

# INSIDE *Singletree*

NOVEMBER 2017

A SOCIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SINGLETREE

## *The Coleman Family*

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The Residents of Singletree

**PUBLISHER'S CORRECTION:** The website address for Heritage Custom Renovations was inadvertently printed incorrectly in the Sponsor Spotlight in the September issue. Please note the correct website address is [www.heritagecustomrenovations.com](http://www.heritagecustomrenovations.com). We sincerely apologize for the oversight.



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# Hello *Singletree* Residents!

publisher's note

Welcome to November! The month that welcomes winter... the holidays approach and the mountains beckon for the season.

This month we meet the Coleman family: Alex, Robin and Zander. Alex grew up in the Vail Valley and Robin has been here 18 years, so when they chose to create a life together, they knew Singletree was where they wanted to be. Living in this community with Zander and Susio offers everything the family could hope for in an outdoor lifestyle.

Veterans Day will be observed on November 11, 2017, the anniversary of the signing of the armistice, which ended the World War I hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany in 1918. It is our honor and privilege to recognize the veterans in the neighborhood who served our country in various wars. We pay tribute to JP Power, Ed Nafus, Marlin Smickley, John Perkins, Fred Gretsche, Sr., and Buddy Sims and we thank these gentlemen for sharing their stories and experiences with the community.

November is also MOVEMBER, an annual event involving the growing of mustaches during the month of November to raise awareness of men's health. Meet both Dr. Michael Glode and Tommy Gregg, who, in their own individual ways, have made raising awareness of cancer, and the many layers of issues that come with it, their personal quest.

Also in this edition, meet Elisse Kelley, *INSIDE Singletree* Sponsor and owner of **Sweeping Change**. Visit the inviting home of Eric Johnson and Cheryl Lindstrom at 240 Longhorn. And take a moment to enjoy memories of the SPOA summer party. This and more await you this month in your neighborhood publication.

Wishing you all the happiness of good friends, the joy of a happy family, and the wonder of the holiday season! Happy Thanksgiving!



## YOU ARE INVITED

### Restaurant Review: Main St. Grill

Wednesday,  
November 1, 2017  
97 Main Street,  
Riverwalk in Edwards  
6:30 p.m.



Voted "Best darn ribs in the Valley," Main St. Grill is known as a neighborhood favorite for its wings, burgers, crab cakes, mussels and Cajun food as well. Join your neighbors for a lively evening of camaraderie in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere right here in your backyard!

Appetizers, entrée and dessert will be provided; guests will be responsible for the cost of beverages and gratuity.

RSVP no later than Monday, November 6, 2017, to [insidesingletreersvp@gmail.com](mailto:insidesingletreersvp@gmail.com) or 303-859-3369. Space is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis.

## WELCOME NEW SPONSORS

Please join me in welcoming our newest partners to *INSIDE Singletree*! Your neighborhood publication would not be possible without the support of our business sponsors. Please be sure to call on them when you are in need of their products and services.

**M.E. STUDIO.** M.E. Design Studio is a full-service design studio, owned and operated by Emily Kearl. Emily enjoys working with people who love to live, no matter the space or style. She makes it her passion to create the environment you've always dreamed of, from mountain elegance to mountain modern, Emily can help you achieve the look and feel you want for your space, no matter the size, style or purpose.

**SUNDIAL CONSTRUCTION LLC.** Since 1999, Sundial Construction LLC has performed general contracting, remodeling and renovations throughout the Vail Valley. Their fundamental objective has been to offer experience and value in all of their projects. Sundial Construction partners with professional tradesmen and employees to provide their clients great value, efficient schedules, professional bookkeeping, and exceptional results.

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*Real Estate Update*

***Inside Singletree would not be possible without your participation.*** Please send your stories and photos or share your ideas for feature articles by emailing [holly.proctor@n2pub.com](mailto:holly.proctor@n2pub.com). Families, pets, athletes, kids, volunteers ... we want to meet you all!



**Alex and Robin Coleman**  
*Meet Your Neighbors*



**Mike Glode**  
*Who's Making a Difference*



**Tommy Gregg**  
*Who's Making a Difference Too*



**Elisse Kelley**  
*Sponsor Spotlight*



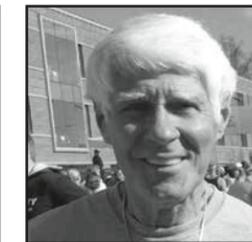
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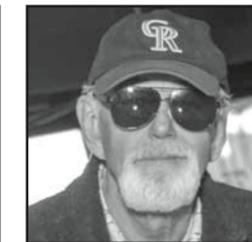
**Bobbie Ruh**  
*Precious Pets & Singletree Exchange*



**Ed Nafus and JP Power**  
*Singletree Tribute*



**Marlin Smickley**  
*Singletree Tribute*



**John Perkins**  
*Singletree Tribute*



**Fred Gretsche**  
*Singletree Tribute*



**Buddy Sims**  
*Singletree Tribute*



**Eric Johnson**  
*Home of the Month*

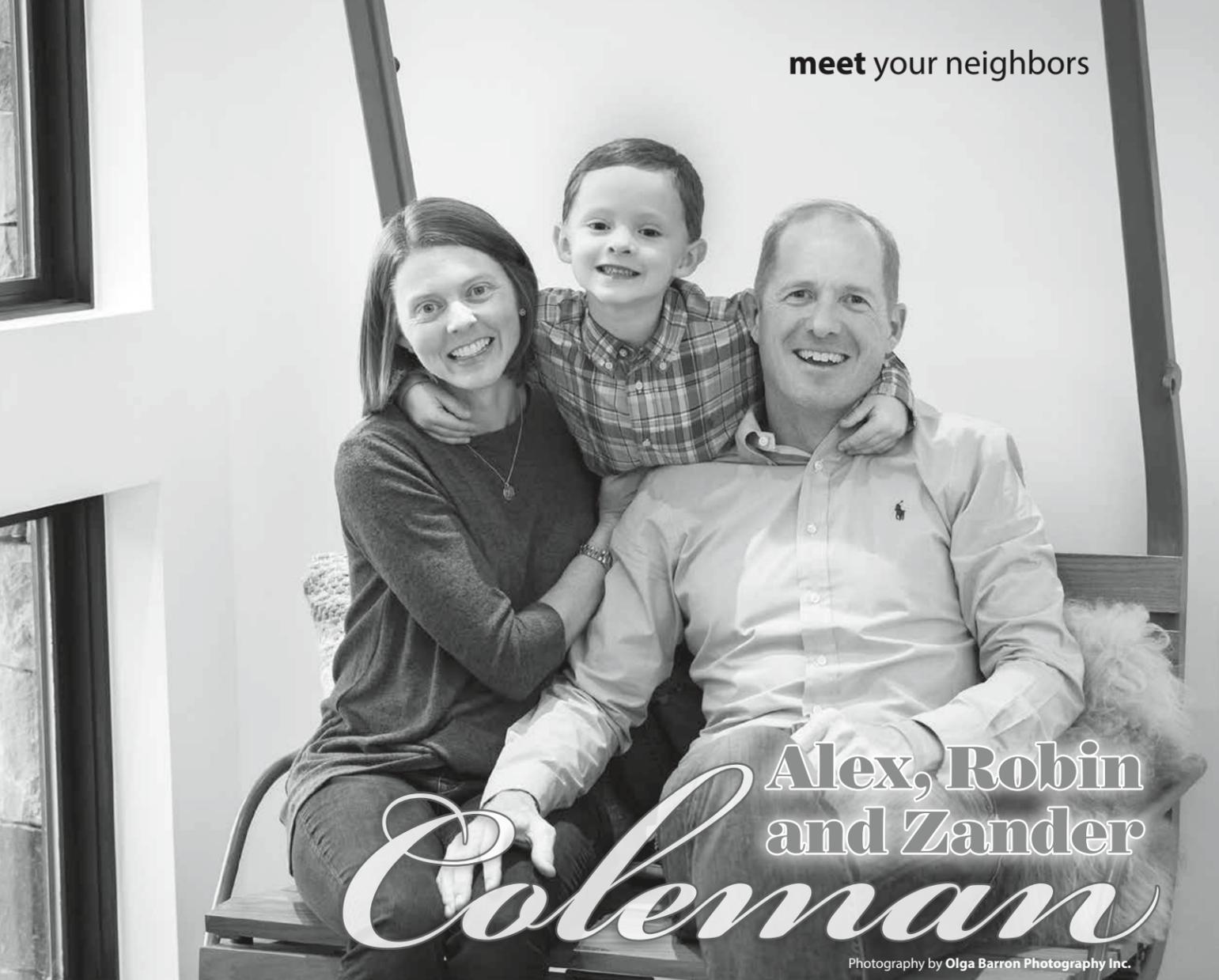


**Katie Rothenberg**  
*Kids' Corner*



**Linda Hill**  
*Singletree Exchange*

## meet your neighbors



# Alex, Robin and Zander Coleman

Photography by Olga Barron Photography Inc.



