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



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



ICE DAM
Ice dam formation on the roof edge
caused by the thawing and re-freezing of
snow on the overhang.



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



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



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



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



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Designated areas to enforce
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In 2023 the Berry Creek Metropolitan District and Singletree Property Owners Association will continue wildfire mitigation projects in and around Singletree. Fuel break and mow line projects around Singletree have been identified as high priority by Eagle Valley Wildland, a consortium of local fire districts. You may have noticed that Singletree's first fuel break was completed fall 2022, along the eastern edge of Singletree.

Help do your part and request a *free* REALFire assessment of your property. Visit www.realfire.net to request your property assessment.

SPOA will also be sponsoring three community-wide chipping days this summer. Stay tuned for more details



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Berry Creek Metro District and Singletree Property Owners' Association

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NOTE: When community events take place, photographers may be present to take photos for that event, and they may be used in the publication.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Hello, Singletree Residents!

This is a month for passion! First, let me introduce to you Zak, Cassie, Whitaker, Edie, and Macaron Boca. As Singletree residents for two years, Cassie and Zak have embraced the neighborhood as their home and are always looking for ways to get involved in making a difference on the local level. With that in mind, they will unleash their love of learning by launching Vail Valley Unbound, an innovative K-5 school coming fall of 2023. Enjoy their story... and check out the surprise ending!

Speaking of learning, Wendy Rudolph relocated from Washington, DC, to Singletree and was quickly drawn to My Future Pathways as an excellent vehicle for addressing her strong desire to give back and an interest in education; she has not been disappointed in her decision to avidly support the organization.

Where are they now, you ask? Annie and Emma Cerovich recall their fond memories of growing up in Singletree as they bring us up to date on their current whereabouts. And Kaya Halacheva entertains us with her travel tales ... including relocating a hermit crab from Cancun to Singletree!

I am truly honored to introduce four women business owners who are each successful in their own right and are credited with helping to bring this publication to your neighborhood every month. Jessica Johnson, owner of Natural Balance Spa; Tina Zito, owner of Remix Consignment; Elisse Kelley, owner of Sweeping Change; and Kathy Kosierowski, owner of Waggin' Tails Dog Obedience, epitomize inspiration, commitment, and hard work to achieve success in each of their respective businesses. From skin care to consignment, cleaning to dog obedience, this valley is fortunate to have these hard-working entrepreneurs passionately serving our community. Please be sure to call on them when you are in need of their services!

Wishing you a Happy St. Patrick's Day and a month of luck and laughter!



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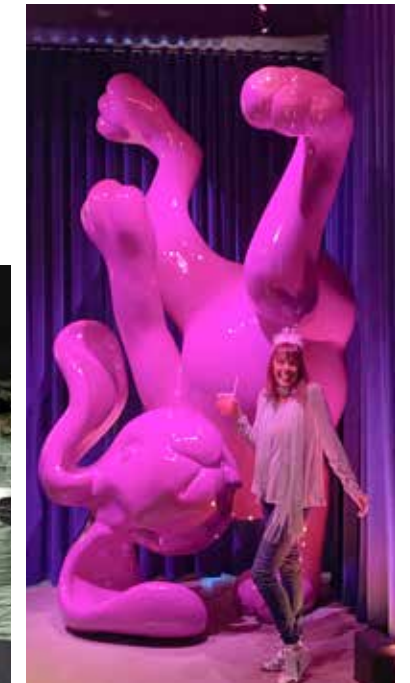
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO JENNIFER AND TOM EBNER

Jennifer and Tom celebrated their 10th anniversary on a remote French Polynesian island. 'La 'oa'oa i to 'oe mahana fānaura'a!



A FULL MOON BIRTHDAY FOR LORI BROWN

Lori celebrated her big day with sledding and hot cocoa & peppermint schnapps joined by Singletree peeps Kris Sunderland, Carrie Tedstrom, Deb Robbins, and friends.



DEB ROBBINS GOES DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Aren't you 'curiouser and curiouser'? Deb Robbins celebrated her birthday with friends and bingo at Chasing Rabbits.

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Your personal Singletree publication is BY YOU and FOR YOU. It is not possible without YOUR stories and photos! Our Singletree residents look forward to getting to know the families, kids, pets, athletes, travelers, and volunteers in the community every month. Email holly.proctor@n2co.com to contribute to an upcoming issue of your neighborhood magazine.



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Zak and Cassie Boca
Meet Your Neighbors



Jessica Johnson
Sponsor Spotlight
Natural Balance Spa



Kaya Halacheva
Kids' Corner



Kathy Kosierowski
Sponsor Spotlight
Waggin' Tails
Dog Obedience



Wendy Rudolph
Who's Making
a Difference



Tina Zito
Sponsor Spotlight
Remix Consignment



Stella
Precious Pets



Elisse Kelley
Sponsor Spotlight
Sweeping Change



Annie Cerovich
Where Are They Now?



Emma Cerovich
Where Are They Now?

CALLING ALL SENIORS!

We look forward to recognizing the **CLASS OF 2023** high school graduates in the May issue of *Stroll Singletree*. Participation in the graduation feature article will require a senior photo, a fun photo, and the answers to a few easy questions — favorite memories, greatest achievements, and plans for the future.

For additional information regarding participating in this year's graduation feature, please forward your name and contact information or the names of any graduating seniors in the neighborhood to holly.proctor@n2co.com.

The deadline for all submittals will be **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15**.



Zac, Cassie, Whitaker, Edie and Macaron

BOCA



PHOTOGRAPHY BY FAMILY HEIRLOOM PHOTOGRAPHY

Meet the Boca family, Cassie, Zak, Whitaker (4), Edie (2) and Macaron Honeybee. After years of being pulled between the hustle and bustle of Chicago and their off-grid home in Breckenridge, the Boca family decided to make one final move — settling down in Singletree two years ago.

