

INSIDE *Singletree*

FEBRUARY 2021

A SOCIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SINGLETREE

The Larson Family

Photography by Olga Barron Photography Inc.



YOUR STORIES. YOUR PHOTOS. YOUR COMMUNITY.



C

CONTINGENCY
A condition that must be met in order for a real estate contract to be finalized.

D

DOWN PAYMENT
The amount of money that a buyer must pay upfront as part of a real estate transaction.

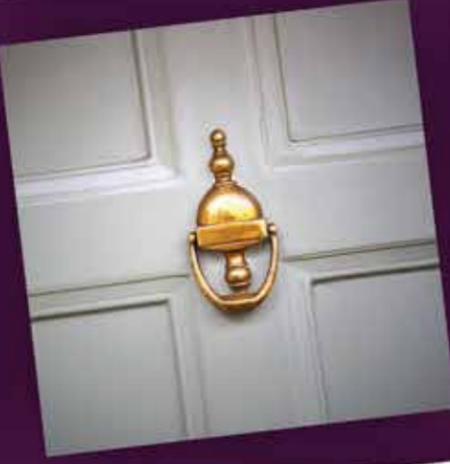


L

LISTING PRICE
A list price is the price of a home for sale set by the agent and listing agent.

J

JOINT TENANCY
A legal term for when two or more people own equal shares of the same piece of property.



Y

YIELD
The interest or return earned by an investor stated as a percentage of the amount invested.

Z

ZONING
Designated areas to which architectural design restrictions apply within the specific geographic area.

W

WALK-THROUGH
Final inspection of a home by the buyer before finalizing a purchase of the home.

YOUR GUIDE TO VAIL VALLEY REAL ESTATE FROM A TO Z



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HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY SINGLETREE RESIDENTS!

publisher's note

Though February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises and we have lots of both in this issue of *INSIDE Singletree!*

We are excited to get to know Burke and Alyssa Larson and their kids, Tucker and Madison, and the newest member of the family, T.J. Together this family exudes energy in every direction and is LOVING living in Singletree! Speaking of love, we celebrate Valentine's Day with Craig and Ingrid Dampier and George and Maggie Tedesco. These couples are a true testament to strong partnerships formed by two wonderful individuals who are better together!

While many of us have felt cooped up over the past several months and yearn to travel again, the time is right to live vicariously through the past adventures of our residents. Natalia Kavanaugh leads us through the second-largest city in Russia and Joe Langeries reaches back in his memory to share with us his adventure climbing Kilimanjaro and following the game in the Serengeti back in 2005.

Here on the home front, we meet the mother-daughter team of Andie and Jade Ohde and learn of their extensive involvement in a number of local non-profits including Small Champions and Access Unbound. And Beth Levine shares with us how she manages a professional career as an architect while fulfilling her creative side with her artwork drawn from local sites. We are also entertained by a few surprises as we get a glimpse into the imagination of Miles Antine and we welcome Lily Decent to the neighborhood.

Happy Valentine's Day Singletree! Wishing you lots of love this February!



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TIME TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLICATION!

It's a new year and with it comes refreshed energy and a new outlook. This is the year to participate in **YOUR** neighborhood publication, which is not possible without your contributions and support.

Please submit an article or nominate a friend or neighbor to be featured in an upcoming issue of the magazine. What families do you know? Who are the kids on your block? Puppies are the rage! What 4-legged furry companion have you met recently? Let us live vicariously through your travel adventures! In these difficult times, which charities do you choose to support?

Please email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to participate in *INSIDE Singletree!* We welcome and appreciate your all levels of involvement.

Have you checked out our *INSIDE Singletree* pages on Facebook and Instagram? Be sure to like and follow us on both Facebook and Instagram! And be sure to tag [@insidesingletree](https://www.instagram.com/insidesingletree) to be featured on our page!



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Debbie Robbins,
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Tim Swift,
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Allie Decent
Resident Writer &
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**Burke and
Alyssa Larson**
Meet Your Neighbors



Natalia Kavanaugh
Travel Tales



**George and
Maggie Tedesco**
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Valentine's Day



**Craig and
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Valentine's Day



Andie and Jade Ohde
Who's Making
a Difference



Lily Decent
Precious Pets



Miles Antine
Kids' Corner



Joe Langeries
Travel Tales

CALLING ALL 2021 SINGLETREE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!



Time to celebrate Vail Valley high school graduation! Please help us identify this year's graduates to participate in the May issue of *INSIDE Singletree* featuring the Class of 2021. Please email contact information to holly.proctor@n2pub.com. We will reach out to each graduate for profiles and photos; contributions are due March 15, 2020. Thank you for joining us in recognizing the 2021 neighborhood graduates!



Burke, Alyssa, Tucker, Madison meet your neighbors & TJ

Photography by Olga Barron Photography Inc.

We are the Larson family: Burke, Alyssa, Tucker (6.5) and Madison (4.5). Burke has lived in the valley full time for over 20 years and I have been here for more than 10 years; we moved to Rawhide Road in September 2017. We have lived everywhere from East Vail, West Vail, Eagle Vail, and we even ventured to Eagle for about 18 months before landing in Singletree. We thank our lucky stars every day that we live where we do, being so close to everything we are involved in, including our extended family!

As the oldest of 4 kids, Burke was born and raised in Genesee, Colorado. Burke's dad started his career in the late '60s in Vail and infused the love of the mountains into everything that he did. His family had a second home in East Vail where they came every weekend; Burke grew up ski racing in Vail through Ski Club Vail and mountain bike racing in the summers here.

I was born in Maryland, and moved to Littleton, CO when I was 5. I grew up skiing at Copper and Breckenridge and had a love of the mountains from the beginning. My dad did a lot of work for Breckenridge and got a free Buddy Pass for me the first year they were available; I was a junior in high school at the time. My friend and I skied 45 days that season and we were both hooked. Ever



since then, I wanted to find a way to live here. I was hoping to teach skiing after college but received a job offer too good to pass up. Eventually, I found my way here after meeting Burke.

When we met, Burke was living in Vail and I was living in Denver. Both of our roommates were dating and introduced us. We spent closing weekend together in 2009 and every weekend together after that for the next year until I made the move



in 2010. About 6 months later, Burke proposed in December of 2010 and we were married in October of 2011 at the Singletree Club (Balata at the time).

Burke was previously in the title insurance industry working

for Land Title and Title Company of the Rockies for 14 years; he switched professions entirely to general contracting 4 years ago, which has always been a dream of his. Since then, he has been working with Alex Coleman (Coleman Custom Homes) on various projects in Vail and Beaver Creek.

I have been in commercial banking since graduating college. I first started my career with LaSalle Bank in Chicago, then moved back to Denver. I was working for a commercial mortgage brokerage company for 3 years during the economic downturn before starting my career with US Bank almost 11 years ago. Today, I am a credit analyst manager for a team out of Idaho and Washington, managing a team of 7 analysts. I have been fortunate to be home-based for about 3.5 years, which has served us particularly well during COVID when I could homeschool our kindergartener.

Life has taken so many wonderful, and interesting, twists and turns since we got married.

