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A VETERANS DAY TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

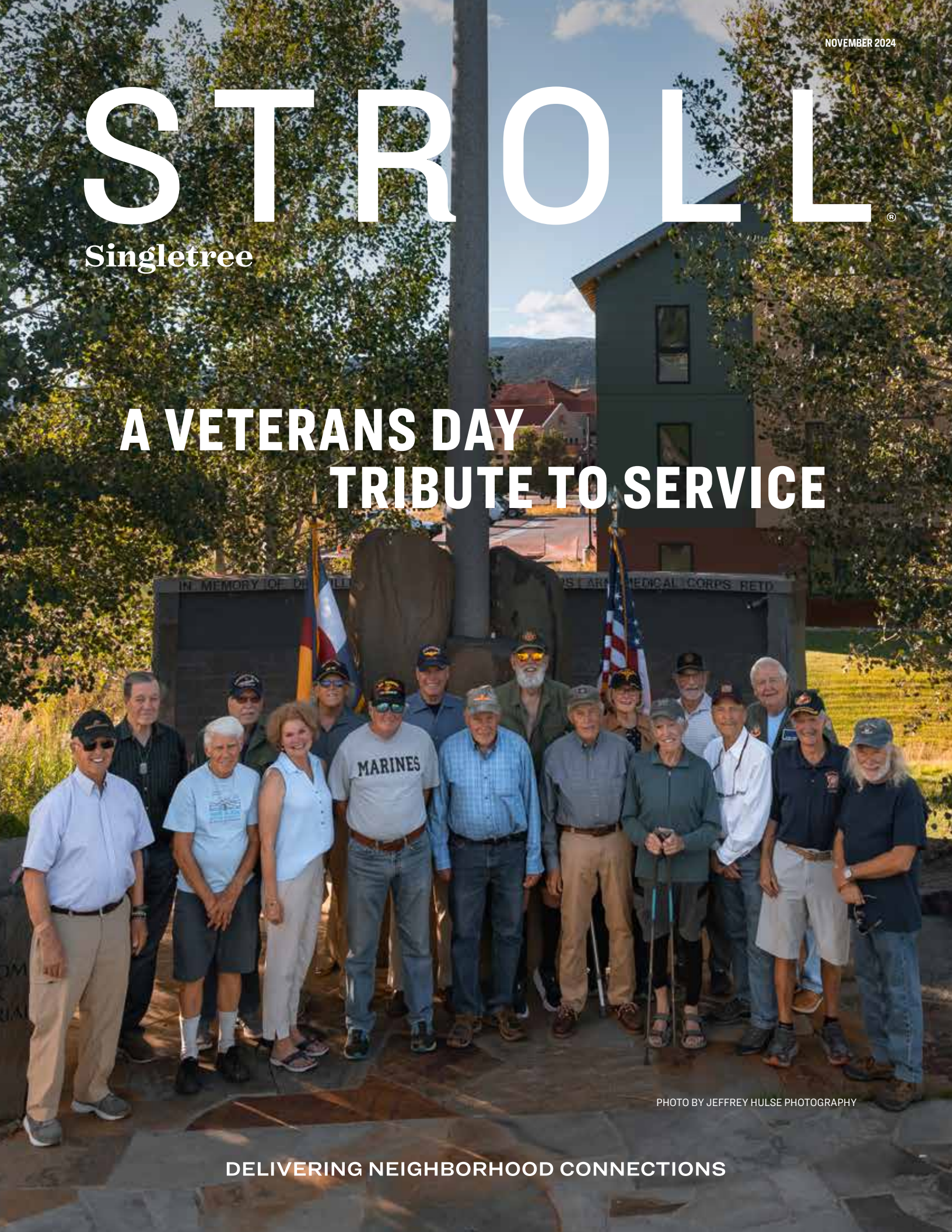


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- Sheila and Gerald Katz, Singletree

"I chose Alida Zwaan to list my home because it is in Singletree, and she has a reputation for being the 'expert' Realtor in Singletree. She lives there and knows her market.

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- Nancy Haley, Denver

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- Find road conditions before you head out. www.cotrip.org has current road information for Colorado Interstates and highways.
- Check out the local ski conditions before you hit the slopes at www.snow.com.
- See if your flight is departing on-time. Eagle County Regional Airport has its own website, www.flyege.com.
- Get alerts about emergencies and other important community news by signing up to receive Eagle County Alerts at www.ecalert.org.
- Roads in Singletree are maintained by Eagle County. Please give snowplows plenty of space and keep the road right-of-way free of cars and trash cans. You can email them: road@eaglecounty.us.

Mark Your Calendar

Singletree's Wine Tasting

Thursday, November 14, from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Community Center. Pre-Payment is required to attend this event and it is limited to 75 people. Email manager@singletreetoday.com to sign up.



Annual Holiday Party

Sunday, December 15, from 4 PM to 6 PM. There will be holiday crafts, light snacks and drinks for all ages served.

SINGLETREE

Berry Creek Metro District and Singletree Property Owners' Association

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844-493-8258 Eagle Valley Behavioral Health



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Delivering Neighborhood Connections
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kiana.brausch@n2co.com

CONTRIBUTORS AT LARGE The Residents of Singletree

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

We're proud to showcase businesses that share our commitment to fostering local connections. When perusing our pages, keep an eye out for the "Local Sponsor" icon to identify articles highlighting these valuable partners. Please note that businesses profiled may have provided free products and / or services for the review.



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INSIDE
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SPONSOR INDEX

This section is here to give our readers easier access when searching for a trusted neighborhood partner to use. Get to know the businesses that make this magazine possible. Please support them in return and thank them if you get the chance!

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Between Happy's 28 years as a Singletree resident and Lisa's local knowledge of Edwards going back 20 years, we are your "in-house" experts. Whether you are curious about what adds the most value to your home in this area or you are considering selling your Singletree home this year and looking to purchase in the neighborhood or anywhere in the Valley, please call us. We would love to help!

THE POWER TEAM

SINGLETREE REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY

Active

- 12 June Creek Road | Duplex
3 bd | 3 ba | 2,020 sf | \$1,695,000
- 11 Tack Road B | Duplex
4 bd | 4 ba | 2,517 sf | \$1,800,000
- 30 June Creek Road | Duplex
4 bd | 4 ba | 2,966 sf | \$2,650,000

Under Contract

- 70 Hackamore Road | Duplex
3 bd | 4 ba | 2,423 sf | \$1,695,000
- 751 Singletree 9 | Townhome
3 bd | 3 ba | 2,670 sf | \$2,095,000
- 448 Charolais Circle | Single Family
4 bd | 3 ba | 2,595 sf | \$2,400,000
- 151 Howard Drive | Single Family
4 bd | 4 ba | 3,166 sf | \$2,825,000
- 141 Pinto Drive | Duplex
4 bd | 6 ba | 4,460 sf | \$3,595,000

Sold

- 931 Singletree 32 | Townhome
2 bd | 2 ba | 1,422 sf | \$1,100,000
- 260 Singletree Road A | Duplex
2 bd | 3 ba | 1,620 sf | \$1,100,000
- 931 Singletree 24 | Townhome
2 bd | 2 ba | 1,422 sf | \$1,225,000
- 31 Appaloosa | Single Family
4 bd | 4 ba | 3,382 sf | \$1,900,000
- 235 Buckboard Road A | Duplex
3 bd | 4 ba | 2,114 sf | \$2,195,000
- 10 Prairie Circle | Single Family
4 bd | 5 ba | 4,604 sf | \$2,850,000
- 1121 Berry Creek Road A1 | Duplex
3 bd | 4 ba | 3,438 sf | \$2,999,000

Source: VMLS 8.15.24 - 9.15.24



141 Mesquite Drive | Listed at \$6,700,000



1140 Winslow Road | Listed at \$2,675,000



70 Hackamore | Listed at \$1,695,000 | Under Contract

THE POWER TEAM

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HELLO SINGLETREE RESIDENTS!