Zak, a serial entrepreneur and 10x INC 500 CEO, has started and run tech companies in Chicago for over 15 years. Historically, his focus was on tech start-ups with recurring revenue — his latest adventure, AltExchange, is a shift into the financial tech space. AltExchange has a clear mission: bring transparency, reduce friction, and reduce fees for alternative investors of all sizes.

When Zak isn't working, you can find him skiing Meadow Mountain,

heading out on a hut trip, on his gravel bike, or taking one of his cars on a fun drive. With his love of vehicles, you will rarely see Zak driving the same car. From a Porsche 356 pre-a, Porsche 997 GTS3RS, and '86 Land Rover Defender to a '79 International Scout, Zak has a full collection of fun toys ready no matter the weather (that our son is equally obsessed with).

Cassie went to DePaul University in Chicago and was managing a dog facility where Zak brought his dog. It was love at first sight, well, first dog sight; Cassie and Darth (Zak's dog) were best buds. The rest is history. Cassie moved on to focus her career on digital marketing, managing digital campaigns for Verizon, ConAgra, Victoria's Secret, Johnson & Johnson,



and many other household names before launching her own marketing agency, Karma Digital. Cassie grew up with a mom that was always running her own businesses, so her love of small business runs deep.

Karma Digital was founded with the goal of helping small business owners get the most for their money, learn to do a lot of digital marketing tasks themselves, and even manage their

own websites. When she's not building websites, Cassie is usually out on adventures with the kids. While she loves to ski the power days without toddlers in tow — she is happiest when she can share her love for the outdoors with her kids and slow down to appreciate the things that we adults often look right past.

While Cassie and Zak are passionate entrepreneurs, they are most passionate about their kids. No doubt you've seen their adventurous kids, Edie and Whitaker, running wild on the golf course. Edie was born here in the valley and is a true mountain kid — skiing by the time she was walking, always up for a snowball fight, and as free-range as they come. You can find Whit either on his bike in the summer or on the mountain skiing the trees in the winter. He is also quite the salesman in the summer selling golf balls, and if you don't have \$1 on you your first visit, he will make sure you "don't forget my house next time!"

Adventure travel is the name of the game for this family — as the kids are growing past the infant stage and into toddlers, the family plans on getting back into traveling. When this article comes out, the Boca family will be in Alaska doing some heli-skiing, touring, and enjoying all the snow at Alyeska. From skiing in Japan and hiking in Hawaii to biking through Spain — the Bocas love a good adventure (as long as it includes good food!)

Cassie and Zak are new to the area but have already embraced it as their home. As entrepreneurs, they're always looking for ways to get involved in making a difference on the local level with ambitious solutions. Whit is an incredibly precocious young dude who will talk your ear off if you let him! With school looming around the corner, Cassie and Zak had some tough decisions regarding traditional education. Even seemingly smaller topics like "the history of Colorado" posed huge questions, big ideas that needed room to explore and within a conventional classroom setting weren't likely. They realized that the mere suggestion of discussing Colorado's past would engage him in a far deeper conversation than anticipated. He wouldn't simply hear about how it was established and what events defined its history, but rather he'd want to explore the very essence of statehood itself: What is needed for something to be considered an official "state"?

Cassie and Zak are on a mission to unleash the love of learning by launching Vail Valley Unbound, an



innovative K-5 school coming in fall of 2023! Based in Edwards' Riverwalk, their educational model is designed to foster essential skills like critical thinking, adaptability, collaboration, communication, independence and confidence through engaging Socratic discussions. Empowering students as active thinkers rather than passive receivers of knowledge — while equipping them with kindness and compassion — will be an unprecedented opportunity for young minds.

As artificial intelligence continues to advance, the future of our children is rapidly transforming. No longer a distant marvel of science fiction, AI will soon have an influence on nearly every aspect of life ... including education! Already able to compose complete essays with ease and accuracy beyond any individual human author's capability, it raises questions surrounding its use and the future careers of our children. What skills will be important in the future, and what

will be replaced? What is considered cheating, and what is considered resourcefulness? To show just how powerful automated intelligence is, here's something amazing: this article was written entirely by a machine!

Family Heirloom Photography
by Lisa Barren Photography Inc.



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

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Singletree Real Estate Activity

Status	Short Address	Property Subtype	Beds	Baths	Finished Square Feet	Furnished	Listing Price	List Price/SqFt	Agent Days On Market	Sold Price	Sold Price/SqFt	Sold Date
Active	81 Lariat Road B	Duplex	4	3	2005	Unfurnished	\$1,500,000	\$748	51	-	-	-
	140 Charolais Circle	Duplex	4	3	2543	Furnished	\$1,995,000	\$785	17	-	-	-
	40 Miller Place	Single Family	5	5	3863	Unfurnished	\$2,950,000	\$764	37	-	-	-
Pending	110 Charolais Circle	Duplex	3	3	2120	Unfurnished	\$1,500,000	\$708	78	-	-	-
	151 Howard Drive	Single Family	4	4	3166	Unfurnished	\$2,750,000	\$869	140	-	-	-
Closed	451 Singletree Road	Single Family	4	6	4910	Unfurnished	\$4,995,000	\$1,017	29	\$4,350,000	\$886	1/11/2023

*Properties active, under contract and sold 12.20.22-1.20.23

Radiance and Relaxation Found at Natural Balance Spa

Born and raised in the valley, Jessica Johnson has a long family history in the Eagle Valley. Her grandfather's family homesteaded in Gypsum, and her grandmother was born and raised in the valley. "I love our small mountain community," says Jessica. "I feel very lucky to call it home." Here, she shares with us her experience, knowledge, and inspiration behind opening Natural Balance Spa.

When did you open Natural Balance Spa? I opened my spa on June 29, 2022.

