

INSIDE *Singletree*

JUNE 2018

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Hello *Singletree* Residents!

publisher's note

Happy Anniversary *INSIDE Singletree!* It is nearly impossible for me to believe that the first issue of your neighborhood publication was published in June 2016. Since then, I have had the pleasure of getting to know so many residents and to share their stories with the community. After two years, I feel like we are just getting started and I look forward to meeting many more of you in the months and years to come!

In this issue, we meet Ignacio, Rebecca, Liam and Lily Pellican – what an amazing bundle of family fun and energy! And speaking of energy, you will love getting to know Emma Judge and Quinn Hilgartner as they share their experience and perspective on girls' lacrosse. Bobbie Ruh leads us on an in-depth tour of India, dispelling many preconceived notions about this fascinating country and offering insight for anyone considering the adventure.

Marty Jones introduces us to his pair of doodle companions, Ellie and Maggie, as well as offers us a special peek into his stunning Victorian home on Miller Circle. We recap the Spring Social at Harvest at the Sonnenalp Club and Christina Lautenberg invites you to two not-to-be-missed events in support of the conservation efforts of the Eagle Valley Land Trust. I hope you enjoy these stories and more this month!

Thank you all for making the second anniversary of ***INSIDE Singletree*** a reality ... here's to the next year and beyond!



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At the Eagle River Dentistry office, you will experience all that modern dentistry has to offer, including a comprehensive list of general, restor-

ative and cosmetic dental services to meet the needs of the whole family. More specifically, Dr. Raichart's practice offers cleanings & exams, dental implants, porcelain veneers, root canal treatment, dentures & partials teeth whitening, tooth colored fillings, porcelain crowns and dental emergencies.

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Raichart, who has lived in Singletree for more than 20 years, and her team at Eagle River Dentistry, as a partner with ***Inside Singletree!***

If you have worked with a professional and reliable business who you would recommend to your Singletree neighbors, please email your referrals to holly.proctor@n2pub.com. We would love to introduce these quality businesses to other residents in your community!

JUNE contributors

We want to hear from you: **Your** passions, experiences and achievements! ***INSIDE Singletree*** is not possible without your active and enthusiastic participation – no contribution is too small. Please consider contributing a story featuring your family, pets, kids, travel adventures, athletic accomplishments or volunteer activities in upcoming issues – please email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to participate in your neighborhood publication. Thank you!



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Sunday, June 10, 2018

Graciously hosted at the home of Tim and Lisa Swift
81 Chaparral Road | 5:30 p.m.

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ovens will be provided along with sides, wine and beer. Your ribs will be cut, shared by all and, most importantly, judged by our panel of experts. Time to show everyone what you've got!

RSVP no later than **Thursday, June 7, 2018**, to Tim Swift at timswifty@gmail.com or **772-538-7839** or insidesingletreesvp@gmail.com.



It's your ribs. I'm afraid they're delicious.



Don't Let Summer be Ruff!

Dr. James Beard invites you to join Katie, Mylo & Sammy for a Dog Day in the Park!

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A SINGLETREE COMMUNITY MIXER AT HOT SUMMER NIGHTS: WINTERWONDERGRASS ALL STARS

The Vail Valley Foundation
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Tuesday, June 26, 2018

Borgen Family Patrons Plaza at the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater
Exclusive Singletree Mixer:
5:30-6:30 p.m.
Concert: 6:30 p.m.

Join us for a private pre-concert gathering at one of the most anticipated performances of the Moe's Original Barbecue Hot Summer Nights free music series. On June 26, the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater will host the WinterWondergrass All-Stars for an unfor-

gettable evening featuring bluegrass' biggest artists, including members of Leftover Salmon, Yonder Mountain String Band, Elephant Revival, Bonfire dub, and Infamous Stringdusters.

Mingle with friends and neighbors and the Vail Valley Foundation and then find a seat under the Pavilion or your space on the lawn for the show. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Kids are welcome!

RSVP no later than **Friday, June 22, 2018** to Emily Sessler at essler@vvf.org or **970-748-5951** or insidesingletreesvp@gmail.com.



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After 11 years in the Vail Valley, we are so thrilled to have finally found our dream home in beautiful Singletree! We were welcomed into the neighborhood with open arms by all our amazing neighbors and feel truly blessed every day to call this special place "Home." This year marks our 10-year wedding anniversary and what an incredible and adventurous 10 years it has been together.

Ignacio was born in Misiones, Argentina, and moved every couple of years around the country being in a military family. One day in his 20s, he ran into a long-lost friend on the street who told him about his adventures working in the United States on a Visa. While working as a civilian for the Argentine Army and studying computer engineering, he ultimately was looking for a change and, therefore, immediately started investigating how he could make the same move to the US. He found himself working at the Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch for the winter of 2006-2007. He then ventured to Lake George, NY to work for the summer of 2007 at a historic hotel before returning to Vail to work at The Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch for the 2007-2008 winter season.

Rebecca was born and raised in Littleton, CO, and only left Colorado for the four years she attended Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, CA. During high school and college, Rebecca and her best friend spent every July 4 in Vail (and quite a few New Year's Eves as well) which ignited Rebecca's love affair with the Vail Valley. After her first two years in LA, Rebecca decided she wasn't sold on the LA lifestyle and following a family weekend winter getaway to Steamboat, she had the revelation that Colorado was where she belonged.

After college, she was determined to fulfill her dreams of moving to Vail and started working at the Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch in July 2007. This is where Ignacio and Rebecca met, developed a mutual crush on one another and embarked on a whirlwind romance. Eight months to be precise! We were married for the first time (we'll elaborate here ...) in September 2008 in the backyard of our rental place in Lower Homestead. We were married under a beautiful wooden arch that was borrowed from our neighbors – which we finally acquired after all these years – and is now prominently featured in our backyard (and in these photos!).



After our wedding ceremony, we had our cocktail hour and wedding dinner at the Sonnenalp Club (Balata at the time). Balata was also the place where I had drinks with my best friends an hour before Ignacio proposed to me at our home in Lower Homestead. We have gone back to this restaurant every year to dine and celebrate our anniversary. Needless to say, this restaurant has always held a special place in the history of our romance.

Since our small and intimate first wedding only included our immediate families and friends, we proceeded to have two subsequent weddings to continue the celebration. The second wedding was at the Beaver Creek Chapel and the Westin that included Rebecca's extended family and friends ... and the third wedding was at the Officers' Club at the Polo Grounds in Buenos Aires that included Ignacio's extended family and friends. We often joke that we could be featured in the Guinness Book of World Records for the most weddings for the same couple.

