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perty for their clients.



JOINT TENANCY

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

CONTINGENCY

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



## DOWN PAYMENT

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



## LISTING PRICE

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



on formed at the roof edge thawing and re-freezing of ed snow on the overhang.

## WALK-THROUGH

The final inspection of a home by a buyer before finalizing a deal to purchase the home.



## YIELD

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

#### ZONING

Designated areas to enfo architectural design regula



within the specific are

## YOUR GUIDE TO VAIL VALLEY REAL ESTATE FROM A TO Z

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## Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!

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Check out the local ski conditions before you hit the slopes at www.snow.com.



See if your flight is departing on-time. Eagle County Regional Airport has its own website, www.flyvail.com.



**Get alerts about emergencies and other important** community news by signing up to receive Eagle County Alerts at www.ecalert.org.



**Roads in Singletree are maintained by Eagle County. Please give** snowplows plenty of space and keep the road right-of-way free of cars and trash cans. You can email them: road@eaglecounty.us.



Mark Your Calendar - Singletree's Wine Tasting is returning on Thursday, November 11, from 6 PM to 8 PM, at the Community Center. Pre-Payment is required to attend this event and it is limited to 75 people. Email manager@singletreetoday.com to sign up.

## SINGLETREE

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

1010 BERRY CREEK ROAD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER www.singletreetoday.com

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v	
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Vail Honeywagon	970-476-3511



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# publisher's note Hello Singletree Residents!

Welcome to November! This month, we start out by meeting the Treat family: Sandy, Hope and Quinn (Sandy V). Both bona fide Colorado natives, who knew that a chance meeting at Aloha Beach would set the couple on a nine-year path to Singletree? Today, they are thrilled to live on Longhorn Road just down the hill from Sandy's first home on Tack Road.

In observance of Veterans Day on November 11, INSIDE Singletree and the residents of Singletree pay tribute to Cathy Shuler Collins and Dr. Kirk Smick. Having each served our country in a medical capacity, as a dietician and an opthamologist respectively, Cathy and Kirk share a history of unexpected twists in their post-college years that proved to be life changing experiences. Today, both are honored to have served our country and we thank them for their service.

Jaime Freudenthal shares with us the journey that brought her to Singletree; as a native New Yorker, Jaime had an epiphany at

the start of the pandemic and came to the conclusion, "If not now, when?" and the wheels were set in motion. And speaking of silver linings, Giuseppe and Alisha Bosco capitalized on the pandemic to launch three new businesses to import and distribute fine Italian Wines as well as to import Italian monocultivar olive oils and other Italian food specialties. All this and much more in the November issue of your neighborhood magazine!



Wishing you and your family a memorable Happy Thanksgiving filled with joy, fun and laughter! And fingers crossed... COME ON, SNOW!

**Holly Proctor Area Director** 303-859-3369





Photographer



**Debbie Robbins** Content Advisor



**Sandy Treat** Meet Your Neighbors



Jaime Freudenthal

Lee Froman Farmers Insurance



**Cathy Shuler** Collins Veterans Day Tribute



Giuseppe and

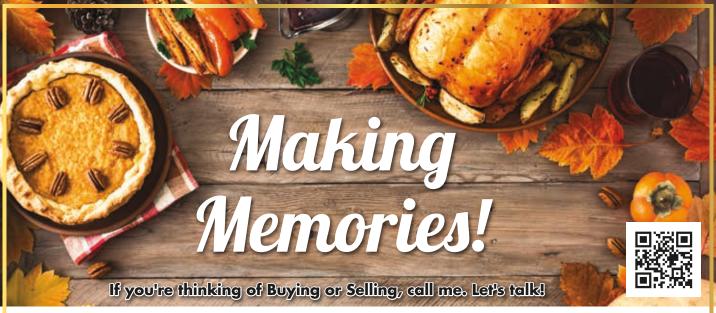


Alisha Bosco

## **NOVEMBER** contributors

INSIDE SINGLETREE is always seeking new ideas and fresh stories every month! Please contribute an article or nominate a neighbor to share their story: Meet Your Neighbors. Kids' Corner. Super Seconds. Travel Tales. Precious Pets. New to the Neighborhood. Who's Making a Difference. Got a new idea? Let us know about it!

Your neighborhood publication is not possible without your participation! Please email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to be part of





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**Diane Levin** Veterans Day Tribute **Bruce Delnay** New to the Precious Pets **Business Beat** Vail Valley Pharmacy Neiahborhood INSIDE Singletree!

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## GERBER COLLISION & GLASS

For many in the Vail Valley, Rich's Auto Body

in Avon provided the "go-to" solution for auto body repair. Family owned and led by Lenny Ammaturo for more than 20 years, the shop was known for its reliable workmanship and excellent customer care. Lenny sold the business in December 2020, but never fear, the auto body shop continues in its tradition of a family-managed business now at the reins of Lenny's daughter, Marisa Ammaturo, under the reputable banner of Gerber Collision and Glass. Having worked with her father since October 2015, Marisa brings years of experience to her role today as well as her personal passion and commitment to delivering quality work and outstanding customer service to her clients.

With more than 600 repair-center locations across the country, Gerber Collision & Glass offers quality auto body repair services backed by their industry-leading National Lifetime Guarantee for as long as you own your vehicle. Gerber offers collision repair, auto body repair, dent/scratch repair/removal, frame straightening, auto paint repair, paintless dent repair (PDR), bumper repair, and more, to bring your vehicle back to pre-accident condition. They repair all makes and models and happily provide free written repair estimates.

Gerber Collision & Glass is proud to carry the Gold Class I-CAR certification which represents the "Collision Repair Industry Standard for Training That Contributes to Complete, Safe and Quality Repairs". Gerber Collision & Glass distinguishes itself from most other shops as only about 20% of collision repair shops currently complete the rigorous training requirements needed to meet the Gold Class standard. This coveted designation assures its clients that the technicians are trained at the highest level to know how to repair your vehicle properly.

Gerber Collision & Glass is located at 120 Metcalf Rd. in Avon. To schedule an appointment, please call **970-949-1868** or visit **gerbercollision.com/locations/avon-co**.



#### VAIL COUNTRY CLUB

It's January. The holidays are over, the light is flat, and you are dreaming of Pebble Beach. As the only year-round golf facility

located in the heart of the Vail Valley, Vail Country Club offers you the unique opportunity to escape the winter doldrums to practice your golf swing on the state-of-the-art Trackman Golf Simulator and to experience virtually one of 118 worldwide golf courses.

Kenny Thayer, Class A PGA Teaching Professional and proud owner of Vail Country Club, has made this opportunity a reality. Having taught at the Beaver Creek Gold for 14 years, he decided to open Vail Country Club as a place where "golf nuts" like himself can play and practice year-round. Kenny has a passion for working with new players and growing the game and says, "Helping you achieve your goals and enjoy what you are doing is my main objective." With this philosophy at his very core, Kenny is able to offer a unique coaching experience using TrackMan to improve your game, club and ball data and overall knowledge of the swing. You also have the option of video analysis, and all your lessons will be stored in your personal online locker.