**“If you could live anywhere, where would it be?” “Vail” and so the adventure began! I was lucky enough that my dad was crazy enough to let a 13-year-old decide our future. On July 29, 1990, my Dad’s 43rd Birthday and only 10 days after the question was asked, we packed up his car and headed to our new life in the mountains. We had been coming to Vail once a year since I was little and there was no place better in my mind. From Amarillo, Texas to Vail, Colorado - what a difference! I had found my permanent home.**

The next five years were great. Minturn Middle School and Battle Mountain High School with lots of skiing and biking in between. Then it was time for college and I started looking at Texas until my dad asked how I was going to ski every weekend, and that made the decision to go to Colorado State University very easy.

After spending four and a half years at CSU and earning a Political Science/Economics degree, I moved back to the Vail Valley. I spent my summers during college working construction with a good friend’s dad. So when I graduated, just like everyone else, I decided to work at a ski shop and after four long months of renting skis, I decided construction had more opportunities.

Robin moved to the Valley in 1999 after growing up in Poplar Bluff, MO. She attended Westminster College in Fulton, MO and had a short-lived career as a tax accountant in St. Louis. After deciding this was not the life for her, she moved to the Vail Valley with a friend and gave mountain living a try. Robin spent many family vacations and summers in Colorado growing up and had fallen in love with the lifestyle. Robin tried different seasonal jobs before landing one that suited her in the Beaver Creek Group Sales Department, where she made a career for herself and she has been working there for the last 17 years.

Robin and I met on a kayak trip through Alaska in 2006; we had some mutual friends that invited us to go with them. Robin and I had very little contact prior to the trip to Alaska, just a few trip planning meetings. The day we all got together to pack for the trip she seemed concerned about what food I was taking and the quantities, i.e. way too MUCH, so I limited what I was taking and began to wonder about my kayak partner.

Then we all headed down to Denver to catch our flight to Alaska. I asked if we could be seated together and she looked at the ticket agent and said, “I will just sleep the whole way, that won’t be necessary.” The trip was off to an interesting start for someone I was going to be sharing a tent and kayak with for seven days. Needless to say, the trip went well, Robin and I hit it off, and when I ran out of food, she felt bad and shared with me. Kayaking through Alaska was amazing and we were inseparable by the time we got home.

Robin and I had been dating a little less than a year when I decided to buy a fixer-upper in Singletree. I shocked her when I asked if she wanted to live there with me. This was three months prior to leaving for Africa to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, the trip she had been planning all summer. This was a dream vacation that Robin had wanted to do her entire life and now I wanted to throw in remodeling a house and moving in together prior to the trip. She decided to come along for the ride. For the next three months, we spent every spare minute working on the house, making it our home. We finished the house, two weeks prior to leaving, and I had spent every dime I had, which meant I was going to Africa courtesy of Robin.

We headed out to Africa and spent the first couple of days relaxing before we started our hike up Kilimanjaro. The hike up was amazing, a new adventure and climate each day. The last day was unbelievably difficult and a long hike to the summit. There were times that we felt we would not make it. Fortunately, we were the first to the top that day and we got to take our pictures by the summit sign and soak up the views before anyone else arrived.



After about ten minutes on the top, our guide told us it was time to go and I said I had one more thing to do. As Robin



turned around, I was down on one knee and we were engaged shortly after. We spent the next seven days enjoying our Safari trip before we headed back to our new home.

Robin spent the next eight months planning our wedding, and it all felt like it was going so quick: a new house, an engagement, work and everything else that came along. But as my best man

pointed out, we spent a week together in a kayak, remodeled our house and climbed one of the tallest mountains in the world together. These are all things that stress a normal relationship; we had survived it all and we were going to be great together.

We got married on June 8, 2008, at Lazy J Ranch in Wolcott, Colorado. We had a dog, Susio, a new home, and were off on the adventure of life. We loved everything about Colorado and we were soaking up as much as possible. We enjoyed biking, hiking, Jeeping and camping; we were definitely “weekend warriors.” ●●●



...

On June 28, 2012, Zander was born and our family was now complete. This is actually where the real adventure started! Having a family in the Vail Valley and enjoying all it has to offer is the greatest gift ever, "there is no comparison!"

Three years after Zander was born, we had the opportunity to buy a lot in Singletree and build our current home, just up the street from our first house. We enjoy Singletree and the life it lets us lead, so we built our new house and moved in December of 2015.

Zander is now five years old and in his final year at Mountain Montessori. Zander does everything a mountain kid should, he loves skiing and biking, he got 36 days in last winter and more vertical feet than I did. He has recently gotten into BMX racing and is now obsessed with it.

Every week is a new adventure, camping, SUP, soccer, the activities are endless and that's why we live here. Everyone in the family loves the outdoors and our surroundings. Living here provides us an amazing lifestyle with great friends who enjoy life as much as we do. We are so fortunate and blessed to live here and do the things we love.



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## sponsor spotlight



Elisse with Aidan, Quinn, and Jada

# Sweeping Change

*Taking note of the need for a new kind of professional cleaning company, long time local Elisse Kelley transitioned from her accomplished career in the hospitality industry to go into business for herself. **Sweeping Change** launched in May of 2016 to offer commercial and residential customers full-service cleaning services designed to meet their specific needs in an eco-friendly manner.*

“As a local resident and homeowner, I’m highly invested in the Vail Valley and have a passion for the community and the many relationships I’ve developed over the years,” says Elisse. “I saw a need for a new kind of eco-friendly cleaning company and knew I could make it a success for both myself and a great staff of local employees who were looking to make a difference.”

Elisse says that her 20 years of experience as a human resources expert arms her with the skills to balance the needs of her business, its customers and a growing staff of local employees. Within the past year, her customer base of commercial and residential clients has grown to exceed 200 clients, served by a staff of 35 employees happy to assist in your cleaning needs.

Elisse says there are many reasons why **Sweeping Change** is different from other services, including their use of eco-friendly

cleaning products and a suite of proprietary task management tools. “Before launching the business, I engaged in a rigorous examination of all of the cleaning supplies and tools available and selected only the most effective products,” explains Elisse. “Our staff training and inspection procedures are top-notch, ensuring we can go above and beyond for all of our customers, no matter the size of their property or frequency of their needs.”

Looking for a break from cleaning? Want a pre-holiday spruce up? Whether you need a regularly scheduled house cleaning or a seasonal deep clean, **Sweeping Change** will work with your schedule to fit your needs and satisfy your goals.

When Elisse is not tending to the needs of the business, she and her daughter, Quinn, and son, Aidan, love to ski, hike and bike together. As a family, they feel very blessed to be part of a wonderful community and to live in this amazing place.

**Sweeping Change** is fully licensed, bonded and insured and offers residential, rental property and commercial cleaning services across the Valley from East Vail to Gypsum. To learn more or to receive an estimate, contact Elisse at (970) 390-8353 or visit [www.sweepingchangevail.com](http://www.sweepingchangevail.com).



# ALIDA ZWAAN

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what's happening  
inside singletree

# SUMMER PARTY 2017

Near the end of August, the annual Singletree Summer Party is welcomed each year with much anticipation. True to form, the Singletree Property Owners' Association hosted a festive evening for seeing old friends, meeting new neighbors and celebrating the season. Residents of all ages enjoyed food, beverage and neighborhood camaraderie... thank you SPOA for a fabulous summer celebration!





The Singletree Community Center is available to rent for your holiday celebrations. You can find more information at [www.singletreetoday.com/amenities](http://www.singletreetoday.com/amenities).



**Prevent burst pipes this winter (from Eagle River Water & Sanitation District):**

- ❄️ Locate your master water shutoff so you can turn off your water where it comes into your home if a leak or break occurs.
- ❄️ Set your thermostat to at least 55 degrees Fahrenheit at all times, even when your home is unoccupied.
- ❄️ Insulate vulnerable areas and install pipe insulating products on water lines.
- ❄️ Close garage doors completely if the water meter or water supply lines are in the garage.
- ❄️ Check unoccupied homes during and after a cold snap.

Eagle River Water & Sanitation District is responsible for the public water distribution system – the mains, storage tanks, and pumps. If a water main breaks, District staff will respond at all hours of the day and will notify properties in the affected area. To report a suspected water main break, call 970-476-7480 at any time of day.

