

April 24, 2015



## Hello From BSOA

*Here are some of the important matters in Big Sky right now!*

### Introducing On Top of the Peak

Big Sky is fortunate that it is home to people from all walks of life who each bring something special to the community. The BSOA would like to start acknowledging those members who do great things for the community in our *On Top of the Peak* section. Know a member who has done a good deed, or is just an awesome neighbor? Let us know and we'll make sure they get a kudos in the next newsletter. The members of the month will also be mentioned on the BSOA Facebook page, so look for it there!

*On Top of the Peak* is launching by acknowledging **Ann Marie Mistretta**. Take a look at why Ann Marie is *On Top of the Peak*!



Email nominations for next month's *On Top of the Peak* to [bsoa@bigskyoa.org](mailto:bsoa@bigskyoa.org).

### Survey Results

In January, the BSOA emailed a survey to the membership requesting feedback on a variety of questions including: community improvement projects and programs; BSOA actions and policies;

### BSOA Board of Directors

May 15, 9:00am

### BSAC Meeting

May 7, 8:00am

May 21, 8:00am

### SAVE THE DATE



This year's community weed pull will be in the afternoon on **Tuesday, June 23.**

### ON TOP OF THE PEAK

BSOA would like to kick off our new *On Top of the Peak* segment by acknowledging **Ann Marie Mistretta**.



Ann Marie has called Big Sky home for 12 years now and has done a great deal for the community in that time. She was the superintendent of Ophir

and membership communications and benefits. The results from the survey will be used to develop a new strategic plan for the Association to implement in the coming years.

Support for funding assistance for a new community recycling site received the most feedback with 77% of members who voted saying it was a top priority. The responses show that 76% of those who voted would like more information related to Big Sky Community provided to them, including local elections and public policy. Projects regarding sustainability awareness, and hazardous fuels awareness to prevent forest fires were also displayed high member interest. Responses indicate that additional benefits, or services for membership is also of great interest. Potential benefits include Resort discounts, propane buying pools for cost reduction, and more BSOA sponsored events to name a few.

The BSOA Board of Directors and Staff would like to thank the membership for taking the time to complete the survey and help us with the goal of providing more for our members and the Big Sky Community.

*The survey results can be viewed in their entirety on the Associations website here > <http://bigskymt.org/bsoa-events/>*

## Meadow Construction

Last month's newsletter touched on the Northwestern Energy project that will be upgrading 34,000 feet of underground electric distribution systems. Recently BSOA was told that the project is set to happen in three stages starting the week of May 4th and will probably be here the majority of the summer. Excavation crews installing conduit will begin the work and once they have enough of a head start the electric crews will come behind them and begin the actual wire and equipment work.



During the process residents can expect to see colorful flags and paint, known as locate markers, appearing in yards marking areas of work. If these markers appear on your property it means that your yard is next for construction work. Crews are careful to avoid any damage to underground sprinklers, internet lines, etc and if damage is sustained contact the Project Engineer, Caleb Skjervem, and he'll have the crews fix it. Crews are also responsible for landscaping yards that are affected by the work.

Outages will start occurring after the electric crews have been there for a little while, so most likely late May or early June. Residents will be notified ahead of time if their properties will be affected by a

school, served on the performing arts center design team and capital campaign, started a college scholarship program for LPHS seniors, and is chair of Historic Crail Ranch. Anne Marie is now running for the BSSD School Board and with her history and experience with the school district, we know she'll do a great job if elected. Click [here](#) to read what Ann Marie has to say about her candidacy.

Be sure you get out and vote for your fellow BSOA member! The Annual School District Election will be held on Tuesday, May 5, by mail ballot.

Thanks Ann Marie for all that you have done for the community and we wish you the best in the election!