And lest you think the 19th hole might be missing from an indoor golf experience, Vail Country Club offers a full bar with a wide variety of beer, wine and spirits for the most discerning golfer in a comfortable sporty atmosphere surrounded by six big-screen TVs. Happy Hour runs daily between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm!

Families and kids are welcome at Vail Country Club. To learn more, contact Kenny at **970-688-5465** or visit **vailcountryclub.com**. Don't wait until January to check it out!



MR. APPLIANCE OF VAIL, ASPEN & GLENWOOD SPRINGS

Remember the adage, "If you want some-

thing done right, do it yourself." That is exactly what Shelley Slater decided to do after experiencing frustration from not finding a repairman to service her washing machine. As a 17-year Vail Valley resident, she realized that if she was having such difficulty in finding a provider, she was not the only one in the Vail Valley seeking reliable appliance repair.

A year ago, Shelley began to evaluate the options: to start an independent shop or to join forces with a nationally trusted brand. She quickly learned that partnering with Mr. Appliance offered the best of both worlds: a locally owned and operated presence and access to systems, parts and training. Being a member of the Mr. Appliance family also means sharing a code of values that they work and live by. Those values are punctuated by the words: Respect, Integrity and Customer Focus. Today,

Shelley and her son, Greg, run the day-to-day of the business so you know your phone call will be answered!

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To reach Mr. Appliance of Vail, Aspen & Glenwood Springs, please call **970-528-8769** or visit **mrappliance.com/vail-aspen-glenwood/**.

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









others, and he shares his dad's love of design and legacy of building and development through Summit Habitats, Inc. and Treat Development. He has built homes in Cordillera Valley Club and is currently building in Mountain Star and in West Vail. Sandy's passions are flying planes, golfing, working out, and playing in the mountains.

I have always been interested in home design and art. When we made the decision to move to the Vail Valley full-time four years ago, we had a lot of dreams, which thankfully and happily, are now taking shape. I have found a home as a REALTOR® at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services and love assisting our clients literally from the ground up,

Our 3-year-old boy, Quinn, is amazing! We came up with his nickname because he is Sandy the fifth, thus Quinn, shortened from Quintuple. As Sandy, his dad, has said, "I didn't think I'd keep the name going, but rarely do we hear of 'the fifth' these days, and I wanted to honor the legacy of my late dad and Grandpa Sandy." The same doctor (Kent Petrie) that delivered Sandy IV, was also my prenatal doctor. Quinn is our daily inspiration to not take life



too seriously as he is the happiest little boy of all time. You might catch him at one of the many parks in the Valley, at Tumble Tots

> or Imagination Station, exploring with Walking Mountains, cruising around Singletree in this John Deere tractor or scooter, playing with dinosaurs, or somewhere kissing his girlfriend, Maddie! He is literally the best surprise we have ever had! Always smiling and making friends wherever we go, it is so much fun watching him learn and grow.

> > We had so much fun renovating our current home on Longhorn Road and look

forward to building on the lot next door. As a family, we have been through a lot of challenges, including the recent passing of Sandy's dad, grandpa, and younger brother Andrew. We have learned so much and have grown as human beings. Life can throw you curveballs, some we can understand, and others we can't. We are grateful however to have each other, and our families. We have learned to lean into whatever life decides to bring our way

## Sandy, Hopse and Quinn (Sandy V)

As people like to claim here in our beautiful, mountainous, sunny state, we are bona fide Colorado natives. Sandy was born in Vail, with Kent Petrie, our Valley's beloved and renewed family physician, welcoming him into this world. I (Hope) grew up in Denver where I met Sandy nine years ago. Our first encounter was at Aloha Beach, an amazing private water-ski community. Sandy was living at his parents' home on the lake, and I was living with friends down the street. A few boat rides later, and after much fun on the water, our partnership grew. Little did I know when I moved there, my future was a short walk down the sandy beach!

While living in Denver, Sandy started a tree service company and quickly learned that he had a passion for owning and operating his own business. During this time, he learned invaluable skills which help him immensely in his profession today. Most importantly, Sandy learned the value and importance of relationships ... of being



a "people person." Growing up in a family of builders (his dad Sandy, and mom Kathy), he was exposed to the intricacies of construction and residential development his entire life.

Sandy's very first home was one that his dad built on Tack Road every few years within the valley. Naturally Sandy joined the family business. He and his mom are partners, among many

through the entire design and construction process. I love creating relationships with them, whether they are new to the valley or simply relocating within it. I am thankful daily for the opportunity to be a part of such an amazing team. Personally, I am constantly striving to be the best version of myself, and always looking for ways to improve as a person, a mother, and a partcooking nutritious meals, and getting back to nature.

in Singletree! From there, as most builders do, his family moved ner. When I have free time, I love creating artwork, working out, and to move forward with optimism, each and every day.

**12** Inside Singletree • November 2021 November 2021 • Inside Singletree 13



Insurance is so often a confusing topic, with changes in the industry happening every day, and, as a result, it is easy to make uneducated decisions in determining exactly what policies make the most sense for you. Enter Lee Froman at Lee Froman Farmers Insurance Agency. As a longtime Vail local, Lee is committed to being the ethical, fun and straightforward solution for all your insurance needs.

## Where are you from originally, and how did you land in the Vail Valley?

I was born and raised in Richmond, VA. I grew up skiing the mountains or "hills" of Virginia and West Virginia. My passion was in skiing and snowboarding. I grew up dreaming about the big mountains of the west. While attending college at Longwood University in Farmville, VA, I had the opportunity to visit some high school friends at CU Boulder and a year later in Vail. Once I experienced Vail, I knew this was the right place for me. That following summer, I completed an internship at the Vail Daily and then moved here permanently.

#### How long have you been an insurance agent? With Farmers?

I started working for the Debbie Brill Farmers Insurance Agency in September of 2006. In October of 2020, I purchased the agency. I have been a Farmers Insurance Agent for a year but have been with the company for 16 years.

#### What inspired you to pursue a career in insurance?

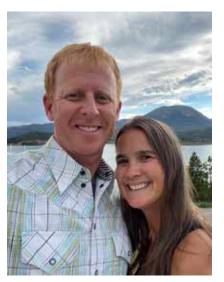
I saw an opportunity to establish a career with a product and service that people are not too fond of. I decided that I wanted to be an ethical, fun and straightforward solution and bring a unique approach of the insurance product and service to our clients.

## What is the most challenging thing you encounter in your position as an investment agent?

I truly care about my clients' well-being and financial security. Oftentimes a prospect or existing client has a perception that I am trying to sell them something they don't need. That will never be the case at my agency.

#### What is the most rewarding part of your role?

When a client has to file a claim and they experience why they use a local agent. It makes a huge difference having a local asset in an insurance claim, and I enjoy helping clients when they need us most.



#### Who are your ideal clients?

Anyone that calls Colorado their home. We have a product and service to meet the needs of any individual, family or small business.

## Is there ever "the perfect time" to evaluate your insurance policies (i.e. Open Enrollment)?

For health insurance, Open Enrollment is November 1st through December 15th, and that is the best (and sometimes only) timeframe to evaluate health insurance. Everyone should evaluate their auto, home, umbrella, life and business insurance at least once a year.