**For more information on preventing or thawing frozen pipes, or for help locating your water meter or master shutoff, go to [www.erwsd.org](http://www.erwsd.org) or contact district customer service at 970-477-5451.**



**Mark your calendar – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Singletree Cookie Exchange on Sunday, December 10th, from 4 pm to 6 pm, at the Singletree Community Center. Show off your baking skills and take home plates of your neighbor's best cookies too. Please bring a minimum of four dozen homemade cookies. The cookies should be arranged with one dozen cookies per plate. And don't forget to include the recipe!**

# SINGLETREE

**Berry Creek Metro District and Singletree Property Owners' Association**

1010 Berry Creek Road at the Community Center  
 You can contact the community manager at [manager@singletreetoday.com](mailto:manager@singletreetoday.com) or (970) 926-2611  
[www.singletreetoday.com](http://www.singletreetoday.com)



**who's making a difference**

Contributed by **Dr. Mike Glode**, Singletree Resident  
 and Written by **Allie Decent**, Singletree Resident



**Giving Adult Cancer Thrivers**

*inspiration*

**To Move Past The Three Words: I HAVE CANCER**



Dr. Mike Glode is a Medical Oncologist with his research focused on prostate cancer. He is currently a Professor at the University of Colorado in the Division of Medical Oncology/Robert Rifkin Chair for

Prostate Cancer Research. I recently had the great opportunity to meet Dr. Glode at his Singletree home, which proved timely in light of it being the month of November.

**Can you tell me what exactly is "Epic Experience"?** Epic Experience offers week-long adventure camps for adult cancer survivors to live beyond cancer. In addition to working with adult survivors, we also work with those who still have cancer and are well enough to participate.

**How did Epic Experience start?** Well, there's always an archetypal myth that starts something, like an origin story. In this case, it was Nancy Ferro; her teenage son developed two types of cancers. She saw that he was in a very dark place, and since he was an adolescent they really couldn't find a place for him in any programs at first. Then she got him into First Descents, a river kayaking experience for teenagers with cancer, and he came back a completely different person. She explained that the experience returned her son to his former self and as a result, she wanted to do something like that for other young people and eventually adults too.

**How did you become involved in the organization?** Nancy started Epic Experience from scratch in 2010 with her husband, Mark. They raised enough money to hire a kayaking company to take campers down the Colorado River. The urologist who took care of their son, Dr. Paul Maroni, was on their board for Epic Experience and a faculty member at the University of Colorado. I was an academic on male cancers; Paul connected me to Nancy and Mark.

**What is a typical Experience like for campers?** Everyone sits around the campfire at night and shares their stories; it is an important part

of everyone's psychosocial healing. The first day the campers go to a swimming pool and learn how to wet exit, as well as the rules of Hug, Tug, and Push for kayaking, all taught by a professional kayak team. They learn how to survive. The campers are pampered; the volunteers and kayak crew do all the work for them. They are glamping and for them, it's just wonderful!

**Tell me about what Epic Experience has meant to you.** It's been a great way for me to give back beyond the research community. We've run across professional campers who are like cancer camp groupies; it's a great cross-section of humanity. Not all of the problems they are dealing with are cancer problems; it's wonderful to have a community like that for them to lean into.

**Have you had personal experience with cancer?** My parents both died of cancer, which is why I went into Oncology. I've had my own experience with prostate cancer. For me, the touchy, feely parts are important, but not what I focused on in my lifetime of research. I focused on trying to find cures to leave as my legacy. It's been different to get into the social aspects of cancer; I appreciate so much more the psychological aspects of cancer now, thanks to Epic Experience.

**One last question... what have been your greatest career achievements?** My professional society is the American Society of Cancer Research. I started their website: [www.asco.org](http://www.asco.org). My goal in that regard was to have any oncologist look at research for free and see abstracts and research to share information. This would be a way for someone anywhere in the world to see the best cancer options and treatments. I'm glad that is my legacy, and I'm happy to have been part of Epic Experience; I have had the chance to touch the lives of many cancer patients over the course of my career.

**Want to know more about Dr. Glode?** Check out his blog: [PROST8Blog.com](http://PROST8Blog.com). To learn more about Epic Experience, please visit [www.epicexperience.org](http://www.epicexperience.org).



Tommy, Jessica, Jameson, Gabriella and Jackson Gregg

who's making a difference too Contributed by Tommy Gregg,  
Singletree Resident

# Growing THE 'STACHE

## In Support of Men's Health

**What do you see in a mustache? A throwback to Tom Selleck and Burt Reynolds? Memories of your dad 30 years ago? The Trucker, The Regent, The Businessman and The Connoisseur, otherwise known as some of the official mustache titles? Or, perhaps you just think, "That man needs to shave."**

**What do I see? I see the face of men's health.**

In November, you will likely notice more men sporting some new facial hair around town. These men and men all over the world grow mustaches to support the Movember Foundation.

The Movember Foundation is an organization founded by two men in Australia who initially challenged 30 men to bring the 'stache back to raise money for prostate cancer research. Since its inception in 2003, the organization has raised over \$710 million dollars, and its core group of 30 has grown to more than 5 million Mo Bros and Sistas. Their goal is simply to "Stop men from dying too young." Their three areas of focus are prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention. Every November, they challenge men (and women who contribute) to raise money for men's health by growing a mustache; thus the meaning behind Movember.

In 2014, I witnessed two healthy men my age (34 years old) get diagnosed with testicular cancer. My grandfather passed away from prostate cancer. And frankly, way too many men find themselves in deep, dark places, do not seek help, and in many cases take their own lives. I decided to help, just by growing a mustache. Since 2014, I have raised more than \$8,500. It's an inspiring and humbling time of year for me to connect with people near and far, experience the generosity of the human spirit, and feel a sense of contribution.

Next time you see a mustache in November, I ask you to think of a man you know and help him from dying too young. Help the Movember Foundation raise money to research prostate and testicular cancer. Help them fund programs for men's mental health and suicide prevention. This year I want to go the extra step. I started a group for the Singletree community, The Singletree Mo Bros.

If you find it in your heart to participate, sign up at <https://moteam.co/singletree-mo-bros>, grow a mustache, share the link with your family and friends, and let's raise some money. If you can't grow a 'stache, please donate on my Movember page at <http://mobro.co/tommygregg>.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Tommy, a Colorado native, has lived in Singletree with his wife, Jessica, and three children (Jameson, Gabriella and Jackson), since 2009. He is the owner of Gregg and Co. Builders with his father, Jim Gregg.



**Are you passionate about a special cause?** Do you know someone who is committed to a particular non-profit or charity? Please email [holly.proctor@n2pub.com](mailto:holly.proctor@n2pub.com) to recognize the people in your community who are making a difference.

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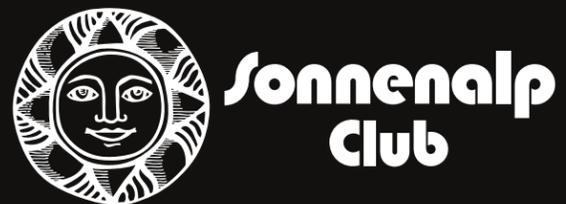
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## RECENT SINGLETREE ACTIVITY

Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Sold Date	\$/sq.ft.	Sold \$/sq.ft.	Beds	Baths	sq.ft.	Furnished
Active	1121 Berry Creek Rd #A2 (DU)	\$1,462,500	N/A	N/A	\$386.90	N/A	3	4 (2 1 1)	3780	No
Active	751 Singletree Rd #22 (TH)	\$1,125,000	N/A	N/A	\$421.35	N/A	4	4 (2 2 0)	2670	No
Active	740 June Creek Rd #N (DU)	\$775,000	N/A	N/A	\$302.50	N/A	3	4 (3 0 1)	2562	No
Active	931 Singletree Rd #4 (TH)	\$557,000	N/A	N/A	\$391.70	N/A	2	2 (1 1 0)	1422	Partial
Sold	35 Hereford Rd (SF)	\$1,195,000	\$1,175,000	8/28/17	\$340.55	\$334.85	4	5 (3 1 1)	3509	No
Sold	1541 Winslow Rd (SF)	\$999,000	\$990,000	9/8/17	\$262.41	\$260.05	4	4 (3 0 1)	3807	No
Sold	312 June Creek Road Rd #A (DU)	\$964,500	\$920,000	8/25/17	\$466.62	\$445.09	3	3 (2 0 1)	2067	No
Sold	440 Longhorn Rd #A (DU)	\$825,000	\$810,000	9/8/17	\$322.77	\$316.90	4	4 (3 1 0)	2556	No
*UC	261 Foal Cir, Edwards (SF)	\$1,775,000	N/A	N/A	\$248.74	N/A	6	6 (5 0 1)	7136	No
UC	31 Honda Dr (SF)	\$1,296,000	N/A	N/A	\$396.69	N/A	4	4 (3 0 1)	3267	No
UC	781 June Creek Rd #S (DU)	\$849,000	N/A	N/A	\$349.10	N/A	3	4 (3 0 1)	2432	No

\* Listed and sold by Happy Power.

