

INSIDE *Singletree*

DECEMBER 2018

A SOCIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SINGLETREE



**Joanie, Stacy,
Quinn and Annie**

THREE GENERATIONS
TOGETHER IN SINGLETREE.

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Hello *Singletree* Residents!

publisher's note

Season's Greetings! The holidays are here and we are thankful for this time of year to celebrate our friends and family, to offer thanks and to give back to those in need. The holidays are such a wonderful time to celebrate family and this issue is full of wonderful stories about amazing Singletree families.

Joanie, Stacy, Quinn and Annie share not only the holidays together, but enjoy living in Singletree as a family of three generations under the same roof. We love getting to know **all** of these wonderful ladies in the neighborhood! Speaking of family, Sally Austen and her son, Watts, adventured to Patagonia this past summer to experience the trip of a lifetime in the land of glaciers. In awe of their surroundings, the pair shared moments of overwhelming joy as well of some of those to-be-expected irritating moments in travel ... and came out of the experience as dedicated traveling companions!

The Welch family has made a notable name for itself in the Vail Valley at the annual **Man of the Cliff** event, the most unique fundraising event in the country. Bill, Connie and their son, Brian, are a

testament to the fact that the whole family can have fun while raising money to benefit **First Descents**, a not-for-profit organization that offers young adults living with and surviving cancer a free outdoor adventure experience.

The Battle Mountain Girls Varsity Volleyball team is indeed a family in itself. In this issue, we get to know what the high school volleyball experience means to Lillian Benway, Emma Judge, Gabby Gully, Sofi Petrovski and Ana Spangler. Whether a senior anticipating graduation or a junior moving on to her final year, this volleyball team is devoted to its sisterhood.

Please take a moment and get to know Sara and Michael Charles, the owners of **Maximum Comfort Pool & Spa**, and Jan Rosenthal Townsend, the owner and operator of **Shadey Deals - Alpine Ambiance**. These partners are an integral part of the *Inside Singletree* family, without whom we would not be able to enjoy this neighborhood publication. I hope you will enjoy these stories and more in this issue!

Whether you enjoy the holidays right here in the Vail Valley or travel to visit family and friends elsewhere, I wish you a fun-filled, safe and happy holiday season to you and yours ...



Holly Proctor | Area Director
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A Singletree Holiday Social for All

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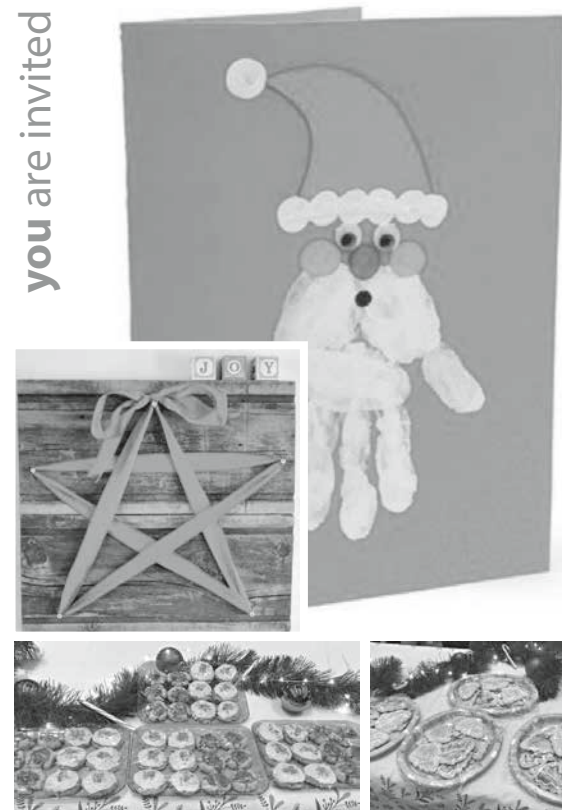
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Lillian Benway, Emma Judge, Sofi Petrovski, Gabby Gully and Ava Spangler
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Tom Boyd
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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: Suzanne and Nick Kern. I would like to offer my heartfelt apology to Suzanne and Nick for the misprint that appeared on the Contributors' page of the November issue. I sincerely appreciate your participation in *Meet Your Neighbors* and wish you a life of joy and happiness together!
- Holly Proctor, Area Director



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meet your neighbors

Photography by Olga Barron Photography Inc.



Joanie, Stacy, Quinn and Annie

THREE GENERATIONS TOGETHER IN SINGLETREE

No stranger to winter, Stacy grew up in Edina, Minnesota, where she was introduced to all the wonderful snowy outdoor activities. She had a wonderful upbringing in Edina with her mother, Joanie, father, Bob, and sister, Katie. Bob was an avid athlete and made sure both his daughters were introduced to every sport possible. After graduating Edina High School, Stacy attended the University of Kansas which took her five fun years to complete.

Following graduation, Stacy moved to Vail in 1992 with her best bud from college, Amber. Stacy planned on staying just

one ski season but decided to stay through the summer and never left the mountains ... a similar story for most locals. In 1996, Stacy got her Real Estate license and worked with Doris Bailey in Vail Village for Slifer, Smith and Frampton. Doris, 32 years Stacy's senior, moved to Vail in 1963. Stacy loved learning about Vail's early history and hearing the amazing early Vail stories from Doris.

