



The MONTANA STANDARD
mtstandard.com

20 UNDER FORTY

OCTOBER 2022



Congratulations

20 Under 40 Nominees Past Present & Future

Your well deserved Nomination into this distinguished class is a tribute to your hard work, professionalism and community support. Our community grows stronger when our Young People do amazing things and thrive to be the Best. We are proud to support and honor you for all that you do and this is the reason you make great Nominees for 20 Under 40.

We are proud to work with you as you move through your life stages, there is no substitute for experience, let us help you get it done right the first time.



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MEET 20 INSPIRING HONOREES

The Montana Standard is proud to present 20 stalwarts in our community who are all under 40 years of age.

These are people nominated by their peers – several times over in some cases – for demonstrating and exemplifying outstanding leadership in business, philanthropy and community.

Whether they are politicians, business owners, program directors, data managers, loan officers, lawyers, exterminators, health care workers, educators, real estate lenders, or in law enforcement, their day doesn't end after clocking out from their day jobs.

Ranging in age from Gen Z to elder-Millennial, this group of southwest Montanans understands which components of a community are most critical: people.

Whether it be helping a child through a difficult day at school or offering pro bono legal services, these honorees have not only gone above and beyond the call in assisting those in need, but also connecting with people on a personal level.

Narrowing the field down to just 20 was difficult.

If you nominated someone who wasn't chosen this year, please reach out to us again next year if their age allows.

And without further ado, here are this year's 20 community powerhouses under the age of 40.

Please join The Montana Standard in congratulating them.

*Matthew Kiewiet,
managing editor*

CONGRATULATIONS

to Teamsters Local No. 2 business agent
Jessica Wicks

on your well deserved nomination to 2022s "20 UNDER 40"

Thank you for your commitment to the community!



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20 UNDER 40 RECIPIENTS



Working together we can make a difference. Thank you for making Butte a better place to live, work and play. We appreciate your dedication and involvement to our community.

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JENEVIEVE BAYLESS

Age: 30

OCCUPATION

Jenevieve Bayless is a certified nurse midwife at St. James OBGYN, caring for the women of southwest Montana from puberty through and beyond menopause. She says she feels very fortunate to work with a great group of providers, nurses, MAs, and office staff, whose main goal is to help women feel supported and heard.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Bayless also points out that since moving to Butte in 2014, she's witnessed firsthand how close knit and caring this community can be. She first became entwined in the community when she moved to Butte to work as a labor and delivery nurse. She says she quickly realized her passion of working with women and their growing families, and wanted to increase the number of people she was able to help and educate. Bayless began by teaching childbirth classes to the community, then expanded to teaching OB- and GYN-related topics to students at Montana Tech in the EMT and first responder classes, as well as the yearly education for the Silver Bow Fire Department. After teaching childbirth classes for a couple years, she returned to school to pursue a masters in women's health as a nurse practitioner and midwife. Bayless says she wanted to be able to continue to follow the care of the women throughout their lifespan and not just during pregnancy. By volunteering her time to educate the first responders in our community, she noted that she's already seen it come full circle to providing great healthcare for the women of southwest Montana.

Outside of teaching healthcare-related material she also volunteer at community festivals, her favorite being the Folk Festival. Although, with the people she gets to meet and the amazing food and music offered, Bayless hardly considers it volunteering.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Growing up my sisters and I moved from town to town and state to state with our parents due to my father's career in the military and then continued work within



PROVIDED PHOTO

Jenevieve Bayless is a certified nurse midwife at St. James OBGYN, caring for the women of southwest Montana from puberty through and beyond menopause.

the government. I was born in Montana and was so happy to return to what I now consider my forever home. Having lived in so many places I can easily say Butte/southwest Montana is one of my favorites. There is just something about the Butte pride and the love people from Butte have for Butte. I also feel we are so lucky to live in such a beautiful area, with some of the best hiking, camping, fishing, and hunting.

What else should people know about you?

Each baby I have the opportunity to deliver gives me goose bumps and I feel so honored to be a part of such an important life event. I am reminded daily, through my experiences with the women of southwest Montana, that this is definitely what I was called to do. After being a part of so many women's deliveries, I recently had the opportunity to deliver my sister's baby girl. It easily became one of the most amazing experiences of my life.

I am very honored to have the opportunity to be included in the "20 under 40." If not for my family, friends, coworkers, and mentors I would not have made the leap to return to school or made it through. Thank you all!

Celebrating our very own 20 Under 40.



Jenevieve L. Bayless, CNM
Certified Nurse Midwife



Megan Bristol, CNM
Certified Nurse Midwife

We are proud to support the young leaders of our community.

We know your efforts and achievements are building a stronger, happier and healthier community for future generations. St. James Healthcare is focused on quality, and driven to provide the best patient care experience in the region. Our core values are proudly reflected in Jenevieve and Megan. *Congratulations!*



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MEGAN BRISTOL

Age: 34

OCCUPATION

Megan Bristol recently completed her master's degree in nursing and became a certified nurse midwife. She worked as a labor and delivery nurse for almost 10 years and that is when she found that her true passion is caring for women. Bristol says that she decided to pursue schooling in nurse midwifery to develop deeper relationships with her patients and their families. As a labor & delivery nurse, time spent with patients is often only a few hours to a few days. As she enjoyed the relationships she made, Bristol remembers, she wanted to be a part of the long-term health journey and experiences of the patients. As a nurse midwife, she can offer not only healthcare and support to pregnant and postpartum patients but also primary healthcare to all women from adolescence through menopause.

