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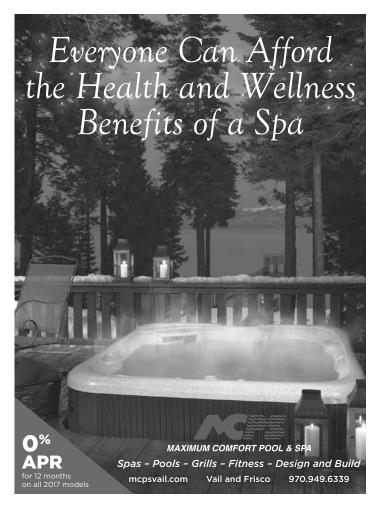
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4 Inside Singletree • February 2018 February 2018 • Inside Singletree 5 In putting together this issue for February, I did a little research to learn that Valentine's Day originated as a Western Christian liturgical feast day honoring one or more early saints named and is recognized as a significant cultural and commercial celebration in many regions around the world. The day first became associated with romantic love within the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century, when the tradition of courtly loved flourished. In 18th-century England, it evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines").

Today, Valentine's Day is a wonderful occasion to remember where, when, why and how we may have fallen in love at some time in our lives. In searching for couples that met in the Vail Valley, I was thrilled to learn about the love stories that brought together Jenn and Mark, Ellyn and Phillippe, Lisa and Nate and Elizabeth and Joel.. LOVE in Singletree is alive and well!

In addition to celebrating the tradition of Valentine's Day, I am very excited to bring this issue to you featuring the Red Jackets of Singletree! (Not to mention, red seemed particularly fitting for February...) Several of our residents devote one day each week to assisting visitors on the mountain at both Vail and Beaver Creek; as you can imagine, their stories can be interesting, entertaining, and

at times, touching. Their experiences may well compel you to join this energetic and dedicated group of volunteers!

Also this month, we are very privileged to have the opportunity to meet Windham Miller, our resident professional snowboarder, and to tour the fabulously remodeled home of Rob Leonard and Karen Mayo at 161 Foal Circle. We celebrate the birthday of a young "leapling", Maxwell Thelen, and are entertained by the perspective of Desi Decent and life with a tiny human.

As we enter the new year, please keep our Sponsors in mind as you are in need of their products and services; your neighborhood magazine would not be possible without their generous support.



I hope you enjoy this issue of *Inside* Singletree and I look forward to sharing many great stories and events with you this coming year!

Holly Proctor

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FEBRUA

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Singletree residents who participated in this month's cover article featuring the Red Jackets! Thank you for your dedicating your time and energy on the mountain and thank you for contributing to INSIDE Singletree!



Olga Barron



Allie Decent Content Coordinator and Resident Writer





Jennifer and Mark Sassi Love in Singletree



Philippe and Ellyn Courtois Love in Singletree



Nate Free and Lisa Seigert-Free Love in Singletree



Maxwell Thelen Kids' Corner



Rob Leonard and Karen Mayo Home of the Month



Elizabeth and Joel Dekanich Love in Singletree



Athlete Spotlight



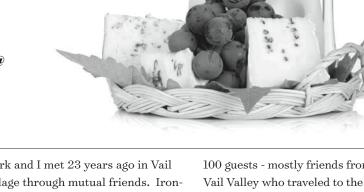
Desi Decent Precious Pets

Ladies night out Graciously hosted at the home of Pat and Jean Mitchell **60 Snaffle Road**

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Please join us for a mid-winter evening out to see old friends and neighbors and meet new, and to enjoy a glass of wine and delicious hors d'oeuvres!

Please RSVP via e-mail to insidesingletreersvp@ gmail.com no later than Monday, February 26.



love in singletree

Contributed by **Jennifer Sassi**, Singletree Resident

Happy Valentine's Day Mark!



Mark and I met 23 years ago in Vail Village through mutual friends. Ironically, I was actually dating his roommate at the time and for two years we were good friends and always enjoyed laughing and spending time together. Eventually, we were both single and found ourselves working together at the Vail Golf Course. That is where the "magic" happened! Mark was on the hot pursuit for over a year. He would leave me daily love notes and I found him constantly doing sweet things for me.

These love notes were actually quite interesting and clever. One of my favorites was a laminated heart shaped potato chip which he hid in my cash drawer at the snack shack. Well, after a year of this, I caved and we agreed to go on our first date - we rode a motorcycle and had dinner at Grouse Mountain Grill. That night was our first kiss and the rest is history!!

Mark and I said our "I do's" in Ocean Reef, Key Largo Florida. I was planning weddings for Vail Resorts at the time and a tropical getaway on November 8th, 2003 was the perfect spot for us to share our nuptials. We had

100 guests - mostly friends from the Vail Valley who traveled to the warm weather just before a Vail winter. After the party, we took our close friends and family on a cruise through the Caribbean and then Mark and I spent a week alone in Turks & Caicos.

We now have two amazing beautiful children. Fischer, our son, is just about to be a teenager!!!!!!!! Yikes, yes, he turns 13 on Jan 21st; and Piper, our incredible daughter, is 11. Sad to report we are the owners of a pet tarantula don't ask! As a family in the winter we love to ski, sled, skate, Nordic and chill out; in the warmer months you will find us at the pool, traveling, hiking or grilling out with friends!

When it comes to what keeps us together, I would say we are still happily married and in love because of what brought us together in the first place. A sense of fun, humor, admiration and respect. Life isn't always perfect but at least we know we have each other 'til the end! We can get through anything if we remember that! Of course the kids are our world now but we do try to remember to take time to do things as a couple..

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love in singletree

Contributed by Ellyn and Philippe **Courtois,** Singletree Residents





Having just moved to the Valley a couple months earlier, I knew very few people. I had transferred with Hyatt Corporation to Beaver Creek to open the new hotel. Aside from a handful of pre-opening staff, I had only interacted with a couple people in town which included some tellers at First Bank in Avon.

My brother, Tommy, and Chris, an old family friend from the Midwest came to visit me. We decided to take in some music at Cyrano's bar in Vail Village. Upon arriving, I noticed a table occupied by some of the tellers from the bank. I was thrilled that I actually knew some people and could introduce my brother and friend to some girls! In all the excitement of introductions, Chris spilled a Bloody Mary all over one of the girls. At that, Tommy and Chris left the table and stood in the back of the bar, feeling dejected and embarrassed. I joined them in their retreat.

As the evening went on I really felt like dancing, but neither Tommy nor Chris wanted to dance. I had noticed out of the corner of my eye a man standing alone. I didn't get a good look at him, but it seemed as if he had been standing there alone for a while. I decided to ask him to dance. Little did I know, I was asking my future husband ... Philippe.

We danced a couple songs and then it was time to leave. My brother asked Philippe if he knew how to row as we were heading down the Arkansas River on a raft the following day and needed a fourth person to complete our crew. Philippe said yes and showed up the next day prepared ... all the essentials in tow ... including a wetsuit, generator to quickly inflate the raft and a gourmet basket with wine and cheese. At the end of an exhilarating day on the water, my brother again spoke up and invited Philippe to join our group at the Telluride Blue Grass Festival the following weekend.

Philippe and I drove together from the Vail Valley to Telluride. When Philippe paid for my ticket into the festival, I figured it must be a date! He was not the typical suit and tie kind of guy I was used to in Chicago, but there were definitely some redeeming qualities that were growing on me.

The feelings were mutual and we grew together. Philippe popped the question in front of my eight siblings on Christmas Eve in Chicago. I said yes and the French champagne began to flow. Toasts of celebration were in the air including a nod to brother Tommy for starting it all!