Our first stop was tackling Burke's Lyme disease, a diagnosis we received just 6 months after we were married. He had been undiagnosable, in pain and sick for more than 15 years and I just knew there had to be an answer. We dug and dug and finally had a diagnosis, but there were so many unanswered questions that came with it. Our research and quest for healing him of the disease led us to Germany just about 8 years ago, where he received alternative treatments and jump-started the healing process.



That month long trip was incredible in so many ways. We often refer to it as our second honeymoon, where Burke started to get his life back. We were at the doctor's office 4-5 days a week, where we enjoyed getting to know the doctor personally as Burke was the only patient she would see while we were there. In our "off" time, we would go on drives in the farm countryside and enjoy lattes at the local coffee shop. We visited the Porsche museum one weekend, our neighbors gave us tickets to a local car rally one weekend, and we ventured to the Sonnenalp in Germany for a 3 night stay for our last weekend.



That was really something else, the highlight being the fleet of top-of-the-line Audi's they kept on site that we could take out for anywhere from 2-8 hours at a time. We drove through the German Alps over skinny mountain passes and had a blast! After 18 months of rigorous treatment back home, along with additional treatments to support other functions in his body, he is ultimately healed of the disease and is thriving in ways that never seemed possible when we were first married.



Our second stop was our son Tucker Burke. Through all of Burke's illness, several doctors had told him that he would not be able to have kids. We weren't sure that was true, and sure enough, it was not and we were so grateful for that fact. Just 11 months after our trip to Germany, our son Tucker was born on St. Patrick's Day in 2014. He has changed our life in so many good ways. He is excited to do anything we like to do - mountain biking, skiing, hiking, camping, cooking, cleaning, riding in fast cars, and building just about anything. He has such a great spirit and is so fun to be with. He has a lot of great ideas and it is exciting to see him grow in his



reading and academics, along with his athletics. Closing day on 3/14/20, just 3 days before his 6th birthday, he hit 50 days of skiing and was SO sad that he couldn't get more. Needless to say, he couldn't wait for the mountain to open this winter. He also loves jiu jitsu, where he says he gets to learn to fight like a ninja. He is in 1st grade and very happy to be going to school in person

this year, despite having to wear a mask!

Our third stop was our daughter Madison Suzanne. She was born in April of 2016 and is a spitfire, sassy, beautiful and happy little girl that makes us laugh constantly. She is a girly girl who likes to keep up with her big brother. Madison is kind, thoughtful and loves to help with almost anything. She enjoys wearing dresses, playing with babies, building Legos and making art projects. She loves to help around the house, cook meals with me, pick out extraordinary outfits, and play with our golden retriever puppy TJ. She is excited for play dates with her friends and playing outside, rain, snow or in sunshine. The smallest cut from 2 weeks ago can sometimes be a disaster today, dramatic as any little girl should be, but nothing a Band-Aid can't cure. She loves ballet and tap dance class and is in her last year of preschool and will head to Kindergarten in the fall.

Our fourth stop was our dog TJ. He was born 7/2/20 and we picked him up on 8/29/20. We had been on the waitlist for over a year and Mom just wasn't ready to have a puppy around and kept putting it off. It just ended up working out that there was a boy available from the litter born in July and I basically changed my mind over a few days. We picked him up 2 days after my birthday and the



kids couldn't believe that I wanted a puppy for my birthday! It's not what I asked for, but it's more than I could have ever wanted. He is so wonderful to have as an addition to our family. He is well behaved, well-loved and he gets me out with friends for hikes on a regular basis, which has been really nice considering I work from home and could use some fresh air every once and a while.

And here we are now, with thriving careers, a wonderful neighborhood, a great group of friends, all while being surrounded with family that we love to spend time with. We try to get in as many ski days as possible during the winter and as many camping trips as possible during the summer. We are so happy and grateful to call Singletree and this Vail Valley our home.



SINGLETREE

**2021 SPOA Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 9, 2021
6 PM**

It is a Pandemic Annual Meeting!

To keep everyone safe and healthy this year the meeting will be virtual!

This is your opportunity to learn more about what the SPOA Board is doing for the community.

Property owners will receive their meeting notice in the mail. They will also be emailed to residents that receive Singletree's emails. If you would like to receive Singletree's emails, please email manager@singletreetoday.com to be added to the distribution list.

There is one seat up for election this year. With the notice you will also get a mail-in ballot that can either be sent or dropped into the mailbox at the Singletree Community Center. All ballots must be received by Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 5pm. There will not be an opportunity for nominations from the floor this year.

There will be an opportunity to join the meeting in-person at the Community Center. Please note, the Board will be attending the meeting virtually. Reservations required.

We look forward to the time when we can get together in-person again!



pass through the city and under about 800 bridges! Some bridges are drawbridges; they are raised and brought down twice a night.

The architecture of the city is unique and inimitable. There are also a lot of architectural monuments here. One of them is St. Isaac's Cathedral. It ranks first in size in Russia (101.5 meters) and fourth in the world. We climbed to the dome of the temple on a stone spiral staircase top. The observation deck offers a unique view of the city. The gilding of the domes of the temple took about 100 kilograms of gold. The decoration of the interior of the cathedral took about 400 kilograms of gold. It is absolutely worth seeing! As well as the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, which is very colorful and intricate in its design.

If you are in St. Petersburg, you will also definitely need to visit one of the largest museums in the world - the Hermitage. It has over 350 rooms and contains about 3 million exhibits. It will take about 8 years of continuous inspection to see all of them, spending only a minute for each. To be honest, I have been there twice, but I still have not mastered to see all the halls. But what I saw left a large impression in my memory.

St. Petersburg is called the cultural capital of Russia. There are many musicians, artists and poets on the streets of the city. All the air is filled with the desire to create and be heard. Therefore, having arrived in St. Petersburg, every evening we planned a cultural program. One evening we attended a Blues concert. My husband is from Chicago, he knows Blues. He was pleasantly surprised by the level and skill of this Russian Blues band that was spot on with the Chicago Blues scene. On another evening we went to see the Swan Lake ballet at the Mariinsky Theater. The theater itself was founded in the 18th century and is still the leading musical theater in Russia and the world. The music and ballet are a language that is understandable without words and touching the soul and heart.

travel tales Contributed by Natalia Kavanaugh, Singletree Resident

A Return to Russia

NEXT STOP: ST. PETERSBURG

In her last article, Natalia led us through a fascinating journey to explore the puzzles of the biggest country in the world. This month, she continues to share her insights and experiences in her native Russia. Thank you, Natalia, for welcoming us to your country!

The second-largest city in Russia is St. Petersburg (in the USSR it was called Leningrad). The second-largest, but not the most beautiful. High-speed train "Sapsan" travel between Moscow and St. Petersburg is quite amazing. Therefore, if you are in Moscow, plan a trip to St. Petersburg for a few days. You will not regret it! When my husband arrived in Russia for the third time, we went to this city. This city is not like Moscow. There is a proverb in Russia: "Moscow is chosen with the mind, St. Petersburg with the heart." It has its own unique charm and romance.