Although Stacy was very nostalgic about Vail and lived there for 22 years, she decided to make the big move down valley to



Singletree where she lives with her mom, Joanie, and daughters, Quinn and Annie. She loves Edwards and wishes she had made the down valley move sooner. Now Stacy works in Cordillera with Kent Barker and still remains with Slifer, Smith & Frampton. She loves working in the beautiful golf community and has the best commute to work ever!

Stacy's daughter, Quinn, is 17 and a junior at Battle Mountain High School. And Stacy's youngest, Annie, is 14 and an eighth-grader at Eagle County Charter Academy. Both girls were born in Vail Hospital's beautiful maternity ward, a wonderful place to have a baby. They lived their elementary school years in Vail, skiing every weekend with their mother and running around Vail Village like it was their backyard. Stacy introduced both girls to skiing at 1.5 years of age and still treasures those early ski days with her girls as they have now passed her by and prefer to ski with their friends.

Raising children in the mountains is truly a unique gift and a wonderful experience. Stacy loves that her girls ski, hike, bike, camp, fish and enjoy the outdoors with their friends versus going to the shopping mall on weekends. Both Quinn and Annie play lacrosse; Quinn started as a freshman on Battle Mountain's Varsity lacrosse team and Annie plays for Vail Lacrosse club. The girls' father comes from a big Maryland lacrosse background and their grandfather is in the Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

Both girls also play basketball, which was Stacy's father's favorite sport. Unfortunately, he died when Stacy was 30 years old and never met his granddaughters. But Stacy knows he is smiling down on his grandchildren as they love and play his favorite sport! Quinn plays for Battle Mountain's Varsity Team and Annie plays for Eagle County Charter Academy. Annie will be attending Battle Mountain next year with her



...

big sister who will be a senior. Stacy can't wait to watch them play together for Battle Mountain's lacrosse and basketball teams.

Annie also plays volleyball for Eagle County Charter Academy and, currently, their team is undefeated and they recently won the Middle School Side Out tournament. Annie is looking forward to playing with the Battle Mountain high school girls next year.

The family loves living in Singletree and enjoys all the amenities of the neighborhood. If you are contemplating moving to the valley with your family, Stacy can assure you it is a wonderful place to raise a family and will even help you find the perfect place to live.

A word from Joanie:

After my husband died, I decided it was time to leave Minnesota and maybe move to Colorado. My youngest daughter graduated from the University of Colorado. After spending a year in New York, she moved back to Denver. My older daughter was living in Vail with my two granddaughters. I decided to leave Edina, MN, and buy a home in Cherry Creek North. Then my younger daughter got married and moved to Austin, TX. After a few years, I decided to move to the Vail Valley to be near Stacy, Quinn and Annie. I bought a home in Singletree - "a great move." I love Singletree, the Sonnenalp Club, and the cute town of Edwards. I still visit friends in Cherry Creek North and friends and family in Minnesota but now, I consider Singletree my home.



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what's happening *inside singletree*

SINGLETREE WELCOMES THE BLUEGRASS RAMBLERS



Before the aspen leaves had started to turn, the skies were grey and a light drizzle fell on Singletree on a mid-September evening, but that did not deter avid music fans from enjoying the last of the Music in the Park series featuring the Bluegrass Ramblers. Thank you SPOA for a wonderful finale to the season!





Hammers and Axes and Spears...

Oh My!

The Welch Family Dominates the Man of the Cliff

To meet Bill and Connie Welch, one would not suspect that the couple had just taken 1st and 2nd Place in the Masters Division of the annual **Man of the Cliff** event in October. They hardly appear to be the hatchet throwing, keg tossing and spear throwing type. But in fact, both Bill and Connie are basically addicted to the thrill and fun of the annual event that raises funds for **First Descents**, a not-for-profit organization that provides life-changing outdoor adventures for young adults impacted by cancer. Every penny raised goes to **First Descents**. Prior to this year, **Man of the Cliff** had raised well in excess of \$100,000 for the

organization and, this year alone, the event generated approximately \$55,000 for the benefit of the organization.

This year marked the 10th Anniversary of the fundraiser, originally founded by Redcliff locals Adam and Amanda Williams. Seeking an alternative to the traditional golf tournaments and road races, they were looking for something different that would appeal to the mountain population while raising money for charity. With roots in Red Cliff, the event has since grown to more than 200 participants and 2,000 spectators thereby outgrow-



ing Mango's parking and relocated to its current location at Nottingham Lake Avon, where it can comfortably host eight individual events. Today, competitors at **Man of the Cliff** compete in the Axe Throw, Keg Toss, Spear Throw, Speed Chop, Log Toss, Archery, Caber (a long and heavy pole Toss and Hammer Throw.

Nine years ago, Bill and Connie's son, Brian, started participating in the event and the following year, Connie innocently attended to cheer on her son. Little did she know she would soon be hooked. Bill joined the fun the following year after recovering from



who's making a difference

Contributed by
Bill and Connie Welch,
Singletree Residents



an injury that had previously kept him on the sidelines. Today, competition is fierce between the two in the Masters Division and they enthusiastically share the highlights of the weekend.

This year, Bill won the Masters for the third year in a row, and Connie took second for the second consecutive year; Brian won the Open Men's Division for the second time. As Bill awards Connie the credit she is due, he explains, "What's extraordinary is that Connie does not get any adjustments for being a woman in the Masters Division; in the Open, there are adjustments for women, but Connie throws the same keg, the same 8-pound hammer and the same logs as the men, which means she beat many of the Masters Men as a woman."