There was a wedding at the Beaver Creek Chapel with guests coming from near and far to enjoy the magical setting. As we walked out of the chapel, we were met by Helmet Fricker and his alpenhorns and he led our procession through the Village and to the Hyatt lawn for our reception. Our honeymoon was complete with island hopping to St. Thomas, Aruba and Puerto Rico ... a wonderful start to our lives together. Fast forward ... three wonderful daughters ages 23, 21, and 18 and a beautiful home in Singletree. We have always felt it important to save and spend time for each other as well as to leave independent time for our own interests. Our belief in the Sacrament of Marriage has also been a glue to our strong relationship.

We have appreciated the lifestyle that Singletree offers with hiking and mountain biking so close and skiing on our favorite area mountains. Ellyn is an active real estate broker with Slifer Smith and Frampton and Philippe is a master remodeler. We look forward to many more years in our community and many more years of wedded bliss!

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Photo by Olga Barron Photography Inc.

This is the 24th year of the Volunteer program for Vail Mountain. It initially began as "Community Guest Services" (CGS) and 4 years ago, switched to the "National Ski Patrol Mountain Host Volunteer" program. According to Jeff Wiles, Guest Services/Mountain Information Manager for Vail Mountain, there are about 120 hosts each year that have become an integral piece of the day to day operations of the mountain. Acting as the eyes and ears of the Ski Patrol, the Hosts' mission is to personalize each encounter and interaction they have on the mountain and to make each and every Guest feel a connection to both the town and the mountain. Here, our Singletree Red Jackets, both Active and Alumni, share their individual and unique experiences.

JP POWER

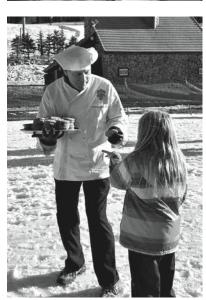
I have lived in Singletree for 22 years and have been a Red Jacket for the past 6 years. While working at the Town of Vail, one of my duties included managing the TOV host program for 15-years which required close cooperation with Vail mountain operations.

One of my favorite stories was on one mountain tour, I had an Irish couple with me. I pointed out that as a Power, I am Irish as well. When I pointed to the Gore range and explained that Lord Gore, an Irish Nobel was the first to visit in 1850, and thus the mountains were named the Gore Range, they were in tears of amazement!

Another time, while on Eagle's Nest map duty, I chatted up a gentleman from Baton Rouge who tearfully was viewing Mt of the Holy Cross. He related that he was struggling with serious cancer and this would likely be his last visit to Vail. I related the story of the German artist who first painted Holy Cross in the 1850s and that began the mountain's fame as a spiritual attraction. We were both in tears at the end.







DAVE AND LINDA WILSON

We have lived in Singletree full-time since 2014 and this is our fourth season as Red Jackets at Beaver Creek. We thought it sounded like a fun way to meet other retired skiers while helping to show off our fabulous mountains. One of the most interesting parts of the Red Jacket is the huge range of questions we get from guests. One of our favorites: "Do you know where I parked my car?"

Helping injured people by calling ski patrol, getting their injury information to patrol, and keeping the injured guest calm and as comfortable as possible until patrol arrives is very rewarding. Not to mention, being in family selfies while handing out cookies is always fun! And then there was the time we heard a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Red Jacket dress down a bored husband for abandoning his beginner wife on a run that was much too hard for her. He was commanded to buy a lesson, dinner, and jewelry.

We really enjoy helping guests have the best vacation, in general, and we love how nice our whole Monday crew is. If you have the ability



to make the commitment for twenty days (pretty much the same day each week) and like being outside and on your feet for eight hours, then it being a Red Jacket is a fun and rewarding way to help people, meet neighbors and guests, and get that ski pass and cafeteria discount.



SHERI BALL

I have lived in Singletree for 10 years and served as a Red Jacket for 20 years prior to retiring due to an injury. I became a Red Jacket when I moved to Vail at the time the program was first introduced. Being involved with Pink Vail has been one of the most interesting experiences I have had in my life. Working with Debbie Jasper and Bonnie Gehrmann, we formed the Red Jackets team for Pink Vail: People in the Know. As a cancer survivor, I am appreciative of everything the community does for its locals and I feel very fortunate to live in the Valley.

One of my fondest memories as a Red Jacket was my interaction with wounded warriors as I flew troops into Vietnam and Desert Storm. Being able to give veterans a hug at Mid Vail was a very special reward for me. I cannot thank them enough for their service! I would also like to thank Vail Resorts and Cheryl Jensen for all they do for our vets. Appreciation for our vets and all they've given is very close to my heart.

Becoming a Red Jacket opens doors and forges friendships that last for a lifetime; you truly meet people from all walks of life. Today, I volunteer in the ER at the hospital which is an extension of my experience working on the mountain.

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MELINDA BROWN

I moved to Singletree in 2006 from Ann Arbor, MI and commuted back and forth to Denver for work until I retired in 2014; this is my fourth season as a Red Jacket. Prior to retiring, many of my friends were Red Jackets. Joining this group was a great way to meet new people and be part of the community. Now, my core circle of friends is comprised of people I've met through the program.

Over the past four years, I have had many rewarding experiences but most gratifying is typically helping a guest who is over their head get safely down a run. Of course, there are many entertaining moments as well, particularly when dealing with dealing with little kids. I was once asked by a 6-year-old boy if I was a "boy or girl". I asked why he asked. He said he didn't know whether to call me "sir" or "ma'am" when he thanked me for helping his little 4-year-old sister get up from a fall. My heart melted.

When asked what words I would offer to someone considering becoming a Red Jacket, I would say, "By all means, join the group. It's a great way to meet so many interesting and fun people! And, you'll learn the mountain better than you ever thought possible!"

GEORGE AND MAGGIE TEDESCO

George and Maggie Tedesco, Singletree residents since 2013, first joined the group, referred to in those days as "Community Guest Services" or CGS, upon their 2006 move to Vail from Washington, DC. For both, volunteering with the group



allowed them to meet new people, make long-lasting friendships and to become an integral part of the guest ski experience.

"I'll be honest," said Maggie, "that first season was a tough one for me. Even though we had been to Vail numerous times for vacations, now we were expected to know the names of all the runs, and where we were at any given time. Location is extremely important when a guest needs help from Ski Patrol."

George's most memorable day was the time he had the opportunity to escort members of the 10th Mountain Division during his shift. "These were guys who had served our country from World War II to the present; it was truly an honor for me." He also remembered the time he came across a family from Florida who were "never-ever" skiers. After helping them get down the mountain, they told George if he was ever in Florida, they would be happy to let him drive one of the new Corvettes from their dealership!

Maggie recalled a time when she was doing "meet and greet" in Vail Village, and was approached by an angry father from New Jersey. "He was unhappy because he needed to get his daughters over to Golden Peak for a lesson, and an enormous amount of snow had fallen overnight, preventing the busses from operating. Fortunately, the volunteers had been given 'checkbooks' from Vail Resorts that allowed us to right almost any wrong. I gave him a voucher for free lessons and his frown immediately turned upside down... he couldn't have been nicer after that, and I went about the rest of my day with a smile also."

A couple of years ago, the name of the group was changed from "CGS" to "National Ski Patrol Mountain Hosts" when the volunteers were moved under of the umbrella of the National Ski Patrol. Maggie fully "retired" from her Mountain Host duties last season, and while George is taking this season off to recover from a recent knee replacement, it is his intent to resume volunteering again next year. "I really enjoy introducing guests to Vail Mountain, and hope to continue to do so for many years," said George.