## What is one piece of advice you would offer our readers today?

Don't ignore your insurance policies. You spend a lot of money on insurance, so take time to evaluate your policies with your advisor so that you know you have the correct balance as to you have versus what you need. Don't find out the hard way (in a claim) that you were not properly insured.

#### Can you tell us about your family?

My wife and I got married at Piney River Ranch in Vail in September of 2005. We have an 11-year-old daughter and 7-year-old son. We also have a 1-year-old English Cream Retriever that spends a lot of time at the office with me.

## What are your favorite interests and activities?

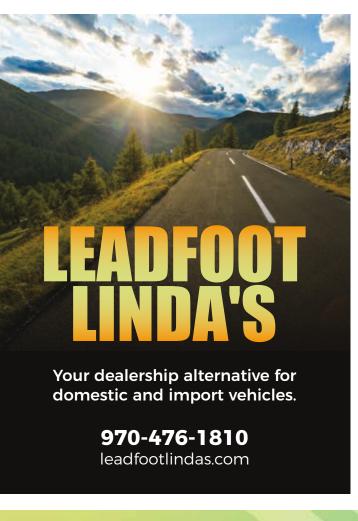
In the winter, I switch between skiing and snowboarding, however, if it is a powder day, it's the board for me. In the summer I enjoy mountain biking our wide array of trails in Eagle County and camping with my family.

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14 Inside Singletree • November 2021









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**16** Inside Singletree • November 2021 November 2021 • Inside Singletree 17





t was January 1979, and I was one semester away from graduating from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas with a degree in Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics. I knew I didn't want to work in a hospital setting at that point in my life, as I was only 22 years old and wanted some adventure. One of my instructors had been a dietitian in the Army who would often talk of her experiences, and that sounded interesting to me.

While I was home in San Antonio for Christmas break, I happened to call the Army recruiter, and after meeting with him, he informed me that the United States Army trains their own ancillary health care providers and that unless I was willing to undergo two more years of schooling and training, then the Army was out for me. Ditto for the Air Force dietitian ranks; they train their own. As I was about to leave the recruiter's office, he made a casual remark to me: "Call the Navy; I think they may be hiring." I hadn't even considered the Navy. San Antonio is home to Lackland Air Force Base, Randolph Air Force Base (since closed), and of course, Brook Army Medical Center; the Navy wasn't even on my radar.

I almost didn't go to the Navy recruiter's office. I was about to leave San Antonio and go back to Dallas to begin my final semester at school since my Christmas break was nearly over. While on my way to the store, I just happened to see the Navy recruiter's office in the same shopping center. I had some free time and thought, "What the heck?" Well, that encounter changed my life. After that initial meeting, he referred me to the Naval Recruiting District in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, since that is where I would be. After a few weeks back in Dallas, I met with the lieutenant who was in charge of Officer Recruiting for that region. After many phone calls, meetings, and lots of paperwork, my application was submitted.

It was now April 1979, and I was gearing up to graduate the next month. One day I received a large envelope in the mail that was from the United States Navy which said, in part, "Congratulations." I was to be "commissioned as an Ensign, Medical Service Corps, United States Navy." I was thrilled. My duty station would be Naval Hospital, Charleston, SC, and I was to report for duty 1 October 1979 after completing OIS (Officer Indoctrination School) in Bethesda, MD. I received my orders to report to Bethesda in September for a three-week period of training. My former Army dietitian instructor issued my oath of office, and, at that point, there was no turning back.

I didn't have a clue what being in the military meant, and I had a mere three weeks to learn what I needed to learn about being a Naval Officer. Classes consisted of learning some Naval history, the mission of military health care, and filling out endless forms. I was fitted for my uniforms, learned the difference between officer and

enlisted, learned how to tell rank, offer salutes to senior officers and return a salute to enlisted members, salute the flag, and stand at attention. The military has its own set of acronyms and jargon which any veteran surely knows, and learning all of that was like learning a new language. I realized that I was in United States Navy for the next three years whether I liked it or not. Turns out, three years wasn't enough; I stayed on for 20.

I reported for duty 1 October 1979 to Naval Hospital Charleston, SC. I was scared, excited, and nervous when I met with the CO (Commanding Officer) of the hospital. I don't know what he thought of me as I stood at attention at his desk or when I met the other officers.

cers and the senior enlisted personnel those first few days; here I was, this 23-year-old blonde from Dallas with a very heavy Texas accent. Remember, the TV show *Dallas* was one of the biggest shows on TV at the time, and I quickly learned to dispel any preconceived references to the characters on the show to this young new Ensign.

Respect is earned, and I worked hard to gain the trust of the officer and enlisted personnel I worked with, along with the civilian staff at the hospital. My primary mission was being a Naval Officer,



my secondary was a clinical dietitian. Being stationed at the hospital meant that I was doing what five years of schooling had taught me: helping people with their nutritional needs, whether as

an in-patient or as an out-patient. My day would consist of identifying those in the hospital with any nutritional risk factors, instructing them on diets, and responding to consults from physicians requesting further dietary-related assistance for their patients.

The hospital had a Family Practice Residency, so we had a lot of dependents (family members of active-duty personnel), retirees, and of course, Active Duty personnel — mainly Navy, Marine, and Air Force. While my mornings consisted of in-patient duties, my afternoons were in the outpatient department where I held clinic, and then once that was over, I found myself in the kitchen where I would conduct food service inspections

"in the galley" and oversee any menu changes for the chow hall and/or inpatient food services.

I began to find myself getting busier and busier as word spread that I liked to teach nutrition classes. I was soon asked to go to the nearby Air Force base to their medical clinic on a monthly basis to see patients and teach classes as well as travel to Naval Hospital Beaufort, SC, and Parris Island Marine Recruiting Depot for nutrition education classes. Naval Base Charleston was home to a large contingent of Submarine Tenders, Submarines, and Minesweepers, and I became friendly with the GMOs (General Medical Officer) of many of the vessels. I frequently would go on board for nutrition education classes for the sailors and offer needed dietary advice.

Because all my "clients" were young men (there were very few women on board ships in those days), the prevailing mantra for chow (food) was "hot and a lot." Unfortunately, many of the sailors were developing "guts" and weren't in compliance with the Navy's weight standards, and they couldn't pass the PFTs (physical fitness tests) that were

mandatory twice a year. My job was to instruct, encourage, and follow these men that were enrolled in each command's physical and military readiness program.

The needs of the Navy always come first, so that became one of my primary focuses. I can proudly say that I did my part in helping to maintain the readiness of our Naval Forces. I even was honored to conduct the re-enlistment ceremony for a Chief Petty Officer (E-7) who was about to be released from active duty. He was about 60 pounds overweight with high blood pressure and couldn't pass the PFTs. After several months of nutritional counseling, education, and encouragement, he lost his weight and went on to become a Senior Chief Petty Officer (E-8). The whole ceremony was conducted on his ship, and it was a proud moment for both of us.