There are many things Bristol loves about her job as a midwife. Helping and supporting mothers in bringing their babies into this world will always hold a special part in her heart, but she says that the thing that she loves most about her job is educating patients. Bristol focuses on providing patients with current evidence and education that empowers them to make decisions regarding their healthcare, ensuring that their voice is heard and that they are the driving force behind their health.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Bristol has recently volunteered coaching youth sports at the YMCA. Unfortunately, she says, over the last two years while completing her master's degree in nursing Bristol has had to cut back on her community and volunteer activities. Outside her family, Bristol dedicated herself to my schooling so that she could provide quality and evidenced based care to the women and families in Butte and surrounding communities. Key organizations that she strongly supports and plans to get more involved over this next year are Big Brothers and Sisters and the Foundation at St. James Healthcare.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

I am a Butte native. While I feel very fortunate to live in the community I grew up in, I have also had the opportunity to experience life outside of Montana while going to nursing school in Arizona. Through these experiences, I learned that there is nowhere else like Butte America. I have so much compassion for this community and this will forever be my home. I am so grateful for the loving family and friends that I have here supporting me in my hometown. Butte people have the utmost pride in our community and are always offering a helping hand to those in need.

Southwest Montana has a tremendous amount to offer families for healthy recreational activities. I enjoy hiking into mountain lakes, camping and floating on the Big Hole River, and summer festivals both locally and in nearby communities.

What else should people know about you?

I am married and have three children. My husband Brant is also born and raised in Butte. We have three boys Beckam (6), Coyer (4) and Theo (1). Brant is a firefighter



PROVIDED PHOTO

Megan Bristol recently completed her master's degree in nursing and became a certified nurse midwife.

for Butte Silver Bow and also owns his own home inspection business. We feel very grateful to be able to raise our kids in such a great community.



Megan M. Bristol, CNM
Midwifery

Congratulations

to Megan Bristol along with all honorees
who made 20 under 40 this year!

This is such a great honor and all of your hard work and
dedication hasn't gone unnoticed.


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SAIDEE JOHNSTON

Age: 31

OCCUPATION

Saidee Johnston is a second-generation Butte attorney and a partner at the law firm of Joyce & MacDonald, PLLP. The practice primarily focuses on personal injury and wrongful death claims. She graduated from Butte Central High School in 2009 and continued her education at the University of Montana and graduated with honors in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies. After completing her undergraduate degree, Johnston went on to the University of Montana School of Law where she graduated in 2015. After finishing law school, she returned to Butte and has been practicing here since she passed the bar exam. Being able to practice in Butte is the fulfillment of a lifelong dream, according to Johnston. She adds that she wanted to be an attorney, just like her dad, for as long as she can remember. Johnston's favorite part of the job is being able to help people, often during the most difficult and challenging times in their lives. She is grateful to have joined such a well-respected law firm and to have such wonderful partners and mentors.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Johnston says she feels fortunate to be practicing in and giving back to the community that has given so much. She is involved with the Montana Bar on both a local and state level. She is currently the Vice President of the Butte Silver Bow Bar Association and the Area C Trustee for the Montana Bar. Growing up, Johnston was

involved in various activities and had the privilege of being a multi-sport athlete at Butte Central. Several years ago, she had the itch to get involved with sports again and began coaching junior high volleyball. She has found coaching to be both fun and fulfilling, and Johnston says she learns something new from every group she coaches.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

It is not hard to see why Montana is called "the last best place." The people of Butte and the surrounding communities are truly unique. Because Montana has so many things to offer, I am able to meet, work with, and learn from people from all different walks of life. The support, generosity, and pride in our community is hard to beat. I have experienced first-hand the way Butte rallies in support of those in need. I am very proud to be from Butte and am fortunate to be surrounded by my family, friends, and wonderful members of this community.

What else should people know about you?

I am the proud daughter of John and Angela Johnston. I have three younger brothers, each of whom I am extremely proud: Jason, Kelly, and Sam. My husband, Clay McQueary (an alumni of 20 Under 40) and I have a beautiful one-year-old son, Owen, who is the light of our lives. I would like to thank my friends, family, and husband for their constant love and support. I would also like to thank Owen for inspiring me every day to be the very best person I can.



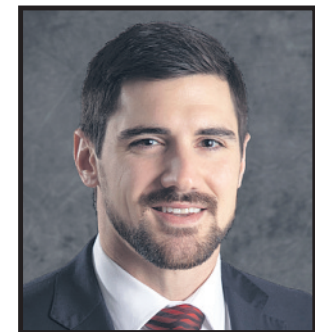
MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Saidee Johnston is an attorney and partner at the law firm Joyce & MacDonald, PLLP.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 20 UNDER 40 INCLUDING TWO OF OUR OWN



Saidee M. Johnston
Honoree for 2022



Michael W. Haynes
Honoree from 2021

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THOMAS DAVIS JR.

Age: 39

OCCUPATION

Thomas Davis Jr., or Tommy, is the co-owner of the Drunk'n Miner Saloon & Copper Spirits Casino in Butte.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

In the short time that Davis has relocated to Montana, he has been an advocate, leader, friend, and instrumental asset for Butte-Silver Bow community, his business, friends, non-profits and veterans.

In 2020, Davis and his sister, Angelique Yount (co-owner of Drunk'n Miner Saloon & Copper Spirits Casino) along with their friend, Doug Ingraham (Ingraham Environmental, Inc.) created a non-profit organization called All Veterans Count, Inc. (AVC) and Butte Days Festival. Davis is the president of AVC.

As a liquor license holder and tavern and casino co-owner, Davis has been a member of the Silver Bow Tavern Association (SBTA). During the fall of 2020, Davis became president of SBTA.

In 2020, during COVID restrictions for Butte-Silver Bow County, Davis, with counseling of his Vice President, Bob Duffy (Star Lanes) and Silver Bow Association Board and members, led a campaign to highlight the economic impacts and COVID health regulations, limitations and concerns in regards to businesses and tavern and casino owners.