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## precious pets

Contributed by **Haley and Bobbie Ruh**,  
Singletree Pet and Resident  
Article Sponsored by **Top Dog Properties**

# CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ME...

*the name says it all*

My registered name is "Can't Live Without Me" (my Singletree guardian, Bobbie Ruh, would agree), but my call name is "Haley." I was born in Hughesville, Maryland on July 27, 2008, and was part of a renowned kennel known as Denzel Papillons, where I lived and helped my breeder, Tracy Burdick, by producing beautiful puppies until I retired in 2015. Tracy has been showing and training Papillons for over 30 years and is one of the country's top Papillon owner-handlers. I am the descendant of many champions, am a champion myself, and my pups helped Tracy continue her line of exceptional papillons. I loved living with Tracy, where I was the most easygoing and best behaved of all her dogs.

When I retired, I was nervous about moving to a new home, but Tracy assured me that I would love Colorado, where she had lived for many years. She also told me that my new mom had another papillon from Denzel who was old and ill and needed a companion. I was happy when I arrived in Denver and saw my new family was there to greet me. My papillon brother had glaucoma and needed my help and company to get around, so we grew very close. I liked to go on walks with him to keep him from getting confused as his sight failed. Sadly, he only lived for a few months after I arrived but I feel good that I was there for him.

Now, as the only dog in the house, I love getting *all* the attention. I have my mom's lap all to myself and I get to take lots of long walks in the beautiful Singletree neighborhood. My favorite is the cross-country path in the winter because I love to roll in the snow. I love riding in the car too, but I don't like it when my mom drives to places that don't allow me to come inside, as I would *never* do anything wrong. I also love meeting the other people and animals in Singletree, especially the deer. I try to be really quiet and calm around them. I never bark and I love my kennel (Tracy taught me those things) but I will whine when my mom doesn't understand what I want. It's awfully hard training some people, I guess. My mom says I'm perfect, so I'll just have to be patient until I can teach her to be perfect too.

 Do you have a pet and would like to share his or her story? Please email [holly.proctor@n2pub.com](mailto:holly.proctor@n2pub.com) to feature your precious pet in the next available issue. Dogs, cats, horses, fish and any other type of animal is welcome!



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# Honoring our Singletree Veterans

Written and Compiled by Allie Decent, Singletree Resident

This November 11th, the United States celebrates our Veterans with their annual day of recognition. We at **INSIDE Singletree** would like to give more personalized recognition to those residents who have fought for our country and returned to their civilian life with weighted memories and minds forever changed. I had the privilege to interview six Singletree Veterans, all armed with stories that humble, experiences that amaze, and lives worth living. We would like to thank JP Power, Edward Nafus, Marlin Smickley, John Perkins, Fred Gretsche Sr., and Buddy Sims for their time spent sharing their stories with us and for their service to our country.

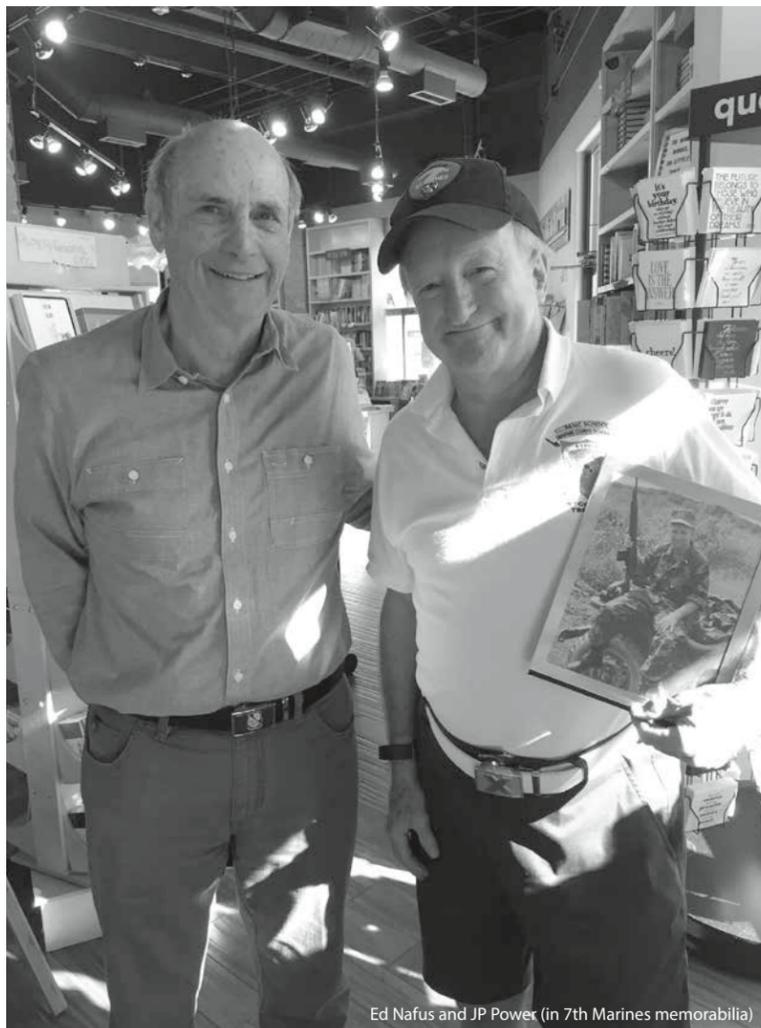
## JP POWER and EDWARD NAFUS

The Bookworm is quiet during the mid-morning interview we had set up, and JP is dressed head to toe in his 7th Marines memorabilia with a big smile on his face. “Hi!” he says, “Hope you don’t mind me bringing along Ed here, he’s a veteran too.” Of course, I don’t mind, and we do introductions and grab our coffees to settle in for a lively exchange of memories.

Ed and JP both served in Vietnam in 1969 but never met until their lives again crossed paths decades later. “I have to tell you,” says Ed, “JP is my hero. He was out in the jungle saving people like me so we could do our jobs in the air.”

JP served in Vietnam under the 7th and 11th Marine outfits after graduating university and completing OCS at Quantico, Virginia, and coming out as a 2nd Lieutenant. “Our job was to support the 5th Marine Regiment, and in March of 1969 I flew into Da Nang, and we checked in and choppered out to the Battalions. We were spread all around the ocean borders. We were on the river trying to stop the Viet Cong from infiltrating Da Nang,” recalls JP. “We set up radio relay stations so we could transfer the calls for fire. We were always out in the middle of nowhere, getting soaked and eating rations like this one here.”

He pulls out what looks like a little hand grenade (pictured to the left), and let me know it was used to hold raspberry jam. “We had to pack these in and pack them out because if we left these in the jungle the Vietcong would take them and use them as grenades to take us out all in a line,” he muses. His eyes mist over as he holds the makeshift grenade. “I was out there with my 40-man



Ed Nafus and JP Power (in 7th Marines memorabilia)

infantry platoon and we crossed one of these lines, and every grenade went off except this one that was under my shoe. That fact is the only reason I am here today, and I kept it.”

Ed clears his throat. “We were based in Da Nang, our missions were to fly the Gulf of Tonkin between the Chinese Island and the Demilitarized Zone. Our mission was what you would know today as AWACS (airborne early warning), basically a radar and electronic counter-measure and surveillance by using aircraft. I served for five years there.” Ed slept in the bunkhouses and flew a Navy C-121, an older plane that had been converted for the war to an electronic measure and aircraft location device. “The men out there like JP who were getting blown up keeping us safe from the Viet Cong are my heroes. The Navy would be flying out of Da Nang

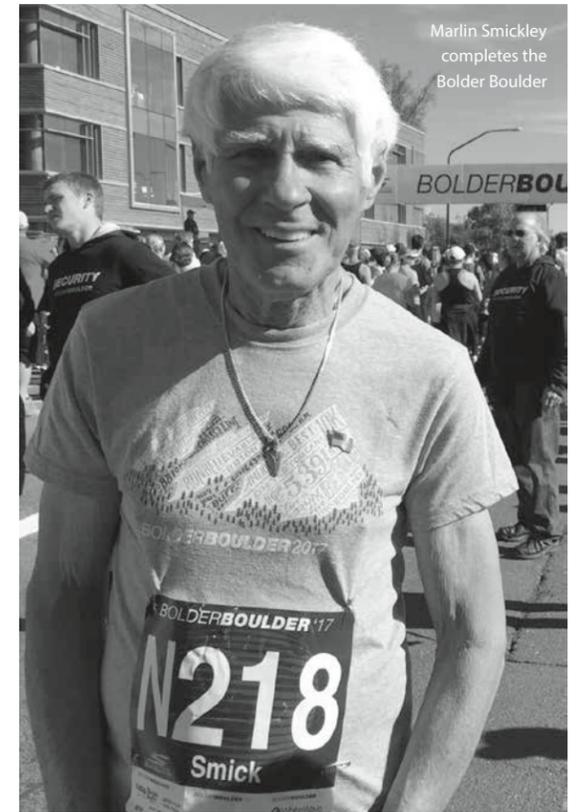


back to US soil, and those men were being carried onto those planes covered in the red, white and blue. That really hit home for me,” recalls Ed.

