

INSIDE  
*Singletree*

APRIL 2022

A SOCIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SINGLETREE

**Chris  
Anthony**

Photo by Richie Graham

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This Index has been created to provide an easy reference for you when searching for a trusted neighborhood vendor to use; these local businesses are proud to partner with the community and to make this magazine possible. Take a minute to familiarize yourself with the businesses sponsoring *INSIDE Singletree* and be sure to call on them when you need their products or services. And of course, please remember to thank them for supporting *INSIDE Singletree*.

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# HELLO publisher's note SINGLETREE RESIDENTS!

**AH, APRIL!** The month we leave winter behind to slide into spring, trading skis and boards for bicycles and hiking boots. Or perhaps this is the month you look forward to that long-awaited vacation on the beach or a road trip to the desert. Either way, I hope you are excited to enjoy the change of season!

With winter coming to a close, it's a great time to celebrate our time on the snow! We start by getting to know Chris Anthony, 2018 inductee into the Vail Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame, 2021 winner of the Best History Film at the Cannes Film Festival, and perhaps his greatest accomplishment, founder of the Chris Anthony Initiative Youth Project. In this issue, Chris reflects on the life experiences that have led him to be who he is today.

We also catch up with William Flaherty, the sole member of the Puerto Rico Alpine Ski Team, fresh off his runs in Beijing in February. William is passionate, honest, and quite entertaining as he recounts his personal path to the 2022 Olympics. And on the local front, Jolie Van Slyke and Alana Polatty share their joy of hanging with the girls on snowboards with Duchess Ride. All this and more in this issue!

Behind the scenes of this publication, I want to let you know The N2 Company will be rolling out the renaming of its neighborhood publications starting with the July issue. Your magazine will look and feel the same, featuring more great resident stories, photos, and happenings, under the name *Stroll Singletree*.

This publication continues exclusively for you, our Singletree friends and neighbors, yet it is part of the largest and most established line of more than 500 custom neighborhood magazines in the country, each managed by local publishers like me and produced by The N2 Company. Currently, each community publication has an individual name and look, and the Company has made the decision to introduce a national refresh for purposes of national brand consistency.

"Stroll" was chosen to invoke a sense of relaxation and to suggest the opportunity for neighbors to connect and share their stories, just as you do every time you read an issue of this publication. Rest assured, my commitment to delivering the high-quality neighborhood magazine you have come to know and love remains the same. Only the name will change.

I wish you and your family a very Happy Easter filled with love and happiness!

**HOLLY PROCTOR**  
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seen in singletree

## Ladies Night Out-SIDE

The full moon in February beckoned Singletree ladies and friends to take in the glory of the moonshine on the golf course. Check out the next full moon excursion!



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**Reid Van Slyke**  
Kids' Corner



**William Flaherty**  
Athlete Spotlight



**Jolie Van Slyke**  
Young Achievers



**Alana Polatty**  
Young Achievers

Your neighborhood publication is not possible without your participation! **INSIDE Singletree** is always seeking new stories to keep your magazine fresh and relevant every month. Please email **holly.proctor@n2pub.com** to be part of **INSIDE Singletree!**

## Welcome NEW SPONSORS

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



**MOUNTAIN K-9:**  
A Store for Man's Best Friend

We're JD and Betsy, the duo behind Mountain K-9. JD spent 20 years working in the hospitality industry with restaurants while Betsy ran a successful home remodeling business in Atlanta's suburbs. We sold our businesses with the dream of moving to the Vail Valley and opening our own restaurant. Then, the pandemic hit. So we followed our true passion ...

We're passionate about dogs, and, with three goldendoodles of our own, we felt inspired to open Mountain K-9 here in the Vail Valley! Our goal is to bring dog enthusiasts together and support

our four-legged friends by hosting events with other dog-friendly groups, giving back to local organizations, and running a dog-focused store with DIY grooming stations.

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**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!**



Photo by Richie Graham

## where are they now?

Contributed by **Chris Anthony**, Singletree Resident  
Article Compiled by **Allie Decent**, Singletree Resident



built in Singletree. Chris was born in Denver, and his family goes back 7 generations in Colorado. “I’m actually from Spanish conquistador descent,” he jokes. “I’m half Spanish on my Dad’s side, his real last name is Rodriguez; and my Mom’s family has been here for 5 generations with blood lines to European royalty.” That makes Chris a bona fide born and bred native Coloradan. “When I came along, my parents moved to Denver from Crested Butte, where my dad had worked for the ski school and on the patrol and my mom worked in a restaurant. Crested Butte did not have much back then. It was a mining town.” In fact, Chris’s grandfather on his father’s side worked in the mines.

“I got into a lot of trouble as a kid, in school. Lots of fights. I did not deal with bullying very well.” Chris admits to exhibiting a lot of energy that did not fit well in a traditional classroom, but fortunately, his parents were able to provide skiing as a positive weekend escape to release that energy. “I spent my childhood back and forth from Denver to the mountains. My parents were a huge influence in the beginnings of Copper Mountain. My mother ran the Children’s Ski School and my father started the Copper Choppers. I loved skiing so much that I ended up living in the mountains full-time before my parents were able to make a permanent move. At one point, I was living with a family and good friend in Vail so I could be part of Ski Club Vail. Eventually my parents purchased a lot and built their house in Singletree, which at the time was a very long way from Vail. In fact, it was long distance to call Vail,” he says with a bit of astonishment.



Chris at about 4 years old in Denver; photo by Vino Anthony



Copper World Cup at about 10 years old; photo by Vino Anthony



Chris with Jim McConkey, World Champion Noel Lyons, and Warren Miller

He openly shares that that his experience as a youth finding freedom and acceptance on the slopes when he didn’t find it in the classroom was a method of survival for his adolescence. “Everything I did, everything I do, is to survive. The goal of my foundation is to give kids the same chances I had, to give them a chance to find their own superpower, like how I found mine,” Chris explains.

When his family moved to the Eagle River Valley full-time, his father Vino, a very talented jeweler, moved his little business to Avon, eventually finding a niche in the new resort of Beaver Creek and developing the iconic Golden Beaver. I wasn’t a particularly good or gifted athlete and we know I lacked the grades. But what I did learn from my parents and other mentors was work ethic. Outwork your competition and hopefully not only can you compete beside them but eventually their lack of work ethic will catch up with them,” Chris says while recalling those words of wisdom.

