for areas plagued by unemployment, aid for Butte under the program was asked.’”

Helena Independent Record
February 27, 1961

“Senate’s Three Votes Kills Hutterite Bill. The basic right of religious and social freedoms clashed with feelings of nationalism Monday in the Montana Senate as that body took three votes before killing a bill designed to restrict Hutterite colonies...” ★

Bygone Days are compiled by Jen Eames.

MONTANA VOICE

2020: Time for Some BIG Changes

By the time you read this Donald Trump and his sycophants in the Senate had hoped for instant dismissal of the Articles of Impeachment filed against the president by the House of Representatives. But that didn't happen. In truth, the nation's political waters have seldom been more roiled – and not just for Republicans sweating the next damning revelation of Trump's many perfidies, but for Democrats, too, as Bernie Sanders continues to rise, Biden continues to fall, and the corporate Demos in D.C. come unhinged trying to stop Sanders' incredible grassroots funding, support, and success. For those who keep track of the political whirlwind, February 2020 will be a month to remember.

As we go to press, new revelations from former National Security Advisor John Bolton have sent shock waves through the Washington political landscape. Bolton, a hard right-wing hawk, isn't exactly the type of person one would expect to be sending torpedoes below the waterline of the badly tilting Trump presidency. Yet, by releasing excerpts from his upcoming book, "The Room Where It Happened," Bolton has provided compelling, first-hand, witness of Trump's "quid pro quo" withholding hundreds of millions in Congressionally-approved military aid to Ukraine unless its newly-elected president announce that investigations were being launched into Joe and Hunter Biden's interactions with Ukrainian gas company Burisma.

One of the primary, albeit weak, defenses offered by Trump's attorneys in the Senate was that none of the reams of investigative material nor hours of testimony by high-level government officials was actually first-hand knowledge of Trump putting a halt on the funding to smear his likely campaign opponent – Joe Biden. Bolton just crushed that and promises there's more to come.

Add to that the videos and tapes from indicted former Trump associates Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman detailing the extent to which Trump went to get rid of Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch. Considering those tapes include a very threatening command from Trump to "take her out" and it's no wonder the Senate finds itself in a serious conundrum as it tries to quickly brush impeachment under the rug of a sham "trial."

A number of Republican senators are now openly saying they want the Senate to call witnesses, starting with Bolton – a position antithetical to the Trump defense team's efforts to ramrod through his acquittal. The upshot is that it's likely Trump's impeachment trial will be on-going when he delivers his State of the Union Address on February 4.

In the meantime, the Democratic National Committee, which was highly and justifiably criticized for corruptly tilting Demo Party funds, delegates, and support to Hillary Clinton in the 2016 primary against Bernie Sanders, finds itself once more embroiled in controversy as Sanders pulls away from the pack in key primary states. Sanders is leading in Iowa, New Hampshire, and California – which will contribute 40 percent of the delegates to the Demo nominating convention.

Unlike Biden, until now seen as the neoliberal savior for the corporate Democrats, Sanders is riding a tidal wave of funds, having outraised every other primary candidate and showing no sign of slowing down. Moreover, Sanders' funding is coming from millions of small donors, not PACS or billionaires, and is raterat-

The Democratic National Committee, which was highly and justifiably criticized for corruptly tilting Demo Party funds, delegates, and support to Hillary Clinton in the 2016 primary against Bernie Sanders, finds itself once more embroiled in controversy as Sanders pulls away from the pack in key primary states. Sanders is leading in Iowa, New Hampshire, and California – which will contribute 40 percent of the delegates to the Democratic nominating convention.

tiling the long-held "pay to play" tenets of the Demo Party insiders.

Of course Sanders is actually offering voters something besides the status quo Biden brings to the table. Remember, Bernie won the Montana Demo primary in 2016, trouncing Hillary Clinton who didn't even bother to campaign in Montana, which she apparently considered "fly over country." That didn't stop most of Montana's delegates and super delegates from tossing their votes to Hillary, in contradiction of the popular primary vote.

As sagely noted by former legislator and gubernatorial candidate (and *Montana Press Monthly* editor/publisher) Reilly Neill in her January 2020 announcement ending her campaign: "I'm a Dem in Montana and I often feel like I am not welcome in my own party because I work primarily on climate change. How must voters feel? The Democratic leadership in this state would do well to ask." Indeed, it would be refreshing to see how Democrats intend to address global warming instead of cheerleading for more extractive industries and fossil fuels – the very culprits destroying hopes for a sustainable future.

So there you have it. The Republican Party is in chaos as they struggle in an election year with a historically unpopular president who has lied more than 16,500 times during his three-years in office and is now being impeached while even more lies come to light. And the Demo Party is in chaos as it struggles with a breakaway candidate whom they are unable to control thanks to Bernie's vast independent base of tens of millions of supporters and small funders. What will shake out by this February's leap-year end? Stay tuned for the next edition of *Montana Press Monthly* to find out. ★

—GEORGE OCHENSKI



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MONTANA BOOKS

Montana Sports Journalist Chad Dundas
Continues Career as Successful Novelist

Some say a best-selling novel hides inside every working journalist. But sports writers? Not so much, unless one has the pedigree and panache of Chad Dundas.

The Missoula sportswriter broke the mold four years ago when his debut novel, “Champion of the World,” landed the 2016 *Boston Globe* Best Book of the Year award. At the center of the 1921 tale is a disgraced professional wrestler who agrees to return to a Montana training camp to coach a down-and-out African-American heavyweight contender to a world title. The retro-wrestling tale not only earned Dundas favorable comparison to the likes of Cormac McCarthy and Jim Thompson but sold in a two-book deal to G.P. Putnam’s Sons.

Book number two, “The Blaze,” which just dropped in January, is a fast-moving contemporary mystery about Matthew Rose, an Army veteran with traumatic brain injury who returns home from Iraq to Montana to settle his late father’s estate. Unfortunately, a deadly house fire his first night back signals the start of a rough sled for Rose, whose memory of a different fire long ago sparks long-unresolved mysteries from his past.

Dundas admits that his own lineage played a major role in leading him to a writer’s life.

“It was always one of the things I was interested in, and frankly always one of the only things that I could do somewhat well; I can’t really do math and I can’t really do science, so I focused a lot on writing,” he says. “But I am pretty lucky to come from a family of writers. My big brother Zach is a longtime journalist and magazine editor and at this point has two nonfiction books out (“The Great Detective,” “The Renegade Sportsman”). My uncle Daryl Gadbow was sports editor at the *Missoulian* for a long time and ultimately did the outdoors page. And then my aunt Kate Gadbow was the director of creative writing at the university for a lot of years.

“My grandma Margaret Gadbow, whom everyone called Peggy, was the head librarian for School District number one here in Missoula growing up, so we were always surrounded by books and artists and people who

were either writing for a living or writing to enrich themselves, so it always seemed like a possibility.”

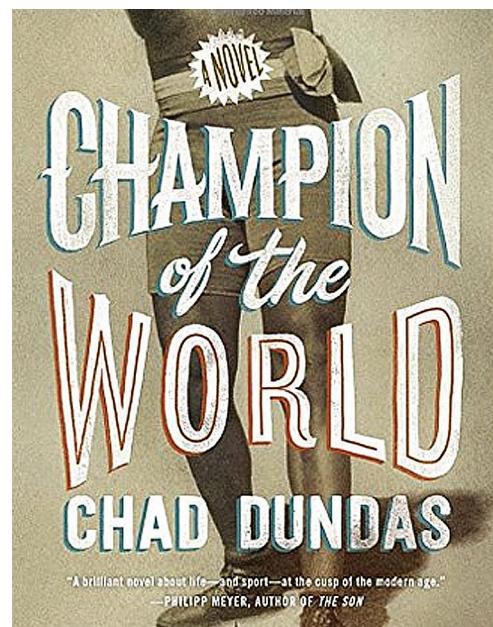
Like his big brother Zach, Chad got his journalism start at the Hellgate High School student paper. Chad graduated and became a sports writer for the *Montana Kaimin* while earning his journalism degree at the University of Montana. After college, he applied for a news job, but his timing landed him in sports.

“I went to apply for a job at the *Missoulian*, back when Mike McNally was the editor there, and it was for a news reporting job. I had an interview with Mike that I thought went well and we hit it off a little bit, talked and talked, and then at the end of it, he was like, ‘Well, we’re not going to give you the news reporter job because we’re going to give it to this other person, but we have this part-time sports reporter job. Do you want that instead?’ and I was like, ‘Heck yes; I’ll do that!’ So I was the part-time sports writer at the *Missoulian* for a while, and then when Kim Briggeman transferred over to start doing more news stuff and ultimately the history column that he does at the *Missoulian* now, I went fulltime and found my niche as a sports writer from then on.”

Dundas expounds on his history and success in his interview with the *Montana Press*:

How did fiction enter your paradigm?

I always had an interest in both things. I started out at UM as a creative writing major; I always thought I would sort of lean that way, then after a short time, I had a lot of friends who were in the journalism program and there must have been some more pragmatic part of my brain that kicked in that said, ‘Well, if I’m going to go to college, I should learn a trade that I could get a job with after I graduate.’ At the time, I didn’t know that choosing journalism was probably the second worst possible decision that I could have made, but I changed my major and eventually got a bachelor’s degree in journalism. But I was always interested in both things, and hoped that I would get the opportunity to do both in my adult professional life.



Chad Dundas shared this image of press passes and other mementos from his time working at the *Missoulian* recently on his Twitter account @ChadDundas.

Your sports beat eventually led to your fiction debut with your hit first novel, “Champion of the World.” How did that roll out?

For about a decade now, I’ve been a mixed martial arts reporter; I worked for ESPN from 2008 to 2010, then Bleacher Report and CNN off and on from 2010 to 2018. It was kind of a thing I fell into in the late 2000s, covering combat sports and professional fighting, and to me it’s a fascinating world, both as a sporting subculture and as a sport itself. My first book was kind of inspired by the works that I have done as an MMA reporter, and certainly the personalities that are on the page in “Champion of the World” were informed by a lot of the professional fighters and the people around them that I have been able to interact with over the last decade or so. It’s a very colorful, very interesting world where something crazy is always happening. It’s sort of the exact opposite of the very vanilla, staid, PR-controlled world of other mainstream professional sports. It can be wild and a little bit unpredictable, but at the same time, the people who do it are very dedicated and in many ways very cerebral and just interesting to talk to.

How did you find your fiction voice?

When I was finishing my MFA, as my senior thesis, I was trying to write a novel, but ended up just writing 50 pages over and over again, which ultimately just kind of died on the page. It was a novel that was set in the twentieth-century teens in Montana, and ultimately there was a lot of stuff in that failed draft that I ended up using in “Champion of the World.” I had a day job as a sports reporter, but I was trying to write short stories and trying to keep that part of my creative life alive, and when I came up with the idea for “Champion of the World,” it kind of lit up all of these different nerve centers in my brain, of this lifelong interest I have had of being a sportswriter and, as a kid, a professional wres-

ting fan, and now covering combat sports as an adult. All of those very nerdy interests kind of fused together in my mind. I just needed to find the right project to prove to myself that writing an entire book was even a thing that I was capable of doing.

Setting your first book in the 1920s took some guts.

I had read several novels about boxing, but I was trying to think of a great novel about wrestling and I couldn’t really think of one. I knew that I had this lifelong interest in professional wrestling that, as an adult, had become an interest in the weird history of professional wrestling, and I knew that as a sports writer, I had access to all these personalities, many of whom are analogous to what the professional wrestlers of the early 1900s may have been like, so I thought that it was a book that no one had written, a book that I would pick off the shelf if I was a consumer, and a book that I was uniquely positioned to write. So it was a unique obsession of mine to write that first book as a novel.

Where did you get the concept for “The Blaze?”

I always knew that I wanted to write mysteries and thrillers, because those are the kind of books that I grew up reading. I grew up really liking the big Montana mystery writers like James Lee Burke and James Crumley, and also the giants of that genre, as I was growing up, like James Ellroy, George Pelecanos and Megan Abbott. So I always had this idea that my second book was going to be a mystery set in Montana, and as I thought about it a little more, I started to come up with a character who had memory troubles; who had a lot of his biographical memory scrubbed away.

One of the unfortunate offshoots of my job covering combat sports is, you have to get a little bit acquainted with head injury and know a little something about traumatic brain



injury and concussion and post-concussion syndrome and all these different things, and while I'm not expert, I knew enough to know that there is potential there from a mystery standpoint. I started to read stories about soldiers who were coming back from modern military conflicts with the signature injury of modern warfare, the dramatic brain injury, and started to realize that there was probably an opportunity there to try to write about that experience.

I took that idea and forged it with the idea that I wanted to set a contemporary mystery in Missoula and write about the modern west and the Montana that I see around me every day, and from there just kind of fleshed out the characters and the plot from there.

This story seems really familiar to you.

I have several friends who were in the military and did deploy overseas and had combat experiences, several of whom were very gracious to me and allowed me to ask them questions and read early drafts of the novel and allowed me to flesh out the military part of Matthew's character. I supplemented the rest of it with stuff that I was more intimately acquainted with in my own life, like as a sports writer, I made him a former high school athlete. But most of it is just fictionalized, spraying out of my own brain one way or the other.

Are you working on a new book?

Yeah, I have a couple of novels going right now, kind of in their formative stages. I'm trying to get the first act going on two or three different projects and then I might ultimately settle on one that has the most creative juices for me right now. I'm also doing a history and

true-crime podcast with my brother that's going to be called "Dead in the West." It's going to be coming out in 2020 and our first season is going to focus on the murder of (labor leader) Frank Little in Butte in 1917. So I've got a lot of different irons in the fire.

Any thoughts of writing fiction full time?

I'm married and I have three small kids, but the ultimate dream I think would be a full-time fiction writer; it's always been my passion and it's always been the thing that I've wanted to do most of all. When I sold "Champion of the World" to G.P. Putnam and Sons, I actually got a two-book deal, so they got "The Blaze" at the same time, but I had only started "The Blaze" in a very skeletal way. So after I found out that they were going to buy both of those books, I was filled with this rush of extreme exaltation but also terror. I took two weeks off after I sold "Champion," but after that, I started writing "The Blaze."

I've had a great experience and a great education over the last several years writing and publishing these two books and it's definitely a thing that I want to continue to do if they will let me. But I think you have to get real lucky in order to actually write fiction as a full-time job: you either have to pen a runaway bestseller or someone has to come along and offer you a bunch of money on an option for a movie or TV show. It's almost like buying a lottery ticket; every book that comes out has the opportunity to do all of these things that could be very lucrative, but at the same time, you can't count on any of them. Just take it as it comes, and enjoy the wonderful ride of fulfilling a lifelong ambition. ★

—JAY MACDONALD

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MONTANA SPOTLIGHT

New Butte-based Montana Podcast Strikes It Rich

A relatively new communication format - podcasting - is very much a part of the contemporary mix of changing and evolving media sources across America.

Guardian reporter Ben Hammersley coined the phrase in 2004 by combining the words “iPod” and “broadcast,” while he was padding out a story in the newspaper’s print version. Fifteen years later, podcasts are now everywhere, including here in Montana where journalists across the Big Sky State are using the medium to tell audio-stories.

Among the most democratic forms of modern communication, podcasts need not come from major news outlets in order to be circulated; perhaps that’s why people now consume them so consistently. Ranging from unedited recorded conversations to full-blown, elaborately-produced audio-documentaries, a wide variety of

informational experiences are out there to explore in this particular medium.

One Montana-based podcast now gaining national attention is *Richest Hill*, a series put together by Montana Public Radio. The first episode dropped online in March 2019. From the start, the highest production values have gone into the development of the series and since its launch, *Richest Hill* has racked up over half a million downloads. The New Yorker magazine even placed the Butte podcast on its list of “Best Podcasts of 2019.”

Broadly speaking, *Richest Hill* is about Butte, Montana. The podcast takes a deep dive into the history of the city in the late 1800s when the “Mining City” produced much of the copper that helped light the electric world. The story follows through to current events as Butte deals with the remnants of its prospector past.

RECONCILING THE PAST

Few urban places in America have endured Butte’s level of natural resource extraction. According to Nikia Greene, Remedial Project Manager for the Environmental Protection Agency, the historic mining waste lingering in the area called for government intervention. Under the Federal Superfund Act, the EPA has authority to enforce environmental cleanup to protect human health and the environment. Silver Bow Creek was given Superfund designation in 1983, and areas of Butte were added in 1987.

“We’re moving towards some final cleanup for the Butte site,” Greene explains. “We’re hoping to move into the remedial design this spring.”

Through auditory storytelling and reporting, *Richest Hill* explores both the history of copper mining in the area along with the cleanup process. Local environmental and human health impacts are traced from the past to the present-day and an honest look is taken at Butte’s potential future. With each episode, Nora Saks, narrator and reporter for *Richest Hill*, takes listeners on a journey into the ongoing story.

Originally from Rockville, Maryland, Saks currently lives in Butte and plays a character in the *Richest Hill* podcasts. She reveals her inner thoughts and feelings as she narrates each episode. Her neighbors and fellow residents of Butte are also sometimes featured characters in the podcasts. Saks deploys a broad range of storytelling elements in her narrative of the development of a unique place in Montana known for its colorful past and uncertain environmental future.

Through auditory storytelling and reporting, *Richest Hill* explores both the history of copper mining in the area along with the cleanup process. Local environmental and human health impacts are traced through the past into present-day and an honest look is taken at Butte’s potential future. With each episode, Nora Saks, (at left) narrator and reporter for *Richest Hill*, takes listeners on a journey into the ongoing story.

Butte is a visually striking city. To audibly describe the enormity of the Berkeley Pit (the famous open-pit mine now filled with acidic water) or the city’s century-old skyscrapers is a difficult thing to do using sound only. Saks takes up the challenge while digging into some significant Montana and American history, using songs, voices from interviews and natural sound effects to enhance the story.

In “Episode 02: For the Benefit of Mankind,” Saks interviews Al Beavis. Born in 1931, Beavis worked as an underground miner in Butte from the age of 17 and through the last decades of the mine’s operation. His weathered voice, intertwined with Saks’ narration, is a gemstone within the episode. But *Richest Hill* is not all about the auditory juiciness.