JP nods, echoing Ed’s sentiments. “I had command of a 40-man infantry platoon at age 23 and the others were 19-20-year-olds carrying automatics and hand grenades, and I was responsible for all of them. I was required to write home to the families to those who fell during our command. To tell their parents how proud they could be of their sons. So that put life in perspective for me. Going forward, it just changed me forever.”

JP returned to civilian life, but Ed kept going and eventually served in the Blue Angels. “So I was in Da Nang, and the Navy Manager (in the Pentagon) knew I was an aircraft commander and the Blue Angels were flying the same aircraft as this support airplane I mastered. I was getting close to the end of my tour and the detailer called and said he has a job that would be interesting, and he let me know that he wanted me to fly for the Blue Angels. I could have crawled through that phone line to get there,” laughs Ed.

But coming back was no picnic, as we all have learned either through history books or by being there in person. Johnny Cash sings a song, “As If I Was There” and the line that rings true with Ed and JP is “it took my country 25 years to welcome me back.” “Everyone who served in Vietnam was every bit as brave and dedicated as anyone in every war,” sighs Ed. “They, I mean we, were just caught up in the political mayhem of the time. Every single one of us just did what we were asked to do.”



Marlin Smickley completes the Bolder Boulder

## MARLIN SMICKLEY

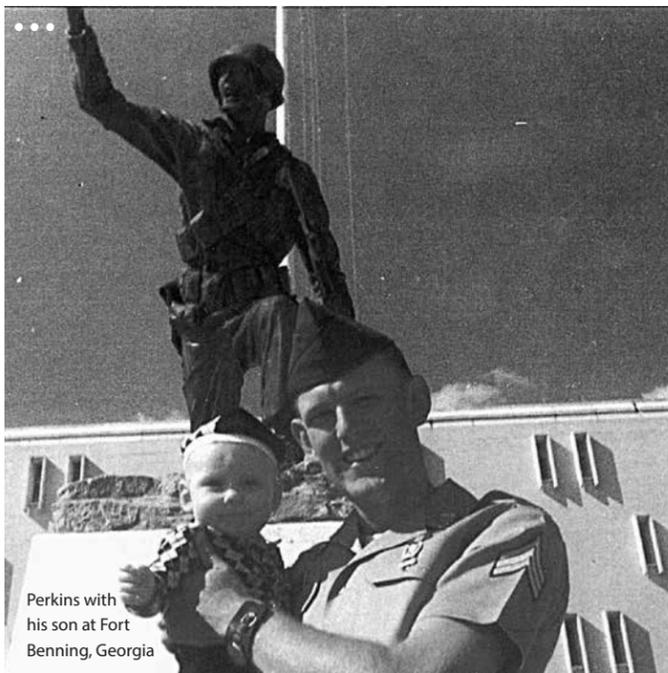
Marlin is a Singletree icon, with his shock of white hair and those piercing baby blue eyes. He served as a cryptographer with the Army from 1959-1962 in Japan. “I coded and such, I had a short stint with the CIA. I didn’t like that you had to lie about what you did to everyone you loved. It wasn’t a healthy environment.”

After dropping that bomb during our interview I begged him for more information, but true to CIA training Marlin was tight-lipped about what he did. He laughs, and redirects. “The Army paid for my BS and my Master’s degrees. It was good in Japan—I didn’t see combat. I worked in the afternoons and the night, decoding messages—that’s all I can say. I was right outside of Tokyo. They didn’t like us to wear military garb very much, Japan didn’t want a military presence so I was in civilian garb.”

He returned to civilian life and used his Masters to teach elementary school for 33 years. Marlin taught learning disabled, gifted, and majority students in one self-contained classroom in North Hampton, Pennsylvania. He retired from teaching in 2000 and moved to Singletree.

“I have two daughters who live back in PA right now, whom I’ll be visiting in October and I’ll be doing a 10k with my older daughter and her friends. I love to run, I’m blessed with good knees.”

...



Perkins with his son at Fort Benning, Georgia

“Oh, that was horrible,” he replies with a chuckle as he sets down his java. “Possibly one of the only humorous things about being there, that jungle. We were never dry, never.” In my ignorance, I ask how that can be, with tents and barracks around. “Vietnam was what you call a triple canopy jungle, very difficult to navigate. Even in the pitch of the day, it can be almost dark, that’s how deep it is. My men and I endured a monsoon season, where I was wet for 90-100 days straight. We were camping the whole time. We carried 90-pound rucksacks with ponchos, and I had to sleep on one shoulder one night to keep one side dry, and the next night switch to another shoulder. What I learned there is that as humans we can adapt to anything.”

But what was he doing out in that jungle, I inquire. “I made 38 assaults in the HU-1 (Huey) helicopter and was stationed into jungle terrain all around the imperial capital in South Vietnam. Our mission was to protect the capital for an election in which Nguyen Van Thieu was running and was ultimately elected the president since he had no opposition. So there we were protecting and securing an election in which one man was running. That was demoralizing.”

After completing his active duty, John was reunited with his family. Because of his rank before he went to combat, he was able to choose his last duty station, and he chose Colorado. It was there that Paula and little John waited while he served. “Texans look at Colorado like it’s their own state park or something, so my first choice was Fort Carson and I got it.”

Since he had the weekends off before shipping out, the family liked to drive up to the mountains. “We drove through Vail in ’70 and walked up Bridge Street, and I was amazed. I didn’t know anything about skiing, but I looked around and thought to myself ‘These people are building a whole new town and here I am with a degree in architecture.’ Bells started going off, and I knew if I returned from Vietnam in one piece I would move my family up here and start my life.”

That’s just what the Perkins family did. Though Paula and John got divorced shortly after he returned from the war, John’s son was raised here and John’s life has always been here. “I guess I didn’t return the man she married, now that I think about it. I don’t think any of us did.”

John was hired by Fitz Hughes Scott, the first architect that laid out Vail Village. John started his own firm in 1977, called JMP Architects, Inc. He lived all over the valley and finally landed with the love of his life, Madeline, in the home he designed in Singletree in 2006. He is currently the architectural consultant of Singletree. Madeline passed away of Alzheimer’s 5 years ago on December 3rd.

“Vietnam was a pit stop in my life, and I was lucky that I went late and I came home in one piece. But because of the war, I missed John’s first birthday and Christmas, and when I came home he was two. They met me at the Dallas Airport, and he knew two words, “Hi Daddy.” I remember walking hand-in-hand with my little son at the airport, totally shell-shocked to be back.”

## JOHN PERKINS

“I didn’t want to go to Vietnam,” says John during our coffee and pastries at Columbine Bakery and Deli, where he is greeted by name and a hug. I can tell that this is a peace-loving man, whose story will nicely balance the timbre of this article. “My father was a WWII veteran and my grandfather was a WWI veteran. Paula, my wife, was pregnant with our son and pleading with me to leave and go to Canada.



Perkins (right) with Herb Rubenstein (ST vet WWII) at the 10th Mountain Monument on Tennessee Pass

Back then you had three options: let them draft you, run away to Canada or go to jail. Given the military history of my family, leaving was not an option for me.”

John was drafted in 1970 and served in the 101st Infantry Division. “I went to Texas Tech University for my degree in architecture, and I had a 2-S Deferment while in school,” recalls John. “That whole idea became politically charged by the fact that guys who couldn’t afford college couldn’t get a deferment. It was a socio-economic war over here.”

He was drafted two weeks after his graduation and went to Amrillo, and made the rank of an E-5 Sergeant. “I was in a leadership position, I was a squad leader with 8-10 guys I was responsible for, and I got them all back home,” smiles John. His pride in that statement emulates from his person as he calls the waitress over for more coffee. They exchange pleasantries, and when he turns back to me I ask for some more details about what it was like in the jungle of Vietnam.



Fred Gretsch volunteering on the Singletree trails

## FRED GRETSCH, SR.

Fred is a happy-go-lucky gentleman who was happy to share his experience in all of his own words, as we did not have a chance to meet for this particular interview. However, when I met him at the photo shoot for the Singletree Trails Volunteers this summer, his energy radiated like the sun and his enthusiasm will definitely rub off on you as you read the summary he prepared in anticipation of his 50th Georgetown Reunion last June in Washington.

My summary may be a bit ‘long in the tooth’, but I appreciate the chance to talk about all the things I did and the experiences I had during my military service. The ironic thing after I got out was that no one cared and it did not help my career. No one ever asked me, the way I thought they would. My colleagues were all three years ahead of me in their careers by that point. I thought you all might find this interesting as it was the times.