As one can imagine, these skills require strength, precision, finesse and technique. Connie humbly confesses, as the only woman to compete in the Masters, to truly enjoying both the anticipation and the event itself, "We get to practice those things like archery and hatchet throwing. It's just you and the target and it's fun to try to get better and better." Last year, the three finalists in the Archery event were Connie Welch, Bill Welch and Brian Welch. Brian was eliminated and Connie and Bill went on head-to-head. Ultimately, Connie prevailed. To sum it up, one of the archery competitors deemed Connie the "Man to Beat." Enough said.

While deeply competitive at some levels, both Bill and Connie remark that the camaraderie among participants is what makes **Man of the Cliff** so much fun. "The beauty of it is that everyone is helpful

with each other," Connie explains, "Brian has friends from South Africa who are brothers and have lots of experience in throwing axes; they were happy to offer advice to both another girl and and me in the axe finals."

Every participant must have a handle and it is clear, no one takes themselves **too** seriously. When Brian began his involvement with **Man of the Cliff**, he was named 'Peach Fuzz' and Connie was affectionately known as 'Peach Fuzz's Mom'. Connie has since taken on the identity of 'Mountain Mama' and Bill wears his handle proudly on his belt buckle: 'Wild Bill.'

Bill, Connie and Brian have had a ton of fun competing over the past several years and were thrilled to welcome Brian's wife, Maddy, to the competition for her second year. With a two-year-old granddaughter, Laina, they speculate that there will someday be another young **Man of the Cliff** Welch competitor on the field. What is so fun about the event is that fact that anyone can participate at any level – as an individual, on a team, in 1 event, in all 8 events. Bill and Connie encourage the Singletree residents to "just come out and give it a try. If you just want to do a couple of events, you can do that." At the end of the day, what do you have to lose? And watch out ... you just might get hooked!

For additional information, please visit www.manofthecliff.com.



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kids' corner

Contributed by Sawyer Slevin, Singletree Resident
Article Sponsored by Kalamaya | Goscha



This month we are excited to get to know Sawyer Slevin in Kids' Corner! He is 8 years old and in the 3rd grade at Vail Mountain School. His brother, John, is 17 months older, his sister, Hannah, is 16. His parents are Page and Michael.

What is the best part of school? Recess. I like to play football with my friend, Alex.

What classes do you

like? A few. Science, PE and Math are pretty fun. We learn about organisms, forces and stuff. In math, we are learning multiplication problems. That's pretty much what we are sticking to. In PE, I like baseball and maybe bowling (with foam balls).

When you are not in school, what are your favorite things to do? Like playing football or soccer outside. Hanging out with my friends. Playing video games like Fortnite. It's a video game where you kill people. There's no blood! If you shoot somebody, numbers come out like how much damage comes out of them. If you take away all of their damage, then they are dead. Then you can take away all of their guns.

What do you like to do with Bailey? I like to throw the ball to her. But her favorite thing to do is hunt; once she caught a mouse!

What did you do this summer? We went to Hawaii for a week. We swam with manta rays in the night. We had this blue light that attracts the plankton so it's like bait for them. They did back somersaults trying to catch it and they went really close to our face. And we swam with dolphins and turtles. There was like this huge bank - there were a ton of turtles and a lot of fish.

What else did you do in Hawaii? We surfed a little. And we boogie boarded and snorkeled. And we went on a helicopter ride and flew over a volcano.

Did you look in the top of the volcano? Yea. It was just lava coming out.

What is your favorite movie? Oh, uh ... Maybe *Mission Impossible: Fallout*. Then there's this really cool movie called *Searching*. And the whole entire thing is electronic ... so what happens is this man's daughter goes missing and he goes all

over the web and tries to look for her but that's all I can tell you before I give it away.

And your favorite book? I like the *39 Clues*. I'm reading all of them.

If you could give a piece of advice to grown-ups, what would it be? Try not to die.

And if there is something in the world you could change, what would it be? No more jerks.

What's your favorite thing about living in Singletree? When the golf course is closed, we play football and my friend, Christopher, lives over there and I play with him a lot.

Anything else you would like to add? I am going to ski with Chris and be in DEVO this year. It's pretty fun. I do soccer. I play on Vail Valley Soccer - U-11. We've lost four games total. We've won about six6 games.



Kids say the most amazing things! And Singletree wants to hear what your kids have to say. Email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to feature your kid in your neighborhood magazine.

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“Fortyish” years ago, a young man from Minnesota visited our valley and a life-changing decision was made. This was the place for him! That young man was Michael Charles, owner of what has become the valley’s most respected hot tub dealership, Maximum Comfort Pool & Spa (MCPS). Michael quickly recognized the need of spa owners in the vicinity for trusted, knowledgeable, reliable service.

What started out as a company with a few valued clients and one employee has grown in magnitude to thousands of customers from across the globe, over 60 employees and two recently remodeled showrooms. The original showroom is located in Eagle-Vail and boasts over a dozen Hot Spring® hot tubs, several of which are fully operational and ready for you to come in and test out. To better serve their friends and neighbors over the pass, MCPS opened their Frisco location in 2007.

Michael’s wife, Sara, came to the valley in 1988 for a brief stop after living abroad. After meeting the man of her dreams, she and Michael married in 1990. They have two children, Erica and Nicholas. Sara joined Michael at MCPS five years ago after a successful career in property management and corporate travel. Much of Sara’s current focus is pointed toward business development, marketing and community relations. Michael and Sara both enjoy participating in and helping with community non-profit events.