Even though Ignacio stumbled into hotels on a whim as a way to travel, he has excelled and truly found his passion through working his way up in the hospitality industry. He has worked at the Ritz-Carlton Club, Bachelor Gulch, The Ritz-Carlton, Vail, The Vail Cascade and now his current role as Front Office Manager at the Four Seasons, Vail. He truly has a passion for serving

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•••

others and particularly loves working in the luxury sector of hospitality, especially at the Four Seasons where he is very happy to have set down roots.

Rebecca worked in various departments of hospitality for six years before breaking away to work for a few different start-up companies before finding her true passion and ultimate goal in entrepreneurship. In 2012, Rebecca found Pure Barre in Edwards and started taking classes, where she fell in love with this type of workout immediately. Within the first month of taking classes, she decided that she would one day become a teacher and ultimately own a Pure Barre studio.

The stars must have aligned, because Rebecca began teaching at Pure Barre in July 2013 and then became the owner of Pure Barre Vail Valley in June 2014, three weeks before having their first child, Liam. Becoming a first time business owner and new mother at the same time was nothing short of chaotic, but also incredible for achieving two dreams simultaneously. Rebecca has loved every challenge and success that has come with owning a local small business in this incredible community we are lucky enough to call our own, and looks forward to growing our incredible Pure Barre family for years to come.

Our little boy, Liam, who will be four in June, became a big brother in May 2017 to little sister, Lily. Watching these two children grow up with their “big sister” Lucy, our family dog the “chiweenie” [dachshund Chihuahua mix], has been our greatest joy and accomplishment. As a family, we love traveling to Argentina to visit Ignacio’s family and hosting and visiting Rebecca’s mom often, who still lives in the same house Rebecca was born in. Travel has always been a big part of our lives and our journey together as a family. Most notably, we traveled to Maui, hiked three days to Machu Picchu on the Inca Trail, spent a month in Europe traveling to Paris, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, traveled to Iguazu Falls (twice!), Mendoza, Uruguay, Mar del Plata/Pinamar while in Argentina, attended a wedding in Scotland and most recently took an amazing family trip to Mexico.

We look forward to many years to come in our newly renovated (finally done!) home and meeting many of you in the neighborhood. We pinch ourselves every day that we call this incredible place home and feel truly blessed to be a part of such a uniquely special community. Thank you for welcoming us into your neighborhood and we hope you have enjoyed this glimpse into our crazy beautiful life!



Get to know your neighbors by introducing your family to the community in the next available issue! Email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to share your family story with the neighborhood.



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SPRING SOCIAL at Harvest at The Sonnenalp Club Singletree Welcomes the Season



What better way to celebrate the new season than with a neighborhood social and a tasting at Harvest? The air was fun and festive on a lovely spring evening that brought together friends and neighbors and introduced delicious dishes from the new summer menu including heirloom beet salad, wild mushroom quiche, citrus marinated salmon and lobster mac and cheese. We would like to express our sincere thank you to Jim Miller and Robin Litt at the Sonnenalp Club for hosting a fabulous soiree for the Singletree community!



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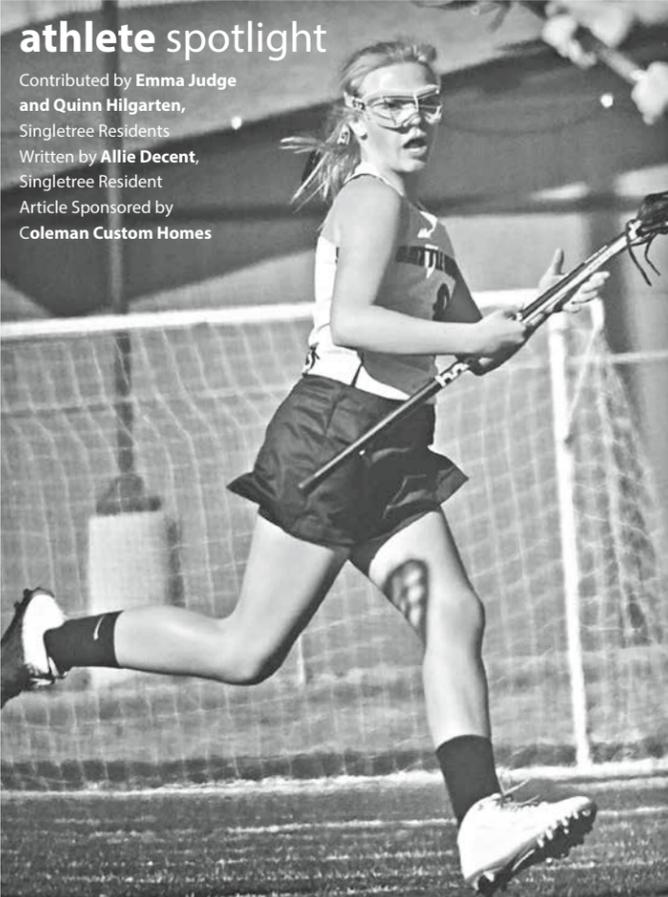
Emma Judge (left) and Quinn Hilgarten (right) ready to do battle on the field

The two blondes each give me a strong handshake before we all sit down in front of the picture window overlooking Arrowhead and a Sonnenalp tee box; both are sophomores at Battle Mountain High School. "So, we are here to talk about lacrosse, not soccer, right?" I joke. Quinn Hilgartner and Emma Judge laugh in that nervous way young people do when an adult attempts a joke and they just aren't sure if I am being funny or senile. "Uh, yeah, girl's LAX" says Quinn. We settle in to talk about what I thought was a simple overview of lacrosse, but ended up getting my millennial panties in a bunch over our mutually perceived unfairness of the major differences between girls and boys sports in America. Get ready Singletree ... you are in for a ride.

"We both started playing LAX in sixth grade," Quinn volunteers. "My dad wanted me to try it and I kind of fell in love with it." The girls' lacrosse playing season begins right as the ski season ends, but they start practicing as early in the year as February. "We play Western Slope teams like Steamboat, Aspen, Glenwood

athlete spotlight

Contributed by Emma Judge and Quinn Hilgarten, Singletree Residents
Written by Allie Decent, Singletree Resident
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and Pueblo,” says Emma. “We only have one team that plays for the Upper Vail Valley, including every single school, even the private ones. There are 30 girls on Varsity and 45 on JV and Varsity, girls from Battle Mountain, of course, but also girls from Ski and Snowboard Academy and Vail Mountain School.”

The girls travel a lot to play competitively in the mountains, sometimes even to Denver to play Pine Creek or Pueblo. It’s a serious time commitment to play high school sports and both girls hope that lacrosse is something they can take beyond Battle Mountain High School. Emma plans to take her skills as a midfielder into the Club Teams in college and Quinn wants to make it into a D2 or D3 college for lacrosse.