In the latest podcast, “Episode 06: Our Most Cherished Beliefs,” Saks uses the game of poker to represent how the legal stakeholders of the Superfund Site interact with each other as the cleanup unfolds. Using gamer lingo, the poker metaphor helps listeners better understand strategies deployed to deal, or not deal with, the environmental repercussions.

“If there’s anywhere to try bringing post-industrial realities to life, Butte is the place to do it,” Saks says.

Saks explains that she first became fascinated with Butte when she attended graduate school in journalism at the University of Montana. During her first semester, Saks witnessed significant environmental action taking place in Butte.

In November 2016, Butte made international news when thousands of snow geese were killed after landing in the Berkeley Pit to rest during their migratory flight. Shortly thereafter, President Trump’s EPA decided to prioritize Superfund site clean-ups. With renewed media interest in the area, Saks wondered if the entire story was being told.

“I realized, ‘Hold on, there’s a ton of stuff happening with the Superfund here.’ But things were kind of swirling in an ether,” Saks explains.

Since cold-calling Montana Public Radio in a job search when she first moved to Montana for school, Saks had been working with the non-profit news organization as a reporter. In May 2018, Saks and her supervisors attended a National Public Radio workshop called Story Lab to explore the idea of using a podcast to highlight issues in Butte and the surrounding area.

“We started to feel like this could not only be a Montana story, but potentially have some national appeal,” Saks recalls. “We came home with a road map.”

Now six episodes in, Saks says her affection for Butte has not waned but the work does come with challenges.

“I’m constantly thinking about how what’s happening now in the present day can open a portal into something that happened 30 or 100 years ago,” she explains. “It’s about spending time here and looking under the surface. You start to find out there are many truths here, and what motivates me is getting the story behind the story.”

The most recent episode went live online on January 7, 2020. The podcast goes into detail about Butte’s recent Superfund history, from the 1980s to the present.

At the moment, *Richest Hill* is only available through digital listening platforms, but Montana Public Radio plans to air the series once ten episodes are completed. In the meantime, interested listeners can find *Richest Hill* at buttepodcast.org, mtpr.org, or wherever podcasts are available. ★

—GENEVA VOLTEK



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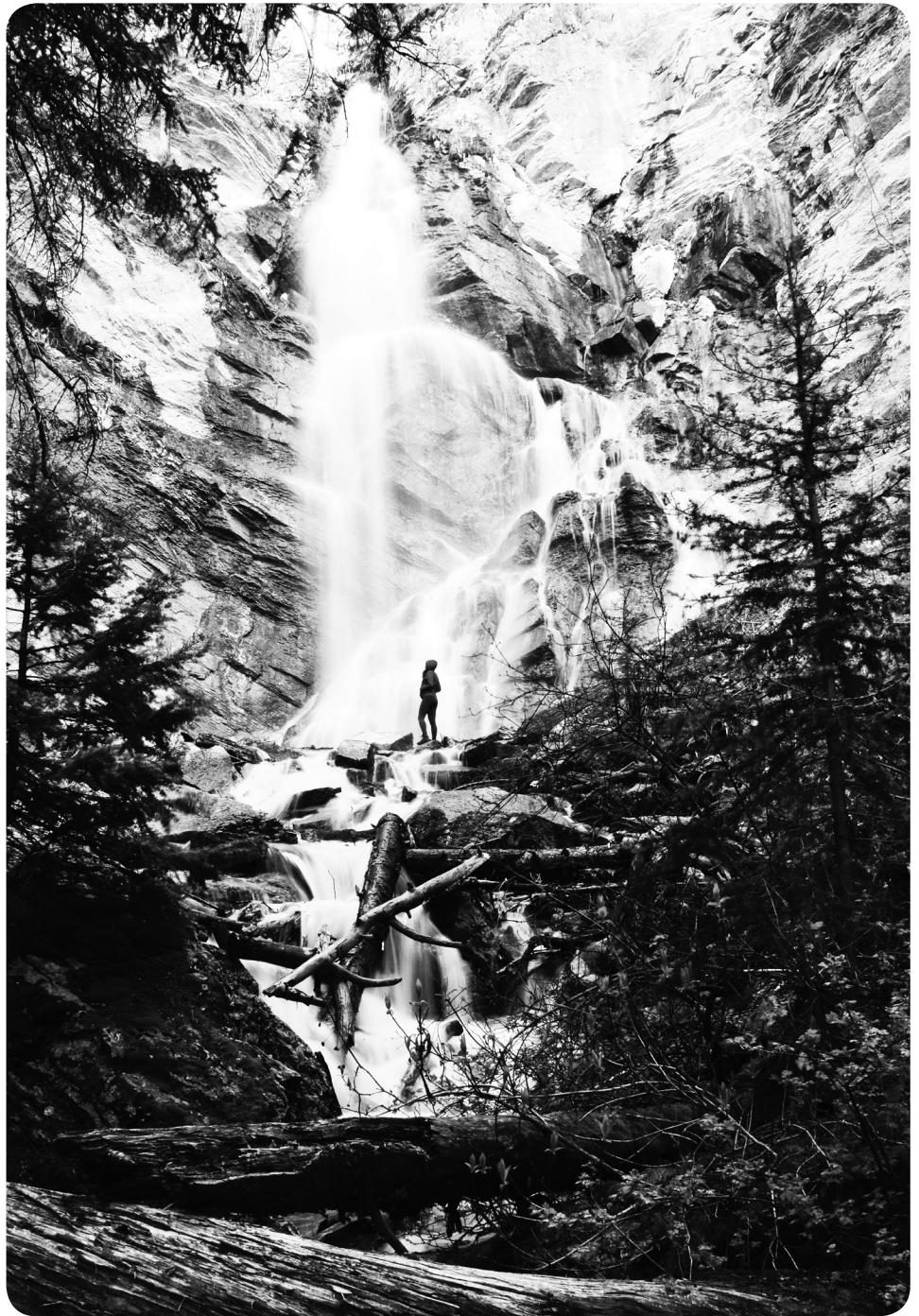
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2019 Grand Prize winner (above) Sara Schroeder: **"A hiker experiences solitude and the beauty of spring runoff at Cataract Falls on the Rocky Mountain Front in the Lewis and Clark National Forest."**
Runners-up Eddie Bringenberg (below) and Eric Henderson (at left).

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MONTANA HOT SPRINGS

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO
SOAKING IN THE STATE

Nothing compliments a busy day of snowshoeing, skiing or even a relaxed, scenic drive across the state like a soothing soak in the mineral-filled waters of one of Montana's hot springs pools.

Hot springs can be found throughout North America but the region around Yellowstone National Park has a particularly high concentration of springs formed by wells of geothermal-heated groundwater.

Magma within the earth's surface heats groundwater in permeable soils and bedrock and this interaction changes the water's mineral content, increasing levels of simple silica, sulfur, calcium, lithium, and even radium and selenium. Lighter in weight than the cooler waters, the heated water rises to the surface through cracks in the earth. If the water nearing the surface remains at a consistent level of pressure, a hot springs is created.

With nearly two dozen developed hot springs in Montana where visitors can enjoy a relaxing soak in these magma-heated waters, more than a few are truly off the beaten track and known as hidden treasures. From the local's time-tested favorites to a recently opened facility just north of Yellowstone National Park, plenty of favorite soaking spots exist for enthusiasts across the state to discover.

The popularity of soaking in hot springs for health and relaxation has a long history all over the globe and Montana is no exception. American Indians were familiar with the region's bounty of hot springs for thousands of years before the arrival of settlers to the area. As was true across the country, many tribes considered hot springs sacred areas and would often call truces with enemy tribes when all were gathered to soak together.

According to "Touring Hot Springs: Montana and Wyoming" by Jeff Birkby, members of the Crow, Arapaho, Shoshone, Sioux and Flathead tribes were frequent visitors to Montana's hot springs.

"When Dr. A.J. Hunter visited a hot springs near Livingston, Montana in 1864," Birkby writes, "He reported seeing more than 1,000 tepees of the Crow tribe clustered around the springs and many tribal members bathing in the water."

Birkby shares a diary entry from Captain William Clark containing the first recorded description of a hot spring in the Rocky Mountains. In 1805, explorers Lewis and Clark visited what is now Lolo Hot Springs near the current Montana and Idaho borders.

"[We] passed several springs which I observed the deer, elk, etc. had made roads to, and below one of the Indians had made a hole to bathe," Clark's diary entry reads. "I tasted this water and found it hot and not bad tasted. In further examination I found this water nearly boiling hot at the places it spouted from the rocks. I put my finger in the water, at first could not bear it in a second."

Birkby goes on to note another hot springs entry in Clark's journals from 1806 (when Clark was on his return trip from the Pacific Ocean) to the area near Jackson Hot Springs in Montana's Big Hole Valley.

When gold was discovered in Montana in the 1860s, the region's hot springs experienced a boom. Near the gold camps in Virginia City, Boulder, Clancy, Helena and Chico, bathhouses and hotels become popular stops for tired miners and those seeking health cures.

From 1890 to 1920, luxurious hotels were constructed across the state at various popular hot springs in order to lure travelers from the Northern Pacific Railroad lines to plunges and pools where they could enjoy the splendor of Montana's natural waters for refreshment and good health. Large facilities were built at Chico near Emigrant, Corwin Springs near the entrance to Yellowstone National Park, at Broadwater near Helena and at the site of Dr. A.J. Hunter's discovery near Livingston.

While the grand hotel and resort at Hunter's Hot Springs has been reduced by time and fire to a few piles of stones near a steaming creek in a pasture near Springdale, many of the original hot springs resorts across the state have evolved and flourished since the early days and have only become more popular with soaking enthusiasts.

Along with the developed, public hot springs facilities, Montana and Yellowstone Park also host a variety of relatively pristine soaking opportunities for those willing to venture off the beaten path to find soaking bliss.

For those interested in exploring every hot pool in the region, Jeff Birkby's book, "Touring Hot Springs: Montana and Wyoming" published by Falcon Guides, provides an in-depth look at the soaking opportunities across both Montana and Wyoming along with maps, history, statistics and comprehensive information about each hot springs location. Birkby, a Missoula-based writer, is also a former geothermal energy specialist for the Montana state energy office. The guide he has produced is extensive, thorough and updated every two years. He also recently published "Images of America: Montana's Hot Springs" (Arcadia Press, 2018) featuring archival photographs and extensive histories of springs across the state.

"We have about 120 known hot springs in Montana," Birkby said in a recent interview with the Missoulian, "Forty or fifty had some level of development. Today maybe 30 still have public access, and about 20 are commercially operating."

Among the list of hot springs soaks across Montana are more than a few hidden treasures. From the garden and camping compound at Norris Hot Springs in southwest Montana to Alameda's Resort near Flathead Lake where guests soak in individual tubs, hot springs soaking opportunities abound across the state.

According to the Alameda's Resort staff, buoyancy relieves the body of weight and the heat relaxes muscles during a good soak, often melting away aches and pains, even chronic ones. Every 2.8°F rise in water temperature in a bath actually doubles the body's metabolism. Taking a soak puts the body in a good state for absorbing and processing the water's content, as well as ridding the body of toxins.



Another benefit from a soak is derived from the trace mineral element content of the water, which may differ from spring to spring. To be classified as mineral water, the water must contain dissolved solids at a minimum of 500 parts per million. Each spring has a unique mineral content and most springs across the state are happy to share details about the exact minerals in their pools and their potentially useful properties.

To get the most from a soaking experience, many recommend hydrating with pure water frequently while swimming or soaking as the hot water can have a dehydrating effect. This is to be particularly noted when enjoying alcohol with a soak, a popular Montana hot springs pastime.

The following list of Montana's hot spring facilities represents resorts and facilities open to the public for soaking. Most offer day use passes and only a few require a hotel or motel stay to enjoy the healing and relaxing properties of the waters.

Alameda's Hot Springs Retreat (406) 741-2283 Hot Springs

About 80 miles northwest of Missoula lies the city of Hot Springs, Montana, a historic mecca for hot springs enthusiasts for over 100 years. The town boasts a number of hotels, inns, and plunges that take advantage of the area's abundance of natural hot springs water.

Unlike many of the public soaking facilities available across Montana, Alameda's Hot Springs Retreat mineral waters are available only to guests of the vintage 1930's spa-motel.

All suites have private hot mineral baths, living rooms, bedrooms, kitchens and a southern-facing sun porch. There is no public outdoor pool on the property but there are several pools within walking distance in Hot Springs where guests can soak for a small fee.

Alameda's also offers massage, holistic health services and space for group retreats. The facility regularly offers workshops in permaculture and sustainable living, and in music, meditation, and renewable energy. Its two hot water wells provide an ongoing source of the relaxing, lithium-rich mineral waters for which Hot Springs, Montana is noted.

Recent work at Alameda's has focused on developing the geothermal heat potential of its wells as a source for heating greenhouses and growing algae for soil amendments, biofuels, and organic agriculture.

www.alamedashotspings.com

Big Medicine Hot Springs 406-741-5140 Hot Springs

Big Medicine Hot Springs offers a primitive outdoor cement pool located in the geothermally-blessed city of Hot Springs. The Salish and Kootenai Indian tribes own the hot springs and bathhouse buildings.

The facility offers two soaking options, a large soaking pool and a smaller Jacuzzi that are emptied every night. A small cash fee is charged.

Boulder Hot Springs Inn and Spa 406-225-4339 Boulder

Located 30 miles south of Helena, the Boulder Hot Springs Hotel was added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 12, 1979. The historic structure, featuring indoor plunges, an outdoor swimming pool and natural mineral steam rooms, still operates as a bed and breakfast inn as well as conference and event facility.

According to documents at the Montana Historical Society, prospector James Riley filed a claim on the land and water rights in 1860 and four years later built a crude bathhouse and tavern. New owners built a hotel in 1882, and in 1909, Butte millionaire James A. Murray purchased the hot springs and turned it into a luxury resort. In 1910 and 1913 and the west wing was remodeled in a California Mission style, including Tiffany glass lighting and hand-stenciled walls, a style that persists to this day.

In the 1960s, the destination was called the Diamond S Ranchotel and was known for its Saturday night smorgasbords which brought in as many as 500 people.

Now an alcohol- and tobacco-free facility, the mission-style hotel features over a dozen rooms furnished with period antiques. Guests of the hotel are welcome to use the hot springs facilities for no additional charge and the general public is welcome on weekends during the winter months.

The facility features an on-site restaurant specializing in organic meats, and "Montana-grown" specialties. The historic inn and spa sit on almost 300 acres of pristine meadows, wetlands and forest and abuts the Deerlodge National Forest.

www.boulderhotsprings.com



The Diamond S Ranchotel (above) and the modern Boulder Hot Springs Inn and Spa (below).





Bozeman Hot Springs

Bozeman Hot Springs
406-586-6492
Bozeman

In 1879, Jeremiah Mathews, a local wagon and carriage maker, purchased the springs and built a bathhouse with five private bathing rooms and a 14- by 18-foot plunge bath. Over the years, the springs has changed hands many times and included renovations as a resort, hotel and a dance hall.

Currently, the Bozeman Hot Springs is a soak-only facility featuring nearly a dozen indoor and outdoor pools ranging from 57-106 degrees and a fitness center. A fire in 2008 prompted a modern renovation of the facilities to include a solarium, steam room, and dry sauna. New pools outside feature specialized lighting and a deck for live music performances year-round.

The facility is located about eight miles west of Bozeman. Next to the springs is a KOA campground with tent camping and RV parking.

www.bozemanhotsprings.com

Broadwater Hot Springs
406-443-5777
Helena

In 1865, Ferdinand and Caroline Wassweiler operated the original hot springs at the Broadwater location near Ten Mile Creek, just three miles west of Last Chance Gulch in nearby Helena. The Wassweilers gained title to the land and two hot water springs but sold their hotel and water rights to Colonel Charles Broadwater. Broadwater ran the Wassweilers' hotel until 1889 when he added a giant stained-glass natatorium 300 feet long and 100 feet wide and the Broadwater hotel, a grand Moorish-style structure decorated with Persian rugs and French wallpaper, a short distance away.

The Wassweilers kept eighty acres and built a second hotel on the site in 1883. The bathhouse was eventually converted into cribs and ladies were imported to entertain miners. The new facility operated until 1904.

Soon after opening, the majestic Broadwater hotel faced economic struggles and foundered after its namesake's early demise in the early 1890s and limped along until Prohibition in the 1930s. An earthquake in 1935 finished off the extensive natatorium and the hotel. The springs went largely unused from the 1940s to the late 1970s, when the facility was rebuilt and reopened as a pool and fitness center. New owners bought the Broadwater in 2015, added a restaurant and renovated the majority of the space to create a grill and tap room out of an existing fitness center.

The Broadwater pools and spas are all filled with natural hot springs water from an artesian well and cooled to comfortable temperatures with natural cold springs water that is exclusive to the Broadwater. Pools consist of a freeform saltwater "springs" pool, a hot tub and cold plunge, a high-temperature soaking pool and a recreation pool, all available for year-round use.

Live poolside music is featured throughout the winter at the Broadwater and the on-site restaurant features a weekend brunch and a full menu. The adjacent taproom serves beverages to be enjoyed in the hot pools.

www.broadwatermt.com

Chico Hot Springs
406-333-4933
Pray

Located at the mouth of Emigrant Gulch, approximately 30 miles north of Yellowstone National Park, Chico was an early-day mining camp, dating to the 1860s. The Chico Hot Springs resort is a couple of miles north of the townsite.

In 1900, Bill and Percie Knowles built Chico Warm Springs Hotel. The inn consisted of a plunge and a full-service dining area. Mr. Knowles operated the hotel until his death in 1910. Soon thereafter, operations were taken over by Dr. George A. Townsend and the doctor's fame spread at such a rate that the resort needed additional boarding. Since that time, Chico Hot Springs has remained one of the most successful hot springs in Montana.

The natural hot springs have been gradually turned into a vacation resort. The resort consists of two pools, a bar, restaurant, hotel, and log cabins for lodging.

The hot springs are associated with a deep fracture zone but are probably not related to the nearby Yellowstone Hot Spot. Currently there are two pools that collect the water from the springs for the use of resort and day guests. The pools are drained and scrubbed down every night in order to prevent the need to use chemicals in the water. The smaller pool is about 104 degrees and the larger pool around 96 degrees—though temperatures can vary depending on the geothermal activity.