Maximum Comfort Pool & Spa’s vision is “To promote a more enjoyable and healthy lifestyle for our community.” Hot tubs, once viewed as a place to hang out and enjoy socializing with your friends, are now known for their health benefits. Many doctors and physical therapists recommend the



use of hot tubs for their patients. The warm water and massaging jets help to relax muscles, reduce stress and can even lower your blood pressure. The emerging trend toward a healthier lifestyle led Michael to reinvent and expand the business as he saw the need to offer fitness equipment, saunas, grills and swim-spas. Our Endless Pools® Fitness System is an all enclosed swimming system which can also accommodate an underwater treadmill, bike or rowing system.

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Properties Recently Under Contract in Singletree

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Sold Date	\$/sq.ft.	Sold \$/sq.ft.	Beds	Baths	sq.ft.	Furnished
260 Mesquite Dr (SF)	\$2,895,000	N/A	N/A	\$390	N/A	5	6 (4 1 1)	7,431	No
*261 Foal Cir (SF)	\$1,850,000	N/A	N/A	\$259	N/A	6	6 (5 0 1)	7,136	No
751-751 Singletree #4 (TH)	\$1,275,000	N/A	N/A	\$478	N/A	4	4 (1 3 0)	2,670	No
221 June Creek Rd (SF)	\$1,135,000	N/A	N/A	\$378	N/A	3	4 (1 2 1)	3,004	No
30 Anvil Cir E #B (DU)	\$1,025,000	N/A	N/A	\$383	N/A	4	4 (2 1 1)	2,677	No
*32 June Creek Rd. Rd (DU)	\$975,000	N/A	N/A	\$367	N/A	3	3 (2 0 1)	2,658	No
520 Rawhide Rd #A (DU)	\$869,000	N/A	N/A	\$363	N/A	4	3 (3 0 0)	2,396	No
21 Concho Dr (SF)	\$750,000	N/A	N/A	\$468	N/A	3	3 (3 0 0)	1,603	No
231 Hackamore Rd #W (DU)	\$739,000	N/A	N/A	\$306	N/A	3	4 (3 0 1)	2,419	No
931 Singletree Rd #3 (TWN)	\$599,000	N/A	N/A	\$421	N/A	2	2 (1 1 0)	1,422	No
751 Singletree Rd #3Q (CD)	\$595,000	N/A	N/A	\$522	N/A	2	2 (1 1 0)	1,140	No

* Listed or sold by Happy Power.
MLS Data | 9.15.18 - 10.12.18

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On the Road in Singletree... Safety First!

The speed limit for all roads in Singletree is 25mph.

For the safety of our community, please watch your speed and be on the look-out for pedestrians, wildlife, cyclists, and vehicles entering and exiting residences.

There is no parking on the roads in Singletree.

The prohibition of on-street parking is: 1) for the safety of our community members who walk and bike our streets since we have no sidewalks and, 2) in order for Eagle County to effectively plow our roads in the winter.

The roads in Singletree are maintained by Eagle County.

That means SPOA nor BCMD have no control over road maintenance, snow plowing or traffic signs. If you have questions or concerns, please contact road@eaglecounty.us

BCMD maintains street name signs and street lighting.

If you have questions or concerns regarding these, please contact manager@singletreetoday.com.

Mark Your Calendar



Singletree Holiday Social
for All on **Sunday,**
December 9,

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at
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June Rosenthal, author of "The Turquoise Lady"



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Thursday, December 6, 2018

2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Introducing *The Turquoise Lady*, an illustrated coffee table book. Don't miss it! Meet Jan's mom, June Rosenthal, the 94-year-old author, and enjoy a special evening of storewide specials and treats.

Patagonia: In a Word ...

Spellbinding!

travel tales

Contributed by **Sally Austen**, Singletree Resident



The Magellanic penguins on Magdalena Island



Guancos grazing



Torres del Paine



The grey glacier



The purest ice cubes - straight from the glacier

Visiting Patagonia is a grand love affair with our earth. Encompassing over a million square km at South America's southern tip, it is the farthest place to which man walked from his place of origin and to this day retains near-mythical status in the minds of active world adventurers.

It wasn't on my bucket list ... I like museums and edgy restaurants. And beyond a passing familiarity with the clothing brand, a year ago, when my son announced a planned semester abroad in the Chilean coastal town of Valparaiso/Vina del Mar, I probably couldn't have accurately identified it on a world map. I certainly wouldn't have noticed that only 10% of this magnificent and sparsely populated paradise is in Chile, the rest in Argentina or that it might take two days to get there from Vail! But, like all great romances, you never know when you will be smitten.

What to expect. Breathtaking scenery. Splintering glaciers gleaming in the sun like colossal blue unblemished crystals. Iridescent lagoons. Granite massifs modeled by the force of glacial ice. Windswept grasslands, unobstructed as far as the eye can see. Rainbows rising in the mists off falls where the water is too cold to touch. Water tornados skittering across a silent lake. Roiling clouds completely masking the colossal rock faces. Skies so transparently blue that the color is indescribable. Rivers intersecting in marshlands with trees so knotted, the overhanging moss so complete you think of fairy tales with leprechauns and



Hotel Jose Nogueira in Punta Arenas



Sally and son, Watts, dedicated traveling companions

primordial creatures. And, quancos (a protected breed of llama), cougars, condors, foxes and deer.

This is a place of dreams. Where you close your eyes and move to the timeless. Where you turn your face to the sky and know the wind, the rain pelting your face. Where you feel the sunlight and the mud. Where you can scramble up hillsides, conquer unyielding rock faces, slumber under the stars, sink in muddy creek beds and wander.