As I recall my boys’ lacrosse watching days in high school, I asked what kind of padding they wear. “Oh,” eyerolls Quinn, “we wear goggles and mouth guards and that’s it.” I gasp in disbelief. “Wait a second,” I say, “there’s just no way. What about all the tackling and the balls coming at your head and the sticks?” I always thought that lacrosse was played with full gear like hockey or at least that’s what I remember. “Yes, we have to play very differently from the boys,” sighs Emma. “It makes it more interesting, I guess. In girls’ LAX, there are so many rules; you have to figure out while you are playing how to get a (referee) call for you.”

Quinn pipes in with a less enthusiastic take. “Girl to girl, if we all had pads and helmets, I think it would change the game and make it a lot more fun. We can hit their stick, but if we miss and hit their sphere (face), then we get a yellow card (two minutes out). If some girl is shooting, the best thing to do is stick your stick out. If you are in front of her and she shoots it, you get called within her shooting space. It’s ridiculous. The whole point is to block a shot, but we can’t block with our bodies or block with our sticks, so she can just shoot! With guys’ LAX, their goal is to hit each other, hit the ball and score. If we



could wear the gear the boys wear, it would be a lot more fun and we would get to be a lot more aggressive.”

Lacrosse was originally played by the indigenous peoples of the Americas and was adopted for women in 1890 in the Leonard School in Scotland. Though a tribal war game for men, where the objective is to use brute strength combined with teamwork to score, the women’s game doesn’t allow for much physical violence and refusal to give them men’s equipment keeps that desire in check. Women, therefore, need to depend solely on their skill and their teamwork. The girls agree that it would be a lot more fun and faster if the rules mirrored the men’s game. “It takes up about 10 minutes out of the whole game just to make calls and reposition everyone from when they blow the whistle,” muses Quinn. “It takes a long time to do that. I think it would be a lot better if it were more like guys’ rules; the game wouldn’t stop as often,” Emma echoes.

But don’t let these concerns make you think that women’s lacrosse is not exciting. Girls as fun and dynamic as Emma and Quinn picked the most dynamic sport available to them. “I don’t know what got me into it; I tried soccer when I was little but it wasn’t as fun. LAX had more action to it and it was more of a team sport than any other sport I’ve done before. You need other people. I feel like in soccer there could be a really good girl who can dribble the ball down the field and score. But with LAX, because there are so many rules and how tough it is, you can’t really do it alone,” smiles Quinn. Her face lights up and she turns to Emma, who supports Quinn’s excitement. “Same thing. I play volleyball and I love the team spirit. I tried running track and you are just out there by yourself and I didn’t love; it’s not my thing. Lacrosse is like that, the team connection is just wonderful.”

These Vail-born young ladies are excited for their season, which is in full-swing already and if you are quick enough, you might catch a game or two right after reading this article. All the game times and results are posted on maxprep.com; search for Battle Mountain Girls Lacrosse. In closing, I asked them what advice they have for girls wanting to try the sport, and what life skills lacrosse has taught them. “Jason, our coach, is looking for someone who is going to get out there and go for the ground ball. Those are the girls that are going to play, not just the ones that have played forever and can shoot and take draws. It’s just practice, practice,



practice,” says Emma. “Just do it, just try it, you never know if you don’t try,” concludes Quinn decisively.



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Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Sold Date	\$/sq.ft.	Sold \$/sq.ft.	Beds	Baths	sq.ft.	Furnished
Active	30 Appaloosa Dr W (DU)	\$2,100,000	N/A	N/A	\$560.75	N/A	5	5 (4 0 1)	3,745	No
Active	30 E Appaloosa Dr (DU)	\$1,750,000	N/A	N/A	\$562.34	N/A	3	4 (2 0 2)	3,112	No
Active	30 Foal Cir (SF)	\$1,390,000	N/A	N/A	\$355.14	N/A	4	5 (3 1 1)	3,914	No
Active	221 June Creek Rd (SF)	\$1,135,000	N/A	N/A	\$377.83	N/A	3	4 (1 2 1)	3,004	No
Active	477 Singletree Rd (DU)	\$949,000	N/A	N/A	\$435.72	N/A	4	3 (3 0 0)	2,178	No
UC	121 Pinto Dr (SF)	\$1,599,500	N/A	N/A	\$367.19	N/A	5	6 (5 0 1)	4,356	No
*UC	790 Charolais Cir (SF)	\$1,389,000	N/A	N/A	\$305.27	N/A	5	5 (3 1 1)	4,550	No
UC	311 Foal Cir (DU)	\$1,255,000	N/A	N/A	\$359.60	N/A	4	3 (3 0 0)	3,490	No
UC	347 June Creek Rd #W (DU)	\$795,000	N/A	N/A	\$338.30	N/A	3	3 (3 0 0)	2,350	Partial
Sold	181 Stagecoach Rd (SF)	\$1,499,000	\$1,285,000	4/6/18	\$375.95	\$375.95	4	5 (4 0 1)	3,418	No
*Sold	181 Mesquite Dr #E (DU)	\$1,325,000	\$1,325,000	4/2/18	\$417.98	\$417.98	4	4 (3 1 0)	3,170	No
Sold	323 Longhorn Rd #West (DU)	\$1,175,000	\$1,150,000	3/21/18	\$544.25	\$544.25	3	4 (3 0 1)	2,113	No
*Sold	10 Morgan Dr (SF)	\$1,149,300	\$975,000	3/23/18	\$261.25	\$261.25	5	5 (3 2 0)	3,732	No
Sold	121 Morgan Dr (SF)	\$1,000,000	\$900,000	3/28/18	\$284.27	\$284.27	6	5 (3 1 1)	3,166	No

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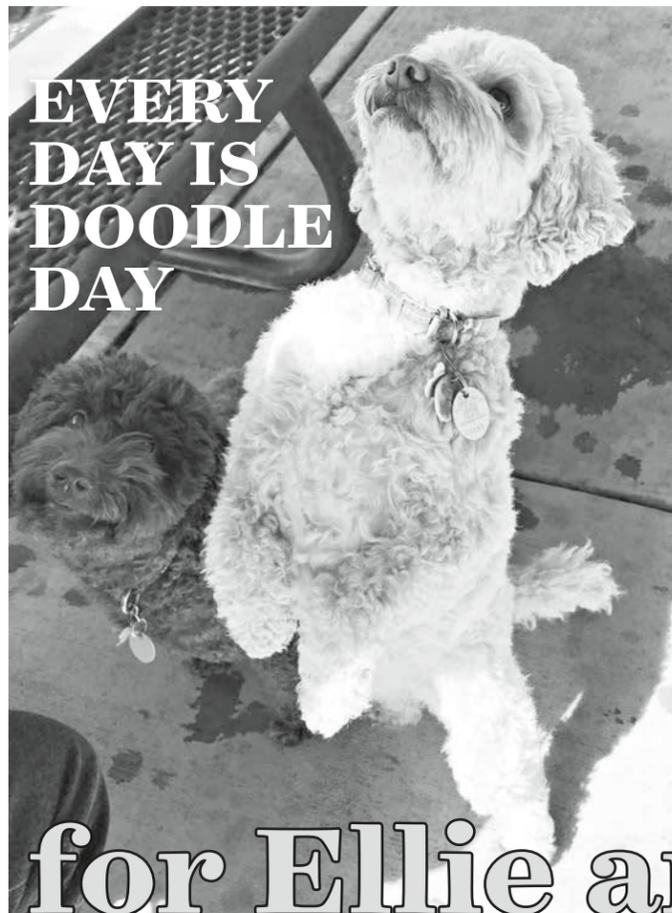
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Contributed by **Marty, Maggie and Ellie Jones**,
Singletree Resident and
Pets Article Sponsored by **Top Dog Properties**