The city was built by Peter the Great in the early 18th century. It is also called the Venice of the North, because about 10% of the total area of St. Petersburg is occupied by water bodies – rivers, ponds and lakes. Many river channels



Of course, it is difficult to describe all the places that my husband and I visited in Russia. I wanted to fill the jigsaw puzzles about the real Russia, and not about the ones that Hollywood and anti-Soviet propaganda invented. Russia has an ancient history dating back over a thousand years. We have a rich culture and a lot to see. The tourism business is developed, and you can pick up a tour for any wallet size, seeing many sites that will capture your imagination for years to come.

Indeed, in addition to Moscow and St. Petersburg, there are a lot of places in Russia where you can go to get charged with emotions and impressions: Kazan, Kaliningrad, Nizhny Novgorod, the cities of the Golden Ring, Olympic Sochi with its ski slopes and the Black Sea. Well, if you like extreme sports, welcome to Siberia, Lake Baikal, see the volcanoes of the Far East and the geysers of Kamchatka. Honestly, I haven't been there, but those who have share vivid photos and feelings. I hope, with a few strokes from the palette of my memory, I have painted for you a picture of my country that will arouse your interest and desire to visit it. "Do svidaniya" my friends !!!

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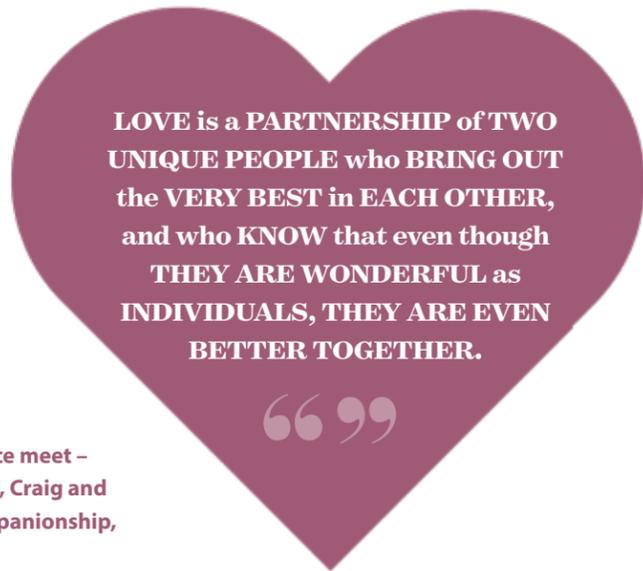
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Celebrating Valentine's Day in Singletree

Meet two Singletree couples who traveled their individual paths to a chance meet – from a blind date and a swimming pool – to a lifetime of partnership. Here, Craig and Ingrid Dampier and George and Maggie Tedesco share their stories of companionship, adventure and longstanding love. ALWAYS BETTER TOGETHER.



CRAIG AND INGRID DAMPIER

So, how did Craig and I meet? My first answer would be blind date – but it wasn't actually – it was a quid pro quo! Sandy, the hall monitor in my college dorm, was engaged to Leon, a midshipman at the Naval Academy. Per tradition, every winter there is an exchange of students between the three military academies to see how the others lived, and to have all sorts of sports competitions. As it happened, Leon was going to West Point and wanted Sandy to meet him there. That meant she had to change buses at the Port Authority in New York City – totally daunting for a small town Pennsylvanian.

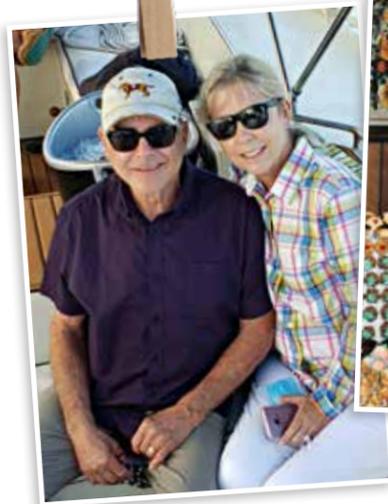
After some research, she found out I actually lived there and took the bus all the time to and from college. She asked me if I would help her and protect her from sin city. In exchange, she would find me a date. I said sure. Later she told me Leon found the last guy without a date, and he was quiet and well, homely. Much later I found out that Sandy basically said the same thing to Leon about me!



When I arrived at Hotel Thayer at West Point, having safely delivered Sandy, I met Craig and we hit it off immediately. I was in the throes of studying topology and Craig was actually interested in my lengthy descriptions of the problems I was solving. He was a chem major and regaled me with tales of chem lab exploits. (So there goes the myth that we were both quiet!) We kissed on the first night and have been inseparable ever since (well, sometimes inseparable via mail to distant shores that the Navy took Craig to).

We married in July 1970 at my hometown church in New York. Our honeymoon was a camping road trip through New York State – Finger Lakes and Niagara Falls, into Canada – Montreal and Quebec. We planned to recreate the trip this year, but the pandemic interfered! I followed my Navy man through about 16 moves and have at last and happily landed in Singletree. Along the way there have been 2 dogs, 2 cats, and 2 kids (Paul and Scott). Also several cars, mortgages and jobs.

It's been an E-Ticket ride the whole way.



GEORGE AND MAGGIE TEDESCO

How did you meet?

GEORGE: When I lived in DC in the early 80's, pool gatherings were the thing to do on weekends. One day I saw this blonde in a red bikini floating in the pool, and said to myself, "whoa, I've never seen her before, I'd better go introduce myself," then I jumped in and chatted with Maggie until my fingers turned to prunes.

MAGGIE: I was sunning on a float in the pool one day, when up pops this handsome guy with the most beautiful long, dark eyelashes, now dripping with water. I talked to him for what seemed like forever, but I already had a boyfriend. After running into George a few times around the building, I soon dumped the boyfriend (of course!)

Where are you each from and how is it your paths crossed?

GEORGE: I'm from Rochester, New York, but joined my brother in the Virginia/Washington DC area after my military discharge, working as a professional electrician. Each of us was living under our own circumstances, until the day my brother purchased a condo



in Alexandria and I ended up buying into the same building the day after.

MAGGIE: Originally from Texas, I moved to DC after attending Texas Tech University in Lubbock. While working for the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations, I moved into the same condo as George, on a different floor.

When and where did you get married?

MAGGIE: This self-proclaimed "bachelor for life" and I married in October of 1985, after a 4-year courtship. The ceremony was held at the beautiful Historic St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fairfax Station, where Clara Barton once nursed Civil War troops, and from which she got the idea for the establishment of the Red Cross.

Did you honeymoon and where?

GEORGE: We honeymooned on the island of Bermuda, where we vowed to return every 5 years. But during our subsequent 35 years, we've discovered Italy and other locations and countries to explore and haven't been back to Bermuda since.

Do you have kids or pets?

MAGGIE: We don't have any children, but are quite fond of dogs. Our "first-born" as I like to call her, Cody Rose, a big yellow Labrador, made it to 13 years, 8 months, but was not able



to make it out here when we moved from Virginia to Colorado in 2006.

GEORGE: I wasn't sure I wanted the responsibility of another dog, but we soon found ourselves with another yellow Labrador, Bella Rosa, who is now 12, and still has the energy of a puppy... I think it's the active Colorado lifestyle keeping her young.

What are your favorite shared activities?

MAGGIE: I had never skied before I met George and he was an avid skier, so I took it up. That first season, all season, I had a solid bruised backside from always falling on the same spot on the hard-packed East Coast slopes.