AS WE APPROACH VETERANS DAY, we take a moment to honor the men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our country. This month's issue is a tribute to the Singletree veterans who answered the call of duty to safeguard the freedoms we enjoy today. Join us as we recognize their remarkable journeys from the front lines to... the Vail Valley.

Bill Cox began his journey in the Navy as part of the Ensign 1915 program to support his final year of medical school. Upon completing his service, Bill joined a well-established orthopedic practice in Denver and thereafter, he and his partners founded Denver-Vail Orthopedics, the predecessor to Vail Summit Orthopedics formed in 1993.

Mike Williams' military career spanned a total of forty years including active duty and the reserves. Over the course of his service, he fulfilled many roles ranging from medic to ski instructor, always remaining steadfastly dedicated to his family, faith, and country.

As an Army nurse in Vietnam, Pat Hammon's compassion and bravery were vital to soldiers facing the horrors of war. Pat's story highlights the often-overlooked role of women in war, showcasing her dedication to the service members who depended on her strength and skill.

Delving into the untold stories of women who served in the Vietnam War, Ingrid Dampier shares her perspective on Kristin Hannah's popular book, *The Women*, based on her real-life experiences dovetailed with additional insight from Pat. Together, their commentary sheds light on the powerful contributions of the women in Vietnam and the lasting impact their service had on history.

We are excited to welcome Chad Roberts and Fireside Properties, LLC. as the newest *Stroll Singletree* sponsor, and in the spirit of Veterans Day, to honor his service as a US Marine. And finally, we recognize Jim Knez for his contributions to the neighborhood as the Singletree Trail Maintenance Coordinator, and welcome Tom McClurg to carry on Jim's legacy as steward of our beloved trails.

With deep appreciation for our neighborhood veterans, our *Stroll Singletree* partners, and the residents of Singletree, I wish you all a warm and Happy Thanksgiving filled with love and gratitude.



Warm regards,
Holly Proctor
Holly Proctor
Publisher and
Area Director
303-859-3369
holly.proctor@n2co.com



AN INVITATION TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THE ANNUAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2024
4:00 PM
FREEDOM PARK, EDWARDS

Join us at our Annual Veterans Day Ceremony—a meaningful event for the entire community to come together and honor the veterans among us. This is a chance for everyone to show gratitude and respect to those who have served, reflecting on the sacrifices they made. Let's gather as neighbors to pay tribute and extend our thanks to these outstanding men and women for their service to our country.

NOVEMBER CONTRIBUTORS

YOUR STORIES. OUR PAGES.

To our Singletree Veterans:
Thank you for your service and for participating in our 2024 Veterans Day Tribute

ON THE COVER (L TO R) - Row 1: Bill Cox, Marlin Smickley, Cathy Shuler Collins, Bill Welch, Bob Kern, Lee Rimel, Dusty Dellario, Jerry Grevens, JP Power, Les Sherman; Row 2: Larry Mullin, Don Odom, Craig Dampier, Jim Knez, John Perkins, Pat Hammon, Elliot Ross, Kirk Smick



JEFFERY HULSE
Photographer



DEB ROBBINS
Content Advisor



TIM SWIFT
Resident Writer



CHAD ROBERTS
Veterans Day Tribute



JIM HARPER
Sponsor Spotlight



BILL COX
Veterans Day Tribute



INGRID DAMPIER
Veterans Day Tribute & What's
Cooking Inside Singletree



PAT HAMMON
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FIRESIDE PROPERTIES, INC. & CHALET MAINTENANCE

Are you in search of a property management company to look after your home in Singletree? Locally owned and operated, we have been providing an exceptional level of private home management services for homeowners in the Vail Valley since 2005. When you're looking for superior management to protect your investment, you don't want to mess around. You need a team who knows exactly what they're doing, and can ensure the cleanliness, safety, and upkeep of your property. At Fireside Properties, that's us in a nutshell.

Fireside Properties, Inc. is led by the highly skilled team of Chad Roberts and Ashley Conklin. Chad has managed projects, properties,

and employees for more than 20 years and offers expertise in construction, HVAC, and plumbing and electrical systems. Ashley joined the Fireside team nine years ago and quickly made her way from her initial role as the assistant office manager to general manager and partner.

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Recognizing a need for meeting day-to-day needs for local homeowners, Chad and Ashley partnered to found their sister company, Chalet Maintenance, in March 2021, with a focus on snow removal, lawn care, and property maintenance.

To learn more, please call **970-476-4446**.



VETERANS DAY TRIBUTE

RECOGNIZING CHAD ROBERTS: A Marine's Journey of Dedication and Service

The owner of the newest *Stroll Singletree* sponsor, Fireside Properties, Inc., shares his highly accomplished military career in the US Marine Corps

CONTRIBUTED BY CHAD ROBERTS, OWNER OF FIRESIDE PROPERTIES, AND STROLL SINGLETREE SPONSOR



his platoon. Upon graduating from boot camp, he was meritoriously promoted, a distinction given to Marines for exceptional performance, leadership, and initiative beyond the expectations of their rank.

Following boot camp, Chad returned to his hometown of State College, PA, for a two-week leave before reporting to the Marine Corps School of Infantry at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He trained as an 0311 Infantry Rifleman (Grunt) and was set to deploy to Desert Storm at CAX (Combined Arms Exercise) in Camp Pendleton, California. However, with the rapid conclusion of the war, his deployment orders were canceled, and he remained stateside in Reserve status.

During this period, Chad enrolled full-time at Penn State University, where he majored in Political Science and minored in Sociology from 1991 to 1996, while also holding a full-time job to support his education and living expenses.

As a Marine Reservist, Cpl. Roberts was stationed with Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines, a cold weather mountaineering unit. He was deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, during the 1994 Cuban Refugee Crisis, providing external security for refugee camps. Additionally, he was deployed to Norway for cold weather operations training and later served in Kansas City, MO, with the Marine Corps Reserve Support Command, working as a Pogue (Personnel Other than Grunt). He also briefly served with Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marines, as an 0351 heavy machine gunner. Temporary

orders to Hawaii were canceled, leading to his assignment in these roles.

Cpl. Roberts represented Echo Company in the highly competitive Super Squad Competition, which evaluates the tactical proficiency of rifle squads under simulated combat conditions. Chad qualified for this competition for three consecutive years, winning twice and finishing second once. His exceptional performance was honored by General Krulak at the prestigious 8th and I Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C., where he was celebrated during the final Silent Drill Team parade of the summer.