Davis received the 2021 SBTA Outstanding Ovation Award for his leadership and dedication during SBTA hosting and facilitating the Montana Tavern Association State Convention held in Butte. Davis was elected second term and is the current sitting SBTA President.

He is also heavily involved with Montana Tavern Association on the board of directors and as an officer. Davis also spends time helping MTA members and liquor license establishments across Montana preserve and enhance the hospitality industry.

In his spare time, Davis enjoys spending time with family, friends, outdoor activities, reading, hitting the gym and traveling.



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Thomas Davis Jr., or Tommy, is the co-owner of the Drunk'n Miner Saloon & Copper Spirits Casino in Butte.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Meeting people, sharing ideas and embracing the beauty of our state.

"I believe a Montanan isn't just someone who is just born here, nor someone who comes and leaves regularly. A true Montanan is anyone who believes in our great way of life and slowly, but surely, works to make it better and achieve our collective goals".

What else should people know about you?

In the fall of 1982, I was born in Billings, Montana. Joined by my sister the following year, we were both raised in Roundup, Montana by our parents, Angela and Tom Davis. We both had a wonderful childhood and later helped work the family's roustabout and oil field company – instilling fundamentals of hard work, integrity and respect. After graduating Roundup High School (Class of 2001), I joined the United States Air Force.

Pursuing a career as a Security Forces Personal (Military Police), I served honorably for six years active duty and two years in reserves.

During 2002 to 2005, I was stationed at Eielson Air Force base, Alaska. I deployed

numerous times (Operation Korea Watch – Guam, and Operation Iraqi Freedom – Kuwait and Iraq), and achieved various metals, achievements and status of Veteran of Foreign War. Moreover, I obtained Top-Secret Security Clearance (Personal Reliability Program/PRP) and Squad Designated Marksman (SDM).

In 2005, I transferred to Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, NV., –Area II Nuclear Storage Facility. I achieved top honors as Lead Supervisor, Combat/Top Level Asset/Disaster Supervisor and Lead Controller.

I finished my commitment to the military with Honorable Discharge. Moreover, I finished Associate Criminal Justice Degree from Community College of Air Force and B.S in Business Management from University of Las Vegas, Nevada.

I then continued to reside in Las Vegas after reintroduction to civilian life. I was introduced to Victor Draï (Hollywood Movie Producer Woman in Red, The Man with One Red Shoe, Folks, The Bride and The Weekend at Bernie's) Blockbuster's – all solely produced by Draï) – Grandfather of Nightlife/mogul – and Steve Wynn (real estate and American luxury casino and hotel mogul).

I fostered a mentorship and working relationship under both Mr. Draï, Mr. Wynn and their team, gaining their trust and deep

understanding of hospitality, food and beverage, gaming and nightlife operations. I was promoted up the corporate ranks and managed multi-million dollar venue(s) under Draï's Corporation, Wynn Enterprises, Star-Wood/W Brand and Caesar's Entertainment/Portfolio. Providing and fostering fantastic relationships with Iconic Individuals (Music Artists, Movie Directors, Producers, Celebrities and Executives) in a wide spectrum of various industries, markets and Fortune 500 Companies. I spent 10 years with Draï's Corporation.

From 2017 to present, I, along with my parents fostered a partnership/company in Las Vegas called T&A Creative Properties, LLC, purchasing and managing rental properties/investments and operating a production/talent company. This partnership formally produced and operated a show called Queens & Cocktails Drag Revue and Reverie Burlesque Show both inside Bally's Resort's by Caesars Inc., Indigo Lounge on the Las Vegas Strip.

In 2019, my parents, sister (Angelique Yount, honorably served six years in Air Force as a structural Mechanic at Nellis Air Force Base) and I, embarked on purchasing and branding a family-owned tavern and casino called Drunk'n Miner Saloon and Copper Spirits Casino, located in Butte.

NATALIE BURKS

Age: 28

OCCUPATION

Natalie Burks is currently a loan officer for Pioneer Federal Savings & Loan Association in the Deer Lodge office. Starting in 2014 as a bank teller, she had no experience in the banking industry but moved up to take on various roles such as vault teller, back-up loan processor, and other duties and back-up roles over the years to help the institution run smoothly. Now finishing her bachelor of science in accounting this December, Burks hopes to continue expanding my knowledge to help the institution grow.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Burks says she believes being involved in the community in some fashion is important for many reasons. She was born in Illinois and moved to Montana at the start of high school and can remember many events, activities and opportunities for the kids and adults of her hometown communities. The involvement of people volunteering and serving not only benefited those in the immediate area, but also brought visitors from other areas to the community which then benefitted local people and businesses alike.

She is also serving a three-year term for the Powell County Chamber of Commerce, where Burks is a board member and was the secretary for the non-profit. With the Chamber, she's helped plan and organize events like the Chamber Afterhours, the annual Chamber Banquet and Territorial



PROVIDED PHOTO

Natalie Burks is a loan officer for Pioneer Federal Savings & Loan Association in the Deer Lodge office.

Days. Burks has worked with other board members, community members and the surrounding communities to set up venues, speakers, vendors, and other entertainment, then volunteered time for event

set up, take down, and working booths to ensure the events ran smoothly. Burks also volunteered during the construction of the Deer Lodge community playground. She helped run the sign-in booth to register

other volunteers and with what little construction experience she had, and assisted in putting together the smaller parts of the playground.

Burks adds that she is an avid lover of volleyball and uses whatever excuse she can to be involved with it in some way. For nine years she has officiated high school games as a line judge. Along with line judging, Burks has been a coach for the local traveling volleyball club, PCVC, for the last six years. I get to work with the girls to help them improve, travel with them to tournaments where they compete against other clubs, and ultimately help them to love the sport. Burks even participates in playing when the City Rec Sports runs its adult league during the fall.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Living in Montana in general, gives one ample opportunity for outdoor activities such as hiking, snowmobiling, driving through the mountains, etc. I enjoy the beautiful scenery Montana has to offer whenever I get the chance! I like working and volunteering in southwest Montana because the communities are small enough or close knit enough that everyone knows everyone so you could walk into the bank, and they know your name and genuinely be asked "How are you doing?" Then in times of need or disaster the people of the communities really come together and support one another in any way they can.

