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The Phantom Hill wolf pack

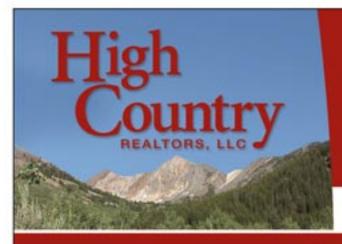
The predators' return to the valley

Mariel Hemingway

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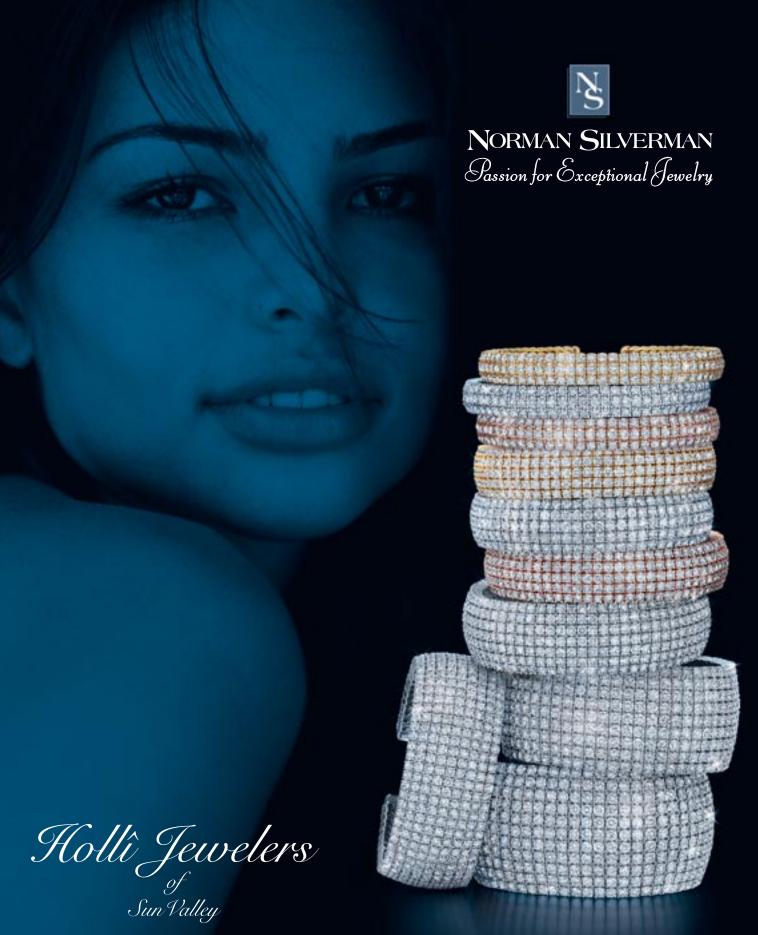
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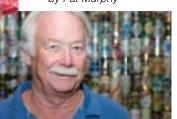
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editor



t wasn't a full year ago that some of us, people of sound mind included, wondered whether this town might go up in flames. Ketchum was in existential danger. It started, as these things do, with a strange and beautiful sign: a single plume of black smoke rising from the west, from behind Baldy, near what we would all soon learn was Castle Rock.

The fire tested this community. We sat on porches and lawns that Friday night in August and watched the smoke climb, unaware that within days neighbors would evacuate their homes, morning walks would be health hazards and we would all know, a bit more intimately,

how life feels in a war zone. I was in the valley for my good friends' wedding in late July and had stuck around, looking for a way to move back to Idaho. As we watched prop planes and helicopters strafe Adams Gulch, my friend and editor Jennifer Tuohy told me she was expecting her first baby. She asked if I would like to return and fill her working shoes for awhile. By this point, Wagon Days was cancelled. Streets and stores were empty and cash registers lay still. But the valley hadn't been licked. In fact, the community pulled together in good and unusual ways.

Building this summer's *Sun Valley Guide*, we learned how the valley absorbed last summer's lessons. All of us, it seemed, learned the value of a test, and the theme of stalwart individuals overcoming life's trials took shape.

Rebecca Rusch, one of our local world-class athletes, is a natural for this issue. The "accidental athlete" has built a career on heights of pain and depths of fatigue. Mariel Hemingway, burdened with the looming double shadow of fame and tragedy, opens up in these pages about facing down her demons. Even the wild gray wolf, near extinct in Idaho just over a decade ago, has found a way back into the game. From wedding mishaps to longboard surfing on mountain lakes, the *Sun Valley Guide* likes a good challenge. A year after Castle Rock, we hope this issue engages readers with those times when fire crosses the path and we are meant to push right through.

Sincerely, Michael Ames



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Cover: Rebecca Rusch prepares for a ride at the First Light Mine out East Fork.

Photo by Nate Galpin

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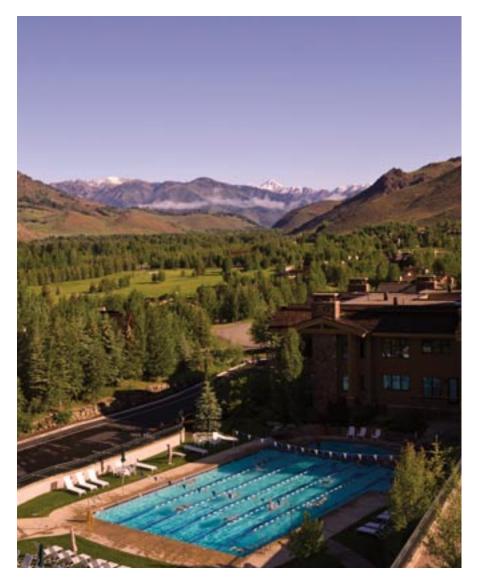
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lands reporter for the Idaho Mountain Express. Both as a news reporter and a freelance magazine writer, he has tracked wolves with biologists in Idaho's Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and Wyoming's Yellowstone and Grand Teton national

parks. Kauffman's work has appeared in *Backpacker Magazine, The Idaho Statesman*, Twin Falls' *Times-News* and other regional publications.

Dana DuGan is the Living editor and a

features writer for the *Idaho Mountain Express*, as well as a local music promoter and gardening enthusiast. She regards catching a celebrity in a moment of ease to be the *Tour d'Eiffel* of interviewing.



Betsy Andrews Etchart has covered



food, home, outdoor adventure and the arts for various magazines, but writing about her own wedding proved her biggest challenge to date. She and her husband are expecting a baby boy in July.

Jon Duval worked his way around the world

while making the glorious ascent from investment banker to bike messenger. He finally arrived in Ketchum two years ago and now writes full time for the *Idaho Mountain Express*. When not feeding his addiction to planning and zoning meetings,



Duval finds himself frequently humiliated on Wood River roads and trails, whether on his bike or skis.

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he growing season in the Wood River Valley is succinct. It begins amid the mid-June snowmelt and ends abruptly, in clouds of color as the asters finally bloom, tomatoes ripen and the autumn joy sedum turns brilliant

rust red with October's first frost.

Gardeners here turn the challenge of long, dry days into semi-arid success. This year's abundant snow is both blessing and curse; extra melt water is a boon, but by the time north-facing bulbs emerge from beneath icy tombs, the summer may be in full blaze. Given such capricious patterns, locals plant accordingly and quickly.

Thankfully, for green-thumbed inspiration, there are garden tours. Local homeowners swing open their garden gates twice this summer for sociable self-guided tours. Experts are often on hand with advice as are artists and musicians reveling in the botanic bounty. Carpooling, walking or pedaling to the petals is always encouraged. Water and hats are a must. Think of it as a tea party in sturdy shoes.

> Text by Dana DuGan Photos by David N. Seelig

















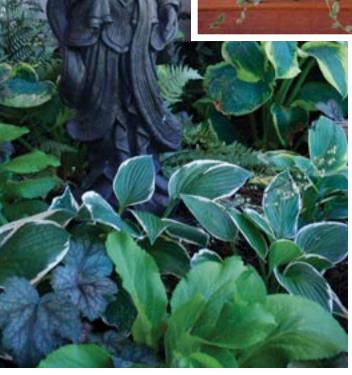


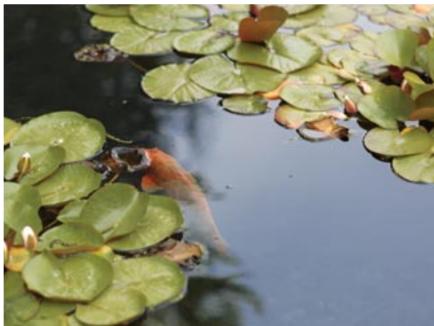
Tour the flora

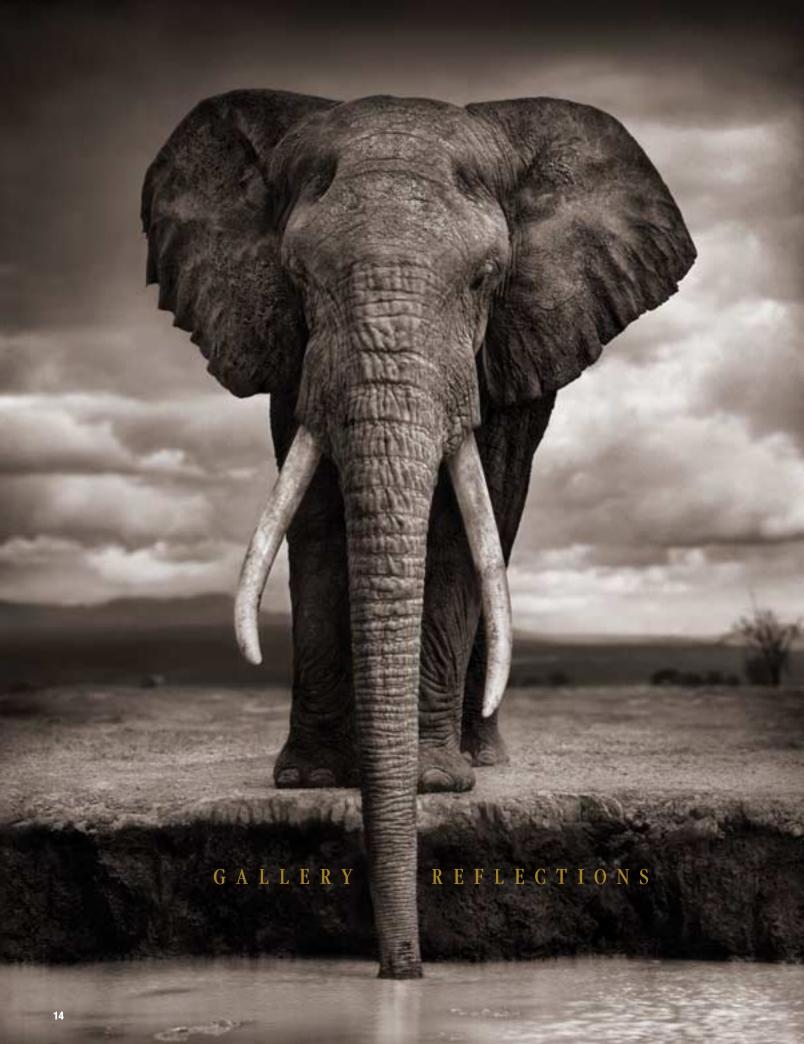
South Valley: The Friends of the Hailey Public Library Garden Tour features select gardens along Quigley Road and in the Deerfield subdivision in east Hailey on Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

North and mid-Valley: Tour private gardens in East Fork and Gimlet with the 13th annual Sawtooth Botanical Garden Tour on Saturday, July 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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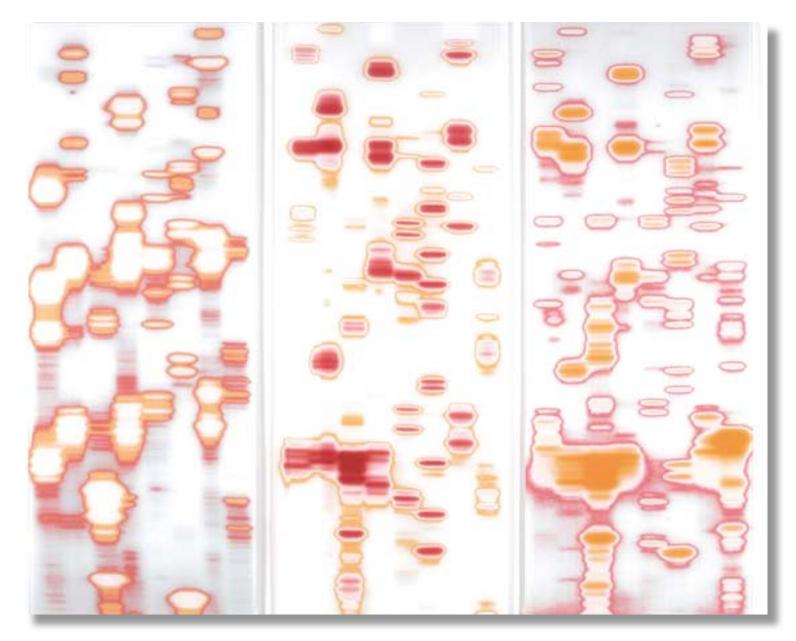
A timeless question asks:

Does art reflect society or does society reflect art? Are a people's causes and celebrations manifest in their art, or does culture evolve in response to its own creations? The question is a good one precisely because it cannot be easily answered.

The high Idaho desert invites distinction. Day and night might as well be different seasons. Clean, dry air clears the system and brings clarity. We are at once isolated and connected, far yet aware, and the art we recruit reflects these ways. Cool apertures capture crisp, harsh realities: Gilman Contemporary's Nick Brandt's African elephant stands in grand contrast with the animal's plight. At Anne Reed, photographer Mathias Kessler floods an iceberg with light, freezing it in time even as countless others disappear amid a changing Arctic climate.

Sun Valley art galleries keep the conversation flowing. In these photographs and paintings, these sculptures and frescoes, a collective curiosity is fueled. We look and we discuss and are reminded to let our minds wander even as they engage.





Previous Pages:

Nick Brandt, *Elephant Drinking, Amboseli, 2007*, archival pigment ink print, Gilman Contemporary. Mathias Kessler, *Ilulissat H001*, Greenland, 2007, Digital C-Print, Anne Reed Gallery.



Heather Hansen, Infinity, fresco on panel, 13' 3" x 6' 9"

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

In a corner of Ketchum's light-industrial zone, in a studio nestled between construction companies and lumber yards, artist Heather Hansen puts a thoroughly modern twist on the ancient art form of fresco. Working in a converted warehouse, this Idaho native weds the spirit of Renaissance Italy with the natural splendor of her home state, creating abstract expressionist frescoes that break the mold of an ancient medium.

Fresco is the technique of painting natural pigments on a moist plaster surface, usually a wall or ceiling. The Vatican's Sistine Chapel, with scenes by Michelangelo and Botticelli among others, is the most famous example. For Hansen, inspiration came with the experience of seeing Botticelli's exquisite fresco Venus and the Three Graces at The Louvre in Paris.

Beyond a few lessons in plastering from a local contractor, she is self-taught and feels free to break the medium's rigid rules.



One of her most successful rebellions has been to remove fresco from its natural habitat, to take it off the wall. The resulting three-dimensional sculptures, suspended from steel cables, are a natural progression for Hansen, who is passionate that her art be tactile. "When I saw that Botticelli, I just wanted to reach out and touch it; that's what really drew me in."

Her finished pieces have little of the gloss or precision associated with the religious art that popularized fresco in medieval Europe. In their place is a raw naturalism. "I searched for ways to bring nature into my work both in theme and material." Her studio is littered with curios from the land, many of which find their way into her paintings, either as inspiration or in physical form. From a burnt branch ravaged by the Castle Rock wildfire to a fox skull unearthed on a hike with her son, Joji, Hansen's creations may stem from one of the world's oldest art forms, but their roots are planted firmly in Idaho.

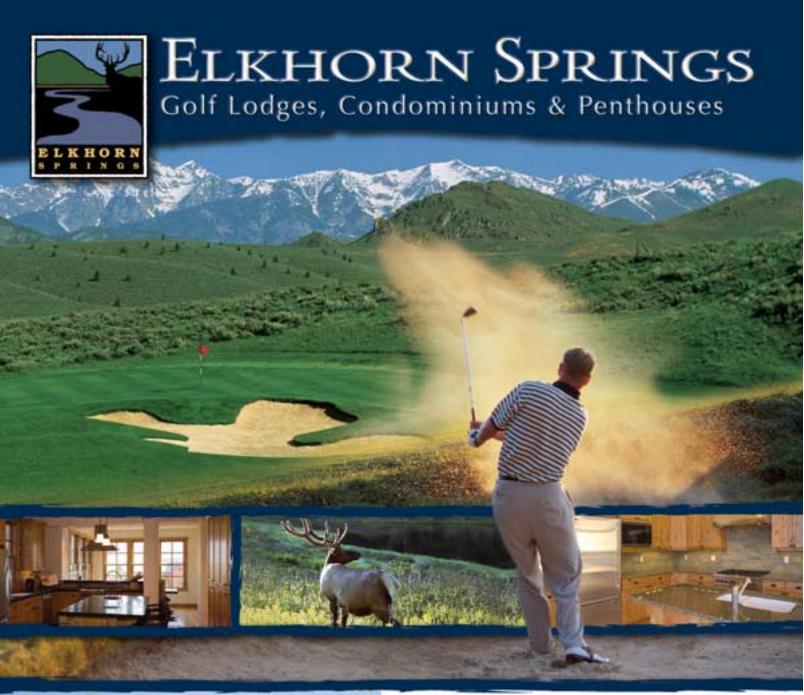
—Jennifer Tuohy

Hansen's work is on display at The Open Room (Walnut Avenue Mall, Ketchum).