Hi, Hi, Hi, Hi, Hi, Hi, Hi! I'm Ellie and I am a brown miniature Doodle and I just love to talk and talk and talk, says my Dad, Marty Jones. It is **so** nice to meet you here at the park in Singletree, which is my favorite place to be (besides at home) because when we come here, we get to play ball with Dad and he throws the Chuckit over and over and over again. We just wait for him to look at us as we sit next to him in his office or his sofa or his chair and stare and stare and stare until he knows we want to go to the park.

Oh, I keep saying we. That's my cousin, Maggie, who is actually my sister, I guess, since we have lived together since we were born. We are eight years old but I feel like maybe I'm really only two. You know ... Think young! Act young! Stay young! Maggie rarely says a word, so I get to do all the talking.

Did you know that Labradoodles come in three sizes? We are the smallest size, the "miniature." Things that are miniature are supposed to be the most fun. Maggie and I are special because we are actually Australian Labradoodles. Our breed has been around so long in Australia that to make more puppies like us, we are bred with a mommy and a daddy labradoodle: we are our own solid breed "down under!" Excuse me as I bark for more ball Chuckit time. Be right back!



Hi! I'm Maggie. Do you have a treat? No? Only Marty has treats. Yes, I like the ball, too, but I like to watch Ellie chase after the ball because she just loves it so much. Want to know a secret? She's all bark here at the park but when we go hiking, she lets me be in front because I am the one who is the bravest. She would be so mad if she knew I told you. Yup. Okay, bye.

I'm Ellie. I Am Back. Did You Miss Me? So, Marty fell in love with me first, but then Mommy fell in love with Maggie, so they had to get both of us at the **Same Time!** I know, it's awesome! I love to have Maggie with me to pass the days as we lie around the house while Marty goes out to do "errands." I don't know why we can't visit "errands" with him or why he has to go visit "errands" every day. We used to go to the Wildflower Farm, too, but then Marty retired. He still visits this "errands" person almost always before park time.

When we go home, after I say goodbye to you, Nice Interview Lady, we rest some more until it's time for our crates. Maggie and I go upstairs with Marty and then we get into our little homes to sleep. Mine is the best! I don't get out of it until it's time to play in the morning when the sun comes up. Want to know a secret? Maggie gets out of her crate right after Marty falls asleep and hops quietly into the big bed for the whole night! She's not supposed to do that you know ... she'd be so mad if she knew I told you.



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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“To Other Countries, I May Go As A Tourist, But To India, I Come As A Pilgrim. Martin Luther King, Jr.

travel tales

Contributed by **Bobbie Ruh**, Singletree Resident

The Red Fort in Agra

An Experience of a Lifetime for Bobbie & Jim Rue

India had always been on our bucket list, but it fell to the bottom over time due to the long flights required to get there and the fear of contracting one of the dread diseases that afflicted friends who had visited. Finally, we reached the bottom of our bucket and had run out of excuses, so encouraged by an Azamara cruise that departed from Mumbai, we booked a land tour of the Golden Triangle before our cruise, armed ourselves with thousands of dollars' worth of inoculations and medications and boarded our flight to Delhi.



Tangle of Wires of Delhi

DELHI

Our first impressions of Delhi were of the unexpectedly verdant city streets, the unrelenting heat and the unbearable cacophony of thousands of cars and tuk-tuks all honking their horns continually in stop-and-go traffic. But where were the slums? All we saw were elegant colonial buildings and lush green parkways. We learned that Delhi is one of the greenest capitals in the world but also one of the noisiest. Blaring horns are the norm despite heavy fines for honking.

There are the “don’t miss” sights in Delhi: **Qutub Minar** is a magnificently detailed 250 ft. tower, built in 1192 that has survived both earthquakes and fires. **Swaminarayan Akshardham** is a modern Hindu temple built in five years by 10,000 carvers and volunteers with donated funds, on land provided by the Indian Government. **Gandhi Smriti** is the elegant residence where Gandhi was assassinated, and **Humayan’s Temple** was the model for the Taj Mahal. Last and best is **Chandni Chowk**, the main street of Old Delhi, where we finally found the slums and the tangles of electrical wires so prominently featured in photographs. An evening “foodie” tour of this area was the highlight of our visit, which ended at the restaurant where butter chicken was invented. Our guide bragged that none of his clients had ever gotten sick from his tour – and neither did we.

AGRA

It would be sacrilege to visit India and not see the **Taj Mahal**, but even more impressive was the **Red Fort**, a sprawling palace/fortress complex on the outskirts of the city. It seems to be required of foreign tourists to visit the Taj in the early morning and mandatory to have a loving photo taken there at great expense.

The **Red Fort** took our breath away, as did the scorching mid-day heat. The elaborate and detailed interior décor gave witness to the sophistication of the Mughal culture at the time when the kings of England were still struggling to keep warm in their stony castles. We were moved by the sad story of Shah Jehan, who built the Taj Mahal to honor his beloved wife but who was later imprisoned by their treacherous son and was forced to spend his last days gazing at it from a distance from his prison quarters in the Red Fort.

Between Agra and Jaipur is the abandoned city of **Fatehpur Sikri**, founded by Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1569 and has served as his capital from 1571 to 1585 and abandoned because of lack of a reliable water supply. It is well worth a stop to walk the empty halls and marvel at how the structures have remained preserved and unpillaged for hundreds of years.

JAIPUR

The city of Jaipur, known as the “Pink City,” is an architectural wonder. The inner-city glows with a dusty pink hue, the result of a beautification effort to welcome Queen Victoria’s husband to the city in 1876. Largely built in the 1700s, it houses some of the country’s most ornate royal palaces and an amazing astronomical park.



Hawa Mahal in Jaipur



Elephant “Slaves” at the Amber Fort

The **Hawa Mahal** is a much-photographed building, the sole purpose of which was to allow royal women to observe street life without appearing in public.