“When I was asked to ski in my first Warren Miller film, it was like a dream come true.” Looking back, he says, “I can still remember so clearly my parents taking my sister and me to the newest Warren film in City Park in Denver every fall, it was such an important part of my life. Seeing Warren up on stage, seeing all my parents’ friends, the whole ski community, as a kid, I would dream that somehow Warren’s camera was in the trees and he would just happen to catch me going by. I was thinking I would be discovered and be put into a film, I dreamed about it.”

When Chris was in high school, he found out where Warren lived in Vail, and wrote up a resume to drop off at his house. “It took all of my courage to go there and ring his doorbell. I figured no one would answer and I’d leave it there, but then the man himself answered!” he remembers, shocked. “I just handed him my paper, didn’t say one word, and I ran away.” The memory makes him chuckle now. As it turned out, Chris and Warren were destined to meet.

When Chris came home from college one winter, he entered an All Mountain Skiing Competition and ended up taking 2nd behind one of his idols, former U.S. Ski Teamer Mike Farney. Later, at the Minturn Saloon, Mike approached Chris and asked him about his sponsors, and further inquired would he want to get on a pair of Head skis and be filmed. The two exchanged phone numbers,

•••

# CHRIS ANTHONY: a new chapter

Known as a professional skier, Chris Anthony has enjoyed the opportunity to travel the world over because of a snow sport introduced to him at the age of 18 months by his parents. But there is more to the story than that. The sport has allowed Chris to be shoulder to shoulder with a number of experts in a variety of professional fields. Whenever a door opened, Chris would do his best to walk through it. It has been a journey of survival.

Chris grew up as a competitive skier and simultaneously, a struggling young student like many dealing with dyslexia. At the time, the academic system had a limited understanding as to how to teach children with learning challenges; education still has a long way to go. For Chris, skiing became the only means of moving forward on a path to opportunity, ironically in areas where educators told him he would never succeed. Little did he know that journey would lead to his induction into the Colorado Snow Sports Hall of Fame in 2018.

In 2021, Chris won the award for Best Historical Film at the Cannes World Film Festival, as well as recognition at several other European film festivals, for producing *Mission Mt. Mangart*, a historical documentary which explores the untold and heroic stories of the 10th Mountain Division in a brand-new way. Chris skied for Warren Miller Entertainment for 28 years, an experience that first introduced him to filmmaking. This opportunity not only allowed him to attend film school at USC

for a time after he graduated from the University of Colorado, but also to work on his friend Brenda Buglione’s television show, *SnowMotion*, for years. He taught himself at night to produce and edit film. Similarly, Chris pulled off his recent film accomplishment by googling everything he needed to know, as well as working with some amazing talent he had met over the years through skiing. Ultimately, it all comes full circle and back to the skis.

Outside of the established Chris Anthony, the brand, there is an elusive yet very real and very kind Chris Anthony, the man, who is busy building a legacy in the hearts and minds of Colorado youth. His non-profit, the Chris Anthony Youth Initiative Project, provides experiential educational opportunities for 4th and 5th graders, as well as underwrites the funding for those students or schools that do not have the resources to do so. The program also offers a variety of in-classroom programs that touch on topics ranging from bullying and peer pressure to Colorado history. “Essentially, I’m trying to reach out in the same way I was reached out to as a kid, the same way mentors played a role in my life. If it wasn’t for them and skiing physically placing me in a different environment, I would be in a lot of trouble right now!” Chris reflects on his past.

His family, including his sister and brother-law, Kelli and Kreston Rohrig, are well-settled in the valley, with his mother, Jackie Anthony, still residing in the house his father, Vino Anthony,



Skiing a run in Alaska that Chris named after his father Vino; photo by Court Leve

though Chris' phone number was just to the corded house phone in his 8-roommate place at the CU. "This was before cell phones, getting messages was a miracle. It would only happen if one of your roommates would take the time to write it down on a piece of scrap paper or just leave it on the answering machine. The chances of ever getting any message were very slim. But I got this one. One of my roommates wrote the message in marker on the wall. It said, 'Chris - you need to call Don Brolin ASAP'.

"It was a long distance call to Hermosa Beach and I had to go buy a calling card to pay for it and I rushed back to return this call. I had no idea who Don was. But when this female voice answered, she said, 'Warren Miller Films, how can we help you?' And I'm like *what?*" Chris shakes his head at the memory. The secretary started rattling off a list of instructions that were completely surreal, and you can imagine Chris just scrambling for a piece of paper to write them all down.

"They asked me for my FedEx address for plane tickets... and I didn't know what that was, like would I even get mail here? What's a FedEx? I gave them the address of the house, they told me I needed to go out to the HEAD warehouse and pick up skis, and then to Spyder to pick up my clothing." Chris recites from memory, like it's playing out live. "The lady talking to me assumed I knew why they were calling me, as if I had spoken to someone else already and knew I was about to travel internationally. She told me that I was to fly to Munich, then pick up 2 Audi's and head to Chamonix and Val Thorens, France... I had no idea what was happening, but I skipped finals and did it," Chris laughs.

True to the magically movie-esque quality of this part of his life, all his professors (with one exception) were excited for him and allowed him to schedule makeup finals when he returned. "All except my Professor of Sports Psychology, ironically," says Chris. "He was the only one who failed me." So Chris Anthony, Tommy



Alaska in 1996 in gear Chris helped design for Spyder Active Sports; photo by Vino Anthony



Heli guiding for Points North Heli Skiing; photo by Court Leve



One of Chris' favorite ski shots taken by his father, Vino, in Lussari, Italy



Photo by Richie Graham



Hiking in the Julian Alps in 2022; photo by Mike Tessari

Bowers, Mike Farney and Cameraman Bill Heath all met at Stapleton Airport and headed off to Europe.

As he had in his earlier years of racing, Chris threw his whole being into Mountain Freeriding Competitions and skiing for Warren Miller Films. He had proven to himself that he was a powerful creator, that by giving enough energy to his thoughts they became manifest, so there was no stopping him now. Since that first trip, he has been featured in 28 Warren Miller Films, and is a veteran of 9 World Extreme Skiing Championships as well as the Alaskan Extreme Skiing Champion of 1996. And along the way, he fell in love with producing and writing films of all kinds, not just sports films, a passion which culminated in his debut film, *Mission Mt. Mangart*.