Born in Burley, Idaho, Heather Hansen studied theater design in Tokyo before discovering her fascination for fresco while living in Europe.

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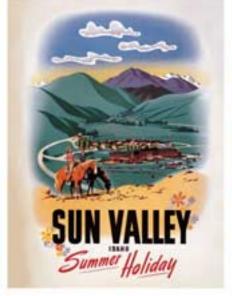
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TRACKING A



Twelve years after the gray wolf was reintroduced to the American West, a small pack settled the northern Wood River Valley. Jason D.B. Kauffman scouts the Phantom Hill wolf pack and investigates one of the most controversial issues in the West.



Mary Roberson, detail from *Unity II*, mixed media on canyas.

Biologists aren't sure from what direction the pack of three black wolves arrived.

They could have crossed near Galena Summit, a low saddle along a major ridge dividing the upper Big Wood River from the headwaters of the Salmon. Or they may have descended from out of the Smoky Mountains, a wildlife-rich expanse of remote summits and narrow timbered valleys west of Ketchum. It's also possible they came from the east, cresting the rugged Boulder Mountains before dropping from 11,000-foot peaks into the aspen- and evergreendotted foothills.

It's all likely looking wolf country.

Here's what is known: In the first days of June 2007, biologists confirmed the presence of three adult wolves near Phantom Hill northwest of Ketchum. The ragtag trio consisted of an aging male with a graying muzzle, a female with a limp to her right front leg and a yearling female.

For the first time since the federal government's controversial gray wolf reintroduction began in the Northern Rockies in 1995, and perhaps the first time in close to a century, a pair of adult wolves was confirmed to be denning inside the Wood River Valley. And within the pack's den site were three tiny wolf pups.

Biologists named the newly discovered band of wolves the Phantom Hill wolf pack.

uring the summer, the rolling foothills of the Boulder and Smoky mountains are grazed by thousands of sheep owned by several different ranchers. No matter where they migrated, the Phantom Hill wolves were never far from herds of the lightly guarded livestock, an enticing target for a small pack with three hungry mouths to feed.

It was no surprise when the pack gave in to temptation and, according to federal Wildlife Services, killed at least nine sheep in the summer of 2007. Following these incidents, federal authorities were prepared to destroy the Phantom Hill pack, but lacked the authority granted to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, which opted for non-lethal tactics to keep the pack at bay. The situation was calmed for a time, but the fate of the local pack remains uncertain. State officials may yet choose a lethal course of action should sheep kills resume.

The politically powerful ranching industry is at the center of the Northern Rockies' wolf debate. Its outcries prior to the return of the gray wolf are legendary. But to paint all ranchers with the same broad brush is to overlook a growing minority that is learning to live with wolves. After losing 41 sheep to the predators over a span of several years, Carey-based Lava Lake Land & Livestock realized it would have to modify its grazing practices. With up to 6,000 sheep running on 730,000 acres of federal grazing allotments each summer, ignoring the region's growing wolf population was no longer an option.

Working with wildlife officials and Defenders of Wildlife, a nonprofit organization that aims to prevent conflicts between wolves and livestock, Lava Lake sought ways to keep its sheep safe. Sheepherders now carry radio telemetry equipment, basic hand-held



An all-black alpha female of the Phantom Hill wolf pack runs warily across a sage-brush-dotted meadow in the upper Big Wood River valley northwest of Ketchum, September 2007. Repeated sightings of this limping female indicated she had an injured right front leg. According to wolf biologists, she gave birth to three pups in the western Boulder Mountains near Phantom Hill sometime in late April 2007.

or of the original or

A BRIEF WOLF HISTORY Government-sponsored predator control programs combined with declines in bison, elk and other natural prey bring gray wolves to near extinction in the lower 48 states.

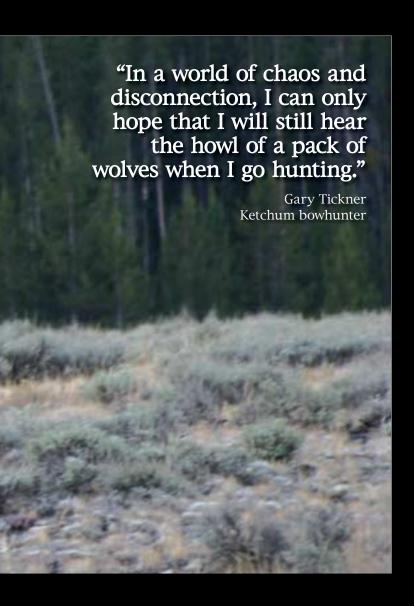
As many as 380,000 gray wolves inhabit North America from the Canadian Arctic to central Mexico.



Last documented wild gray wolf killed in Wyoming south of Yellowstone National Park. Federal Endangered Species Act signed into law by President Richard M. Nixon. A few hundred confirmed wolves remain in the lower 48 states in extreme northeastern Minnesota and on Isle Royale in northern Lake

Numerous unverified sightings suggest individual gray wolves still roam the remote central Idaho wilderness.

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receivers that pick up signals from individual radio-collared wolves. Last summer, herders detected wolves less than a quarter mile from sheep bands. Lava Lake has brought on additional Great Pyrenees guard dogs and has begun arming herders with single-barrel shotguns loaded with non-lethal "cracker shells" or rubber bullets to drive wolves away. At dusk, they herd their sheep into electrified night pens. The half-acre corrals borrow from a successful centuries-old Mongolian and Tibetan practice. And last summer, Lava Lake President Mike Stevens redirected a band bound toward Phantom Hill to less problematic areas. Economic realities limit Stevens' ability to keep his herds constantly on the move, but so far, the efforts have worked. Lava Lake has not lost a single animal to wolves since 2005.

anchers Katie Breckenridge and Rob Struthers own the 1,800-acre B-Bar-B Ranch, whose irrigated pastures, crops and dry grazing lands lie south of U.S. Highway 20 next to the small agricultural town of Picabo. The couple has bred and trained American Quarter Horses for more than 30 years.

But when unknown groups of wolves crossed into their property twice last winter, the couple felt helpless to protect the 100 head of horses, organically raised Angus beef cattle and lambs that are their livelihood.

Although they declined to be interviewed for this story for fear of further polarizing the wolf issue, Katie and Rob were sufficiently stirred up by the incident to express their anxiety in regional newspapers. In letters to the editor, they said their trials began in February when three wolves were spotted 30 yards from their stallion pasture and gelding and mare pens. Seemingly more curious than deliberate, the wolves left without harassing their horses. Things didn't turn out so

MAN

Gray wolves living outside of Minnesota are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Minnesota wolves

listed as threatened.

Gray wolves from Canada, including the famed "Magic Pack," begin naturally recolonizing Glacier National Park in northern Montana.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) approves Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan, which envisions the recovery of at least two healthy Northern Rockies wolf populations.

,08¹

cessive years.

Recovery Plan approved by FWS. Plan aims to remove the Northern Rocky Mountain wolf from the Endangered Species List by maintaining a minimum of 10 breeding wolf pairs in each of three recovery areas—central Idaho, Yellowstone National Park and northern Montana—for a minimum of three suc-

Revised Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf

Federal government releases final environmental impact statement authorizing gray wolf reintroduction into Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho



Members of the Stanley-area Basin Butte wolf pack chase a pair of alerted cow elk along a high-alpine slope in April 2007.

Bumper stickers on local roads that proclaim "Save 100 elk, kill a wolf" and "Wolves: government sponsored terrorists," suggest we haven't come to terms with the presence of these creatures.

smoothly a week later. In a hay field across from their outdoor horse arena, two wolves boldly ran a small herd of horses through deep snow in broad daylight. "The wolves show no fear of anything," they wrote. After running the horses into nearby fences, the wolves headed north.

Unlike many Western ranchers who graze public lands, Katie and Rob are strictly private-land ranchers. While Idaho law allows ranchers to kill aggressive wolves in defense of their livestock, they are concerned with the unknown toll these encounters have on their prized animals. Horses harassed by wolves may develop long-term psychological damage that future riders must deal with. The couple, whose animals may lose value with each incident, complain that wolf advocates don't comprehend the impact on their livelihood.

Based on the report from B-Bar-B, Fish and Game officer Rob Morris was certain the couple was dealing with an unknown group of wolves. While no den has been confirmed in the area, wolves have been spotted in the Bellevue Triangle in recent years. In 2007, a Picabo rancher killed a 90-pound female wolf after it attacked his livestock.

Morris believes the wolves that harassed the B-Bar-B horses may have been drawn to the Picabo area by a herd of 100 elk that wintered near Queen's Crown, a prominent grass-covered knoll east of town. "That is the first time I've seen elk there." Morris said the wolves would be better off if they followed their natural prey back into the high country as winter turned to spring. "I'm hoping those wolves are following the elk."

Sund Sunday

After an absence of more than 50 years, the first of 66 gray wolves trapped in Canada between 1995 and 1996 are transported to Central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park for release.

Idaho's wolf population estimated at 115.

First wolf pups born in Idaho. A total of three known wolf packs exist in the state. STATE OF THE STATE

Idaho's wolf population estimated at 345.

The FWS documents 30 pairs of wolves in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, triggering a three-year countdown to delisting.



Phantom Hill wolf pack suspected in the deaths of 12 sheep on federal lands northwest of Ketchum.

For the first time since reintroduction, biologists confirm a denning pair of adult wolves in the Wood River Valley.

Their trials began when three wolves were spotted 30 yards from their stallion pasture...

"The wolves show no fear of anything."

> Katie Breckenridge and Rob Struthers Picabo ranchers

uzanne Stone, Northern Rockies representative of Defenders of Wildlife, works with Lava Lake and other ranchers throughout the Intermountain West and has witnessed the challenges they face. In private meetings with her, local ranchers have shown a willingness to explore new ways of living with wolves. Their words and actions reflect a realization that wolves are here to stay. "They're becoming more tolerant of wolves," she said.

When gray wolves were reintroduced by the federal government in 1995, wolf alarmists were a dominant voice in the region. Stone thinks ranchers' changing attitudes reflect the realization that wolves are not having as devastating an impact on their livelihoods as early warnings predicted. Like modern wolf biologists, today's ranchers are learning as they go. None of the current generation has actually lived in a landscape

Continued on page 27



A hand-painted sign nailed to a corner fencepost near Kevin and Jennifer Swigert's Croy Canyon home west of Hailey pleads with passersby to spare the couple's pet coyote, Happy.

Self Self

100 SO

Wolves spotted harassing horses on the B-Bar-B Ranch in the Bellevue Triangle near Picabo.

Idaho's wolf population estimated at 732.

Gray wolves in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, eastern Washington, eastern Oregon and northern Utah removed from the federal Endangered Species List. Management of wolves handed over to the six state wildlife agencies. More than 1,500 wolves are estimated to be living in the Northern Rockies region. Under 80,000 gray wolves are estimated to be in all of North America.

*Information provided by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services





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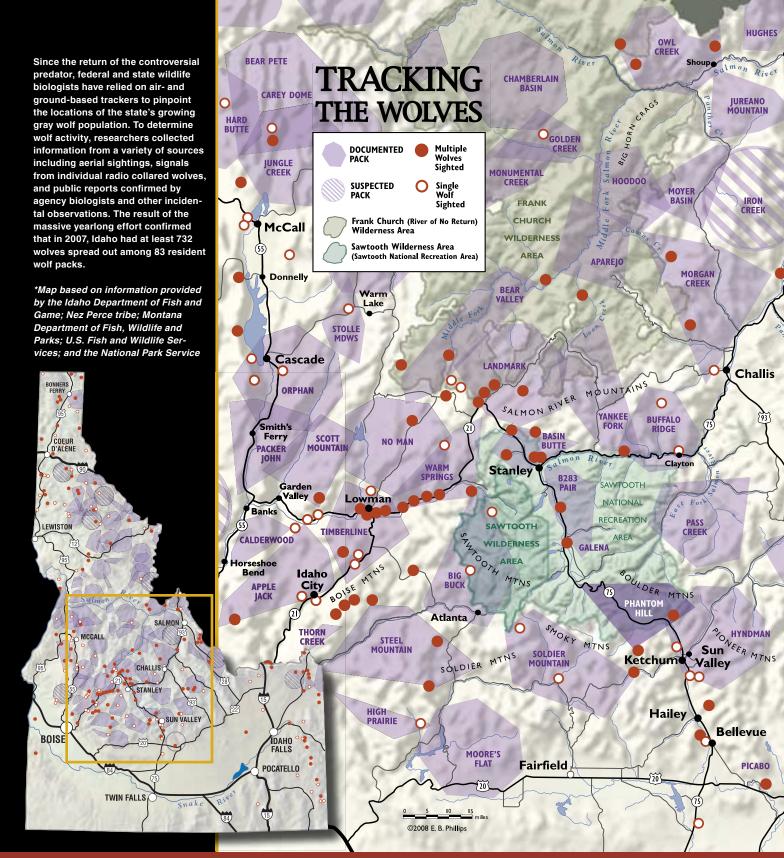


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Where the wolves roam

The Phantom Hill wolves are not the only pack residing within a few days' jaunt of the Wood River Valley. Idaho wolf packs' home ranges extend between 250 and 400 square miles. Range size is limited by encroachment from neighboring packs, and surrounding the Phantom Hill wolves are the Soldier Mountain, Galena, Pass Creek and Hyndman packs.

Fish and Game biologists believe the Phantom Hill range extends west and east of the Big Wood River into the Boulder and Smoky mountains and from Ketchum northwest to Galena Summit. While portions of this range are certainly remote, the

pack does not enjoy the security of wolves living in larger protected areas like Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park. For all of the glacier-carved basins and isolated mountain valleys that exist in their range, the Phantom Hill pack is never more than eight miles from the nearest road. Considering that biologists have seen southern Idaho wolves travel more than 20 miles over rough terrain in a single day, it becomes clear why the predators are so intertwined with the lives and livelihoods of the valley's human inhabitants.



heavily populated with wolves. Fears expressed were largely founded on folk-lore. "It's the wolf teaching them more than anything that they can live with wolves," Stone said.

Wolves are restructuring centuriesold ways of doing business in the West. Simple animal husbandry practices, such as removing sheep carcasses from the range, help ensure wolves don't get a taste for mutton. During the spring, when wolves are protecting their pups, they're highly territorial, Stone said. Ranchers have learned that at this time of year, guard dogs can actually draw wolves out if they encroach too closely on a den site.

The tireless wolf advocate is optimistic that time is on the wolves' side. One only has to look to Minnesota, which never lost its wolves and today has more than 3,000. There, wolves are treated like any other predator in the woods. She believes that as long as wolves are allowed to survive, it's only a matter of time before people in the Northern Rockies view them in a similar way. The first generation is the most hostile, the most afraid. "The next generation has actually experienced living with wolves," she said.

Since last summer, talk of retiring high-conflict grazing allotments north of Ketchum has increased. While nothing has been committed to publicly, local wolf advocates claim at least one sheep rancher has expressed interest in receiving payment to retire his north valley grazing rights. The idea is not without merit. Similar buyouts have occurred in other high-conflict areas around the West. Since 2002, the National Wildlife Federation has worked with federal land managers and ranchers to permanently retire 23 active grazing allotments surrounding Yellowstone National Park.

Continued on page 28

A chorus of wolf howls echoed from the nearby hills. "Pretty soon the wolves were howling all around us."

> Gary Tickner Ketchum bowhunter



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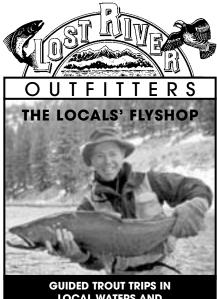
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hile bowhunting elk west of Ketchum near Castle Rock several autumns ago, local resident Gary Tickner and a friend had a dramatic wolf encounter. An experienced elk caller, Tickner was hunkered down cow-calling when a herd of elk began pouring through a saddle on a nearby ridge. The duo soon discovered they weren't the only hunters eyeing the elk. A chorus of wolf howls echoed from the nearby hills. "Pretty soon the wolves were howling all around us." Nostrils to the wind and ears perked, the herd sensed danger. Seconds later, they scattered. The hunters watched in awe as the herd ran away in unison. Tickner suspects the wolves were from an unknown pack.

Tickner doesn't believe wolves are decimating Idaho's elk herds, as many hunters claim. One possible explanation for Idaho's so-called missing elk is that they've simply become more challenging to pursue. Statewide, Idaho's elk numbered 107,600 in 2007, about 95 percent of Fish and Game's objective. The agency's own wolf management plan says that conflicts between wolves and elk and other ungulates in the region covering the

"I doubt a week or 10 days goes by when I don't get a wolf report."