Chad Roberts served in the Marine Corps from 1991 to 1999, during which time he earned numerous awards and recognitions, including:

- Two Super Squad medals
- A Meritorious Promotion
- Two Navy Achievement Medals
- A Navy Commendation
- National Defense and Humanitarian Service Ribbons

Chad's commitment to the Marine Corps, his academic achievements, and his professional accomplishments reflect his dedication to leadership, service, and excellence.



Chad Roberts began his service with the United States Marine Corps in May 1991 after graduating from high school. He reported to Parris Island, South Carolina, for 12 weeks of boot camp, where he developed key military skills including discipline, chain of command, military drill, land navigation, and basic infantry tactics. During boot camp, Chad was promoted to Platoon Guide in Alpha Company, Platoon 1100—an honor awarded to Marines who demonstrate exemplary leadership traits. In this role, he took directives from the Marine Drill Instructors and implemented commands for



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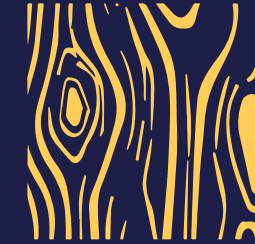
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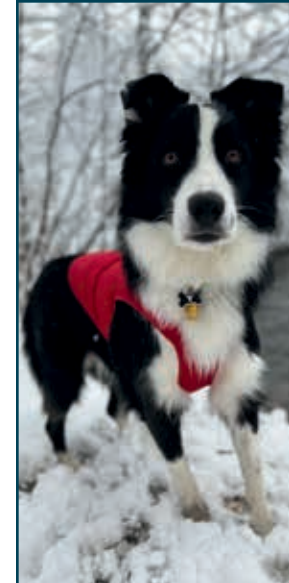
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CELEBRATING OUR SINGLETREE VETERANS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEFFREY HULSE PHOTOGRAPHY

IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY on November 11 this year, we proudly present a tribute to the brave men and women of Singletree who have served in the U.S. military. Here we celebrate their service and sacrifice and showcase moments of connection and mutual respect among those who have worn their respective uniforms with pride. Representing each branch of the armed forces, these individuals have devoted years of service to our country. From the Army, which has long been the backbone of our ground defense, to the Navy, safeguarding our seas, the Marines, known for their elite fighting spirit, and the Air Force, ensuring dominance in the skies, each branch has its own unique heritage and contribution to our nation's security.



Please join us for the annual Veterans Day ceremony at 4:00 pm on November 11 at Freedom Park in Edwards to honor those who have served and those still serving. This is a community event to pay tribute to the courage and commitment that define our local veterans' legacy.



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Since then, we've grown to become a company of over 80 people. Many stories can be told. Stories of employees, of jobs, stories of great customers. Not all those stories are great. When that happens, PSI uses those stories as learning lessons. We use them as turning points and opportunities to improve and provide our customers with the best possible service. That's our tagline. We try to live by that motto.

PSI's true strength is in its leadership team. We have learned over the years that we are in the people business, and we are here to provide our customers with clean water, warm, cozy homes in the winter, and comfortably cool homes in the summer. Our drain teams make sure that the wastewater leaves your home safely and effectively while protecting the house that you live in.

It's hard to believe what the company looks like today compared to where we started. In the beginning, we pushed hard to get the work done for our customers. I would worry about the money later. As we evolved, we learned we needed to push hard to train our team. Today, we think about how we find the best people, and once we find them, we nurture and guide them. We teach craftsmanship. We educate them on the most sophisticated heating products on the market. We mentor them about plumbing and what it takes to be a great

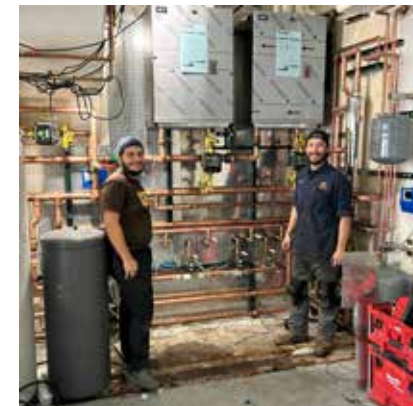
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improve their lives. We hire a lot of people, and while a lot of them do not cut it, the ones that do end up enjoying an amazing career. When we find the

right team members, PSI goes all in; we invest heavily in whatever training is required to develop our technicians into the best in the Rocky Mountain region.



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It has been quite a journey since 2000 and we are deeply thankful for the customers who have helped bring us to where we are today. The future of PSI looks better than it ever has as we continue to grow and build the next front line of ambitious technicians to provide the best possible service, period. – *Jim Harper, Founder and Owner, Plumbing Systems, Inc.*



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When we started out, we focused only on plumbing: installations, maintenance,

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Bill Cox on the right

From Navy Lieutenant to Pioneer Surgeon: A Legacy in Service and Medicine

Bill Cox pursued a path from medical school through the Navy's Ensign 1915 program to becoming one of the Valley's first orthopedic surgeons, paving the way for a world-class medical community

CONTRIBUTED BY KIM COX IN COLLABORATION
WITH TIM SWIFT, SINGLETREE RESIDENTS

AS THE YOUNGEST OF FIVE in a financially challenged family, Bill Cox had always had jobs, managing, with the help of scholarships, to put himself through college and the first three years of medical school without incurring any debt. At Temple University Medical School, the last two years were continuous with the summer being spent serving as the equivalent of an intern at Temple Hospital. The Ensign 1915 program offered a solution to his dilemma as to how to finance that last year. In June 1963, he was conferred the rank of Ensign, and in June 1964, upon graduation, the rank of Lieutenant. After completing a year of internship, he would then be obligated to three years of active duty in the Navy.



Chu Lai

THE ENSIGN 1915 PROGRAM

Originally established before the onset of World War II, the Ensign 1915 Program was created to offer medical students affiliation with the Navy's Medical Corps and to provide deferment from active duty until graduation. The number "1915" is a designator used to identify officers by a code system: the "191" indicates the officer is under instruction at an accredited medical school and the "5" indicates that he is an officer in the Naval Reserve.

The program was a double win: the Navy being assured a trained Medical Corps of the Navy and Naval Reserve and the student a scholarship to complete medical training and assurance that when they do enter service, it will be with the Navy's Medical Department.

AN EASY DECISION

For Bill, the decision to trade one year of scholarship for three years of service was an easy one. All three of his older brothers had served in the military. His eldest brother, an Air Force pilot, had been shot down over Germany in WW II and spent 6 months in a POW camp.

Bill's year of internship took him from Philadelphia to Denver. Having heard tales of the Colorado lifestyle, he and three other Temple classmates applied and were accepted at Presbyterian Hospital. Just days after their arrival in Denver, he accompanied his three friends to an Allegheny College alumni gathering held at a local neighborhood bar. As a Lafayette College grad, he was the only non-Alleghenian there. It must have been serendipity. He met Kim at that impromptu gathering. They were engaged in January, married in March, and upon completion of his internship in June, they left Colorado to begin Bill's three-year obligation to the Navy.