The resort has various accommodations—a hotel and western-style cabins are available. Food is available in the Chico Dining Room or a poolside grill and tavern; a day spa features massage and other therapies, and the resort features a full-service conference and event center. An organic garden on site produces fresh herbs and vegetables for the Chico kitchens year-round from a geothermally-heated greenhouse on the property.

The poolside saloon features live music nearly every weekend of the year and the resort hosts an annual "block party" along with other special events throughout the year and beverages are served in plastic containers for guests to enjoy in the hot pools.

All of the original Chico buildings have deteriorated or been torn down, with the exception of the historic inn. The Art family rebuilt the property in 1973 and recent renovations have included adding more lodging facilities and updated locker rooms. In 2016, the property's long-time manager Colin Davis assumed ownership of the resort.

www.chicohotsprings.com

Elkhorn Hot Springs
406-834-3434
Polaris

Located about 40 miles northwest of Dillon, Elkhorn Hot Springs was originally owned by the federal government as part of Beaverhead National Forest. The government relinquished ownership of the land and water rights were filed in 1905. Cabins and a horse stable were built near the site a year later.

The main lodge was constructed in 1921 and many existing cabins were built during the 1920s and 1930s. The rustic resort now has 11 log cabins with wood stoves or fireplaces as well as ten rooms on the second floor of the lodge.

Elkhorn Hot Springs is a year-round hot springs resort that offers two outdoor hot mineral pools, a Grecian sauna, a restaurant, and a bar. Guests enjoy hiking, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, plus downhill skiing at nearby Maverick Mountain. Accommodations include rustic cabins, modern cabins, or lodge rooms.

The hot springs pools are naturally heated by geothermal energy and range in temperature from 92-102 degrees. The indoor wet sauna heats up to 104-106 degrees.

Cross-country skiing is available (conditions permitting) generally from Thanksgiving to the end of March on 12 kilometers of groomed cross-country trails laid out on a marked cloverleaf, to the top of Comet Mountain or to the old Elkhorn Mine. No fee is charged for trail usage. Trails are groomed weekly and rental equipment is available. Trails are located in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

www.elkhornhotsprings.com



Fairmont Hot Springs
800-332-3272
Anaconda

Located 15 miles west of Butte, Fairmont Hot Springs features a full-service lodging and conference center surrounding natural hot-spring indoor and outdoor pools. During winter, the pools are kept at about 91 degrees. Hot tubs are 104 degrees.

American Indian tribes such as the Flathead, Nez Perce and Shoshone once set up teepees in the trees surrounding the hot waters at Fairmont Hot Springs and are said to have called the original 12 hot pools "Medicine Waters."

In 1869, George and Eli Gregson acquired the hot springs from a squatter for \$60. In the years to come, George and Eli built a well-furnished two-story hotel, a plunge bath and five large bathing rooms. A covered flume was used to conduct the hot and cold water to the bathhouses. In 1890, the Gregson Resort was leased to Miles French and a townsite was plotted in 1892. Soon after, the facility was sold to new owners.

Many organizations and clubs held their annual picnics and parties at the springs, including a 1912 Butte Miners event with over 14,000 attendees where a brawl broke out between the Anaconda smeltermen and the Butte miners. In 1914 the dance hall and adjoining



Elkhorn Hot Springs near Dillon.

buildings caught fire and a week later the hotel plunge caught fire and burned along with the remaining buildings.

From the late 1910s to the early 1970s, the resort was repeatedly rebuilt and continued its operations but it was closed in 1971 after falling into disrepair. That same year, The Montana Standard reported that federal funds would help build a complex including an 18-hole golf course, tennis courts, picnic area, outdoor pool and 190 guest rooms. In 1972 the remaining buildings were demolished to make way for the new complex.

The new construction began in 1972 under the direction of new owner Lloyd Wilder of Fairmont Hot Springs British Columbia. It was designed with an indoor pool and an even larger outdoor pool. A cabaret was once located on the second level which connected via an enclosed "bubble" walkway.

Although the ownership has changed a few times in recent years, Fairmont offers a new convention center in addition to the hot springs, golf, tennis and many outdoor recreation opportunities. Two large, main pools feature 168-degree water cooled to comfortable temperatures.

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort has 152 guest rooms and suites, dining, hot springs, golf, and convention facilities. There are two Olympic-sized swimming pools, two mineral soaking pools, one of each located indoors and outdoors. A 350-foot enclosed waterslide is open year round and an on-site spa offers a variety of therapeutic treatments. Full-service restaurants, a lounge and a coffee bar are on-site.

Nearby winter-recreation options include ski-and-stay packages with Discovery Ski Area and Cross-country skiing at Mount Haggin Nordic Ski Trails, located less than 10 miles from Fairmont. The cross-country course has 20 kilometers of trails groomed both for classic cross-country skiing and skate skiing.

www.fairmontmontana.com

Jackson Hot Springs Lodge
406-834-3151
Jackson

Located between Wisdom and Dillon in Jackson, Montana, Jackson Hot Springs Lodge features a large walled but open-air pool kept between 94 and 103 degrees. Other amenities include a restaurant, lodging and a full bar. The history of the hot springs dates back to a visit from Captain William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition who tarried at these waters in 1806 on his return trip from the Pacific Ocean.

Clark reported in his journal that the "Hot Springs Valley" was one of the most beautiful places he had seen. He noted: "we arrived at a Boiling Spring ... contains a very considerable quantity of water and actually blubbers with heat .. it has every appearance of boiling, too hot for a man to endure his hand in it for three seconds..."



“...I directed Sergt. Pryor and John Shields to put each a piece of meat in the water of different sizes. The one about the size of my 3 fingers cooked dun in 25 minits...”

Benoit O. Fournier took claim to the springs in 1884 and built his house and a plunge. In 1911, the facility was sold and improved upon, including the construction of piping to bring the water 1,300 feet from its source. In 1950, a rancher from Jackson Hole bought the springs and built a new log inn and hot springs pool for a cost of about \$400,000 before passing the property on to various owners through the turn of the century.

Under new management since October 2018, the rustic Jackson Hot Springs Lodge features an old-fashioned dance floor and walls hung with mounted trophies from Montana and Africa. A cozy lobby with a tavern and fireplace sits at the center of a wide array of lodge rooms and cabins along with a full-service restaurant.

Two downhill ski areas are within an hour's drive. Jackson Hot Springs Lodge is open through the winter for lodging, soaking and dining from Thursday through Sunday.

www.jacksonhotspringslodge.com

Lolo Hot Springs 406-273-2294 Lolo

Southwest of Missoula in the Bitterroot region, Lolo Hot Springs sits perched high in the mountains on the Idaho border. Historically, the area was a mineral lick for wild game and an ancient meeting place and bathing spot for American Indians in the region. The Lewis and Clark expedition even stopped here twice on their famed expedition.

The modern facility is a developed resort with an outdoor swimming pool, an indoor hot plunge as well as gas, food, lodging, a saloon and casino, and camping facilities.

The swimming pool holds about 100,000 gallons of water with a complete change about every 1.5 days, and the soaking pool of 35,000 gallons has a complete change every four hours. Due to the long retention time for the pool, the water is chlorinated.

Lolo Hot Springs became a landmark point for early explorers and by 1885, it had become a favorite destination for local families and hunters. Today, there is a large outdoor swimming pool and an indoor soaking pool, both heated by the geothermal springs. There is also a hotel, restaurant and saloon. There is snowmobiling and cross-country skiing in the winter.

The Lewis and Clark expedition stopped at Lolo Hot Springs on both legs of their journey to the Pacific Ocean, in September of 1805 and in June of 1806.



“Those Worm or Hot Springs are Situated at the base of a hill of no considerable height - these springs issue from the bottom and through the interstices of a grey freestone rock, the rock rises in irregular masy cliffs in a circular range,” Clark notes in his journal, adding, “...Both the Men and indians amused themselves with the use of the bath this evening. I observed after the indians remaining in the bath as long as they could bear it run and plunge themselves into the creek the water of which is now as cold as ice can make it; after remaining her a few mintis they return again to the worm bath repeating the transision several times but always ending in the worm bath.”

In 1885, Fred Lemke purchased the springs and built a modest resort that featured a plunge, dressing room, cabins and store. In the late 1880s, Billy Boyle purchased the resort and provided stagecoach service to and from Missoula for a small fee. After a fire in 1903, a new owner took over and doubled the size of the resort to nearly 400 acres. After a period of decline and closure in the 1960s and 1970s, the resort was purchased by the current owners in 1988.

The present-day facility sits 50 yards from the highway and is the westernmost settlement along U.S. Highway 12 in Montana. The facility is open year-round and on most holidays.

www.lolohotsprings.com



Lost Trail Hot Springs 406-821-3574 Lost Trail

About 90 miles south of Missoula off highway 93, the rustic resort of Lost Trail Hot Springs has long been a stopping place for travelers crossing the Continental Divide at Gibbons Pass.

Following settlement in 1882, a 14-room hotel was built at the springs in 1885 by Frank Allen. Allen sold the property in 1897 to James Gallogly, an assayer with the mines who bought out Allen's interest in 1897. As the springs were still federal property, Gallogly had five years to prove up on them and eventually invited his two sisters and their families to join him.

Work began on a new highway in 1935, and the road builders made camp at the springs. They also built a new road connecting the springs with the highway. Gallogly rebuilt the springs at this time and two small cabins were built for the workmen. Water was piped one-half mile from the springs and a bathhouse and residence were also constructed. In 1941, the pool, dining room, and dressing rooms were built. Gallogly died not too long after and the pool was closed to the public. In 1954 a private boys camp was held there but was it was not reopened to the public until the 1970s.

The current owners continue to develop the springs as a family resort. It now includes ten cabins, including two Jacuzzi cabins, a motel, family reunion lodge and RV park as well as the outdoor pool, indoor hot tub and dry sauna. A restaurant is open seasonally.

Lost Trail Powder Mountain is six miles south and Chief Joseph Cross Country Trails are one mile east. The area has twenty-five miles of groomed trails at the top of Chief Joseph Pass for snowshoeing, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

www.losttrailhotsprings.com



Norris Hot Springs 406-685-3303 Norris

Originally a gold mining camp, the town of Norris in southwest Montana was founded in 1865. Gradually, the settlement eventually lost buildings to local ranches and shrank to a current day population of about 50 people.

The Norris springs switched hands many times after being homesteaded by Charles Hapgood. By the 1930s the springs were known as the “Norris Plunge” and were managed by a community organization.

In 1972, Norris was purchased by the Zankowsky Family and then sold on a long-term mortgage to Arne Cohen. Under Cohen's ownership, Norris became known for the clothing-optional “buff” nights and having the biggest beer selection in Montana.

Doris Zankowsky regained ownership of the property in 1997 and ran the springs until selling to the current owner, Holly Heinzmann in 2004. After a considerable renovation, the property continues to evolve with the planting of fruit trees and vegetable gardens and utilization of an on-site greenhouse.

Flowing at a constant rate of 60 gallons per minute, the water at Norris leaves the ground at 120 degrees. To offset the heat, the water is cooled through a system of sprayers.

Norris features one pool fed by a series of artesian springs flowing at a constant rate of 60 gallons per minute with an average temperature of 120 degrees. A stage at the end of the rustic, fir-lined pool regularly hosts local and traveling live bands and a winter snack bar on-site offers organic, locally-sourced meals along with beer and wine. A more extensive grill menu is offered in the summer months.

Norris is located about a 45-minute drive from downtown Bozeman and is open Thursday through Monday during the winter season.

www.norrihotsprings.com

Quinn's Hot Springs 406-826-3150 Paradise

About 70 miles northwest of Missoula, Quinn's Hot Springs Resort features an extensive, divided soaking pool and plunge, lodging and dining facilities.

Nestled in a ponderosa pine forest along a bend in the Clark Fork River, Quinn's is named for the original claim holder of the springs, M.E. Quinn, a foreman for the nearby Pardee Mountain Mine. Quinn first noticed an American Indian encampment near steaming pools and soon after filed a homestead on the site and eventually built a bathhouse.

Quinn's Hot Springs (above) in Paradise.

Guests could only reach the springs by traversing an arduous and steep trail from the mountains, but in 1905 Quinn constructed a hotel and by 1909 a railroad was laid through the valley. Guests could disembark at a swinging bridge over the river to reach the hot springs. In 1932, Quinn passed away and left the operation of the springs to his descendants. His grandsons built the current lodge, tavern and dining room in 1952 and further additions were made in the 70s and 80s.

The modern resort facility boasts six interconnected pools for soaking as well as swimming, and private tubs. The pools range from 60 to 106 degrees. An on-site restaurant and tavern offers food and drink service.

Rooms and cabins are available in and adjacent to the lodge, including an adults-only section of riverside cabins. A new event center, Paradise Hall, opened in fall 2015. Quinn's is open seven days a week year-round.

www.quinnshotsprings.com

Rose's Plunge 406-751-5117 Hot Springs

This soaking facility can be found just west of Big Medicine in the old Camas Recreation Center on the NW corner of Spring Street and North Road in Hot Springs. An outdoor pool offers hot mineral water soaking and the recreation center is home to yoga classes and acupuncture and reflexology therapies.

Evidence of the heyday of Hot Springs as a bather's healing paradise can be seen about a hundred yards to the east of Rose's Plunge. The remains of the Camas Resort Building are all that is left of the \$400,000 Camas Bathhouse, built in 1949 by the Salish and Kootenai tribes. The facility featured mud and mineral baths in sky-blue tubs, an outdoor swimming pool and a two-tiered bathhouse where guests could partake of steam baths and massage therapy. The bathhouse closed in the late 1970s when the town was facing economic hardships but the popularity of soaking in the available modern mineral springs facilities is still driving a hot springs-based economy in the small town.





Sleeping Buffalo Hot Springs
406-527-3320
Saco

Sleeping Buffalo Hot Springs has attracted bathers from North Dakota, Saskatchewan and Montana since the 1920s. The source of Sleeping Buffalo's hot water is a 3,200 ft. deep well that produces more than 900 gallons per minute of 108 degree water. Originally, a wildcat oil rigger was testing the area for oil. At 3,100 feet it struck a gushing well of hot water which flowed with the pressure of 500 pounds per square inch. Drilling was abandoned and the well was allowed to flow for several years.

Elbert Davison, a Saco rancher, had a son stricken with polio. He conceived the idea of building a wooden tub around the hot mineral water and bringing his boy down to soak in the hot water. The results were so beneficial that soon others were making use of it and a larger pool was made of wooden railroad ties.

The American Legion Posts of Malta, Saco and Hinsdale combined their efforts to get the escaping natural gas shut off without stopping the flow of water. Some residents of this area still remember when a match could be thrown over the well and the escaping gas would ignite, burning until a high wind came along to blow it out.

President Roosevelt's New Deal came into effect in the midst of the depression years and a program called the Resettlement Administration was looking for projects of a recreational nature to provide employment. The hot water "plunge," as it was known, was an ideal location for work of this type. Thus began the Legion Health Resort.

Newly remodeled and reopened in 2014, the resort now includes multiple pools, a sauna room and five cabins for lodging. Original stone and wood features have also been restored in the facility. Open year-round with winter hours Wednesday through Sunday for day use and daily for cabin guests.

www.sbhotsprings.com

Spa Hot Springs Motel & Spa
406-547-3366
White Sulphur Springs

The Spa Hot Springs provides a variety of rooms and newly-added cabins with a small-town Montana atmosphere. The facilities feature three mineral hot springs pools: two outdoors and one indoors which are drained, cleaned, and refilled every night with no chemicals added.

Large murals of Western natural scenes overlook the outside pool. The paintings were created by artist Mike Mahoney. Mahoney is a life-long Montanan who has created commissions for clients like the Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, Boone & Crockett Club, Trout Unlimited, and the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

For hundreds and perhaps thousands of years, people have used the natural hot springs in the White Sulphur area. In 1872, James Brewer built a popular plunge at the site that was frequented by gold miners from the sur-

rounding Castle mountains. The springs were sold to Dr. William Parberry in 1872 but the resort was still on the edge of the frontier so Dr. Parberry provided stands of arms and ammunition to fend off any potential attack from American Indians adjusting to a changing landscape in the West.

In 1882, Dr. Parberry helped build a new town, White Sulphur Springs, around the resort and the facility became popular with locals. Although it never became a destination springs like others around the state, the water was bottled for a time and sold as an "anti-intoxicant" across Montana.

The facility was rebuilt in the 1950s and subsequently purchased by Dr. Gene Gudmundson. Dr. Gudmundson spearheaded the creation of the Montana Mineral Association in 1994, an organization that helped pass a bill in the Montana Legislature to distinguish regulations between mineral hot springs and swimming pools. The bill became state law in 1995 and mineral springs owners were allowed to make the most of the mineral content of their waters rather than be subject to artificial chlorination, provided the water was exchanged every eight hours and pools were drained and cleaned every 72 hours.

The Spa Hot Springs Motel is 35 miles from Showdown Ski Area and the Kings Hill pass which offers easy access to over 200 miles of groomed and marked snowmobile and cross-country trails.

As a quote posted in the resort reads, "We are not presumptuous enough to add chemicals of any kind to what is already the best water nature has to offer," and the water content is laden with minerals. The effect of the spring water has often been compared to similar soaking water in Baden-Baden, Germany which was discovered by the Romans over 2,000 years ago and has since been hailed for its healing powers.

Open year-round and seven days a week in the winter for lodging and day use soaking.

www.spahotsprings.com

Still Waters
406-741-2326
Hot Springs

A three-unit vacation rental in Hot Springs, Still Waters Mineral Springs has remodeled what was once a six-unit kitchenette motel and created three spacious suites.

The facility has a modest outdoor on-site soak that free flows with geothermal hot springs water. The full bathrooms in the suites also offer private soaking tubs.

Suites are available year-round.

www.stillwatersmineralsprings.com

Symes Hot Springs
406-741-2361
Hot Springs

The present-day Symes Hot Springs Hotel has been in operation since 1928. An artesian well into a shallow aquifer feeds hot mineral waters into a flow-through pool in the front of the hotel. The upper pool is toasty at 104 degrees while the lower pool is more sustainable for most bathers, around 100 degrees, with a waterfall between the two pools.