It's a place where giants once roamed. And, in fact, when Magellan arrived in 1520, the smaller statured Europeans thought they had indeed encountered a race of giants. In 1959, Torres del Paine was established as a National Park and in 1978, declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. Fiercely protected and loved by locals and tourists alike, it's a spellbinding wilderness where colossal, magnificent, mighty, gigantic and mesmerizing, are understatements.

Not to be Missed. My favorite spots? The crown jewel is, of course, Torres del Paine. Intrepid adventurers can hike the O, the W or the Q route (generally 5-7 days), the French Valley, take day trips to the Towers, enjoy relaxed 1-4 hour rambles around pristine lakes.

The Grey Glacier, accessible by tour boat, defies imagination in scale and dazzling luminescence. With a day to hike into Base Camp, you can hike the glacier or arrange to reach the calved icebergs by kayak.

Punta Arenas, now the travel gateway for flights into Patagonia, is a layered European style city often overlooked in the eagerness to reach the "park," a 5-hour drive north. Once home to whalers, Antarctic expeditioners and owners of vast sheep ranches, it's the

jumping off point to see the Magellanic penguins on the primary and protected breeding ground on Magdalena Island; there are 69,000 adult pairs of penguins on the island. Charming restaurants serve local specialties: handcrafted pisco sours, roasted lamb and centolla (king crab). The bar at the Hotel Jose Nogueira is a remarkable example of 19th-century elegance.

Patagonia is a wonderland. I have struggled to understand why it's so alluring. The peaks aren't as tall as the Rockies. The wildlife not as abundant. The flora not nearly as diverse. But the silence is seductive, the skies are huge, the lakes and rivers almost unimaginable colors. Zen is a word that comes to mind. There is a special kind of balance. There is so little interference with one's ability to touch the sky and hear the wind. I was lucky enough to share this with my son, Watts. We hiked, we were wet, tired, covered in mud, irritated, overjoyed and now dedicated traveling companions. Thank you, Patagonia! **Go ... take someone you love.**

Travel, packing and all that stuff. From Vail, expect to spend about 18 hours to get to Chile, arriving in Santiago. You can connect to Punta Arenas, another four-hour flight, or rest. The road from Punta Arenas to Torres del Paine is two lanes, no services, one gas station, no lights, lots of flamingos. If your hotel has a shuttle, use it.

Pack whatever is comfortable and warm. Layers, layers, layers. I took everything I would have worn for spring snowboarding in Vail. On any given day, it can be cold, wet, windy, bright, warm, repeat. Plan accordingly!



Share your most amazing vacation with your neighbors! Be it near or far, adventurous or relaxing ... please tell us about it! Email holly.proctor@n2pub.com with your travel tales.

Whites & Whites

singletree social The Best Way to Celebrate the End of Summer

Brian Judge and Sarah Siegel know how to throw a party in style! Toasting to the end of the season, guests dressed in whites while bubbles and white wines generously flowed. Chef Weston prepared an incredible spread featuring a “seafood bake” with all the accouterments. Singletree showed its culinary prowess and contributed appetizers, side dishes and desserts to fill the kitchen with a vast array of tempting bites. Thank you, Brian and Sarah, for hosting an unforgettably festive evening!



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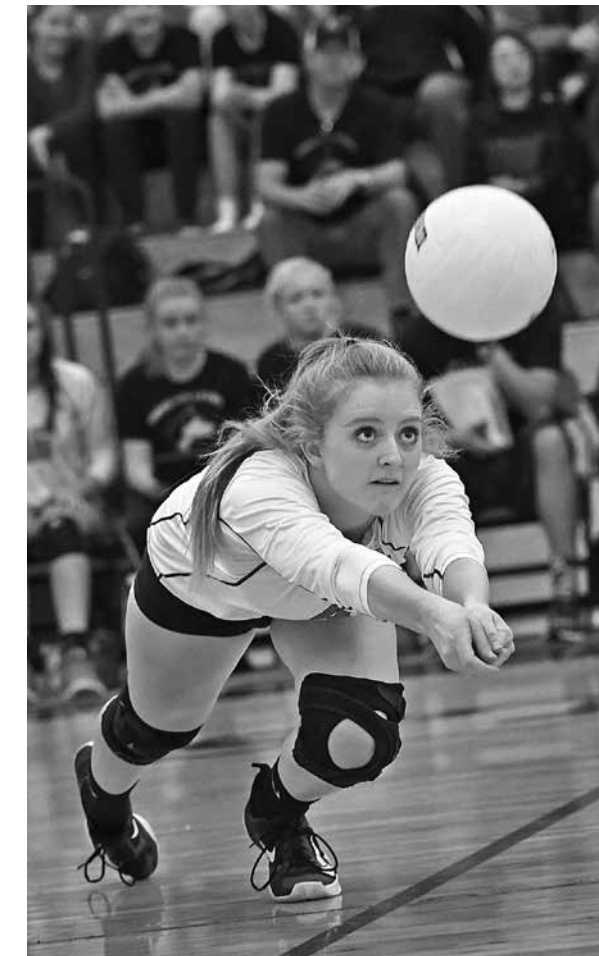
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(L TO R): LILLIAN, EMMA, SOFI, GABBY AND AVA



SOFI



LILLIAN

THE BMHS

Volleyball Sisterhood

Contributed by **Lillian Benway, Emma Judge, Gabby Gully, Sofi Petrovski and Ava Spangler**, Singletree Residents
Photography by **Rex Keep**

Lasting Memories and Invaluable Life Lessons

It takes about 5 seconds in the gym on a Thursday afternoon in October to sense the infectious spirit of the Battle Mountain High School Girls Volleyball team – particularly on the night of the Card Game. Card Game? Card Game is a practice session that is filled with costumes, shrieks of laughter, and family participation as athletes and their parents form the teams of Hearts, Spades, Clubs, Diamonds and Jokers. The annual tradition marks the end of the regular season for the JV and Freshman teams, as only the Varsity team has a few remaining

games, and hence is a bittersweet occasion as it is the last time some of the team members will ever play together.