Okinawa



Bill on Ocean City Beach Control 1944 - 1947

ARRIVAL AT CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA

He was assigned to the 1st Marine Division stationed at Camp Pendleton. Bill and Kim camped their way across the west from Denver to Oceanside, CA. The few belongings they had amassed as newlyweds were transported to Oceanside courtesy of the Navy, and they were moved into off-base apartments along with several other freshly minted MDs. They learned from the drivers of the moving vans that they were not going to be there for long. At that time, the movement of personnel and their families across the country was "top secret." Their cheerful farewell was "See you in a few weeks!"

BASIC TRAINING AND OFF TO VIETNAM

It was a crazy and chaotic six weeks for the newly commissioned medical corps. Under the tutelage of a Marine Top Sergeant, they were introduced to basic officer training. In addition to multiple lectures, they were trained in firing and maintaining weapons, crawling under live machine guns fire three feet above their heads, and learning how not to get their heads taken off when approaching a chopper. In August 1965, Bill's Division boarded a transport ship headed for Vietnam.

Their first stop was a respite in Okinawa while the base camp at Chu Lai was being constructed. Arriving in Chu Lai in November of 1965, just in time for the monsoon season, they established the 1st Marine Division Force Logistics Support Group which had an airfield and a field hospital. It was a Battalion of 1000. After a 13-month tour of duty, Bill was transferred to Sand Point Naval Air Station in Seattle,



Standing (L to R): Peter Gehret, Lonnie Chipman, Bill Cox
Seated (L to R): Elmer Frank, Rob Loeffler

Washington, where he served as a general medical officer caring for reservists and their families.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE MOUNTAINS

After mustering out of the Navy in 1968, Bill returned to Temple University for his four years of orthopedic residency. By 1972, the Coxes had three young children and needed to decide where they wanted to settle. Having had that one-year internship in Colorado, as well as honeymooning in Vail in '65, the "call of the mountains" won out over the "call of the ocean" where Bill had grown up. He joined a well-established practice in Denver; the transition to Vail and Singletree followed later.

Dr. Jack Eck, a friend and fellow Temple alumni, had settled in Vail, starting his Internal Medicine practice in 1971. Jack referred his orthopedic patients to Bill in Denver and as the demand grew, Bill and his partners established Denver-Vail Orthopedics, adding first John Gottlieb, followed by Lonnie Chipman and Peter Janes to be full time partners in Vail. Each of the Denver partners bought townhomes in Eagle-Vail and took weekly turns during the ski season to assist the Vail group. With the addition of Paul Abbott to the Vail team in 1993, the Vail group became autonomous,



Captain Bill at the helm

Kim and Bill love the diversity of the community, as well as the location... “far from the maddening crowd” but not too far to enjoy all that the Valley has to offer.



Kim and Bill on top of Knob Hill - a standing Sunday hiking tradition

forming Vail Summit Orthopedics while Bill continued with his practice in Denver.

AT HOME IN SINGLETREE

Upon retirement in 1999, the Coxes rented their Denver home, parked their belongings in the Eagle-Vail townhome, and set off on a three-month quest to determine “what they liked best.” From sailing to the Florida Keys, to camping their way up the East coast and then west to Vail, they decided that the Vail Valley was a pretty great place to call home. The move from Eagle-Vail to Singletree in 2002 was driven primarily by Kim’s desire for a single-family home where she could have a studio and be able to fire a kiln safely. Singletree continues to be a great choice. They love the diversity of the community, as well as the location... “far from the maddening crowd” but not too far to enjoy all that the Valley has to offer.

Bill was one of the early and invaluable medical pioneers in our community and he, with his partners, paved the way for this Valley to become one of the premier orthopedic centers of the world. Those that followed him owe a lot to Bill and his crew, and we all owe him and his fellow vets our thanks for his service to our country in the early years of the Vietnam conflict. He did more than his part for our community as well our country.

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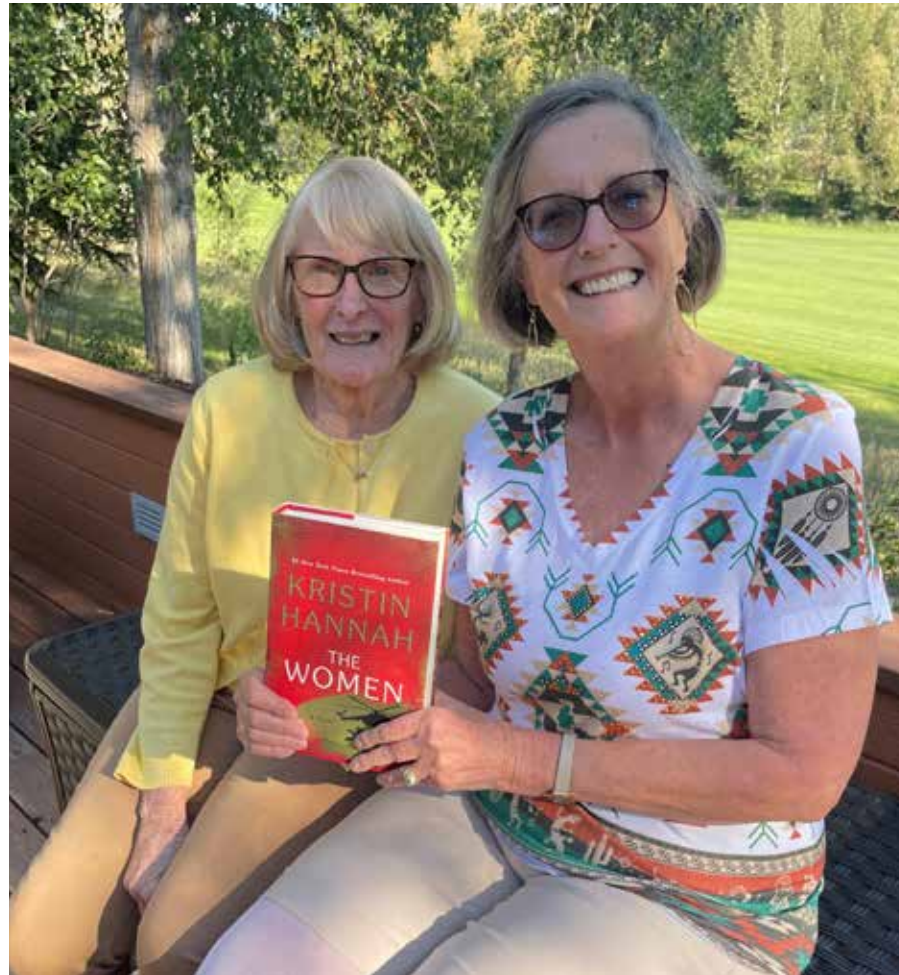
Ingrid Dampier offers a real-life perspective on *The Women*, an epic tale that shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten.