One of the last remaining grand resort hotels, the Symes Hotel has over two dozen rooms available, including a Jacuzzi Suite with jetted mineral spa, cabins, studio apartments, a restaurant and an events center.

The bath wing still has four of the original claw-foot tubs in private stalls for bathing



PHOTO BY ERIK PETERSEN

Yellowstone Hot Springs
833-977-7464
Corwin Springs

and a new two-person jetted tub and a jacuzzi steam available for rent by the hour. The hotel also offers Swedish massage, hot rock therapy, exfoliation and wraps.

Native peoples occupied the Little Bitterroot River Valley and used its healing hot springs long before European trappers and traders arrived in the early 1800s. In 1855, an 80-acre area around the hot springs was set aside as a government reserve.

In 1910, the Flathead Reservation opened to homesteading and the sale of tribal allotments, along with the land of early settler Ed Lamereaux, became the townsite of Hot Springs.

Originally platted as Pineville, the town lies astride Hot Springs Creek within the modern borders of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Businessman Fred Symes purchased the property in 1929 and built a \$50,000 Mission-style hotel, completed in early 1930. European-American settlers flocked to the hot springs and residents catered to visitors seeking the healing power of mineral waters.

The Symes Hotel offers live music on some weekends during the winter season. The hotel and mineral pools are open year-round.

www.symeshotsprings.com

Wild Horse Hot Springs
406-741-3777
Hot Springs

Wild Horse Hot Springs features a half dozen private soaking plunges in a remote location just outside the town of Hot Springs. The site sits on an artesian geyser known as the "Mother Dragon Geyser" which delivers 1,200 gallons of hot water per minute to the location near the Little Bitterroot River.

The area surrounding the springs was homesteaded by Mollie Bartlett, the daughter of Montana's second governor. When she drilled a well in 1912, she hit a pocket of hot water so large it shot out of the ground and created a large hole, causing nearby structures to be moved in order to avoid flooding.

Since that time, soakers have traveled to the springs to bathe in the water, including use in the 1940s as the Montana Warm Waters Project for Crippled Children for youth afflicted by polio. In the 1980s, a public resort was built on the property.

The highway and gravel road to the facility are plowed in the winter and the springs are open year-round.

www.wildhorsehotsprings.com

In 1909, Dr. F.E. Corwin, a physician formerly employed by Chico Hot Springs and then the Electric Hot Springs Company, built an impressive 86-room Mission-style hotel and spa less than eight miles north of Gardiner and promoted it as a health resort, piping 154-degree water from nearby La Duke Springs. A bridge across the Yellowstone River made the springs accessible to Northern Pacific Railroad passengers headed for Yellowstone National Park.

A fire in 1916 destroyed the hotel but the pool and some cabins survived and operated into the 1920s. Walter J. Hill, son of railroad baron James J. Hill, acquired the property in 1929 and rebuilt the pool as an open-air plunge and advertised the swimming pool, modern cabins, a golf course and a clubhouse with a dining room.

The Church Universal Triumphant eventually purchased the property and it became a part of the 12,000-acre Royal Teton Ranch (purchased in 1981 from Malcolm Forbes).

A public hot spring facility owned by the Royal Teton Ranch opened in 2019. In a 2019 interview, Yellowstone Hot Springs General Manager Susie Shimmin said the facility does not share resources or employees with the church.

Yellowstone Hot Springs is located six miles north of Gardiner on the banks of the Yellowstone River. The facility has 3,750-square-foot pool with an average temperature of 102 degrees. A hot plunge is about 104 degrees, while a cold plunge is 70 degrees.

Original plans projected Yellowstone Hot Springs opening date as August 2018 but recent construction and other setbacks have delayed the opening of the facility.

www.yellowstonehotsprings.us



WE RECOMMEND...

STATEWIDE CALENDAR LISTINGS

Billings Bozeman Helena Great Falls Butte Missoula & More

The monthly calendar is a sampling of events and activities across the state. Please send updates to: info@montanapress.net.

Saturday, February 1

Statewide

Jessica Eve, songwriter, 6:30 p.m., The Pollard, Red Lodge, 446-0001

3 Miles to Clyde and Doublewide Dreams, 8 p.m., Montana Bar, Miles City, 234-5809

Billings

"An Evening with Sherlock Holmes," three one-act plays, 7:30 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Livingston/Bozeman

Luke Flansburg, folk, 5 p.m., Sage Lodge, Pray, (855) 400-0505

Tom Kirwan, folk/country, 7 p.m., Norris Hot Springs, 685-3303

Permafunk, funk, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

The Fossils, hippy rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

Denny Ernest, jazz, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Dan Teschner, rock, 8 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Tom Catmull's Last resort, pop/rock, 8:30 p.m., Bozeman Tap Room, 577-2337

William Russell Wallace, rock/soul, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Helena

Solidarity Service, rock/reggae, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

"Puffs" stage play, 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Great Falls

Bud Nicholls Big Band, swing, 6 p.m., The History Museum, Great Falls, 452-3462

"Two Songwriters in a Bookshop," with Joel Corda and David Raba, 7 p.m., Cassiopeia Books, Great Falls, 315-1515

90 Proof Sin, country, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Trent Brooks Band, outlaw country, 9 p.m., Alumni Club, Great Falls, 952-4471

Butte

Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs, Americana, 8 p.m., Covellite Theatre, Butte, 498-6869

Aran Buzzas, funky tonk, 5 p.m., Phillipsburg Brewing Company, Phillipsburg, 859-2739

Missoula

"Leading Ladies," stage play, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., MCT Center for Performing Arts, 728-7529

Night Blooming Jasmine, jazz, 6 p.m., Bitter Root Brewing, Hamilton, 363-7468

Rana May, comedian, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Masterworks Series presented by Missoula

Symphony, classical, 7:30 p.m., University of Montana, Missoula, 728-7363

The Dead Yellers, country/rock, 10:15 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



LIVE ON STAGE: "PUFFS"

A certain boy wizard went to a certain Wizard School and conquered evil. This, however, is not his story. This is the story of the Puffs - who just happened to be there too! Through Feb. 9 at the Grand Street Theatre in Helena

Sunday, February 2

Billings

"An Evening with Sherlock Holmes," three one-act plays, 2 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Livingston/Bozeman

Acoustic Brunch: Dave Provost, 11 a.m., Pine Creek Café, Livingston, 222-3628

Josh Moore, folk, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Todd Green, acoustic/eclectic, 7 p.m., Norris Hot Springs, 685-3303

Helena

"Puffs" stage play, 2:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Great Falls

Celtic Music Brunch, 10:30 a.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Sunny Sweeney, folk/rock, 7 p.m., Alumni Club, Great Falls, 952-4471

Missoula

FINAL SHOWS, "Leading Ladies," stage play, 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., MCT Center for Performing Arts, Missoula, 728-7529

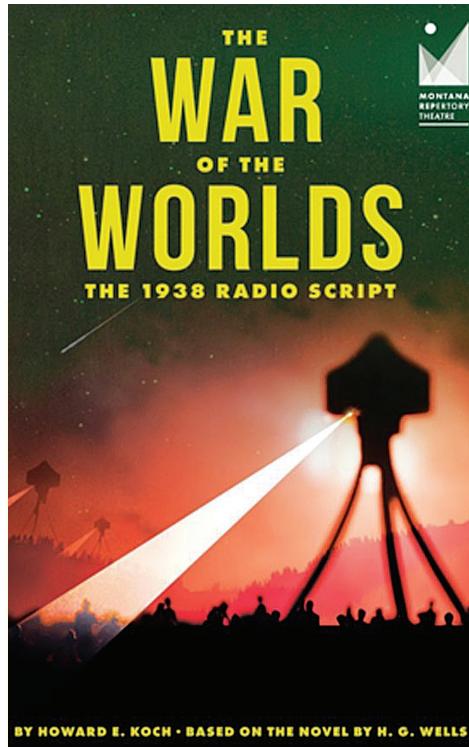
Old Time Fiddle Jam, 3 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

Masterworks Series presented by Missoula

Symphony, 3 p.m., classical, University of Montana, Missoula, 728-7363

Pinegrass, bluegrass, 5 p.m., Draught Works, Missoula, 541-1592

William Russell Wallace, songwriter, 7 p.m., Ole Beck VFW Post 209, Missoula, 728-7749



"WAR OF THE WORLDS"

A re-imagining of a classic piece of literature turned radio drama. This radio stage play presented by Montana Repertory Theatre and directed by Caitlin O'Connell under the artistic leadership of Michael Legg and performed across the state.

Feb. 3 - Myrna Loy - Helena
Feb. 5 - Mother Lode Theatre - Butte

Monday, February 3

Livingston/Bozeman

Marcedes Carroll, Americana, 5 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Bluegrass Jam, Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m., Livingston, 333-3855

Josh Moore, folk, 6 p.m., Mountains Walking Brewery, Bozeman, 219-3480

Helena

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

"War of the Worlds," radio stage play presented by Montana Repertory Theatre, 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Theater, Helena, 443-0287

Tuesday, February 4

Billings

Writer's Circle, open session on first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Second Floor Conference room, Billings Public Library, 243-6022

Traditional Irish music session, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

Jackson Blue and Shane DeLeon, improvisational duo, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Sunny Sweeney, folk/rock, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Helena

Andrew Gromiller and The Organically Grown, funk/soul, 6 p.m., Broadwater Hot Springs, Helena, 443-5777

Wednesday, February 5

Statewide

"One Man, Two Guvners," Montana Actor's Theatre, 8 p.m., Havre, 945-0272

Billings

The ParNicularly ReNicolous Variety Show and Open Mic, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Livingston/Bozeman

The Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 5:30 p.m., Bridger Brewing, Bozeman, 587-2124

Aaron Jennings, country, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Pickin' in the Parks, acoustic string jam, 7:30 p.m., Story Mansion, Bozeman, 582-2290

Bar IX Comedy Open Mic, 8:30 p.m., Bar IX, Bozeman, 551-2185

Helena

Dan Henry, one man band, 6 p.m., Staggering Ox, Helena, 443-1729

"Puffs" stage play, 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Great Falls

Open Mic Night, 7 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Butte

"War of the Worlds," radio stage play presented by Montana Repertory Theatre, 8 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Butte, 723-3602

Missoula

BoomBox, psych-rock, 8:30 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



MARCEDES CARROLL

Americana Songwriter

Feb. 3 - Murray Bar - Livingston
Feb. 14 - The Attic - Livingston
March 1 - Outlaw Brewing - Bozeman



LOCKSAW CARTEL

Missoula's psychedelic rock band plays alongside funk Jazz trio Transcendental Express, kicking off their first ZACC concert this February with a debut release of their new music video "Falling Through the Cracks" with projected 4k fractal zoom imagery.
Feb. 7 - Missoula - ZACC

Thursday, February 6

Statewide

"One Man, Two Guvners," Montana Actor's Theatre, 8 p.m., Havre, 945-0272

Billings

Arterial Drive, rhythm/rock, 5:30 p.m., Windmill and Bar 51, Billings, 252-8100

The ParNicularly ReNicolous Variety Show and Open Mic, comedy, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Projectile Comedy, live improv, 8 p.m., The Loft, Billings, 259-9074

Livingston/Bozeman

Open Range, country, 5 p.m., Sage Lodge, Pray, (855) 400-0505

Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Benny Bassett, rock, 7 p.m., Bozeman Hot Springs, 586-6492

BoomBox, psych rock, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

Slomo Joe, eclectic covers, 8 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Chandler Huntley, folk, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Scavenger, heavy metal, 8 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Andrew Gromiller and The Organically Grown, funk/soul, 9 p.m., El Camino Bar, Bozeman, 551-2337

Helena

Darkhorse, alt-rock, 5:30 p.m., Snow Hop Brewery, Helena, 442-5026

GoldievoX, indie/pop, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

"Puffs" stage play, 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Great Falls

Weekly Irish Seisiun, 6 p.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Shakedown, country, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Missoula

The Western States, Blink-182 cover band, 9 p.m., The Badlander, Missoula, 549-0235

Missoula's Homegrown Stand Up Comedy, 10 p.m., Union Club, Missoula, 728-7980



DAN TESCHNER & THE WATERDAWGS
BLUES, FUNK AND AMERICANA
FEB. 1 - FILLING STATION - BILLINGS
FEB. 8 - MURRAY BAR - LIVINGSTON

AMYTHYST KIAH BRINGS THE BANJO TO NEW AND EXCITING PLACES

She has a fallback setting: quiet chords, open spaces and vocals that come on melodically, but then hit you hard when the emotions poke through.

Her idiosyncratic banjo-picking style known as clawhammer is common to what's generally considered "old-time music."

Kiah's work on the instrument, a bit modern and a bit throwback, provides a lot of good things. Not the least of which is an edgy, bluesy vibe that lingers long after the final notes fade. Indeed, Amythyst Kiah shines in putting a bright, new patch on an old, erstwhile garment.

"My first recollection of the clawhammer banjo comes from two bands," says Kiah, a Tennessee native who will be making her Montana debut with two performances in February.

"A band called The Duhks, a folk-roots fusion, from Winnipeg, Canada, were blending French-Canadian and Celtic fiddle music and blues music. It was the most beautiful blend. It's the time I first heard the clawhammer banjo in a setting I wasn't used to hearing it.

"And the Carolina Chocolate Drops played the clawhammer in a way that blew my mind. That attracted me to the rhythmic idea of the banjo — that you could play melody and rhythm at the same time. I then had an instructor, Roy Andrade, who was creative, innovative, and playful with his banjo playing. The banjo has a funky kind of feel to it. You can dig in and get these cool rhythmic things out of it."

A guitarist since she was in her teens, Kiah a number of years ago discovered the bounty of the banjo. At age 13, she received her first guitar as a gift from her parents, along with computer software, and learned the instrument by ear.

"That led to ten years of guitar playing and singing. I'd be on the computer downloading music or at local CD stores, or bookstores, or buying music and movies, and playing guitar — that was my thing. After school I'd be in my room and do that. It was a hobby, a catharsis, not a thing I ever thought I'd do for a living"

MUSIC STUDIES IN JOHNSON CITY

Amythyst Kiah grew up in a Chattanooga, Tennessee-area suburb and attended a performance-arts high school there.

"My dad was always encouraging," explains Kiah. "He would hear me singing in my room. He had a great ear for music. Our house was filled with a vinyl collection and CDs and three-way speakers, and that could be where my musical bug came from."

An only child, Kiah spent countless days of her teenage years playing guitar chords, usually alone, with almost no collaboration, infatuated with alternative radio. She found peace and practice in being alone.

Everything changed for her in 2006 when she moved to Johnson City, Tennessee for college and enrolled in Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Country Music Studies at East Tennessee State University.

"Johnson City has a strong bluegrass, old-time, traditional music scene, with fiddlers, banjo players, and flatpickers. Within that whole region, there are lots of people who get together, and lots of places with old-time and bluegrass jams and people who get together to play traditional music. The result of that



has been the Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Country Music Studies program. It's not just the performance experience, but learning about engineering and music history, and different foldways and roles of that music."

Kiah concedes that she isn't necessarily creating from scratch. She's tapping into the deep well of American music, language and story. She describes her own marked shift from the alternative music she craved in her youth to her endless devouring of the old-time material as "an enriching progression."

"Everything leading up to this point has been a bit like self-exploration, musically, socially, and professionally, and even creatively, or even performance wise, and it's shifted in various ways. The tangible thing that I reflect upon: I started off playing alternative music, with that alternative music background, so anything before has come through that prism and through that filter. For years, I've been reconciling that alternative music background back with the later traditional music background, and it's coming together."

RECONCILING AND DEVELOPING

Kiah is currently showcasing a number of new tunes; most of them are likely to see inclusion on a new record she plans to release in the spring of 2020. That production will bring out the banjo, the acoustic guitar, the upright bass, and light percussion, sprinkled in with songs that are "full-on rock songs," she says.

On the road and in the studio, Kiah is constantly integrating and developing all of her interests. After ten years of performing, she says that she is finally inching her way closer to the spirit of the unconscious artist, the place where individuality resides.

"It's amazing how closely related the different forms of music are," she suggests.

"They are all part of the American music fabric. The goal for me is to be creating something that feels like me and is coming from me. I feel like I'm starting to nail it. I think the creative inclination is getting closer and closer to what I want."

COLLABORATION AND RETROSPECTION

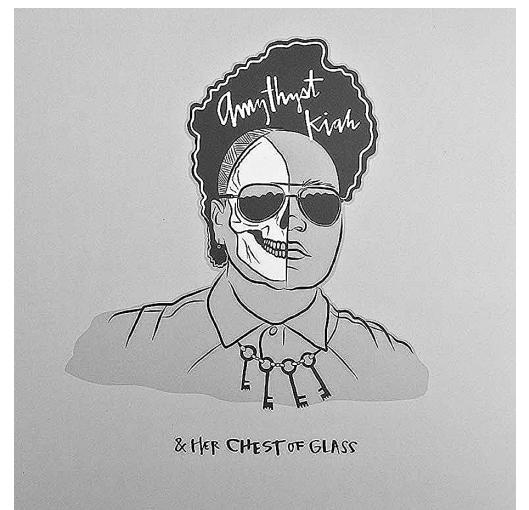
For an introvert such as Kiah, collaboration entails a special learning curve.

"It's no secret that in the industry of work I'm in, I'll be working with lots of different people. I'm learning how to work that way, while still keeping my batteries charged."

Quiet time, she says, allows her the benefit of retrospection. So, too, does her philosophy of not judging her own creativity, but instead interpreting it. "I discovered that I learn more about myself after I finish the song than while I'm actually creating it. It's about allowing it to happen, and allowing the environment where these things happen. When the best creative moments start happening, I ride with it, sit back, almost unconsciously, and, afterwards, then, it's almost surprising to look back and see what I've done."

Kiah, 33, seems to understand how great songwriting can shape how the world sees itself and how individuals see one another.

"Songwriting-wise, I ascribe to write words on these new songs about exploring loss, heartache, and trying to overcome it," she explains. I love songs that are concise, and thought-proving, melodic, and easy to listen to. The ones that, at first listen, you might just be enjoying the melody, and second time, it's the words, and it's intense. When you listen again, you realize it's serious, intense,



thought-provoking stuff. Melodic, enjoyable, and also saying something that is reflective on the human condition."

Her constitution, fraught with an edgy, emotional, elegant underdog feel, is one crafted with a lot of love, a little magic, and a measure of inclusivity added to the mix.