> Lee Garwood Conservation officer Idaho Department of Fish and Game



Wood River Valley and the Lemhi and Lost River mountains are low.

In the past decade, Tickner has witnessed a profound change in the behavior of local elk. Not only do the large ungulates occupy different habitats, they've also become less vocal. He believes elk have wised up, realizing their calls attract wolves. More than once, a curious elk has snuck up on Tickner's hiding spot while he's calling. In the past, a bull elk responding to a hunter's call would come crashing through the brush like a runaway freight train, all the while releasing a volley of high-pitched bugles. "Now you might hear a little twig snap. They want to see what they're coming to."

Tickner welcomes these changes. He feels today's elk are a wilder and more challenging quarry, and that's good. He refuses to blame wolves for unsuccessful hunts, even though he spends more than 20 days afield with a tradi-

tional bow and arrow each year. "I always remember that it's the journey, not the destination." The dyed-in-the-wool hunter born to a northern California logging family feels a responsibility to defend wolves and the wild places they occupy. "In a world of chaos and disconnection, I can only hope that I will still hear the howl of a pack of wolves when I go hunting."

Most hunters do not share Tickner's passionate feelings toward wolves. Theirs is a passion of an entirely different sort. If the wolf delisting stands, hunters in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming will head to the hills this fall with wolf tags in hand. Little more than a decade after wolves' reintroduction, hunters will pursue them in our own backyard. How Idahoans respond remains to be seen.

omething curious happened after Wood River Valley residents learned wolves were living in their midst: Suddenly, it seemed everyone had a wolf story to tell. Many told of single black wolves roaming the hills north of Ketchum. Others told of a black wolf with a limp or a trio of wolves crossing the highway in the early morning hours. Some tales turned out to be false; some eyewitnesses had actually spotted the wolf's smaller cousins the coyote or, even, the fox.

Local Fish and Game officer Lee Garwood was suspicious of alleged sightings in the past, but not anymore. The veteran conservation officer's job has changed since the Phantom Hill wolves were discovered. "I doubt a week or 10 days goes by when I don't get a wolf report." This summer, Garwood will investigate reports that suggest an unknown pack resides in the mountains southwest of Ketchum. Mostly roadless, the area's extensive stands of timber, open sagebrush hillsides and clear streams are prime habitat for predators and prey alike.

At the far western end of Croy Canyon near Hailey, Jennifer and Kevin Swigert believe they live with the reality of this unknown pack.



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Call 208.726.8060 or visit www.sunvalleyguide.com/subs For several years now, the couple claims wolves have been a constant presence in their lives. Each night, Jennifer brings all 19 Swigert dogs indoors. According to Kevin, the only thing that's stopped wolves from harming their dogs has been Jennifer's vigilance and Happy, a habituated female covote that hangs around the couple's home. While their dogs go silent when wolves are near, Happy's yipping alerts everyone. "Nothing goes on around here without her knowing about it," Kevin said.

Are the Swigerts' concerns just the isolated fears of a solitary couple living in an area densely occupied by wolves? Bumper stickers on local roads that proclaim "Save 100 elk, kill a wolf" and "Wolves: government sponsored terrorists," suggest we haven't come to terms with the creature's presence. In a dogeat-dog world, wolves consider their domesticated cousins a threat, whether it's the neighbors' Chihuahua or their Great Dane. And in a community that loves its pooches as much as the Wood River Valley does, Kevin believes the near certainty of dog-wolf conflicts in Idaho's backcountry is a concern that cannot be discounted.

t may take years before valley residents know if they've learned to live side-byside with wolves. A similar prospect faces state wildlife managers who are embarking on an experiment for which no amount of studying or speculation can fully prepare them. How will so hierarchical a species as the wolf react to the removal of its dominant alpha pair by hunters? Many wolf experts believe the loss of a dominant pair may send the remaining members of a splintered pack off to the four winds and into trouble. Idaho wildlife managers can look to Canada or Alaska for guidance, but in the end they will learn as they go.

Should authorities decide to eliminate the Phantom Hill pack, wolf advocates would undoubtedly protest. However, new wolves would almost certainly arrive to fill the void. In fact, other wolves may already be stealing about unseen through our woods. Being opportunists, these intelligent animals have a tendency to fill unused habitat soon after it becomes available. Shown the tolerance needed to make their homes and rear their pups, the gray wolves' lonesome howl will remain a part of the valley's landscape for years

to come. Mg



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A CONVERSATION WITH

MARIEL HEMINGWAY

THE ACTRESS AND AUTHOR DISCUSSES FAMILY,

ILLNESS AND THE JOYS AND TERRORS OF GROWING UP IN THE SHADOW OF KETCHUM'S MOST FAMOUS NAME.

BY **DANA DUGAN**.
PHOTOS BY **DAVID N. SEELIG**.

"I DIDN'T WANT TO

GO CRAZY LIKE MY

SISTERS OR SHOOT

WANT TO BECOME

MYSELF. I DIDN'T

LIKE MY FAMILY."

hen we first glimpsed Mariel Hemingway, in the 1979 movie *Manhattan*, she was just a kid with impossibly long legs, a waif-like voice and guileless blue eyes. She played Woody Allen's teenage girlfriend—a red flag to his future proclivities perhaps. But it was the '70s, who cared? Mariel was radiant—the camera loved her. It still does, but her maturity can shock those who remember her as a teenage tomboy sitting in bed with Allen eating Chinese take-out.

Mariel has moved on and grown up. She is now a mother of two teenagers, a serious practitioner of yoga, a sought-after actress, lecturer and, like her father and legendary grandfather, an author.

A third-generation Ketchumite, Mariel is the daughter of Jack Hemingway and Byra Louise "Puck" Whitlock, a Boise-bred beauty Jack met in Sun Valley.

I met Mariel at a Ketchum tea house. She's just a regular gal, straightforward, fun and gossipy. I waited for an attitude that never came. Instead, her most marked characteristic is shyness.

"My mother married a pilot, who was shot down in World War II," Mariel said, settling into a wicker chair in the shade. After his death, "she moved back to Idaho. She wanted to be a stewardess, but was too tall at five-foot nine, so she worked at Sun Valley Lodge as a soda jerk. My father was a bellhop."

Mariel told the story in stride, delivering it matter-of-factly, though later she conceded some of the oddities of growing up as a Hemingway in Sun Valley.

"My father pursued her for five years. He wooed her. They married in Paris in the late

1940s," she said, pausing before delivering the kicker: "Julia Child was their maid of honor."

Mariel never knew her famous grandfather. Ernest Hemingway shot himself in Ketchum on July 2, 1961. Four months later, on November 22, Mariel, the youngest of Puck and Jack's three daughters, was born in Mill Valley, California. The second-generation Hemingways soon returned to Idaho.

"We moved here when I was four. We lived in town the first year. When we moved north of

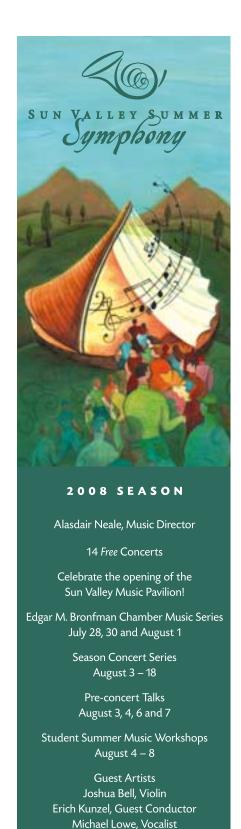
> town, my father could have bought the whole of the valley up north for \$20,000.

> "I went to preschool in Sun Valley and then to Ketchum Elementary. Then they built a new one and named it Ernest Hemingway Elementary. It was a pain in the ass. Kids thought I owned the school. They teased me," she said, before mock crying. "I'm seven years old! Leave me alone!"

Colorful memories stand out from a youth spent with neighborhood friends on the former Warm Springs Golf Course. Mariel can still picture real estate agent Sherry Daech's early fashion statements on the tennis courts: "She always had different-colored frilly pants," she said with a laugh. "My father taught me to drive at eleven, so he wouldn't have to drive me to town; most of the time I rode my bike everywhere. I was raised like an only child. Muffet (Joan) was 11 years older, and Margaux was seven years older. She (Margaux) was a kick-ass skier on the mountain—very social. She went to New York City, and the next time we saw her she was on the cover of People, then Vogue. It was very overwhelming; it was all very nuts."

What began as an idyllic and adventurous home life for the tomboy became increasingly





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difficult. Her mother was a daring cook with a flair for unusual dishes that still inform Mariel's love of food. But there was an unhappiness seeping into the family.

"My mother's first husband was prince charming in her mind," Mariel said. "She never got over (his death). It was a generation of people who didn't talk. There was a lot of drinking. After a while, we started eating in front of the TV."

Children who end up caretaking their parents and acting as a peacemaker often lose a part of their childhood. In that light, it's easy to understand why some grow up to become controlling or develop addictive personalities. Mariel grew up, in her words, "panicked."

Things didn't improve when her father joined forces with other community leaders to start Sam's School

lectual (Diane Keaton), the other an earnest 17-year-old high school student (Mariel). She knocked people's socks off with her portrayal and garnered an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress.

"Manhattan was the movie that saved me. I went into survival mode. I loved, loved it and had no idea what it meant."

After maturing into her next film, *Personal Best*, Mariel moved to New York full time and found work as a model before love drew her into the restaurant world.

"I met Stephen (Crisman) at Hard Rock Café. I said to my friend, 'I'm going to marry him.' I married him eight months later. It's been 23 years."

Crisman, now a documentary filmmaker, was a hip, young restaurateur in the 1980s. Together, the couple ran



(the precursor to today's Community School). It was the beginning of life in the spotlight for the young girl.

"Everybody knew everything about everyone. It was torturous. I was desperately shy, and I really wanted to act, but it was my secret. I was called Merts and Myrtle. I was long, skinny, insecure—and I wanted my mother.

"No one realized how sick she was then. She got cancer when I was 11. I ended up taking care of her. I couldn't concentrate (at school). I was madly in love with my mother. It was hell."

Acting became Mariel's escape from reality. "When I made *Manhattan*, Woody Allen treated me like I was an interesting person. I moved to New York. I wanted my parents to tell me not to go, but they didn't."

One of Allen's most witty and beautiful films, *Manhattan* is about a writer torn between two women, one an intel-

a few hot cafés named "Sam," her nickname at the time. New York life was a far cry from grilling fish with the family north of Ketchum.

"Those were the restaurant years," she said. "It was kind of cool. I did the food and décor. Bad fashion time," she said with a laugh. "We thought we were having fun but no one was spiritual. It was all about me, me, me."

After a time living in L.A., where Mariel focused on her acting career, the family moved back to Ketchum in the early 1990s. She opened the Sacred Cow Yoga Studio, and her daughters became the second generation of Hemingways to attend the school named for their celebrated great-grandfather.

Around the same time, Mariel's oldest sister Joan, known as Muffet, started showing signs of mental illness and was moved to Twin Falls, where she continues to live with a caretaker.

"I love her so desperately, but I don't know how to be there for her," Mariel said. "She was my idol—beautiful and intelligent. But I'm scared. It's a struggle. I fear for her."

In the mid-1990s, though she was living mostly in Ketchum where her daughters were in school, Mariel moved into a period of television mini-series work, including *Civil War* and *Central Park West*, the latter of which she says was the most painful experience she had "in the business." The show was a complete failure, and blame for its demise was placed squarely on Mariel's shoulders.

Through it all, yoga sustained her. "I first practiced yoga up here (in Sun Valley) with Richard Odom. Yoga had started to change me. It was enabling me to look at myself and slow down. I didn't want to go crazy like my sisters or shoot myself. I didn't want to become like my family. When Margaux died [of suicide in 1996], I thought 'Oh shit, I have to carry the torch."

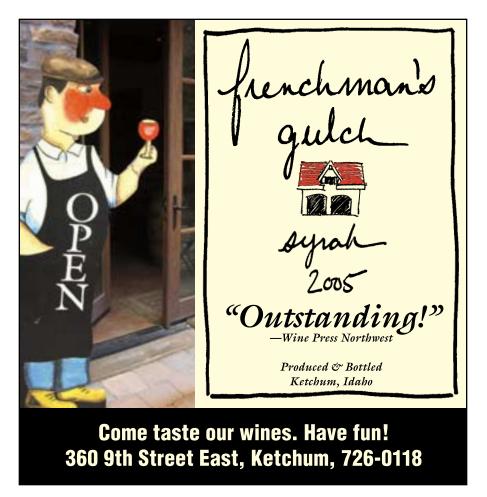
Mariel worked hard to keep herself mentally and physically healthy, but life had more to throw in her path. In 1999, while working on her first book, a memoir/self-help project called *Finding My Balance*, her husband received his first diagnosis of melanoma.

"The second time he got sick (in 2004), he wanted my help." Mariel advised her husband to look both inside and out. "We started looking at his life: home, food, exercise and silence." Crisman's cancer went into remission and Mariel took the lessons they learned as the genesis for her second book: Mariel Hemingway's Healthy Living From the Inside Out: Every Woman's Guide to Real Beauty, Renewed Energy and a Radiant Life, published in 2007. The book details a lifestyle that is centered and spiritual, but homey.

In Mariel's work as a lecturer, she expounds upon the ideas in her book, including the importance of self-realization. "Everybody has a road map into their personal health, but you have to ask questions to get there. I want to enable people to realize that they have a healthy, happy person inside them."

Mariel has had plenty of her own demons to contend with throughout the years. But through her determination not to pass on to her children what she calls the "extremism I'd inherited from my family—the running-of-thebulls approach to life encoded deeply in the Hemingway DNA," Mariel has discovered the better path.





35

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Surprises are a part of life, and a little drama lurks behind even the smoothest-looking "I Do." For Betsy Andrews Etchart. the biggest surprise was how many surprises there were. Photos by Kirsten Shultz.

hen Miles proposed a little over a year ago, he told me, "The wedding can be whatever you want. Surely you have ideas."

Actually, I hadn't given it much thought since the '92 Albertville Olympics, which I watched between fittings for a gown my mother was sewing for my planned July nuptials. A month later, I shocked my family, my friends and myself by calling the whole thing off. Mom stowed the gown on a closet shelf, and 18 months later I discovered my ex-fiancé was in another relationship, this time with Chad. Talk about surprises. I was surprised when 15 years passed in a soulmate vacuum. And just when I'd embraced a life shaped not by bouquets and babies but books, I was surprised again when Miles appeared.

My idea of the perfect wedding was simple: informal yet elegant, an intimate afternoon party, outdoors in the peak of autumn when Ketchum slows down, the workforce isn't so harried and aspen leaves gild the blue sky. I would plan it myself, and there would be no surprises.

Amanda Farley Seaward, whose Sun Valley company, Absolute Weddings, has been overcoming the unexpected for six years, said her job was "to organize and plan for everything, so that when the unexpected comes up, we're in a better position to tackle it."

When, she said; not if.

When your fiancé has four siblings and nine nieces and nephews, a guest list under 40 becomes impossible. When you're engaged in December to a man who lives two states away and you'd like to start your life there as soon as possible, an autumn wedding becomes impractical. And when Miles nixed October for March, an outdoor wedding became out of the question.

"Outside," I said firmly, and we settled on a date in early June, aware that raindrops—or snowflakes—might fall alongside our confetti.

I envisioned a dramatic but homey venue. Friends in Elkhorn offered their lawn with its panoramic view of the Boulders. Another suggested her lush Bellevue spread. But to my surprise, my normally easygoing mother was adamant: We should tie the knot in her backyard. I pictured my parents' mid-valley acre, woodsy and wild, the way my father liked it; a bit too wild for me.

"We settled on a date in early June, aware that raindrops—or snowflakes—might fall alongside our confetti."

Every day my mother called with landscaping ideas. My sister Susan, whose petite Hailey garden was a horticultural wonder, offered to help. She reminded me that the lilac and spirea would explode with blossoms the first week of June. Susan promised to supervise strategic plantings and lead major pruning efforts on Dad's feral foliage. Miles grooved on the natural vibe of my parents' place, and the idea of celebrating in a setting that harbored years of warm memories grew on me. I pictured tables topped with my antique quilts and vintage jars brimming with wild roses from my sister's garden. My 3-year-old twin niece and nephew, serving as flower girl and boy, would feel at home, raising the odds of good





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"My breasts began an alarming exploration of territories beyond the corset edging."

behavior. When the universe—or your family—tosses a good thing your way, grab it. Chez Andrews it would be.

Choosing an officiant was the next unforeseen challenge. We met and passed on some, while others, shockingly, passed on us. Then, in the Yellow Pages, under Abundant Life Ministry, we found Tito Rivera. We liked his faith, his positive energy and the fact that he would squeeze in our ceremony on the day he'd organized the Wood River Valley's largest soccer tournament. Through a thick Puerto Rican accent, he gamely practiced pronouncing the "s" on Miles' name.

Not a week went by that I wasn't surprised by the generosity of others. When I tried to hire my friend the former professional pastry chef, she agreed to assemble my vision of chocolate, berries and flowers—but insisted it would be her gift. For the rehearsal dinner, a commercial fisherman pal offered to fly in fresh king salmon from the Oregon coast.