One of the dreaded but important duties in the military is to "stand the duty or stand watch," and for all you vets out there, you know what I'm talking about. The duty or watch is to stand guard over your unit or, in the case at the Naval Hospital, to assume command at 1700 (5pm for you civvies) until 0700 the following day. This happened every 13 days with a "roll-off for four weeks." You are answerable to everything that happens on your watch, whether you know how to deal with it or not. Of course, one always has assistance from your senior enlisted personnel, instruction manuals, which are plentiful, or with other officers that have expertise in that field. Ultimately, the buck stops with the OOD (Officer of the Day), and you learn quickly to swim rather than sink. You never wanted to be known as "that officer" who didn't know "sh\*t from Shinola." I had many memorable "duties" and, over a glass of wine or two, I can share some of those awkward moments.

After four years (I extended a year in Charleston), I got orders to PCS (Permanent Change of Station) to National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. That was pretty exciting to be in the thick of everything. I'm glad I was in Charleston first, though, as that was "the real Navy" and very different than Bethesda. Politics was alive and thriving inside the beltway in 1984 just as it is today.

My duties were different in that I became a supervisor of other dietitians but also had clinical responsibilities. By then, I was a Lieutenant (O-3) and engaged to a Navy doctor,





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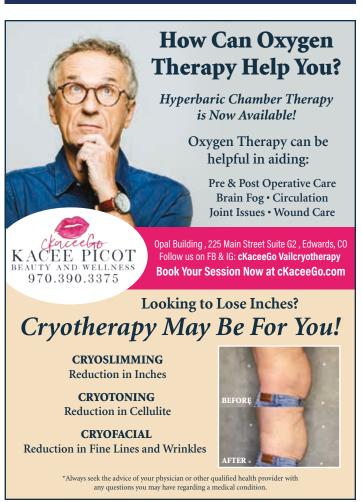


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also stationed there. Standing the duty at Bethesda was a whole other world. I had to deal with national news outlets who called wanting statements on Congressmen who were in the hospital or the status of The President of the United States (Reagan) when he was a patient there. The term "No comment, and I can neither confirm nor deny that statement" came in handy.

My claim to fame came when I was tasked to assist with the second inauguration in early 1985 for President Reagan and Vice President Bush. Two military medical members from each service branch, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard, were selected to form military medical contingency operations for all Inaugural Activities. I was TAD (Temporary Assignment Duty) for four weeks to assist with planning. That was pretty cool. I was able to attend one of the Inaugural Balls, and, even though I was "working," I got to dance when the Reagans and the Bushes danced.

After getting married, my husband and I left active duty and moved to Missouri where I stayed on in the Navy Reserves. I joined a Reserve unit there and became a "weekend warrior," drilling one weekend a month and two weeks of Active Duty Training at a military installation each year. As life happens, I found myself divorced with three small children and ultimately moved back to Austin, Texas.

I affiliated with a Navy Reserve Center in Austin where duties changed significantly. I was Training Officer then OIC (Officer in Charge) of multiple units while in Austin and in San Antonio. Drilling one weekend a month was fine and vastly different than anything I had ever experienced. When I hear about people camping for the weekend, I think, been there done that too many times to think it is fun. Oh, and those MREs (Meals

Ready to Eat) aren't too bad if you trade for the good ones. I became pistol and rifle qualified and used to take apart an M16 rifle to clean it. I don't want to do it again, so please don't ask me.

The two weeks of ADT (Active Duty Training) were the exciting part of it all. I got to go to Naval Hospitals Oakland, Pensacola, Charleston, Keflavik, Iceland, and Naples, Italy. On occasion, there were military budget shortfalls that prevented travel unless it was critical, so I didn't go each year.

Two very memorable experiences were to FHOTC (Fleet Hospital Operations Training Camp) in Camp Pendleton, CA, and to the MCMWTC (Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center) in

Bridgeport, CA. The FHOTC training simulated live combat with a mobile fleet hospital and galley. I was the food service officer in charge of the galley and all foodservice operations. My day began at 0400, the chow hall opened at 0530 with coffee, and it went on from there. My days didn't end till 1930-2000. I've never been so tired in my life. I remember falling asleep while standing against a wall one afternoon.

Little did I know that
one day, my son, who
joined the Marines in
2006, and I would share
experiences. He was
sent to Camp Pendleton
for boot camp. We both
went through the "confidence course" with tear
gas and all plus the constant "bombing" and the
very loud heavy metal music (term

used lightly) and Muslim-type prayer chanting used to disorient military members by preventing much sleep.

The MCMWTC site was in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in northern California. It was run by the Marines to train for extreme cold-weather warfare. It was February 2001, before Al Qaeda and the Taliban became familiar terms. North Korea was a potential threat at the time. We learned troop transport in heavy snow, logistical problems that occur in extreme weather, and creating berms of snow for protection when camping in the elements. I learned that if you want to keep stuff from freezing while you sleep, you KOP (Keep on Person) in your sleeping bag.

When we weren't on the mountain, we stayed in barracks. Even though I've never eaten so much in my life, I still came back to Texas two weeks later having lost about 5 pounds. Being a Texas girl, I wasn't used to dealing with cold weather and snow, unless it was skiing for a week here in beautiful



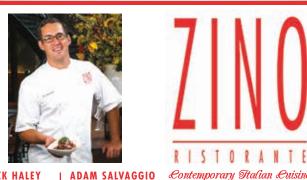
Colorado or Utah. Needless to say, I worked hard, and sleeping in an unheated tent at 10,000 feet up on a mountain in -10 degree temperature makes one burn lots of calories. I came away from that experience with frostbite in my left-hand fingers that bothers me to this day. But I must say, I wouldn't trade that experience for the world. It pushed me to a level of physical intenseness that I didn't know I had.

While assigned to the Naval Reserve Unit in San Antonio, I met my husband, Hugh. He was a Naval Reserve Physician assigned to the same medical unit. He outranked me — he is a Navy Captain (O-6) while I am a Navy Commander (O-5). He retired before I did, as he had prior service as an Army Warrant Officer flying helicopters during the Vietnam War.

After completing 20 years of military service, I was able to retire from the United States Navy as a Navy Commander. I would do it all again. While my experience never included being sent to a hostile area, I was always willing and able. Many people I drilled with were sent to hospital ships and overseas, especially during the ramp-up for the Afghanistan War. My respect for this country, the flag that we serve under, and the men and women I had the pleasure to train with stay with me. There is a camaraderie among military members, no matter their age or branch of service, that is like no other. We all can speak that same language and share stories of our lives of long ago while wearing the uniform of our country. I'm proud of the flag, and I'm proud of my service.







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Four-time Singletree Resident Andie Ohde is passionate about connecting lifestyle with community. She is an avid golfer, skier, cyclist and mom to the happiest special needs daughter in the county! If you are ready for an innovative approach to buying and selling real estate or have a business or non-profit that deserves some love, reach out to start a conversation!





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**singletree** social

Many, many thanks to Jarrod and Courtney DePriest for ordering up a quintessential evening and hosting a fun festive evening on Rawhide Road!