"I've experienced many different aspects of being 'othered,'" says Kiah. "It's important that everyone feels included in my music, and can listen to it. I would like to use my music project to showcase the spectrum of humanity, and that ethos comes to that. The essence of wanting to be included stands at the front of all that." ★

—BRIAN D'AMBROSIO

Amythyst Kiah performs with roots/soul artist Yola February 14 at the Pub Station in Billings and February 15 at the Top Hat in Missoula.

UP FROM DOWN UNDER: COLIN HAY

World-acclaimed singer-songwriter Colin Hay has done many things since his days fronting Men At Work, perhaps *Australia's most famous pop group*. *Montana Press Monthly* caught up with Hay recently to discuss a new studio album, working with a Beatle, a guitar odyssey to Bozeman and the devastating fires in Australia.

MONTANA PRESS: 2020 will be very busy for you. Is it daunting seeing the amount of work planned ahead to start the year off?

COLIN HAY: Daunting is a word that seems applicable. I start at the end of February and then I'm on the road basically until November with a couple of breaks. But this is the life I chose.

MP: Are you working on new material for a new solo album?

HAY: Yes, I'm in the middle of that at the moment. It's going very well. I might have it ready in a couple of months. I'll have it at least finished but then it won't be released until perhaps halfway through the year, in July or something like that.

MP: Do you have a hard time letting go of a song?

HAY: Sometimes you get a bit too inside of it (a song) but that's when you trust some of your close friends who are also musicians and producers. They can say, 'Why do you need four guitars on this track? You only need one.'

Usually less is more when it comes to songs of mine. I think a lot of people like the idea of acoustic guitar and voice with me. That's what John Lennon used to do, so that's someone to aspire to. He would come in with a song and play "Strawberry Fields Forever" and it would blow people's minds. You could've just recorded that and you have a masterpiece.



MP: What was the music scene like in Melbourne growing up as a teenager?

HAY: It was exceptional in a way because there were lots of great local bands. There was a strong local music scene, lots of great bands. It was exciting, there were lots of places to play. Melbourne was a great musical town.

MP: How have you evolved as an artist from

when you first started to where you are today?

HAY: If you're doing something, you want to get better at it the more you do it. You use the word "evolve" and hopefully that's what you do. Hopefully, you get to the point where you perhaps say more with less. If you start getting too cerebral about it then you end up with all these ideas and not finishing anything. So I just try to be as practical as I can and get things done.

MP: What can fans expect from the upcoming show in Missoula?

HAY: I have no idea. Tell them to expect nothing, and then they'll be pleasantly surprised by whatever happens.

MP: Do you have any fond memories about performing in Montana or traveling through the state?

HAY: My favorite thing that I've done in Montana in the last 20 odd years was to drive to Montana from Los Angeles to go to visit the Gibson Guitar factory in Bozeman and have them build me a G-200 guitar, an astonishingly beautiful instrument. That was a bit of an odyssey and a mecca of guitar building. I loved that experience and of course Montana is a spectacular, beautiful place to visit.

MP: You're touring as part Ringo Starr's All Starr Band in 2020. Were you awestruck when you first met Ringo, or is he just one of the guys now?

HAY: I'm still awestruck. He's in The Beatles, for god's sake! How can you not be awestruck by that!

MP: Is it heartbreaking seeing the wildfires happening in Australia?

HAY: It's heartbreaking and it's infuriating. The powers that be are staggeringly inept at being able to deal with this problem, which has been building and building for the last 40 years. As Greta [Thunberg] would say, you can't deny the scientific fact of what we're dealing with. We need to get governments who are at least going to address the problem and not just pretend that they are.

MP: Any New Year's resolutions?

HAY: I did make one which was to not take heavy equipment downstairs from the driveway into the studio at night. I'm 66 years old; there's a strong possibility that I could

fall over. Before I wouldn't think about it. I would just go out and take out the gear and take it downstairs. But now I will wait until the morning, as I did this morning. ★

—JASON McNEIL

Colin Hay performs in Missoula at The Wilma Theatre on March 9, 2020.

TOMMY CASTRO HAS THE BLUES



way away. The county fair at The Fairgrounds would put on shows, and I saw Ike and Tina Turner there, Leon Russell, Janis Joplin; a long list of great shows would come through our town.

MP: How have you evolved as an artist from when you first started to where you are today?

CASTRO: When I first started, I was just interested in playing guitar and interested in singing, mainly because somebody had to sing in the band. When I decided to take a crack at a career in music, I started having to come to terms with songwriting. To be a legitimate artist you have to have some of your own songs. That became my focus and still is; it's more about the song than anything else for me. I really lost interest in being a guitar hero. I love to play guitar, but that has not been the focus of my music for most of the time. It's been more about what I have to say in songs.

MP: Has the songwriting process gotten easier over time?

CASTRO: I've gotten better at it, yes. It's never easy because you're looking for inspiration and ideas that have to come from somewhere. You can't force it, you need inspiration and, for me anyway, an idea for a song has to have some meaning to it.

MP: What can fans expect from your upcoming shows in Montana?

CASTRO: Just go to one of the streaming sites; the live album is a pretty good representation of the show. There will be some different songs, no doubt, but that's a pretty good representation of the band that they're going to see, whether they've never seen us before or haven't seen me in 10 years.

MP: Do you have any fond memories of performing in Montana or traveling through the state?

CASTRO: We haven't played in Montana very often. There haven't been many gigs for us there. We came through town and played a small club one time, just because some fans of ours wanted to bring us and come to town. We worked out a small club gig and I can't tell you the name of that town. It was a one-horse town, ranchers and stuff like that.

MP: You've been performing for 25 years. Why do you think you've been able to persevere?

CASTRO: I try hard to make good records and put on really good shows. Since we started in the San Francisco Bay Area in the early days, we had a lot of gigs when we started. We racked up about 300 shows a year when we started. When we started traveling outside of the Bay Area, we were just used to working every night. I've never had any change of heart like, "Hey, I don't want to do this anymore. Maybe I should do something else." I feel like this is what I'm meant to do with my life. ★

—JASON McNEIL

The Tommy Castro Band plays the Top Hat Lounge in Missoula on March 9 and the Rialto in Bozeman on March 10, 2020.

It should come as no surprise that the late, great BB King asked Tommy Castro to open for his world-class band on his two big national tours in 2001 and 2002. For decades now, Castro has been ranked among the best Memphis-style blues musicians in the world. And now he's just finished off a killer 2019, with 2020 looking to be just as great. *Montana Press* had a chance recently to catch up with Tommy, and discuss his new live album entitled *Killin' It Live* (Alligator Records), and how he's making songwriting his top priority, realizing music will always be his vocation.

MONTANA PRESS: What were some of the highlights for you in 2019?

TOMMY CASTRO: Oh my god, it was really a good year for us. I think the highlight probably for me would be the tour with Tinsley Ellis in November. We just traveled from town to town, set up, gave them the show every night and had some laughs. We put out a well-received live album with *The Painkillers* (Castro's backing band). The four of us have been playing together for around five years. That was a lot of fun, recording dozens of shows and sifting through the material.

MP: Do you know on stage that you've nailed a particular performance of a song when recording for a live album?

CASTRO: It's hard to tell. I try not to think about recording at all while I'm playing, because that can affect you if you're conscious of that. Back in the day, we did an album called *Live At The Fillmore* (Blind Pig Records), about 25 years ago. You had to get it right that night, we had two trucks with all kinds of equipment to record the video and audio on that show. That was a little nerve-wracking because you have to come up with the performances on that one show and hope everything went well on the recording end.

MP: What was the music scene like, growing up in San Jose as a teenager?

CASTRO: It was like San Francisco-Lite. A lot of the influences from the San Francisco Bay area bands would impact us in the South Bay. We're only about 50 miles south of San Francisco, but when you're a kid that's a long

WE RECOMMEND...

STATEWIDE CALENDAR LISTINGS

Billings Bozeman Helena Great Falls Butte Missoula & More

Friday, February 7

Statewide

FINAL SHOW, "One Man, Two Guvners," Montana Actor's Theatre, 8 p.m., Havre, 945-0272

Billings

John Adams, finger style guitarist, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

MSU-Billings Jazz Festival, 7 p.m., 657-2011

"An Evening with Sherlock Holmes," three one-act plays, 7:30 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Kenn Patterson Tribute, acoustic classics, 9 p.m., Ten at the Northern Hotel, 867-6767

Art of Comedy with Charlie Mulluk, 10 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Livingston/Bozeman

Open Mic Night, 6 p.m., Wild Joe's Coffee Shop, Bozeman, 586-1212

Blueberry Junction, blues/rock, 9:30 p.m., American Legion, Bozeman, 586-8400

Jazz night with Alex Robilotta, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Sunny Sweeney, folk/rock, 7 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Brother Ali, hip-hop, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

"Wait Until Dark," stage play, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Theater, The Emerson, Bozeman, 587-9797

Blackwater Band, Southern rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

9th Annual Comedy Revue, 8 p.m., Verge Theater, Bozeman, 587-0737

Cubongo, salsa, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Helena

Justin Case Band, classic rock, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

"Puffs" stage play, 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Longhorn, country, 8 p.m., Grub Stake, Helena, 458-9816

Butte Area

Ramblin Rolf, folk, 5 p.m., Phillipsburg Brewing Company, Phillipsburg, 859-2739

Missoula

Crazy Dog Band, acoustic rock, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Locksaw Cartel, psych rock/funk, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Nobide, electronic, 10 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



WIND AND THE WILLOWS

The Wind and the Willows' roots lie in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Growing up in the town of Evergreen, Colorado, lead singers Ryen Dalvit and Maren Stubenvoll started writing music in high school and haven't stopped playing since. From writing tunes in caves and on top of mountains to performing in taprooms, hot springs, and small music festivals, these "once-upon-a-time" classmates became a songwriting duo joined by some of Bozeman's most unique and talented musicians.

Feb. 8 - Bozeman - Filling Station

Saturday, February 8

Billings

"Kings and Cowboys," reading/signing with author J.A. Woods, 5:30 p.m., This House of Books, Billings, 534-1133

"An Evening with Sherlock Holmes," three one-act plays, 7:30 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Counting Coup, country/blues, 9 p.m., Tiny's Tavern, 9 p.m., 259-0828

Livingston/Bozeman

"To the Moon and Beyond," interstellar classical performance, 10:30 a.m., Bozeman Symphony, Willson Auditorium, 585-9774

"Kate, Who Tamed the Wind," picture book reading/signing with author Liz Garton Scanlon, 11 a.m., Country Bookshelf, Bozeman, 587-0166

Nobide, electronic, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

"Wait Until Dark," stage play, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Theater, The Emerson, Bozeman, 587-9797

9th Annual Comedy Revue, 8 p.m., Verge Theater, Bozeman, 587-0737

Blackwater Band, Southern rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

Wailing Aaron Jennings, country, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Wind and the Willows, folk, 8 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 8:30 p.m., Bozeman Tap Room, 577-2337

Dan Teschner and the Water Dogs, blues/funk, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Helena

Beat Deaf, funk/rock, 6:30 p.m., "Puffs" stage play, 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Great Falls

"Cafe Noir," with cellist Inbal Negev, classical, 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Center, Great Falls, 453-4102

50 Watt Sun, grunge rock, 8 p.m., Alumni Club, Great Falls, 952-4471

Butte Area

Ben Larsen, acoustic, 5 p.m., Phillipsburg Brewing Company, Phillipsburg, 859-2739

Drew Danburry, indie rock, 7 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

Missoula

Dave Meserv, funk/soul, 6 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

George Dyer, blues, 6 p.m., Bitter Root Brewing, Hamilton, 363-7468

Valentine Drag Show, 7 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Brother Ali, hip-hop, 9 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



CAFÉ NOIR: INBAL NEGEV

A concert featuring Israel-born cellist Inbal Negev, whose musical interpretations have been described as "unreservedly natural and insightful." Segev was 16 when a recommendation by Isaac Stern brought her to the United States to continue her studies. Segev debuted with the Israel Philharmonic and the Berlin Philharmonic under the direction of Zubin Mehta and has performed with symphonies worldwide. **Feb. 8 at the Mansfield Center in Great Falls**



MISSOULA WINTER FARMERS MARKET

Find local produce year-round every Saturday, Nov. 9 thru Apr. 18 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Missoula Senior Center. Featuring local, gourmet mushrooms, cheese, honey, eggs, beef cuts, lamb cuts, hot sauce, baked goods, fruit preserves, brick-oven sourdough bread, coffee, tea, kombucha, fermented foods, authentic Indian food, authentic Hmong food, plant starts, succulents, seeds, photography prints, handcrafted jewelry, handmade apparel, books, wood furniture, pine-needle baskets, quilts, paintings, children's toys, dried flower arrangements, lotions & soaps, herbal salves & hydrosols, and more.

Sunday, February 9

Billings

"An Evening with Sherlock Holmes," three one-act plays, 2 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Livingston/Bozeman

Acoustic Brunch with Shelly Besler Kersberger, folk, 11 a.m., Pine Creek Café, Livingston, 222-3628

Lazy Owl String Band, bluegrass, 6 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Kristin Lundell, singer/songwriter, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Ryan Acker, folk, 8 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

Helena

FINAL SHOW, "Puffs" stage play, 2:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, Helena, 442-7270

Great Falls

Celtic Music Brunch, 10:30 a.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Butte

Avoid and Widmore, metal/hip-hop, 6 p.m., Staggering Ox, Butte, 299-3948

Old Time Fiddle Jam, 3 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251



INTERNATIONAL GUITAR NIGHT TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Each year, International Guitar Night's founder Brian Gore invites a new cast of guitar luminaries from around the world for special concert tours of North America highlighting the diversity of the acoustic guitar.

Feb. 10- Ellen Theater - Bozeman,
Feb. 13- Myrna Loy Center - Helena
Feb. 15- Petro Theatre - Billings

Monday, February 10

Livingston/Bozeman

Jessica Eve, songwriter, 5 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Bluegrass Jam, Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m., Livingston, 333-3855

Open Mic, 6:30 p.m., Townshend's Tea, Bozeman, 577-2740

Magic City Hippies, funk, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

Helena

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Missoula

SG Modern Jazz Project, 3 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Tuesday, February 11

Billings

Traditional Irish music session, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

Bone Thugs-n-Harmony, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

Tiny Paycheck, rock duo, 6 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

"Infinite Adaptations: Hamlet on a Cattle Ranch," reading/signing with author Dr. Gretchen Minton, Country Bookshelf, Bozeman, 6:30 p.m., 587-0166

Minnesota, Americana, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

Helena

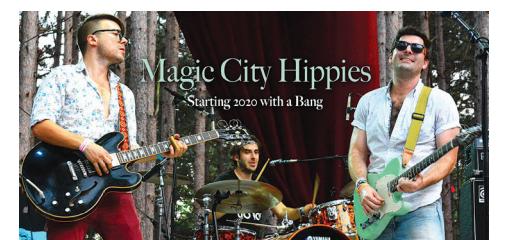
Chanteuse, jazz, 6 p.m., The Rathskeller, Helena, 442-5980

Acoustic Roll, jams, 7 p.m., Broadwater Hot Springs, Helena, 443-5777

Missoula

The Mighty Travis, 6 p.m., Rumour Restaurant, Missoula, 549-7575

Magic City Hippies, funk, 7:30 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



OUT & ABOUT

KORN FINDS CATHARSIS IN *THE NOTHING*

California nu metal pioneers Korn remain a powerful, formidable unit, but vocalist Jonathan Davis confronted two devastating losses in 2019 when his estranged wife and his mother both passed away. It was that darkness that fueled the band's latest album, *The Nothing* (Roadrunner Records). *Montana Press* spoke with Davis about the album, surviving his personal losses and his formidable emotional attachment with Korn's fan base.

MONTANA PRESS: What did you learn about yourself in making *The Nothing*?

JONATHAN DAVIS: I didn't really learn anything. I learned that I was just grieving. I've dealt with a lot of bad stuff in my life, but this is one of the hardest things I've ever had to go through and then try and get myself out of that crazy dark hole that I was in. I was able to come out of the other side and not have it destroy me. What I learned was that the whole experience was fucked up. It was really, really hard.

MP: What might have been the biggest challenge about making the album?

DAVIS: The biggest challenge was everyone was overthinking a lot. It's not creative differences, it's just, 'What about this? What about this?' The hardest thing for me to do was to shut everybody down and say, 'I'm going in the studio. I'll come out when I come out, and this is what it's going to be when I'm done. Just leave me alone.'

MP: Was there a moment when you realized the album was heading in the right direction?

DAVIS: It's hard to say. Once all the music is recorded, that's when I get into doing the vocals. I think once I finish a song and I get my groove going, that's when it starts becoming an album. That's when I think, 'Yeah, this is going to be something special.' In that moment you just create and then you look back at it and say, 'My god this is fucking amazing!' That's the magic of it. To make something out of nothing.

MP: What was the music scene like growing up in Bakersfield (CA) as a teenager?

DAVIS: Bakersfield is known for country music. Buck Owens and Merle Haggard are from here. The Bakersfield Sound was born here and emulated in the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies. It came from the Dust Bowl days, and people migrated here because there was work in the oil fields and farms. We made our own sound.



MP: How have you evolved as an artist from when you first started to where you are today?

DAVIS: I've been doing this for 25 years. You either get better or you get the fuck out. I think over that time I've learned a lot, I've played with a lot of different people. I've had the privilege of writing with a lot of great musicians in my life. And every time I work with somebody, I take something away that I didn't know. So it's been a lifelong journey for me, just acquiring knowledge and honing my craft.

MP: Are you looking forward to this upcoming tour?

DAVIS: I've been off this time more than I've ever been off in my career, so I'm itching to get back out. Don't get me wrong, I've got a beautiful family and love the boys I'm raising, and I would really like to stay home. But I'm just itching to go out and play music. It's my outlet.

MP: What can fans expect from the show in Missoula?

DAVIS: They're going to have a good time. That's a Korn show; that's what we do and that's why we go out and tour. Everybody gets together and has a good time, and forgets about life for a couple of hours, and just lives.

MP: Do you have any fond memories of performing in Montana or traveling through the state?