Choosing the reception menu seemed blissfully straightforward. We hired my friend Lauren Carr to work her culinary wonders, and I would make pumpkin raviolis to accompany her spread. I knew that the groom's half-Basque clan would approve of my choice of local Lava Lake lamb for the entrée. With so few guests, all of whom we knew so well, one entrée would suffice. But when vou discover over Easter dinner that your fiancé's mother does not eat lamb, you invite the salmon to the wedding. There would be two entrées.

As for my gown, Mom and I raided her closet, and I found that no bad memories clung to the gossamer silk she had sewn years before. It still fit perfectly. I found a costumer in Seattle who fashioned a corset to top it off.

Invitations? I only needed 21, and I wanted them to reflect my love of nature and the arts. After perusing sample books the size of ottomans, I decided to make them myself. I modeled the six-piece invite after medieval illuminated manuscripts—the exquisite hand-scripted tomes that monks toiled

over before Gutenberg invented the printing press. I arranged my light box and watercolors and gold-leafing set and spray-mount adhesive and 326 pieces of paper on the kitchen counter.

When someone invents a printing press, use it. After a week illuminating, my mood darkened. I was only half finished, the ravioli dough was still languishing in the freezer and I was tired—all the time. I wondered if....

I was pregnant.

When trying to conceive, don't be surprised to find yourself pregnant, even if you have the dinosaur eggs of a 39-year-old. Soon enough, my breasts began an alarming exploration of territories beyond the corset edging. As my figure bloomed, so did my parents' spirea and lilac, followed promptly by a late-May frost. Buds from East Fork to Hailey browned and withered. There went my perfect backdrop.

Less than three weeks before the wedding, Seaward's words—"You can't plan for everything"—took on new meaning. When you are in your first trimester, you don't plan around the 20 percent chance of what medical professionals call a "spontaneous abortion." With 20 days to go and 40 days worth of details to attend to, at almost seven weeks pregnant, I miscarried. My mother tightened the corset laces. But I was exhausted—and sad.

In the days that followed, I became confused—was the wedding still on? Oh, yes—it was the pregnancy that wasn't. The fact that a wedding is mostly just a big party struck with full force. So did the import of what I was about to do. Inviting so much joy into my life also opened the dark door to loss. Welcome to the rest of your life.

The bridesmaids arrived, and as they threw themselves into their tasks, they helped me regain my momentum. They ran errands, compiled a dance track with songs from *Grease*, taught me how to waltz and weed-whacked while my sister fought hard with our father for pruning rights. The raviolis could wait another day.

With four days to go, eight of us girls retreated to Stanley for 24 hours of pampering at a local spa. Were there more productive things we could have been doing? You bet.

"How about your wild rice and sugar snap pea salad instead of raviolis?" I asked Lauren. "You got it," she said.

On the way home from the spa, my sister and I rode Fisher Creek—my last singletrack as a single woman. Layered in wool and windbreakers, we wound through the forest until, at the top, we found ourselves in the previous summer's burn. Snow lay upon the blackened trunks like a salve, and thousands of lupine poked purple heads above the charred ground. We wheeled through the cold, silent landscape, grateful for the reminder of beauty and rebirth.

The rehearsal: The threatening storm stalled in the Sawtooths, and down valley we baked in the sun. Someone suggested we have the ceremony under the tent. Someone else suggested we face a different direction. Miles inadvertently insulted the bridesmaids, who were almost swallowed by an out-of-control lilac bush. The twins cried and cried. I wanted to join them.

"That's what dress rehearsals are for," my mother assured me, reciting the old Broadway adage that when the dress rehearsal reeks, opening night will shine. If true, our marriage was set to be a classic with a run longer than *Cats*.

June 9, 2007 dawned cool and calm and clear. Roses, lavender and scabiosa burst from the perennial garden; poppies nodded from the berms; clematis climbed from a planter amidst springgreen sweet potato leaves.

The bouquets arrived, perfect except for the groom's boutonniere, which wasn't a cornflower, but a purple freesia. There was no time to worry; guests were assembling. Then the twins were sprinkling the aisle with rose petals and grinning shyly. And then I was counting under my breath so my steps would be in sync with those of my father, who hadn't said a word about the pile of lilac branches behind the garage. And Padre Tito was pronouncing Miles—complete with the s—and I "husband and wife."

When I look through photographs, I regret that Miles' boutonniere is not cornflower blue. But its purple blossoms will always remind me of the surprise of lupine peeking from the ashes and snow of Fisher Creek.

Betsy has since joined her husband in Arizona. They are expecting a baby boy in July.







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or a man whose life is neatly diced into 20-year increments, Bob Jonas is unpredictable, his whereabouts suspect. For 35 years, he referred to the Wood River Valley as his base camp. He bounced between Alaska, Yellowstone and the Sawtooths, often at times of year when no one else would go to these places. The Brooks Range in April was minus 40 Fahrenheit. It snowed sideways on the Middle Fork of the Salmon in March. A self-proclaimed hobo, his grail the essence of North American wilderness, Jonas managed to remain not quite homeless in Sun Valley. He raised a daughter here, built a business and, later, an organization.

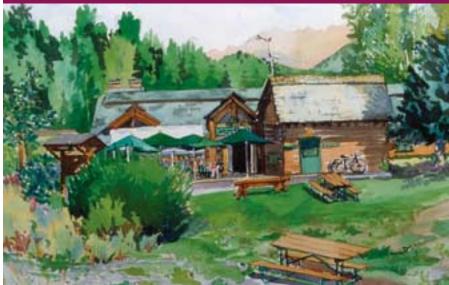
At 66, Jonas is limber and strong. His head is pitched forward at the neck, his blue-gray eyes

warm and keen. Eight years ago he sold Sun Valley Trekking to fully devote himself to his outdoor leadership program.

"Wild Gift," he said, "is not Outward Bound." The application process is rigorous, and recipients are leaders of proven merit. "Leaders," Jonas said, "can exact the most impact." Wild Gift's purpose is to foster what Jonas terms "wildlands preservation" and "sustainable human communities." To those ends, applicants need solid proposals for a yearlong project. Upon acceptance, the annual class of five is briefed for a wilderness trek: three weeks in August covering ground in Idaho wildernesses such as the Sawtooths, the White Clouds and the "Frank" (the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness). After



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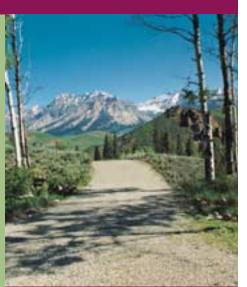
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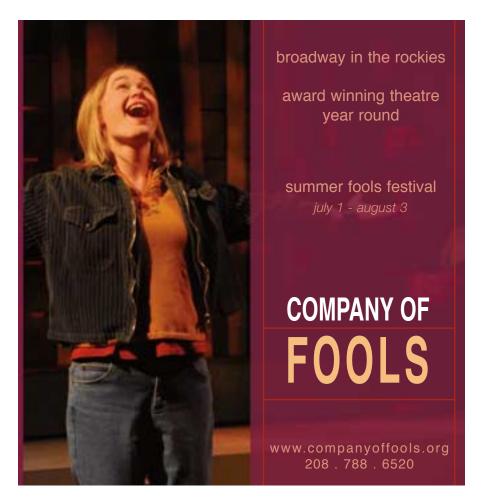


BLAINE COUNTY RECREATION DISTRICT



T0P: Bob Jonas on Alaska's White River, in the Wrangell Mountains, on a month-long solo trek in 1986. **BOTTOM:** Jonas recharges in his home office, March 2008.

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24-hour Airport Noise Abatement Center (208) 788-4956 • Airport Manager's Office www.flysunairport.com the trip, recipients part ways and head home, funds in hand, to work on their projects. A year later, they return to Idaho to summarize their work.

On the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in 2007, two '06 Wild Gift recipients returned to Idaho to report on their projects. Jonas pulled together two board members, three alums and me to complete the trip. It was September, cool and damp, the termination of a severe fire season that had closed the river a month before.

Gift recipient Emily Owen was unfazed by the weather. The 24-yearold had come from southern Chile and a relentlessly wet austral winter. In Chile, the young Oregonian is a mapping engineer for the World Wildlife Fund and moonlights as a freelance translator. With Wild Gift's help, she created Conservation Initiative Consulting to help a network of rural landowners form a cluster of private protected areas. Through the smoke of our wood fire, Owen was animated as she flung colorful maps at us and reeled off the results of her project. Her consulting firm had developed a replicable, community-based, private conservation model. It was a step toward her long-range goal of establishing conservation legislation.

Lauren Baumann, 27, dubbed her Wild Gift project "Lighten the Load." Its mission was to increase environmental performance and reduce the operating costs of affordable housing while improving the health of low-income residents. Intensely focused and articulate, Baumann cited the nexus between urban sustainability and wildlands preservation. As vice president of New Ecology Inc., a Cambridge, Massachusetts, nonprofit that promotes sustainable development in low-income communities, she continues to develop the program.

Last winter Jonas turned over the directorship of Wild Gift, passing the torch—and the paperwork—to the next generation. Wild Gift alum Jenna Ringelheim, 27, left a position with the Trust for Public Land in Boston, Massachusetts, and moved to the Wood River Valley to assume the Wild Gift helm last fall. Tech-savvy and energetic, she directs the nonprofit show, allowing Jonas more time to roam.

Liberated from files of longhand script, the records of a lifelong search for turf and meaning, Jonas returned to the wilderness, escorting board members or potential donors down the floodstage upper reaches of some unknown fork of the Owyhee River, walking and talking with recipients through the Frank in August as it blazes away, and howling at the moon over the Middle Fork's Impassable Canyon.

"Everyone seems to agree," said Pete Land. "Bob has a certain wisdom born of his vast experience in the wilds." Land, 30, was the Wild Gift prototype. After graduating from Dartmouth, he took a job as educational director at the Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary in Minnesota. It was there, through serendipity and a shared affinity for bears, that he met Jonas, who was drawn to the young man's energy and asked Land if he'd been to Alaska. Land said no. They exchanged cards and parted ways. Several months later, when he was in graduate school at Yale, Land received a call from Idaho.

The next summer, Land was on the Yukon River with Andy Bassich, one of Jonas' iconoclastic friends living alone

in the Alaskan bush. The hermit from New Jersey lived in a tiny cabin beside the wide river with his dogs, deeply ensconced in a distinctly antisocial subsistence lifestyle. Jonas had homesteaded in Alaska and considered it an essential wilderness experience for a youngster like Land. Somehow, he convinced Bassich to take the grad student in and put the boy to work. Wild Gift was still a malleable concept then, and Land was the guinea pig.

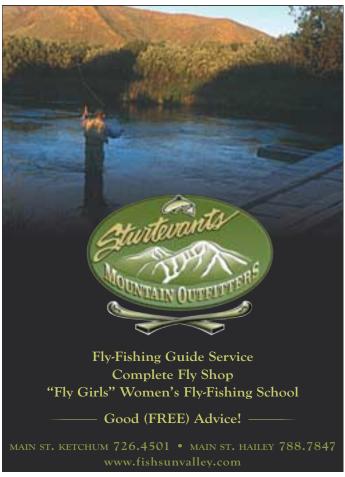


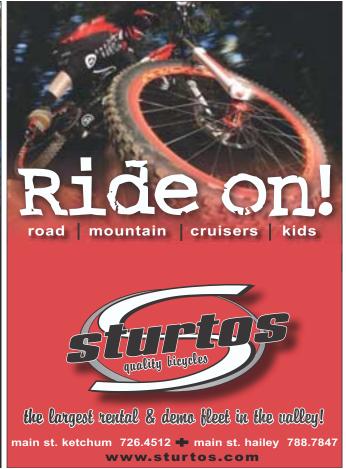
Land described Bassich as a terrifying but wonderful teacher and, while he valued the experience, he told Jonas that such survival training was an unmanageable liability. The Wild Gift vision, Land counseled, needed to be refined. Jonas listened. From its inception, the program has been like this: an interactive experience, a floating, roving think tank bent on its own evolution for the sake of a better world.

Thanks to Land, Wild Gift's Web site was recently overhauled. In recent updates, Jonas places ever more emphasis on network building as a core part of Wild Gift's mission. Educated and inspired by his youthful beneficiaries, the elder hobo and guide is speaking in terms he would not have used five years ago. "As you age," Jonas said, "there's a desire to give back. Wilderness has been capital in

that regard to me."

Jonas is not your typical Sun Valley philanthropist, and the capital he refers to is another type of commodity, one increasingly rare and precious. By offering it up to a select few, he's tapped a network of young people who share his passions for the wild gifts of this world, each knowing that on these wooded paths, that which is given is sustained through time.







the accidental athlete

Jon Duval tracks endurance champion Rebecca Rusch's humble pursuit of pain. Photos by David Campbell.

hen Rebecca Rusch joined her high school cross-country team, she had no inkling of the impact her decision would have on the rest of her life.

"My neighbor said I wouldn't get fat," said Rusch, who moved to Ketchum five years ago after leading a peripatetic lifestyle for nearly a decade. "And that I would get a free sweat suit. That sold me."

Despite such modest intentions, her results have been anything but common. She has ditched high school's gray

cotton sweats for Lycra, running shoes for clipless pedals and track meets for world championship mountain bike races. Today, Rusch is one of the world's elite endurance athletes.

"I originally wanted to try hurdles and sprints, but my coach had me run the two-miler, and I started to find out that I was good at things that are really long," Rusch said. "In that way, all of this kind of found me."

"All of this" is Rusch's humble euphemism for an extraordinary résumé: top finishes in grueling paddling and adventure races, national

championships in mountain biking and orienteering, and in 2007, reaching the pinnacle of her career by winning the 24-hour Solo World Championship in mountain biking.

Rusch has recently branched into other endurance sports. On a whim, she entered the 2008 Nordic Ski Masters World Cup and, with only a few years experience, won her division.

"The motivation? I haven't been able to clearly answer that myself," she said about her choices to compete in some of the most physically demanding sports devised since the Greeks honored Zeus at Olympia. "If something is simply fun and easy, it ends up being not that much of an achievement." Rusch seeks instead to define and extend her mental and physical limits. "Maybe this is the modern-day explorer in all of us," she said.

The sweep of her achievements is slowly dawning on her. When cycling sponsor Specialized invited her to Cali-

> fornia for a photo shoot with four fellow world champions, she allowed herself a moment of satisfaction.

> "Here I am standing next to the best road cyclist in the world, Paolo Bettini from Italy, and I start to realize that they can't do what I do, and that I must actually be good at it," she said this spring, hurriedly knocking back a coffee before departing for South Africa for a sevenday, 600-mile mountain bike stage race. April's trip illustrates another reason she

wills herself to the sacrifices of sweat and suffering: "Sports are an amazing way to travel." From Idaho to New Zealand to Kyrgyzstan, Rusch has chased athletic pain around the globe. This July she heads off to Canmore, Alberta, to defend her 24-hour Solo World title. "You see and experience things no tourist ever would. You also learn a lot about yourself."

"If something is simply fun and easy, it ends up being not that much of an achievement."

the local's line





I spend a lot of time training for my job as an endurance bike racer. It might sound easy to get on a bike to be at work, but there are plenty of days when bad weather, lack of motivation or weak legs make my work day as difficult as the next. I can choose not to show up, but I'll pay for it months later with lousy performance and lost wages. The beauty of exploring the Wood River Valley on a mountain bike lies in the huge menu of options. I have only scratched the surface of what's available, but here are a few of my current close-to-home favorites.

the quickie

Traverse Trail on Baldy: Up River Run-Down Warm Springs - Bike path home



Time: I hour

When I don't have much time and just need to get sweaty and get my heart pumping, the Quickie is my old standby. You can knock this out in about an hour if you don't mess around or socialize with too many friends along the way. River Run is a fantastic climb that's not too steep and has great switchbacks for working on your handling skills. You finish the climbing on the front end and then rip down one of the best descents in the whole valley. These trails are buffed and flow beautifully. It's a fast and fun 10 miles; just be heads up for hikers and dogs. The vibe up there is always social, and you're back home in no time.

the fitness test

Corral Creek – Pioneer Cabin – Johnstone – Bear – Parker Gulch



Time: about 6 hours

You can hit this ride straight from town without even getting in your car. Boasting two very long climbs totaling 6,000 feet, the Test has the most elevation gain of any town-accessible ride. While short on mileage, it's long on time. This is a true test; there is no hiding and uphill speeds are often just 3 mph. But with backcountry views into the Pioneer Mountains and sweet singletrack downhill, you are hugely rewarded at the end. It definitely won't feel like you're just a few miles from Highway 75 and Grumpy's.

the add on

Heidelberg Hill – Adams Gulch – Hulen Meadows – Fox Creek – Chocolate Gulch – Oregon Gulch



Time: your call!

This may be far from secret, but I have never been anywhere else in the world with such a killer system of interconnected trails. The beauty of this spider web on the valley's west wall is that you can ride perfect singletrack for 45 minutes, six hours or anywhere in between and rarely ride over the same section of trail twice. You'll find climbing, swoopy descents, great views and, once again, you can access all of this right from town. If you're feeling light, you can turn home or, if you feel like a rock star that day, you just keep adding on!