He has written additional screenplays he hopes to debut in the future, including his coming-of-age story detailing a fictional take on that magical trip to Europe as a young man, which was optioned by Warner Brothers Studios years ago. It is still awaiting production. It seems his star is always on the rise, and how on earth Chris has the capacity to hold so much proven skill in so many areas, as well as the potential for limitless growth within his mortal vessel, is a feat worthy of pages more than this author is provided.

...

But for now, Chris is focused on creating programs that benefit his Youth Project as 501C3 overseen by the Colorado Non-Profit Development Center.

“I remember in 5th grade, this famous athlete visited our school. He spoke about creating goals for yourself. I don’t remember who he was or even what sport he did, but his words defined my life at the time. He said you may not achieve all these goals, but the journey to try to get to them is going to be the real reward. I remember that statement and the feeling so clearly... and I thought... maybe I could do that for some kids.” So Chris created the hybrid program known as the Chris Anthony Youth Initiative Project that visits schools upon request and hosts multi-media presentations. He’ll even generously underwrite educational programming using funds from the events he sponsors.

Some of these kids, he says, have never left their neighborhood. “I come in and provide an experience for the kids, it’s the original program. I use my Warren Miller clips from around the planet and draw the kids in by delivering that same message that the mentor delivered to me all those years ago, with interactive experiences that challenge their minds around social and academic concepts.” Chris is quiet for a moment, and thoughtful. He tears up for a moment. “You know, there was a transition in my life when I was wondering what my next move was, how else I could contribute to the world,” he shakes his head. “When I go into those classrooms to present to the next class of 5th graders, the kids from last year run up to me and hug me, their shiny faces are so bright and their potential is unlimited. It’s fulfilling, you know, knowing that I can have such an impact on an entire generation.”

To reach the pinnacle of a sport is one achievement in life for an athlete, but once that’s complete, most athletes struggle to find their purpose. Like many children with different learning styles, Chris Anthony has found



Chris hosts a Youth Project at Snobahn - an indoor ski facility in Southglenn Mall in South Denver



the medium that works for him to continue doing what he loves, while fostering the youth of today to pursue their own dreams.

“You know those moments where everything is just perfect?” he asks with curiosity. “Like when there’s fresh snow and you’re the only one on the run and you stop to catch your breath and the pure majesty of the views and the reflection of the circumstances that brought you to that moment are crystal clear, and everything stands still?” he looks off into the distance for a beat. “Everything in



A Youth Project school visit in Five Points in central Denver



Chris with one of his aspiring young skiers

my life has come together to allow me to do this, to do what I’m doing at every moment, and that’s the grace I want generations to know and understand they can experience, always.”



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Active	141 Corral Road B	Duplex	6	6	5,457	Unfurnished	\$3,495,000	\$640	9	--	--	--
Under Contract	1241 Winslow Road	Duplex	3	4	2,255	Unfurnished	\$1,695,000	\$752	24	--	--	--
Closed	1420 Singletree	Single Family	4	5	4,225	Unfurnished	\$3,195,000	\$756	2	\$3,200,000	\$757	2/10/22

# Vail Valley Vet meet Dr. Nadine LOBER: your caring *Veterinarian*

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spotlight



When you meet Dr. Nadine Lober, you know immediately your pet is in good hands. Her love and passion for her pet patients are matched only by her knowledge and expertise. Nadine has dedicated her entire life to hard work and to fulfilling her promise to her mother to become a success, and those fortunate enough to experience the quality of her care reap the benefits of her commitment.

Nadine and her family spent much of her childhood in France. After 10 years, they returned to the states and settled in Southern California. Nadine was always on the fast track and completed her senior year of high school at the age of 16 and was then accepted to UC Irvine pre-med. “I worked a 12-hour shift for a small vet clinic in LA on Sundays. And then, I worked for a lab that was

teaching surgery to medical students. I was a TA there. My college experience gave me an excellent foundation for my future practice,” Nadine recalls.

Nadine moved on to attend the one vet school in California at the time. UC Davis selected only 120 students per year out of 1000s of applicants. Nadine’s acceptance was a dream come true. Following graduation, she scrounged up the money to go to a Club Med in Mexico, which ultimately led to Club Med Copper Mountain, where she was trained to teach skiing. “I would go back to Southern California after the ski season to work at three different clinics. I worked seven days a week and three-night shifts. But I’d fallen in love with Colorado. It was 1993, and I got a job teaching skiing at Beaver Creek.”

To pursue her chosen profession as a veterinarian, she started working for several clinics in Denver on a fill-in basis when someone took maternity leave or time off. And then it came to a point where she started saying no to people because she was booked. Here in the Vail Valley, she helped out at the Avon Pet Center, as well as worked twice a week at the Gypsum Animal Hospital.

Seventeen years ago, Nadine had the vision and passion to create her own house call practice. Today, her business has grown to offer a full range of routine services to keep your pets healthy – all with the comfort and convenience of in-home care. Nadine explains, “Lots of dogs roll in the snow and get water in their ears. Or they have hairy canals. And their ears get infected and you’ve got to clean them out. So all kinds of the daily stuff are what I do all the time.” She performs check-ups and exams, vaccines, blood work, dental exams and is available for emergency calls.

When it comes to senior dogs, Nadine emphasizes that she is treating more and more dogs as they age and start to limp or show signs of arthritis. “There’s a lot of alternative medicine available today. There are holistic herbal supplies and medical supplements that I use to treat these symptoms. I do a lot of acupuncture, warm laser therapy, and glucosamine injections. Dogs can get a series of glucosamine injections; it’s called Adequan, and you need to do a series of injections that show great results. By expanding her scope of services, Nadine offers owners more options when it comes to caring for their older arthritic dogs.

Nadine relies on laser treatment for a host of issues, including skin wounds, arthritis, hip dysplasia, muscle sprains, and back sprains, which happens commonly with dogs, especially in the deep snow. “By using the laser machine for a couple of treatments and prescribing anti-inflammatories, the dog is much better.” In



those cases that require more extreme measures, Nadine refers her patients to a local affiliate veterinarian clinic for x-rays, anesthesia, and surgery.