DAVIS: I love Montana. I love the outdoors, and I love seeing great big open spaces and nature. And Montana's got a lot of that. When I go to Montana or anywhere in the Northwest, it's beautiful. I'm going to be outside just enjoying it. I know it's going to be cold, so I probably won't be out too long.

MP: Why do you think the band has persevered over the years?

DAVIS: I think we started something back in the mid-Nineties and ushered in a new genre of music that hit an emotional chord with a lot of people. It made people feel something when they listened to it, made them feel not so alone.

Emotionally, I think our music means a lot to people, and it's always something different. But whatever it is, they keep buying our music and coming to our shows. So we're very, very, very blessed in that sense. ★

—JASON MACNEIL

Korn plays in Missoula at the Adams Center on February 23, 2020.

WE RECOMMEND... STATEWIDE CALENDAR LISTINGS

Billings Bozeman Helena Great Falls Butte Missoula & More

Wednesday, February 12

Billings

Bone Thugs-n-Harmony, rap, 7 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

The Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 5:30 p.m., Bridger Brewing, Bozeman, 587-2124

"Waiting for the Revolution; A Montana Memoir" reading/signing with poet/author Joanne Troxel, 6 p.m., Country Bookshelf, Bozeman, 587-0166

Luke Flansburg, folk/rock, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Pickin' in the Parks, acoustic string jam, 7:30 p.m., Story Mansion, Bozeman, 582-2290

Storyhill, folk, 7:30 p.m., The Emerson, Bozeman, 587-9797

Bar IX Comedy Open Mic, 8:30 p.m., Bar IX, Bozeman, 551-2185

Great Falls

Open Mic Night, 7 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Butte

The Illusionists, Broadway magic show, 7:30 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Butte, 723-3602

Missoula

Dr. Dog, indie rock, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Comedy Open Mic, 8 p.m., Freecycles, Missoula, 541-7284

Minnesota, Americana, 8:30 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980

Thursday, February 13

Billings

Projectile Comedy, live improv, 8 p.m., The Loft, Billings, 259-9074

Daem, pop, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Skillset, rock, 7 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Jackson Blue, singer/songwriter, Cameron Records, Billings, 534-3423

Livingston/Bozeman

"Six Hundred Generations: An Archeological History of Montana," reading/signing with author, 6 p.m., Country Bookshelf, Bozeman, 587-0166

Rhapsody, a cappella, 6:30 p.m., Townshend's Tea, Bozeman, 577-2740

Trout Steak Revival, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Pine Creek Café, Livingston, 222-3628

Mathias, acoustic guitar, 7 p.m., Bozeman Hot Springs, 586-6492

Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

"Wait Until Dark," stage play, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Theater, The Emerson, Bozeman, 587-9797

Growling Old Men, bluegrass, 7:30 p.m., The Attic, Livingston, 222-6106

Jess Atkins, troubadour, 8 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Chandler Huntley, folk, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

Thursday, February 13

Helena

Big Dave Small, dance/blues, 5:30 p.m., Snow Hop Brewery, Helena, 442-5026

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Staggering Ox, Helena, 443-1729

Studebaker John and The Hawks, blues/rock, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Great Falls

Weekly Irish Seisiun, 6 p.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Butte Area

Shayne Smith, comedian, 7 p.m., Rialto Theatre, Deer Lodge, 846-7900

Missoula

Zack Comedy Showcase hosted by August Anley, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Mike Murray Duo, blues/rock, 8 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980

Friday, February 14

Billings

Moulin Rouge, belly dance performance, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

Yellowstone Drifters, country, 8 p.m., Bucking Horse Saloon and Casino, Miles City, 234-5825

YOLA with Amethyst Kiah, soul/roots, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

The Wicked Twisted, Americana, 9 p.m., High Horse Saloon, Billings, 259-0111

Livingston/Bozeman

Edis and Cliff, folk, 5 p.m., Sage Lodge, Pray, (855) 400-0505

Trout Steak Revival, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Pine Creek Café, Livingston, 222-3628

Jazz night with Alex Robilotta, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

"Wait Until Dark," stage play, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Theater, The Emerson, Bozeman, 587-9797

Mercedes Carroll, Americana, 7:30 p.m., The Attic, Livingston, 222-6106

Songs & Dances of Love, 7:30 p.m., Yellowstone Ballet Company, Willson Auditorium, Bozeman, 222-0430

9th Annual Comedy Revue, 8 p.m., Verge Theater, Bozeman, 587-0737

The Max, classic rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

Raven Roshi, folk, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:30 p.m., Clark Chateau, Butte, 565-5600

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Sean Kavanaugh, rock/blues, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Missoula's Homegrown Comedy: First Qualifying Round, 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, Missoula, 728-9380

Helena

Chanteuse, jazz, 5 p.m., Montana Club, Helena, 442-5980

Black Market Trust, swing/jazz, 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Kneejurk, rock, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Allegedly Red, rock, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

"Hearts on Fire," reading with romance novelist Maggie Dallen, 6:

9TH ANNUAL COMEDY REVUE

Comedy Across Montana

Need a good laugh? With homegrown Montana comedy to be the 9th Annual Comedy Revue at the Verge Theater there are plenty of opportunities to laugh out loud across the state:

Every Wednesday
BAR IX COMEDY OPEN MIC,
Bar IX, **BOZEMAN**

Every Thursday
PROJECTILE COMEDY
The Loft, **BILLINGS**



RANA MAY - Feb. 1 - ZACC - Missoula

May's deadpan delivery, absurdism, and fascination with science make her comedy stand out like a shoe on a pizza. Her background is in social work, dog rescue, and used book stores, where deadpan is considered a strength.

Jan. 7- Badlands - Missoula
MISSOULA'S HOMEGROWN COMEDY with Todd Lankton & the Family Band

Feb. 5 - Kirk's Grocery - Billings
SLAPSTICK IMPROV COMEDY

Feb. 6 - Kirk's Grocery - Billings
THE PARTICULARLY RENICULOUS VARIETY SHOW AND OPEN MIC

Feb. 7 - 22 - Verge Theater - Bozeman
9TH ANNUAL COMEDY REVUE continues to showcase the Gallatin Valley's funniest writers. In the style of Saturday Night Live, they present a laugh-out-loud comedy sketch show.

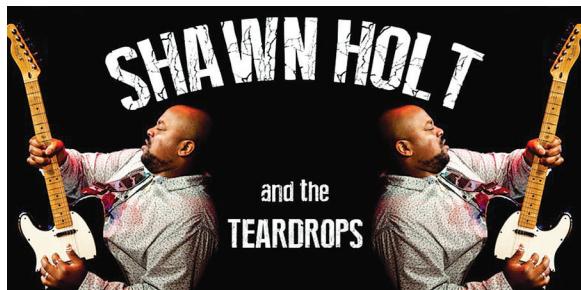
Feb. 12 - Freecycles - Missoula
COMEDY OPEN MIC

Feb. 13 - ZACC - Missoula
ZACC COMEDY SHOWCASE

Feb. 13 - Rialto - Deer Lodge
COMEDIAN SHAYNE SMITH

Feb. 14 - Roxy Theater - Missoula
MISSOULA'S HOMEGROWN COMEDY: FIRST QUALIFYING ROUND

Feb. 15 - The Loft - Billings
LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY SHOW



AMERICAN BLUES

Shawn Holt is son of legendary bluesman Magic Slim. He won a Blues Music Award for his debut album Daddy Told Me in the 'Best New Artist Debut' category in 2014.

Feb. 20 - Lewis & Clark Tap Room - Helena

Saturday, February 15

Statewide

The Chautauqua Series, arts and performance event, 6:30 p.m., Elling House, Virginia City, 843-5454

Billings

Growing Old Men, bluegrass, 7 p.m., MSU-Billings Chisel Hall, 657-2011

A Celebration of Mozart, Billings Symphony, 7 p.m., Lincoln Center, Billings, 252-3610

International Guitar Night, acoustic program, 7:30 p.m., Petro Theater, Billings, 256-6052

Steve Lebruska, Americana, 7:30 p.m., Levity Bar and Bistro, Billings, 651-5985

Laugh Out Loud Comedy show, 8 p.m., The Loft, Billings, 259-9074

Fred Eaglesmith, rock/Americana, 9 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

The Wicked Twisted, Americana, 9 p.m., High Horse Saloon, Billings, 259-0111

Livingston/Bozeman

Edis and Cliff, folk, 5 p.m., Sage Lodge, Pray, (855) 400-0505

Left on Tenth, funk/soul, 7 p.m., Bozeman Hot Springs, 586-6492

"Wait Until Dark," stage play, 7:30 p.m., Crawford Theater, The Emerson, Bozeman, 587-9797

The Max, classic rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

Fred Eaglesmith, rock/country, 8 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

9th Annual Comedy Revue, 8 p.m., Verge Theater, Bozeman, 587-0737

Permafunk, funk, 8:30 p.m., Bozeman Tap Room, 577-2337

Denny and the Resonators, blues/rock, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Butte

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 2 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Chris Janson, country, 7 p.m., Butte Depot, 782-2102

Helena

Ten Years Gone, funk/rock, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Great Falls

Big Trouble, rock/folk, Do Bar, 9 p.m., Great Falls, 727-0388

Butte

Funk Fest with Andrew Gromiller and the Organically Grown, 6 p.m., Slainte Butte America Pub, Butte, 565-5880

Missoula

Dan Kosel, singer-songwriter, 6 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

Atmosphere, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Yola with Amythyst Kiah, soul/roots, 8 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980

Partygoers and Red Onion Purple, electronic, 9 p.m., Ole Beck VFW Post 209, Missoula, 728-7749

Sunday, February 16

Billings

Yola with Amythyst Kiah, soul/roots, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

Lazy Owl String Band, bluegrass, 6 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Amanda Stewart, rock/folk, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Kristin Lundell, singer/songwriter, 6 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

Great Falls

Celtic Music Brunch, 10:30 a.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Butte

Peter and the Starcatcher, stage play, 2 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Benny Bassett, rock, 5 p.m., Phillipsburg Brewing Company, Phillipsburg, 859-2739

Missoula

Old Time Fiddle Jam, 3 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

Atmosphere, hip-hop, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Monday, February 17

Livingston/Bozeman

Montana Shakespeare presents "Faithful Friends," kid-friendly production, 10:30 a.m., Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman, 728-3328

Bill Dwer, one man band, 5 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Bluegrass Jam, Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m., Livingston, 333-3855

Helena

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Tuesday, February 18

Billings

Callie Benjamin and Ty Herman, improvisational duets, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Traditional Irish music session, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

Livingston/Bozeman

Gina and the Wildfire, folk, 6 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

Helena

Continental Drifters, rock/pop, Broadwater Hot Springs, Helena, 443-5777

Wednesday, February 19

Billings

Poetry Jam, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Livingston/Bozeman

Keegan and Nintendeaux, electronic, 7 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

The Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 5:30 p.m., Bridger Brewing, Bozeman, 587-2124

Pickin' in the Parks, acoustic string jam, 7:30 p.m., Story Mansion, Bozeman, 582-2290

Bar IX Comedy Open Mic, 8:30 p.m., Bar IX, Bozeman, 551-2185

Butte

Timothy Chooi, violinist, 7:30 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Butte, 723-3602

Thursday, February 20

Billings

Poetry Jam, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Charlie Smillie, Americana, 9 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Projectile Comedy, live improv, 8 p.m., The Loft, Billings, 259-9074

Thriftworks, electronic, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Columbia Jones, Americana/blues, 7 p.m., Bozeman Hot Springs, 586-6492

A-Mac & The Height, alt-indie, 8 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Rigby Summer, songwriter, 8 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Open Range Duo, country/swing, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Termination Dust, indie, 8:30 p.m., Labor Temple, Bozeman, 587-7690

Andrew Gromiller and The Organically Grown, funk/soul, 9 p.m., El Camino Bar, Bozeman, 551-2337

Helena

Fridge and Pederson, rock, 5:30 p.m., Snow Hop Brewery, Helena, 442-5026

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Staggering Ox, Helena, 443-1729

Shawn Holt and the Teardrops, blues, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

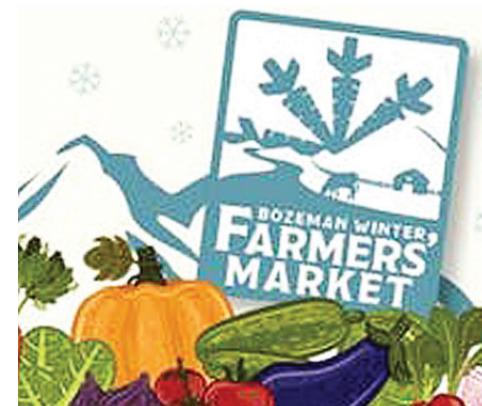
Great Falls

Weekly Irish Seisiun, 6 p.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Missoula

The Mighty Travis, rock/pop, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

"Driven" and "Hezada," reading/signing with authors Melissa Stephenson and Erin Pringle, 7 p.m., Fact and Fiction Books, Missoula, 721-2881



FIND THE BOZEMAN WINTER FARMER'S MARKET AT THE EMERSON CENTER EVERY OTHER SATURDAY.

Friday, February 21

Billings

Ty Herman and Grant Jones, improvisational duets, 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Arterial Drive, rhythm/rock, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

A Brother's Fountain, folk jam, 6 p.m., Wild Joe's Coffee Shop, Bozeman, 586-1212

Jazz night with Alex Robilotta, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Dead Sky, Grateful Dead tribute, 7 p.m., Pine Creek Café, Livingston, 222-3628

Thriftworks, electronic, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

GrooveWax, classic rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

9th Annual Comedy Revue, 8 p.m., Verge Theater, Bozeman, 587-0737

Spur of the Moment, Americana/country, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Helena

The Stand Ins, classic rock, 6 p.m., Staggering Ox, Helena, 443-1729

Steep Canyon Rangers, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 447-8382

Last Chance Rounders, honky-tonk, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Sweetgrass Blues Band, CD release party, 8:30 p.m., Miller's Crossing, Helena, 442-3290

Dash, soul/pop, 10 p.m., Jester's Bar, Helena, 457-8258

Great Falls

Sail On, Beach Boys tribute, 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Theatre, Great Falls, 453-4102

50 Watt Sun, grunge rock, 8 p.m., Loading Zone, Great Falls, 727-5777

Andrew Gromiller and The Organically Grown, funk/soul, 10 p.m., Back Alley Pub, Great Falls, 762-9300

Butte Area

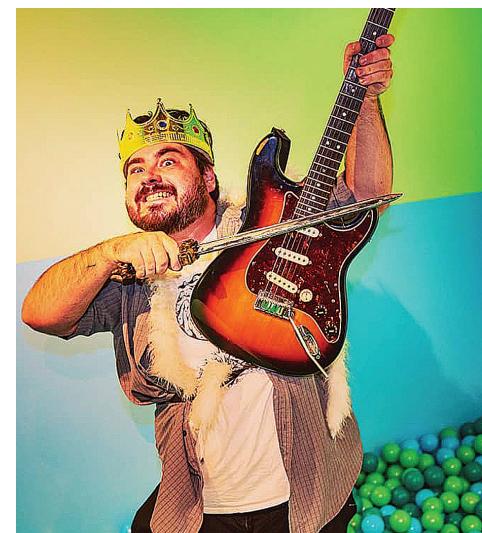
Smokestack and the Foothill Fury, blues/country, 5 p.m., Phillipsburg Brewing Company, Phillipsburg, 859-2739

Peter and the Starcatcher, stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Hibernator, rock, 8 p.m., Covellite Theatre, Butte, 498-6869

Missoula

Band of Drifters, Americana, 10:15 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



A-MAC AND THE HEIGHT DENVER-BASED ALT-INDIE ROCK FEB. 20 - BILLINGS

WE RECOMMEND...

STATEWIDE CALENDAR LISTINGS

Billings Bozeman Helena Great Falls Butte Missoula & More

Saturday, February 22

Billings

Head Change, grunge rock, 7 p.m., Cameron Records, Billings, 534-3423

Livingston/Bozeman

Hannah Jo Lally, acoustic, 5 p.m., Sage Lodge, Pray, (855) 400-0505

Open Mic Night, 6 p.m., Wild Joe's Coffee Shop, Bozeman, 586-1212

Holler n' Pine, folk, 6 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

Dead Sky, Grateful Dead tribute, 7 p.m., Pine Creek Café, Livingston, 222-3628

Music Lives Here, musical/arts collective, 7 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

The Waiting, Tom Petty Tribute, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

GrooveWax, classic rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

9th Annual Comedy Revue, 8 p.m., Verge Theater, Bozeman, 587-0737

Stillhouse Junkies, roots/funk, 8:30 p.m., Bozeman Tap Room, 577-2337

Tom Catmull's Last Resort, rock/pop, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Raven Roshi, folk, 10 p.m. Haufbrau House, Bozeman, 587-4931

Great Falls

Liquor Down, country, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Whiskey Revival, country, 9 p.m., Alumni Club, Great Falls, 952-4471

Dash, soul/pop, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Butte

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Night Blooming Jasmine, jazz, 9 p.m., Ole Beck VFW Post 209, Missoula, 728-7749

Jonathan Warren and the Billy Goats, rock, 10:15 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980

Sunday, February 23

Livingston/Bozeman

Lazy Owl String Band, bluegrass, 6 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Ryan Acker, folk, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Dash, soul/pop, 7 p.m., Bozeman Hot Springs, 586-6492

Alex Robilatta, jazz, 6 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

Great Falls

Celtic Music Brunch, 10:30 a.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Butte

"Peter and the Starcatcher," stage play, 7 p.m., Orphan Girl Theatre, Butte, 782-5657

Missoula

Old Time Fiddle Jam, 3 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

Ink and Whiskey: readings with Prageeta Sharma and Sarah Aronson, 5:30 p.m., Montgomery Distillery, Missoula, 926-1725

Korn and Breaking Benjamin, 7 p.m., Adams Center, Missoula, 243-4051

Monday, February 24

Livingston/Bozeman

Juan Soria, Argentinian songwriter, 5 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Bluegrass Jam, Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m., Livingston, 333-3855

Helena

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Missoula

ZACC Jazz Open Mic Jam, 6:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

"Vera Violet," reading/signing with author Melissa Anne Peterson, 7 p.m., Fact and Fiction Books, Missoula, 721-2881

Tuesday, February 25

Billings

Anna Paige and Caralene Corbridge, improvisational duets 7 p.m., Kirk's Grocery, Billings, (503) 209-2394

Traditional Irish music session, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

The Music of Cream, Disraeli Gears, classic rock, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

Acoustic Roll, folk, 6 p.m., MAP Brewing, Bozeman, 579-6804

"Stomp," Broadway performance, 7:30 p.m., Brick Breeden Feildhouse, Bozeman, 994-2287

Helena

Dan Henry, one-man band, 6 p.m., Broadwater Hot Springs, Helena, 443-5777



ZACC JAZZ OPEN MIC JAM

Feb. 24 - ZACC - Missoula

An open-mic style evening where musicians of all ages are encouraged to sit-in with the house band. Free to participate and attend. Amateur and professional players are equally welcome. Some charts and backline provided but bring your own instrument or voice.