What else should people know about you?

My family is the one of the most important things to me. I would not be where I am today without the constant love and support I receive from them. I truly enjoy spending time with my husband, mom and dad, sister and her husband, and the extended family whenever I get to visit.

"I like working and volunteering in southwest Montana because the communities are small enough or close knit enough that everyone knows everyone so you could walk into the bank, and they know your name and genuinely be asked 'How are you doing?' Then in times of need or disaster the people of the communities really come together and support one another in any way they can."

Natalie Burks

Congratulations

Natalie Burks • 2022 – 20 Under 40 Recipient
Thank you for all you do for our community, our clients and our bank.



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BRIAN MILLER

Age: 38

OCCUPATION

Brian Miller is the owner and a licensed applicator at B Squared Turf + Pest, LLC. Miller remembers always having an interest in what many people consider 'creepy crawlies,' and he loves nature. In college, Miller and a friend bred several species of reptiles. He says that he intended to get a degree in zoology and herpetology, but ended up with a degree in law enforcement instead. He adds that he is so grateful that to now get to deal with a variety of critters, or spend the day outside in beautiful Montana caring for trees and beautiful properties.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

When Miller first moved to Montana he worked as a child protection specialist for the Department of Health and Human Services. Working in social services he quickly became familiar with Butte's strengths and struggles. Miller says that there is a lot of grit and resilience here that not everyone gives Butte credit for.

Since moving on from social services, Miller has been involved in the community through his Church. At Journey Church,



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Brian Miller is the owner and a licensed applicator at B Squared Turf + Pest, LLC.

he taught the Royal Rangers classes on Wednesday nights for over four years, and points out that he was always available when a strong back was needed to help someone move. Miller and his family moved to Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Christian Church a few years ago. He has since joined the board and was honored to be a co-chair for this year's Serbian Food Festival. The Serbian Food Festival is how Miller and his wife found the Orthodox church.

Miller's children have also been involved in sports on and off over the years. He has enjoyed coaching little league baseball and YMCA soccer when able to.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

The people. I have met so many interesting and wonderful people from all walks of life in Montana. Most of the people I have met in Montana, or those attracted to Montana, are very genuine. I really enjoy hearing their stories and getting to know them and their families. Some become repeat customers, others are now friends I have lunch with at least once a month. All of them have interesting and moving stories.

I also like the idea of Montana. I have to admit I moved here from the Midwest close

to a decade ago believing I'd be an avid outdoorsman. While I am still working on the 'avid' part, my heart is definitely geared towards a different era where I like to think we were more connected to our faith, nature, our work, and our neighbors. I am grateful for any opportunity I have to be active in nature developing my survival skills; hunting, ice fishing, trapping... I want to learn so I can teach my children and others that are interested.

Instead of becoming an avid outdoorsman instantly, I have become quite the family man. Together my wife and I have 6 children from one to nineteen years old.

What else should people know about you?

I have always been interested in helping men find their masculinity in a healthy way going back to my time working in a life recovery group in St. Paul, MN. We live in a time where it can be very confusing for young men with all the mixed messages being sent from media, school, peers, history... about what it means to be a man. This is not intended to be commentary on anything political or anyone's views. I just know what I have hungered for and what I desire for my own boys is not well represented in the media today. I think all core values start at home and in your community. My hope for our youth (who are struggling with despair, suicide, substances, broken homes, and a disconnect more than ever in recent history) is that they find their roots. For me that's my faith and family. Whether those values come from faith or other creeds, there needs to be more intentional mentoring for our men to define their heart beat, the reason they get out of bed every day.

LYNNSEY MOEN

Age: 33

OCCUPATION

Lynnsey Moen says she is honored to be a teacher at Whitehall Elementary School. She adds that she has been fortunate enough to work there for the past five years and taught kindergarten and fifth grade. This year she has transitioned into a role as an intervention specialist and taught our citizenship and social skills program to all elementary students. In addition, she's involved in helping build plans to support our students who may struggle with behavior or academics. Moen is also the site coordinator for the kindergarten-fifth grade 21st Century Community Learning

Center Grant that provides after school and summer programs. The focus is to provide students access to opportunities and experiences that they may not have access to otherwise. Moen says that she really enjoys having experts from the community come share their real-world experiences with students.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Moen dedicated the past 13 years to serving as a military police officer in the Army. She was on active duty for the first five

Please see MOEN, Page 21



Lynnsey Moen says she is a teacher at Whitehall Elementary School and has recently transitioned into a role as an intervention specialist. PROVIDED PHOTO

MARCUS MCCAUGHEY

Age: 33

OCCUPATION

Marcus McCaughey is a school counselor at Emerson Elementary. This is his ninth year working for the Butte School District. McCaughey graduated from the University of Montana Western with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. He started out teaching younger grades at Whittier elementary before transferring to fifth grade at Kennedy Elementary. Teaching was an incredible job, according to McCaughey. He says building relationships with his students, helping them succeed, and seeing them grow over the years has never made him prouder. As a teacher, he could only help the students in his classroom. McCaughey always felt like he could do more, so he enrolled into MSU-Billings' master's program to become a school counselor.