What were you doing before you opened your own spa? Before opening Natural Balance Spa, I worked at the Sonnenalp Hotel Spa in Vail for almost 19 years as the lead esthetician. I had previously worked in Florida for a short time at a day spa as well as in Waikiki, Hawaii, at the Moana Surfrider Moana Lani Spa.

What inspired you to start your own business? First, I wanted more connection with my clients to help them with their skin concerns. I have a passion for skin care and helping people look and feel their best. I loved working at the Sonnenalp but seeing clients only once a year when they were on vacation was no longer what I wanted. I want to make a difference in my clients' skin by helping them achieve their skin care goals. Secondly, I have a 5-year-old son, and I was spending way too much time in the car driving from Gypsum to Vail to work



every day. I wanted to work closer to home and to be able to have more time with my husband and my son. He is our only child, so I need as much time as I can with him.

How do you differentiate Natural Balance Spa from spas in the valley? I have 20 years of experience as an Esthetician, so I have seen a lot of skin. I am very passionate about helping people and making them feel good. I work very closely with all my clients and take the time to come up with an individual plan to help them achieve their skin care goals.

I use amazing products at my spa. Ultraceuticals is a medical-grade, cosmeceutical product line out of Australia. When choosing a line, I want a clean, result-driven line. I knew cosmeceutical was the route I wanted to go, but a lot of U.S. cosmeceutical brands have so much "junk" in their products. Ultraceuticals is made in Australia, which has a high standard of what they can and cannot put into their products. I also carry ANDA — an all-organic skin care line. It provides wonderful results for hydrating dry, dull skin.

Can you please describe the scope of services you offer? I offer a wide

variety of facial options. My signature treatment is Facial Soundscapes. It uses tuning forks as sound vibrations, which help to relax and ground the body, opening up meridian lines to help improve your skin issues. During the treatment, you will receive a facial massage with the use of tuning forks to help move lymphatic around the eye area to reduce puffiness, lift and firm the skin, and reduce fine lines and wrinkles. This treatment will leave you floating off the table with more firm and lifted skin.

Gua Sha facial will help contour your facial muscles with the use of jade stones, thereby resulting in lifted, brighter skin. A lymphatic facial is amazing for manually moving the stagnant lymph from your face. It's a very light facial massage that will reduce puffiness in the face.

Rezenerate NanoFacial creates micro-channels in your skin for better penetration of products helping to hydrate and reduce fine lines and wrinkles. This treatment includes a Bio cellulose mask, NanoGlobe acupressure massage, and LED light therapy. Lightstim LED light therapy is cleared by the FDA and is used to counteract the aging process by stimulating elastin and collagen to ultimately restore a youthful and healthy complexion. I also

offer a wide variety of peel treatments to help exfoliate, brighten, and renew your skin.

What is your personal favorite treatment and why? My personal favorite treatment is the Rezenerat NanoFaical with the addition of Soundscapes. The combination of these two treatments is amazing! You receive wonderful results and feel relaxed and renewed. I receive this treatment once a month. I suffer from very dehydrated skin; this treatment helps my skin feel soft and hydrated.

What is the most challenging thing you have encountered so far in owning your own business? The most challenging thing I have encountered thus far is working at "the front desk," checking my clients out after their service. I absolutely love what I do, and I'm very good in the treatment room, but I had to learn how to work all the programs to deal with payments from my clients. I was so used to just sending them to the front desk, and now I am "the front desk." It was a challenge in the beginning, but I am now getting it figured out! It's all about learning.

What is the most rewarding part of your role as the owner of Natural Balance Spa? It's mine! I can change and adjust whatever needs to be changed. I love having the flexibility to adjust to my clients' needs. I love helping people, seeing a difference in my clients' skin, and making them feel their best. It's so rewarding!

What is one piece of advice you would offer our readers today as it relates to skin care? Wear sunscreen EVERY DAY!! We live in a very harsh climate, and the sun is so intense. The best thing you can do for your skin is to protect it using a UVA and UVB SPF daily!!

What would you like to share with us about your family? Family means everything to me. I come from a huge extended family where my cousins are like my siblings. I cherish every minute I have with them. I have a wonderful husband, Brad, who I married 12 years ago. We have one son, Jake, who is 5

years old. He keeps us very busy, and I love every minute of it. We spend most of the summer camping, riding dirt bikes, fishing, and rafting, and our winters are full of family ski days.

What are your favorite interests and activities? I grew up riding dirt bikes and still love them. I enjoy traveling and visiting new places. I love my family and enjoy spending time with them. I also love to learn what is up in coming in my profession. I enjoy attending the many skin care conferences throughout the year; there's always so much to learn.

SAVE THE DATE! Jessica will be hosting an Open House at her spa location on **Thursday,**

April 6, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Be sure to attend for an enjoyable and educational evening!

Natural Balance Spa is located at **200 Capitol Street, Suite 200, in Eagle.** To learn more about Jessica and the services offered or to schedule an appointment, please visit naturalbalancespa.co or call **970-390-0672.**



KAYA FINDS HER HAPPY PLACES IN VAIL, MEXICO, AND BULGARIA

CONTRIBUTED BY KAYA HALACHEVA, SINGLETREE RESIDENT

Kaya Halacheva turned 11 on February 22nd and is in the fifth grade at ECCA. She has a younger sister, Addie, who we will meet in another issue of *Stroll Singletree*, and a 1-year-old brother, Maximilian. Her parents are Presley Ilieva and Tiki Halachev, and they live on Prairie Circle. Here we cover a lot of territory, from dance, gymnastics, and skiing in Vail to vacations in Mexico and summers in Bulgaria. Read on!

What are your favorite subjects at school?

Math, Spanish, and language arts. If I had the option, I would do French.

And what are your favorite things to do outside of school?