GEORGE: Maggie and I met in the summer time, and after a ski buddy of mine met her, he asked "well, she's good-looking, but what are you going to do with her in the winter?" Luckily she was a good sport and a quick learner, and it's something we have enjoyed doing together now for many years. Also, her skiing improved exponentially once we moved here.

What keeps you together or makes it work still today?

MAGGIE: I think we both have a lot of respect for one another, can talk about anything, and sincerely enjoy one another's company. He's exceptionally handy around the house, and I'm pretty good with the technical stuff. George is my best friend, my rock, and my soul mate.

GEORGE: Love, patience and continuity. When you find someone you love and with whom want to spend all your time, you realize it is worth working for. I don't even consider it work because I am the luckiest man around.

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Single Family and Duplex Homes Under Contract and Sold Since October 15th*

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Under Contract	745 Charolais Circle	Single Family	4	5	3,955	Partially	\$1,395,000	\$353	65	--	--	--
Under Contract	40 Honda Drive	Single Family	4	5	4,635	Unfurnished	\$3,475,000	\$750	34	--	--	--
Closed	11 Shotgun Circle E	Duplex	3	4	2,105	Partially	\$935,000	\$444	2	\$955,000	\$454	10/28/20
Closed	31 Shotgun Circle A	Duplex	3	3	2,126	Unfurnished	\$948,000	\$446	101	\$925,000	\$435	11/11/20
Closed	20 June Creek Road A	Duplex	5	5	2,662	Unfurnished	\$1,050,000	\$394	65	\$960,000	\$361	12/01/20
Closed	50 Singletree Road	Duplex	3	4	2,267	Partially	\$1,095,000	\$483	0	\$1,100,000	\$485	10/29/20
Closed	1671 Winslow Road	Single Family	4	5	3,740	Unfurnished	\$1,100,000	\$294	1,114	\$1,040,000	\$278	10/21/20
Closed	45 Latigo Circle	Single Family	4	4	2,840	Partially	\$1,300,000	\$458	0	\$1,300,000	\$458	11/05/20
Closed	1581 Winslow A	Duplex	4	4	2,544	Unfurnished	\$1,350,000	\$531	4	\$1,325,000	\$521	11/06/20
Closed	161 Stagecoach Road	Single Family	4	4	3,615	Unfurnished	\$1,450,000	\$401	98	\$1,350,000	\$373	11/09/20
Closed	461 Winslow Road	Single Family	4	4	3,133	Unfurnished	\$1,685,000	\$538	6	\$1,575,000	\$503	10/29/20
Closed	1471 Winslow Road	Single Family	4	4	4,327	Unfurnished	\$1,889,000	\$437	44	\$1,850,000	\$428	12/03/20
Closed	681 June Creek Road	Single Family	5	7	4,570	Partially	\$1,900,000	\$416	26	\$1,800,000	\$394	12/07/20
Closed	31 Longhorn Road	Single Family	6	5	4,208	Partially	\$2,195,000	\$522	19	\$2,100,000	\$499	10/23/20
Closed	11 Buckboard Road	Single Family	4	5	4,069	Unfurnished	\$2,795,000	\$687	621	\$2,795,000	\$687	11/17/20

*Properties Under Contract and Sold 10.15.20 - 12.7.20
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AN UNSTOPPABLE MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEAM: Andie and Jade Ohde Grow Together with Small Champions, Special Olympics and Access Unbound

Andie Ohde and her daughter Jade have been involved in making skiing and other sports available to anyone in the Vail Valley with special needs, particularly children, for over 20 years; ever since Jade was diagnosed with autism and pdd/nos. When Jade was five, she started skiing with Small Champions, the well-known Eagle County program that transforms and empowers the lives of Eagle County kids who are challenged with a variety of cognitive and physical disabilities. Small Champions provides multiple programs from skiing and snowboarding to indoor climbing to horseback riding, bowling, and golf. Jade jumped in



with both feet and loved every minute of it, and Andie was so impressed with the programs that she devoted the next five years of her life to supporting the organization.

About 15 years ago, she started a fundraising golf tournament with Connie Miller to benefit Small Champions at Cotton Ranch where she and Jade were living at the time. With the exception of this year due to the pandemic, that event continues as their principal fundraiser to this day.



and run by Special Olympic volunteers.

As Jade grew, her love of sports grew with her and she moved on from Small Champions to compete in the Special Olympics where she competed in a lot more than skiing. She added bowling, swimming, and cycling to her repertoire of events all of which are locally supported

Last winter, Jade began skiing with the Valley's adaptive skiing program for those with special needs, Access Unbound, and, in keeping with her modus operandi, Andie got involved as well. After seeing how well Jade benefited from the Access Unbound program, Andie took it upon herself to increase awareness of the program amongst the families she knew that had special needs kids. At her own expense, she recorded and produced a video with the executive director of Access Unbound, Katie Zinn, to promote the agency to local families who could benefit from the program as well as asking for support from the community.



Thanks in no small part to Andie Ohde and her extraordinary efforts of helping promote our Valley's three different, yet complimentary organizations designed to support children with special needs from youth to adulthood. Small Champions gets them started; they compete in Special Olympics events, and Access Unbound provides instruction as



they get older. This synergy is one of the many not for profit facets that makes our community so special, but it is important to note that while receiving substantial local financial support, these programs are not free. Participating families of Access Unbound still have to pay a portion of the cost to take advantage of private adaptive ski lessons. That is why Andie's efforts are so invaluable in getting the word out about the importance of supporting these programs.



But Andie is not the only Ohde that gives back. Jade does so as well. She has been lending her charm and her talents to the Community Market and Habitat for Humanity. The Community Market is a program of the Eagle Valley Community Foundation that provides food security to residents who find themselves in financial distress. Jade volunteers as a greeter and shelf stocker. At the Carpenters Ball, the annual fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, she is also a greeter, but her commitment to Habitat goes deeper than that. Jade has helped construct the homes that Habitat provides in Eagle County.

About a year ago, Andie started to broaden her reach and began a social media effort to spread the word about our community and all we have to offer. She began posting videos, including the one she did with Katie Zinn, to her Facebook page, Instagram account, and YouTube channel, highlighting our various and diverse residential communities from East Vail to



Gypsum that contribute so much to our quality of life. To date she has posted videos about fly fishing with a national champion, the myriad of outdoor activities we have here, local businesses and golfing at Frost Creek with the head pro.

As recently as November 2020, she formed a partnership with Holly Proctor, the publisher of this magazine, expanding that video effort to include

Inside Singletree advertisers and many of our other not for profits. To further demonstrate her selfless commitment, Andie is providing 100% of the funding for the production of all these videos just as she did for the Access Unbound piece.



Andie and Jade Ohde are truly a mother/daughter team to be reckoned with and appreciated. They have been both beneficiary and benefactor of not for profits and are truly leaving their mark on our community.

You can check out Andie's videos by going to www.youtube.com and typing "Andie Ohde" in the search window.



Hello Everybody in Singletree!