Rusch learned a lot about herself three years ago in Utah at her first 24-hour team race. She entered 24 Hours of Moab at the behest of her friends, Muffy Ritz and Karoline Droege, names not far removed from Rusch's in the annals of local athletic achievement.

"It sounded heinous at first," Rusch said of a full day in the saddle, adding that she had always considered cycling the weakest part of her adventure racing arsenal. But in the 24th hour, with team Ketchum If You Can trailing in second, Rusch turned in a blistering final lap, "putting the hammer down" to set the women's course record that day and overtake first place by 11 minutes. The explorer had crossed into yet another frontier.

A year later, Rusch entered her first 24-hour solo race in Spokane, Washington. At registration, she was an unknown, just some girl from Idaho. Twenty-four hours later, she had beaten every man, woman and team on a bike. She was faster than 18 four-person teams, more than two hours faster than the next closest woman, and 25 minutes faster than the speediest man. "I've done well in the men's field before, but I've never beaten everybody," she said after the win in June 2006. A year after this breakout rookie performance, she earned her World Champion rainbow jersey in

Laguna Seca, California.

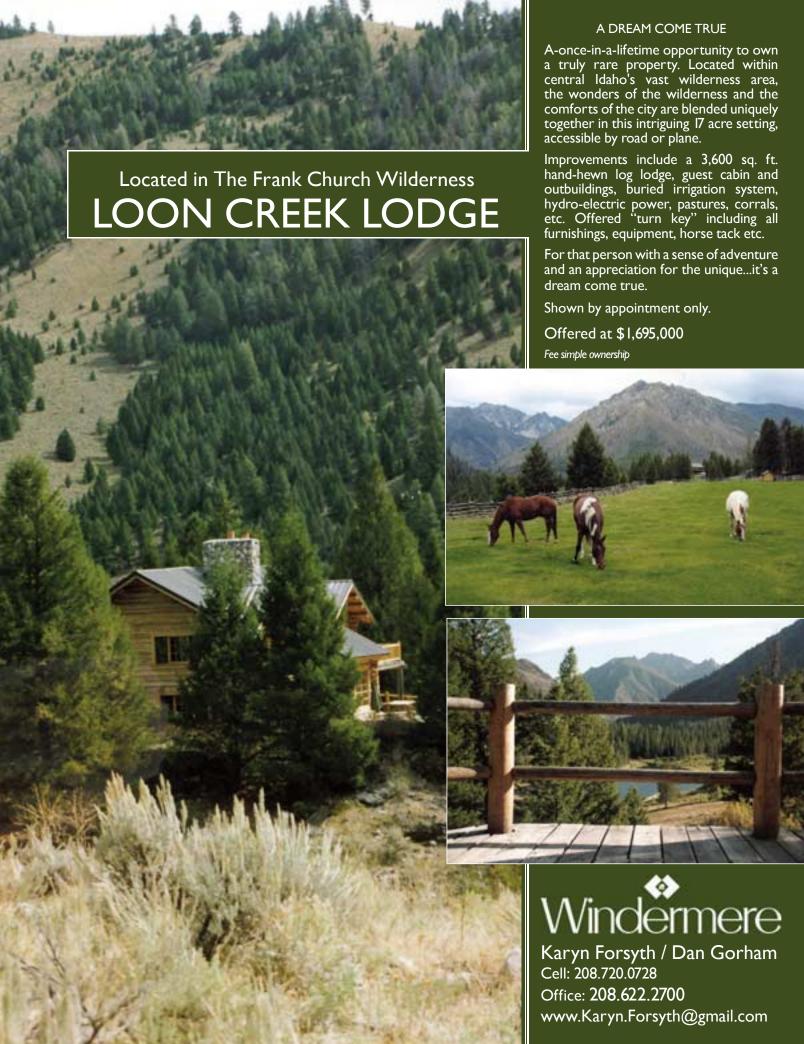
Looking back, Rusch sees a career that could have evolved differently. "I'm an accidental athlete," she said. Before finding her cycling niche, she briefly considered running 100-mileultra-marathons. But with the ongoing backing of Red Bull, the energy drink company that remains one of her biggest sponsors, Rusch was free to explore other sports (endurance mountain biking for instance), rather than being forced into a regular job to pay the bills.

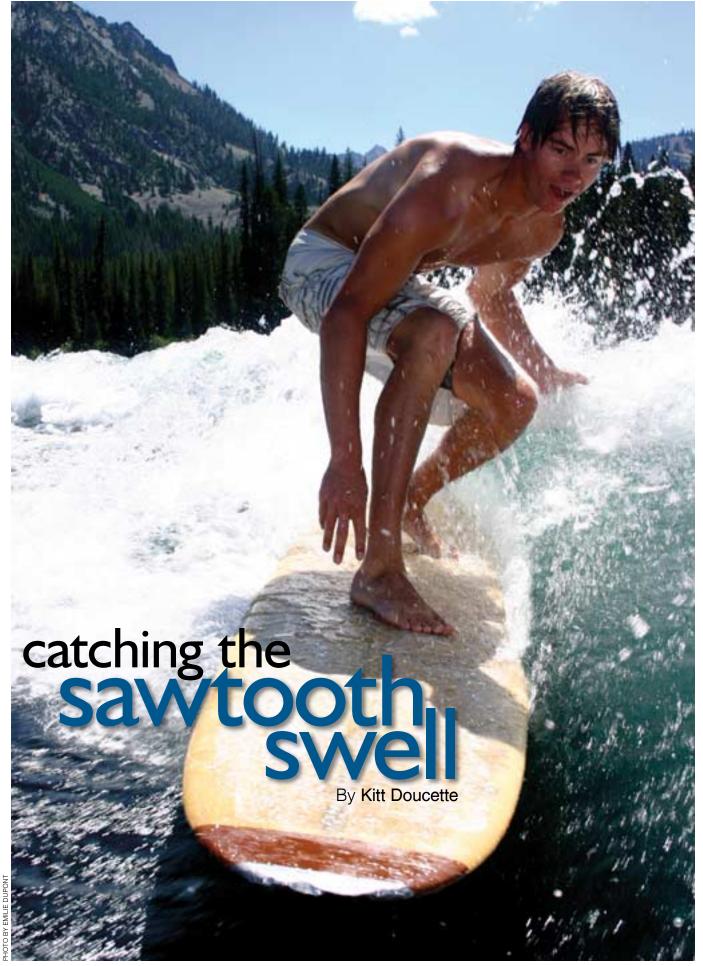
At registration, she was an unknown, just some girl from Idaho. Twenty-four hours later, she had beaten every man, woman and team on a bike.

This summer, during the Montezuma's Revenge 24-hour mountain bike race in Colorado, Rusch will turn 40. Talking about age draws a laugh as she gestures at her surroundings. "People around here are all 10 years younger than they actually are. And I don't mean they just look it; they are actually 10 years younger," she said. "Everyone's out there constantly doing stuff, from biking to skiing to hiking. There's a collective mentality that if you don't use it, you'll lose it."

This mentality, along with what she calls "perfect terrain for training," provides a home base for the typically itinerant Rusch. She is part of the community; for more than two years she has been a stalwart volunteer emergency medical technician and firefighter for the Ketchum Fire Department, and a homeowner. On breaks from her race schedule, she works on her condominium, though the domestic idea continues to bemuse her; the last home she owned was a 1975 Ford Bronco.

"Other than that, I don't have any long-term plans," Rusch said. "Well, except just staying healthy."





48

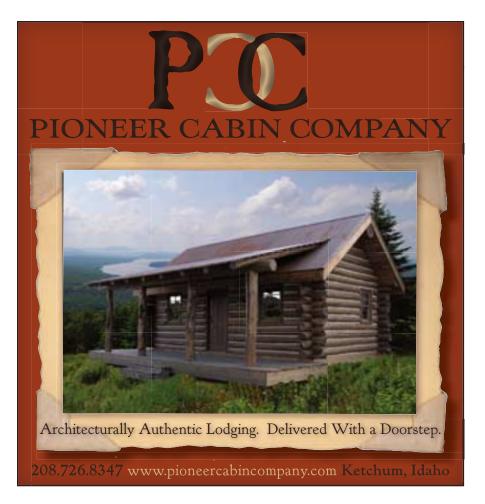
he sun rises slow over Pettit Lake. Picturesque mountain peaks duplicate in the morning water's still glass as a handful of friends gather on a wooden dock. Somebody is speaking in a mixture of surf slang and country twang: "I reckon it's gonna be two feet and glassy all day long." The dialect is as incongruous as the day's sport: longboard surfing a lake hundreds of miles from the nearest ocean swell.

Wake surfing is no new phenomenon; Hawaii's surfing pioneers rode wakes in Honolulu Harbor when the ocean relaxed. Some enterprising Texans have gained notoriety for riding the wakes often several miles long-of giant oil tankers in the Gulf of Mexico.

In central Idaho's Sawtooth Valley, longboard lake surfing can be traced back to two brothers and their dad's 1964 Hansen longboard. Jim and John Grossman grew up traveling between Santa Monica's sun-kissed beaches and Idaho's whitewater rivers. Their father, Sam Grossman, was an early Malibu surfer and a lifelong Idaho kayaker who instilled his taste for nontraditional sports in both sons at an early age. In the early 1980s, Jim brought his father's 1964 longboard to Idaho on a whim. Envisioning shredding for hours on never ending whitewater play waves, he strapped the Hansen onto his car roof and toured Idaho for a summer, surfing waves and turning heads on rivers like the Payette and Salmon.

Two decades later, Jim's younger brother, John, was gearing up for his own kayak trip when he discovered the old board buried deep in the recesses of the family garage. The fiberglass was yellowing and the deck was covered in candle wax, but the old V-fin was still rock solid. He grabbed the board, and once again the relic toured Idaho's back roads and rivers.

On the way home from one such trip, John Grossman stopped to meet his older brother at their family cabin







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on Pettit Lake. The brothers were swapping Idaho river surf stories when an idea took hold: riding the old board behind the ski boat, using its small wake to propel them. If it could be done in Texas, it could be done here. A gang hit the water to test the theory; the Sawtooth Surf Team was born.

Landlocked thrill seekers have been wake surfing for years, and these days many ride short, maneuverable boards behind boats equipped to amplify wake heights. But as that high-adrenaline brand of the sport spidered throughout America's interior, the far-from-official Sawtooth Surf Team made longboard surfing a mainstay on central Idaho's high alpine lakes.



Previous: Carlo Rixon finds the fall line on Pettit Lake. Above: The Sawtooth surf team rides all types of boards, but the one ridden most remains the '64 Hansen, and the team's most infamous maneuver was pioneered by John Grossman: hanging five while pounding a cold beer.

The sun is creeping higher into the Sawtooth's infinite azure ceiling, and a surfer in a cowboy hat glides across a ski boat's wake on the Grossmans' relic board. After just one session, the appeal of lake surfing becomes as clear as Pettit Lake itself. With no ropes and low impact and as much fun to watch as it is to do, surfing pristine alpine lakes is a joy born of improbability. It's no wonder surfboards have become fixtures on wakes spreading throughout the Gem State.

ECASINO

THE LAST ORIGINAL BAR IN KETCHUM



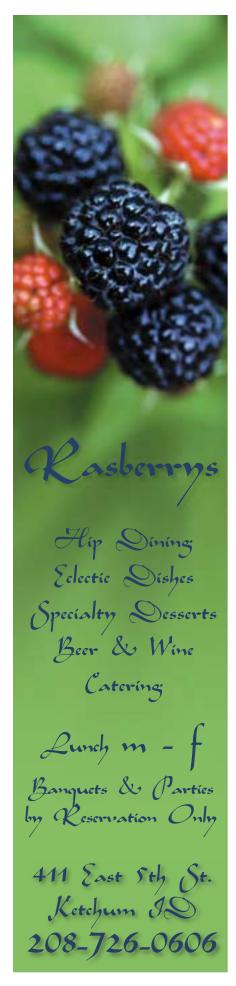
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or 30 years, Gary Goodenough has hoodwinked friends into believing his business is real work. The truth? Goodenough works in a mischievous house of mirth showcasing the off-kilter humor of a serious entrepreneur.

Goodenough's alter ego is Grumpy's, the legendary Ketchum burger-beer hangout that celebrates tasteless décor while thumbing its nose at business tradition. Despite accepting no credit cards, owning no telephone and accepting exactly zero reservations, Grumpy's has outlived a generation of restaurant failures in the Wood River Valley.

Grumpy's is a "hamburger joint," Goodenough says without pretense, named, he says with a wink, for "my dynamic personality."

But Grumpy's is far more than that. To thousands who flock every year

to the noisy, 960-squarefoot remodeled home, it's a social happening. It's a convivial meeting place where friendships are made and the dress code is relaxed, where an eclectic gathering might simultaneously include a movie star, politicians, construction workers and sightseers gaping at the wacky atmosphere.

Wyoming's then-U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson popped behind Grumpy's counter as an impromptu bartender for a wedding party. Some of stardom's finest-Tom Hanks, Clint Eastwood, Martin Short, Arte Johnson, Ed Marinaro and Bruce Springsteen have dropped in, barely noticed. Going incognito is all part of the respect for relaxation.

Grumpy's throughout is the personification of Goodenough's low-key take on life. Even his name lends itself to satirical irony—as in, "Life's Good-Enough for me."

Tucked between a hut-sized Laundromat (also owned by Goodenough) and a two-story home turned office, Grumpy's humble gray home is a portrait of shabby chic. At the entrance walkway, a small hand-painted sign hints at things to come: "Sorry, we're open," it deadpans. Customers carry on, climb five iron grate steps and open a weatherworn wooden door to enter a world that might prompt wonder, such as, "What in the world. . . .!?"

Six, six-person booths and 14 bar

stools are occupied by knots of kibbitzing friends soaking up happy hour. A standing-room-only crowd fills the free floor space and engages in animated, high-decibel conversations with schooners or bottles of beer in hand. Others mill around the pool table (50 cents per game) and keep the jukebox blaring.

Add arcade games and four TV sets and the din is a cacophonous brew of inharmonious merriment. Considering the patrons' ample beer intake, it's astounding that in 30 years Goodenough has ejected only four or five rowdies.

But loud conversation and a packed house aren't what jar the senses on a first visit. Grumpy's "museum" of eccentric artifacts and mementos, which Goodenough has solicited for three decades, is the real eye-popper.

Ninety-nine bottles of beer on the

wall? Not even close. Try thousands of cans instead. The fad began when workmen remodeling the original house left empty beer cans on wall ledges. Today, Grumpy's walls are papered with cans of every conceivable age, size, color and country of origin, brands that even seasoned brew

aficionados have never encountered. Goodenough's most cherished are a 1930s "Sun Valley Beer" can with a neck and cap he keeps locked in a glass display case and a 1930s Budweiser can with instructions on how to use a can opener.

"Ninety-nine

on the wall?

bottles of beer

Not even close.

of cans instead."

Try thousands

As empty wall space diminishes, new objets de flotsam go to the ceiling. A large surfboard hangs over the cash register. Nearby a life-sized model of a "flying monkey" from the film The Wizard of Oz flies somewhere. Auto license plates, a random assortment of national flags (Sweden, Saudi Arabia), customer photos (most memorializing deep-sea angling triumphs), signs ("Occupancy Limited to 8,000") and mounted animals (sailfish, water buffalo, plastic hammerhead sharks, etc.) round out the interior design scheme.

And yes, Grumpy's restrooms are treasures of off-color graffiti and purple poetry. One anonymous Grumpy's male employee claims his women customers are more ingenious in their bawdy graffiti humor.

Since the late '70s, Grumpy's fare (burgers, fries, hot dogs, chili, cookies and milk) has remained virtually unchanged and faithful to Goodenough's strategy—"Keep it simple, stupid." He has so far resisted a devilish temptation to create a sign for fussy patrons: "If our food and service aren't up to your standards, please lower your standards."

But don't be misled. Behind this easy-going atmosphere is a meticulously managed business, prided on efficiency. Goodenough brought plenty of savvy to Grumpy's. He was bartending at Sun Valley's Ore House and running a meal truck for workers at construction sites when a local burger place named Harding's closed. Goodenough saw an opening and leaped into the breach.

Goodenough, 62, an ample man whose bushy gray mustache adds to his jocular persona, won't estimate how many burgers Grumpy's cooks have flipped. "Even a rancher won't tell you how many cows he has," he says dryly. But after 30 years, any reasonable guess puts the total at well over 1 million.

Grumpy's is no solo operation. Over time, Goodenough has sold Peter Prekeges, 43, onetime manager of Smoky Mountain Pizza, a 60 percent share of the joint. The two are a contrast—Goodenough laid back and droll, Prekeges high-energy and serious. The two are blessed with employees who remain unflustered, despite food orders coming from all directions amidst the distractions of a large, talkative crowd.

Is this Goodenough's training?

"Nope, their parents brought them up correctly."