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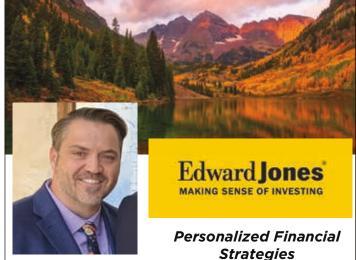






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### Jeremy L Lepore

0056 Edwards Village Blvd Suite 209 Edwards, CO 81632 (970) 376-7590 Jeremy.Lepore@edwardjones.com

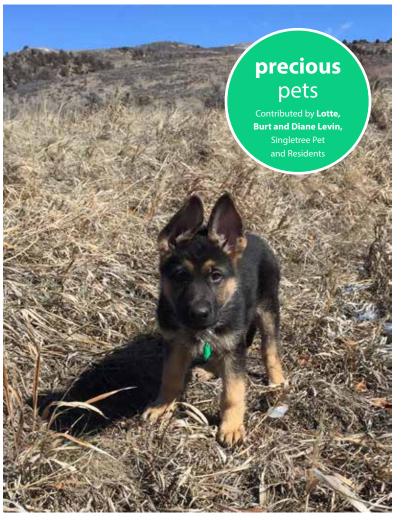
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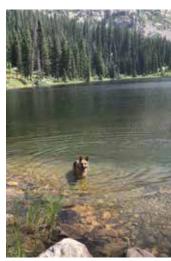


# Lotte:

### A Picture Tells 1,000 Words

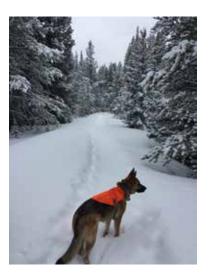
Hi. My name is Lotte. I belong to Diane and Burt Levin. I am 3 and a half years old. I was born in northern Idaho and the Levins became my humans when I was about 8 weeks old. If you are interested in a German Shepherd, my parents would recommend the breeder Candlehill Shepherds in Idaho, where I am from. They really know what they are doing.

They say a picture tells a thousand words, so I will let pictures tell the story. In short, I am very well adjusted to Singletree and the surroundings. I have some cool friends, including Charlie, Kobe, Peyton and Gilly, the Berners, and Oscar and Hardy Brown. It is nice to be able to hike outdoors all year round, including splashing in the river and even occasionally skijoring.















### veterans day tribute

Contributed by Dr. Kirk Smick, Singletree Resident

t was a warm spring day in May of 1967: the day up classmates and I had been waiting for for the past four years. Organic chemistry, physics, physiological optics, histology, anatomy, physiology, bacteriology, pathology were just a few of the courses that were finally in our rearview mirror. It was White Coat Day. I'm not sure who was most relieved that I was standing on that stage that afternoon, my parents, my grandparents, or myself. Grandparents are special people that have unmitigated love and pride and are our biggest supporters throughout life. I had committed to a busy practice in Spokane, Washington, and was just a few weeks away from starting the next chapter of my life.

I had moved from school in Oregon to Spokane without incident. Practice was going well, and I was so happy. The war in Vietnam was ongoing, and President Johnson and Congress had instituted the Berry Plan, which allowed medical students to defer obligatory military service until completion of their education. I had only been in practice for six months when, on January 31st, 1968, the North Vietnamese army commenced the infamous Tet offensive, launching 80,000 troops in a coordinated attack. Our Berry Plan protection had ended, and we were all very aware of the political situation. And then it happened. The Letter. The President wants you for military service. My life was about to be disrupted in a major way.

Dr. Kirk L. Smick, Colonel, 116 Tactical Fighter Wing **GaANG** (retired)



I reported for service in January of 1969. President Nixon was just taking office, and I was on my way to MFSS (Medical Field Service School) at Fort Sam in Houston, Texas. We were given credit for our professional training, and that meant I would enter service as a captain. The school lasted for eight weeks and consisted of young physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, and nurses. The camaraderie was intense, and we all worked together to pass the many different skills, including a three-night bivouac that required us to crawl on our bellies under barbed wire with live machine-gun fire overhead. One of my fondest memories of that period was Friday nights in the Officer's Club in the Quadrangle. T-Bone steaks were \$1, and martinis were \$0.25. It was a fun time.

While most of my classmates headed off to field hospitals in Vietnam, I was fortunate to have been assigned to the 97th General Hospital in Frankfurt, Germany. Our hospital and medical service was the largest in Europe and was expandable to 1,000 beds. Rhine-Main Air Force Base in Frankfurt was the Gateway to Europe and many casualties from Vietnam were diverted there. My three-year assignment was the turning point of my life. I made friends that I still keep in touch with today.

I visited several military eye clinics that were small enough to not have a full-time eye doctor. Aschaffenburg, Fulda, Berlin, and Aviano, Italy were just a few. I was with a medical team that was sent to Ethiopia and Haile Selassie's National Palace in Addis Ababa. We administered medical care to several individuals in the Palace. While on temporary duty in Berlin a team of orthopedic surgeons, internists, a dentist, and myself visited Spandau prison and tended to the prison's only inmate at the time, Rudolf Hess. One of Hess's ailments at the time was early macular degeneration.

Growing up in Eastern Washington's Inland Empire, a region largely agriculture-based with some of the nation's most productive wheat fields was a time of great delight. Working on the farm taught me the responsibility that I still feel today. The community was made up of almost entirely German immigrants and the German language was quite common in my household. My grandfather delighted in taking me to our Lutheran service in German on Sunday mornings. As a result of my familiarity with the language, I was made the German-American relations officer in Frankfurt at the hospital.

There was a serious attempt by the American Government to be good citizens and become involved in the local culture. I attended the German Wine Academy at the Kloster Eberbach and later became a member of the Knights of the Vine, a German wine appreciation

society. I have been a member of the Chaine des Rotisseurs for 30+ years. I also accompanied the hospital military photographer to the Leica photography course for one week in Wetlar, Germany. All in all, my three years in Germany became the foundation of my adult life as international travel, good regional food, and excellent wines became my lifelong passion.

After being released from active duty where I spent the last year of my service in Columbus, Georgia, at Fort Benning, I set up practice in Atlanta, Georgia. I remained in the Army Reserves for a period of five years at the hospital at Ft. McPherson in Atlanta. My practice was located just 15 miles from the Atlanta International Airport and one of my patients was the FAA Flight Surgeon, Dr. Richard Butler.

While stationed at Ft. Benning, I used my GI benefits to take up flight training. I was able to get both my private and commercial ratings, as well as my multi-engine ticket. Dr. Butler convinced me to transfer to the Georgia Air National Guard (116th Tactical Fighter Wing) at Dobbins Air Force Base, also in Atlanta. For the next 12 years, I served as the Wing Optometrist and retired as a Colonel in 1994 with 26 years of total credited service time.

During my years in the National Guard, I logged in countless hours in the back seat of F100s, F105s, F4s, and finally F-15s. During my service time, I earned the Expert Field Medical Badge and was presented with the Army Commendation Medal. Two of my friends and I owned a Cessna 172 where I was able to attain more than 500 hours of flight time. To this day, aviation, and especially military aviation, is one of my favorite hobbies.

In summary, the privilege of having served my country in military service is my proudest accomplishment. I live in the greatest country in the world and served in the greatest military service.



### sponsor spotlight



Having changed hands in 2020, the Vail Valley Pharmacy is now owned and operated by locals Bruce and Susie Delnay. Upholding the tradition of excellent customer care, this dynamic couple takes great pride in their ability to provide a quality service to the community. Here, we get to know a little more about Susie and Bruce.