## HAPPENINGS

**May 7** - Ribbon cutting for Big Sky Discovery School

**May 16** - End of season shred party

**May 21** - [Business After Hours @ 3 Rivers Communications](#)

**May 24** - [1st Annual Harbor's Here Run](#)

## HAVE AN IDEA?

Anything you'd like to see in the next newsletter? Let us know if there is an

power outage. For small outages a member of the crew, most likely the project engineer, will knock on doors ahead of the work crew, or door hangers will be put in place. For larger outages, an automated call will inform residents a day or two prior to the outage.

**The progression of the work is as follows:**

- 1) Starting Excavation on Yellowtail Rd May 4th
- 2) Two Moons Rd south of Curley Bear
- 3) Looking Glass
- 4) Curley Bear
- 5) Two Moons North of Curley Bear
- 6) Little Coyote
- 7) Spotted Elk Road
- 8) Two Gun White Calf Road ( and surrounding subdivision)
- 9) Chief Joseph Road
- 10) Lone Mountain Guest Ranch

*This is the planned schedule, but it may alter slightly depending on how construction is progressing.*

BSOA staff will do our best to assist with informing members of any pertinent information as it pertains to this project. **The Project Engineer, Caleb H Skjervem can be reached at (406) 582-4685 with all questions and concerns.**

## Jackrabbit-Big Sky

As ski season comes to an end Montana's other season, construction season, is just beginning. Big Sky residents can expect to see lots of hard-hat wearing workers in the area in the coming months. Picking up where it left off last year, the Jackrabbit to Big Sky



transmission line upgrade project is expected to start mobilizing equipment and workers to the work sites sometime during the first two weeks of May. Construction work will pick up in the last half of the month, or the very beginning of June. The main work will begin at Hell Roaring and end on the southern side of Deer Creek. When traveling through the Canyon account for delays in your travel time. Delays will be similar to those experiences last year, but the area of delays will be larger than previous years. Motorists should also watch for detours, lane closures and reduced speed limits. Recreationists may also be affected by the work because there may be temporary Forest Service road and trail closures, as well as temporary river closures. Any closures that happen are short term and are for safety reasons.

Transmission upgrade is needed because the existing powerline was

issue you would like addressed, an event your organization would like to share, or just something cool about the community.

constructed in the 1970s and is approaching the end of its functional life. It has limited capacity and serves as the sole source of electricity for Big Sky. Even with a back up line from Ennis, an outage on either line would leave the other unable to fully provide electricity to Big Sky and could result in extended outages, possible blackouts and safety issues. At this time the project is roughly 50% complete and is expected to be 80-85% complete at the end of this work season. Projected finish date of the project is not until fall of 2016, so unfortunately this will not be the last summer that residents and travelers will have to deal with this project.

Check out the BSOA Facebook page for more immediate and up-to-date information, news, travel expectations, pictures and more.

## OPEN Off-Season

As many of you know Big Sky becomes somewhat of a ghost town once the Resort closes for off-season. For the few who stick around it can be a challenge trying to eat out because so many restaurants close along with the Resort. Big Sky Chamber of Commerce released a table of all the restaurants that are open with normal hours, which ones are closing for a short period of time and which ones you'll have to wait to dine at again.

### OPEN:

- 1) Blue Moon Bakery
- 2) Broken Spoke Bar & Grill
- 3) By Word of Mouth
- 4) The Country Market
- 5) The Gourmet Gals
- 6) Hungry Moose Market & Deli
- 7) Lone Peak Brewery
- 8) Milkie's Pizza and Pub
- 9) Nina's Bakery
- 10) Gallatin Riverhouse Grill
- 11) Slider's Deli

Click [here](#) to view the full list of open and closed locations!

## Summertime Toys

As the weather warms thoughts of fun summer activities begin to move to the the forefront of peoples' minds. Activities like boating on the numerous lakes in the area, and camping in trailers and RVs are some of the best things



about summer, but they present a problem: where to store these summertime toys.

The BSOA would like to remind members of the policy for storage and parking of boats, trailers and RV's. Temporary parking of these types of vehicles is permitted when it is approved in advance.