My two favorite things to do are dance and gymnastics. I do four types of dance, and I gotta say I like all four — ballet, contemporary, jazz, and tap. I like tap because it helps get the anger out, and you can stomp as hard and loud as you want, and you can just make noise.

What events do you like best in gymnastics?

I like beam, which is probably the hardest, but I have gotten really good at it lately, which makes me like it. And floor. Eventually, I am going to start learning backflips. My back handspring, I learned on my trampoline. I would just go out there for an hour every day and slowly do backbends, but now I don't have to practice on tramp anymore. It takes away my skill on the floor. If you get used to the bounce of the tramp, it gets harder to do things on the floor.

Do you like to ski?

I do BWL every Sunday. I don't like to race because the racecourses are usually very icy, and I can't ski on ice. I like powder and groomed runs or a mix of the two. I don't think it's possible to be able to be a good skier in powder because



on groomed runs or moguls, they teach you to lean forward into your boot but in powder, to keep your tips out of the snow; you have to lean back.

What is the best thing about being a big sister?

Well, I will tell you the worst thing. You get blamed for everything, no matter what the thing is, and you have to get in trouble for it. But for example, when we ski, when she (Addie) was learning, and she went down the whole mountain, it was fun to be better at things and to have experience.

What's the best thing about having a baby brother?

He's adorable. How do I put this? I like the way he acts. He is always outgoing and very positive. He is always laughing and has a smile on his face, which is the best kind of baby, in my opinion.

What's your favorite thing to do as a family?

Go to Mexico! This year we went to Puerto Vallarta. Other years, we have been to Cancun, Cabo, and Playa del Carmen. One of my favorite experiences in Cancun was on our first night there. We sat down at a table on the sand, and Addie



was building sandcastles, and a little baby sea turtle started waddling its way to the ocean. It was SO cute!

Do you have any other fun memories from Mexico?

Pools are always really fun! In Cancun, there was, right next to the pool, a little hermit crab in its little shell. And this other time, there was one that was HUGE! Oh boy, oh boy! The shell was just that big. They are really cute. And the funny thing was, we had collected all of them, and we would put them in our buckets, and after that, I took one with me. It was my favorite one, and I named it Shelley. And I brought it home. And we built a home for it that looked like Cancun!

How long did Shelley last after returning to Colorado?

Three days!

What kind of pet would you like to have?

I really wanted a bunny. And I also want a puppy too. When we are in Bulgaria for the summer, Grandma and Grampa let us have bunnies. Bella and Annie. I tried to bring them home, and I am getting them a passport this summer.

If you could get a puppy, what kind of puppy would you get?

Either an oreo dog — like those really tiny puppies that are black and white — or a Yorkie. I never really liked those big huge dogs because when I was younger, I was hanging off the monkey bars at Freedom Park, and a big dog jumped on me.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

A billionaire!

What are you going to do to make yourself a billionaire?

I don't know. I don't know what the most successful and well-paying job is, so I am probably going to start a business or something.

And what kind of a business would that be?

I don't know. Whatever makes the most money. So I am thinking maybe a lawyer. I also had this dream when I was younger that I would become the president, and I would be the first white lady to become the president. Or a Senator.

What is your favorite book?

I read a lot of books. My "favorite favorite" so far this year ... I would recommend to anyone who loves to read *The Tale*

of *Despereaux*. It's about a mouse, and he's really small, and he has really big ears compared to the others, and his mother is actually French, and "despereaux" means disappointment, and it's really sad.

What's your favorite movie?

Oh boy. I've watched a lot. I don't think I have a favorite. I like a lot of tv series. *Bella and the Bull Dogs. The Thundermans And Fuller House!*

What do you do when you go to Bulgaria every summer?

Where we stay the most is like the center of the city, and in that center, it's like a little pedestrian street, and they have ice cream, little playgrounds along the way, restaurants, corn on the cob stations, cotton candy ... it's just really fun! So we go there on a daily basis. And my favorite part of that is the ice cream. It's Turkish, and they make it, and it's so good. My favorite ice cream there is mint. When I become a billionaire, I am going to buy that business and spread it all around the world. There is going to be one at the end of this cul-de-sac. I am going to put it everywhere!

What else do you like to do in Bulgaria?

We know this guy who owns ponies. And we ride the ponies, which is really fun! And I get to brush them and braid their manes, which is REALLY fun!

Do you speak fluent Bulgarian?

Yeah! That was my first language. And I have a Bulgarian passport.

If you could give adults a piece of advice, what would it be?

If I'm talking to her (Mom), I would say, "Stop repeating things!" Sometimes I don't listen, but I remember it. It's in the back of my mind. I won't forget it. So stop repeating it. It drives me NUTS! For other adults, I would say maybe ... so I had a teacher who just gets kids. He's really funny. He understands our vision and our point of view. So I would say, "Be more like a kid. Remember those good old days!"



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Waggin' Tails Dog Obedience: A Great Place to Build a Lasting Friendship!

Kathy Kosierowski is passionate about dogs. And she knows what it takes to communicate with our four-legged friends: time, practice, consistency, and patience. She reminds us ... it's just like raising kids! Following a 37-year career in massage therapy, Kathy was looking for something new, and her infectious smile tells us she found it. Loved by dogs and owners alike, Kathy is here to help you and your dog achieve a mutually rewarding relationship.

Where are you originally from, and how and when did you land in the Vail Valley? I was born and raised in Chicago and arrived in the Eagle River Valley in 1993.

What were you doing before you opened Waggin' Tails Dog Obedience? For the last 37 years, I've been a certified massage therapist, and I was co-owner of K&L Massage Therapy.

When did you open your new business? I opened Waggin' Tails on Aug. 1, 2021.

What inspired you to pursue a new career in dog training? I've loved dogs my whole life, so when I severely injured my hand in 2019, I needed to figure out another way to make a living. It was suggested to me by a dear client, "Why don't you go into dog training?" So I did, and it turns out I traded one love (massage therapy) for another.