My name is Lily Decent, and I just joined my new rescue family for Halloween 2020. They are a nice bunch of people, much better than the last ones for sure! When I found them, I had just been rescued from behind a dumpster in Old Edwards Estates. At first I growled a lot, but then my rescuer covered me in a blanket and I snuggled right in! When my rescuer took me to the shelter to get checked out, she called my new family! One big surgery and a week later, they came to get me from the Eagle Valley Animal Shelter. Who knew that while scrounging for scraps I would find a home!

For the first few days, I wasn't sure where to go to the bathroom, and I really hated grass on my feet, and wearing that fancy necklace they got me was definitely a no-go. Every time they bent down to pet me or pick me up I was afraid they were going to hurt me, so I would run away into my crate to stay safe. After a week, I learned that dogs are supposed to go potty outside, and that treats are given when I do things my family likes me to do! The little family member loves me the most; she is always



holding me and petting me and she keeps giving me adorable little stuffed babies I get to run around with and play with and snuggle with all the time in one of my 3 special dog-only beds in this house. I know I have my own spaces, but sometimes I love to lay in the sun on the little one's bed just because I miss her when she is at school.

So far it's been pretty great here. My favorite things to do so far is run around chasing my toys, and going on long trail runs with my Mommy. I also enjoy running away when we walk on the golf course; my family yells so much and then chases me all the way home and it's the best game ever! My family misses their other dog Desi, but I think I'm doing a good job of filling their hearts with as much love as my little 8-pound body can give. Sometimes I can smell Desi, and I am so grateful that she left me this spot in the world and that she had prepped my family for life with a chihuahua mix. Funny story, but apparently the night Desi passed was the same night my rescuer found me! What a coincidence! Isn't life grand?

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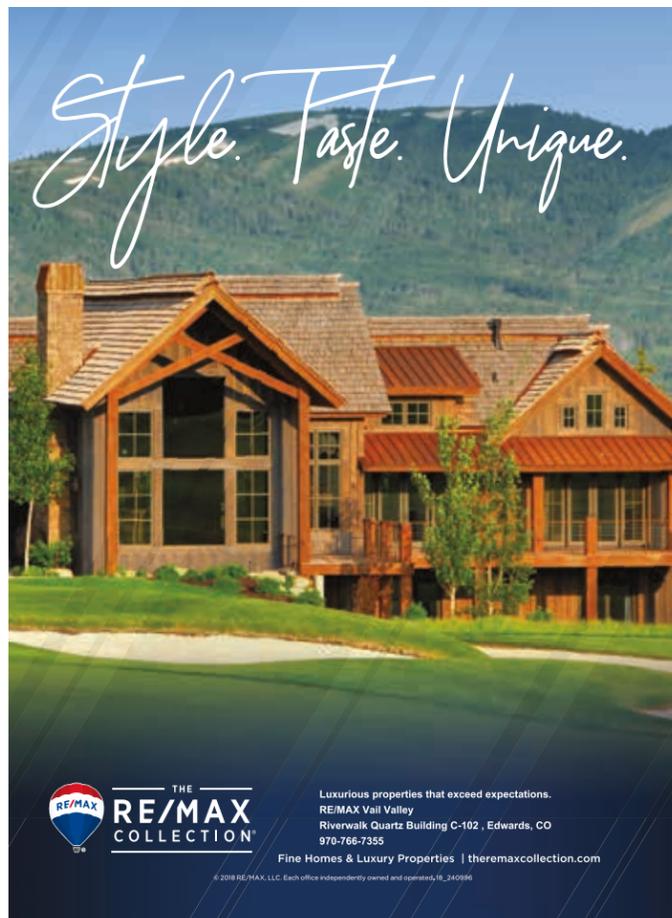
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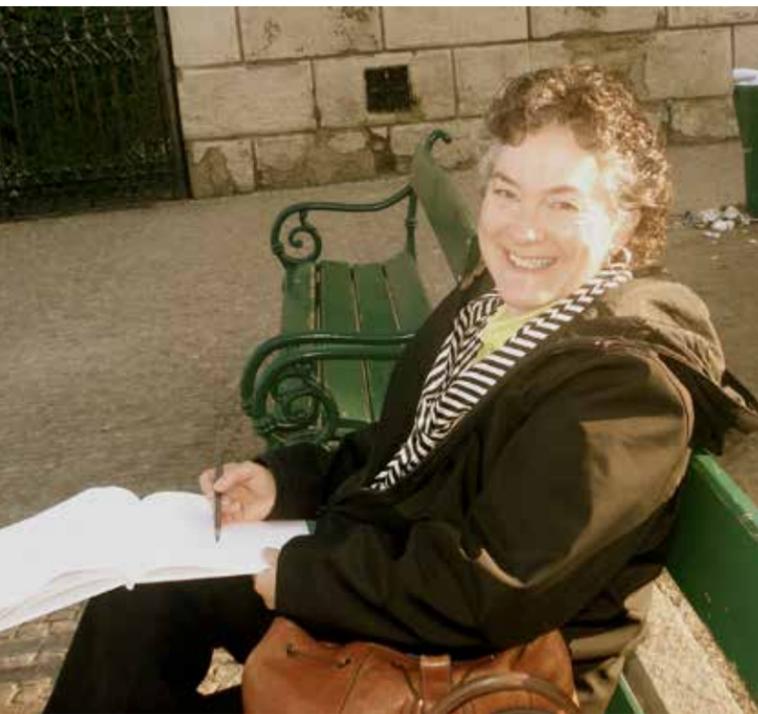
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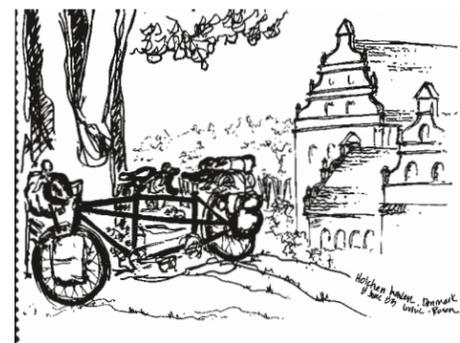
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meet **celebrating the arts** BETH LEVINE: Professional Architect... Passionate Artist

Contributed by **Beth Levine**, Singletree Resident
Article Written by **Bobbie Ruh**, Singletree Resident

Beth Levine has been an artist for her entire lifetime. She decided at age 12 that she wanted to study architecture because it combined her two loves: art and math. She enrolled in the architecture program at the University of Minnesota. She chose their program because it emphasized the artistic aspect of architecture, but she also studied mechanical engineering to further expand on her technical skills. It was the architecture program that provided her with the opportunity to study abroad, where she spent four months in Egypt and Europe drawing buildings and monuments, and it was the engineering program that resulted in her meeting her husband, Tim Rosen.



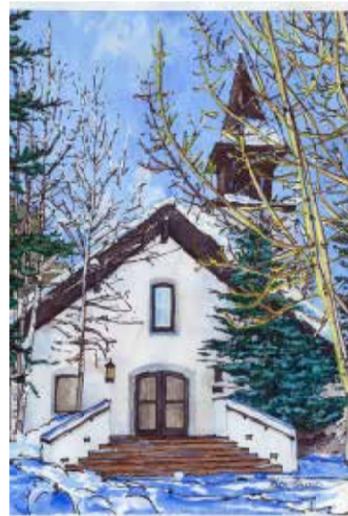
When Beth and Tim married in 1983, they opted out of a fancy wedding, investing instead in a tandem bicycle to tour the Baltic countries with sketch pad and cameras in their

respective backpacks. They biked over 3000 miles and agreed that Beth could stop to sketch and Tim could stop to take photos each day. Beth still has her sketch pad from that trip.