#### Where are you from originally, and how did you land in the Vail Valley?

Bruce was born in Michigan, Susie in Ohio. Both grew up in Central Ohio, just a few miles apart, but did not meet until college at the University of Toledo. We moved to Colorado Springs as soon as Susie graduated pharmacy school in 2004, making our way to the mountains in 2008/2009. We owned a home in Silverthorne for 11 years before moving to Eagle County in May 2020.

#### How long have you each been a pharmacist? With Vail **Valley Pharmacy?**

Bruce has been a pharmacist for 20 years, Susie for 17. Bruce has been with Vail Valley Pharmacy since 2013. Susie started in May 2020, helping run the pharmacy with Bruce until we were able to complete the business transaction to purchase the pharmacy.

#### What inspired each of you to pursue a career as a pharmacist?

Being in the healthcare profession and helping people.

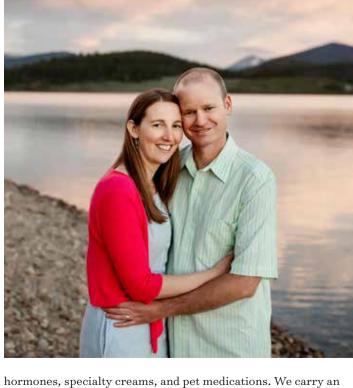
#### What motivated you to purchase Vail Valley Pharmacy?

The opportunity was unexpectedly presented to us by the previous owners, and we decided to take advantage of the opportunity. We love being a part of and now leading our little work family in our quest to provide another pharmacy option for the local community. And we try to have some fun along the way!

#### Please share with us about some of the unique aspects of Vail **Valley Pharmacy.**

Our ability to compound medications, such as bio-identical





extensive line of high-end supplements, which are tough to find anywhere. Our liquor license is fairly unique for a pharmacy, as well. And then we have a great assortment of cute kids' stuff and gift items.

#### What is the most challenging thing you encounter in your position as owners of Vail Valley Pharmacy?

Not enough time for everything. Some weeks we feel like our kids barely get to see us.

#### What are the most rewarding parts of your role?

Being able to provide a quality service to the community and being available to answer healthcare-related questions.

#### What is one piece of advice you would offer our readers today?

Don't be afraid to put yourself out there. Half the battle is just trying.

#### Can you tell us about your family?

We have been married for almost 20 years and have two children. Gretchen is 4 and is in pre-k at Rumpelstiltskin Preschool in Avon, and Isaac is 5 and going to Edwards Elementary for kindergarten.



#### What are your favorite interests and activities?

Skiing is number one in our family for sure! We also enjoy hiking, off-roading, and camping. Any time spent with all four of us together is precious!

Please contact Vail Valley Pharmacy at **970-569-4150** or visit vailvalleypharmacy.com or 105 Edwards Village Blvd. in Edwards.



A resident of the neighborhood since 1995, Happy is your "in-house" expert. So if you are considering selling your Singletree home this year and looking to purchase within the neighborhood or anywhere else in the Valley, please call her. She would love to help!

## Happy Power

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### Singletree Real Estate Activity

Status as of 9.19.21	Property Address	Property Type	Beds	Baths	Square Feet	Furnished	List Price	List Price/ SqFt	Days On Market	Sold Price	Sold Price/SqFt	Date Sold
Under Contract T	he Villas at Singletree C-3	Condo	3	2	1,511	Unfurnished	\$925,000	\$612	7			
Under Contract	141 Saddle Drive B	Duplex	3	3	2,263	Unfurnished	\$1,398,000	\$618	12			
Under Contract	661 Singletree Road W	Duplex	3	3	2,276	Unfurnished	\$1,450,000	\$637	5			
Under Contract	320 Singletree Road	Single Family	3	3	3,161	Unfurnished	\$1,950,000	\$617	60			
Under Contract	341 Foal Circle	Single Family	5	4	5,040	Partially	\$2,995,000	\$594	28			
Closed	Las Vistas 7	Townhome	3	3	1,718	Partially	\$985,000	\$573	2	\$975,000	\$568	9/1/21
Closed	661 Singletree Road E	Duplex	3	4	2,048	Unfurnished	\$1,300,000	\$635	6	\$1,300,000	\$635	8/19/21
Closed	114 Mission Place	Townhome	3	3	2,614	Unfurnished	\$1,465,000	\$560	23	\$1,435,000	\$549	8/26/21
Closed	30 Shotgun Circle	Single Family	4	5	4,332	Unfurnished	\$2,795,000	\$645	28	\$2,563,250	\$592	8/30/21
Closed	1820 Winslow Road	Single Family	5	6	5,758	Unfurnished	\$2,995,000	\$520	3	\$2,995,000	\$520	9/7/21
Closed	120 Mustang Road	Single Family	4	5	4,192	Unfurnished	\$3,595,000	\$858	4	\$3,500,000	\$835	8/24/21

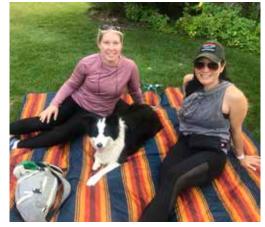
Properties Under Contract and Sold 8.19.21 - 9.19.21 Bolded properties listed or sold by Happy Power.



## what's happening inside singletree

Singletree residents turned out big time to hear the brother-sister duo, Turntable Revue Duo, on a spectacular sunny evening in September. It was a perfect night to enjoy songs from the '50s to today and a picnic on the lawn amongst friends and neighbors. Thank you SPOA for hosting another great community event!

























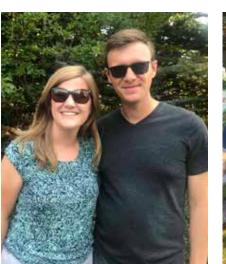














### **new** to the neighborhood

Contributed by Jaime Freudenthal, SIngletree Resident

#### SO WHY DID YOU CHOOSE

## COLORADO?

For a change of lifestyle!

Did you know anyone here?
Nope!

So you moved here alone? Yup!

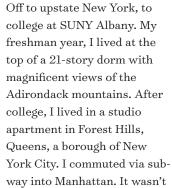
Apparently, as soon as I start speaking, you can tell I'm from New York, specifically Long Island. I have lived in New York my whole life. I am the youngest of three, raised in North Bellmore on the south shore of Nassau County. My sister is nine years older, and my brother is five years older than me. It was a wonderful upbringing on Long Island back in the '60s and '70s.

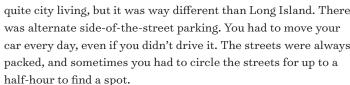
We were very middle class; life was simple and easy back then. Family time was cherished. We went to the beach, learned how to cha-cha and salsa in the basement with our parents (who were phenomenal dancers) and grandparents. We'd watch family super-8 reel-to-reel movies. I took dance lessons, played in the neighborhood, listened for my dad's mouth whistle to come home for dinner. No one could whistle like him.



We would take family vacations. My love for aviation started when I was on an airplane for the first time at 6 years old to Washington, D.C. With a pixie hair cut and my two front teeth missing, my lisp – "We gotta pack the luggthage!" – became a family source of laughter to this day.