As every pet owner knows, the worst part about having a pet is saying goodbye. Nadine makes this turning point as smooth as possible by going to your home or inviting you to her office when that time comes. Either option offers a private, calm and comfortable setting for both you and your pet. “That’s one thing that I offer that a lot of vet clinics can’t always fit into their busy schedule, meanwhile, the dog or cat may be close to dying ... and that really saddens me,” Nadine says as she shares her emotional side. “Sometimes, I cry with them. That is the hardest thing about my job, no doubt.

“The most gratifying part about my practice is assuring that your pets enjoy the highest quality of life possible. When they call me and say, ‘Thank you so much, he’s doing so much better.’ Or I will run into a pet owner who will say, ‘Oh, Dr. Nadine, do



you remember when you put Roscoe to sleep? You were so compassionate. I was about to call you because we’re getting a new puppy! You’re the best! That’s the most rewarding. That’s awesome,” she says with a smile.

What are the top tips for a healthy pet? Nadine replies promptly, “A yearly exam is for sure. Because we find so much on that: A new lump, an ear infection, broken tooth, or whatever it is that we find. We check the heart for any murmurs. All those things, if found early, can be resolved.” Nadine continues with more sound advice. “And then secondly, it’s so important to watch what your dog eats when he’s outside. So he grabs a hold of something and you’re not aware of it, right? And if he is not feeling well, it’s so important to look at their poop. I know it sounds weird, but does he have diarrhea? Is he peeing frequently, more often than usual, or regular? Those are things that are very important.”



Not only does Dr. Lober provide her patients with the utmost in pet care, but she also finds ways to give back to the community. Having had Covid-19 in March of 2021, she went to Denver frequently to donate convalescent plasma to aid in the recovery of other patients who had contracted the Covid-19. She then took the extra step and coordinated a plasma drive in partnership with Vitalant, one of the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit blood donation organizations. Dr. Nadine worked tirelessly to recruit recovered patients and to carefully select those who met the eligibility criteria to donate. Thanks to her efforts, many Vail residents donated convalescent plasma for Covid-19 patients, which contributed to recoveries and in some cases, prevented the need for the patient to be put on a respirator at all.

While Nadine maintains a busy schedule for her practice, she does take time to enjoy her beloved Colorado. "I ski. I go social skiing now. I love to skate ski for exercise on the golf course with my dog, Teddy. He loves that. Mountain biking or hiking with Teddy are two of my favorite things. And golf has definitely become a huge hobby of mine. Oh, and I love traveling. I love speaking languages; I speak French, Italian, English, and Spanish. I get by in Hebrew. This is a great place to live, it's become my home. I am so grateful for all the wonderful friends I've made in the Vail Valley. It means the world to me.



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# talley:

the story of a new name

My name is Talley now, but I've had other names before I joined the Ruh Family in Singletree. I was born on August 23, 2016, in Hughesville, MD, to a breeder named Tracy Burdick. Tracy was a wonderful human mom to me. She has been breeding Papillons under the name Denzel Papillons since 1983 and has produced over 300 AKC champions, including me. My father was a champion named "Take the Stage," and my mother was another champion named "Bejinxed." My first official registered name on my birth certificate (yes, show dogs have birth certificates) was "Steal the Show," which I did many times in my early years.

Show dogs are seldom called by their registered names, and I was no exception. My call name was "Stella." I competed for several years until I



Talley's first day in Edwards



## precious pets

Contributed by **Talley and Bobbie Ruh**, Singletree Pet and Resident

earned my champion designation. Tracy always keeps the best of her champions to breed the next generation of winners, and I was really proud when she chose to keep me.

Tracy moved to Sunny Side, GA, just outside of Atlanta, in 2020, and took me and two of my kennel mates with her to serve as her "brood b\*\*\*\*es."

I think that's a terrible title for cute girls like us, but that's the official term. When we finished competing, we lived with Tracy and were bred when we were between the ages of 3 and 7. After that, we retired, and Tracy found wonderful forever homes for us.



Talley in her "office"

My move to Georgia brought me both bad and good luck. I was mated for the first time, but sadly had to have a cesarean section, and only one of my puppies survived, but she was much too small to be a show dog. I am very tiny too. I only weigh six pounds. Because of these problems, Tracy decided to retire me early.

In the meantime, Jim and Bobbie Ruh had lost their 12-year-old papillon, Haley, in December of 2020 to kidney disease. Haley was also from Denzel Papillons, and I share my bloodline several times over with Haley's mother. The Ruhs were devastated when they lost Haley and tried to contact Tracy about another papillon, but because she had moved from Maryland, it took them several months to find her. They were excited when they finally contacted her in Georgia and learned that I was available for adoption. They were especially thrilled that I was only 4 years old (most of Tracy's dogs aren't retired until age 7 or 8).

The big day came for me on August 1, 2021. Tracy's husband Russ bundled me up in my favorite travel kennel (I love to travel), and I knew right away that something special was going to happen. When I arrived at DIA, a lady in a red-striped shirt was waiting for me, and she looked so happy, I knew right away that my forever home would be great.



Ribbons for Stella!



Stella at 16 months

It was a long car ride up to Edwards, but I settled right in on the lady's lap and slept all the way to my

new home. You can see from my photo that both of us are really happy to have found each other. There was only one problem; my new mom didn't like the name "Stella." She said it reminded her of an old movie with Marlon Brando shouting out the name at the top of his lungs. She talked with Tracy and was advised that it would be fine to change my name as long as it had some of the same sounds as "Stella." That's how she came up with my new name. She started out with "Talia," and within a day or two, it got shortened to "Talley," which is just fine with me.

When I first arrived, I went for training to Waggin' Tails Dog Obedience in Edwards with Kathy Kosierowski. I needed to learn how to sit because, as a show dog, I would be penalized if I sat down during competition. I was already perfect at walking on a leash, so after learning to sit, stay down, come, and stay, I was ready to go. My mom Bobbie says that the best thing about me is that I don't bark or whine. When I want something, I just look at her until she notices. If she doesn't, I just jump up and down to get her attention. It always works.