As a school counselor McCaughey says he is able to support students on an educational, mental, and emotional level. This is his second year as the Emerson Elementary school counselor. Stepping into this new position, McCaughey points out that he didn't realize the effect the pandemic had on students and families of our community. Mental health is so important and he is passionate to help the children overcome various challenges in their lives. This job gives McCaughey the humbling opportunity to ensure students have a safe place to talk so they can be positive and productive members of society.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Working in education, it becomes clear how important it is to help the community. Whenever there is a chance to help the stu-

dents or their families McCaughey does his best to jump in and help. He is the union representative for Emerson Elementary. This allows him to be a voice for not only the students, but also staff.

One of McCaughey's biggest passions is coaching. Since he began his education career, he's coached it all; elementary girls' basketball, volleyball, track, cross-country, and wrestling – his favorite. McCaughey remembers so many coaches over the years who greatly changed his life for the better. He wants to be that same role model to the children of Butte. McCaughey loves being able to motivate, challenge, and encourage students to achieve goals they didn't think possible in and out the gym.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

I'm proud to be from Butte, America. There's no better place to raise a family. The community is truly devoted to helping each other. The way they can come together to help those in need is incredible. Growing up I've seen firsthand what this community can do for families when they helped my own family through some difficult times. Now, I'm doing my best to pay it forward.

What else should people know about you?

I wouldn't be the person I am today if it wasn't for my family and friends. I am fortunate to have the love and support from my wife, Jessie, and two beautiful daughters: Margo, 2 and Nora, 1. Growing up I was so lucky to have incredible parents and grandparents that taught my siblings and I how to work hard, to achieve our goals, and what it takes to be great parents.



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

This is Marcus McCaughey's ninth year working for the Butte School District.

Congratulations Marcus McCaughey

And to Everyone Honored as Butte's Young Leaders



Steele's Furniture family is proud of the great work done by these individuals to move our community forward.



BUTTE
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

The Butte School District would like to extend our congratulations to Marcus McCaughey being selected as an honoree for the 20 Under 40! Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our Butte School District students, families, and the entire Butte Community. Marcus McCaughey deserves our full recognition and appreciation as a school district and community.

JESSE MULLEN

Age: 38

OCCUPATION

Jesse Mullen is the CEO of Mullen Newspaper Company.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Mullen is currently president of the Philipsburg Rotary Club and a board member at Discover Deer Lodge Economic Development Group.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Montanans give back. Whether it's my Rotary Club in Philipsburg, the AOH in



PROVIDED PHOTO

Jesse Mullen is the CEO of Mullen Newspaper Company.

Butte or Anaconda, Elks, Kiwanis, there's an active community of volunteers in every town looking for ways to improve our

Please see **MULLEN**, Page 21

SAMANTHA MOTZKO

Age: 38

OCCUPATION

Samantha Motzko is the new Specialty Crop Block Grant program director at Headwaters RC&D in Butte. She has a background in financial and contract analytics, business development and grant writing. But, she says, ag is brand new to her, so she's slowly learning about the industry and really enjoying it. Motzko adds that working at Headwaters has always been a secret dream and she's so impressed with the people who work there, and their abundance of business knowledge. Motzko loves seeing entrepreneurs achieve their goals, and is happy to be a resource for them. She says it's energizing to know that every week she is going to meet new people, gain new knowledge, and be able to directly share that knowledge with people in her community in such a meaningful way.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Earlier this month, Motzko was officially elected for a Southwest Montana Youth Partners board seat.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Samantha Motzko is the new Specialty Crop Block Grant program director at Headwaters RC&D in Butte.

She's also been a board member for the Indian Moon Foundation since 2017. The foundation's primary mission is to sponsor the Philipsburg Valley Days Kids Carnival, and Philipsburg Community Christmas with Santa. IMF was founded by a beloved community member, Jim Adie, who raised his kids in Philipsburg during the 80s and 90s, and saw that many of the families couldn't afford to buy their children Christmas gifts. He wanted IMF to be an

Please see **MOTZKO**, Page 12

MULLEN NEWSPAPER COMPANY

Congratulates

JESSE MULLEN

and all those honored in the 20 Under 40 award!



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DAVID GUTIERREZ

Age: 38

OCCUPATION

David Gutierrez is an attorney and currently the director of human resources for Town Pump. Prior to his current role he was in-house counsel for Town Pump since graduating from the University of Utah law school in 2015.

Gutierrez says he has enjoyed different roles with a company that provides fantastic career opportunities for its employees as well as giving so much back to communities throughout Montana. He has been fortunate to work with and learn from several fantastic mentors over the last seven years, and looks forward to many more challenges and opportunities for years to come.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

During law school Gutierrez became very active in pro bono service for low income families and individuals who were facing issues ranging from employment to housing. After moving to Montana, he sought out opportunities to continue similar pro bono activities. Gutierrez connected with the Montana Legal Services Association, which provides legal services for Montanans living under the

poverty level. Through Montana Legal Services, he has been able to volunteer by providing telephone advice for Montanans throughout the state. In 2021 Gutierrez was awarded the Neil Haight Pro Bono Award by the State Bar of Montana.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Southwest Montana, and Butte in particular, has been an absolutely wonderful place to live, work, play and raise a family. It is truly an amazing place where within a short drive from your home, you can be floating down the beautiful Big Hole, or taking in the views at Thompson Park. It is a pleasure to live in southwest Montana with its amazing people and history.

What else should people know about you?

I have two wonderful, smart and funny daughters with my wife Brianie, and we live with two very spoiled dogs. Our oldest daughter is graduating from Butte High this year and has been accepted at Montana Tech for 2023. Our youngest is starting at Butte High next year. With all of the growing up the girls are doing, we are making lots of time to get out and find new sights and experiences as often as we can.



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

David Gutierrez is an attorney and currently the director of human resources for Town Pump.

MOTZKO

From 11

organization that offered free, family-friendly events, allowing every child to partake in the fun, regardless of their families' economic status. Motzko says that they always have an outstanding event turnout, and it's such a fun group to be a part of.