I was granted a deferment to attend graduate school at Columbia for my MBA. In exchange, I had to extend my ROTC service to three years but I was able to choose my first duty assignment. I chose Germany. During my three years, I never ran across any Georgetown alumni. My assignment turned out to be USAREUR and 7th Army Troops Headquarters, Heidelberg, Germany. My first job was as a Logistics Staff Officer. I won’t bore you with the details but it had to do with maintenance tier support and parts for all the units in Europe. The best part was the squash court on post, so I played a lot of squash as it was little used and easy to get play time. I got to play with a lot of senior officers as the junior ones did not play squash.



Gretsch - Georgetown - 1967: Fred Gretsch (3rd from left) with his ROTC class as a senior at Georgetown University in 1967.

My second assignment for the two years I was there was as OIC of a strategic deployment detachment with a staff of enlisted men. My clearance was more expansive than Top Secret and it involved moving troops around Europe and directing the MPs who had assignments at various traffic points of congestion. It also included the Training Centers, which units had priority in case of an attack at various intersections.

Following this assignment, I became the Aide de Camp for a Major General who was the DCSLOG in Europe for nine months. He wanted to take me to Vietnam to V Corp, but I begged off as I was married and had my first child (son) in Germany. When he left, my last assignment was as Executive Officer of the Transportation Motor Pool in Heidelberg. Basically, I spent much of my time talking to Generals as to why they would not be getting their staff car and driver on any given day when dignitaries from the Pentagon or

NATO, etc. or GS Civilians came to town that outranked them by date of rank. For the most part, they were never happy with me or my sergeants!

My last year in the Army in Thailand was pretty normal, hours were M-F, we had the weekends off, and could do most anything on the weekends including going to Pattaya Beach - an international resort town about an hour from Camp. Once again, much to my happiness, there was a racquet sport on base. I played in Special Services tennis tournaments for a Special Services Sergeant, who put together a team for the Camp, in Bangkok, Udorn, Korat and Chaing Mai. I played tennis regularly at noon as the post had at least one tennis court.

The General, the Post Chaplain (Full Bird Colonel) and the Post Engineer (Major - Engineer Corps) and I (Captain by this time) had a standing and rousing doubles matches in the 120-degree-plus heat and humidity as we were right on the Gulf of Thailand (Siam) even with ocean breezes at times. One of the anomalies, which can only happen during wartime, is the Major reported to me as the S-4. To make matters worse, he was a West Point graduate and Regular Army, and I was ROTC and Army Reserve. Naturally, I did not put too sharp a point on this one and sort of let him do his thing. We got along fine.

As luck would have it, one of the weekends no one was around except for the Post Commander (LT. Col), sappers (non-Thai individuals that came in from Burma, Cambodia or Vietnam) attacked the post and the commander was beside himself as he could find no one around. No great surprise. He viewed it as my fault! We did not have a sign-out policy, which changed shortly thereafter. The Thai Guards handled the problem and no one was hurt.

...

## BUDDY SIMS

Buddy Sims is the one veteran who we heard from who is a career military man. His career spans the last 40 years and multiple wars. He is a decorated USAF Command Pilot and he served in the President's commercial airline. The following summary was written by Buddy himself regarding his decorated life.

After graduating from Topeka High School, he joined the USMC as an infantryman. After his military discharge, he graduated from Washburn University, Topeka, KS with a Business Degree and was commissioned as a Lt. in the USAF in 1967. He graduated from Vance AFB pilot training in 1968 in Enid, OK. He served two tours as a combat pilot during the Vietnam War as a Forward Air Controller in 1968 in the Cessna Skymaster flying 250 missions. He flew B-52D bombers in 1972 during Linebacker flying 100 missions into North Vietnam.

He retired in 1989 as a Lt Col from the Pentagon and then flew as a commercial airline pilot for Presidential Airlines, United Express in the BAE-3100 Jetstream and later for Pan American World Airways in the Boeing-727 out of Kennedy Airport in New York. After his airline career, Buddy was employed by NTA, Washington, DC where he was an Acquisition and Logistics Manager on the Navy CV-22 Osprey and EA-6B aircraft for the Naval Air Systems Command. He managed the installation of three pilot safety installs in the EA-6B and designed the first aircraft parts support system for the CV-22.

Buddy spent over 7,000 hours in military and commercial aircraft, FAA Air Transport Pilot and Flight Engineer Ratings, and a USAF Command Pilot Rating with 20 awards and decorations. His highest military flying combat decoration is the Distinguished Flying Cross with 17 Air Medals for Army close air support missions in Vietnam.

Buddy was one of the 208 retired USAF pilots recalled to active duty to the Eighth Air Force Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC), Barksdale AFB, LA. He reported for duty at 58 years old after being retired for thirteen years. From Nov 2002 through May 2003, he was the Chief, Time Sensitive Targeting (TST) (leadership, WMD, and terrorist targets) during Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom (OEF), and Iraqi Freedom (OIF) while stationed at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia and later at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. During OIF in the CAOC, his TST team directed 156 combat strikes onto Time Sensitive Targets and 686 combat strikes onto Dynamic Targets (mobile & important targets) into Iraq.

He was retired by the USAF from the Directorate, Operational Capabilities Requirements at the Pentagon in June 2004. At that time, he was the last military person on active duty who had served during the Cuban Missile Crisis in Oct 1962 as a Marine rifleman.



Sims sitting on the MOAB at Al Udeid AB, Qatar in May 2003

Locally, Buddy helped build the Freedom Park Memorial – EMS, 911 and Veterans from 2005 through 2010 in Edwards. This Memorial has the only 700-pound piece of limestone, taken from the west wall of the Pentagon attack on 9/11, located in Colorado. He and his wife, Bonnie, transported the limestone in a Penske rental truck to Edwards in 2005. He also serves as the longtime Adjutant and Scholarship Chairman for the Mt. Holy Cross Minturn VFW Post 10721. He has been a Rotarian since 2005. Buddy and his wife, Bonnie, share their time between Edwards and Phoenix.

With this tribute, we honor and thank each of you for your service to our country. For those Singletree veterans who we missed in this feature, we would love to hear from you. Please email [holly.proctor@n2pub.com](mailto:holly.proctor@n2pub.com) or [adecent@kw.com](mailto:adecent@kw.com) to participate in our Veterans Day Tribute 2018.



Buddy Sims FAC in 1968 in Bien Hoa, Vietnam



Buddy Sims Lt Col (Ret), USAF

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## home of the month

Contributed by Eric Johnson, Singletree Resident  
 Article Sponsored by Active Energies, LLC



Would you like to have your home featured in an upcoming issue or would you like to nominate a neighbor's home? Please send an email to [holly.proctor@n2pub.com](mailto:holly.proctor@n2pub.com) and let me know about it!

# OUTSIDE IN

Eric Johnson and Cheryl Lindstrom first came to the Vail Valley to work on the 1989 World Alpine Ski Championships, but stayed to build their home on 240 Longhorn Road and raise their daughter, Marit, who graduated from Battle Mountain High School and CU Boulder.

The residence is a culmination of decades of design and construction experience of Eric Johnson Architect PC, inspired by the third fairway of the golf course and views of all four ski resorts. The flat, south facing site was perfectly suited for both passive and active solar gains, 3,000-square feet, four-bedroom/ three and a half-bath residence with plenty of social and private spaces to enjoy the sun setting.

From the moment the welcoming entry invites one in, the views through the dining room (which can accommodate seating for 18) to the fairway beyond and ample art walls further draw interest and entertainment. A gourmet's kitchen is close and efficiently equipped.

The exterior is a blending of heavy timber Craftsman and Prairie-style stucco simplicity with vaulted, warm, honey maple and knotty alder interiors. Having a minimum of manicured lawn, the balance of the lot is naturally filled with shade trees and wind-breaking evergreens, xeriscaped planting beds, and fairway rough grasses.

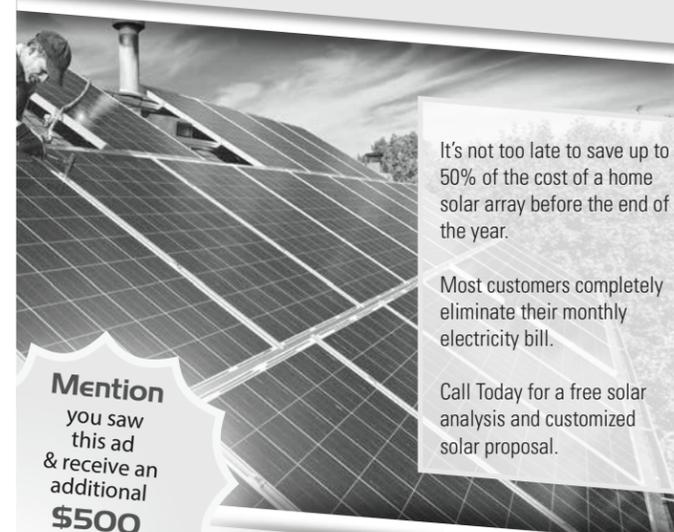
The motor court is comfortably screened from the street enhancing a sense of private sun-drenched entry. The cool and calm rear patio enjoys views of the golf course greenery, outdoor dining, BBQ, firepit, and the all-important sunken master hot tub situated in a secluded setting.