Jantar Mantar, the astronomical observatory in Jaipur, was built in the 1700s, but looks like a modern sculpture garden. It contains 14 structures, each with a specific function: either to measure time or track eclipses and the movement of stars and planets.

Amber Fort was not named for its golden color but because it is near the village of Amber, near Jaipur. Like the Red Fort, it is massive in size, scope and architectural detail, with intense midday heat. We were moved by the sad plight of the elephants that are used to transport tourists from the valley below the fort to the entrance above. They are sadly overworked and mistreated. We had the good fortune to meet one of the lucky ones who was rescued and now lives happily on the **Elephantastic Elephant Farm**. Here we were paired with a rescued elephant named Lucky, who formerly worked at the Amber Fort.

We had the afternoon to spend with her, which included feeding her, painting her with non-toxic paints (she didn’t seem to like the harsh tongue depressors used instead of brushes, so she only got a heart on her forehead), giving her a

...

•••

hose-down bath, and taking her for a walk through the grounds. We passed on the opportunity to ride her even though this farm did not use the painful wooden boxes. We figured she'd had enough of that. We had the fun of seeing a British film crew doing a spot, which included the presenter getting a good elephant hosing.

UDAIPUR

If India was the crown of the British Empire, then Udaipur is certainly it's Koh-i- Noor diamond. It is India's most beautiful and architecturally stunning city. We broke the bank and stayed at its most luxurious hotel, the Taj Lake Palace. It is simply the most romantic hotel in the world. Built in 1746 as the pleasure palace of Maharana Jagat Singh II, it sits in the middle of a large lake built to protect it and is reachable only by boat. Guests are greeted with a shower of rose petals and led to sumptuous quarters thorough beautiful gardens filled with flowers and fountains.



The Beautiful Lake Palace Hotel in Udaipur

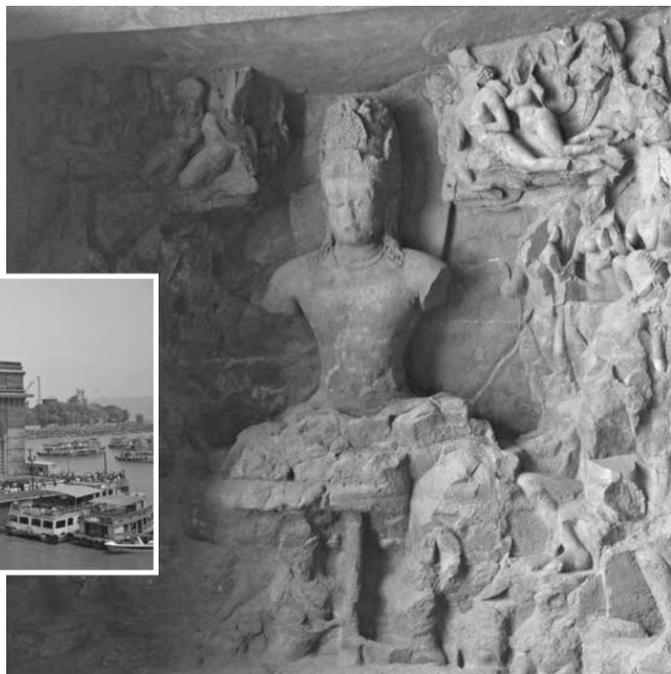


The Taj Mahal hotel in Mumbai

Although it was tempting never to leave its confines, we were excited to take a cooking class at the home of an Indian family who were actual descendants of the Maharana. We spent a delightful evening learning to cook using a wok-like pan in a kitchen with no A/C and no oven. The family delighted us with photos of their daughter's over-the-top wedding (a three-day affair) and we experienced the "Real Thing" when we got caught up in a parade with horses, elephants and a marching band headed to a private island rented by an Indian mogul for his daughter's wedding.

MUMBAI

At last - the India we had read about in Shantaram and seen in *Slumdog Millionaire*. If Delhi is Queen Victoria, then Mumbai is Dickens's Pip. A wild crazy city of contrasts, teeming with people of all sorts, architecture from the sublime to the ridiculous, restaurants to rival New York, humidity thicker than a steam bath and a warm welcoming heart. Another splurge to stay at the Taj Mahal Palace hotel and worth every penny to see India's Gate from our window and the entertainment taking place there every night. If you do nothing else, take a boat to **Elephanta Island**, with cave temples and carvings dating from AD 450 to 750, and book a sensitively run tour of the **Dharavi slum** of Slumdog fame, a bustling cacophony of hopeful energy. Finally, as you depart India with your senses reeling, marvel at the audacious beauty of the Mumbai airport, a final gem in the crown.



Carvings at Elephanta Island in Mumbai



India Gate in Mumbai

If You Go: Plan to visit in the fall months when the heat is less intense, don't miss Udaipur and Mumbai and contact Bobbie Ruh at bobbie@ruhskis.com for more specific travel tips.



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SPONSOR spotlight



Don't get Dave Sante wrong. While the co-owner and co-founder of Top Notch Log Works and Top Notch Painting says his companies are great at what they do – building log structures and decks, repairing them and interior and exterior painting and staining services – what he really wants the company to be known for is how they treat their people.

“Top Notch Log Works and Top Notch Painting, for the most part, don't provide a unique service or product,” he explains. “We have many competitors. What I do think is unique is our ‘why.’ Our why isn't to earn a bunch of money or be the biggest company in the Valley. Our why is simply ‘do the right thing.’”

Their inspiration comes from the Simon Sinek book, *Start With Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action*. “Sinek says that most companies know what they do and how to do it, but few know why they do what they do,” Dave says. “Our contribution is investing in our employees. We seek to create an environment where our employees feel empowered, mentored and valued. We put our employees first. By having our employees come first, it allows them to make the right decisions and create our impact to ‘do the right thing.’ The result is we can be the best and provide our customers with the best service.”

Sinek put the “why” concept into the mainstream but Top Notch has been following the philosophy from the beginning. Dave and business partner Paul Straw launched Top Notch Log Works in 1999, building and repairing log structures. Soon though, they saw the opportunity to diversify

into interior and exterior painting, evening out the company's business cycle. “That saved us during the recession,” Dave says.

Ultimately, they know they can't win by playing the price game. “We pay insurance on everyone. We carry workers' comp on everyone,” Dave explains. “Other people are cheap because they're not paying for anything. Homeowners can be sued as a result. We can win by being better. And the way we can be better is by making our people better. We've never concentrated on the money side of things. It's easy to teach people to do the right thing. It's why we've been successful for 17 years here. We do our best to do a good job. There's really not much more to it than that.”