CONTRIBUTED BY INGRID DAMPIER IN COLLABORATION WITH PAT HAMMON, SINGLETREE RESIDENTS
PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY PAT HAMMON FROM HER TIME IN VIETNAM

In observance of Veterans Day this year, I was asked to write about Kristin Hannah's book, *The Women*. I want to especially thank Pat Hammon, a US Army nurse who served in Vietnam for one year, for sharing her insight and experience to elaborate on the details from Kristin Hannah's historical novel. While I just knew that the author researched this book quite thoroughly, Pat vouched for the validity of the story – both moving and heart wrenching – as told by Hannah.

The Women focuses on nurses in Vietnam. It is a heart-breaking book, and I cried a lot – it was hard to read. Why? Vietnam was not popular. As a country, we were totally divided on the necessity of the Vietnam war. The book sets the tone perfectly as to what was going on in America at the time and how a lot of the anger against the war was aimed at the soldiers, the nurses, and anyone else that helped the war. It reminded me of what I witnessed during that time. The main character in the book, a nurse named Frankie, was disowned by her family when she signed up to go to war – they told everyone she was in Italy studying Italian – rather than the truth that she was in Vietnam working hard to save our soldiers. To me, Frankie embodied all the nurses so Kristin Hannah could report what happened to all women who served in Vietnam.

So, what was going on in America? On December 1, 1969, a lottery drawing – aka the “draft” – was conducted based on birth date to recruit young men into the military and then to Vietnam. I remember trying to console my male college classmates sobbing due to their low lottery number – their anger at being sidelined from continuing their graduate education and pursuing their



goals in life. And their fear – by 1969, we were all aware of how devastating the war was – Vietnam was probably our first guerilla warfare. And the death toll of our soldiers was escalating, which served to result in more protests and riots.

The lottery also resulted in many lawyers and doctors helping these drafted men to be excused from the lottery, excused from the draft. I know this because I knew men who were excused. I know this because on Craig's second deployment, I knew lawyers through the Soroptimist Club (a businesswomen's club) who approached me and offered their services to help get Craig excused. When I tried to explain that Craig willingly joined the Navy and swore his allegiance to serve and protect our country, they were very disappointed in both Craig and me and let us know that we were not real Americans since we supported this evil war. They chose to no longer be our friends.

As a country, we did not honor our fighting men and women while they were there and especially when they returned from Vietnam. There were no Wall Street parades or people expressing gratitude for soldiers' service. Kristin Hannah details the non-welcome very accurately – down to people spitting and yelling at the

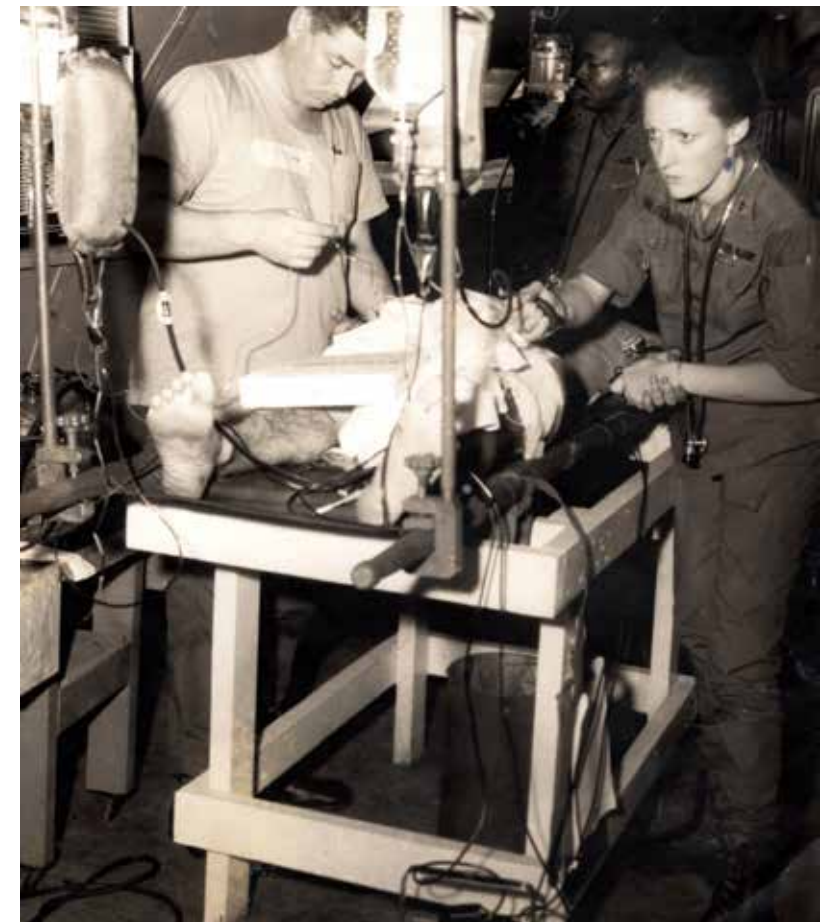


The book sets the tone perfectly as to what was going on in America at the time and how a lot of the anger against the war was aimed at the soldiers, the nurses, and anyone else that helped the war.

veterans returning. Not a single thank you! A while back, I was reading a Facebook review of the book and found posts suggesting that the awful treatment that the returning warriors received was not true.

Well, dear younger readers, it was true – it was accurate, and it was real. On Craig's first of three deployments to Nam, there were protestors who positioned themselves between the returning service men and their wives and families awaiting them after such a long time away. The protestors screamed awful things to the returning men – blaming them for the war and the treatment of the Vietnamese. I am so proud to say that, to a man, they quietly marched by the protestors, quietly with no reaction to them, and then finally into our waiting arms.

I learned a lot from Pat that was not really reported to us. The common phrase that these nurses encountered after the war was, “THERE WERE NO WOMEN IN VIETNAM” – this coming mostly from male veterans of the war. There were MANY women in Vietnam – forward air controllers, women in communications, etc., as well as the nurses. However, the women were often stationed where many of the male soldiers would not have been, for example, in the administration building. Those fighting in the “boonies” would not have met a nurse unless they were wounded and transported to the hospitals. As a side note, I also learned from Pat that the “boonie” hat was named after the boonies in this jungle warfare land. But



whether the nurses were seen or not, they worked so hard to save injured fighters and other support personnel.

In the book, Hannah details the conditions these nurses worked under – so dangerous and harsh. She also shares the tender moments of the nurses holding the hands of the dying soldiers, so they were not alone



in their pain. Not only did the nurses and doctors care for our US service men and women, but also for the people of the local villages – providing vaccines, dental care, and other medical assistance and care for the people. Another interesting point that Pat shared with me was that the concept of EMTs (Emergency Medical Technicians) started in Vietnam. Medics were stationed close to the many battle sites and could help the wounded to be stable enough to be helicoptered to the main hospitals.