Utilizing a state of the art integrated photovoltaic system, the monthly electric bills went from an average of over \$45 to the current \$28 (some summer months are under \$10). The concrete in-floor radiant, gas-fired heating system allows selective zoning options and passive solar utilization, reducing the bills by 38 percent. Incorporating natural ventilation, indoor planting and humidification, the interiors feel like the all-outdoors. Optimum windows, doors, and insulation complete the efficient envelope.

While not entirely green, the home is completely comfortable. All in all, the window patterns welcome the Colorado sunshine morning until night, bathing the interiors in its natural delight.

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**kids' corner**

Contributed by **Hazel Rothenberg**, Singletree Resident, and Written by **Allie Decent**, Singletree Resident  
Article Sponsored by **RKV Law**



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# Hazel

## And Everything Pink

**T**his month we interviewed Hazel Rothenberg and Hazel is ready to talk to us! She is five years old and she is in Kindergarten at St. Clare of Assisi. Her favorite quiet time activity is to nap, but she doesn't have enough time to do that much anymore with her busy schedule.

**What do you love to do with your family?** I love going to the store with my family.

**Do you have a pet?** I have two cats. Quincy and Shea. Shea is old, Quincy is young. Shea likes other people, Quincy doesn't. They are black and orange.

**What is your favorite thing to do?** I think, I don't really know. I think it is playing with my friends at their house or my house. Just games.



**What sports do you play?** I do play soccer. Our uniforms are orange. We are the Cougars.

**What is your favorite toy?** I think it's my JoJo Doll. She's my favorite. (For our adult readers, JoJo Siwa is a YouTube child personality/singer/dancer/songwriter who exudes a rainbow unicorn approach to life that is perfection for little girls in modern times. "I don't wanna get old too fast, I just wanna make the good times last" - JoJo).

**If you could change one thing in the world what would you change?** I would thank the trees. My hands are pink, I was making pink slime today with my friends and my hands are pink FOREVER! (giggles ensue).

**What advice do you have for your parents?** Paint more. My mom and I painted our big wood over the fireplace white today. I think it's called a mantel, no, a mantel.

**What's your favorite movie of all time?** I just love *Moana*. I love her song when she gets into the boat and goes over the waves, she's so brave.

**What are you going to be for Halloween?** I'm going to be JoJo!

**What do you love about living here?** I love our trampoline.

*Thanks for the interview Hazel! It was a pleasure being in your sparkly and pink presence this afternoon!*

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# TERRA

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Pappadam and dahl



Rocky Mountain Trout with carrot puree, Lyonnaise potatoes, asparagus, radish and lemon aioli



Baked pistachio crusted goat cheese



New York Steak with herbed mashed potatoes, grilled broccolini

**T**erra Bistro stands as a long-lasting favorite among locals, and on a lovely warm evening in September, a group of Single-tree residents had the good fortune to enjoy an evening that lived up to the well-earned reputation of this renowned establishment. Chef Shawn Miller consistently features the highest quality seasonal organic ingredients to prepare carefully crafted dishes and this evening proved to be no exception. Every plate arrived meticulously in presentation and the flavors of each dish lived up to its artful appearance.

Terra begins each meal by delivering to the table a basket of pappadam—large, melt in your mouth crisps made of lentil flour and then fried, accompanied by dahl, a hummus-like spread that is made with lentils, split peas, fresh herbs and chili oil. Dubbed “healthy pringles” by one table, baskets of pappadam were voraciously devoured and then replenished.

Guests were first offered a choice of a baked pistachio crusted goat cheese appetizer or a watercress salad with d’anjou pears. The group was equally divided with high marks for each. George Tedesco enjoyed the inventive presentation as well as the smooth and creamy consistency of the goat cheese while Claus Tjeden remarked that the appetizer was “a work of art that makes one hesitant to eat but [it was] so good!”

...



The watercress salad featured a variety of flavors including maple vinaigrette, escarole, toasted walnuts and goat cheese and received high praise as well as a light, tasty, lovely first course by both Lori Leary and Dawn Mullin. Jerry and Michelle Nichols ordered one of each first course and traded plates to share the experience that Michelle described as “unreal”!

On to the entrees which offered each guest mouthwatering options. The Rocky Mountain Trout and 6 oz. New York proved to be the most popular items ordered. The trout was served with carrot puree, Lyonnaise potatoes, asparagus, radish and lemon aioli which was noted for its beautiful presentation by many who selected this main dish. The flavors were deemed a “creative combination” by Maggie Tedesco and many remarked on the beautiful presentation of the dish.

The steak entrée with herbed mashed potatoes, grilled broccolini and a brandy shallot demi-butter was a winner across the board. Valerie Harris summed it up as a “fantastic dish, cooked perfectly with a nice zing on the potatoes”. The Wilsons echoed the accolades with Dave saying not only was it very good, but a “great presentation too!” while Linda noted that the peppercorn sauce served with the steak was “really great.”

Michelle Nichols thoroughly enjoyed the Parsnip and Boat Cheese Ravioli in a Maitake Mushroom Butter Sauce. Her words say it best: the dish was “Unbelievable! Nothing left on my plate... it was filling and amazing. The mushrooms were over the top!”

The finishing touch was a choice of salted caramel gelato or raspberry sorbet. Carol Giuliani was quick to note that the raspberry sorbet was great while Jean Mitchell opted for the caramel gelato that was delicious!

Seated in a private room set with a number of small, intimate tables, the evening offered residents the opportunity to reconnect or meet and get to know each other. Michelle Nichols suggested that each table introduce itself between courses, which proved to be a fun way to learn about fellow members of the community. Each guest cheerfully shared a bit about themselves and their family, their background and their time in Singletree, ranging from 27 years for Larry and Dawn Mullin to 3 years for Pat Montgomery.

The group individually ranked their experience on a scale of 1 - 5 (5 being excellent) for food, service and atmosphere; Terra Bistro scored a 5 overall with a resounding “Yes” in response to both questions, “Will you return to Terra Bistro?” and “Will you recommend Terra Bistro to other people?” Michelle Nichols wrapped it up perfectly: “I have not been to Terra Bistro in a long time; way to get us back! Loved it!”

Thank you, Terra Bistro, for a lovely evening for bringing together community to enjoy culinary delights and neighborhood camaraderie!

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singletree exchange

Welcoming our students at the airport to the Vail Valley.

# YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Contributed by Linda Hill and Bobbie Ruh, Singletree Residents

## Bringing The World Closer Together

The Rotary International Youth Exchange program began in 1929 between Copenhagen and European countries. It was not until after WWII that Rotary Clubs in the US began participating. Our youth exchange program has a simple mission – to support the Rotary International’s mission of “building peace through international goodwill and understanding.”

I always say **it’s changing the perception of the United States one student at a time.** It is amazing what the experience provides. For those inbound students we host it provides an opportunity to understand American life and to become part of an America, it is the same, they are welcomed into host families, go to school and become an ambassador for the United States during their year abroad.

Whether inbound or outbound, each student will attend a local high school participating in school academically and as part of an assigned local host Rotary Club’s activities and projects. They become involved in community endeavors, such as sports, volunteer projects, cultural events or other peer-typical activities. Our inbound students have a deeper understanding of America and our Valley and become fluent in English by the time they leave. Our outbound students come back fully fluent in a second language and having gained a deep understanding of the culture of their host country. Each student becomes a youth ambassador, helping to bring the world closer together by breaking down pre-conceived notions or perceptions.

Our students applying to go abroad have the opportunity to select from approximately 22 countries. Our interview process begins locally and continues at the District level where approximately 28 students are selected to go abroad each year.

Our effort locally is sponsored by both the Vail and Edwards Rotary Clubs and we accept two inbound students per year and can send up to three outbound. The experience is life-changing for all students not only from the great experience but opening their eyes to the many global opportunities. Our host families both here and abroad help by embracing each student as a member of their family. They become integral to the program and receive as much as they give. The bonds between students and their host families can run very deep.

My husband and I have hosted and still hear from the many students that we have welcomed into our home from Italy, South America, India, Finland, the Czech Republic and France. Now that our children are grown and out on their own, I am a Youth Exchange Officer and Counselor overseeing our local program for the Edwards Rotary Club along with my counterpart at the Vail Club, Sally Corcoran. Sally is also a country contact overseeing the success of students to and from Brazil and Chile.