Motzko is also the non-profit founder and a board member of Flint Creek Child-care Co. FCC is the only licensed daycare open to the public in Granite County, and they are really excited to be celebrating the three year anniversary this month. Motzko also wants to give a shoutout to the whole FCC Board of Directors and especially the amazing executive director, Mary Hager. The FCC is also celebrating a significant grant award that will allow for expansion of the program over the next year, become a resource for other rural childcare providers in Montana, and offer scholarships for FCC enrolled families and Granite County resi-

dents who wish to pursue higher education in early childcare education. Their biggest champion and partner in this project has been the Philipsburg Rotary Club. Motzko says she hopes they are as proud as she is of what they've accomplished in the last three-and-a-half years. She adds that they are the reason this program exists, and continue to be integral to our success.

Motzko has also been a Granite County Red Cross Disaster Action Team Volunteer, and Philipsburg Rotary Club member via the FCC Corporate Membership since 2022.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Even though the only family I have in Montana is my dad—a major part of my support system—I also feel like I can always count on my friends, coworkers, and community. It seems like everyone here wants everyone else to succeed, and

I've personally seen how a conversation in line at the grocery store can lead to connections, partnerships, and life-changing opportunities. I've also found that while larger or more populated cities may have more abundant resources, there's more opportunity in southwest Montana to create something that's your own. In a way, it's still the Wild West—we're still chasing dreams and creating the economy as we see fit for our needs and lifestyle. A little bit of effort can make a huge impact.

Work-life balance also takes on a different meaning when you live in southwest Montana. Communities here have earned the right to be proud—there is a real “get it done” attitude that you don't see in a lot of other places, and a work ethic that reminds me a lot of the Midwest. They get it done, and then the balance happens when they make time for exploring the outdoors with family and friends.

(I also love that southwest Montana is so beautiful that my mom doesn't hate coming here 3+ times a year to visit).

What else should people know about you?

I'm originally from Minneapolis, and have lived all over the country. I've called Philipsburg home for over 6 years—which is now the longest I've ever stayed in one place! I live with my son, James, (the most hilarious person I know—great comedic timing, excellent funny faces) who will be four on Halloween, our two enormous, neurotic dogs, and our cat. Lots of laughs. Lots of fur.

When I left my corporate job in my early 30s, I started on a journey that led me through a multitude of industries. I joke that I'm a skill hoarder...I've done everything—organizing a fiddle camp in the mountains of California, diamond grading, bottling at the Philipsburg Brewing Company, selling real estate, running a restaurant, event planning, managing a medical device company, single-mom-life, starting up my own small businesses...it's given me a unique perspective that is proving advantageous for with my new position at Headwaters, and it really feels like the place I'm meant to be right now.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

— DAVID —
GUTIERREZ



ALL OF THE 2022

20 UNDER 40
HONOREES

BUTTE IS LUCKY
TO HAVE SO MANY
DEDICATED YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN OUR COMMUNITY.

CONGRATULATIONS

JASON SCHUMACHER

Age: 34

OCCUPATION

Jason Schumacher is a loan officer at Stockman Bank of Montana in the Dillon branch. He's been with Stockman Bank since 2013 and attended the University of Montana Western on a golf scholarship, graduating with honors in 2010. Schumacher earned a bachelor's degree in business with a minor in small business management. After graduating from college he moved to Helena to work and was eventually fortunate to have the opportunity to return to Dillon and work at the bank.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Schumacher says one of the best decisions he ever made was joining the Dillon Jaycees. Being a Jaycee in Dillon is very rewarding as the organization is very active and therefore able to provide so much to the Dillon community in the form of activities, scholarships and numerous other commu-

nity projects and donations. He adds that he feels truly proud to be part of such a great group of dedicated young men and women. During his time as a Jaycee, Schumacher has served in a variety of positions including; director, treasurer, president (2018) and rodeo chairman (2020). He also served on the State Jaycee Board as treasurer in 2019.

In 2013 Schumacher launched a new fundraising activity; the Red, White and Blue Golf Scramble, dedicated to providing the Dillon community with a free fireworks show on the 4th of July. In 2017 the Jaycees added the Summer Kickoff Concert in conjunction with the golf scramble. In 2018 he was also the recipient of the Dillon Jaycee Outstanding Young Man Award.

As an avid golfer Schumacher was recruited to volunteer as a coach for the Dillon Junior Golf Program, formerly Hook-A-Kid-On-Golf program since its inception in 2014. He also just finished serving two terms as an elected member of the Board of Directors for the Beaverhead Golf Course

Please see **SCHUMACHER**, Page 15



PROVIDED PHOTO

Jason Schumacher is a loan officer at Stockman Bank of Montana in the Dillon branch.

JASON SCHUMACHER
LOAN OFFICER
406-683-1612

**CONGRATULATIONS,
JASON!**

We are proud to have you on our team, and we thank you for your hard work, dedication, and the volunteer work you do for the Dillon community!

Stockman Bank

Montana's Brand of Banking

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

**CONGRATULATIONS
JASON
SCHUMACHER**

On your 20 Under 40 Nomination

**We are proud of
your success!**

**HIGH PEAKS
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce

3 D Gift Shop | All Your Friends!

SCHUMACHER

From 14

serving as the secretary and a past Vice-President.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

I have been fortunate to live in southwest Montana my entire life. Becoming a working professional in your hometown is really what makes living in Small Town USA special. Working for a community bank and helping your local friends and neighbors to start a business, remodel their home, or purchase their dream vehicle is what makes me proud to work at Stockman Bank. Stockman Bank is a family-owned, community-minded institution and I have great co-workers who are like family. Volunteering alongside a group of individuals who have also become like family couldn't be a better way to spend my off hours. Dillon has one of the best 9 hole golf courses in the state, not to mention great fishing, hunting, hiking and winter activities. I couldn't pick a better place to live and eventually raise a family than Beaverhead County.