As the final straw, the male veterans did not feel that the

nurses should be allowed to participate in the ceremonies that occurred much later, including the dedication of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC, a monument to (finally) honor the vets on Veterans Day in 1982. In response, there were many, including Pat Hammon, who worked hard to ensure that the nurses would be honored as well. It took the culmination of more than a decade of grassroots organizing and activism, to achieve the dedication of the Vietnam Women's Memorial on November 11, 1993, as part of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



THE LONG AWAITED DEDICATION OF THE VIETNAM WOMEN'S MEMORIAL

The Vietnam Women's Memorial is a memorial dedicated to the nurses and women of the United States who served in the Vietnam War. It depicts three uniformed women with a wounded male soldier to symbolize the support and caregiving roles that women played in the war as nurses and other specialists. Diane Carlson Evans, a former U.S. Army nurse, co-founded the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation (VWMF) in 1984 with two other veterans. Noting the Vietnam Memorial's focus on men who served during the war, she wanted to also memorialize the more than 11,500 American women who served as nurses and in other roles. With the goal to erect a memorial to the women who assisted in the war, it took years of lobbying and attending dozens of meetings for the memorial to finally be approved. At the dedication on Veterans Day in 1993, Vice President Al Gore and other dignitaries were in attendance, along with approximately 25,000 onlookers.

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365½ Days in Vietnam

Pat Hammon served as a nurse in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, spending one year at a hospital in San Francisco and another year stationed in Long Binh, Vietnam.

CONTRIBUTED BY PAT HAMMON, SINGLETREE RESIDENT



Pat Hammon serving as a US Army nurse in Vietnam

Though Pat Hammon has always viewed herself as a pacifist, disapproving of war's violence—her father, a WWII paratrooper, was the sole survivor of his platoon in the Battle of the Bulge—her path took an unexpected turn. At the end of her sophomore year at Yale New Haven Hospital School of Nursing, an Army recruiter's visit, combined with encouragement from her friends, led her to listen to the Army's offer. The promise of travel, tuition coverage, and a monthly salary swayed her, and so she enlisted.

Her first encounter with both war and anti-war sentiment came while working at Presidio Army Hospital in San Francisco. She recalls how their daily bus to work was regularly met by protesters who threw flowers and chanted anti-war slogans as she arrived to care for a steady influx of injured soldiers.

In 1968, Pat was assigned to an Army hospital in Vietnam specializing in spinal and brain injuries. The facility, equipped with 428 beds and eight operating rooms, operated almost around the clock. "Even with my experience in emergency rooms in Harlem and New Haven during riots, nothing truly prepares you for war," Pat explains. "Helicopters were constantly coming and going, and the workload was grueling. We sometimes worked days straight, catching brief naps in the corners before jumping back into the fray."

Pat's service in Vietnam lasted 365½ days—she points out that many veterans can recount their time almost to the hour— a period marked by intense physical and emotional challenges. She drew strength from the camaraderie and friendships she formed at the hospital, lessons she continues to apply in her life and during tough times. "There's a profound sense of family when you're far from home, scared, overworked, and witnessing horrific scenes. You lean on each other for support," Pat reflects. The military provided me with a support network and a family. Dealing with my own

PTSD, like many veterans, having that network years later has been invaluable."

Upon returning from Vietnam in 1969, Pat left the Army and found solace in volunteering to aid fellow veterans, which helped her heal from her wartime experiences. She notes that the Vietnam War's divisive nature made it harder for veterans to openly discuss their experiences—an essential part of addressing post-traumatic stress disorder. Instead of receiving public gratitude, many veterans were met with hostility and scorn.

Pat remembers that while in uniform on her way home from Vietnam, she faced verbal abuse and even had someone spit on her at the airport. "It was incredibly painful to be blamed for the decisions made by those in Washington," Pat says. "For years after returning, we avoided mentioning our service in Vietnam service to steer clear of uncomfortable conversations."



Today, Pat serves as the Eagle County Veterans Service Officer, where she connects veterans and their families with resources, supports disability and other claims, fosters community engagement through local events, works energetically with the local VFW, and advocates for legislative support, thereby constantly confirming her commitment to the veteran community she values so deeply.



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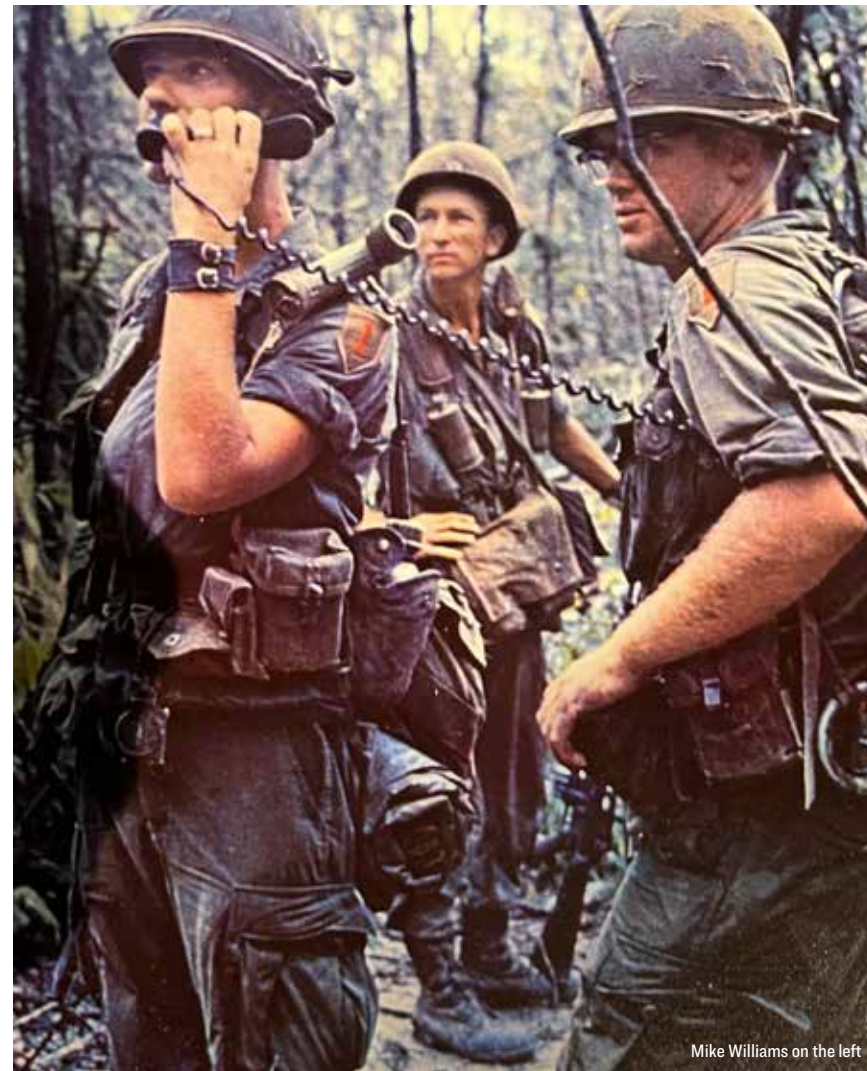
Faith, Family, Country, Duty: A Life of Unyielding Service

Mike Williams' Extraordinary Journey from Michigan to Vietnam to Colorado to Germany... and Ultimately the Valley

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE WILLIAMS, SINGLETREE RESIDENT
ARTICLE WRITTEN BY TIM SWIFT, SINGLETREE RESIDENT

In 1963, Singletree's Mike Williams was a freshman at the University of Michigan where his mother was a professor. In high school, Mike had played football but had not been recruited by any university. Nonetheless, he decided to walk-on at Michigan and spent his first season as what he referred to rather sardonically as a "tackling dummy". His second season was a bit different as his coaches discovered that he could actually catch a football. As a result of this revelation, he became a receiver and valued member of the team. Although he succeeded on the gridiron, things were a bit different in the classroom and Mike admitted that his "lack of focus" caused his GPA to be less than exemplary.