Wednesday, February 26

Statewide

Johnny B, pianist, 7 p.m., Libby Memorial Events Center, 293-9643

Billings

Nappy Roots, hip-hop, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

The Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 5:30 p.m., Bridger Brewing, Bozeman, 587-2124

Edis, folk/rock, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Pigeons Playing Ping Pong, funk, 7 p.m., Rialto, Bozeman, 877-412-2776

Pickin' in the Parks, acoustic string jam, 7:30 p.m., Story Mansion, Bozeman, 582-2290

Bar IX Comedy Open Mic, 8:30 p.m., Bar IX, Bozeman, 551-2185

Great Falls

Sara Evans with Caroline Jones, Country vocalists, 7 p.m., Open Mic Night, 7 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Missoula

"A Doll's House: Part Two," comedy play, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Pigeons Playing Ping Pong, funk, 8 p.m., Yola, soul/roots, 8 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980

Thursday, February 27

Statewide

Johnny B, classical pianist, 7 p.m., Libby Memorial Events Center, 293-9643

Billings

Projectile Comedy, live improv, 8 p.m., The Loft, Billings, 259-9074

Sara Evans and Caroline Jones, country, 8 p.m., Pub Station, Billings, 894-2020

Livingston/Bozeman

The Road Agents, bluegrass/Americana, 7 p.m., Bozeman Hot Springs, 586-6492

Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Paul Lee Kupfer, country/folk, 8 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Chandler Huntley, folk, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Andrew Gromiller and The Organically Grown, funk/soul, 9 p.m., El Camino Bar, Bozeman, 551-2337

Helena

Larry Hirschberg, folk, 5:30 p.m., Snow Hop Brewery, Helena, 442-5026

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Staggering Ox, Helena, 443-1729

Vinyl City, rock/blues, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Great Falls

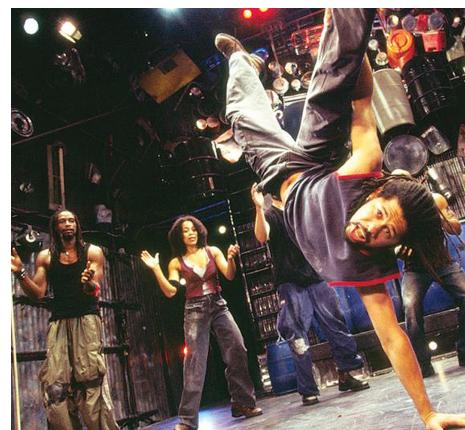
Weekly Irish Seisiun, 6 p.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Ken Robison reads from "Black Americans and the Civil Rights Movement in the West," 6 p.m., Cassiopeia Books, Great Falls, 315-1515

Missoula

"A Doll's House: Part Two," comedy play, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Sean Larsen, guitarist, 9 p.m., Monk's Bar, Missoula, info@monksbarmt.com



BROADWAY IN BOZEMAN: STOMP

Feb. 25 - Brick Breeden - Bozeman
The eight-member troupe uses everything but conventional percussion instruments — matchboxes, wooden poles, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters, hubcaps — to fill the stage with magnificent rhythms.



NAPPY ROOTS

On Feb. 28 at Lewis & Clark Tap Room in Helena: Hip-hop with alternative Southern rap quartet

Friday, February 28

Billings

"Inside Out," stage play, 7:30 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Livingston/Bozeman

William Huntley, blues/rock, 6 p.m., Wild Joe's Coffee Shop, Bozeman, 586-1212

Jazz night with Alex Robilotta, 7 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Justin Case Band, classic rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

Madrone Road, blues/rock, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Kelly Nicholson Band, soul, 9 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Helena

Nappy Roots, hip-hop, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

710 Asbury, Grateful Dead tribute, 8 p.m., Miller's Crossing, Helena, 442-3290

Los Marvelitos, Latin/folk, 8 p.m., Gold Bar, Helena, 442-2250

Great Falls

Common Ground, rock/blues, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Missoula

"Uplake: Restless Essays of Coming and Going" and "Going Feral," reading/signing with authors Ana Maria Spagna and Heather Durham, 7 p.m., Fact and Fiction Books, Missoula, 721-2881

Wolf and the Moons, Americana, 6 p.m., Montana Distillery, Missoula, 541-1889

Lyle Lovett, country/rock, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

"A Doll's House: Part Two," comedy play, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Dammit Lauren and The Well, rock, 10:15 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980



SAVE THE DATE!

TELL US SOMETHING brings live storytelling back to The Wilma in Missoula on March 25, 2020. Eight storytellers will share their true personal story without notes on the theme "Lost & Found."



SARA EVANS

She's had five #1 singles, sold millions of records, won the Academy of Country Music's Top Female Vocalist Award and claimed a Country Music Association trophy for her signature song, "Born To Fly."

Feb. 26 - Helena Civic Center
Feb. 27 - Pub Station - Billings

*By distance mellowed on the water
 His mood to see the evening star appear
 His mood to listen as the night wind
 From leaf to leaf; his mood to view
 The run bow based on ocean span*

BOOK EVENTS

**AL NYHART AND KEN ROBINSON
 POETRY READING**

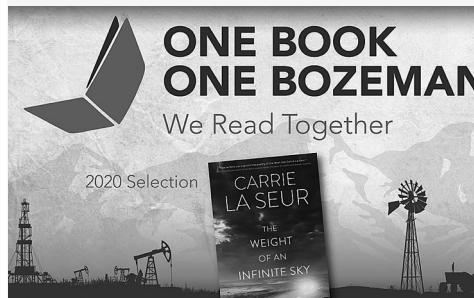
Feb. 4 - Fact and Fiction Books - Missoula

"HIDDEN HISTORY"

**AUTHOR TALK WITH ELLEN
 BAUMLER AND JON AXLINE**

Feb. 8 - Montana Book Company - Helena

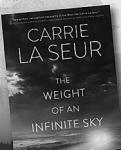
Helena's history is colored with many compelling characters and episodes nearly lost to time. From unraveling the myths of Chinatown to detailing the lives of red-light businesswomen and the Canyon Ferry flying saucer hoax, revered local historians Ellen Baumler and Jon Axline team up to preserve a compendium of Helena's yesteryear. From unraveling the myths of Chinatown to detailing the lives of red-light businesswomen and the Canyon Ferry flying saucer hoax, revered local historians Ellen Baumler and Jon Axline team up to preserve a compendium of Helena's yesteryear.



ONE BOOK ONE BOZEMAN

We Read Together

2020 Selection



AUTHOR CRAFT: CARRIE LA SEUR

Feb. 20 - Country Bookshelf - Bozeman

Author La Seur discusses the research and craft in the creation of the retelling of Hamlet in the American West in "The Weight of an Infinite Sky." The critically-acclaimed author of "The Home Place" explores the heart and mystery of Big Sky Country in a novel of family, home, love, and responsibility inspired by William Shakespeare's "Hamlet."



"HEARTS ON FIRE"

WITH AUTHOR MAGGIE DALLEN

Feb. 14 - Clark Chateau - Butte

Dallen is the author of more than fifty romance novels. She writes sweet, lighthearted love stories in a variety of sub genres, including Historical Romance, Young Adult Romance, and Adult Contemporary Romance.

**INK AND WHISKEY: POETS PRAGEETA
 SHARMA AND SARAH ARONSON**

Feb. 23 - Montgomery Distillery - Missoula



THE BEST GIFT MONTANA'S CARNEGIE LIBRARIES

KATE HAMPTON

**"THE BEST GIFT: MONTANA'S
 CARNEGIE LIBRARIES"**

Feb. 12 - Montana Book Company - Helena

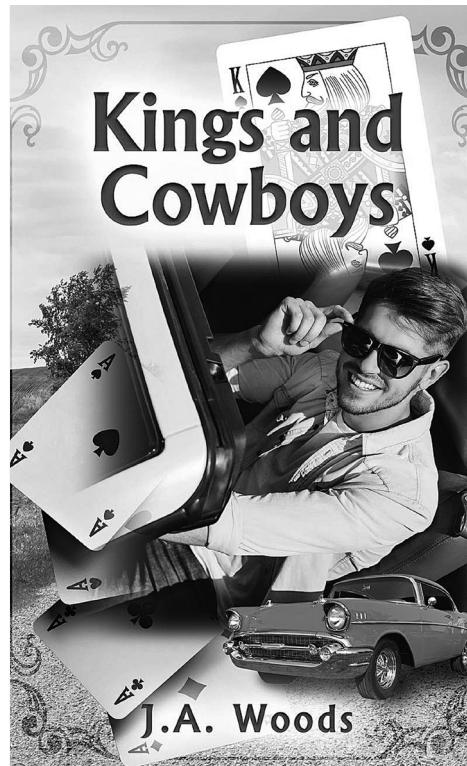
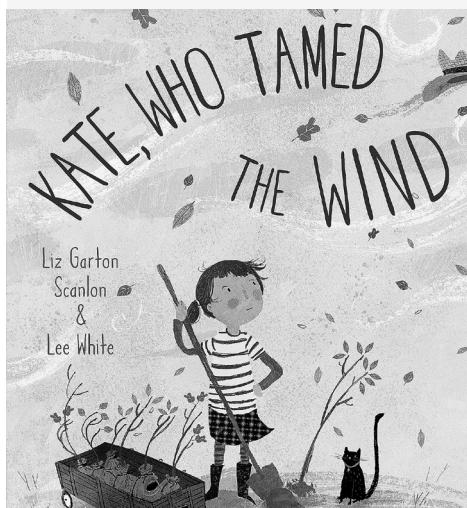
Between 1910 and 1922, seventeen Montana communities built libraries with money given to them by the era's richest man, Andrew Carnegie. In January, author Hampton will delve into Bozeman's own Carnegie library history, giving the history of the monumental structure that sits on the corner of Bozeman and Mendenhall. In February, Hampton and photographer Tom Ferris will both be on hand to sign copies of the book in Helena.



LIZ GARTON SCANLON

Feb. 8 - Country Bookshelf - Bozeman

Caldecott Honor award-winner Scanlon presents a storytime event and signing. She is the author of numerous picture book including the Caldecott Honor book "All the World," "Kate, Who Tamed the Wind," and "One Dark Bird and 5 Minutes (that's a lot of time) (no it's not) (yes it is)."



J.A. WOODS

"KINGS AND COWBOYS"

Feb. 8 - This House of Books - Billings

Innocence meets wildness as a young man navigates high school life, friendships, and young romance in his small Wyoming town in the 1960s.

DR. GRETCHEN MINTON

**"INFINITE ADAPTATIONS: HAMLET ON
 A CATTLE RANCH"**

Feb. 11 - Country Bookshelf - Bozeman

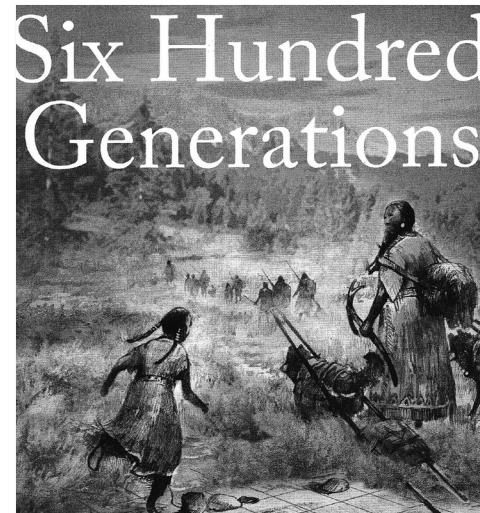
One Book One Bozeman event with MSU professor Dr. Minton addressing the phenomenon of Shakespearean adaptations, especially those setting Shakespeare's characters and plots in North American landscapes.

JOANNE TROXEL

**"WAITING FOR THE REVOLUTION; A
 MONTANA MEMOIR"**

Feb. 12 - Country Bookshelf - Bozeman

Love and politics: what could be more spellbinding? Born during the radical era of early 20th century politics, author Jo Anne Troxel is the product of a tumultuous affair between her idealistic mother and the infamous Communist sheriff of Plentywood, Montana. Her new memoir explores a complicated family history, the hardscrabble life carved out by the inhabitants of Montana's eastern plains, and the challenges faced by three often parentless children whose only option for survival was to band together.



CARL M DAVIS

**"SIX HUNDRED GENERATIONS: AN
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF
 MONTANA"**

Feb. 13 - Country Bookshelf - Bozeman

Author Davis presents a look at the archaeological evidence of Montana's long Indigenous human history. Focusing on 12 unique archaeological sites, the book takes readers on a journey through time, technologies, and cultures. Beginning with the First Americans who followed mammoths into this landscape, peer-awarded Montana archaeologist Carl Davis describes how Native Americans lived, evolved and flourished here for thousands of years. Illustrated by photographs of archaeological sites, artifacts, and rock art, along with conceptual illustrations of Montana's Indigenous peoples by noted artist-archaeologist Eric Carlson.

CARRIE LA SEUR

"WEIGHT OF AN INFINITE SKY"

Feb. 19 - Bozeman Library

**MELISSA STEPHENSON
 AND ERIN PRINGLE
 "DRIVEN" AND
 "HEZADA! I MISS YOU"**

Feb. 20 - Fact and Fiction - Missoula

**MELISSA ANNE PETERSON
 "VERA VIOLET"**

Feb. 24 - Fact and Fiction - Missoula

Set against the backdrop of a decaying Pacific Northwest lumber town, Vera Violet is a debut that explores themes of poverty, violence, and environmental degradation as played out in the young lives of a group of close-knit friends.

ANA MARIA SPAGNA

AND HEATHER DURHAM

**"UPLAKE: RESTLESS ESSAYS OF
 COMING AND GOING"
 "GOING FERAL"**

Feb. 27 - Fact and Fiction - Missoula

Advertise
 IN THE MONTANA PRESS MONTHLY

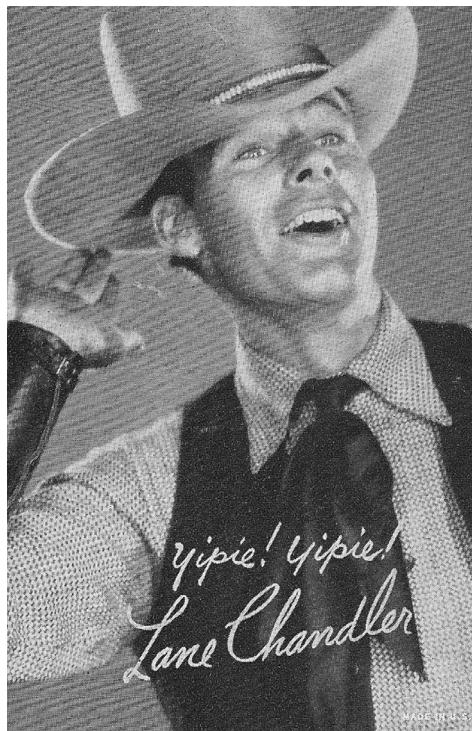
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GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: ENDURING ACTOR LANE CHANDLER



Robert Chandler Oakes was born in North Dakota where his mother homesteaded and his father worked as a horse rancher. Census paperwork confirms that he was born June 4, 1899, in North Dakota, and then resided in South Dakota and Wisconsin before moving to Montana. According to Montana newspapers of 1926 and 1927, Chandler was reared on ranches in eastern Montana near Bainville, fifteen miles west of Williston and slightly west of Culbertson.

The family eventually relocated to Helena when he was a youngster and Chandler graduated from high school there. His World War I draft registration card on file at the Montana Historical Society is dated September 12, 1918, and lists his permanent address as the YMCA of Helena and his occupation as truck driver at the Lindsay-Helena Company warehouse in Helena.

Chandler attended Montana Wesleyan University, which later became Intermountain Union College and was destroyed in the great 6.2-mag-

nitude earthquake of 1935, and according to one source, he was the guard and tackle on its football team, which won the state collegiate championship in 1921. It's also been written that he quit college to drive a summer/fall tour bus with his friend Gary Cooper at Yellowstone National Park. Chandler later recalled that he was "a passenger agent for the Yellowstone Park Transportation Co. stationed at the Old Faithful Inn."

Cooper ventured to Hollywood in 1924 and signed a contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, according to one clipping. Per his entry in the book "The Invention of the Western Film: A Cultural History of the Genre's First Half Century," Chandler arrived in Hollywood on December 1, 1926. While working as an auto mechanic, he was signed as a contract player by Paramount.

He appeared in a number of "unbilled" westerns as a bit player until 1927, when he earned the lead in a silent western, "Open Range," with "Peter Pan" star Betty Bronson. After that, Chandler, red-haired, slender, and tall at six feet, two inches, was elevated to leading man parts in romances and comedies.

Chandler and Montana-born movie star Gary Cooper had long since formed their friendship in Helena. The son of English parents, Cooper was born in the state capitol in 1901. It's often been speculated that if Cooper hadn't been such an overwhelming sensation, Chandler would have been the "major male star at Paramount Studios."

At one point, according to one film biography history, "it was a coin toss at Paramount who would get the leading man role. While Cooper possessed that indefinable charisma which propelled him to superstardom, Chandler was no doubt a star in his own right."

A 1930 media press kit offered this irresistible nugget: "Lane Chandler—studio report is that the family name is Oakes—is another of those upstanding Montanans, who is adding luster to Montana's film fame. He came from the Culbertson country—about 30 miles from Culbertson, says studio statement."