Temporary parking is defined as parking for a period not to exceed seven total days per month. The seven day period may extend across two calendar months (ex. last 5 days of July and the first 2 days of August). Please keep in mind that individual subdivisions may have additional covenant requirements.

If you need temporary parking for any of these, or have questions about temporary, or permanent storage of your accessory vehicle, please contact Casey Drayton at the BSOA office.

## A Word On Weeds

Spring is in the air and it's time to make a plan for managing noxious weeds! Native plants, like our state flower the Bitterroot, evolve to live with the local climate, soil types, and animals. Native plants need less water, are lower maintenance, and



support local wildlife. Most importantly, using native plants in landscaping helps limit the chances that potentially invasive, exotic plant species will be introduced into the environment. No matter the size of the property, how it's managed and what plants are selected for gardens matters - go native, support local wildlife and enjoy the beauty of native plant species!

Striving towards keeping your yard weed free is not only good for you, but for your neighbors as well. Noxious weeds on vacant and poorly maintained lots become the source of weed spread and costs neighboring properties time and money battling the spread. If you own land, you are responsible for controlling noxious weeds.

Property owners who neglect weed infestations can expect to spend money for years to come trying to control the infestation, than if they deal with it when the problem first manifests.

The Gallatin/Big Sky Weed Committee will help landowners with their noxious weed concerns for free. The 501(c)(3) provides free on site assistance to help identify noxious weeds, provide information and materials regarding noxious weed management and assist landowners with management questions. There is a cost share program (monetary reimbursement) for landowners treating noxious weeds. Information and assistance for the do-it-yourself-er and a variety of community and educational events are provided by the organization too.

For more information, contact Jennifer Mohler at (406) 209-0905, or [bigskyweeds@gmail.com](mailto:bigskyweeds@gmail.com). You can also visit the Gallatin/Big Sky Weed Committee website for information and their latest events.

<http://www.bigskyweeds.org/>

## Camp Big Sky

The summer day camp has three new faces leading the charge this year! Kristy Burt, Julie Towle, and Chris Corona take over directorship of the program as it enters into its eleventh season.

The camp will continue to offer ten weeks of day camp to kids entering first through the fifth grade. This year, the program will include golf, tennis, swimming, field games, hiking and visiting guest instructors who will present



a wide range of activities. "The goal is to give enough consistent instruction that kids can improve their skills, but also keep things mixed up to offer a variety of art, science, sports and simple camp silliness," says Camp Big Sky Committee Chair Barbara Rowley. New to the program this year is a two-hour block at the end of the day for campers to work on long-term projects over the course of the summer. The midday lunch will also include a reading period, or story time for the kids to assure that language skills stay on track.

Camp enrollment for all campers will open on Thursday, April 30. An early enrollment discount is available for those who register before May 16. Camp runs from 8:30-5:30 and is \$40 a day, not including the early enrollment discount. Drop-in enrollment on the day of the camp is available as space permits and is at a higher rate.

For more information about the camp and enrolling your child, contact Kristy at [Kristyburt@yahoo.com](mailto:Kristyburt@yahoo.com), or visit the Camp Big Sky website here >

<http://bsccmt.org/about/camp-big-sky/>

## We're On Facebook!

A little know fact is that BSOA does indeed have a Facebook page. As most people know, Facebook is a go to source for individuals when they are looking for any type of information, be it political issues, or the hours of operation for the local brewery. BSOA staff is working hard to make our page a more useful source for you. Like our monthly newsletters, our page will share BSOA issues and events, happenings in the community, updates on construction work in the area and more. Facebook is a powerful form of communication

because it allows us to share information on a more regular basis. The page will also boast more pictures from BSOA events like the annual weed pull, the annual meeting, Christmas stroll, etc.

Members are invited to leave comments and post pictures on the Big Sky Owners Association page. Share with us what makes Big Sky special to you!

Like us on **Facebook** 

**Big Sky Owners Association**

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