This would be an appropriate spot for a bit of a historical aside. Since 1940, the United States has had a military draft designed to fill the ranks that could not otherwise be filled by volunteers. Every male between the ages of 18 and 40 had to register and were subject to being drafted unless



Mike Williams on the left

they received a deferment. One of these deferments was being a full-time college student making "normal progress" toward a degree. The draft defined "normal progress" as maintaining a GPA of at least 2.0. Mike did have a college deferment, but what he didn't have was the elusive GPA of 2.0. The best he could muster his sophomore year was 1.1. Oops!

As a result, Mike received one of those letters that so many of us from that generation received that ominously began, "Greetings from The President..." Mike did receive his draft notice, but, rather than simply report when and where he had been ordered, he decided to head for the Army recruiting office and volunteer. Not simply volunteer, but volunteer to be a member of the elite Airborne Special Forces known as the Green Berets. Thus began a military saga that Mike embraced for 17 years!



At this point in our story, a bit of historical context might prove helpful. After the fall of the French in Indochina and the Geneva Convention in 1954, Vietnam was divided into two parts: North Vietnam which was controlled by the Communist Viet Minh, and South Vietnam which was financially and militarily supported by the U.S. In 1958, the North Vietnamese invaded neighboring Laos and created the Ho Chi Minh trail - eventually sending 40,000 guerilla troops to fight in the south. In 1959, the US had about 1,000 military advisors tasked with recruiting and training the South Vietnamese Army. John F. Kennedy was elected president in 1960, and soon began sending more and more "advisors" to South Vietnam. Following Kennedy's assassination in 1963, his successor, Lyndon Johnson, continued sending these advisors until they numbered over 23,000 by 1964. However, it wasn't until the passage of the Gulf of Tonkin resolution in August of 1964 that Johnson was able to unilaterally increase the number of US forces on the ground in Vietnam without congressional approval.

In 1964, Mike Williams was a part of this escalation and was sent to Vietnam as an "advisor". At the time he was a medic, although he did participate in artillery and air support missions to help the South Vietnamese army. In addition to his combat role, Mike lived in a Vietnamese village and brought much needed medical services to the villagers. When Mike's time in Vietnam was up, he took advantage of the Army's generosity by completing his undergraduate degree from Michigan as well as attending graduate school all on Army's dime, earning a graduate degree in 1974 with a double major in computer science and logistics management. He finally mustered out of the Army in 2004 in California.

Mike's journey to The Valley, although circuitous, began when he was 18 years old. He took a part-time job teaching beginning skiers at the Boyne Highlands ski area in northern Michigan. One of his childhood friends in Michigan was Brian McGuire who eventually went on to be a member of the US Demo Team as well as the director of the Beaver Creek Ski School.

After his service in Vietnam Mike was stationed at Fort Carson in Colorado where he had a unique job. At the time, members of the military could get free ski equipment to use recreationally, however there was no requirement that the users of this equipment actually knew how to ski. As a result of this rather cavalier attitude, the incidents of injury to soldiers on the ski slopes became all too frequent. When his superiors at Fort Carson learned of Mike's experience teaching skiing, they tasked him with teaching soldiers how to ski safely. The result was the dramatic reduction in skiing related injuries that the Fort Carson brass had hoped for.

Mike was eventually transferred to Germany where his role as a ski instructor for soldiers continued at Garmisch from 1972 to 1973. When he returned from Germany, he retired from active duty to the reserves, and went to work for the accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand serving as an industrial consultant.

He left that position in 1991 and finally answered Brian McGuire's call and moved to The Valley to teach





full time at Beaver Creek. He also took a full time job as a project manager for a local construction company. At age 80, he has retired from the construction business but still teaches part time at The Beave.

As rich and varied as Mike's military career was, it by no means offers a full picture of all he has accomplished. His commitment to both his family and his faith are the unshakeable rocks in Mike's life today. In 2003, he met Kathy Bellamy who was, and still is, a realtor at Slifer Smith and Frampton Real Estate, and soon a relationship developed that eventually led to marriage. They had both been previously married and brought both offspring and grandchildren to the union. Kathy had three kids, two girls and a boy, and Mike had two daughters. The two families didn't meet until about a week before the wedding, but that meeting resulted in a blended family that today shares holidays, birthdays, and special occasions together.

Mike has been a lifelong Episcopalian, but it wasn't until 2012 that he moved from a mere parishioner to a pillar of the Church. He was good friends with Steve Baird, an ordained Deacon of the church, and Steve had urged Mike to follow him as a Deacon. Sadly, Steve passed, but as tragic as that was, it eventually led Mike to a decision. He tells of having dreams inspired by his friend Steve imploring him to become a Deacon. These dreams led to Mike approaching the Bishop who urged him to follow those dreams. Mike began pursuing that goal and was ordained as an Episcopal Deacon in 2020.

Episcopal Deacons fill many roles in the church. They can officiate at marriages, baptisms, and funerals, but Mike feels that the most important role a Deacon performs is being the eyes and ears of the Bishop in the community. He finds that to be the most fulfilling facet of being a Deacon.

I must conclude on a personal note. I have known Mike since he was the project manager on a house we built in Singletree in 1999, and I never had a clue about his military and community service. When I interviewed him recently for our Veterans Day issue, all I knew was that he had served much less about his devotion to his church. In my opinion, Mike Williams embodies all the qualities that make our veterans so special: courage, commitment, generosity, humanity, and, perhaps most of all, modesty. Thanks, Mike, for all you have done for both your country and your community.



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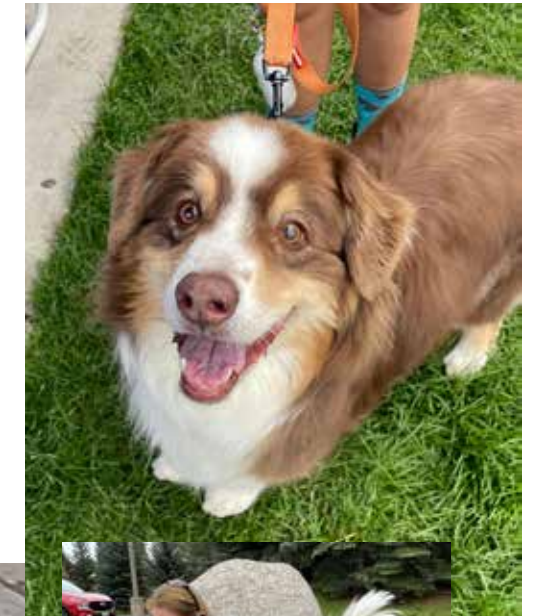
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Pawsitively Fun: A Tail-Wagging Day at the Park!



The fun was nonstop as dogs of all shapes and sizes and their humans enjoyed time together at Paws in the Park. Many thanks to our *Stroll Singletree* sponsor, Emily Challis, owner of Curipawsity Dog Training, for guiding the pups (and their people) in, over, and through the agility course with enthusiasm and skill. Every dog left happy with some well-deserved treats!