My dad wanted us to learn to ski, so many winters, off to the Pines Hotel in the Catskills we would go. Followed by Mount Snow in later years. I spent summers in a sleepaway camp in Torrington, CT, which I worked in as a "grownup" for 11 summers starting in 2000. The camp was in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains on a gorgeous lake. I didn't realize it then, but between the ski winters and mountain summers, my love for the outdoors was born.





After getting married in 1986, we lived in Scarsdale, NY, in Westchester County, north of NYC for two years. The condo was just off the beautiful winding, tree-lined Bronx River Parkway. There were hills and streets with no sidewalks, unlike flat Long Island. The families were still on Long Island, and no one liked to come visit in Westchester County. They had to cross the Throgs Neck Bridge. We called it the "bridge factor." Wanting to be near family as we thought about starting a family, back to Long









Island we moved – to Jericho on the North Shore. For the first couple of years, I commuted for one and a half hours each way on the Long Island Railroad and the E subway to downtown Manhattan. I worked at the Commodities Exchange, located in 4 World Trade Center, one of four small buildings surrounding the majestic twin towers. I used to sit

on the promenade on the circular cement bench surrounding the fountain, looking up at those towers in absolute awe. They were truly breathtaking.

In 1990, my first child, a beautiful little girl, was born, and in 1993, my precious son arrived. I was lucky enough to be an at-home mom, but the Island had changed. It was a very different upbringing than I had experienced. Everyone was competitive, out for themselves. There was an intensity that is difficult to

• • •

describe unless you had lived there. The simple life had disappeared. We were all running our kids from activity to activity, birthday parties, soccer practices, tournaments, and gymnastic and swim meets. Kindness, caring, and compassion seemed to have vanished. We were running the race to nowhere.

Then, on September 11, 2001, the world was horrified by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. I cried for weeks in utter disbelief that those incredible towers of strength could crumble. In New York, it was early quiet: no highway noise, no airplanes in the skies above, you could smell the smoke of destruction.

Our saving grace was spending the summers back in the camp I went to as a child. I worked in the office while my kids were campers! I was once again back in the mountains, loving the outdoors. For the last couple of years, while I was working in the camp, I was also a Zumba instructor, having my own business on Long Island and teaching the campers. I commuted from Connecticut to New York once a week for 48 hours to teach four Zumba classes. It was very busy. But every time I got back to camp, the stresses of living on Long Island disappeared.

The traffic was getting insane. You could only be on the road between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm to avoid the traffic. When I was growing up, there was truly rush-hour traffic. In the morning, into NYC, in the evening, back to the suburbs. But it had really become a rat race since then. My children wanted to go to college far away from Long Islanders. They both went to the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, where they take only a very small percentage of out-of-staters.

I'm a very independent woman. I suppose I've been a risk-taker my whole life. After an amicable divorce in 2012, I truly started to live the life I always thought I was capable of. I moved one town west of where my children were raised and rented a condo in a six-story building for two years. At that point, I was able to purchase a two-bedroom/two-bath condo in the same building. As a single woman, I was very proud of myself. I was still teaching Zumba and now working full time. I pursued my lifelong love of aviation. I started taking flying lessons. I wasn't intending to become a pilot; I just loved being in the air. And then, I got a job in private aviation. I got paid minimum wage but cherished being

at the airport. This awesome gig lasted for one and a half years. My college friend and her dentist husband needed office help in the practice. I was more than happy to help. It was a win-win.

In the summer of 2019, I came to the Vail Valley to visit. I immediately fell in love with it. The magnificent blue skies, the vast mountainous topography, the majestic outdoors, the rolling rivers. I was hooked. In the early winter of 2019-2020, I started skiing again after a 20-year hiatus. Good skiing was far away from Long Island, so I'd get up at 4:00 am, get on a bus at a



local ski shop, travel four hours to Vermont, ski all day, get back on the bus for the four-hour trip back to Long Island. I couldn't get any family or friends to come with me, so I did it myself. These trips were invigorating and such a blast.

My parents had retired to Boynton Beach, FL, from the home I grew up in 20 years prior. We spent many school vacations while my children were growing up visiting them there. My parents left Long Island while my children were still very young. But they made sure my children knew they were special and cultivated a long-distance tight grandparent/grandchild bond like none other. As we all got older, my siblings and I would alternate visiting and then caring for them. It was an honor to spend the last five years of their lives being able to give back the love and strength they gave to me my whole life. They passed away six months apart: My dad was almost 91 and my mom 88. They almost lived to celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary. I still can't believe they're gone.

In March 2020, COVID hits. Everyone is on a forced sabbatical in their own homes. My sister, who lives on Long Island and has a second home in Florida, was trapped there. My brother, who has lived in Atlanta his whole adult life, is staying put. My daughter, now living in San Diego, and my son, in Atlanta for five years after college, can't visit. My niece and nephew have little children, all of whom I adore. I live 12 miles from the epicenter of the COVID horror at Elmhurst Hospital in Queens. We can't leave our units to go to the trash room or to leave the building without wearing a mask. The beloved 44-year-old porter, who has worked in the building for 25 years, passes away from COVID.

I'd been itching to get out of New York for several years but had been so busy with loving familial responsibilities, I stayed put. But I'm looking at the four walls in my condo, and I have an epiphany. Now is the time to leave. Colorado is calling me. As my plan starts to take shape, I start to look for a place to live in the valley. I laugh, shocked as I learn that every place does not have,

at least, covered parking. At the same time, I look for a job. Since I have luxury concierge service experience, I could work in the resort industry. But it's COVID, and the resorts are shut down. I Google search dental offices in the valley.

My plans are finalized six weeks later. It was extremely hard telling my friends, especially my family, that I was moving. I explained that, while I wasn't trying to make anyone feel bad, everyone is very busy living their life with their families and friends. I had everyone's support. After having made two two-hour trips to donate all the soft goods I no longer needed because donation

centers in New York were closed due to COVID, I packed up a small cargo U-Haul and hit the road to Avon, CO, on May 29, 2020. I left all my furniture in my NY condo so I could rent it. I wasn't quite ready to sell it. It was my fallback in case Colorado didn't work. I had secured a three-bedroom rental condo on Nottingham Lake with a view straight up Beaver Creek. My job at Elevated Dental started on June 3, 2020.

This has been one of the best decisions in my life. I started hiking,

biking and duckie-ing as soon as I arrived. My job is wonderful. I love snow and wait for the "big dump." Ski season finally starts, and I start off early. Six weeks in, however, I tore my right ACL, MCL, and LCL. I'm a glass-half-full kind of person – no worries, it could have been worse. And my doctor tells me I'm now a local!

I love it so much here; I wanted to buy a property to make Colorado my permanent home. I looked at so many places in the surrounding towns, but Singletree is where I wanted to live. It was a six-month process to buy my home, but it was worth every second. The final piece to make it official, in August 2021, I sold

my NY condo.

Singletree is the perfect community for me. It's absolutely beautiful. The views are spectacular; it's quiet, yet active. I have met so many wonderful people and made so many friends here as well as in the valley as a whole. Everyone's genuineness, generosity, sincerity, and kindness is what I have craved all my life. Thank you for this privilege. I am honored to be a Coloradan.