What education or training did you need to start your new business? I received my trainer certification from Animal Behavior College in

December 2020, then mentored with various trainers in the valley before opening my Waggin' Tails.

How do you differentiate Waggin' Tails from other dog obedience programs? I focus heavily on building a relationship with your dog through consistency, communication, and positive reinforcement, as well as learning your dog's body language and what makes them unique.

Can you please describe the scope of services you offer for dogs? I offer semi-private group classes as well as customized, one-on-one sessions. I also offer doggy daycare and overnight boarding for puppies and dogs that fit my criteria.

When is the "right" time to start training with your dog? Starting the training and bonding process from the moment your new puppy or adopted dog comes into your life is extremely important. Setting boundaries, creating consistency and a schedule, and limiting their freedom in your house are great ways to help set them up for success rather than failure. Once a bond has been created, then "official" training sessions can begin.

What is the most challenging thing you have encountered so far in owning Waggin' Tails Dog Obedience? So far, the most challenging thing has been the occasional lack of owner compliance. Consistency and repetition require time and dedication in order to accomplish the behaviors that most people want from their dogs. Without that, it's unfair to expect



things from your dog that they just haven't learned yet.

What is the most rewarding part of your role as the owner of Waggin' Tails? The most rewarding part is witnessing puppies/dogs connecting with their owners and becoming a team based on mutual respect, patience, and a willingness to accept each other for who they are and what their needs may be at any given time.

What is one of your favorite "success stories"? A lovely lady came in with her young Havanese puppy, who had been biting both her and her daughters. Not play biting, real biting! This little guy had decided HE was the boss of the house, and everyone was below him on the leadership ladder. But with a big change in Mom's attitude and energy and some clear, non-negotiable boundaries being laid down, the little guy is now the biggest snuggle bunny ever!

What is one piece of advice you would offer to our readers today? Raising dogs is very similar to raising children. Both need clear, unbendable, non-negotiable boundaries and structure. Without this, they are left to make their own choices about things, which usually ends up being the wrong decision. Honor your dog for who they are at any given moment on any given day, and don't place unreasonable expectations on them. If you haven't taught them, they don't know what you want. And teaching them takes LOTS of time, practice, consistency, and patience ... just like kids!

Waggin' Tails Dog Obedience is located at 34500 US-6 in Edwards. To learn more about what you and your dog can learn together, please call Kathy at 970-331-7570.



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MY FUTURE PATHWAYS: HELPING TO MAKE SUCCESS MORE ACCESSIBLE

CONTRIBUTED BY WENDY RUDOLPH, SINGLETREE RESIDENT
 ARTICLE WRITTEN BY TIM SWIFT, SINGLETREE RESIDENT

Perhaps Nelson Mandela summed it up best in 2003 when he said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." He was certainly right, but sadly and for many reasons, from culture to economics and basic opportunity, the benefits of a complete education are often beyond the reach of those who need it the most.

I recently had the opportunity to sit down with two of the important cogs in the wheel that is My Future Pathways (MFP), a local organization dedicated to improving access to higher education for local kids: Wendy Rudolph, a board member and Singletree resident, and Bratzo Horruitiner, the executive director. They provided me with a detailed and fascinating story about the organization and its goals, as well as its record of success. First, however, a bit of history.

In 2007, Ron Davis founded Guardian Scholars, an organization dedicated to providing a college education to first-generation kids in the valley. By first-generation, Ron meant the first generation in a family to attend and graduate from college. The mission of Guardian Scholars was to provide college scholarships to these first-generation kids to attend and, most importantly, graduate from college. Guardian Scholars provided not



Wendy and Bruno with the kids at My Future Pathways



only scholarships but also support for these kids to ensure that they stick with the program by helping them cope when things got tough. In the beginning, Guardian Scholars worked with Colorado Mesa College in Grand Junction to provide the opportunity to these kids who came primarily from the Latino community in Eagle County.

The program was working well, but Ron and the staff soon realized that, for some reason, the vast majority of the participants in the program were girls. The question they asked was why and what they could do to increase participation by the boys. What they discovered, after some careful stock-taking, was that a shocking 48% of the boys enrolled in Eagle County schools never graduated. 48%! In addition, of the few boys who did finish high school and go on to college, only 11% saw the experience through to graduation.

They determined that the primary reasons for this disparity were both cultural and economic. Within their community, Latino boys were expected to help with family finances by working. This pressure proved to be the reason so few boys were participating, as full-time work and full-time

education are rarely compatible. Girls, on the other hand, seemed to be better prepared for college. They matured earlier and studied harder, as the demands on them to work were considerably diminished. This gave them the opportunity to focus their energies more on education and emotional development.

In 2018, the leadership of Guardian Scholars realized that work needed to be done to prepare boys for higher education, so they created My Future Pathways. Ron Davis continued as board chair, and Bratzo became the executive director. MFP adopted a three-pillar approach: 1) social-emotional support to develop self-esteem, resiliency and critical thinking; 2) academic support, including mentoring and tutoring programs to promote academic excellence; and 3) a focus on wellness as a way to increase self-worth and instill values. They worked not only with the students but also with their parents. They realized that not everyone is suited to attend a four-year college and began providing scholarships to Colorado Mountain College and Western Colorado Community College, a trade

school with 30 associate degree and certification programs ranging from agricultural science to wildland fire management, with ongoing support to students attending those institutions. And MFP began working with local employers to provide students with opportunities to work in the Vail Valley.

Today, My Future Pathways programs are embedded throughout the Eagle County school system. They operate in three middle schools and two high schools as well as provide two safe spaces outside the schools for kids to learn and socialize, one in Edwards and the other in Gypsum. They provide academic support through in-person tutoring as well as emotional support from trained professionals and peer assistance from past participants in the program. Their results are truly astounding.