Having posted a 14-5 record (as of this writing), the BMHS Varsity standings rank the team 14th in the state, out of 70 other 4a schools in the same bracket. The team is headed to a tournament in Coal Ridge the weekend of October 27th, which will determine their RPI (rating percentage index) and their placement for regionals the following weekend, November 3rd. If they place in the top 12 in the state by the end of the weekend in Coal Ridge, Battle Mountain will host regionals. The top 36 teams go to regionals and each team plays two of the 36. With a win in both games, the team qualifies as one of 12 teams to travel to states at the Denver Coliseum.

As the season approaches its exciting climax, I asked our Singletree residents to share their personal perspective on their high school volleyball experience. Here, Lillian Benway and Ava Spangler share their perspective as seniors; and juniors Gabby Gully, Emma Judge and Sofi Petrovik bid farewell to the graduates and anticipate the next season.

How did you start playing volleyball in the 6th grade?

Emma: My cousin Julia, was living with me at the time, and she decided she wanted to play for our middle school. She lived with my family for 2 years and I loved trying to follow in her footsteps, so when she decided she was playing, I was already convinced to play too.

Gabby: I started playing at Berry Creek Middle School. It was very new to me. I had never done much more than kick a volleyball around, as soccer had been my main sport before then.

Ava: I started learning and playing volleyball when my sister played in middle school.

Lillian: Home Steak Peak (HPS) was filled with

kids that I didn't know; I thought volleyball would be a good way to meet people and the sport seemed really entertaining.

Sofi: I started playing volleyball because my aunt Zoya played volleyball and I aspired to be like her.

What is the best part of playing volleyball for BMHS?

Lillian: The family-like atmosphere we have created is definitely the best part. I love each and every one of these girls all the way from freshman to seniors because they are all truly amazing athletes and hilarious people.

Gabby: The tightly knit friendships we make on the team and the pride we take in playing together every day.

Ava: The team and coaches. Many of us have been playing together for

many years, so I think that has helped us become the team we are today.

Sofi: Being a part of our family and watching everyone learn and grow through the season.

Emma: I love playing for BMHS because it is always pushing me to be better not just as a teammate but as an opponent. Battle Mountain has always been a respected program and to be able to represent it outside of practice and even school is a big part of why people get to enjoy our games and how we hold ourselves whether it's after a win or a loss.

What does it mean to you to be Captain of the team?

Ava: I don't consider myself the "captain" on the team because all of the seniors are such great leaders.

Who do you idolize or who inspires you in volleyball?

Lillian: Our head coach, Jason Fitzgerald. Jason is an extraordinarily good volleyball player and an inspiring coach. I am very lucky to have had Jason for 5 years. He drives me to not only be a better volleyball player but be a better all-around person. He has been a huge influence in my life, and many of my team mates as well.

Emma: I am constantly being inspired by my own teammates to push me to play my best. In my opinion, this is why team sports will always be special because we each have to do our own individual jobs and trust

...

•••

out teammates to do theirs, but at the end of the day, we all have to work together to execute plays.

What is the best part of your volleyball game and what are you working on improving?

Sofi: My blocking. And I need to work on hitting out of the middle.

Emma: I play DS which stands for Defensive Specialist so I'm always looking for ways to improve my passing, but I feel as though I'm a stronger digger and I'm looking to improve my serve receive game.

Ava: I'm working on staying positive on the court for myself and for the team because if one of us gets down on ourselves, it can affect the whole team in a negative way.

Gabby: My support for my teammates in their effort to play their best, through any game. I'm working on becoming a stronger hitter, so I can better contribute to the offensive side of our team.

What life lessons have you learned from playing volleyball?

Ava: Everyone on the court has to work together to win points. Volleyball can be more of a mental game and I have seen that this year. Each person on the court is there for a reason so we have to trust each other and work together as a team.

Gabby: To concentrate on the present and stay optimistic. In the game, we focus on one point at a time, rather than thinking about the end result. We give each other gestures of encouragement, even if we've made mistakes. This has made me take advantage of the present moment in life rather than struggle to see the future, as well as keep a positive attitude about things that may not seem too promising.



EMMA

Emma: It's important to understand that nothing is just handed to you. When I started playing as a little 6th grader, I never imagined I'd be able to play at a varsity level. After multiple seasons, I've been able to scrimmage against girls who seem naturally amazing but you know that there's so much more behind their skills because of how much time, effort and dedication goes into this sport.

Sofi: Most important is that even with all of the talent and skill in the world, if you can't play as a teammate, you can't be a part of a team.

Lillian: How to be a leader, how to manage my time, and how to take care of my team. One of the biggest jokes of the season is that I am the "team mom". I make sure everyone knows what time to be places, what they need, give them snacks, etc. But I also do my best to help every-

one feel confident in themselves on and off the court, as well as to stay focused and competitive during games. Throughout my years of playing, I have learned how to balance and utilize my time successfully.