You can reach Dave at dave@topnotch-log-works.com or 970-524-7323. Check out www.topnotch-painting.com for a full list of services including interior finishes, exterior painting and staining, caulking, and faux finishes and www.topnotch-logworks.com to learn more about their expert craftsmanship in a variety of log style homes as well as services including chinking and log home restoration.

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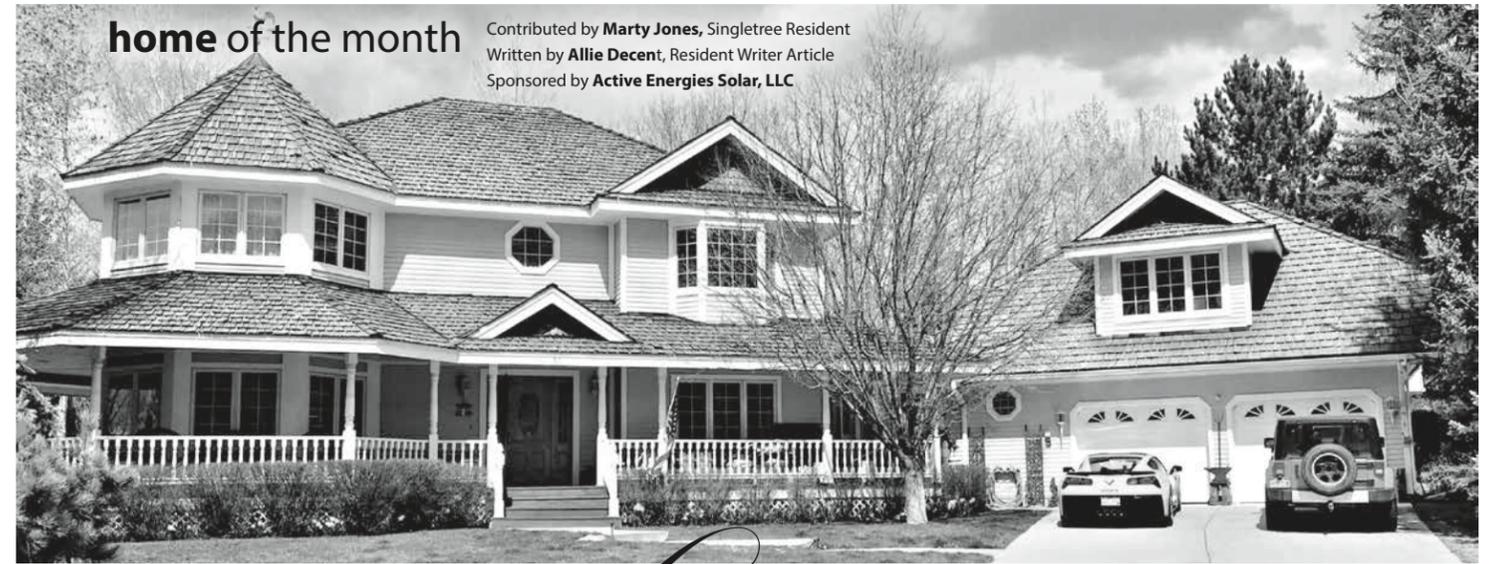
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home of the month

Contributed by **Marty Jones**, Singletree Resident
Written by **Allie Decent**, Resident Writer Article
Sponsored by **Active Energies Solar, LLC**

VICTORIAN *elegance* IN SINGLETREE



I am sure you have seen it, if you live here. The classic wrap-around porch draped in flowers, back-dropped against soft buttercup yellow siding that just beckons one to stop and enjoy some sweet tea. Finding a sprawling Victorian mansion in Colorado is hard enough, but in Singletree there is only one. The Jones bought their lot on Miller Circle back in the 1990s, and were determined to build a unique home that they could fill with their antiques and show off their gardening skills. ...

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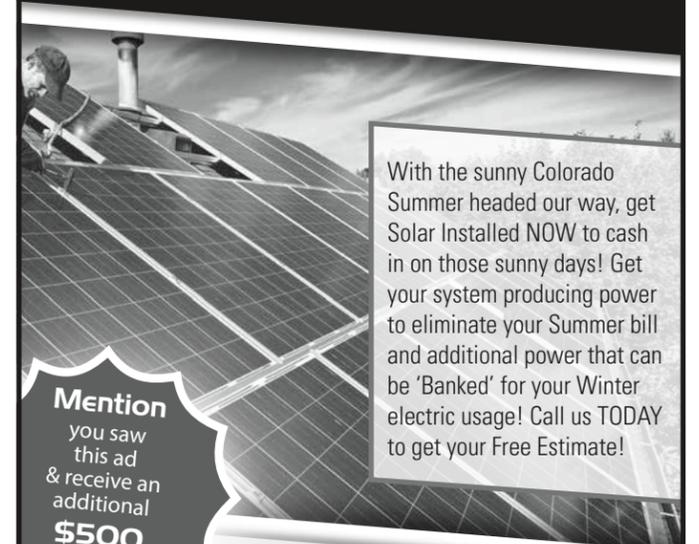
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"We lived in a duplex in Singletree for a few years before we built," says Marty, "and I have been here for 43 years." Marty and Sandy Jones owned Wildflower Farms here in Edwards until it was sold last August, and even a novice plant-killer like myself appreciates the early spring perennial gardens and decorative weeping spruce. Like most curious residents of Singletree, I am very eager to head inside.

The formal front door opens and I step back in time. An eclectic marriage of western decor and Victorian antiques is highlighted with the saloon doors into the kitchen off this grand foyer. The main staircase cascades down but brings your eyes upwards to enjoy the height of the house. I turn to my left and, yes, there is a formal parlor bathed in Victorian red. Throughout the entire home there is a sense of luxurious purpose in the design. The entire main area of the home is almost circular as we move clockwise from parlor to formal dining to kitchen to garden room to study and back to a more informal parlor to the right of the foyer that is currently used as an office.

Upstairs are three bedrooms and a master. I am once again pleased to see that the house is organized how I would expect, with the "tower" over the parlor being the master bedroom with a beautifully appointed six-point raised ceiling taking full advantage of the tower in this Folk Victorian style home.

Marty and Sandy found a plan for this home in a magazine and asked their architect to redesign it to fit their needs. They knew that they wanted the house to be painted yellow, but getting that through the Design Review Board was quite a hassle. "Originally I had the contractors paint the side of the garage yellow, but it was way too bright," laughs Marty. "Then I forgot to tell them to stop, and when I came back the whole house was that color!" Getting the Board to then agree on a new yellow was difficult to say the least.

"Getting Singletree to let it be yellow is a story in itself. We ended up settling on Peace Yellow. They wanted to make sure it was an earth tone, so I brought in pictures of yellow rocks and stones and such and they consented because they knew I wouldn't give up."