ANAND KASKEBAR

Although neither of my parents skied, they provided me with the opportunity to learn to ski at an early age. They took me to Lake Tahoe and put me on skis as a toddler in the late '60s and I am grateful to them both. It has been a lifelong dream to be in a position where I could ski on a daily basis and the invitation to become a part of the Vail Mountain NSP host program forced my hand and turned this dream into a reality. Working as a host is gratifying in many ways. It provides a unique perspective of the mountain and its operations. The most rewarding aspects of being a Red Coat are showing Vail Mountain to skiers from around the world and the ability to help skiers who are lost, struggling or injured. The host program has been an important part of our transition from North Carolina to the Vail area.

JOYCE KASKEBAR

I had not planned to be a Vail Mountain NSP Host, it all started when my husband went in for training. I waited for



him to complete his orientation and was introduced to Jeffery Wiles who recruited me on the spot. The next thing I knew I was being fitted for a uniform and learning the names of all the lifts and slopes. At first, it was a bit overwhelming, but with some time and wonderful mentors it became easier. As I reflect back on my first season, I would tell any future Red Jackets that this experience will enrich your life as you will meet so many people from all over the world.



MIKE REISINGER

Our family lived in Denver during the early-1980. We enjoyed all Denver had to offer including learning to ski. In 1986 we were transferred to Detroit and temporarily left skiing behind. In 1988 we purchased a condo in Lionshead and stated to spend more vacation time in Colorado. Jane and I decided we wanted to someday retire to the Colorado Mountains.

Fast forward to 2008, Jane and I had recently retired and planned to move from Detroit to Edwards. Singletree was the first place we wanted to live and we found out home after a few months of looking. We moved to Singletree April, 2008

While living in Detroit a friend, John Patchi, recommended I become a Red Jacket to make a contribution to the Beaver Creek Community, meet new people, improve my skiing and enjoy skiing with friends. In September 2008 I applied to become a Red Jacket in Beaver Creek and was accepted – before they saw my skiing skills. I was a little surprised but happy to become part of the group.

Since the first season, I have enjoyed meeting many people in the Red Jacket group and also meeting skiers from tours that I lead with my Red Jacket partner, Jim Green. In fact, we have people that return to Beaver Creek to tour with us on a regular basis.

Before I retired I did not have time to do any volunteer work. Becoming a Red Jacket was the first time I could give back to my community. I enjoy assisting people that come to Beaver Creek to ski and experience the village activities.

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STEVE HOLDEN

I started coming to Vail in 1965 with my parents and have now lived in Singletree for 12 vears. I have volunteered as a Red Jacket for the past 6 years. I initially thought becoming a Red Jacket would encourage me to get on the mountain on days I might not otherwise ski. Little did I know what a

positive impact the experience would ultimately have on me. As a Red Jacket, I have grown to be more outgoing and more apt to say "Hey! How are you?" on the chairlift; and I now find myself skiing with a different outlook, seeking opportunities where I can be of assistance to those who find themselves in challenging situations on the mountain.

Often we are reuniting a lost child with their parents or helping to locate members of families that have been separated on the hill. I have been there when a father was injured on Dragon's Teeth and taken off the hill by toboggan, leaving three kids to be herded to the bottom and ultimately to the hospital. These situations have proved to be very rewarding as these skiers truly need and appreciate assistance.

As Red Jackets, we are assigned to a different posting each day we report. One of my favorites is the Cookie Cabin program. When we see a family having a rough spot in the day, be it they are cold, hungry, or struggling with equipment, we lead them to cut the lift line, show them a new part of the mountain, hand out cookies and turn the day around to be a tremendous experience!

I now volunteer as a Mountain Host in the summer as well, donning an orange shirt in lieu of a red jacket. An added bonus to helping hikers and bikers is the opportunity to get out and explore the mountains during the summer, which offers a very different perspective on the terrain. Be it winter or summer, my experience has been tremendously gratifying and I encourage anyone with an interest in joining the team to do so!



JIM AND BJ KNEZ

BJ and I have been part-time residents in the Vail Valley since 2002 and full time for the past two years. I have been a Mountain Host for 11 years and BJ for 3 years. During our first winter in the Vail Valley, I rode up a chairlift with a red coat and by the time we finished our ride up the mountain, I knew I wanted to be part of the Mountain Host program.

The most rewarding aspect of being a Mountain Host is helping our guests when there is a problem, whether it is on the snow or in the village. The most enjoyable duty is passing out chocolate chip cookies at the end of the ski day. Everyone smiles when they receive their renowned Beaver Creek chocolate chip cookie. I also love leading the $2\,1/2$ hour mountain tour for our skiing guests. It helps them find their way from one ski area to another and also understand the history of the valley.

We commit to one day a week during the ski season for a total of 20 days; we usually volunteer with the same group of people on the same day all season. When we were new to the Valley, this was a wonderful way to make new friends and become part of the community. I think if a person has the time, loves to ski, and likes interacting with fellow skiers, the Mountain Host program is worth looking into.



INGRID DAMPIER

My husband Craig and I moved here full time 4 years ago. We volunteered for the 2015 World Cup Championships and met several folks who volunteered as Red Jackets. I learned a lot about the program from them and since I love meeting people AND skiing –this was perfect for me. So, the following fall I signed on with Jeff at Vail. This will be my 3rd winter as a Red Jacket.

My main job on the mountain is to make sure folks are having an

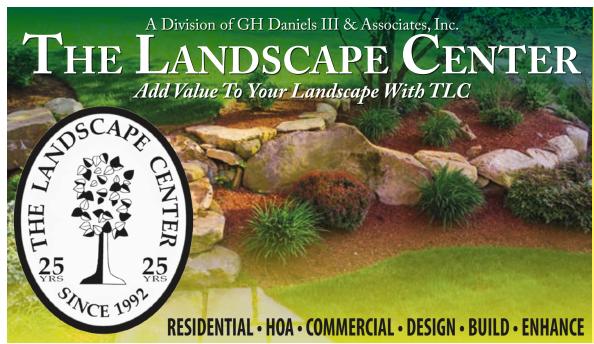
EPIC day. I field fun questions (what are the best runs, how to get to Blue Sky Basin, etc) to more serious questions – like someone's husband has just been hurt and the ski patrol is taking him off the mountain – where can his family meet him, or a Mom has lost contact with her son and can I help?

Sometimes I need to help get the happy back into someone's day. I was at the top of Chair 4 answering questions when I heard some yelling. There had been a collision of some folks coming off the chairlift and unfortunately, one of the people involved was yelling at the couple on the ground. I hurried over to see if everyone was OK and helped the couple get up. I asked where they were from – Germany. So, I started speaking to them in German which allowed them to relax and not worry about trans-

lating in their brain – and we chatted till the wife calmed down a bit. She thanked me and said I was very nice unlike the guy who was yelling at her. I assured her the mountain was full of fun and friendly people – the guy that felt he had to yell at them probably was having other things going on. So, after a short discussion on what the next fun run would be, I sent them off calm and relaxed, ready to have an EPIC day!

I am also a relationship counselor. At the end of the day, I skied up to a young couple close to the bottom of Born Free. The guy was on his snowboard, on his knees, and his girlfriend was on skis, knock-kneed and shaking. Turns out the boyfriend thought renting skis and putting them on his girlfriend who had never skied before would make for a great day. Not so much. I showed her a few things, like how to turn and stop and then helped her down the rest of the mountain. She was exhausted, having been snowplowing down Born Free for a very long time before I got there. It was clear she was upset with her boyfriend and he was perplexed and asked me what to do. After determining where they were staying, I suggested booking her a spa appointment and maybe room service. She really liked that idea and he saw her light up and so, relationship mended and the day would end as an EPIC day.

If you like skiing, meeting people and helping them, and want to share the wonderful mountain that we have – then this is the job for you. It's not always easy – like when there is a blizzard and you are at the top directing folks how best to get down – and you are solidly frozen. But it's all good.