Now more than 90% of the kids participating in the program graduate from one of the three institutions that MFP works with, and, perhaps more importantly, they graduate debt-free. This success, however, does not come without some hard work. After the kids graduate from high school and go on to



higher education, their grades are constantly monitored to ensure that the high academic standards MFP demands are being met. The result of this effort is that the average GPA for MFP kids is 3.1. And to ensure that everyone graduates debt-free, each student is required to complete a financial literacy program.

When Wendy and her husband, Graeme Bush, moved to Singletree from Washington, D.C., they brought with them a strong desire to give back and an interest in education. Wendy was drawn to My Future Pathways as an excellent vehicle for addressing both her passions, and she has not been disappointed in her decision

to help. The enthusiasm and commitment both she and Bratzo have for MFP's mission becomes evident from the moment you sit down with them. My Future Pathways is but another example of the efforts that are being made in Eagle County to make sure that opportunity and assistance are available to everyone, with a capital "E." If Wendy and Bratzo's involvement is any indicator, My Future Pathways is in good hands indeed.

If you would like to learn more about My Future Pathways and contribute to the future of our kids, please visit their website: www.myfuturepathways.org.



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Treasure Hunting at Remix Consignment



March is here, and the time is ripe for finding great deals for the final days of winter, as well as new looks to refresh your spring wardrobe! At Remix Consignment, Tina Zito offers a wide range of quality brand clothing and accessories to help you transition through the seasons. Here, she shares with us her passion for delivering an awesome resale experience for her shoppers. Check out Remix on a regular basis as inventory changes daily!

How long have you been in the valley?

Born here! There are a few of us. My parents have been here since 1979.

When did you open Remix Consignment?

September 1, 2020, was our first official day as Remix.

What were you doing prior to owning your own business?

There is not enough room here for all of that! I spent most of my time as a ski instructor at Beaver Creek and competing on the ladies' demo team there. My first job was at the Cosbar down the street here in Riverwalk! I have also worked at Nordstrom and Vail Resorts Retail, as well as several golf courses in the valley.

What inspired you to purchase Remix Consignment (aka Rouge Boutique)?

I have always been into clothing. It's really my grandmother's fault. She brought me shopping on Bridge Street in Vail and lunch at Sweet Basil when I was 3 weeks old. No joke. I studied fashion design and merchandising at Colorado State University. I truly am a treasure hunter myself so it is really fun for me to help other people learn to love resale.

Please share with us what you sell at Remix.

We carry a wide variety of styles and designers. We offer everyday items like Levi's jeans, but we really focus on quality brands that last. We are seeing shoppers move away from fast fashion (meaning inexpensive clothing that is mass-produced in response to the latest trends) and gravitate toward resale and quality pieces. We carry both men's and women's clothing, shoes, and accessories.

What do you look for when you take on consignment items?

We accept 'like new' or 'gently used' items that need new homes. It's best to get rid of items while they are still currently in fashion. While some trends do return, not all do, so it is not worth keeping those articles in your closet, hoping for later.

What are some of the most unique items you have sold?

That is tough! We have seen several memorable pieces come through the shop, including a pair of vintage 1970s Tiffany's solid gold bow earrings. While they are not necessarily the *most* valuable, so much vintage fine jewelry gets lost, destroyed, or scrapped — never to be seen again. I am always excited to see these reminders of another era still in existence. I really love vintage designer anything, especially silks — amazingly delicate fabrics to last 50+ years!

What differentiates Remix from other retail options in the valley?

We offer authentic luxury brands that we don't have here in Vail. Unlike Aspen, our valley does not serve as a designer shop destination, so I am able to fill that niche by providing luxury brand labels for the discerning shopper. We also provide authentication services for luxury handbags and some accessories.

What is one of the greatest challenges you have encountered as the owner of Remix?

Balancing all the intake and consignors. As a growing business, it's tough to get to everything I want to do in one day. It is also a constant challenge to balance inventory with customer demand. I never want to offend our consignors, but I have had to learn to say no when they bring in articles that show too much wear. We only have so much space, and it is important for me to maintain our standard for high quality. I hope one day that shopping demand will allow us to accept more inventory!

What has been the most gratifying part of operating your consignment store?

Getting to meet so many members of the community! And seeing so many amazing vintage and one-of-a-kind pieces that our consignors bring to the shop.

How would you describe the shopping experience for your shoppers at the store?

While we do organize and merchandise the store, it is still a little bit of a hunt or dig like most consignment or discount stores.

What would you say to invite new shoppers to check out Remix?

You should love your wardrobe. You should buy things even before you need them, so you have that special something when you need it! We love helping complete outfits too. If you have a piece you are struggling to wear or match, bring it in!





What words of advice would you offer your shoppers when they visit Remix?

Consignment is for treasure hunting! It's always a bit of an adventure so expect the unexpected. Be open-minded. Let something you were not anticipating jump out at you. If you are looking for something very specific, odds are you won't find it.

What are your plans for the future of Remix Consignment?

I can't share all my secrets, but there is more to come in due time...!

What are your interests and activities outside running Remix?

Oh, travel! Love to travel. Shopping, food, wine, and lazy days with my husband snuggling with our dog, Sadie! I'm still learning how to play golf — what an aggravating sport to learn!

Remix Consignment is located in Suite C-102 at 137 Main Street in Riverwalk. To learn more, please visit the theremix.shop or call 970-855-0049.



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STELLA IS LIVING THE LIFE IN VAIL!

CONTRIBUTED BY STELLA AND FAMILY, SINGLETREE PET AND RESIDENTS

What the heck! Who would have ever thought that a homeless mutt like me from Eastern North Carolina would end up living the life in Vail, CO, with two loving human parents and two loving human sisters who visit me frequently?!?