Though Sandy passed away in 2013, Marty hasn't stopped completing their dream. "She put up all the wallpaper here herself," he recalls. "The only room she hadn't completed was our master bathroom. I was tinkering around and found unused rolls and I knew what to do ... that she would have wanted me to complete the job."

He wants to show me some special pieces that are thoughtfully scattered throughout the home, so I gladly follow. He points out a piano in the parlor, which is the piano from Sandy's



one room schoolhouse in Nebraska. "I don't really remember how she ended up with it but she used to play it at that school and now it's ours." He pets the piano while standing in quiet reflection. Then he perks up and points to what I thought was a photograph. "That right there is a piece by photorealist Kent Bellows, can you believe it's done with pencil?" He smiles at my disbelief and we move to the porch.

The house is dotted with carefully placed blue spruce trees mixed with ponderosa pines, a perennial rock garden that circumvents the house and a very interesting crevice garden. The porch sports a delicate swing facing the gazebo out back that borders the pocket park, connecting all the neighbors' grassy areas to each other. A sense of peace prevails over the grounds spreading the quiet elegance emanating from the interior and, indeed, a glass of sweet tea seems to beckon!



So many wonderful homes in Singletree! Let us know about a fabulous house to feature as Home of the Month. E-mail holly.proctor@n2pub.com with an address and we will take it from there!

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If you could change one thing in the world what would you change? Stop polluting. It's gross. Pick up your trash and stop filling our nature with stuff that's bad for it. If it's bad enough to throw out, it's extra bad for the animals and plants.

What's your favorite movie of all time? Probably *Kong: Skull Island*.

Where have you been on vacation? We went to Chicago and saw a new baby cousin – she's a girl, her name is Mable. My mom's sister, it's her third baby. She's the first granddaughter!

How was your ski season this year? I do Beavo; it was a new team this year. I felt a little bit nervous that it was a new team, but I'm a level seven, so we got to ski cool stuff.

What do you love about living here? What I love about living here is the skiing. I always miss it when skiing is over.

With the ski season behind us, we hope you and Harlow have an awesome summer Jackson!

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kids' corner

Contributed by Jackson Thelen, Singletree Resident
Written by Allie Decent, Singletree Resident Article
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Welcome! This month we get to know Jackson Thelen, who is eight years old and is just finishing up third grade at Red Sandstone Elementary. He loves skiing and video games, and, of course, playing with his brother Maxwell.

What is your favorite animal? My favorite animal is a dog and we got a dog in Denver in December. It's a girl, medium size (a Rhodesian Ridgeback). Her name is Harlow.

What is your favorite thing to do? Go to school! I love to learn stuff.

Where do you like to go to play? Um, probably to the park here in Singletree. It's great because of those hiding places in all the trees in the back and the climbing rocks.

What is your favorite toy? I like my Xbox. I've only beaten one game, it's Trove. It's like this game where you try to complete quests.



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Hannah, Josh, Christina and Sam Lautenberg enjoy the great outdoors in the Vail Valley

EAGLE VALLEY LAND TRUST: Safeguarding Our Future

Christina Lautenberg Invites You To Cow Patty Bingo And Farm To Fork

I've been living in the Valley for over 25 years and there is simply no place that I would rather be. My husband, Josh, and I have lived in Singletree for 17 years. We've watched our kids, Hannah and Sam, grow here, while at the same time watching our valley and community grow into the thriving home it is today.

There are so many special things about this community, but one thing that sticks out the most is our connection to our landscape. My family, friends and I spend so much of our free time exploring local trails, rivers, and mountains – we just can't get enough.

I've long been an advocate and supporter of land conservation. I believe that it is absolutely critical for the health of our community. The protection of our natural environment is so highly valued by locals here and for good reason. We live in an incredible place and it is developing quickly. I'm not anti-development by any means but I do recognize that smart growth, with keen attention to community values, aesthetic beauty and ecosystem health is the best path forward.

I've been on the board of directors with the Eagle Valley Land Trust (EVLТ) for one and a half years now. I originally joined because I wanted to give back to the community that has given my family and I so much, but quickly became even more passionate about conserving the land that we love and preserving this valley for future generations.

EVLТ is a small organization with big ambition that does a lot of important work in our county, mostly behind the scenes. It has been working to protect the lands we all love for 37 years now. Currently, EVLТ protects over 11,000 acres across 35 properties throughout Eagle County. You're probably familiar with the West Avon Preserve, Miller Ranch Open Space and Eagle River Preserve, right? EVLТ holds conservation easements on those properties, which means they will remain open space ... forever. That means my kids, my future grandchildren and my future great grandchildren will have the opportunity to enjoy those pieces of land the way they are today.

who's making a difference



Cow Patty Bingo is an event designed for the whole family. You can buy deeds at EVLТ.org. 10 percent of sales go to the local 4H Club.



Farm to Fork is one of EVLТ's signature events that features outstanding food prepared by a local chef, incredible views, a cocktail mixologist competition and dancing



Buchholz Winfrey Ranch, permanently protected by EVLТ in 2017



Christina and Hadley at Piney Lake

I currently serve on EVLТ's development and event committees. Since summer is finally here, we are hard at work organizing EVLТ's two signature events, Farm to Fork and Cow Patty Bingo. The two are drastically different from each other, but are both so incredibly fun.

This year, Cow Patty Bingo will be held during the 4H Junior Livestock auction on July 28, 2018, a partnership that we are really excited about. If you haven't experienced this event, I highly recommend that you make it a priority this year. Simply put, it takes place in an arena-sized bingo board split into 1,000 squares. As a large crowd cheers from the sidelines, a cow wanders around the arena and drops her "tokens" on the squares she thinks should win. Whoever owns the Deed for that square, which are sold for \$25 (or five for \$100) each, wins \$1,000. Ten percent of the generated funds will go towards the 4H club and the rest will help fund the conservation of land and open space in Eagle County.

Farm to Fork is EVLТ's largest fundraiser and one of my favorite events of the year. This year it will be held on August 16 in the Lake Creek valley with an incredible view of the New York Range and three different conservation easements held by EVLТ. The event includes an outstanding three-course dinner featuring locally sourced, seasonal and delicious food provided by a well-known local chef. Farm to Fork is preceded by Garden to Glass, an exciting cocktail reception featuring a mixology competition that challenges local bartenders, mixologists, sommeliers and chefs to create their most sensational beverage highlighting a single secret ingredient, with guests and sponsors serving as the judges. I love this event! Friends and family get to eat outstanding fresh food looking out over some of our protected landscape, all while supporting a cause that we feel so strongly about. I hope to see you there!

Tickets for both events are on sale now at evlt.org. You can learn more about conservation in Eagle County by signing up for EVLТ's monthly newsletter and by following EVLТ on Facebook and Instagram.