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with the Second Annual AND COMPETITION

While snow was lacking on the mountain in early December, Singletree residents took to their kitchens to bake holiday treats to swap for neighbor's cookies. The array that lined the exchange tables included everything from traditional gingerbread men and sugar cookies to artistic creations including melting snowmen and leg lamp cookies.

In the Cookie Competition, entries were judged on the basis of appearance/decoration, taste and texture, and an overall score. The winners in the Kid category were Maggie Mae Rothenberg (Melting Snowmen), Keena Shikverg (Snickerdoodles with Chocolate Mint), and Savina May (Leg Lamp Cookies). Adult winners were Sarah Janssen (Apple Spice Cookies), Jan and Maurice John (Chocolate Peanut Love) and Allie Decent (Christmas Spruce Sugar Cookies).

Many thanks to our panel of distinguished judges, including Laurel Hendrickson, Greta Grems, Terri and Marty Dvorkin and Maggie Mae Rothenberg. We would also like to thank Mark Sassi for MC'ing the Second Annual Singletree Cookie Exchange and Competition. See you all next year as the Singletree tradition continues!















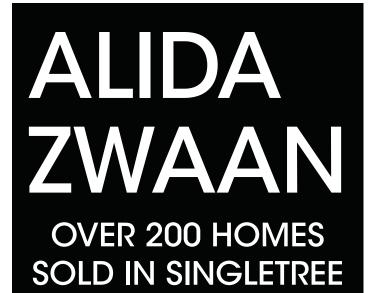


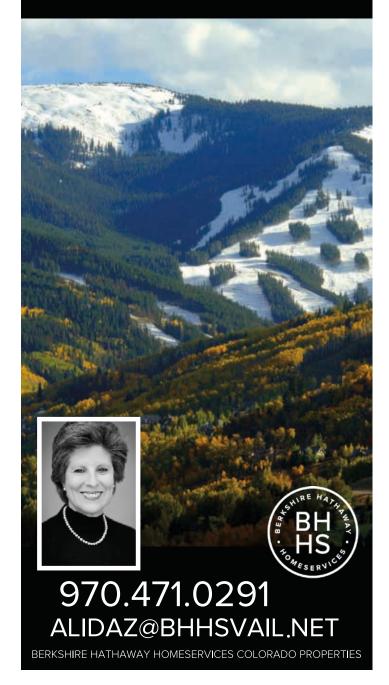






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Nate Free and Lisa Siegert-Free started their love story 27 years ago, in Avon. And, ironically they were put together by Nate's then-girlfriend...

It was just a week after Labor Day weekend of 1990, and restaurants and businesses were closing for the "off-season". For back then, very few hotels and businesses stayed open, so many locals used that time to play, rejuvenate, and wait for the slopes to open and bring in the next round of tourists.

Nate's girlfriend, a successful nurse, and a very type "A" person from Greenwich, CT, insisted that because the Alpenrose (Nate's summer job) had just closed, and Ski School (Nate's winter occupation) didn't start until December, he needed to be responsible, in the meantime and get another job. (I'm not sure if she (my girlfriend) was concerned with dating a ski bum, or perhaps just jealous that I was playing while she was still working hard)

Either way, thinking that no business would hire him for just a couple months, Nate decided to enjoy his time off and went hiking the next day. "That night, upon returning, I was told that I had an interview at the Christie Lodge the next day, for a Front Desk position."

After a few interviews at various levels, Nate's was eventually introduced to Ms. Siegert the "then" CFO, and hired. "I definitely remember meeting her that first day... her smile and bubbly personality caught my attention right away. But, being that she was a senior officer, I really didn't give her much thought." Although Nate did start back with ski school 3 months later, he was asked by his immediate Manager to continue on at the Christie as a Night Supervisor. "And it's a good thing I continued on, - as Lisa and I didn't start dating until June of the

Contributed by Nate Free and Lisa Seigert-Free, Sinaletree Residents

love in singletree



following year; (about 4 months after my breakup with the girl who originally sent me to the Christie - thus introducing me to my wife!)"

Lisa and Nate's relationship started slowly, spending time mostly with a group of other employees and friends. "Not surprisingly, skiing, biking, and backpacking were our common interests. In fact, our first kiss was after a bike ride up Tigawon Road - to the

forest cabin. And our first "real date" was a backpacking trip to climb Snowmass Peak, from the non-traditional west side."

Over the years we've had some really fantastic times. Whether it be on our tandem bike trips to: France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland ... or hikes up our state's Fourteeners, Lisa's pretty much always been there!

Nate Free & Lisa Siegert-Free have been together for 27 years and were engaged on Valentine's Day, 1993, at the top of the Keystone Gondola at the Alpenglow Stube. From there, a wedding in Ford Park, outside the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens took place on June 25, 1994. The rest is history!

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kids' corner

Contributed by Maxwell Thelen, Singletree Resident and Written by Allie Decent, Singletree Resident Article Sponsored by Kalamaya | Goscha

Welcome Readers! This month we interviewed Maxwell Thelen. He is 5 but wants everyone to know he is almost 6. "Well, I'm actually just still only 1, 'cause I was born on February 29 and it happened again only last year since I was born."

What is your favorite animal? A cheetah because they are fast.

What is your favorite thing to do? My favorite thing is playing outside, most in the winter because of snow. And I like to play at parks; I like to play with my brother Jackson the most. We like to play tag.

What is your favorite toy? Uh, my favorite toy is a Stuffy. It's my huge dog. My brother got this toy at Dave & Busters and there was a huge claw machine and he picked up two at a time and he got a huge boxing glove and I got a huge puppy because he gave it to me.

If you could change one thing in the world what would you change? It would be a toy that makes more toys.

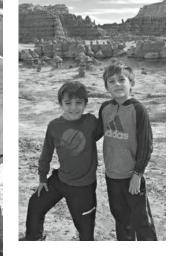
What's your favorite sport? Soccer is my favorite, but I practice Martial Arts. I have Master Bailey.

What do you think you are going to get for Christmas? I didn't send my list to Santa yet, but I'm going to put it where the cookies are and he's going to give it to me from the North Pole.

What do you love about living here? That you can ski! And sled of course.

Be sure to wish Maxwell a Happy Birthday on February 28, since he won't have an official birthday day until February 29, 2020!

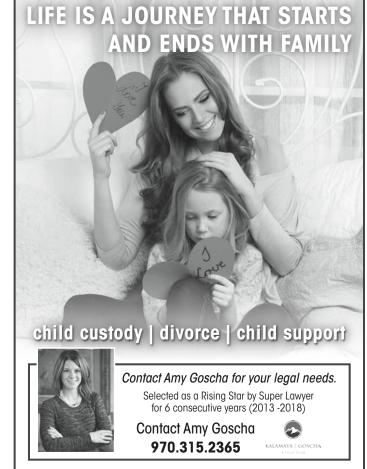


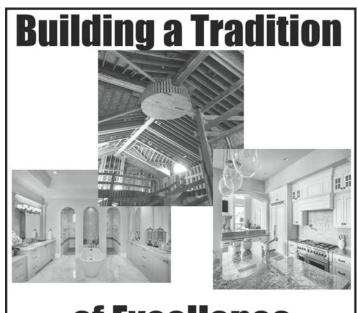






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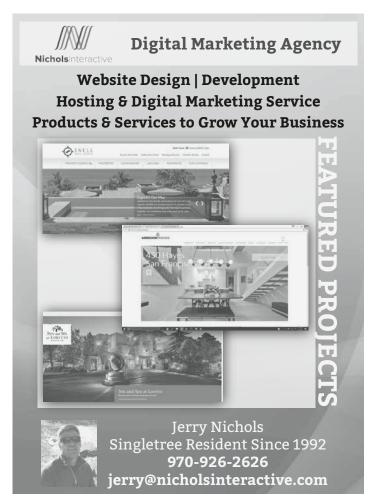