Although I enjoyed being a show dog, I love my life as a retiree even more. My favorite thing about Singletree is the golf course

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 in winter. I love to walk the course and run circles around my mom in the snow. I also love riding in cars and watching TV in the evenings from my mom's lap. I had fun last summer entertaining a dancer from the Vail Dance Festival. Most days, you can find me busy in my mom's office helping her do her work. I have a special couch that I recline on while I am making sure that she doesn't make any mistakes. I have learned that it doesn't matter whether my name is "Steal the Show," "Stella," or "Talley." As long as it is spoken with love, my world is a happy place.



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# meet Reid Van Slyke:

## A Man of Many Games

Reid Van Slyke is a very active third-grader at Eagle County Charter Academy. The day we met, he had had a great day at school has made good choices and earned marbles that earned him a movie party! We start by learning more ...

**What sort of good choices do you make to earn marbles at school?** Well, like today, I finished cleaning my desk so then I helped someone else. And I put a marble in the can. After the can is full, we get a movie party.

**What was the movie?** Our movie was like a Native American movie. I think it was called Bear Brother or something like that. And you could like, bring a stuffy, you know, or blanket or a pillow. So, I forgot to do that. And Zander did, too. He's one of my friends. And the library has some. So we snuck in there to grab one and ran out the door.

**So what's your favorite subject in school?** Mmm ... computers or PE. Computers is mostly like half of the time, you're like, just free. You can do whatever you want on the computer. And then all the rest of it, you do like typing. And then for PE, we get to do very fun games and especially when we get to do the parachute game because you have a giant parachute that you get to use to play games.

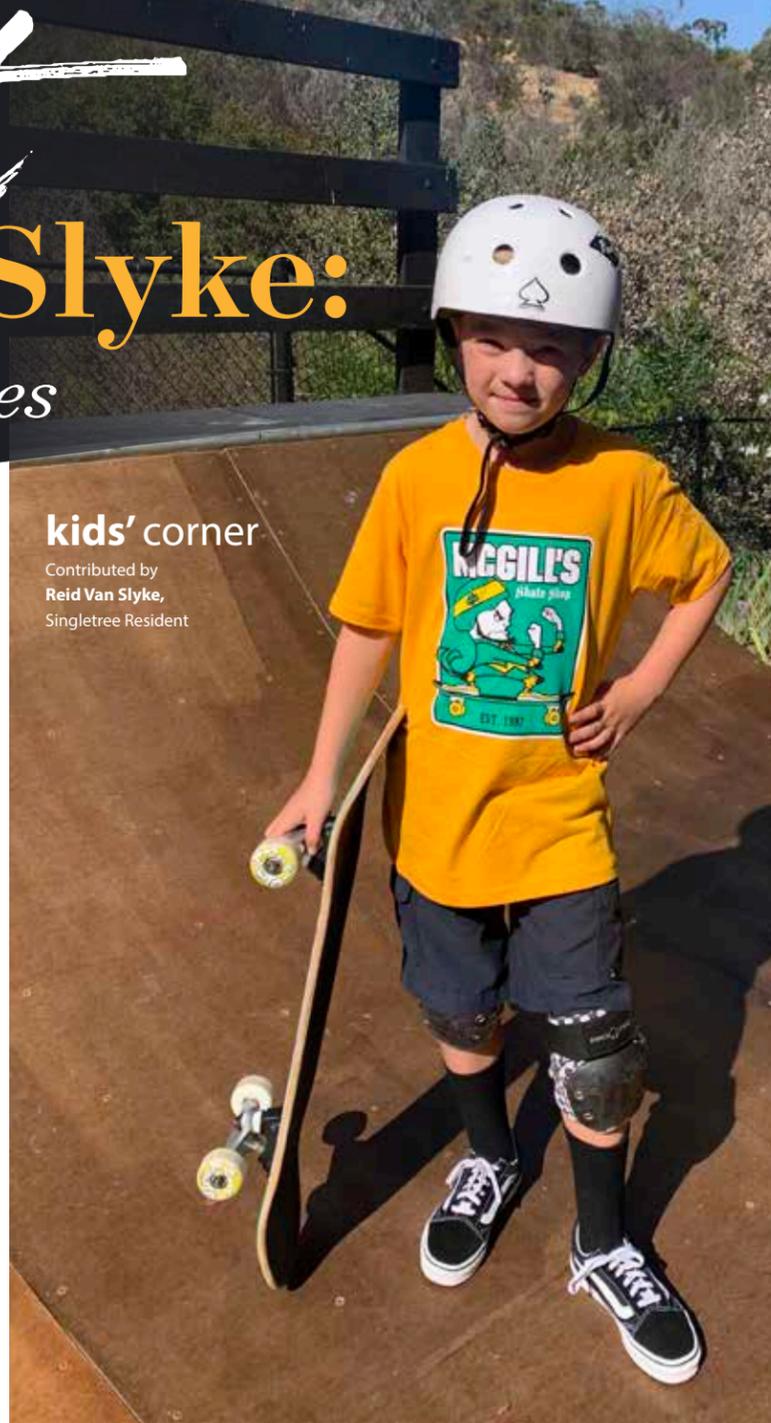
**What kind of games do you play?** So, one game is called "Shark Attack" and everybody sits with it over you and there are one or two people inside of the parachute so you can't see and they try and pull you in. Once you're pulled into the parachute, then you're

now a shark until everybody's in and the last person surviving wins and there are lifeguards so if you're getting pulled, they can help you. And there's another game when we have like four stuffies or something like that, and a few balls and you



### kids' corner

Contributed by Reid Van Slyke, Singletree Resident



put it in the parachute, and everybody flings the parachute up and then down so whichever are the last living stuffies wins. And you guess which one you want to win.

**What are your favorite games on the computer?** Sometimes I like to play Minecraft. My second favorite one is probably Incredibox. I think that's all for computers.

**What do you like to do outside of school?** Um ... skateboarding. Snowboarding. Well, that's pretty much all I can do right now, and I ski too but I don't ski so much. I used to ski.

**Why did you switch to snowboarding?** Mmm ... pretty much half of my family already did it.



**And what do you do in the summers?** Summers, mostly I skateboard, bike; I cruise skateboard. That's when you have a kind of fat and big skateboard, and you have a giant hill that you go down and you make BIG BIG turns.