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#### **business** beat

Contributed by Alisha and Giuseppe Bosco, Singletree Residents

# Ginseppe and Alisha Bosco Find Their Silver Linings

Introducing Terra Madre Wine Imports, Vini de Terre Distribution and Terra Madre Italiana



As many of you know, this year Giuseppe and I made the exciting decision to embark on a new journey! Even in difficult times, silver linings can be found, and new, exciting chapters can begin. That is just what happened to Giuseppe and me when, in the early days of the pandemic, we realized the time had come for us to embark on a new chapter in our lives.

After 35 years in the restaurant industry for Giuseppe, and over 20 for me, including over 10 amazing years we spent together with the Zino Ristorante crew, the pandemic showed us how fragile life is and that it was time to put Gaia and our families in Michigan and Italy first. So, in September 2020, we transformed our lives from restaurant ownership to importers and distributors of fine Italian wines and artisanal food products. We sorely miss the Zino buzz, and of course our wonderful staff and partners, in addition to the guests that have become friends and family to us, but we've known since we married at a winery in the heart of Tuscany in 2009 that our future would include a life in the wine industry.

Our dream has been fulfilled with the creation of two businesses, my company, Terra Madre Wine Imports, to bring the wines into the U.S., and Giuseppe's baby, Vini di Terre Distribution, to sell the wine. Our companies import and distribute fine Italian wines from Piedmont, Tuscany, and Sicily, with more regions to follow soon. Selling great Italian wines at Zino piqued our interest in the supply side of the business, and we quickly

developed a real passion for artisanal Italian wine and a deep appreciation for the work that went into creating organic and sustainably produced wines. Over the years, we enjoyed visiting many producers in Italy and formed close relationships that propelled us into this new business.

Through conversations with our Italian contacts and consumers here in Colorado, we identified a market demand for highquality wines from small to medium producers. We created our companies to help link discerning consumers with boutique wineries that large, nationwide importers and distributors in need of large volumes overlook. We only represent Italian producers that are organic or biodynamic, and are authentic, artisanal, and family-owned with a compelling story to tell. Our philosophy at Terra Madre Wine Imports: "We strive to find unique, small-volume products from Giuseppe's homeland that are otherwise overlooked by large distribution companies. We are committed to working with high-quality, artisanal







producers that are dedicated to preservation of their terroir and to sustainable craft."

Gastronomically, we started yet another company called Terra Madre Italiana to import Italian monocultivar olive oils and other Italian food specialties to the United States! Monocultivar olive oils are high-quality oils made from only one olive variety, or cultivar, to produce an oil with characteristics unique to the terroir in which the variety is grown. This past vear we began our successful partnership with Olio Desiderio, a Piemontese family-owned company

that has been in the olive oil business for over 60 years. We are proud to be Olio Desiderio's first and only United States importer of their excellent olive oils and artisanal Piemontese food products.

We have been thrilled to see this dream of ours come to fruition and are grateful to our consumers and the wine buyers of Colorado who have helped us get off to such a successful start, allowing us the qual-

ity time with Gaia and our families that we sought. We discovered silver linings can be found in every storm.

Our wines and finest restaurants and shops in the Vail Valley and throughout information or to join the Terra Madre Wine Club, please contact me at

products can now be found at some of the Colorado! For more

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Cin Cin! Alisha and Giuseppe Bosco





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### singletree social

## CELEBRATING THE FOURTH ANNUAL "Slide Into Fall"

You can count on it. Every September, the leaves turn to gold, and Craig and Ingrid Dampier host the annual "Slide Into Fall" celebration. Following a year of researching the best recipes, Craig and Ingrid hosted a blustery fall evening featuring this years' top slider winners. Thank you Ingrid and Craig for your generous hospitality... see you for the fifth annual next year!











## AND THE WINNER IS.... The Al Bacon Bison Burger!

Contributed by Ingrid Dampier, Singletree Resident

In planning for the Slide Into Fall party each year, we try out different recipes for our sliders in anticipation of the next year's event. This year, we decided on the Al Bacon Bison Burger as the result of multiple recipes, ideas and trial runs.

A little bit of history on why bison. I have some sensitivities to beef, so I have been cooking with all sorts of different proteins for a long time. Bison is one of our favorite proteins. Tasty, lean meat that grills so nicely. We get bison steaks and roasts from Rock River Ranches and ground bison from City Market and Costco.

As a very lean meat, making a burger just out of bison results in a pretty dense burger. And if overcooked, it's a hockey puck. For years, I would chop up a bunch of mushrooms and mix them into the bison, making the burger much less dense and a lot juicier. The mushrooms are not noticeable but they do add a slight earthy flavor which is nice. My picky eater grandson would not be happy to learn that he had eaten mushrooms - and guess what, he did not die!! I found a recipe that incorporated bacon into a beef burger in the Bacon Bible (yes, that is a cookbook), so I tried it with bison and found that the chopped bacon keeps the burger soft and juicy. OK, so Bacon Bison burgers were the start.

Then I read about a burger that was basted with Al Steak Sauce. We tried that and concluded that the Al should be in the burger and not just basted on the top. We were very happy with the outcome. Served with the Best Ever Chimichurri, as suggested by Craig, we had the winner - the Al Bacon Bison Burger!



#### A1 BACON BISON BURGERS

(for 10 4 oz or 20 2 oz sliders)

1.25 pounds ground bison 5 oz bacon, minced (about 4 slices) 11/4 teaspoons garlic powder 11/4 teaspoons onion powder ½ teaspoon cayenne 4 scallions, white and light green parts only, minced 2 Tablespoons chopped mint 1/2 cup (2 oz) grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese

1 teaspoon salt 5 tablespoons Al or your favorite brand of steak sauce Toasted hamburger buns

Stack the bacon slices and then cut lengthwise into 1/4" long strips and then cross wise into 1/4" dice. Mix the ground bison with all the other ingredients and form into patties about 4 oz. each. Cook the sliders to medium, approximately 6-8 minutes. Serve on hamburger buns with chimichurri.

#### BEST EVER CHIMICHURRI

2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice

1/3 teaspoon black pepper

(makes 1 ½ cups)

1 lemon zest

1 cup extra-virgin olive oil 1 bunch fresh cilantro, stems removed and discarded 1/2 bunch fresh flat-leaf parsley,

stems removed and discarded 3 tablespoons minced garlic - about

3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice (from

3 tablespoons finely chopped shallot (from 1 medium shallot)

2 1/4 teaspoons fresh oregano leaves 11/2 teaspoon kosher salt

6 cloves

11/2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar

l teaspoon crushed chile de árbol or other dried red chile flakes - about 3 araroba chiles.

Process all ingredients in a blender or food processor until smooth, stopping to scrape down sides as needed. Store in refrigerator in an airtight container and bring back to room temperature when ready to use. Variations: Instead of cilantro, use 2 cups fresh mixed herb leaves, stems removed: thyme, Thai basil, lemon basil, lemon verbena, mint, rosemary and sage. This is a great spread that can be used instead of mayo for paninis and other sandwiches.

I hope you enjoy making your version of the Al Bacon Bison Burger! If you like these recipes, check out my blog: MyAmazingCookbook.com.

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