This year, the local Rotary Clubs welcomes two exchange students to the Vail Valley, both of whom are attending Battle Mountain High School. Maciek Kasprzycki, 17, is from Krakow, Poland,



Best part of paddleboarding – having a student willing to do the hard work! Maciek Kasprzycki helping blow up Linda’s paddleboard.



Our current exchange students: Pacho from Columbia (l) and Maciek from Poland (r), with Linda Hill and her dog Henry



Going away party for Tiia Kiuru from Finland and Klara Oklestkova from the Czech Republic. L to R: Sally Corcoran, Klara, Tiia and Linda.

where he studied at a technical school for electrical engineering and also participated in a coding class where he learned how to build, program and code robots. His real passion, however, is aviation. Maciek has already earned a 3rd class pilot’s license and has been studying to get a sailplane license, which will enable him to free-fly throughout Europe. His goal is to enroll in a college-level flight academy and become a professional pilot. When Maciek is not busy planning for his career, he relaxes by playing football and is a member of the Huskies varsity team. He also has fun directing, filming, and editing short films, and, in 2014, won a country-wide competition for the best documentary. He is eager to

perfect his English while at Battle Mountain and looks forward to meeting as many locals as possible during his year in the Valley.

Pacho Berrio Assaf, 15, is from Bogota, Columbia, where he is a member of the school rock band and participates in a local Rock Band Association that performs concerts in schools in their district. He practices his three guitars daily but also finds time to enjoy golf and play soccer in the school league. His goal is to become a physician and he hopes to perfect his English, make friends and visit new places to become a truly global person.

For more information about serving as a host family to an inbound student or going abroad for a school year as a Rotary Exchange student, please contact Linda Hill, [linda@hillaevium.com](mailto:linda@hillaevium.com); 970.471.1594 or contact the Vail or Edwards Rotary Clubs.



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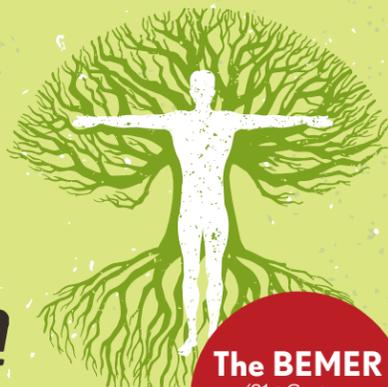
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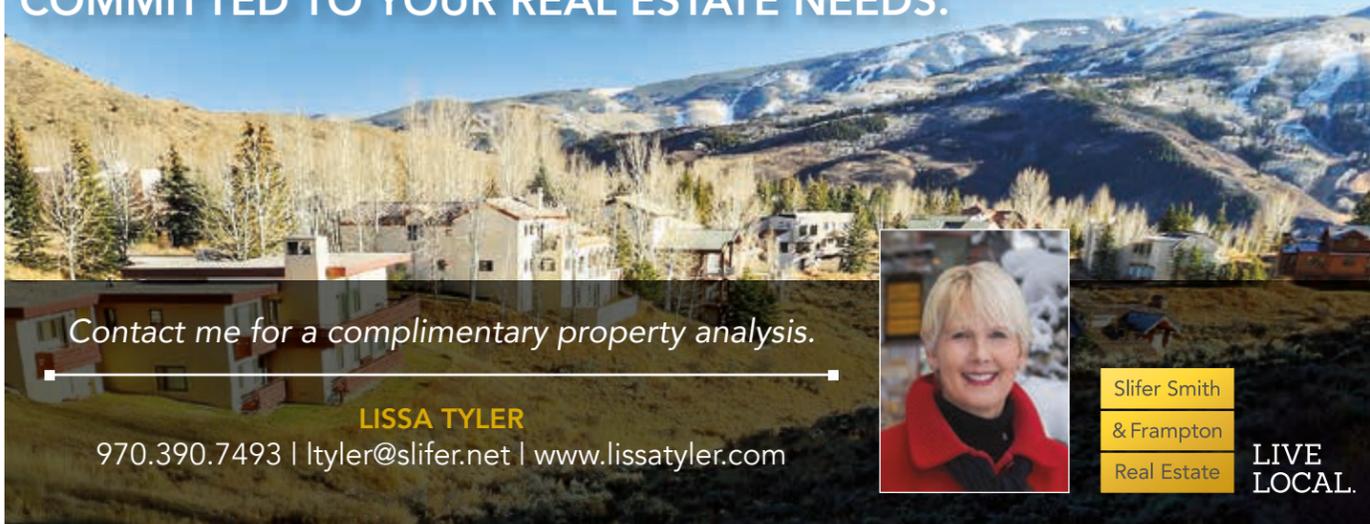
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# IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT BASE

You may think this article is about a song by Meghan Trainor but that is not the base we're referring to. We're talking about home base, base camp, or in the case of our school, homeroom.

Like many schools, students at Stone Creek Charter School are assigned to a homeroom. We like to think of homeroom as a safe place with familiar friends and a teacher with a caring heart. It is particularly important because not all students stick with their homeroom class throughout the day.

We recognize that students have strengths and weaknesses and we work with them individually to make sure they are thriving, appropriately challenged and getting the help they need to succeed. In addition to traditional teaching methods, the School dedicates personnel to a gifted and talented program, special education, English language learners program, speech and occupational therapy. At present, almost a third of our students participate in one or more of these programs. For these students, an individual learning plan is created with input from school leadership, teachers, parents, and the student.

"We strongly believe that the parents of our students should be actively engaged in the education of their children. We are always more successful when we work as a team," says Principal Jason Mills.

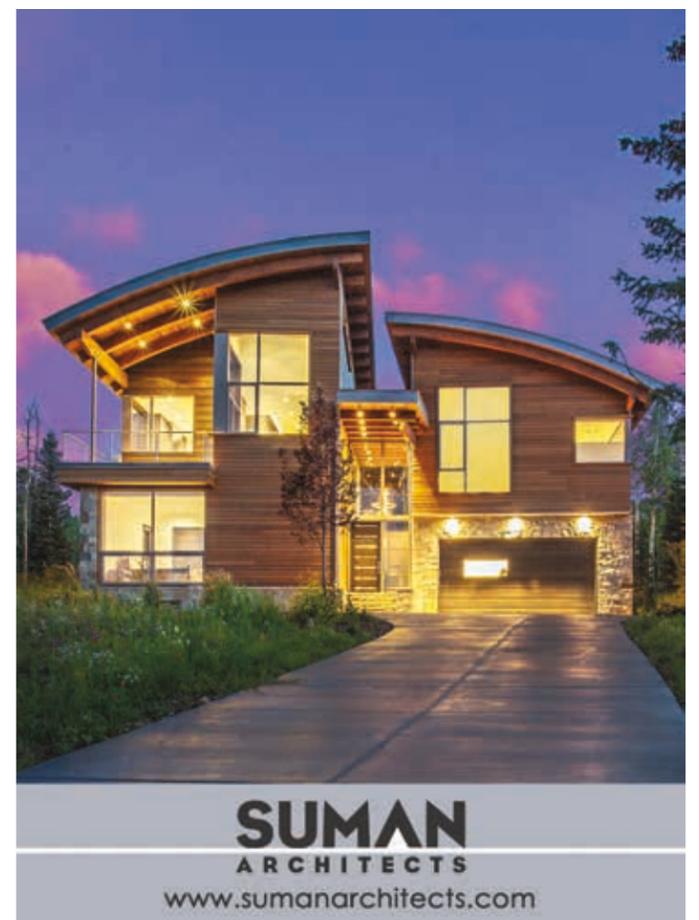
This is where homeroom becomes so important. At any given time throughout the day, a student may leave their homeroom to attend another classroom that may be more advanced than the students in their current grade or alternatively, he or she might receive extra help in a certain area. The key is meeting the individual needs of the student. We believe that by maintaining that strong relationship within homerooms, students feel safe knowing they will come back to it.

"The advanced program at Stone Creek is good because they don't put you in a special class. The advanced students are not separated from the rest of the class; they learn with them," said Singletree resident, Conrad Osborn, 7th grade.

Student progress and achievement is then monitored through an on-going dynamic assessment which is critical in ensuring our students are making progress and getting what they need to be successful.

We know that one size does not fit all, so our approach to educating children shouldn't either.

Stone Creek Charter School is a K-8th grade independent, public charter school in Eagle County. Through small class sizes, SCCS fosters an intimate and invested learning environment throughout the Valley with two campuses – Edwards and Gypsum. Our students are supported and challenged to learn and grow in and out of the classroom through fieldwork, service and adventure. For more information see our website [www.stonecreekschool.org](http://www.stonecreekschool.org).



# riverwalk periodontics



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- Uneven Gum Line
- Exposed Roots (Gum Recession)
- Food Traps
- Missing Teeth
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