What is your favorite memory so far of playing for BMHS?

Gabby: Reading a note from a player that was a senior last year. They wrote a heartfelt note to the future player to wear their jersey number. In my case, my note was from a player who transferred to our school her senior year, and I had grown to adore her in the one year she played with us. It made me proud to wear the number as I felt a strong connection to her.

Sofi: Our win against Glenwood at the beginning of this season because it gave us so much hope and motivation moving forward and brought us together as a team.

Emma: When we played Eagle Valley in their gym. If there's one thing I know about my teammates and even my coach, Jason (Jay-dog), is



GABBY



AVA

that they're very superstitious. Before the game one of my teammates, Eleanor, had put a "lucky" quarter in her shoe for good luck. In the middle of the game, it had flown out of her shoe and landed in the court before being picked up and thrown into the crowd. After that losing set, she blamed it on the quarter and Jason had to change his pen color for stat taking for the 5th set out of superstition.

Lillian: Before every home game, right after the warm up, our team goes back into our locker room to change into our jerseys. Before we go back out onto the floor, we form a tight circle, arms wrapped around each other, and chant, 'We Will Rock You' by Queen. That 1 minute that we spend in that circle has been my favorite part. I have been doing that for 4 years, with 4 different varsity teams, filled with unique girls who have been a part of my life. I will always remember looking around that circle, at my family, and being so proud that I get to be a part of it.

What are you looking forward to in your senior year on the team?

Emma: I'm not excited for the seniors to be leaving this year but they've been such amazing leaders, I just hope I can live up to them for

the new juniors and underclassmen moving up to varsity next year. I'm looking forward to being that role model for them like the seniors this year were for me.


Gabby: Making it a fun season playing alongside my teammates who have become some of my best friends, along with some younger girls who are very talented.

What piece of advice would you offer to young volleyball players?

Ava: Do your best to learn the basics and have fun.

Lillian: A few things: 1. Your coach only wants the best for you. They may be yelling at you or nagging you to fix something in your arm swing, but that's because they want you to be the best you can possibly be. 2. Don't question your ability. You have to be confident in yourself and play to win. You will make mistakes and that's OKAY, it is physically impossible to have a perfect game. 3. Volleyball is a lifelong sport. Never stop playing! You can be the best player on your DI college volleyball team, or you can be the best at your family reunion, but never stop playing. Volleyball is such a great sport and you will continue to meet incredible people in the volleyball community.

A final note: Lillian is excited to play in the post season CCGS All State tournament and feels honored to have been selected and given the opportunity to represent Battle Mountain High School one last time.

 **Seeking all Singletree athletes!** Email holly.proctor@n2pub.com to share your passions, endeavors and achievements with your neighborhood.



The BMHS Sisterhood

METRO ENTERTAINMENT in a MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENT

THE VILAR PERFORMING ARTS CENTER IS A HOP, SKIP AND A JUMP AWAY



VILAR PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
BEAVER CREEK

For most Singletree residents, the slopes of Beaver Creek are visible somewhere out of a north-facing window. No doubt more than one realtor has pointed this out during a home tour.

They might also point out that Beaver Creek has a lot more to offer than its legendary slopes – down in the heart

of the village, there also happens to be a phenomenal performing arts center. As beautiful and well-appointed as the village which surrounds it, the Vilar Performing Arts Center (VPAC) is as spectacular in its offerings as it is easy to access (only about eight minutes from Singletree by car).

Now in its 21st year, the VPAC has been notching a series of star-studded successes under the leadership of Executive Director Duncan Horner, who says that diversity of entertainment has been the key to winning over audiences new and old at the 535-seat theater.

“The VPAC is really the result of a whole host of individuals, organizations and the greater Vail Valley community coming together to show their support for the performing arts and the role performing arts play in building community,” Horner said. “We have a large and longstanding group of supporters who have been coming since the very beginning and at the same time, we welcome new audiences discovering us for this first time. All the interests challenge us programmatically and make for a very vibrant culture in and around our theater.”

Horner has shown a knack for discovering new talent, welcoming surprising new acts, and yet carrying on the tried-and-true traditions that have made the VPAC a beacon of the arts throughout the Rocky Mountain West. Perhaps The Beach Boys exemplify the latter category best. The band has performed on several occa-



Tom Boyd, Singletree Resident and Director of PR and Communications for the Vail Valley Foundation, which manages and operates the Vilar Performing Arts Center

sions and will return Dec. 28-29 in what will no doubt be another set of sold-out shows. Horner and his team haven’t been afraid to explore new ground, either. Look no farther than the “NPR’s From the Top” event-and-concert that comes January 16-17 to the VPAC, where young stars of classical music will take the stage.

For a venue that hosts more than 140 shows a year, ‘The Beach Boys’ and ‘From the Top’ are only the beginning: From indie-rock to opera, Broadway to comedy, dance to family programming, magic to mariachi, the VPAC’s lineup is a mirror-image of the valley’s own tastes: as dynamic as the people who live and visit here. Coming up this winter, for example, is a wide range of performances. The following is only a sampling. For more, visit www.vilarpac.org.

Close out 2018 with **Vanessa Williams** on December 30. With a career spanning three decades, this multi-faceted and highly-respected artist brings her vast catalog of songs to the VPAC stage for the first time, including Academy-Award winning single “Colors of the Wind” from Disney’s Pocahontas.