My favorite thing to do is search for critters who dwell under the deep snow. I also really like food but can never seem to get as much as my humans manage to consume. When I am not on search and “rescue” missions for critters, I enjoy chasing my owners up and down Meadow Mountain, where they ski and snowshoe. Walks around Singletree and summer hikes are



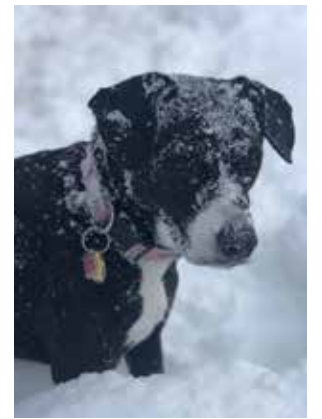
PRECIOUS PETS

important too. My favorite holiday is Christmas, as my humans love to watch me stick my nose in my stocking to see what Santa Clause has brought me. Squeaky toys are my absolute favorite — the louder, the better!

You can usually find me at the Edwards dog park tussling with my buddies and making new friends. When my sisters visit, they take me to get puppuccinos at nearby coffee shops. Bacon-laced puppuccinos are the best! By the way, I hate spa days, especially nail trimming. I enjoy living in Singletree next door to my doggie friends.

I am honored that Ms. Holly is putting me in her magazine. Maybe she will let me come to the next Singletree wine and cheese / puppuccino event?

Note from Holly: Of course, Stella! We would love to see you at a Singletree doggie event this summer!



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Celebrating the Sweeping Change Team on Employee Appreciation Day

With humble beginnings in 2016, Elisse Kelley has grown her business to become one of the Vail Valley's premier residential and commercial cleaning companies. This would not be possible without the loyal and hard-working team Elisse has formed over the past seven years. With Employee Appreciation Day falling on March 3, we asked Elisse to share with us what makes her team the best in the business.

How many employees did you have when you started Sweeping Change?
I started with just me, and then I hired my first two people.

And how many are on your crew today?
Now, I have about 40 employees. These teams run both day and night shifts serving more than 700 clients between commercial and residential properties.

In a world of staffing shortages, how have you been able to grow your crew?
We recruit many of our staff through word-of-mouth referrals from current crew members. In addition to our full- and part-time local staff, Sweeping Change hires additional seasonal help from Mexico via the H2B visa program and is working on acquiring

permanent residency for several staff members.

What do you appreciate most about your team? They are extremely dedicated and hard-working. Their longevity and diverse knowledge have been invaluable to the growth of the business. Most simply, I have some really wonderful people on the team.

What makes you most proud of your crew? The pride they take in their work. We have many discerning clients who have very specific cleaning and maintenance requirements. They appreciate that we do our homework on how best to care for their properties. The clients appreciate that we send the same staff members to serve them on a consistent basis. We would not be able to serve this clientele in the same detailed manner with a constantly fluctuating staff.

Where have you seen a member of your team go above and beyond to serve a client? My girls have literally brought gifts to clients on their own initiative. They have knowledge of a client having a baby, or having surgery, or maybe just for the holidays. They

have established relationships with their clients, and they have taken it upon themselves to do nice things for these property owners.

What do you see in the future for Sweeping Change? We hope to continue to thrive, continue to support the residential and commercial needs of the Valley, and, most importantly, provide steady work for our trustworthy and well-trained staff.

Sweeping Change is fully licensed, bonded and insured and offers residential, rental property, construction and commercial cleaning services across the Valley from East Vail to Gypsum. To learn more or to receive an estimate, visit sweepingchangevail.com, email info@sweepingchangevail.com or call 970-390-8353.



A TALE OF TWO TWINS GROWING UP IN SINGLETREE

Annie and Emma Cerovich share their memories from yesteryear and their lives today

CONTRIBUTED BY ANNIE AND EMMA CEROVICH, SINGLETREE RESIDENTS

As twins, Annie and Emma Cerovich share fond memories of their days growing up in Singletree with their parents, Jeff and Jan, and their brother, Langley. And from there, their paths have been rather divergent. Today, Annie finds herself in Paris teaching school-age children, and Emma has followed her musical path to writing, recording, and performing her first album, *Heart Gone Wrong*. Blonde, brunette, Paris, Missouri, education, music ... despite their separate journeys, Singletree will always be home for both of them.

ANNIE: FROM SINGLETREE TO PARIS

It's a ginger autumn afternoon, Mom's pumpkin bread has just come out of the oven, the school backpack is on the ground, and the plaid uniform has changed into "backyard clothes." We've pulled homework out and worked on it as the spice smells from the bread drift about the kitchen table. After the highlights (and maybe lowlights) from the day have been discussed, the next sunlit hours are spent playing in our backyard.

Growing up in Singletree was a childhood dream: long summer days spent with the "backyard gang" — playing trampoline games, late-night flashlight tag, Broadway garage shows, and wild west charades. We



also stretched the winter days with 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. snow forts, sledding, Olympics, and snowball fights. We would pretend that the cars were abominable snowmen, then run to hide, giggling all the way. Thanks to the intentional care of our mom, our childhood was also filled with hot chocolate and lemonade breaks, tea parties, and adventure days. Our dad brought the goofy times as he would kindly allow us to do lots of silly things to him or include him in our charades. As a family, we enjoyed going on bike rides to Riverwalk, trips to Moab, or adventuring in the mountains. I am so thankful for the sweet childhood that was supported by the intentional hard work of my parents.

In high school, most of my time was spent at Vail Valley Academy of Dance. I would not be the person I am today without the discipline, work ethic, and artistic influence of dance. My teachers encouraged and believed in me, something that was so valuable to a malleable teen. If I was not at rehearsal or studying, I would be skiing, hiking, or engaging in other artistic hobbies such as painting.