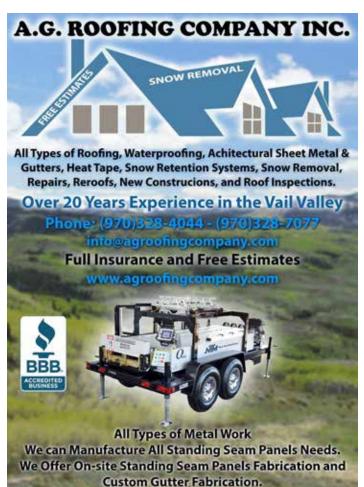


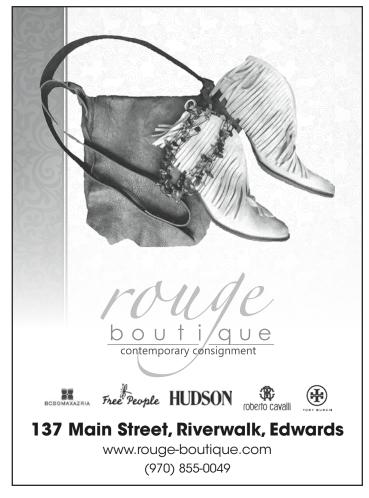
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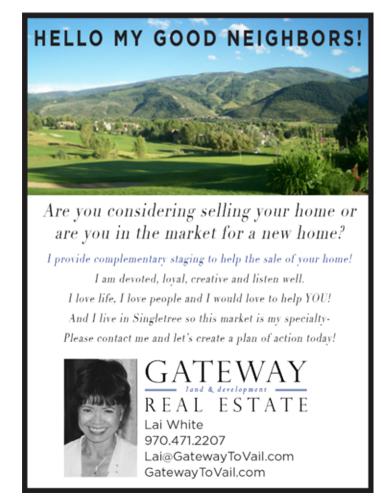
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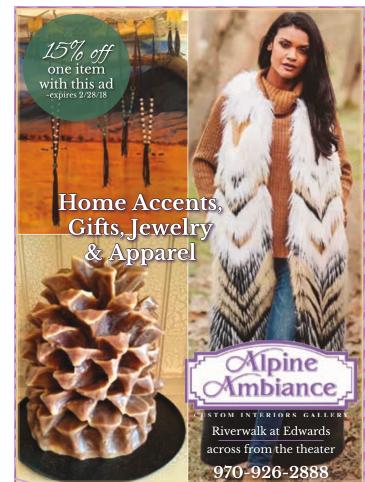
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A Momentary Escape TO SWITZERLAND

When you step into the Swiss Chalet in Vail, you momentarily leave behind the realities of your world for the cozy ambiance of the Swiss Alps, a welcome respite from a chilly December evening in Vail. Not only does the atmosphere of the restaurant itself provide a great escape, but the service, the food and the experience are all otherworldly in many respects.

Our Singletree guests were greeted warmly by Audrey DiSciascio, the Manager of the Swiss Chalet, and seated at our long community table at the front of the restaurant. Our team of servers, Zach and Marc, quickly and efficiently filled our drink orders, a sign of outstanding service to come. The first course of the Tasting Menu was a Tomato Bruschetta, featuring chopped fresh tomatoes mixed with olive oil, onions, basil and aged balsamic vinegar on a toasted slice of baguette. Light and crispy, the bruschetta was the perfect bite to whet our appetites.

The next course was Cheese Fondue; as many know, the Swiss Chalet is renowned for its blend of three Swiss cheeses infused with kirschwasser and served with baskets of bite-size pieces of baguette for dipping. Or in some cases, allowing the bread bites to swim in the fondue until sufficiently soaked before spearing. Linda Wilson noted that the combination of ingredients included "just the right amount of kirsch". Pat Montgomery commented that not only was the fondue "outstanding", but it was the "best fondue she has had even including her long stays in Switzerland".





















Zuricher Geshnetzeltes and Chicken Cordon Bleu

Whether this is your first visit or you are a returning guest, the cheese fondue is always a standout and tonight was no exception. Overwhelming, our Singletree reviewers found not only the fondue to be excellent, with wonderful flavor and texture, but the fun of the fondue experience is almost as appealing as the dish itself.

Our tasting tour continued with two Chef's Selections: Zuricher Geshnetzeltes, featuring slices of veal sautéed with a button mushroom and Chardonnay cream sauce, and Chicken Cordon Bleu, a chicken breast stuffed with prosciutto and raclette and served with house-made spätzle, mushroom sauce and vegetables. Robert Wilhelm enjoyed the sauces on each entrée with a slight leaning for the chicken. Mio Cirkovic gave both entrée selections rave reviews as well and recognized the chicken as his favorite dish of the evening.

Wally Carey pointed out the beautiful preparation of each dish and particularly enjoyed the veal, also noted by Valerie Harris, who "loved the whole dish." Linda Gilles found each of these entrée selections to be "prepared to perfection" and having not been to the Swiss Chalet for years, she and John are looking forward to a return visit soon. Not to be overlooked, Patrick Dawson pointed out that the spätzle was "awesome" and an anonymous reviewer claimed the side dish to be "delightful".

Karen Wilhelm was pleased to see one of her favorite desserts, the Linzer Torte, served as a finale to the evening; not surprisingly, she found the Swiss Chalet version to be delicious! Marty Dvorkin noted the "nice and tangy" flavor of the torte, which is a hazelnut tart with raspberry preserves. Judy Edeen enjoyed her dessert with a side of a chocolate dipped strawberry to celebrate her birthday and cheerfully described the evening as "so pleasurable to be with other Singletree-ites!"

The evening was indeed a 5-star experience when it comes to Food, Service and Atmosphere. Just as importantly, the social aspect of the evening was tremendously enjoyed by all. Meeting new people is always a highlight of our neighborhood events, and on this particular occasion, David and Linda Wilson discovered a close Connecticut connection with new Singletree residents, Marty and Terri Dvorkin! Be it seeing old friends or meeting new folks, these events are a wonderful opportunity to build community in Singletree.

We would like to offer a huge thank you to Audrey, Zach, Marc and the Swiss Chalet team for a memorable evening... our Singletree residents look forward to seeing you all again soon!

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SCHOOL culture

Every school has its unique culture and Stone Creek Charter School (SCCS) is no exception. A school's culture is the fabric that binds together the students, faculty, administration and parents. The key ingredient to our success is building relationships with each other. See some examples of why we believe the SCCS culture is EXCEPTIONAL:

"Stone Creek is truly a school like no other; a place where students, teachers, and faculty thrive due to the unique nature of the school. Each campus is made up of faculty who pull together to create an atmosphere of collaboration, and that feel of working together is exhibited daily in individual classrooms. The locations, diversity, and different needs of the school allow for each campus to be empowered to create its own ambiance. However, each campus is continually imbued with meaningful opportunities to develop friendships during joint school functions." Kim Davies, third grade teacher

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tonomy necessary to enhance learning at the individual level. Our school's culture is one that inspires independence and self-discovery!" Bethany Classick, upper school social studies teacher

"Our school's culture is unique in that families, students and students who care. I would say our overall effort is to promote a

"It's a good feeling when you arrive at school to a parent welcoming you, teachers smiling and children laughing. It is apparent every day that meeting my child's needs is a priority shared by faculty and staff, and that they genuinely care about his academic success and personal well-being." Claire Richardson, new Singletree resident and mom to a third grader, William

"The SCCS culture provides us the ability to take education beyond the traditional classroom. Small class sizes, strong academics, outstanding teachers and the engagement of families fosters a true reciprocal learning environment that allows students to develop their minds, excite their spirits, and change the world. Come check us out." Jason Mills, Executive Principal

But part of what makes the school's culture unique and special is the family atmosphere. In the next issue, we'll highlight our SCCS family.