Upon their return, they worked in their respective fields for two years. Beth and Tim moved to Denver for Beth to enroll at the University of Colorado-Denver to study for her master's degree in architecture while Tim worked at an engineering firm. In February of 1985, just as Beth was finishing her degree, Tim found work in Vail. They commuted to be together on weekends until May, when Beth received her diploma and was able to join Tim in Vail permanently. They have lived in the Valley ever since. They soon added two daughters to their family, Cassidy in 1989 and Melody 20 months later, and built their home in Singletree in 1991, moving in just in time to celebrate Cassidy's second birthday.

When Beth first relocated to the Vail Valley, she worked with Bill Pierce, then with Robert Arnold and later with Gordon Pierce, all renowned local architects. Her biggest project at that time was the Golden Peak Ski Base. She decided to go out on her own in 1997, so as to better manage the demands of work and raising a family, but she still continued to feed her desire to sketch. As she was raising her daughters, free time was hard to come by and she often used family camping outings as an opportunity to sketch her surroundings, with her daughters sketching alongside her.

It was not until her daughters were grown and independent and she sadly lost her mother that Beth was able to find sufficient free time to indulge her personal creative side. She discovered the Vail Valley Art Guild (VVAG) and at first could commit to only one piece per year, which was the beginning of her now-ubiquitous Vail Valley holiday card series. As time passed, Beth became intrigued by a project called "Side by Side," which displayed photos of Vail Valley landmarks together with her drawings of the same subject. Her drawing of the Vail Interfaith Chapel is an example of this work.



As time allowed, Beth continued to follow her bliss. In 2019, she was attracted to a project proposed by Joann Carhart Levy, an artist and board member of VVAG, to visit various ranches in Eagle Country and used her art to capture what was fast becoming a lost way of life. Beth visited and sketched many ranch buildings, objects and vistas. She was especially thrilled to sketch the home and vistas on the property of rancher Kip Gates, the fifth-generation owner of Gates Ranch, at his specific



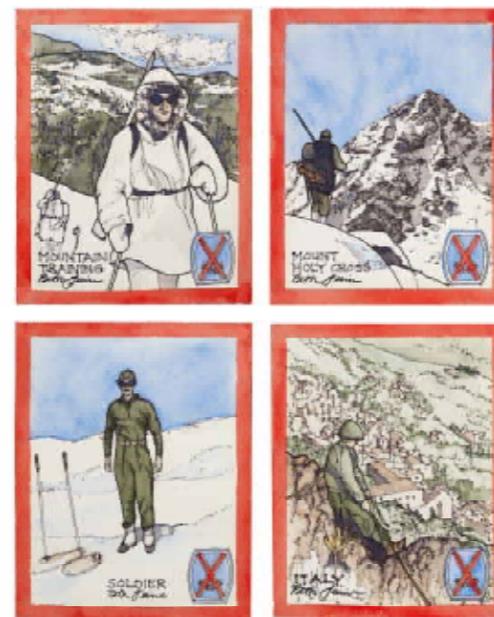
MINTURN'S HISTORIC BUSINESS CORE - 2020
BETH LEVINE - VAIL VALLEY ART GUILD - COLORADO



request. She also enjoyed bringing some of her homemade preserves to the ranchers as a gesture of gratitude and respect. This project grew to become an exhibit at Colorado Mountain College and later the subject of a Vail Symposium presentation. Beth hopes to see the project memorialized in book form and is working toward that end.

Beth's latest project is a collection of sketches of iconic buildings in Minturn and Eagle that have also been assembled into posters. She particularly loved this project because it was done *plein air*. Beth reports that her drawings wouldn't have been the same if she had drawn from photos. She was freed up by looking at each building in its environment and focusing on what was important. She joked that "because there was no building code, I could do whatever I wanted." Because of the spontaneity of her method, Beth was able to complete the project rapidly.

Beth remains busy as a practicing architect, an artist and a board member of VVAG. With one foot in architecture and one in art, Beth thrives and enjoys



the best of both worlds. She now sketches almost exclusively with a Sharpie pen, which tolerates no errors. This doesn't bother her. After 35 years of doing architectural drawings, she is confident of her lines and her ability to render her vision. She loves the technical demands of architecture and the ability to go from an idea to finished construction, but she also loves the freedom and vivacity she finds in her sketching.

Beth was recently honored by having her portrait displayed in lights on the May D&F Tower during the month of October in a digital projection exhibit entitled "Women in Architecture."



kids' corner

Contributed by Miles Antine, Singletree Resident

The ABC's for Miles Antine:

Art, Bacon, Candy... and M for Megalodons!

Welcome to Kids' Corner! This month we meet Miles Antine. Miles and his family moved to Singletree in 2019 and are thrilled to be in the neighborhood. Miles was particularly excited to be interviewed for this edition of Kids' Corner!

Who is in your family? Hillary, Abe, Karen (nanny), Holland (sister) and Streak (cat). I used to have two pets but my dog died. Her name was Maggie (aka Magnolia Bernice Antine) and she was a chocolate lab.

What did you do today? I went to school. At Vail Mountain School. I am in 1st grade.

What is your favorite class? Art.

What is your favorite thing to make? A papier mache cactus. So first you get flour and water and then you get a magazine and you put like 10 layers of that and you wrap it up. It takes 7 days to make it. Then you paint it and then you put the spikes on and then you put the plaster in the pot to keep it safe and to dry and to stick it in and then you put the flowers on the top.

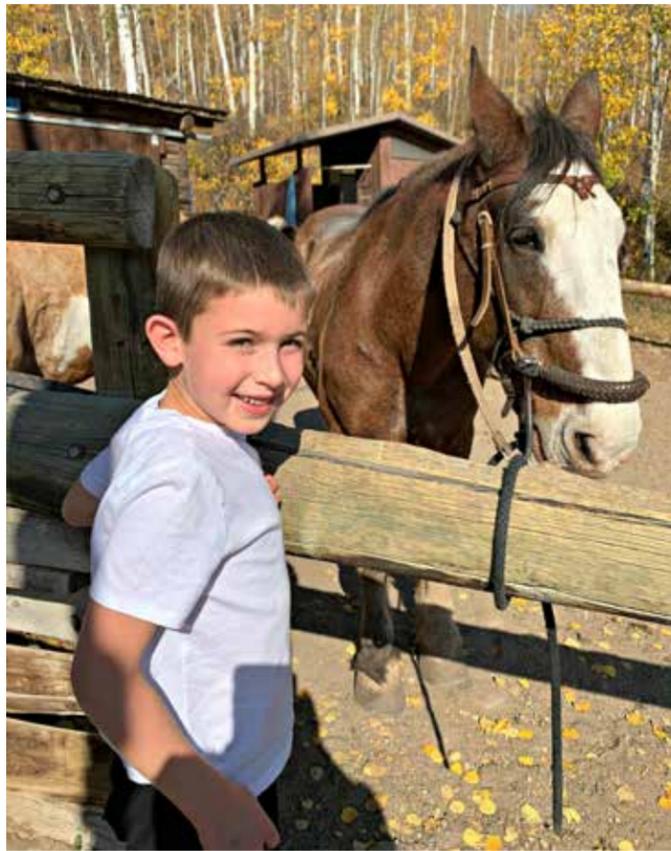
What is your favorite thing to do not in school? Swim. At the Sonnenalp. I don't even need to get trained for swimming or anything because I went to swimming camp when I was like 5 years old. I am 7 now.