Kickoff Rolls: Buffalo Chicken Bites for Game Day

CONTRIBUTED BY INGRID DAMPIER, SINGLETREE RESIDENT

FOOTBALL SEASON IS HERE!! We like to record the game so we can watch it over a “football” dinner. This appetizer is one of our favorite for football night.

I had always assumed egg rolls were Chinese, culminating from 1000s of years of Chinese cooking. However, I recently read that this is not true. Andrew Coe, author of *Chop Suey: A Cultural history of Chinese food in the United States*, wrote that the egg roll was probably invented at a Chinese restaurant in New York City in the early 1930s, by one of two chefs who both later claimed credit for the creation: Lung Fong of Lung Fong’s or Henry Low of Port Arthur. I found this fascinating news. But I am still going to make egg rolls – Chinese American Egg Rolls.

Then I found a recipe for Buffalo Chicken Egg rolls. Perfect – my Chinese American egg rolls should definitely be influenced by the oh so American Buffalo seasoning. I then set about reading lots of recipes for Buffalo Chicken Egg rolls and combined ideas, added/subtracted ingredients, and created my own.

Fortuitously, I easily found egg roll wrappers in the refrigerated section of the produce department and lately I find them in the vegan refrigerator by the eggs. If you can’t find egg roll wrappers, you can use wonton wrappers, which are the same, just different in size.

First, I chose to cook the chicken in water and not broth – since nothing is done with the cooking liquid, why use broth? So let’s just use water. And even low sodium chicken broth has sodium and Frank’s Red Hot has sodium, so there is plenty of sodium. I did like the sound of using a rotisserie chicken (especially if I was pressed for time), but the cooked chicken shredded perfectly.

Secondly, I decided that I wanted my egg rolls to have a reasonable ratio between the shredded chicken, the shredded carrots, and the chopped scallions. This meant I added a lot more of the carrots and scallions than any recipe asked for. I love vegetables, they are healthy, and each egg roll then would have less meat and lots of great crunch. After mixing all the ingredients, I felt that I had the right proportions.

Thirdly, I used spicy jalapeño cream cheese spread because I had it on hand, and really enjoyed the extra bit of heat from the alapeños. Hmmm, does this make them Chinese American Mexican Egg Rolls? And of course, I chose to use Franks Red Hot – the traditional hot sauce for buffalo anything (in my humble opinion).

So I hope you enjoy my version of Buffalo Egg Rolls. Hopefully this will bring a good season to the Broncos!!



Step 1: Begin the roll



Step 2: Continue the rolling



Step 3: Fold the roll into an envelope shape



Step 4: Voila! Perfect egg rolls!

Another fun fact about egg rolls – they contain no eggs!

BUFFALO CHICKEN EGG ROLLS

Prep Time: Approximately 15 minutes

Cook Time: 3 - 4 hours for the chicken, 8 - 9 minutes to air fry

Yield: 8 servings of 2 egg rolls each

Ingredients:

- 1 large carrot peeled and shredded (about 1 3/4 cup)
- 1 bunch chopped scallions, both whites and greens
- 2 ounces jalapeno cream cheese spread, softened (or 1/3 less fat plain cream cheese)
- 1/2 cup Franks Hot Sauce (or your preferred hot sauce)
- 2 (16 ounces total) boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 16 egg roll wrappers
- Olive oil spray
- Dipping sauce of your choice, optional

Instructions:

- 1/ Place chicken in the slow cooker and add enough water to cover. Cook on high for 3-4 hours. Remove and shred with two forks, discard the liquid.
- 2/ When softened, whisk the cream cheese and hot sauce together until smooth-ish (there will be little lumps of cheese which is perfectly fine). Add the chicken, carrots, and scallions, and mix well with a big spatula.
- 3/ One at a time, place an egg roll wrapper on a clean surface, points facing top and bottom like a diamond. Spoon about 2 ounces of the buffalo mixture onto the bottom third of the wrapper.
- 4/ Dip your finger in a small bowl of water and run it along the edges of the wrapper. Lift the point nearest you and wrap it around the filling. Fold the left and right corners in toward the center and continue to roll into a tight cylinder. Set aside and repeat with remaining wrappers and filling. (picture 1, 2, 3, 4)
- 5/ Lightly spray oil on your fingers and rub into each roll to evenly coat.
- 6/ In batches, air fry at 370F for 8 to 9 minutes, turning halfway through until golden brown.
- 7/ Serve immediately, with dipping sauce on the side, if desired. I love Thai Sweet Chili Sauce with egg rolls, but since these were Buffalo, I used Ranch dressing.

Make ahead: Air fry the egg rolls, and when cooled, wrap the rolls and freeze. To reheat in the air fryer, heat at 360F for 8 minutes or until heated through. In the oven, bake at 375F for about 15 to 20 minutes or until heated through.

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Autumn Beauties & Trail Duties: A Day on the Mesquite Trail



Plus A Celebration of Jim Knez's Decade of Dedication and a Big Welcome to Tom McClurg as Our New Trail Coordinator

CONTRIBUTED BY TOM MCCLURG, SINGLETREE RESIDENT

Ten volunteers showed up on a spectacular fall day to perform maintenance work on the Mesquite Trail. The crew focused their efforts on clearing the steps at the start, grading the trail to prevent erosion, and fixing some of the areas where water was eroding across the trail.

On behalf of the neighborhood, please join us in honoring Jim Knez for his more than 10 years serving in the role of Singletree Tree Maintenance Coordinator. A bench with a plaque in his honor has been installed on the Mesquite Trail to recognize his contributions to our community over the years. We are excited to welcome Tom McClurg as our new Maintenance Coordinator to carry on the legacy of Jim's good work. Thank you all for dedicating your time and energy to preserving and improving our neighborhood trails!



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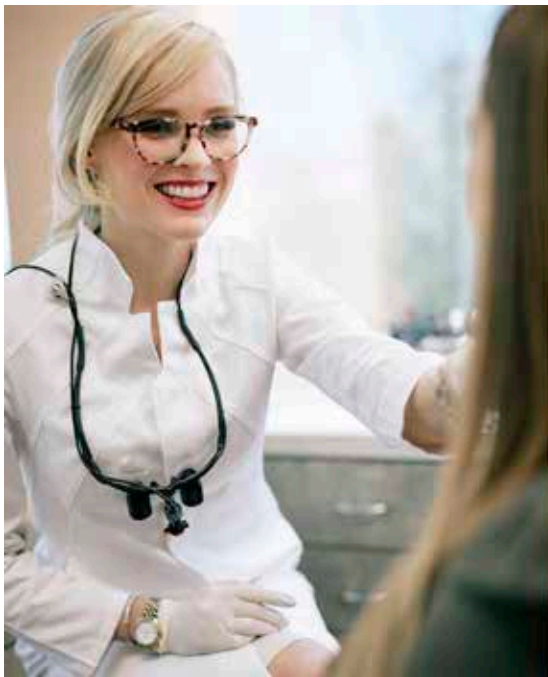
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