**What are your favorite things to do as a family?** As a family? I really like to ski with my family or snowboard with my family. My mom skis. Other things I like to do? Pretty much play board games like *Clue*. And I kinda like *Sorry*. And oh yea! *Monopoly* *Vail!* I like *Life*. And I like *Sponge Bob Family Edition*. I like *Yeti, Set, Go!* And I like doing *Dominoes*. That's very fun. Making like tracks.

**What do you like to do with your dog, Louie?** Snuggle with him. Play with him. Chase the ball with him. It's hard to catch him. Like, when you throw it or punt it, he grabs the football and

darts. And then he brings it back and drops it. Pretty much sometimes he does. But mostly you have to grab it.

**If you could be an animal in the jungle, what would you be?** Well, there's this animal that I studied in the rainforest. It was called a lion tamarin monkey. It was a long time ago, but I studied it, and pretty much everything I heard about it, I liked.

**If you had a superpower, a magic power, what would you want to be able to do?** I don't really think I would want to be like flying because if you get too high, it would get freezing. And if it was super speed, I'll burn up by friction and get burned to death by fire. Yeah, I would have to have some type of suit. But then, yeah, I would have speed.

Wow! We have covered a lot of territory. Thanks for spending time with us, Reid, and have fun on those boards!

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[lisa@vailvalleypetgroomers.com](mailto:lisa@vailvalleypetgroomers.com)



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# UPCOMING EVENTS IN SINGLETREE!

## We look forward to seeing you...

- April 10** – The golf course is no longer available for walking or exercising, with or without our pets. Please remember the golf course is private property, which they graciously allow residents to use during the winter. Sonnenalp Club staff is preparing the course for opening day.
- April 11** – Singletree resident's golf course cleanup day! We got to enjoy the golf course all winter and now it is time to repay the kindness of the Sonnenalp Club and cleanup the poop and trash we left behind this winter.
- April 15** – The Sonnenalp Club golf course opens for the 2022 season.
- April 30** – Community Pride Highway Cleanup Day! Singletree has adopted a one-mile section of I-70 and we need volunteers to help clean it up.
- May 31** – Last day to pay your 2022 Singletree Property Owners Association annual dues without a late fee. Mail your \$150 check to Post Office Box 1200, Edwards, CO 81632.
- June 16** – Singletree Summer Concert with the Turntable Revue Duo at the Community Center from 6 PM to 8 PM.

# SINGLETREE

**Berry Creek Metro District and Singletree Property Owners' Association**  
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[www.singletreetoday.com](http://www.singletreetoday.com)

**So you are back and forth between Puerto Rico and Colorado, you get to the Ski Academy, and how was it that both you and your brother made the Olympics your goal?**

I think when Charles saw the Olympics in 2014 in Sochi, he thought it was super cool and something he wanted to do. And my parents decided they would figure out what it would take to make it happen. So then it was time to try out at Ski Club for the first time. It was *horrendous*. They do an introduction to see your ski level and gave us one of the top-tier coaches. I was 9 at the time, and Charles was 13. He said these kids are horrible. They don't know how to race. He had some valid points (William is laughing at himself at this point in the conversation). We went to dinner with Mike Williams the next night and did not even want to talk about it. It wasn't good.

So then Mike talked to Aldo Radamus, who was, at the time, the head of Ski and Snow Club Vail, the executive director, he was in charge. And they decided we would go to Mt. Bachelor for summer camp, where they would do a better evaluation there with the coaches. I got in, no problem, thanks to Brad Borgard, my coach, who coached me for the first three or four years of my career. Charles needed some catch-up, so they recommended a private coach, Sara Radamus. While it sounded a little weird at the time, it turns out she is the best of the best coaches, the tippy top tier. They were telling the truth! And since then, Sara and the Radamus family have been a huge part, and they even helped us get the Olympic committee in Puerto Rico back up and running.

**So was there a time that there was no Puerto Rican Olympic team?**

We had to rebuild the Puerto Rico winter sports federation from scratch. My dad was kind of in charge of that front. He started all the paperwork, talked to the Olympic Committee, had meetings with them, and figured out what we needed to do. He made sure all the *l's* were crossed, and we had everything squared away. Even though the Puerto Rican Olympic Committee wanted to say

months. Then, the second year, we started Winter Tutorial at the Ski Academy and we lived in Wildridge.

**When did you move to Singletree?**

That was the winter of 2019. We wanted a house with a backyard, sun, and views.

**So how was that for you – living in Puerto Rico and in Colorado?**

It's complicated. It's weird because you have friends, but I don't have any like good close friends, or I did, and they moved to Loveland, and then one moved to Minnesota, so that was interesting. And then in Puerto Rico, I have one friend who lives in the same building; and another friend whose dad lives in Puerto Rico and her mom lives in Miami, so she comes down like every other weekend, more or less, and I try to see her whenever she comes home, but that's complicated with our schedules.

Yeah, it's nothing like a normal high school experience at all. I don't know how to describe it. I'm able to make friends with everyone. And I'm able to be friendly and kind of close with everyone, but at the same time, like not insanely close. So like, everyone's still super supportive of me and nice to me and friendly, but it's not like I'm getting invited to parties or something, which frankly, I don't have time to do with skiing and everything.

In the summer months for training, I would simply do whatever workouts that the SSCV boys were doing in Colorado, but back home. They put all of the workouts on an app called Train Heroic, and I would just follow whatever they were doing.

A Dream  
Come True for  
**WILLIAM  
FLAHERTY:**  
Competing in  
the 2022

# WINTER OLYMPICS

**Can you please share with us the path that led you from living in Puerto Rico to ultimately attending Ski and Snowboard Club Vail, enrolling in the Winter Tutorial program, and living in Singletree part of the year?**

William Flaherty is a Singletree resident, a Vail Ski and Snowboard Academy athlete, and the sole member of the Alpine ski team who represented Puerto Rico at the 2022 Olympic Games in Beijing. Many are aware of his challenges in overcoming a life-threatening illness as a young child, as well as his continued battles with his health over the years. Having overcome tremendous odds, his story is in itself truly inspiring.

While many are familiar with William, the athlete, there are many who do not know William, the person. Here, it was a true pleasure getting to know William: up close and personal. His passion is genuine, his energy infectious, and his sense of humor entertaining. Here, William lets us in on a few of the details of the journey traveled to reach his personal goal of competing in the Winter Olympic Games.