What else should people know about you?

I was born in Bozeman and moved to Dillon in 2001. I graduated from Beaverhead County High School in 2006. I met my wife, Carlee, in 2018 while I was serving as the elected president of the Dillon Jaycees and she was the elected president of the Dillon Jaycee Auxiliary. However, Carlee keeps reminding me that we went to high school together. Carlee and I enjoy traveling, going new places, meeting new people, trying new things, giving back to our community as last but not least spending time with our family and friends.

JOREY THATCHER



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Jorey Thatcher is an officer at Butte Probation and Parole.

Age: 24

OCCUPATION

Jorey Thatcher is an officer at Butte Probation and Parole. He has been employed at the Department of Corrections since August 2022. He began working in corrections at CCCS upon graduating from high school in 2017 as a security officer. Thatcher later became an ETSS officer and developed case manager experience. In 2019, he began working at the Butte-Silver Bow Detention Center and remained there for three years. Every one of these positions were very rewarding and Thatcher says he is grateful for the opportunity and the experiences he received.

As an officer for Butte Adult Probation and Parole, he has enjoyed the challenges he comes across each day. Thatcher's fellow officers and supervisors have helped him gain the knowledge he needs to be effective and proficient. He says he truly enjoys this position as he gains new knowledge

Please see **THATCHER**, Page 21

“I enjoy helping with organizations and raising funds for any cause, because I feel that helping someone is always the right thing to do.

Jorey Thatcher

CONGRATULATIONS

20 Under 40 Nominee

Jason Schumacher

Thank you for your commitment to our Community and your dedication to making Dillon a better place!

Dillon Jaycees



Congratulations

ALONG WITH OUR 2022 HONOREES WE ARE HAPPY TO CELEBRATE THOSE FROM 2021 AND 2020 AS WE MISSED HAVING EVENTS DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

2020

Callie Boyle
Adam Cook
Brienne Downey
Debra Elings
Ivy Frerickson
Angie Hasquet
Jenny Heglund
Jake Kelly
Amber Ketelsen
Krissy Krackzowsky
Quinn McCarthy
Kate McGree
Krystin Mengon-Lee
Tracy Miller
John Morgan
Josh Schad
Amy Schulte
Laura Twist
Carrie Vath
Adam Vauthier

2021

Loren Burmeister
Tara Callaghan
Andrew Dreesen
Taylor Floreen
Teah Fuller
Mike Haynes
Anthony Hoffman
Aubrey Jaap
Casey McConnell
Clay McQueary
Amanda Newbreast
Ashely Nikolaisen & Shauna Hollow
JM peck
Risik Rask
Laci Peck Ridder
Amanda Schmidt
Tyler Shaffer
Kelci Thatcher
Ryan and Lindsey Todorovich
Cassandra Weber

CLAY SECCOMB

Age: 25

OCCUPATION

Clay Seccomb is the owner and a broker at Platinum Real Estate.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Born and raised in the Mining City, Seccomb found his love and passion for helping people and the community. The leaders and community members of Butte are always willing to volunteer, lend a hand, and always are kind and genuine. Seccomb says he has made it a goal to always give back as much as he can to our community. Since becoming a realtor he has enjoyed being able to volunteer with the Rocky Mountain Association of Realtors and the Montana Association of Realtors. Over the past five years Seccomb has sat on numerous committees and boards with these associations, including devoting time as chair of the Young Professional Network Committee for both the Rocky Mountain Association of Realtors (RMAR) and the Montana As-

sociation of Realtors (MAR), being a local director for RMAR, governor with the Montana Regional MLS, and serving on the Executive Committee and Executive Board for MAR. Along with being a volunteer with the Realtor associations, he also became a Butte Chamber of Commerce ambassador in 2022. From 2018-2021 Seccomb served as the social media director for the Butte Amateur Hockey Association.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Being in real estate, my day-to-day activities have me running all over Butte and southwest Montana. Every day in real estate is a new day. When I am out showing residential homes in Butte, neighbors tell me good luck on the showing, and that they can't wait to meet their new neighbors. My favorite part about living in Southwest Montana is that everyone is always willing to lend a hand, even when I get my truck stuck showing off-grid properties in Clear Creek! The people we are neighbors with,



Clay Seccomb is the owner and a broker at Platinum Real Estate.

MEAGAN THOMPSON,
THE MONTANA
STANDARD

the people that sit across the restaurant from us at lunch and the people that we explore our state, are also the people that are volunteering their time at the local food banks, charities, benefits, projects, kids sporting events and the numerous boards and committees throughout town. We are all the same and we share the compassion that we love in our community, and we want to continuously improve it. Southwest Montana has so much to offer and being able to sell the life that I live every day is beyond rewarding. From camping in Feely,

skiing at Discovery, to floating the Big Hole, we have so many options day-to-day for activities. We truly do live in the last best place.

What else should people know about you?

Most people call me Clay, but there are still some that will refer to me as the "Snow-Cone Kid." Growing up in Butte, my brother and I opened a snow cone company, "Sno-Konz & More." We grew that company to multiple carts, then sold it all to attend college at Montana Tech.