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"The culture at Stone Creek is different than other schools in that we cater to individual student needs. Often at larger, district driven schools, the content and curriculum is created and implemented at the "mass level." Stone Creek allows students and teachers the au-

teachers choose to be here. We power through any hardships we may have, and honor and embrace the assets of our small classroom sizes, passionate teachers, families that are involved, and lifetime of learning not only how to be a good student but how to be a good person." Meghan Cahill, kindergarten teacher

Now enrolling for the 2018-2019 academic school year.

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

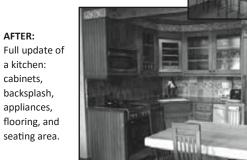
and grow in and out of the classroom through fieldwork, service and adventure. For information: www. stonecreeekschool.org.



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RE-DESIGN AND RENOVATION

161 Foal Circle is a true gem of a home, recently renovated by Karen Mayo and Rob Leonard up at the top of Singletree. Built by Lynn and Peter Mackechnie 12 year ago, this 4 bed 6 bath home was a dream for renovators! "The house had fabulous bones," says Karen. "Not to downplay how much work I put into the design, but I luckily didn't have to change or add entire rooms, I just had to strip and refinish and replace."

Karen moved here 4 years ago and rented for a season, but her true dream was to buy a move-in ready home. She knew she didn't want to live in Cordillera or Bachelor Gulch, because they don't really have that neighborhood feel. After touring Singletree with their agent Andie Ohde, Karen knew that she wanted a home here. However, "I could not stand the adobe style houses, and said I would never live in one" she quips, laughing at the obvious outcome.







After searching the market with her boyfriend Rob and realizing that they would need to buy and renovate to complete her interior design dreams, they started searching through the "forbidden" adobe style houses up on Foal Circle. "We went to one open house that Leslie Grooters was hosting, and I walked in and instantly loved that it backed up to BLM and the views were incredible," recalls Karen. They figured the house would never work since it was adobe style, but they knew the home had the potential. "Leslie invited us back up again later that night to watch the sunset and have wine," says Rob, "and we were goners."







They lived in the home for one year before they decided to make renovations. Karen knew that she wanted a fabulous kitchen with gray details and texture to warm up the space throughout. She worked with Nicole Bradford with Elegant Cabinetry to choose her wire-brushed English wood cabinets, Aaron with Weld Wright Fabrication for the metal work, and Laureen Hopkins helped her with the interior re-design of the space to remove the island and add a bar.

"I wanted something that was designed most for entertainment, but still allowed me to be a hands-on chef," she recalls. She is most proud of the re-worked ultra-custom rounded cabinets in what used to be the breakfast area. "This was a real challenge, putting in cabinets that were useful but also accommodated the round breakfast nook," she says as she runs her hand over the white quartz countertop.

The custom metal riveting on the corner of the island and above the Wolf gas range complete the mountain-lady industrial lodge look she has created, and are details that she carried into the living room to unify the space. The earthy gray tone runs throughout the home in the details. The hand-stacked fireplace in the living room simultaneously complements the brown of the dark wood stained oak floors, while marrying the luxurious royal purple accents scattered throughout the home. Simply put, this home exudes comfort through Karen's delicate use of textures and tones, and every surface invites you to sit and stay a while.



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Real Estate UPDATE—

Featured properties may not be listed by the company/broker presenting this brochure. Source MLS | Supplied by Slifer Smith & Frampton Real Estate

RECENT SINGLETREE ACTIVITY

| Status | Address | List Price | Sold Price | Sold Date | \$/sq.ft, | Sold \$/sq.ft. | Beds | Baths | sq.ft. | Furnished |
|---------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Active | 670 Winslow Rd (SF) | \$1,775,000 | N/A | N/A | \$328.04 | N/A | 5 | 7 (5 0 2) | 5411 | Partial |
| *Active | 347 Longhorn Road (SF) | \$1,279,000 | N/A | N/A | \$285.87 | N/A | 5 | 5 (4 1 1) | 4474 | No |
| Active | 121 Morgan Dr (SF) | \$1,000,000 | N/A | N/A | \$315.86 | N/A | 6 | 5 (3 1 1) | 3166 | No |
| Active | 250 Hackamore Rd (DU) | \$749,900 | N/A | N/A | \$374.39 | N/A | 3 | 3 (2 0 1) | 2003 | No |
| *Sold | 123 Hereford Rd (SF) | \$1,175,000 | \$1,100,000 | 12/19/17 | \$373.25 | \$349.42 | 3 | 4 (3 0 1) | 3148 | No |
| *Sold | 59 Mission PI (SF) | \$1,095,000 | \$950,000 | 11/17/17 | \$304.42 | \$264.11 | 4 | 4 (3 0 1) | 3597 | No |
| *Sold | 40 Stagecoach Rd #B (DU) | \$1,049,000 | \$975,000 | 11/29/17 | \$383.55 | \$356.49 | 4 | 4 (3 0 1) | 2735 | No |
| *Sold | 740 June Creek Rd #N (DU) | \$775,000 | \$765,000 | 12/5/17 | \$302.50 | \$298.59 | 3 | 4 (3 0 1) | 2562 | No |
| *Sold | 299 W Hackamore Rd #A (DU) | \$719,000 | \$699,900 | 12/14/17 | \$307.66 | \$299.48 | 4 | 4 (3 0 1) | 2337 | No |
| *Sold | 21 Hackamore Rd #W (DU) | \$699,000 | \$685,000 | 12/15/17 | \$311.78 | \$305.53 | 3 | 3 (2 0 1) | 2242 | No |
| UC | 6 Morgan Dr (SF) | \$1,270,000 | N/A | N/A | \$267.48 | N/A | 5 | 5 (4 0 1) | 4748 | No |

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love in singletree

Contributed by Elizabeth Dekanich, Singletree Resident

Love Struck at Spa Struck

Where did you meet?

The Spa Struck in the basement of the Lionshead Marriot, Vail

When did you get married and where did you honeymoon?

June 23, 2001 at the Beaver Creek Chapel with a reception at Zino; we spent our honeymoon at an all-inclusive Sandals resort on St. Lucia

Life today... kids and pets?

3 kids: Kate, Thomas and Joseph, and Jazzy the dog

What are your favorite shared activities?

Travel, hiking and camping

What makes it work after 16 years?

Honesty, regular communication through date nights and evening walks through the neighborhood, and staying present with each other despite the many other attention taking "things" life puts in front of us.





athlete spotlight

Contributed by **Windham Miller**, Singletree Resident, and Written by **Allie Decent**, Singletree Resident Article Sponsored by **Coleman Custom Homes**





Windham Miller: ON AND OFF THE SNOWBOARD

This month, we are privileged to get to know our own local professional athlete Windham Miller, who just turned 21 and has competed all over the world in snowboarding and is currently focusing on snowboarding film work. He was born at the Vail hospital and was raised in the Valley. When he is not on a snowboard or working on a film project, he currently works in construction.

Windham has been featured in snowboarding magazines and snowboarding films, check him out on snowboarder.com. He is sponsored by DC Snowboarding, Neff Headwear, and Union Bindings. "I really love living here but I think that the main reason I can still live here (in the small valley) is because I get to travel so much, and then traveling makes you appreciate home more than anything," says Windham as we start our conversation.