Where was your swimming camp? In Florida. I used to live there. My grandparents live there.

What do you like to do on the beach? Collect seashells and jump waves.

What is your favorite zoo animal? Megalodon. It's a massive giant shark that's bigger than the whale shark. It goes from here ... to here (counting about 22 steps



across the room). Its mouth is as big as my dad sideways. It goes from here ... to here (with another demonstration across the French doors).

If you could be an animal in the jungle, what would you be? A king cobra because I can kill predators that are trying to kill me. It's very poisonous.

Do you have a favorite movie? *The Meg*. It's a movie about a megalodon.

What is your favorite breakfast food? BACON! Sometimes with cereal or oatmeal. Lucky Charms is my favorite!

And what about your favorite snack? Candy. Sourpatch kids.



Do you have a favorite flavor? Normal.

If you had a magic power, what would it be? I could fly on a broomstick. To here from Florida. It would take one second!

What is your favorite book? *The Princess in Black*. It's about a princess and superhero; she changes out of a pink dress to become a superhero.

What are you asking Santa to bring you? A real-life puppy. A chocolate lab.

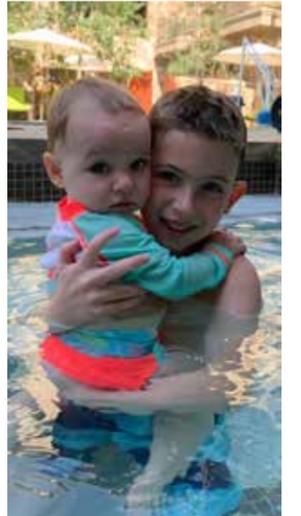
What is your favorite part of Christmas? Opening presents and drinking hot cocoa. With marshmallows. Today, we made hot chocolate at school all by ourselves. We are getting a tree this year - 8' tall. We are getting it on the first day of the weekend. Mom and Dad puts the lights on and I get to put the ornaments on it and then I put the star on top. Dadda lifts me up.

Do you have stockings that you hang by the fireplace? Yes. And Santa has this magic power where he takes the glass away and then he puts it back.

Have you ever caught Santa? I go to bed. One time, my Mom and Dad were asleep and I went to sleep and I heard the bells. And I was like, 'Who would that be?' And then I heard stomps on the roof because Santa is a giant. My favorite reindeer is Rudolph.

If you could change one rule, what would you change? Eat candy every day! Because we can't eat candy at school.

Candy seemed to be a consistent theme for Miles! It was so fun getting to know you, Miles. Thank you for participating in **INSIDE Singletree!**



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Joe Langereis

Shares His Memorable

Adventure to africa:

Trekking Kilimanjaro and Touring the Serengeti



travel tales

Contributed by Joe Langereis, Singletree Resident

Travel has always been my passion and I must say 2020 was a major disappointment. Thanks to covid, I have canceled trips to the Southwest of England, Madeira, the Azores, and Spain plus the Canary Islands. It breaks my heart.

I'm sure your experience has been the same, so I'm thinking we should take a vicarious trip to Africa. Kilimanjaro and the game parks! It is a trip I took a few years ago, and I must say that climbing 19,341 foot Kilimanjaro was quite an experience. It's still the highest summit for me, and when you add in exotic Africa and the game parks the total package is well worth the effort.

As a prelude to this journey, I must tell you the story of the oldest man to summit Kilimanjaro. He is a long time valley resident and I'm sure some of you know him. Before I tell you that story, I need to tell you the story of how I met him.

Before I moved to the Valley, I lived in Washington, DC, where I was a practicing dentist. I did own a home here, spent a lot of time skiing, and was planning my retirement as a ski bum! One day found my wife and I skiing up to the Blue Sky lift. It was a miserable day, cold, windy, snowing heavily. Only one other person had braved the weather, he was waiting at the bottom of the lift. We all rode up together, and when I found out that he was a local resident and the valley orthodontist, I started talking to him about dentistry in the area.

As we reached the top, I asked him if we could ski a run together, and ride up again as I had more questions I wished to ask him. He was reluctant. I finally realized that he was thinking we could not keep up with him. He didn't want to be bored. At the time I was 58, and he was in his mid-70s. I assured him that we could keep up, and although still reluctant, he asked us which run we would like to ski? "You choose," was my reply and we started down "Divide". It was a pleasant powder/bump run. At the bottom, he turned to me and said that I was "a pretty good skier for a tourist". His name was Dr. Fred Distelhorst. We became instant friends and he was gracious enough to invite my wife and me to his home a couple days later.

About 10 years ago, I was hiking in East Vail and came upon Fred and his daughter as they were completing their hike. Fred was lugging a sizable backpack and I inquired as to why he would be doing that for an easy day hike. "I'm training for Kilimanjaro," was his reply. "I'm going to be the oldest person ever to summit." He did that, climbing the mountain at age 87. In all fairness, I must say that Fred is no longer the oldest person to summit, although he is still the oldest man to accomplish this. Five years ago, Anne Lorimor of Paradise Valley, Arizona, climbed Kilimanjaro to become the oldest woman to do so at age 85. That record was quickly overtaken a few months later by Angela Vorobeva who summited the mountain at age 86. Fred broke the record in 2017 at 88 years old. Anne Lorimor obviously did not like this and she returned to Africa to climb it a second time at age 89! Some people just won't give up!

A trip to Kilimanjaro requires some careful planning. When my travel buddy Neil and I were planning our trip, I did a lot of research, read several books, and chose our timeframe. Three months before we were to depart Neil calls me at my office and says that a long-time resident of Tanzania was



speaking at the National Zoo in Washington, DC, about Kilimanjaro and the game parks. "We need to go and talk to him," I responded. We chatted with him after his presentation and realized that our trip was not at the ideal time, three weeks later would be much better. "We need to put off the trip for a year," I told Neil. He was not amused. "Do you know how long it took me to talk my wife into letting me do this?!!" I replied, "We will only get one shot at this and I want it to be perfect," so we put off the trip for 12 months.

In organizing a trip like this, a number of things need to be considered. Weather for the mountain hike, the likelihood of crowds, the political climate in the two gateway countries of Kenya and Tanzania, the route to be followed up the mountain, etc. The website ultimatekilimanjaro.com is helpful in discerning the weather. The mountain climb will require only a week or so, and I assume the traveler will also want to visit the game parks which are located nearby. The website expertafrica.com has a very interesting moving map which allows you to follow the path of the animals on the Serengeti plain. The animals migrate 1,800 miles through an area of 12,000 square miles. You want to be sure the animals are where you are. My goal was to summit the mountain and also observe the birthing of the wildebeest calves. This event naturally attracts predators, a fair amount of drama ensues. Kenya at the time was having political troubles so Tanzania was chosen as our gateway.