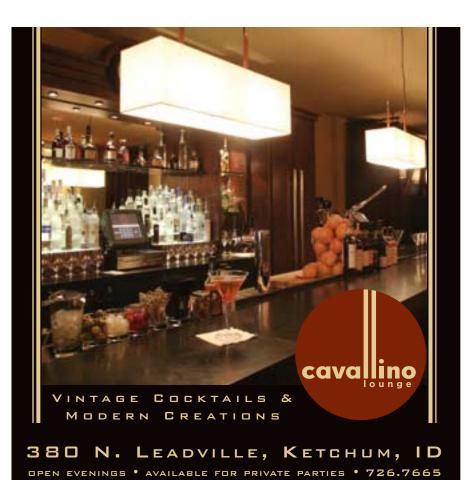
Rewk Warrum, Goodenough's California high school chum, is the senior barkeep and mentor for countless staffers moonlighting at Grumpy's from day jobs as ski patrolmen, teachers, fishing guides, carpenters or white-collar desk jockeys.

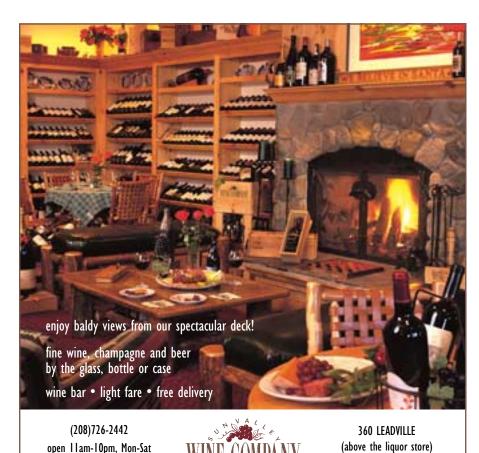
Perhaps not surprisingly, and in keeping with his "keep it simple" motto, Goodenough has never considered moving from the building he remodeled.

"It works just fine here," he says of his 30-year-old digs. "And besides, I love the landlord," he chuckles. "

Overheard at the Grump:

I don't know what was wrong with me the other night. I only drank four schooners, but I felt totally wasted. It was really weird.





12pm-7pm Sun

KETCHUM



ummer soups are a soothing seasonal delight that do the body good. When Callie and Maeme Rasberry added summer soups to the repertoire at their Ketchum bistro, Rasberrys, it was with a passion for health and cultural cuisine. Creating their own version of gazpacho, the classic cold Spanish soup, the twins could not help but devise it with an Idaho twist. In the summer, fresh ingredients are selected from regional farms through the Ketchum Farmers' Market and local food co-op Idaho's Bounty.

"It's Spanish, which fits the Rasberrys' menu because we are from Texas," Maeme said. "We use tomato, bell pepper, avocado, fresh corn, cucumber, basil and cilantro, but I leave it chunky."

Cold soup is never heated, just blended, pureed or chopped, a raw food lover's dream come true. "It's handmade, easy and fast," Maeme said. "Chilled soups are my favorite, because they are a refreshing and healthy meal using as much local produce as possible." Cold soups even entice kids to eat their vegetables, and in a rush, the vibrant red and green soups are fun takeout supped straight from the container at summer concerts.

"You can make any kind of gazpacho you want; you can add artichokes or jalapeños and chipotle peppers or sun-dried tomatoes," Maeme said. Using such unusual ingredients as melon, avocado and shrimp, Rasberrys offers a colorful variety of cold soups throughout the summer.

> Text by Sabina Dana Plasse Photos by Paulette Phlipot



olé: rosé

Part of the charm of a bowl of soup must be its soothing warmth. But when the mercury soars, who can recommend a thick, hearty stew? A shift in seasons calls for a style change to match. Give me a light soup in summer, a simple broth or a cool tangy gazpacho. Throw in a glass of wine, and I'll even join you; and I promise to finish the wine.

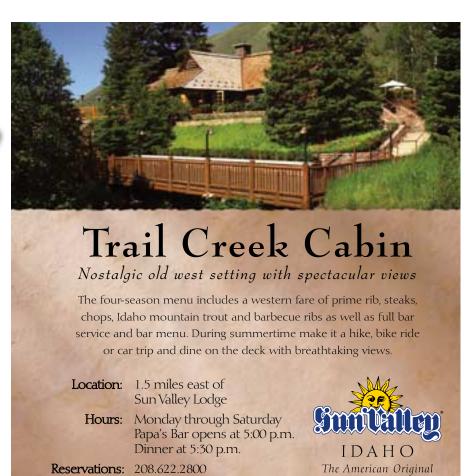
Gazpacho, with its mix of peppers, cucumber, onions and spices, is a tough wine match, but the cue should come from the tomato. The soup's high acidity calls for the same in a wine, and when in doubt, pick a bottle from your recipe's country of origin. A Spanish Albariño would do nicely, and the 2006 Santiago Ruiz, an Albariño blend priced under \$20, makes a great choice.

The Rasberry twins' gazpacho, a rustic take with a few surprises, would do well with an Albariño, but the corn and avocado help tame the acidity and open the door for a variety of different wines. One of my favorite summer sips is a nicely chilled rosé. We're not talking some insipidly sweet pink like white Zinfandel, but one that's refreshingly crisp and dry. They are the summer wines of choice where the weather is hot, and some of my favorites come from the south of France, any number of which have found their way to Idaho.

Most rosés are a blend of grapes, primarily Grenache and Syrah with a little Mourvèdre or Cinsault thrown in for good measure. The 2007 Domaine de la Petite Cassagne, with its dark raspberry fruit and bright acidity, is a great example. Or look for the 2007 Mas de Guiot, a remarkably fresh and fruity wine. The 2007 Mas des Bressades is light and charming with lovely strawberry notes. And the 2007 Chateau Grande Cassagne offers fresh raspberry fruit with a hint of lime and cranberry. Any of these would do well paired with the twins' gazpacho, and since they are all priced around 10 bucks, your wallet won't suffer while your palate is thanking you.

—David Kirkpatrick

Idaho native David Kirkpatrick has worked in the wine business for 30 years. For the last 20, he has lent his expertise to the Boise Co-op Wine Shop. He writes the Wine Sipper column for the Boise Weekly.





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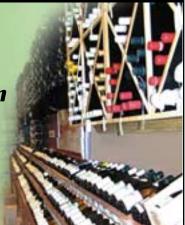
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S U N V A LL E Y S U N O A LL E Y Mountain tour for

Mountain town fashion is decidedly schizophrenic. Rookie visitors are apt to bring clothing that skews to the practical (read: boring). But many women—no matter how athletic—demand a bit more style. It's not all about the gear.

Mountain fashion must be versatile: fit for hiking and the wine bar, biking and the symphony. Accessories are vital. Sporty, fashion-forward sandals that last comfortably through the days and nights are de rigueur in this hot, dry climate. And when the sun is high and fierce, don't forget the shades. At night, with the chill that comes when the sun dips behind the mountains, chic jeans are as important as a good pair of hiking boots.

Worldly valley visitors and residents expect the best. Fortunately, a myriad of boutiques, sports shops and even second-hand stores are strewn along valley streets. As a wise woman once said: Shopping is a woman's form of hunting. This summer, savor the thrill of the chase.







op to bottom:

Orange and black sunglasses by Chanel (\$335) available at Sun Valley Eyeworks, Ketchum. **Ashlynn thong** by Cole Hahn (\$165) available at Ozzie's Shoes, Ketchum.









Clockwise from top:

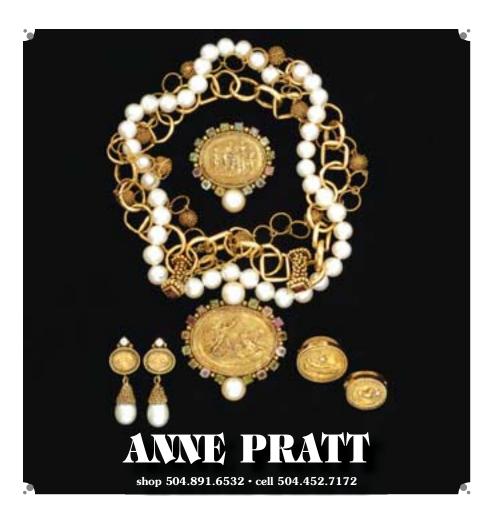
Cork and blush patent slingbacks by Anyi Lu (\$365) available at Rue de Shoe. T-Bag-N sunglasses in black zyl frame with sterling silver gothic cross and fleur de lis details by Chrome Hearts (\$995) available at Armstrong-Root, Ketchum. Mother of pearl shell flats by Bo'em (\$155) available at Rue de Shoe. Yellow and white skirt (\$315) and brown and yellow skirt (\$230) by BP Studio available at Silver Creek Outfitters, Ketchum. Flower patterned skirt by City Lights (\$30); similar items

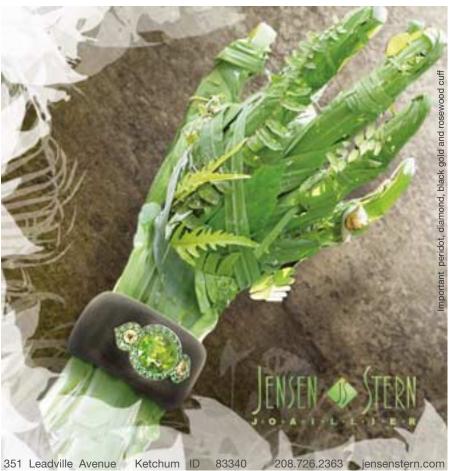






THE GALLERIA
4th and Leadville
Ketchum
208 726 8749







Silk dress by Genes (\$425) available at Paula's Dress Shop. **Orange sunglasses** by Chanel (\$335) available at Sun Valley Eyeworks.

Opposite page from top:

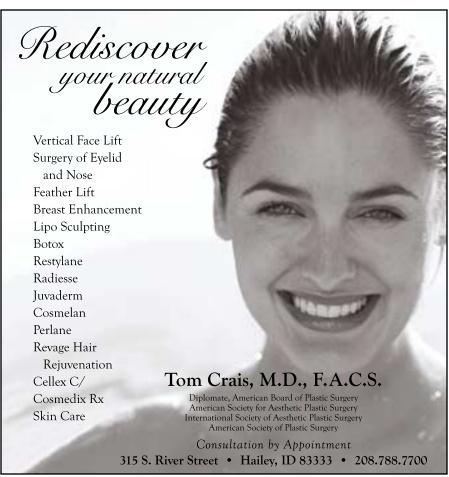
Heart sunglasses by Moschino (\$399) available at Ketchum Eye Center, Ketchum. Black leather eyewear case with fleur de lis motif by Chrome Hearts. Holds six frames. (\$340) available at Armstrong-Root. White sandal by Mystique (\$149) available at Theodore, Ketchum. Lulu Guinness glasses (\$209) available at Ketchum Eye Center. Melrose sunglasses in plum from Smith Sport Optics (\$109) available at eyewear carriers throughout the Wood River Valley.



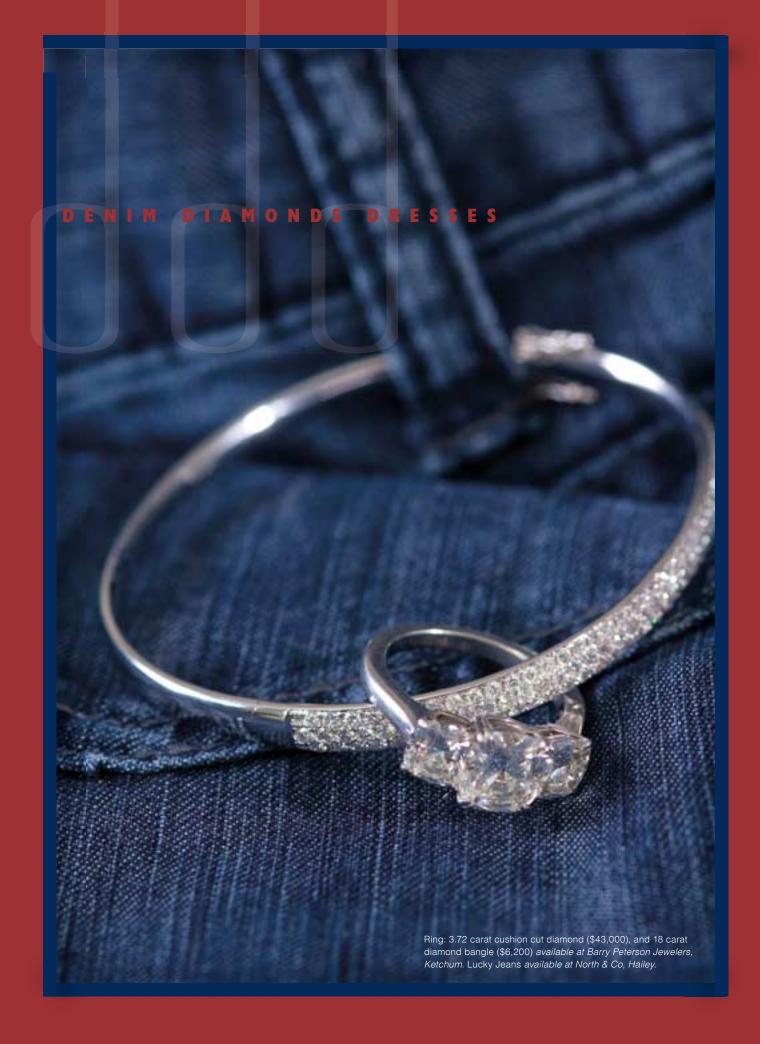








vww.sunvalleyguide.com 61





Top: Weave and pewter metallic sandal by Donald Pliner (\$250) available at Rue de Shoe.

Clockwise, on sandal, from left: Black diamond, pear shape orange diamond, pink princess cut diamond, rose cut diamond necklace (\$9,400) available at Barry Peterson Jewelers. Ornate multicolor gold and pink tourmaline ring (\$8,200) available at Jensen Stern, Ketchum. Double round drop pavé earrings by The Woods (\$3,680) available at Holli Jewelers, Ketchum.

Bottom: Gray layered dress by Ilsli, (\$410) available at Panache, Sun Valley Village.

From top, on neckline: Pavé sun and moon pendants by The Woods (\$3,680) available at Holli Jewelers. Ornate multi-color gold and pink tourmaline ring (\$8,200) available at Jensen Stern. White cultured baroque pearls with polar bear necklace by Christina Healy (\$1,450) available at Sun Valley Lodge Gift Shop and Silver Creek Outfitters. Ebony black necklace by The Woods (\$4,600) available at Holli Jewelers.





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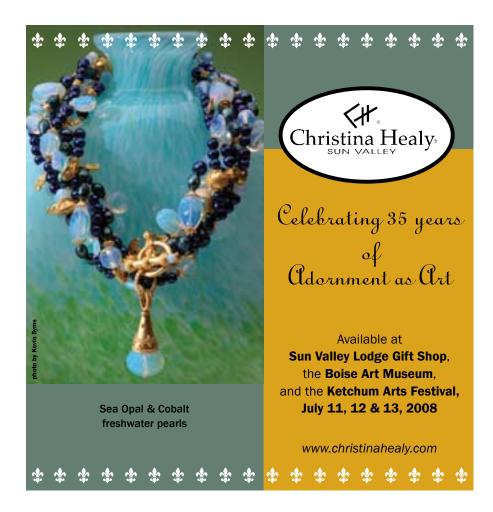




From top:

Sequined dress by Sue Wong (\$268) available at Paula's Dress Shop.