How long have you been snowboarding and how did you first start? I got my first snowboard when I was 5 for my birthday, and my Dad brought me to the hill and just let me go! That was Meadow Mountain.

When did you decide you wanted to compete? When I was in the 6th grade, I was playing hockey competitively and I decided that I wanted to quit hockey and be a snowboarder full time.

What is it about snowboarding that inspires you? I chose it for freedom. I love being able to do whatever I want to do and go at my own pace. All I had to rely on was myself, not a team, not a coach telling me what to do. I got to learn my tricks are my own and not be pushed.

What competitive event is your strongest? Usually it would be slope-style or big mountain, but lately, I've been going to slope-style boarder-cross competition but it's like a race. The better tricks you do the more times you get taken off your race score. I've been doing a lot more of that lately. That's called the hit-n-run. I go to Whistler and Mammoth, and one in Europe usually. Last year it was in Switzerland, Saasfee. I got 7th in the slope-style border cross.







What is the most challenging aspect of snowboarding for you? For me, it's keeping up with all the up and coming snowboarders that have just been killing it and pushing the tricks way farther than I ever thought they would go. It's hard to keep your tricks up to date with what's going on. Most of these people are coming from random places, all over kind of. All over the world really. Kids coming from North Carolina and places that don't have snow or mountains even! All they really want to do is snowboard so they pack all of it into a small time period and then they get even better once they move to a place where there is mountains and snow.

Who do you idolize in the sport? I really idolize Travis Rice and Taurus. They push the sport in different ways, they do things that are more creative, not just doing as many flips as possible. Doing things that look good and have a lot of style. Sometimes it gets to a point where it's not really snowboarding, it's gymnastics, and that's not snowboarding for me. I think getting grabs and making it artistic is personal.

What kind of time commitment does your snowboarding require? I usually snowboard as much as possible, at least four times a week, most of the time it's five times a week depending on how much I have to work. I spend a lot of time in the gym afterward working out to make my body stronger so that when I get on snow it's not as strenuous on my body. That way I can do bigger tricks and be in better shape. Prepping for snow and not even being on the snow is what takes so much time. Going to Woodward and practicing is what really sets me apart.

What competitive snowboarding events have you participated in? 2018 I'm Rev Tours, Hit-N-Run's ISSA, Big Mountain COMPS, Free-Ride, World Qualifiers. It takes a lot to get to these places, especially since I wasn't able to rent a car at most of the places I went. I had to drive most of the places I want to go. Like drive to Canada and do cross-country road trips by myself. It takes a toll for sure, but it's worth it when you get to these places and you get to snowboard. I try to chase the snow, it's hard to know where it's going to be but when I see places that are just going to be pounded with snow I try to pack up the car and get to places with the best snow.

What are your best results? I got 1st place at the Breckenridge Big Mountain Challenge, and Top 10 in USAA Nationals, and I got Top 5 at Waterville Rev Tour. What have you learned from snowboarding? Just self-determination and a lot of work ethic and applying myself to trying new things and pushing myself to be a better person on and off the snow.

What is your favorite moment in snowboarding? My favorite moment is landing in the deepest snow possible. And just jumping off the biggest thing I can and as soon as you hit the snow and sink in it's the best feeling ever.

What are you focusing on now? I'm trying to get away from competitions really and focus more on the filming aspect of snowboarding. Going into the backcountry and filming more powder and urban rail lines instead of going into the resorts. I'd rather be in the mountains. Last year we filmed for a short

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movie called "10 Days Off", the production crew is called VUZA Media. They are the ones who film me and are putting me in their movies. I'm a long-time friend with one of the filmers, and he contacted me and asked if I wanted to be part of their project and I said "yeah".

Can you offer a piece of advice for someone looking to get into snowboarding? It takes a lot of work and it takes a lot of falls. You are going to fall a lot, but it's all part of the game and often it's the person who has the most determination to get back up after eating the most snow.

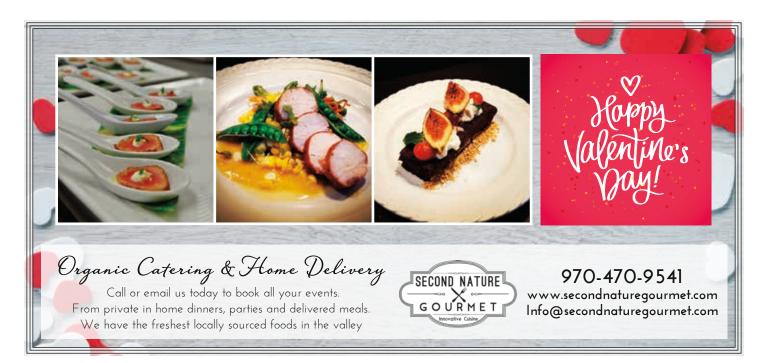
Is there anything else you would like to share with your friends and neighbors about your snowboarding experience? I have a few different crews that I ride with, I have a film crew that follows me and films me, and I ride around with them sometimes. When I'm training I have a different group of friends. I do have a core group of friends that I ride with and have fun.

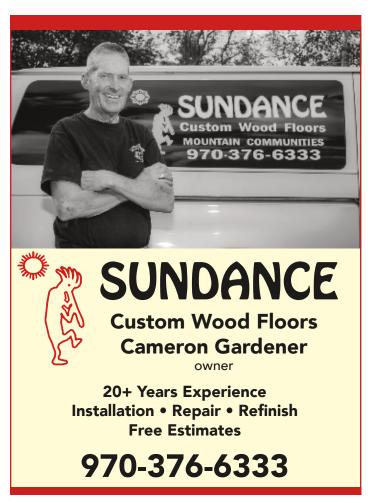
Snowboarding really is about having fun with my friends. When I go on trips with my snowboard teams, that's another crew that I go with. They are all my best friends and I love riding with different people all the time.

Windham's Pro Accomplishments: Highlights: Superpark 21, 7th DC hit and run Whistler, 2017 Snowboarder Mag's The Launch, Top 15 finish Waterville rev tour, Invite to Superpark 20, Invite to The Launch 2015-2016, Top 10 finish USASA Nationals 2015, Top 10 finish Winter Park Rev Tour 2016, 2nd place - Go-Pro Big Mountain Challenge 2015, Top 20 finish Spring Mountain Dew Open, Breckenridge CO 2016, 4th place - IFSA Taos, NM 2015, 1st place - IFSA Sunlight, CO 2014 and 1st place - IFSA Sunlight, CO 2013. Learn more at www.monsterarmy.com



Singletree athletes are doing amazing things! Email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to share your athletic accomplishments or nominate your neighbor to be featured in the next available issue.











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Singles' Holiday Soiree

Many singles in Singletree gathered at the home of Kris Woodruff to kick off the holiday season, see old friends and meet new singles from the neighborhood and beyond. Enjoying sparkling beverages and delectable hors d'oeuvres, the crowd was indeed celebrating the festive occasion. Thank you, Kris, for hostessing a merry soiree!





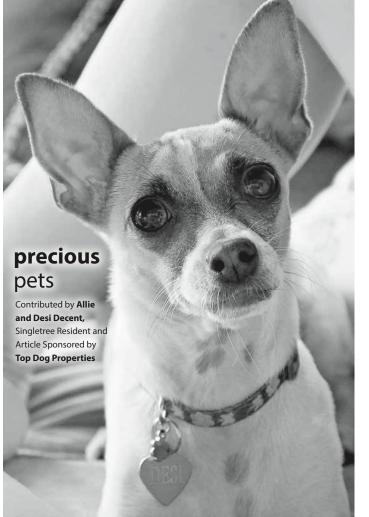








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Chihuahua Chihuahua



Hello fellow neighborhood dogs! First of all, I would like to say IF I SEE YOU OUT MY FRONT WINDOW I WILL TOTALLY FREAK OUT AND BOUNCE VIOLENTLY ON THE BACK OF THE SOFA UNTIL YOU PASS MY SIGHT-LINE. But really, we're cool. My humans leave me very expensive chenille blankets to rest on upon the back of each and every chair and sectional. They sometimes chuckle when they pass me if I raise my head to deign

their existence, calling me "cat-dog." I usually growl in response.