The “love for the locals” series is back with **Winter Underground Sound**, featuring six eclectic shows including **JJ Grey & Mofro** on February and **Nikki Lane** on March 7.

Relive the Vail Dance Festival at the VPAC on February 9 with **BalletX**, recently named “among America’s best” by The New York Times. They will perform a special world premiere by renowned choreographer Nicolo Fonte.

It’s one thing to live within sight of the ski slopes. It’s another thing entirely to know that at the base of those slopes is a theater



Close out 2018 with Vanessa Williams on December 30 at the Vilar. Photo courtesy of Rod Spicer.



BalletX, at the Vilar February 9, recently named “among America’s best” by The New York Times”



Enthusiastic VPAC Supporter Tricia Swenson



VPAC Executive Director Duncan Horner



VPAC Supporters Dave and Judy Carson

as beautiful, welcoming and full of spectacular performances as the Vilar Performing Arts Center.

Tom Boyd is a Singletree resident and lifelong Vail local. He is formerly the editor of the Vail Trail newspaper, and currently the Director of PR and Communications for the Vail Valley Foundation, which manages and operates the Vilar Performing Arts Center.

We asked a few Singletree residents to share their VPAC memories and top-picks for the upcoming line up; here is what they had to share!

Who: Nancy Gage & Allan Finney

Favorite memory: We met Jack Hanna at a Vilar performance in 2013, and six months later we were in Rwanda with Jack where we met the President and visited the gorillas. Smokey Robinson, Robin Williams, Gladys Knight, Yellowjackets, Pat Metheny are just a few of the many highlights over the years.

Most looking forward to: Rock of Ages was a revelation on its last visit to the VPAC. Can’t wait to see it again this winter!

Who: Judy & David Carson

Favorite memory: Besides interacting with audience members through our volunteer work, we have especially enjoyed Gladys Knight, Joyce DiDonato, Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats, KD Lang, B.B. King, Los Lobos and countless more.

Most looking forward to: Leftover Salmon and Rising Stars of Opera.

Who: Tricia Swenson

Favorite memory: The last show I saw there was the Psychedelic Furs and it was so cool to see a band I’d listened to so much up close. We’re so lucky to have the variety of shows at the VPAC! From comedy to classical, it’s a true gem in the Rockies.

...

Who: Tom Boyd

Favorite memory: It's a recent one, but I have to say the Amos Lee show from summer 2018. I went in curious about him and came away a lifelong fan. It was one of those nights when the perfect artist met the perfect venue and the perfect audience.

Most looking forward to: My wife, Renee, and I like to get a babysitter and always go see the Broadway performances. No matter the show, it's an incredible feeling – almost like you've traveled spontaneously to New York City for an evening.

And from the Executive Director himself:

Who: Duncan Horner

Favorite memory: Hands down the best memories at the VPAC are those impromptu interactions between artists and the audience members, which the intimate environment only serves to enhance. One of my favorite shows was Ozomatli a few years ago when the entire band decided to follow each other off the stage and lead the audience around the auditorium and out to the lower lobby, finally settling on the grand staircase as everyone danced and cheered. It was a party and the spontaneity made it an electric experience which will live one with all those who were present. We see this happen a lot in our venue because of that "living-room" feel to it. We can't really tell when it will happen but if you're there at the time, it truly is a special thing.



Nancy Gage and Allan Finney, ardent VPAC supporters with friend, Jack Hanna

Most looking forward to: In that vein, that's what I look forward to the most with the Winter Underground Sound series. Bands like Ensemble Mik Nawooj, Blitzen Trapper and Nikki Lane.

So there you have it! Check out these upcoming shows and enjoy creating your memories at the Vilar Performing Arts Center this winter!



Do you have a particular passion for the arts? Singing, sculpture, theater, photography, painting or ...? Email holly.proctor@gmail.com to share your creativity and imagination with your neighbors.

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L to R: Lee Rimel, Ken Harper, Jen Prusse (USFS), Mark Hane (USFS), George Gregory and Fred Miller



L to R: JP Powers, Rob Levine, Fred Miller, Hemi Westbye and Peggy Nicholls



Jen Prusse and Fred Miller



Slash and rocks on the Mesquite Trail



Ken Harper securing barb wire bundles

the trails of singletree

Contributed by Jim Knez, Singletree Resident

THE NATURE OF THE TRAIL


Volunteers Dedicating Time and Energy to Improve Our Community

As we all know, without the tireless work of volunteers, our Singletree trails would not be what they are today. This fall, two separate days were devoted to repairs and improvements as needed in two different areas of the trail system.

On September 12, a number of volunteers turned out to reclaim nearly 300 feet of unauthorized trail and refreshed or constructed five water bars on the Mesquite Trail. The reclamation consisted of roughing up the soil, seeding with native grasses, placing a fiber mat over the seeded area and placing slash and rocks on top to keep the mat in place. We would also like to express our appreciation to our Eagle County Adopt-a-Trail coordinator, Michelle Wolfe, who coordinates our workdays and provides the tools we use for our trail maintenance. Volunteers who are not pictured include Greg Burnette, Lee Rimel and Jim Knez.


A month later, volunteers worked in conjunction with the USFS to continue the process of removing old barbed wire and metal fence posts around Singletree. The removal of old barbed wire is a multi-year project that provides a safer environment for animals.

Many thanks to our volunteers for their valuable time and relentless energy. New volunteers are always welcome to join the team in maintaining and improving the Singletree trail system. Consider dedicating some time next year to giving back to your community – you will be glad you did!



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