In 1928, Paramount cast him in a pair of bigger



Leslie Fenton, Lane Chandler, Gary Cooper and Rowland Lee in 1928 and Chandler with Swedish star Greta Garbo (below) in "The Single Standard."

supporting roles in "Legion of the Condemned" and "The First Kiss," both of which starred his old buddy Gary Cooper, with whom Chandler would frequently work over the next few years.

"The First Kiss" was filmed on location on the Chesapeake Bay. According to "Gary Cooper, American Hero," the cast had an entire Pullman car to themselves, and the director gave the porter a whole dollar to look after Cooper and Fay Wray. (Cooper made four movies with Wray, the heroine of "King Kong," including "The Legion of the Condemned" and "The First Kiss.")

"His old Montana buddy Lane Chandler had a small part in the picture," wrote Jeffrey Meyers, author of "Gary Cooper: American Hero."

"When they stopped in Kansas City," Meyers writes, "The two men went to look at the town, missed the train and had to fly to the next stop to catch up with the group."

In 1929, Chandler appeared in his first sound film, "The Studio Murder Mystery," with Fredric March and Doris Hill. According to the Western Film Archives, "Paramount now realized that with Cooper, Richard Arlen, March, and Neil Hamilton, it had too many leading men on the roster, and during an economy move, Chandler was dropped."

Chandler made one film at MGM with the Swedish star Greta Garbo, "The Single Standard," before landing the lead in an early "Big 4" western, "Firebrand Jordan," Chandler's first western of the sound era.

In the 1930s, Chandler played parts in several serials, including Republic's "The Lone Ranger" as well as a number of independent full-length productions and B westerns. In these, his roles included a detective in a crime drama and the supporting role of the "handsome cowboy" or a Texas Ranger matched up against crooks wielding Tommy guns. After this work, Chandler began his long career in countless reinforcement roles, such as the army officer, Secret Service



agent, doctor, rustler, rancher, saddle sidekick, or the town marshal.

Unlike some of his counterparts, Chandler survived the transition from silent and sound films and successfully adapted to the increasing popularity of television, appearing in numerous TV westerns from "Rawhide" to "The Lone Ranger" throughout the '50s and '60s.

"The variety of roles and number of pictures Chandler played in is staggering," according to *Movie Classic* magazine. One film reference guide has Chandler "identified in over 300 sound era films, and this includes 130 westerns and 35 serials." His last big-screen appearance occurred in 1971 with release of "One More Train to Rob," starring George Peppard.

On September 14, 1972, Lane Chandler died in Los Angeles at the age of seventy-three. His obituary noted that "Robert C. Oakes, formerly of Helena," suffered a heart attack in his Hollywood home. ★

—BRIAN D'AMBROSIO



WE RECOMMEND...

STATEWIDE CALENDAR LISTINGS

Billings Bozeman Helena Great Falls Butte Missoula & More

Saturday, February 29

Billings

100 Proof, acoustic, 7 p.m., Levery Bar and Bistro, Billings, 651-5985

"Inside Out," stage play, 7:30 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Livingston/Bozeman

Mathias, acoustic guitar, 5 p.m., Sage Lodge, Pray, (855) 400-0505

Justin Case Band, classic rock, 8 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Saloon, 333-4933

Annalisa Rose, country, 8 p.m., Old Saloon, Emigrant, 333-4482

Swamp Dawg, New Orleans funk/soul, 8:30 p.m., Bozeman Tap Room, 577-2337

Band of Drifters, honky-tonk, 9 p.m., Murray Bar, Livingston, 222-9463

Paige and the People's Band, funk/folk/soul, 9 p.m., Filling Station, Bozeman, 587-0585

Helena

Matt Strachan and the Hoot Owls, rock/country, 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Gershwin's Piano and New World

Symphony, classical, 7:30 p.m., 442-1860

Great Falls

"Beatles vs. Stones: A Musical Showdown," rock performance, 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Theatre, Great Falls, 453-4102

Uproots, rock, 9 p.m., Dash, soul/pop, 9 p.m., Do Bar, Great Falls, 727-0388

Missoula

Dan Henry, one-man band, 6 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

Missoula Rock Lotto VI: Rock is Dead, Long Live Rock & Roll, eight rock bands, 7 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Lyle Lovett, country, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

Dodgy Mountain Men, neo-folk, 10:15 p.m., Top Hat Lounge, Missoula, 728-7980

Sunday, March 1

Billings

"Inside Out," stage play, 2 p.m., NOVA Center, Billings, 591-9535

Livingston/Bozeman

Lazy Owl String Band, bluegrass, 6 p.m., Red Tractor Pizza, Bozeman, 599-1399

Mercedes Carroll, Americana, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Great Falls

Celtic Music Brunch, 10:30 a.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Missoula

Old Time Fiddle Jam, 3 p.m., Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula, 926-1251

Monday, March 2

Livingston/Bozeman

Bluegrass Jam, Katabatic Brewing, 5:30 p.m., Livingston, 333-3855

Helena

Open Mic, 6 p.m., Lewis and Clark Brewing, Helena, 442-5960

Tuesday, March 3

Billings

Writer's Circle, open session on first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Second Floor Conference room, Billings Public Library, 243-6022

Traditional Irish music session, 7 p.m., Craft Local, Billings, 702-1458

Livingston/Bozeman

The Road Agents, Americana/bluegrass, 6 p.m., Broadwater Hot Springs, Helena, 443-5777

Butte

The Spongebob Musical, Broadway show, 7 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Butte, 723-3602



THE BRIDGER CREEK BOYS PLAY WEDNESDAYS AT BRIDGER CREEK BREWING IN BOZEMAN.

Wednesday, March 4

Livingston/Bozeman

The Bridger Creek Boys, bluegrass, 5:30 p.m., Bridger Brewing, Bozeman, 587-2124

Aaron Banfield, folk/rock, 6 p.m., Outlaw Brewing, Bozeman, 577-2403

Pickin' in the Parks, acoustic string jam, 7:30 p.m., Story Mansion, Bozeman, 582-2290

Missoula

"A Doll's House: Part Two," comedy play, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Thursday, March 5

Billings

Projectile Comedy, live improv, 8 p.m., The Loft, Billings, 259-9074

Great Falls

Weekly Irish Seisiun, 6 p.m., Celtic Cowboy, Great Falls, 952-0393

Missoula

Hippie Sabotage, electronic, 7 p.m., The Wilma, Missoula, 728-2521

"A Doll's House: Part Two," comedy play, 7:30 p.m., ZACC, Missoula, 549-7555

Send calendar updates to info@montanapress.net

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Application Deadline: March 1st

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Cars Trucks SUVs
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ARIES (March 21-April 19): My favorite ancient Greek philosopher was the rascal Diogenes. As a joke, he carried around a lantern during the daytime, proclaiming, "I am just looking for an honest man." When Alexander the Great, the most powerful man in the world, came to meet Diogenes while he was relaxing outside and asked him if he needed any favors done, he replied, "Yeah, stop blocking my sunlight." As for Plato, Diogenes complained that the famous philosopher talked too damn much and misinterpreted the teachings of Socrates. I encourage you to borrow some of Diogenes' attitude in the coming weeks. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, it'll be healing for you to experiment with being brassy, saucy, and sassy. Emphasize what makes you most unique, independent, and self-expressive.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Taurus author Anthony Trollope (1815-1882) published his first novel at age 30. During the next 37 years, he completed 48 additional novels and 18 works of nonfiction. Critics liked his work well enough, but were suspicious of his prodigious productivity. When they discovered that one of Trollope's motivations for writing was to make money, they disapproved. Then they found out that Trollope kept a watch nearby as he worked, determined to generate 250 words every 15 minutes. The critics hated that even worse. Creative artists are supposed to court inspiration, not adhere to a schedule—at least according to the critics. But I approve of and recommend Trollope-like behavior for you in the coming weeks, Taurus. Cosmic forces will be on your side if you do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In accordance with the astrological indicators, I invite you to rise and soar and glide during the coming weeks. I encourage you to expand and enlarge and amplify. Don't wait around hoping to be asked to explore and experiment and improvise—just do those things. It's high time for you to enjoy stirring quests and research projects and missions dedicated to discovery. Be a fun-loving pioneer. Sample the joys of being a maverick and outlier.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I love living in the material world. Its crazy-making demands and exhilarating rewards are endlessly entertaining. Despite having been born as a fantasy-prone, overly sensitive Cancerian, I've become fairly earthy and well-grounded. I have a good job, a nice house, a smart wife, and an interesting daughter. On the other hand, I also love living in the soul's realm. I have remembered and recorded an average of three dreams per night for many years. Although I don't take drugs, I cultivate alternate states of consciousness through meditation, prayer, and ritual. I've long been a student of depth psychology, which has trained me to be as focused on my soul as my ego. In accordance with current astrological omens, my fellow Cancerian, I urge you to hang out more than usual in the soul's realm during the coming weeks.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Can I talk you into being more tender and open-hearted toward the people who care for you? I don't mean to imply that you are currently too hard and closed. But all of us can benefit from enhancing our receptivity, and the coming weeks will be prime time for you Leos to do just that. I think you'll find it easier than usual to deepen your listening skills and intensify your sensitivity. You'll have an acute intuitive grasp of the fact that you can earn yourself huge blessings by expressing love and compassion in very practical ways.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): All of us are in service to someone or something—to certain people or ideas or situations. We provide them with help or energy or mirroring or love. We are dutiful in attending to their needs and wants. For some of us, our service feels like a burden. It's grating or humbling or inconvenient, or all of the above. For others of us, being of service is fulfilling, even joyful. We find a rich sense of purpose in our devotion to a higher cause or deeper calling beyond our selfish concerns. Among the 12 signs of the zodiac, you Virgos are more likely than most to carry out the latter kind of service. I bring these thoughts to your attention because the coming weeks will be an excellent time to re-evaluate, reconfigure, and reinvigorate your own service.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Author David Markson imagined what it would be like to write a novel that lacked conflicts or confrontations—in other words, a novel unlike any ever created. Libran author Ursula Le Guin also fantasized about stories with plots that weren't driven by strife and struggle. Since many of us are addicted to entertainment that depends on discord to be interesting, we might find it hard to believe Markson's and Le Guin's dream would ever happen. But I'm pleased to inform you, Libra, that your life in the coming weeks may be exactly like that: a fascinating adventure with few hassles and wrangles.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): According to Scorpio painter Georgia O'Keeffe, success is irrelevant. The most crucial life-long effort that anyone can be devoted to is "making your unknown known." Did she mean making your unknown known to yourself? Or making your unknown known to other people? Or both? According to my analysis of the astrological omens, the coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to do both. So I hope you will tease out your best and biggest mysteries from their hiding places. Give them expression.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You Sagittarians have a talent for burning bridges that really do need to be burned. Your intuition often guides you to assess when the time is ripe to withdraw from connections that no longer benefit you. On the other hand, you sometimes burn bridges prematurely. You decide that they are in such disrepair that they're of no use to you, even though it might serve your ultimate interests to fix them. I offer these thoughts as a preface for my advice: 1. Refurbish rather than burn a certain bridge you're a bit disenchanting with. 2. Build at least one new bridge that will be valuable in the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The shape of the planets' orbits around the sun is elliptical, not circular. Capricorn astronomer Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) was the first person to figure this out. He didn't like it. He really wanted the orbits to be circular. That would have been more satisfying to his aesthetic and spiritual sensibilities. Explaining the arduous labor he did to arrive at his conclusion, he wrote, "Take pity on me, for I have repeated these calculations seventy times." In the big picture of our understanding of the universe, of course, his discovery was felicitous. It's not a problem that the orbits are elliptical, merely the truth. In the coming weeks, Capricorn, I foresee you engaging in a process that's metaphorically comparable to Kepler's. Hard work will yield useful, if unexpected results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Please don't imitate or repeat yourself in the coming weeks. Refrain from relying on formulas that have worked for you before. Resolve to either ignore or rebel against your past as you dream up fresh gambits and adventures. Treat your whole life like an improvisatory game that has just one purpose: to attract and stir up useful novelty. If you do these things, Aquarius, I can practically guarantee that you will win the game.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Poet Robert Bly believes that each of us has a special genius, and the key to understanding and fully activating that genius is in our core wound. In other words, the part of us that got hurt the worst is potentially the generative source of the best gifts we have to give. Do you know where that is in yourself: the wound that could be the source of your blessing? Now is a great time to investigate this tantalizing mystery.

THIS WEEK'S HOMEWORK:

Avoid the Tragic Magic Triad: taking things too personally, too literally, and too seriously. Testify at FreeWillAstrology.com

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WE BELIEVE IN:

The Value of Rural Communities

because in small towns we need each other and we maintain the personal connection

Supporting Women in Leadership Roles

in our communities, in our work places, and in our homes

Preserving Family Farms and Ranches

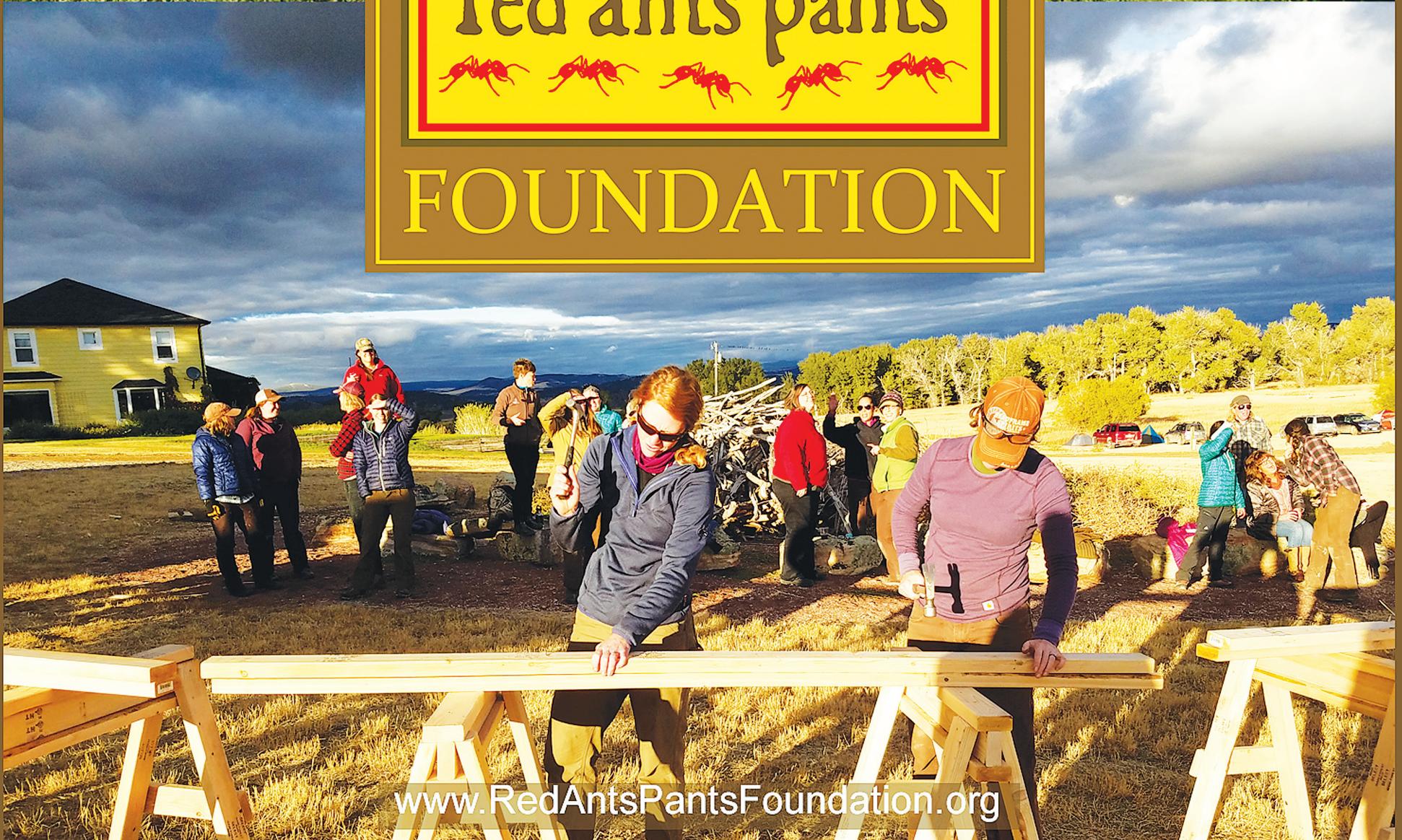
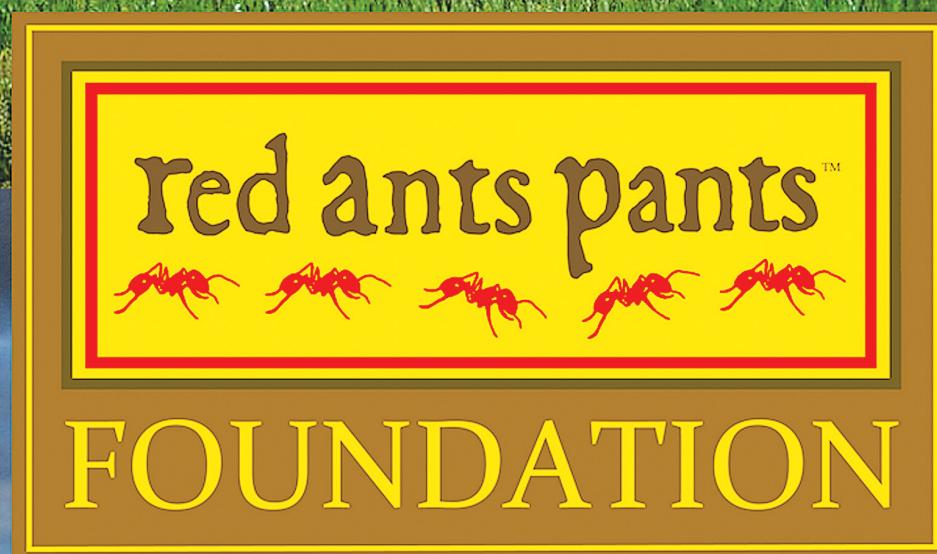
because the lifestyle, the work ethic, and the end product are worth preserving

Maintaining Traditional Work Skills

because a strong back, calloused hands, and good craftsmanship should not be a thing of the past

The Power of Music

because it brings people together and moves us in ways we need to be moved



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