Are you passionate about a particular cause? Do you know someone who dedicates time and energy to a non-profit organization? E-mail holly.proctor@n2pub.com to recognize the residents who make a difference in your community.



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Summer in Singletree!

Mark your calendar and join your neighbors and friends celebrating summer every month at the Singletree Community Center



DID YOU KNOW that you can golf right here, in Singletree, at a special rate? Owners may pick up a Sonnenalp Club Golf Card good for up to six rounds of golf at a reduced rate. Cards may be picked up at the Singletree Community Center.



DID YOU KNOW that Singletree's founders wanted to maintain the residential character of the neighborhood and established Rules and Regulations that define occupancy standards in Singletree? Homes in Singletree may be occupied by only one family. Homes shall not be leased for less than six (6) continuous months or more. Overcrowding of homes is not permitted.



DID YOU KNOW it's not cool to have bears rummage through your trash? Eagle County regulations require that all trash be placed in a wildlife-resistant trash container when not inside a residence. The regulation also prohibits placing these containers out for collection before 6 AM on collection day and it must be removed from the collection area by 7 PM that evening. Become more wildlife aware at www.eaglecounty.us.



DID YOU KNOW you can get more fit Monday – Saturday at the Singletree Community Center? Buy a 10-pass punch card for \$75 or drop in at the bargain rate of \$8 per class. Pilates and Active Stretching classes are taught by local professionals. Check out the schedule online.

Mark your calendar

Rain or shine, bring a picnic and join your neighbors at the Singletree Community Center:

- Thursday, June 21st, REWIND from 6 to 8 PM
- Tuesday, July 10th, Turntable Revue Duo from 6 to 8 PM
- Saturday, August 25th, the Annual Summer Party from 4 to 7 PM
- Sunday, September 9th, bluegrass band Riverfront Ramblers from 4 to 6 PM

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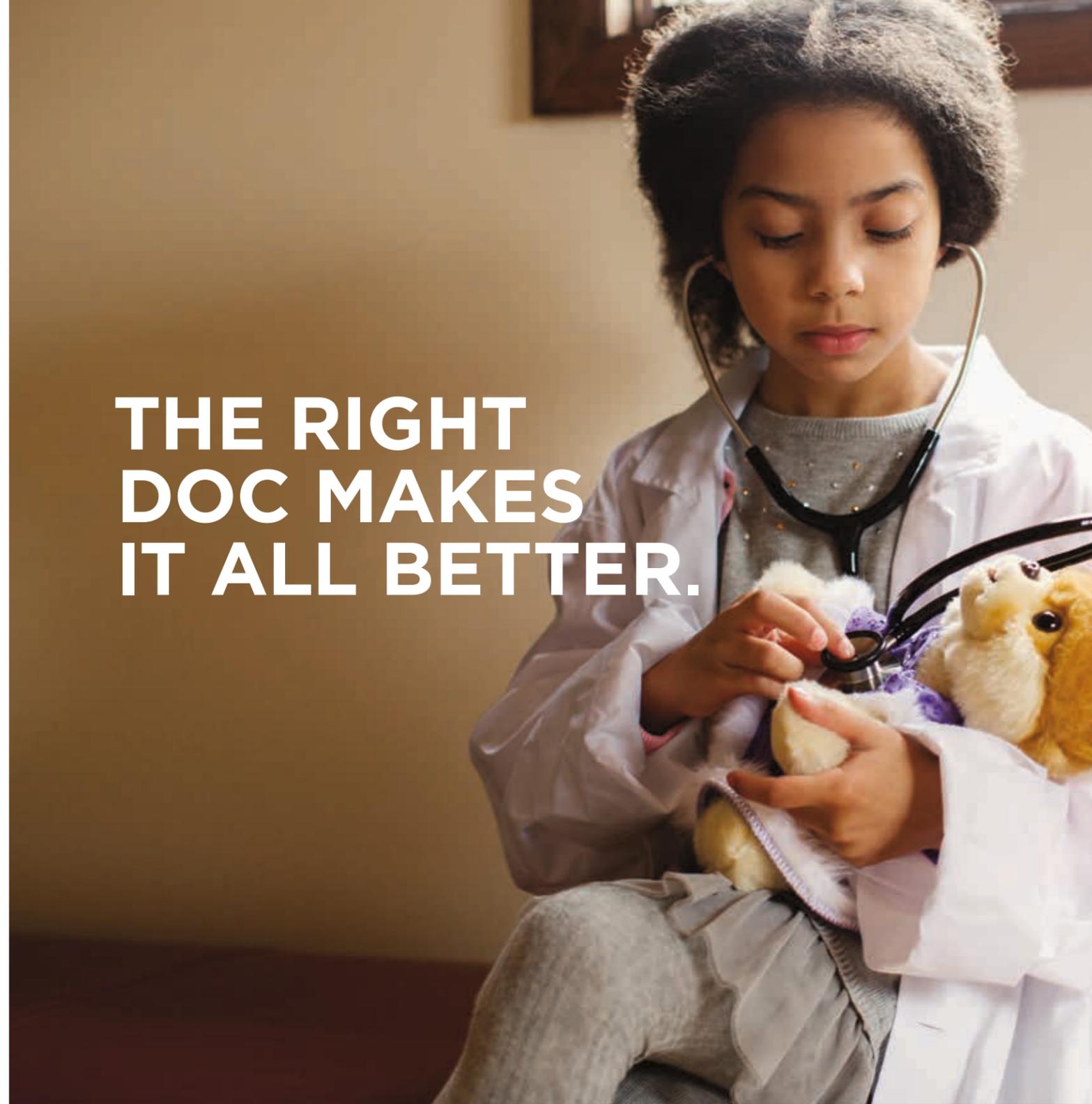
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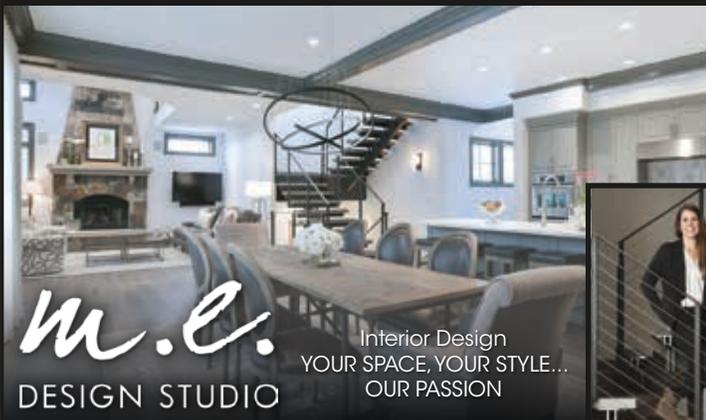
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