I also enjoy burrowing underneath my tiny human's blankets and sometimes hide there until she comes home from school and we play hide-and-seek. My life has gotten better since she grew up as I am no longer living in constant fear of being dropped from great heights or stepped on or fallen upon. Goodness, those three years were so very stressful! Now the tiny human and I are best of friends. She walks me and gives me pets and loves and lots of extra yummy food during the eating time that I am not allowed to attend, and must sit on the floor in a very undignified way (which vexes me greatly).

Everything is pretty great at my home. Almost every surface is created for my pleasure. I have a plush bed in every room just for me, but I choose to lie upon the human seats instead in case I can catch one in passing and then I get a warm lap. I also enjoy taking myself on walks, which gets me into endless trouble. My humans yell that I am too small to be seen on the roads and also something about coyotes, but I just happily trot away from them just out of their reach until I get tired. This summer they put a leash out back, so I can't get out to the road during our lazy summer afternoons on the porch together.

You won't see me this winter, since I refuse to wear those boots they always try to put on me, or the puffy pink jacket, and will instead go out to the proscribed and created green space that must be shoveled every day to maintain its summer-like feel for my little paws. I am also carried down to my summer space so I don't have to touch the snow. Please just throw my little miniature green squeaky balls in the living room over and over again so I can get exercise. The tiny human loves to play that game with me all winter long. This year, we had such great excitement when I knocked over a special ornament made of something called "glass" that had a great sound when it smashed on the ground while I chased my ball. Such fun! Much screaming! Happy dancing in glass!



Do you have a pet and would like to share his or her story? Please email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to feature your precious pet in the next available issue. Dogs, cats, horses, fish and any other breed of pet are welcome!





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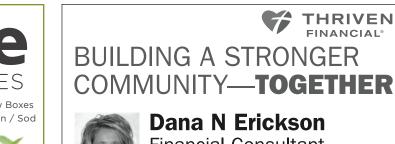




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Spend Precious Moments with those you Love and Ski your heart out! February is a great time to start thinking about Selling in Spring! Where are your loved ones spending their days? It's still not too late to sell and enjoy for warmer climates. Turn over a new chapter of your life, and offer your home with it's heart and soul to Buyers. Give us a call today or check out our weekly market updates on Facebook www.topdogproperties.net

GREG PETERSON & ALLIE DECENT

The snow is finally here!

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The holiday season kicked off for Singletree kids by sewing holiday stockings for donation to families and children who find themselves challenged by life circumstances. Hosted by Marie Torry, founder of Patterns of Joy Sewing: Life Skills Enrichment, Harvest at the Sonnenalp Club and INSIDE Singletree, the afternoon provided an opportunity for kids to express their creativity and generosity by sewing stockings and stuffing them with holiday treats and goodies.

The stockings were then delivered to the Holiday Cabin at the Vail Valley Salvation Army, where gifts are graciously provided my community organizations for families that require assistance with Christmas gifts for their children. Santa stopped by to join the holiday fun, find out who was naughty and who was nice, and supervise some of the sewing activities.











INSIDE Singletree and Patterns of Joy Sewing would like to express their sincere appreciation to Harvest at the Sonnenalp Club for hosting this year's sewing event and to Terry Copeland, Laura Mansfield, Andrea Velasco, Cass Gassman, Carey Salvin, Shari Maurer, and Gail and Carrie Flesher, for their assistance in supervising the operation of the sewing machines. Additionally, we would like to say a HUGE thank you to our gracious sponsors of the 2017 Holiday Christmas Stocking project: Alpine Lumber, Eagle Diner, Emma Jane Uribe, KRM Consulants, Inc., Ed and Joann Levy and Thompson Welding – Trinity Recycling.

The Mission of Patterns of Joy Life Skills Enrichment as a non-profit organization is to promote 'Kids Serving Kids'; learning sewing allows participants to develop social skills of leadership, compassion and self-esteem. For more information, contact Marie Torry at Patternsofjoysewing@gmail.com.



DO YOU HAVE...?

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Do you know what's happening in Singletree?

Have an impact on what happens in your community!

Coffee and donuts are served!

The Singletree Property Owners' Association (SPOA) has its Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at 9:00 AM.



The meeting is held at the Singletree Community Center. At the meeting you will hear about what has been accomplished in the past year, as well as learn about upcoming projects in Singletree, including planned improvements at Chip Ramsey Park.



You can also participate at the monthly board meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at 3 PM. The meeting schedule is online at www.singletreetoday.com. SPOA is responsible for covenant compliance, the design review process and homeowner social events.



There is one seat up for election on the SPOA Board. If you are interested in serving as a board member please submit a one page letter of interest and qualifications that will be shared with the community. You must be a Singletree property owner. Your letter of interest and qualifications is due no later than February 28, 2018. They can be submitted to manager@singletreetoday.com. A board member's term is three years and they are elected on a rolling basis at the Annual Meeting.

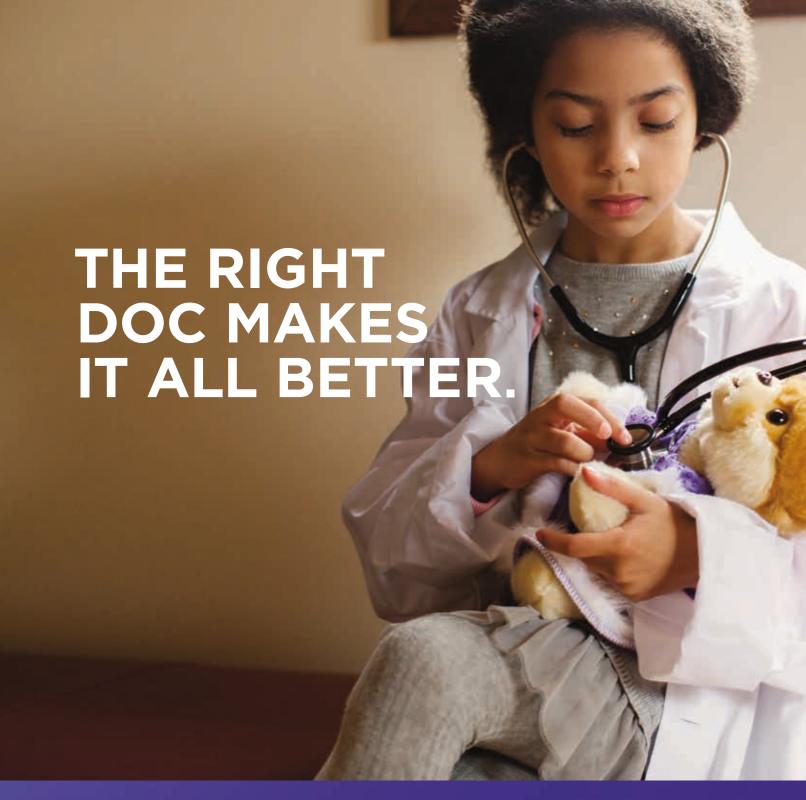


To see Singletree's design review process in action, the Design Review Committee (DRC) meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 8:30 AM. Submittals for review are due the Thursday prior to the meeting.

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 or (970) 926-2611
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