So actually, do you know Mike Williams and Kathy Bellamy, by any chance? So Mike Williams was our first ski instructor. We would take a weeklong vacation to Beaver Creek every year, and then it would turn into two weeks because we just loved it so much. And so we had been doing that since I was five. And then, when I turned 9, Mike told us, "Okay, I've taught you, kids, everything I can. You really need to look at enrolling in the race program." And we just kind of blew him off and thought, "That's *not* going to happen!"

**So then what did happen?**

The next year we came back, and Mike told us again there was nothing more he could teach us. "You guys should really look into racing," he reiterated. Charles was going to age out soon, so it was kind of a now or never thing. We decided to give it a shot. Sort of a leap of faith. So the first year we were living in Beaver Creek, we got into Ski Club Vail, and at 10, we were doing online school, so we could go back and forth between Puerto Rico and Colorado. We were in Puerto Rico for the summers, that was home base, and then we would come out to Colorado in the winters to train for five to six





### How did it feel to march in the Opening Ceremonies in the 2022 Olympics?

Oh, that was *so* cool. Because you walked out of the tunnel, and there are these huge Olympic rings suspended over you, and you're just like, "Oh my God, I'm here. Holy! We're actually doing this. We are finally here! It's been eight years of work, and you're actually here." And I get to do it again for closing ceremonies in like three days. I am quite excited.

### How many Olympians are on the Puerto Rico team?

Two. I *am* the Puerto Rican ski team. And one girl here is doing skeleton. Yeah, we make up the entire Puerto Rican Winter Olympic team for 2022.

### Now you're in the gate. Your first event is the Giant Slalom. What's going through your head?

Don't mess up. Actually, halfway down, I did mess up, and I'm thinking, please tell me Charles isn't watching because he will give me so much crap for this. Wait. I should focus. I am in the middle of my Olympic run.

### So a lot of guys didn't even finish. How did you feel when you crossed that finish line?

Yeah, I think it was 41 people who didn't finish out of eighty-nine. That's huge. That was crazy. And so my goal for the day, because GS is my specialty, technically, was to make it down two runs



William with fellow Olympian, River Radamus, following the second GS run

no to us, they just couldn't. He and Sara were a huge help in all that, and we would not be here without all that work and effort. It was sort of chaotic for a few years.

### Then how did it feel watching your brother compete in the Olympics in 2018?

Honestly, I have a horrible memory because of chemo and stuff, so I don't quite remember how I felt. There's a video of me saying, "I'm William Flaherty, his younger brother, and I'm going to do it in four years." So, I'm assuming I was excited. Apparently, I had a lot of confidence in my abilities back then.

### So let's fast forward four years. How did it feel when you qualified?

Oh, now *that* I remember! So that race actually happened in Vail when I qualified. To qualify for the Olympics, you need a five-race average under 160 FIS points. And I came down my race run at Vail, and my brother was there that day too. And we thought, "Oh. That was actually a pretty fast run. That may have lowered your average to get yourself in!" So, here I am, in the finish area, doing calculations, and the official results came out it turned out I *had* gotten in. And so, on the car ride back, we were blasting *Crazy Train*, and we were singing the entire time. That was January 17th of last year, 2021.

### So now you are on your way to the Olympics in February 2022.

Yes, but we didn't know for sure that I was going until about six days before when we got our flights. It was cutting it kind of close, but we got our flights finally. But the adventure wasn't over once we got here. They lost our bags with all of our opening ceremony stuff, so we were kind of panicking. Luckily, they threw together a basic outfit together for us, with a black down jacket, black pants, and some shoes, and our National Olympic Committee bought red hats for all of us.

and not be in the last three. I was eighth from last or ninth after the first run, and there were only 60 people left, so then my goal was top 40. I was 39th, and one guy snuck ahead of me, so I finished 40th. I was *so* excited. It was so much fun!

### How was your slalom race?

Well, I am not the biggest fan of slalom. It just turned out I qualified, but I honestly wasn't expecting to, so my goal for that was to make it down two runs and don't be last. Which, I did. So the first run felt horrendous, and then the top part of the second run felt really, really good, and so did the middle part, and then I got to the bottom, and I was like, "Oh. That was less than ideal." I finished, it was close, but I finished. I made it, and so I was happy.

### So tell me a little bit about being in Beijing. What has surprised you about your experience there?

Hmm. Let's see. All of the volunteers here are super friendly. That is always good. Charles said the food in PyeongChang was really, really good because we're both gluten-free. So I was like, "Sweet. I'm going to have some amazing food," but they don't really have too much gluten-free food here, which I was honestly kind of surprised about. It's very repetitive. They don't change it at all. They bring us pastrami, cheese, arugula, and some melon, and whenever they have it, gluten-free bread. Oh, and there is bacon for breakfast, except sometimes it's like half raw. It's like a 50/50 shot. You're like, "Is that a pig I hear oinking?" It's interesting. But the rest of the venue is amazing. The ski hill is incredible.

### Have you had an opportunity to explore Beijing?

No. They keep us in a bubble, and we are not allowed to leave our bubble. There are three Olympic villages. So if you're in one Olympic village, you can go to the other two, but you can't go explore the city, or The Great Wall or the Forbidden Palace or anything.

### What's your overall take on the whole Olympic experience?

Ah, it's pretty cool. It's crazy to see the people you've looked up to just hanging around. Yesterday I ate breakfast sitting behind the entire U.S. women's team. It's like, "Oh my god, I watch you guys on TV. It's crazy. And now you're probably like five feet away from me!" Like passing Matthias Mayer on my way to the tuning room, I'm like, "What are you doing here?" I don't know. It's like everyone notices me because I'm so young. And they're like, "How old are you? What are you doing here? Are you a tuner?" No. I'm an athlete. I am 17. Just going about my business.

Going about his business ... of overcoming all odds and dedicating himself to the pursuit of competing at the Olympics. Congratulations, William, on achieving your dreams!



William and mom, Ann





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# GIRLS ROCK!



## JOLIE AND ALANA DISCOVER FUN & FRIENDSHIPS WITH DUCHESS RIDE

Duchess Ride provides an all-girl experience for young ladies on snowboards, skateboards, and now, surfboards! Two Singletree girls, Jolie Van Slyke and Alana Polatty, love hanging with other girls who love boarding on snow, in a park or on the water. This environment provides a unique opportunity for building relationships and creating memories. The girls thrive on the support and camaraderie provided by a group of their peers – with no boys!