After graduating high school, I attended Hope College in Holland, MI. I went in undeclared but soon chose English literature as my major, as I had always valued and enjoyed reading and writing. I continued to dance in the college's dance company, became involved in student life traditions, and worked as a campus tour guide. Being in a liberal arts school, I was required to take a language. I remember thinking, "Why not try French?" After I fulfilled my general education requirements, I continued with French, merely enjoying the discipline and beauty of studying a language. I was soon studying abroad in Paris and on track for a double major

in French and English literature and a minor in art history.

I am so grateful for my time in college; I matured in relationships, learned to be confident in my abilities, and gained a broader worldview. I was very engaged in my classes, spending time in the professor's office hours, gleaning from the wisdom of studied men and women. I continue to love and value the depth brought from taking the time to study how people think and express their views of the world.

With these newfound values and curiosities, I graduated in the spring

of 2021, excited about the openness of where my life could go while also overwhelmed by that breadth of opportunity. Having worked as a horse wrangler in the summers between college, I wanted my next step to be working on a dude ranch. I thought it would be a great break from studying





and knew I had always valued physical work. For the next five months, I worked at Wind River Ranch, a Christian dude ranch in Estes Park. It was a time of great flourishing in the midst of trials as I was confronted with fears and insecurities that I had been living into and holding onto, things that can only be dispelled with a surrendered and humble heart before the Lord. The long days, exhaustion, and difficult situations were balanced with serving guests, true

friends, and horsemanship. I am not sure where all my passions and interests will coincide in the future (or if they will coincide at all), but as I worked at this ranch, my values were further narrowed down, as I now know I love serving others and doing hard outdoor work.

I am now in Paris, France, for at least eight months, teaching English in primary schools and working with refugees. It has been a literal leap of faith and trust as I have had to, in

every sense, move; I started a new job, opened a bank account, found housing, and met new friends, all in a different language. I so value the discomfort (and try to remember that I value it in the midst), knowing that uncertainties and trials are both where we learn our values and where we choose to grow.

Growing up in Singletree and the Vail Valley was a blessing that I did not know I had until I left: the ability to be active and healthy, access to the wilderness, also access to amazing arts such as the Vail Dance Festival, a supportive community ... it is something that, as a multifaceted person, is a dream come true. At the same time, I am grateful for the opportunities I have had to expand my worldview, to interact and live with people very different from me, then to humbly bring these experiences back to my home. I am not sure where I will end up (even in the next year), but I know that I will always consider the valley home.

EMMA: FOLLOWING A MUSICAL PATH THAT LEADS TO HEART GONE WRONG

Some of my earliest and fondest memories of childhood revolved around Singletree: tennis lessons at the Sonnenalp, many walks to the park, holiday parties at neighbor's houses, and taking our dog hiking on



the June Creek trail (which we dubbed the "Kipper hike"). My siblings and I were so lucky to have parents who instilled in us a love of our neighbors and community, and we were doubly blessed to have Singletree be our wonderful community. Our little "backyard" gang of four families and their kids was really an extended family, some of whom have remained in our lives for the biggest milestones: graduation, marriage, loss, celebration, and everyday life in between. This neighborhood has not just given me a place for sweet memories to be held but also a solid ground from which I have been able to confidently step into the next stages of life.

After graduating from Vail Christian High School in 2017, I got my Bachelor of Music in ethnomusicology and voice performance at Wheaton College. I spent four years in the Chicago area during the school year and then spent my summers in Spain and Italy experiencing music in a truly multi-faceted way. I finished my tenure at Wheaton with a songwriting internship with a racial reconciliation ministry in Richmond, Virginia. This time actually turned me back to the world of Western Classical music, and I decided to spend a year working while I applied to grad school.

Choosing to come back to the Vail Valley confirmed to me how special this community is and how much we passionately pour into each other and the visitors that come to the Valley. I had the chance to be a producer on Vail Valley Live alongside other wonderful Singletree residents, Tricia Swenson and Rachel Ledon. It was an incredible year of learning from the best in the media and broadcast business, and it reminded me how lucky I am to call this place home.

While I was working in the Valley and traveling to audition at schools, I was able to continue to make happy memories in Singletree, my favorite being our "Kipper hike" with my mom.

After many rounds of auditions and essays, I was offered a graduate assistantship at Missouri State University's music school and am now pursuing a Master of Music studying classical voice as well as teaching voice classes, voice lessons, and assisting in the opera. It is such a joy to be back in an academic environment for music!

I love studying this craft and am deeply passionate about making it accessible to younger audiences and audiences that might not have a chance to see a symphony concert or an opera. The classical music tradition has an extremely rich and diverse history, and it is so cool to see the different ways it touches people. I love being able to hone my craft and become the best singer I can be, and I hope that I will be able to bring beauty through music to whatever community I go to next.

I am hoping to take what I am learning and bring more music to communities like the Vail Valley. I am deeply grateful to Bravo! Vail and many other musicians in the Valley for their passion for giving us these experiences and opportunities, and I hope that I can bring the same enhanced experiences to our community or another one like it.



Jeff, Annie, Jan, Emma, and Langley Cerovich



In between formal music education, I have cultivated a love for songwriting. Over the past few years, I have collaborated with other Vail Valley natives musically at coffeehouses and songwriter nights. This past year, I spent time every week down at Maxed Out Studios, owned by a dear high school friend Max Clark, writing, recording, and producing my first EP, *Heart Gone Wrong!* While it is not anywhere near the art songs and operas I am studying currently, I am very proud and grateful to have this music out in the world. It has been a labor of love, which for me, represents the opportunity for music to be cross-genre and reach multiple audiences.

I hope that I can only continue reaching people through music and music education, and I am so grateful for the incredible family, home, and neighborhood that gave me a love for music, a space to grow in it, and the support to launch into the musical world!

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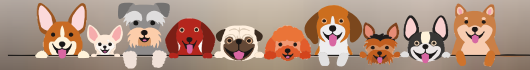
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