There are a number of possible Kilimanjaro routes:

1. The Machame Route: the most popular climbing route up Kilimanjaro.
2. The Rongai Route: the easiest route on Kilimanjaro.
3. The Shira Route: this one catapults you to some serious altitude on the first day.
4. The Lemosho Route: hands down the most beautiful Kilimanjaro climb route, but expensive.
5. The Umbwe Route: the most difficult and demanding route on Kilimanjaro, and the most spectacular.

We selected the most popular route and my none too athletic buddy Neil immediately went into training. He also asked

me about such esoteric topics as blood doping and whether or not he should spend a month in Leadville, CO to acclimatize. After calming him down, and giving him a sedative, we went about searching for a local outfitter. I prefer an African outfitter, as I would prefer that the money we spend go directly to locals. This also avoids an American middleman, so it can help reduce costs. Costs can vary a great deal on this type of adventure, mostly depending on how luxurious you wish your safari experience to be.

After a lengthy flight through Europe to Dar es Salaam, we connected with local transportation to the base of the mountain. I can still remember kicking back with a Tusker beer and a view of Kilimanjaro. The next morning we were off, signed in to get our permits, and connected with our group.

We were scheduled for a six-day hike to cover the 62 km route. The hiking was easy enough, even though my friend and I were sea level people, as I had not yet moved to Vail. We spent the night in our tents, certainly not glamping but comfortable enough. One day was spent in the same place, just walking around locally, in order to acclimatize.

The Kilimanjaro Guides Association claims the success rate for climbing Kilimanjaro is around 65%.

But this includes all the routes, and we were on the easiest one. Although 50,000 people a year attack Kilimanjaro, and we were on the most popular route, I can't say it was crowded. Certainly the nighttime summit march was literally a conga line, but prior to that crowds were not a problem. All the staff and guides were pleasant. Indeed everyone I met in Africa was a pleasure.

Our group of 20 was convivial, we spent our evenings dining, talking,





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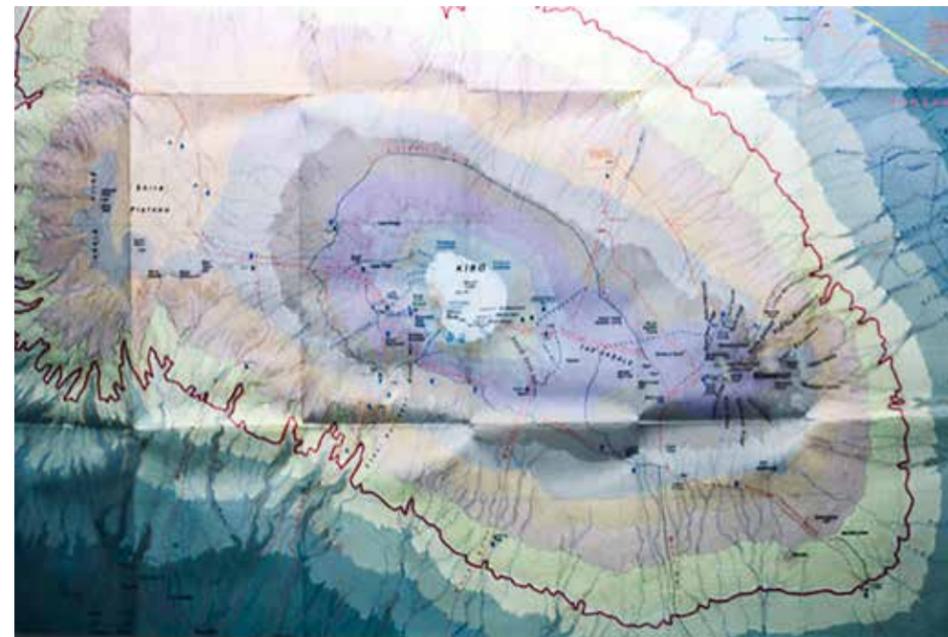


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... and sipping Amarula. This is a local, mild, double distilled, cream liquor made from the fruit of the marula tree. Legend has it that the fruit falls to the ground and ferments and is later eaten by elephants. It is said that they get a bit tipsy. I guess “better a drunk elephant than an angry one”. One of our group was a South African man about my age traveling with his daughter. He had served in the military and would regale us in the evening with tales of

combat. You'll probably meet a fairly interesting cast of characters on your Kilimanjaro adventure too!



Because they want to minimize the risk of altitude sickness, you arrive at a building below the summit very late in the day and prepare for the final morning assault to the top. You don't go to sleep as that would greatly increase the risk of altitude problems. You hang out indoors, and early in the morning while still dark, you trek to the top. It will be cold. “Polepole” is Swahili for slowly-slowly, and that's how you proceed. Reaching the summit in the early a.m. is quite an experience, we all made it as I remember, and a few of us actually walked further around the crater and up a bit higher. After celebrating our achievement for a while, we quickly descended and spent one more night camping before exiting the park. You will receive a certificate affirming your matriculation to the society of Kilimanjaro mountaineers.



I was very excited to head for the Serengeti. The wildebeest would be calving and this is quite a sight. Within minutes of being born the baby can move with mom and the rest of the herd. This is absolutely essential as the local predators are about and looking for a meal. The zebras and wildebeests have a symbiotic relationship, the wildebeest has better hearing, and the zebra better vision, so together they are better prepared to avoid predators. I was also told by a local that the zebra is better at finding water. As they do not compete for the same food, they coexist amicably. The numbers of animals were astounding. It is one of nature's great spectacles.



...



The next day while out observing the animals, we came upon two giraffes who were not getting along. Using their heads as clubs they would swing their necks with great force into each other. The battle went on for quite some time, and the noise, thump – thump - thump gave you a good impression of how hard they were hitting each other. We frequently observed lions hunting; the males are so useless, the ladies do all the work. A couple of days later we observed the amazing spectacle of a group of cape buffalo defending the carcass of one of their fellows against a pride of lions. They would not allow the lions to eat that dead buffalo. At 1,300 pounds, the Cape buffalo is not to be messed with, and they were defending their fallen comrade as a group. Each day provided new enjoyment, the spectacle of African wildlife, and the joys of travel.



know you're there. I guess the smells from the vehicle mask the smells from the humans. There were times where we were literally within a few yards of the big cats. This doesn't work with other animals however, and we did get moving fast when an elephant started flapping his ears in anger at us.

but think that the future of wildlife worldwide is precarious; it's nice to see active efforts in their favor.

Our trip was a great success, the weather cooperated, the animals appeared in abundance, no complaints whatsoever. Do a little research and book your adventure!

Editor's Note: Joe's original photos of his 2005 adventure have been packed away and not accessible for this article. The photos from the trek were provided by his travel companion, Neil Cohen, and enhanced by Photographer Olga Barron of Olga Barron Photography Inc. The author exercised a bit of poetic license in using stock photos of the animals in the Serengeti which well represent what he experienced there.



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