### Jolie Van Slyke eagerly shares her experience with Duchess Ride:

**When did you first join Duchess Ride?** This is my third season.

**What is the most fun part of Duchess Ride?** Getting to hang out with friends.



### young achievers

Contributed by Jolie Van Slyke and Alana Polatty, Singletree Residents and Duchess Ride Founder, Claire Alteneau

### What is your favorite memory so far?

My favorite memory would be going on my first box in the terrain park.

### What is your greatest accomplishment from being part of Duchess Ride?

Learning new tricks.

### What have you learned about yourself?

When I feel like I can't do something, the coaches are always there to help me through it and they make me believe that I can do it.



Jolie LOVES Duchess Ride!



### What would you tell other girls who were thinking about joining Duchess Ride?

I was nervous about trying Duchess Ride the first time, but when I did, it was the best decision ever, and I have learned so much! Also you make lots more friends and the coaches are so nice!

Founded in 2015 and run today by Claire Altenau and Richelle Wagner, Duchess Ride lives up to its mission to cultivate TENACITY, CAMARADERIE and CREATIVITY in young girls. Beginning with snowboard camps, the organization has grown since its inception to offer year-round programming including skateboard camps and surf camps for girls ages 9 to 15.

Both Claire and Richelle have been local Beaver Creek snowboard instructors for the past eight years. They were inspired to launch Duchess Ride when they began to see the number of girls in their snowboard classes declining. In response, the pair wanted to create an environment that would allow girls to feel more comfortable as they progressed with their snowboarding as well as to help build the confidence to try new skills and tricks without feeling judged by others.

### Alana Polatty enthusiastically chimes in to share her experience with Duchess Ride:

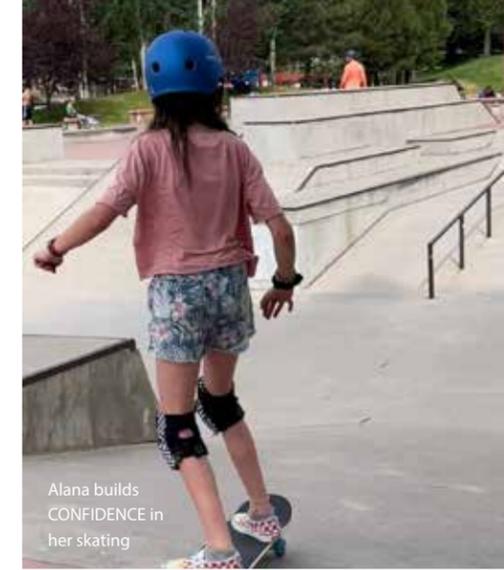
**When did you first join Duchess Rides?** July 2021 for skateboarding and this winter for snowboarding.

**What is the most fun part of Duchess Rides?** Hanging out with other girls that like skating/boarding and learning new tricks.

**What is your favorite memory so far?** Skating/snowboarding with an all-girl squad and making new friends.

**What is your greatest accomplishment from being part of Duchess Rides?** Jumping off a cliff snowboarding! And learning how to ride parts of the skate park.

**What have you learned about yourself?** Snowboarding has helped with my confidence for skating and I want



Alana builds CONFIDENCE in her skating

to push myself to get better this summer.

**What would you tell other girls who were thinking about joining Duchess Ride?** Go ahead and give it a try! It's so much fun with no pressure and no competitions!

Claire and Richelle actively sought an opportunity to share their passion for board sports with young women in their community and to offer girls a camp that wasn't just about snowboarding but also about mentorship. Duchess Ride, in fact, reaches well beyond the slopes. The snowboard camp runs for 10 Sundays on-snow and 10 off-snow sessions on

Wednesday nights at the local Trinity Church. On these off-snow nights, the girls have a chance to discuss weekly issues, express their feelings, do team-building exercises, explore creativity, and for an added element of fun, they go jump on trampolines for two of the nights.

Taking the step to join Duchess Ride, making new friends and gaining the courage to adventure beyond your comfort zone is clearly the common theme for Jolie and Alana. By creating this program, Claire explains, "We want to give girls the opportunity to gain confidence, make friends, have fun, and of course, make memories." And that is exactly what Duchess Ride has accomplished.

Check out the dates below for summer camp dates or visit [www.duchessride.org](http://www.duchessride.org) for additional information and join the fun with Alana and Jolie!

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Bill Welch, U.S. Marine Corps, III MAF, Vietnam War



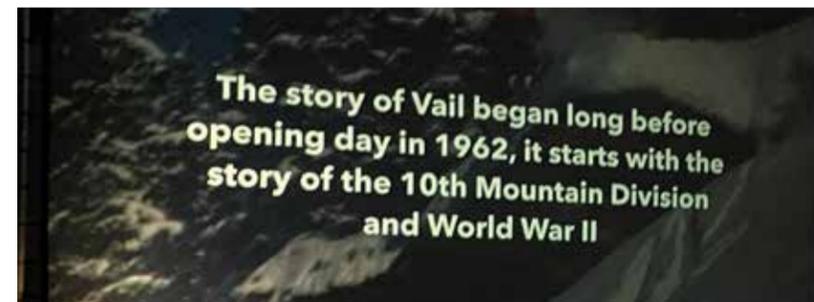
JP Power, U.S. Marines, Captain, Vietnam War, participates in the torchlight ski down Vail Mountain



The Legacy Parade down Bridge Street



John Perkins, US Army, E-5 Sergeant, 101st Airborne Division, Vietnam War



A film commemorating the 10th Mountain Division

## Vail Legacy Parade Honors the 10th Mountain Division

Hosted by the Town of Vail and Vail Resorts, the Legacy Parade on February 18, 2022, honored the 77th Anniversary of the famed 10th Mountain Division victory over the Germans on Riva Ridge in Italy during World War II. The celebration included a torchlight ski down beneath fireworks, a commemorative presentation at the base of the mountain including a brief historic film clip, and the 10th Mountain Legacy Parade down Bridge Street. Vietnam veterans Bill Welch, John Perkins and JP Power proudly participated in the celebration.



Bill Welch (front) bears the American flag with fellow local veterans



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