Jeans by 1921 (\$174) available at North & Co. Jeans by True Religion (\$319) available at Theodore. Jeans by Moto (\$60) available at North & Co. Men's jeans by Agave Waterman (\$185) available at Silver Creek Outfitters. "Token of Love" silver necklace by Christina Healy (\$650) available at Sun Valley Lodge Gift Shop and Silver Creek Outfitters. Full Frame-Full Vu by Retrospecs & Co: Authentic early American Eyewear circa 1930s-40s with white gold frame, emerald green lenses and mother of pearl nose pads (\$525). The Beast II by Chrome Hearts: Silver aviator with rose gradient lenses, sterling silver cross detail and two toned black and pink zyl temples (\$595). Everjax by Retrospecs & Co: Authentic early American eyewear circa 1942 with yellow gold frame, 10 carat gold bridge, solid gold nose pads and gradient brown lens. (\$925) all available at Armstrong Root. Necklace: Black diamond, pear shape orange diamond, pink princess cut diamond, rose cut diamond (\$9,400) available at Barry Peterson. Multi-color diamond cross set in 18 carat white gold (\$49,500) available at Jensen Stern. Blackened sterling silver hand made chain featuring 20 carat yellow gold bezel set with fancy champagne colored diamond (\$29,000) available at Jensen Stern. Criss-cross chain bracelet-18 carat yellow gold and sterling silver— (\$9,600) available at Jensen Stern. Rose cut diamond studs by The Woods (\$1,840) available at Holli Jewelers.





gallery listings

- ANNE REED GALLERY
- BROSCHOFKY GALLERIES 2
- CHRISTINA HEALY 3
- DAVID M. NORTON FINE ART
- DREAM CATCHER GALLERY

TENTH

10 FIFTH

9

WARM SPRINGS ROAD

FREDERIC BOLOIX FINE ARTS

- FRIESEN GALLERY
- GAIL SEVERN GALLERY
- KNEELAND GALLERY
- SUN VALLEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS
- **II** TONERI HINK GALLERIES

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Jim Norton, "Crow Warriors" 18"x 24"

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CHRISTINA HEALY

Celebrating 35 years of creating "Adornment As Art," Christina Healy's work is available exclusively at the Sun Valley Lodge Gift Shop, The Boise Art Museum and Ketchum Arts Festival July 11, 12, 13, 2008. Commissions by appointment only. 788-6033. www.christinahealy.com. See our ads on Pages 65

gallery walks

SUMMER 2008

- SATURDAY, MAY 24
- SATURDAY, JULY 5
- FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
- FRIDAY, AUGUST 29
- FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10



"Still Life by Lamplight"



FREDERIC BOLOIX FINE ARTS

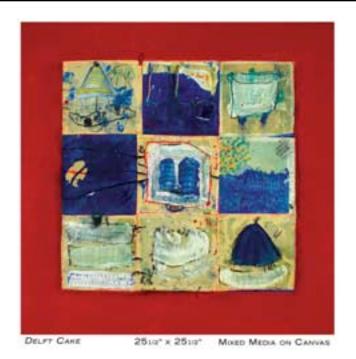
20th Century Masters and Contemporary art. Important works by Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, Marc Chagall, Joán Miró, Françoise Gilot, René Magritte, Julian Voss Andreae, Salustiano, 320 First Ave. North, Second Floor Suite 203

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Friesen Gallery exhibits contemporary paintings, glass, and sculpture by internationally and nationally recognized artists; Jeanne Brennan, Christopher Brown, Ford Crull, Matthew Dennison, Ron Ehrlich, Enrico Embroli, Dennis Evans, Gregory Grenon, Steve Jensen, Ann Mallory, Nancy Mee, William Morris, Trinh Nguyen, Jenny Pohlman/ Sabrina Knowles, Jane Rosen, James Shay, Catherine Eaton Skinner, Lino Tagliapietra and Laura Sharp Wilson among others. Sun Valley Road at First Avenue, Ketchum. 726-4174. Seattle: 1200 Second Avenue friesen@friesengallery.com, www.friesengallery.com



COLE MORGAN

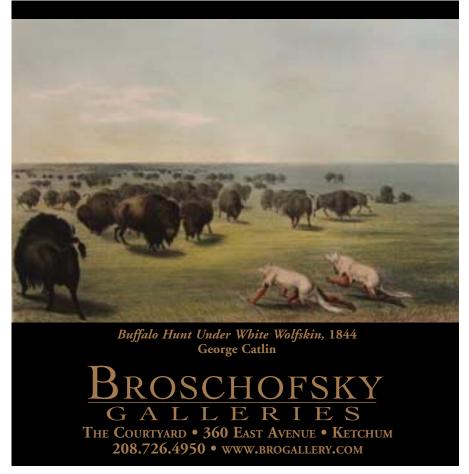
GAIL SEVERN GALLERY

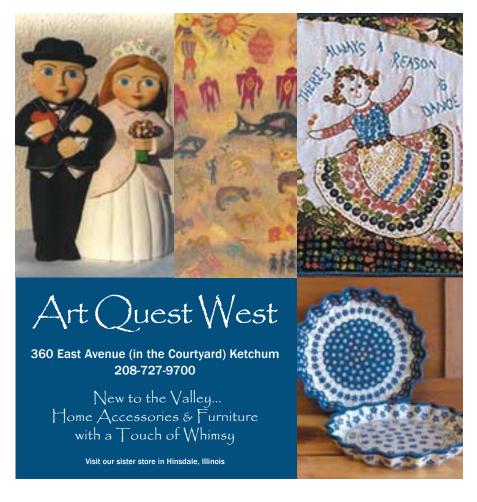
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■ GAIL SEVERN GALLERY

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Carol Alleman, "Trillium," cast bronze, 6" x 5½", ed. of 111

KNEELAND GALLERY

Exhibiting paintings and sculpture by artists living and working in the West. Artists include Steven Lee Adams, Carol Alleman, Ovanes Berberian, Jennifer Lowe, Dave McGary, Robert Moore, Colin Poole, Jean Richardson, Thom Ross, Carl Rowe, Linda St. Clair, Sherry Salari Sander, Andrzej Skorut, Seth Winegar and Jane Wooster Scott.

271 First Avenue North, Ketchum P.O. Box 2070, Sun Valley, ID 83353 726-5512 fax 726-3490 art@kneelandgallery.com www.kneelandgallery.com See our ad on Page 69



Justin Gibbens, Asp-necked Flamingo, 1996 Courtesy the artist and G. Gibson Gallery, Seattle

SUN VALLEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Center brings the arts to our community through exhibitions, concerts, lectures and art classes. This summer's exhibitions are Birdwatch and Cellular Identity. Throughout the summer, art classes for adults, families and kids are offered and 3 outdoor summer concerts will feature Chris Thile and Punch Brothers, Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, and The Neville Brothers. From August 8-10 over 130 artists come together for the 40th anniversary of the Sun Valley Center Arts & Crafts Festival. 191 Fifth St. E, Ketchum 314 2nd Avenue S, Hailey P.O. Box 656, Sun Valley, ID 83353 Tel: 726.9491 www.sunvalleycenter.org See our ads on Pages 25 & 39

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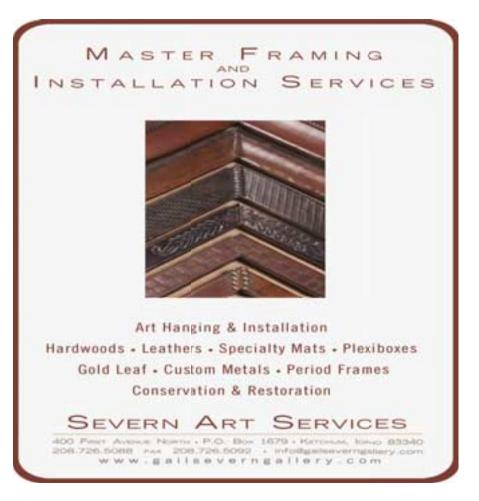


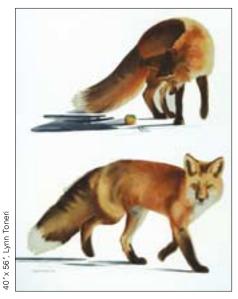
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TONERI HINK GALLERIES

The West is wild, and the art and the artists are wilder at the Lynn Toneri R.C. Hink Gallery. Noted for her large scale landscapes, Lynn's images now include dynamic watercolors of native plains and Rocky Mountain animals. R.C.'s flamboyant character stools and animal chairs from the surrounding territories and beyond are stampeding through the Gallery; visual treats for all wild and wild-life lovers.

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dining listings

RESTAURANT CUISINE LOCATION

GOURMET & FINE	DINING						
Chandler's Restaurant	World class dining served in a warm, rustic atmosphere	200 S. Main St., Trail Cr. Village, Ketchum					
Ketchum Grill	Contemporary American cuisine with Idaho flavors	520 East Avenue, Ketchum					
Knob Hill Inn Restaurant	Alpine cuisine and French country specialties	960 N. Main St., Ketchum					
Michel's Christiania	Traditional French cuisine with a full-service Olympic Bar	Sun Valley Rd. & Walnut Ave., Ketchum					
ITALIAN & PIZZA							
Baci Italian Cafe	Italian café & wine bar. Casual fine dining at its best!	200 S. Main St., Trail Cr. Village, Ketchum					
MEXICAN							
Desperado's	Classic Mexican cuisine, fresh fish specials daily	211 4th Street, Ketchum					
ASIAN							
Osaka Sushi	Japanese sushi cuisine, daily specials	Hailey AND Ketchum, (see ad below)					
Sushi on Second	The best restaurant for fresh seafood & sushi. Nightly specials	260 Second Street, Ketchum					
ORGANIC & SPECIALTY							
Akasha Organics	Organic juices, food, produce and supplements	Chapter One Bookstore, Main St., Ketchum					
Ketchum Grill	Contemporary American cuisine with Idaho flavors	520 East Avenue, Ketchum					
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720	6-3388	\$\$\$	•			•	•	•	•		•		•	
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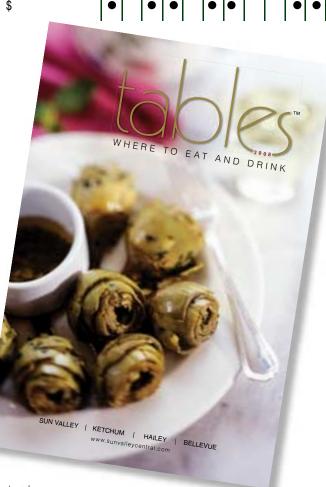
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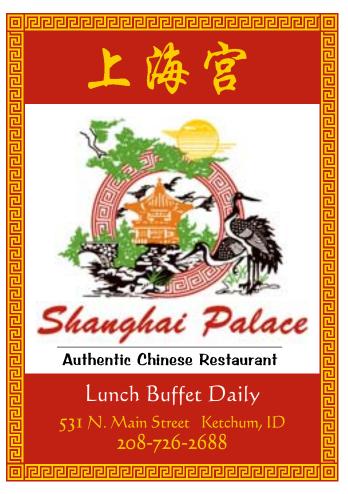
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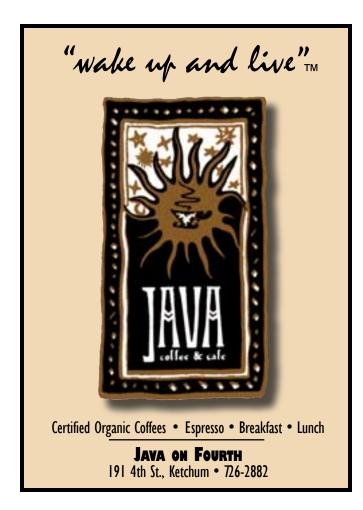


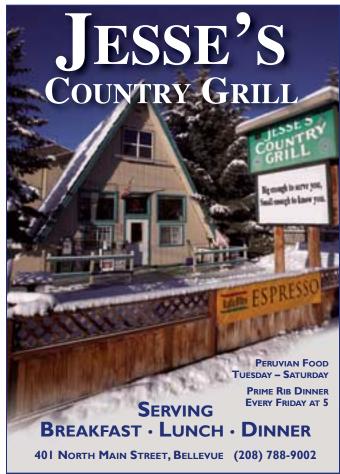
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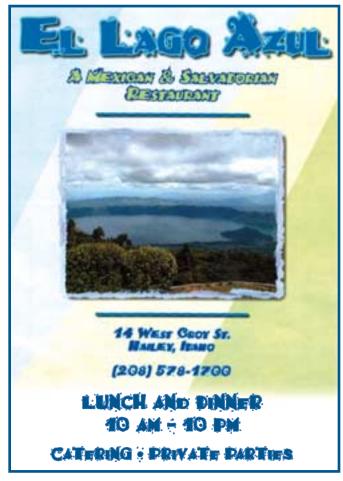
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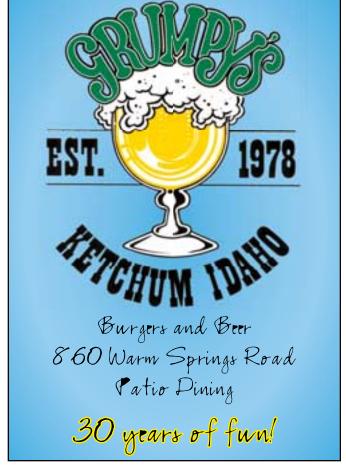
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calendar



JUNE

Sun Valley Food & Wine Festival – June 6-8:

The second annual Sun Valley Food & Wine Festival invites renowned chefs to demonstrate their talents. The Food Networks' *Iron Chef* Cat Cora, John Tesar and chefs from the festival's partnership with the Jean-Louis Palladin Foundation including Jimmy Sneed and Anne Callaghan will attend. Demonstrations by local chefs, vintner dinners, the Sun Valley/Ketchum Grand Tasting and the Bartender's Cup round out the weekend. Details: (800) 634-3347 or (208) 726-3423, ext. 2112 or sunvalleyfoodandwinefestival.com

Galena and the Trails Summer Benefit and Barbecue – June 14: Celebrate the opening of summer at Galena Lodge, 23 miles north of Ketchum

on Highway 75 from noon-3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 with no host bar.

Details: 788-2117 or kstoffer@brd.org

One H.E.A.R.T. Benefit – June 21: The

One H.E.A.R.T. (Health, Education and Research in Tibet) benefit, Anne Reed Gallery, 391 First Avenue N., Ketchum, 6-8 p.m. Details: (801) 596-3317 or info@onehearttibet.org

Rocky Mountain Dirt Series Women's MTB Cycling Camp – June 21-22:

Sturtos Bike Shop hosts the Rocky Mountain Dirt Series MTB Camp. Open to 40 women looking to improve skills and confidence on all types of trails. Details: dirtseries.com

Advocates Gala – June 27: The 11th annual Advocates Gala, "It's the Roaring Twenties!" 5:30 p.m. at the Sun Valley Inn's Limelight Room. Premium silent auction with a chance to win a car, followed by a sit-down dinner, live auction and dancing to the High Street Band. Details: 788-4191

Sun Valley Center for the Arts Hailey Concert – June 27: Chris Thile and Punch
Brothers at 7 p.m., Hop Porter Park, Hailey.
Details: 726-9491 or visit sunvalleycenter.org

Hailey Public Library Garden Tour– June 28: The Friends of the Hailey Public Library Garden Tour, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., features the gardens of Deerfield and Quigley Road in Hailey. (See page 12.) Tickets: \$15. Details: 788-3215

Fly Fishing Film Festival – June 26:

Silver Creek Outfitters presents the third annual Fly Fishing Film Festival benefiting the local Hemingway chapter of Trout Unlimited. 7 p.m. at Ketchum's nexStage Theatre. Tickets: \$15. Details: 726-5282

The Sun Valley summer symphony series begins in the Symphony Pavilion on August 3rd.

JULY

Old West Rodeo – July 2-4: It's an old-fashioned rodeo at the Hailey Rodeo Grounds starting at 7:30 p.m. each night. Wednesday, July 2, is Family Night and kids are free with a paying adult. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$5 children ages 2-12 and \$15 for reserved seating. Tickets available at Atkinsons' Markets in Ketchum, Hailey and Bellevue. Details: 309-4235

4th on Fourth: Celebrate July 4th in Ketchum's Town Plaza on Fourth Street and East Avenue. A children's old-fashioned carnival runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Live music begins at 5 p.m. with Muzzy Braun opening for Reckless Kelly. Also a 4th of July Bike Criterium. Details: 725-2105 or visit visitsunvalley.com

Hailey Days of the Old West – July 4:



Hailey Chamber of Commerce and the city of Hailey parade at noon on Main Street, followed by the Button BBQ in Hop Porter Park with live music. Fireworks begin at dusk from behind Wood River High School. Details:

788-3484 or e-mail info@haileyidaho.com

Sun Valley Opera – July 3-6: The Sun Valley Opera hosts "Idol Extravaganza" at the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood in Ketchum Saturday, July 5, and Sunday, July 6, at 8 p.m. To purchase tickets visit sunvalleyopera.com, Chapter One Bookstore in Ketchum or call 726-0991

Company of Fools Summer Festival—July 1-Aug 2: Company of Fools presents three shows in a rotating repertory with showtimes at 2 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Violet by Brian Crawley and Jeanine Tesori plays July 1-July 22; followed by Collected Stories by Donald Marguiles July 5-July 26; and Noises Off by Michael Frayn July 22-Aug 2. Tickets: \$15-\$25, available at the Liberty Theatre in Hailey.







Ste



R Tamarack Lodge

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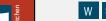






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Cowbov Ball - July 10: The Annual Cowboy Ball benefits the Sagebrush Equine Training Center and the therapeutic riding program. Hailey's Sagebrush arena. Details: 578-9111

Ketchum Arts Festival -July 12-13: The 9th annual Ketchum Arts Festival takes place in Festival Meadows on Sun Valley Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Details: 309-1960 or ketchumartsfestival.com

Sawtooth Botanical Garden Tour - July 12: The 13th annual Sawtooth Botanical Garden tour. (See page 12.) The self-guided tour of private gardens includes lunch. Details: 726-9358.

Sun Valley Center for the Arts Concert - July 17: Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi play River Run Lodge at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$40 adults, \$15 kids 12 and under. Details: 729-9491 or sunvalleycenter.org

Dog Days of Summer Animal Shelter Benefit - July 18: The annual animal shelter benefit, Trail Creek Pavilion, 6 p.m. Details: 788-4351

Sawtooth Mountain Mamas Art Festival - July 19-20: Stanley's annual art festival held Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Details: (208) 774-3411



The Sun Valley Center for the Arts Wine Auction – July 24-26: The Center's largest annual fundraiser supports educational arts programming and community outreach.

Thursday: vintner dinners; Friday: wine auction gala at River Run Lodge; Saturday wine auction tasting at River Run Lodge, 12:30-3 p.m., and wine auction Picnic at Bigwood at Thunder Spring, 6-9 p.m. Details: 726-9491 or visit sunvalleycenter.org

Sawtooth Music Festival -

July 26: The 3rd annual festival at Pioneer Park in Stanley, noon until dark, benefits the Stanley School. Camping permitted. Details: sawtoothmusicfestival.com

AUGUST

Northern Rockies Folk Festival - Aug 1-2: The festival's 31st year. Friday: 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday: noon-11 p.m. at Hailey's Hop Porter Park. Details: 788-0183 or 788-3947

Tour of Homes - Aug 2: The Community Library's 29th annual Tour of Homes, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., features homes in Golden Eagle. Proceeds fund services and cultural programs. Opening party: July 31. Details: 726-3493 or thecommunitylibrary.org

Fish Tales - Aug 6: Share your stories about the Big Wood River with Wood River Land Trust at a storytelling event on the banks of the river at Draper Wood River Preserve in Hailey. Details: 788-3947 or woodriverlandtrust.org

The Sun Valley Center Arts & Crafts Festival - Aug. 8-10: In its 40th year, the festival takes place in Ketchum's Atkinson Park. Saturday concert at 6 p.m. Details: 726-9491 or sunvalleycenter.org

The Sun Valley Summer Symphony - Aug. 3-18:

The opening season for the new Sun Valley Symphony Pavilion. All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and are free to the public Aug. 3 - Aug. 18. Paid tickets required for Saturday, Aug. 9 Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the Sun Valley Summer Symphony Orchestra benefit. Premier seats for this special event are \$500, general seats are \$250. Details: 622-5607 or svsummersymphony.org

Ride the Rails - Aug. 10: Celebrate the Wood River Trails with a Wood River Rideshare/Smart Moves Community Challenge party after the ride. Details: 788-9142

Sun Valley Shakespeare Festival-Aug. 21-31: Includes the Renaissance Faire and evening productions of Much Ado About Nothing at Festival Meadow on Sun Valley Road. Details: 726-9124

The Sun Valley Writers' Conférence - Aug. 22-25: Featuring authors Carl Hiaasen, Amy

Bloom, George Packer, Maira Kalman, Martha Raddatz and others. Details: 726-5454 or svwc.com

The Sawtooth Salmon Festival-Aug 23 & 24: Idaho Rivers United ninth Annual Sawtooth Salmon Festival with field trips to spawning beds, salmon education, music, storytelling, local arts & crafts, traditional dance by Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and kids activities. Admission free across from the Visitor's Center off Hwy. 21 in Stanley.

Details: (800) 878-7950



Sun Valley Renaissance Faire -Aug. 23-24: Experience medieval life from jousting to battle enactments. Also dancing, feasting and games for all ages. Tickets available at nexStage Theatre: \$12 adults, \$6 students, Free for seniors and kids under 14. Details: 726-9124

Wagon Days Celebration -Aug. 29-Sept. 1: Rocky mountain heritage rolls into the Wood River Valley after skipping 2007 due to wildfire. Ketchum honors its mining heritage by displaying the Lewis Ore Wagons in the Big Hitch Parade and a weekend filled with events and festivities including the annual Duck Race along the Big Wood at Rotary Park. Details: 305-9899

ONGOING EVENTS

Gallery Walks: The Sun Valley Gallery Association Gallery members and others stay open late July 5, Aug. 1 and Aug. 29. Stroll about town as galleries open their doors, host artists and serve wine, 6-9 p.m. Details: 726-4950

Back Alley Parties at the Wicked Spud: Held Wednesdays June 4 through Aug. 24 from 6-9:30 p.m. in Hailey. The series ends with Spudapalooza on Saturday, Sept. 6. Live music by Wood River Valley bands. Money raised benefits regional nonprofits.

Sun Valley Ice Shows: The 2008 Sun Valley Ice Shows feature another summer of spectacular ice skating with Kurt Browning July 4-5, Brian Boitano Aug. 2, Sasha Cohen Aug. 16, Evan Lysacek Aug. 30 and Anita Hartshorn & Frank Sweiding Sept. 6, plus many more world-class skaters throughout the summer. Show includes buffet dinner. Tickets and details: 622-2135

Wah-Hoo Review and BBQ: The Sun Valley Opera House will feature the Wild West Players in a musical review Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday evenings, June 25 through Sept. 5. BBQs at 6 p.m. Shows start at 7:30 p.m. Details: 622-2135

Farmers' Markets: The Ketchum Farmers' Market takes place every Tuesday, 2:30-6 p.m. starting June 10. The Hailey Farmers' Market, which includes the Artists' Market, takes place every Thursday, 2:30-6:30 p.m. starting June 12. Details: 720-7805

Great Cowboy Race Series: Sawtooth Tack & Feed holds its second annual Great Cowboy Race Series June 15, July 19 and August 10. Compete for cash and merchandise prizes on a fun, exciting course with prep clinics available before each race. Open to kids and adults. Details: 788-8225 or sawtoothtackandfeed.com

Silver Creek Preserve: Natural history walks every Saturday from June 7 - August 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Meet at the visitor's center. Details: 788-7910

Ketch 'em Alive: Ketchum's free summer concert series at the Forest Service Park every Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., June 24 - Aug. 19. Plaza Nights music on Fourth Street and East Avenue in Ketchum features jazz and local bands Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 25 - August 28. Check the Idaho Mountain Express calendar for weekly band listings.

View the calendar online at syguide.com

All submissions for the Fall 2008 calendar should be sent to calendar@mtexpress.com



www.lostriveroutfitters.com info@lostriveroutfitters.com

















Main St. Ketchum 208-726-4501

w sturtos com

Main St. Hailey

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finishes and the indoor spa, this remarkable estate is one-of-a-kind. Situated on 3 acres with beautifully manicured landscape, heated paver driveway and lots of outdoor living.

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A New Village in the Heart of the Sun Valley Area

Sweetwater is a new mountain village presently being built in Hailey, Idaho. Luxury homes are embraced by the mountains, nature and recreation. Residents can walk to a wide variety of summer and winter activities. Sweetwater's pedestrian-friendly neighborhood offers residents a one-of-a-kind living experience and a true sense of community. Take Countryside off Hwy 75 just south of historic downtown Hailey to 821 Shenandoah Drive. Open Daily Mon-Sat 11-5 and Sun 12-4.

Susan Radford & Karen Province

Sweetwater Community Realty, LLC (208) 928-7025



Copper Ranch Condominium Residences

The valley's best deal and located in Hailey, Copper Ranch offers 2- and 3-bedroom condominiums with memberships to a sports and fitness club, currently under construction, that will include indoor tennis courts, a salt water swimming pool, yoga & martial arts classes and state-of-the-art fitness training equipment facilities. Phases 1 through 5 have sold out and Phase 6 is now selling with starting prices at \$268,500. Copper Ranch is an investment opportunity not to be missed.

Linda Johnston

Windermere Real Estate (208) 788-1700 • (208) 720-2579 cell



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The #1 site to view all Sun Valley area properties for sale. (208) 726-6000



Luxury Home on Trail Creek

This 4 bedroom/ 4.5 bath home has it all - location, elegance, privacy and views. Log and river rock accents, hardwood floors and three decks overlooking Trail Creek. Vaulted ceilings and a large caterer's kitchen inspire entertaining or beckon a retreat by the fire. Top line finishes, appliances and furnishings complete the vision of rustic luxury. This home is truly unique and worth a personal tour. It also has a strong rental history for investors seeking consistent income. Please call your broker or this office for a showing.

Pam Colesworthy

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Private Estate in Gimlet

Fabulous home on extremely private 2 acre lot in Gimlet. One level living plan with four separate bedroom suites and sophisticated finishes. Property features a tennis court and large expansive lawns. Completely remodeled and in excellent condition.

\$2.995.000

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The Upper Board Ranch

The Upper Board Ranch, located approximately 7 miles SW of Ketchum on Warm Springs Road represents perhaps the very last opportunity to own the "Quintessential Sun Valley Mountain Retreat." The estate property includes over a mile of Warm Springs Creek, acres of pasture and forested hillsides in a mountain setting that creates a sense of place that is truly remarkable. The ranch consists of approximately 146 contiguous acres surrounded by the Sawtooth National Forest. This exclusive offering exemplifies the qualities of a true mountain environment; remote, private, alpine views, all only minutes from the Warm Springs ski lifts and downtown Ketchum. Price and further information available upon request.

Matthew Luck

Windermere Sun Valley (208) 788-1700 Hailey • (208) 622-2700 Ketchum



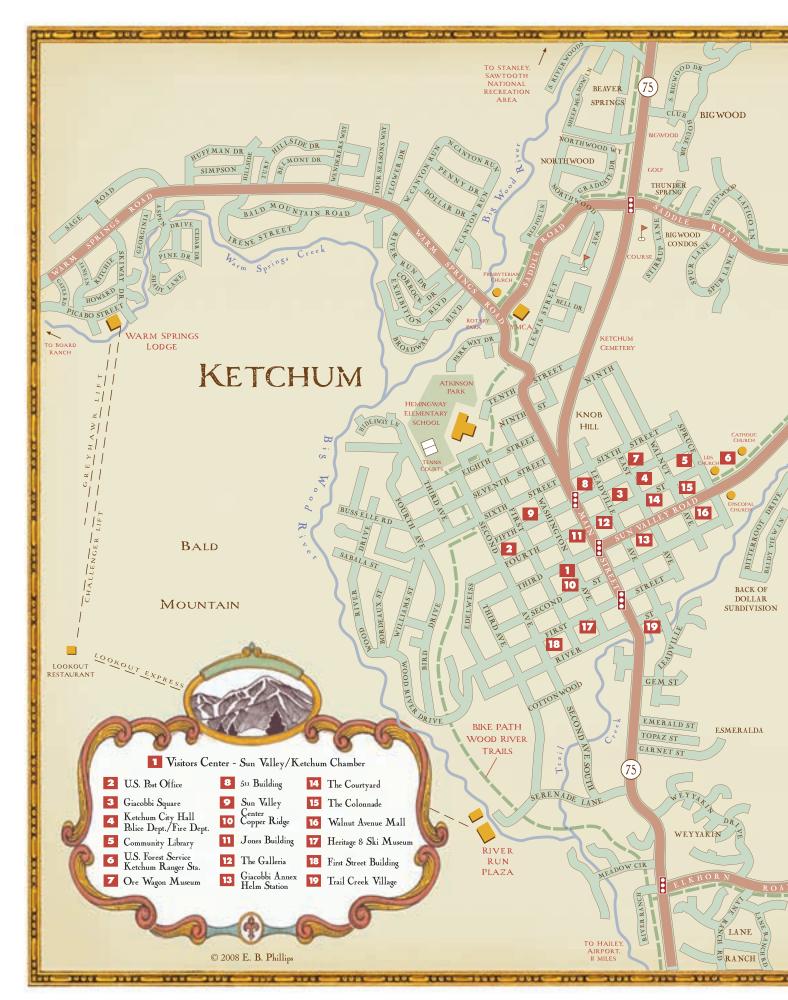
Yes, This is Truly Paradise

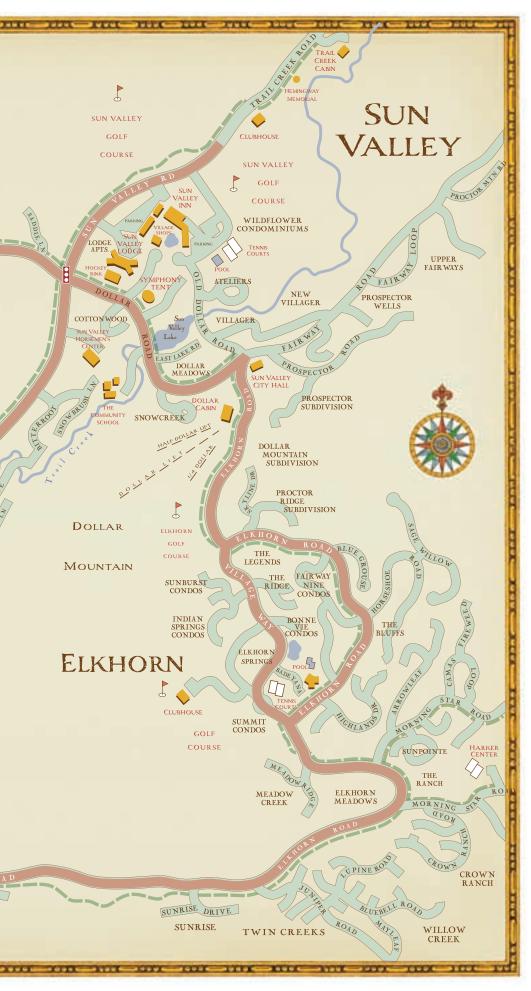
Stunning 360 degree views from this contemporary 2 bed plus den, 2.5 bath, luxury penthouse. Built to be green, this unit also includes a gourmet kitchen for entertaining, a stone fireplace, radiant floor heating and 4 underground parking places. The view from this penthouse to the west frames Sun Valley's Bald Mountain and is within walking distance to restaurants, shops and River Run lifts. A home to grow many beautiful memories. Visit www.westridgepenthouse.com

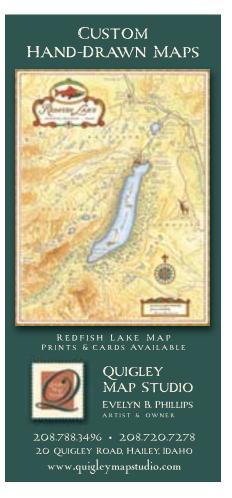
Offered at \$1,350,000

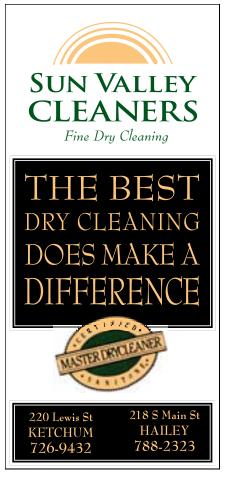
Karen Forsyth

Windermere Sun Valley (208) 622-2700 Ketchum • (208) 720-0728 cell









last cast

In the mind of every flyfisher resides a little camera filled with the sights, sounds and pleasures gleaned from years of dabbling in favorite trout streams.

The aperture opens to unveil a myriad of perfect days and peerless moments of summers past. A quintessential mountain stream with 30 miles of prime fishing waters, the Big Wood is home water for valley fly-fishers. Its large, feisty rainbow trout gorge on a smorgasbord of aquatic

and terrestrial insects. Following spring runoff, the river comes into its prime in late June as a premier dry fly stream, and it rarely loses its shine through late fall. Here, an angler can find solitude and shed the clutter and cacophony of the outside world.

Its proximity has preserved the sanity of many working stiffs. The river can be fished over a lunch hour. At the close of business, the most prophetic decision of the day may be choosing a right or left turn on Main Street to reach a favorite fishing pool at the magic hour. That's when the sun dips behind the mountains and a hushed calm



PHOTO BY TODD KAPLAN

settles over the valley as the sky gleams with a salmon-orange glow and the soft shadows of twilight envelope the stream.

One August evening, flights of adult mayflies rode a soft breeze upstream to dance and mate over a riffle, deposit their eggs, fall spentwinged onto the rumpled current and float downstream to lurking trout. There were pink Alberts (*Epeorus albertae*), dainty yellow stone flies and tiny black and tan-gray caddis flies that bobbed and bounced up and down the stream. A few blue-winged olives (*Baetis*) flitted in and out of hovering clouds of midges.

Peering intently into the far bank's shadowy pockets, I searched for the concentric rise-forms of feeding trout. A large bank-hugging rainbow ignored the rusty No. 18 spinner I cast first. But an 18 black CDC caddis fulfilled its role. The fly floated into the glide and with the faint take an instinctive, soft-handed rise of the rod set the hook. The rainbow swirled violently, raced downstream and launched twice into head-shaking leaps. He raced back to his protected lie under the tree, where a tug-of-war pulled him into the net: 16 inches of sleek muscle, crimson bands running down its flanks, black freckles sprinkled over its broad back.

And so it ensued for another hour and a half: An 18 yellow sally scored two small rainbows, and then the biggest trout of the evening took the fly, racing away, the reel screaming. And it was too dark to tie on another fly.

"On the Big Wood, the big guys come out to play at night," I whispered.

—Ken Retallic

The Art of American Craftsmanship

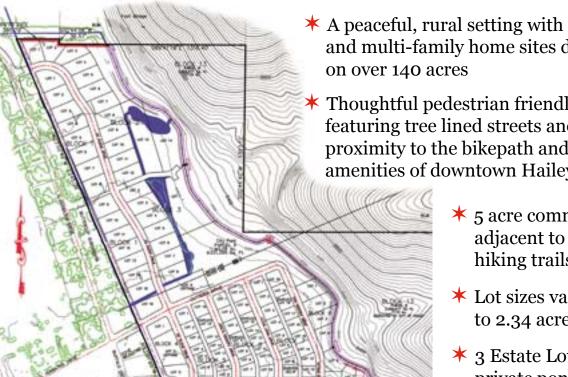


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- * 3 Estate Lots with private ponds
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