NATASHA CHADWELL

Age: 30

OCCUPATION

Natasha Chadwell is a program administrator at Montana Tech for the mathematics and computer science departments and the College of Letters, Sciences, and Professional Studies. She has already earned a bachelor of science degree in environmental science and will earn a master's degree in ecological restoration this December. Chadwell says her favorite aspect of her role at Montana Tech as both staff and a graduate student is the opportunity to follow her passion for problem solving and research. Chadwell's thesis research focuses on the relationships between mycorrhizal fungi and native plant species in mining-impacted soils. Montana faces many challenges, and it is her absolute pleasure to work alongside students and colleagues who dedicate themselves to finding meaningful solutions.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Chadwell says she is very grateful for

the mentors and community members that have supported her endeavors and curiosities over the years. She adds that it is important for her to pay their kindness forward and do what she can to serve our communities and ecosystems. On campus, one of her favorite events volunteering for the annual Science & Engineering Fair. This STEM fair brings high school students from around the state to Montana Tech and their research projects are nothing short of inspiring. Chadwell also serves on the Montana Tech Staff Senate and Graduate Student Advisory Board to help promote positive growth on campus. Off campus, she serves on the Board of Directors for the Science Mine in Butte, a nonprofit organization dedicated to early science education and discovery. Interactive exhibits can be explored at 36 E. Granite Street on Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chadwell is also a member of the Montana Native Plant Society and enjoys sharing knowledge of native plant species and the ecological benefits they provide (mtnativeplants.org).



Natasha Chadwell is a program administrator at Montana Tech.

MEAGAN THOMPSON,
THE MONTANA
STANDARD

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

What I like best, aside from the beautiful landscape and immediate access to outdoor recreation, are the people. The residents of Butte and Anaconda are unique and have a deep sense of community and a call to action. While there are challenges that come from living with Superfund, it is incredible to see the number of individuals and crews that collaborate on clean-up and res-

toration projects. These initiatives provide long-term benefits to our families and help preserve the Montana way of life.

What else should people know about you?

I was born and raised in Boise, Idaho and have been in Butte for just over eight years. Butte, America captured my heart early on and I look forward to what adventures lie ahead here. I am honored to have been nominated for this recognition and owe much of my success to the support of my daughter, Madison (6), and husband, Jesse.

Platinum
REAL ESTATE

Congrats!

**CLAY
SECCOMB**

and all nominees and honorees of the
20 UNDER 40



Well deserved, Clay!

Thank you for being the
best leader & broker
for our team!

NICK DODGE

Age: 30

OCCUPATION

Nick Dodge is a full-time real estate broker with Clearwater Montana Properties and Sports Afield Trophy Properties. He became a licensed realtor about four-and-a-half years ago, and recently acquired his broker license and supervising broker endorsement. Dodge specializes in land, ranch, and recreational properties, but also enjoys all aspects of representing buyers and sellers in residential home purchases. Dodge has also ventured into small development projects and investment property over the past year and a half.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Dodge says he feels fortunate to be a part of a unique program through his brokerage which allows him to donate a percentage of his real estate commissions back to non-profit organizations right here at home, and in the surrounding communities. The Skyline Sportsmen Association is an organization that he's made contributions to over the past few years. Dodge is also a proud board member with Skyline. He has also been able to give back to District 2 and Northwest Little League, Butte American Legion Baseball, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Braach Shepherds, Butte High Chemical Free Grad Party, Butte High Girls Soccer, The Fort Union Trading Post, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Dodge says his favorite contribution has been founding the Charles Gilder Memorial Scholarship along with the help of his family. The scholarship was created in honor of his late grandfather, who battled multiple sclerosis. To date, they've given two \$1,000 scholarships to Butte High seniors.



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Nick Dodge is a real estate broker with Clearwater Montana Properties and Sports Afield Trophy Properties.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

One of my favorite movie quotes from "A River Runs Through It" is "Oh I'll never leave Montana brother." Butte and southwest Montana are home, and I love it here. My friends are here, my family is here, and I am blessed to have a career here. I never had the appreciation for Montana that I

have since working in real estate, and I began to realize that people would kill to have grown up enjoying what Montana has to offer, just like I did. And, in Butte, we have it all right outside our back door. One of the coolest things about this journey has been the genuine people that I have met along the way.

What else should people know about you?

I love baseball, and am a former Butte

Miners and Muckers baseball coach. Shoutout to the Miners on their incredible Regional Championship season! I love country music, hunting, fishing, and spending time with family. Most of all, I am honored to be recognized along with this group of incredible individuals. I am truly thankful for my family, friends, colleagues, clients, and community members who have gone out of their way to offer their advice, support, and guidance.

“One of my favorite movie quotes from ‘A River Runs Through It’ is ‘Oh I’ll never leave Montana brother.’ Butte and southwest Montana are home, and I love it here. My friends are here, my family is here, and I am blessed to have a career here. I never had the appreciation for Montana that I have since working in real estate, and I began to realize that people would kill to have grown up enjoying what Montana has to offer, just like I did. And, in Butte, we have it all right outside our back door.”

Nick Dodge

20 UNDER FORTY

Thank You!

TO ALL OUR 20 UNDER 40 SPONSORS!
THE 20 UNDER 40 SECTION AND EVENT IS POSSIBLE
BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT!



ABBY PELTOMAA

Age: 39

OCCUPATION

Abby Peltomaa is the data manager for the Department of Reclamation and Environmental Services for Butte-Silver Bow. She also is an adjunct faculty for Montana Tech in the biology department. Both jobs are so fulfilling, according to Peltomaa. She also loves getting to work to make the Butte area better for family, friends and, really, everyone. Peltomaa also loves getting the opportunity to teach students at Tech – the place that gave her an education and so much work experience, as well as continue to work with her mentors. Some of her students have become great friends, and Peltomaa says it is so rewarding to see them out there and making their mark on the world.



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Abby Peltomaa is the data manager for the Department of Reclamation and Environmental Services for Butte-Silver Bow.

League baseball coach, elementary school basketball coach and she volunteers at her church.

Please see PELTOMAA, Page 21

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Peltomaa is on the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives Board of Directors, a Little

TOM BOYLE

Age: 39

OCCUPATION

Tom Boyle is a residential real estate lender with Clearwater Credit Union located in Uptown Butte.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Boyle is a board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butte, Butte Historic Trust and Butte Central Schools. He's also involved with Knights of Columbus. Boyle has devoted time to coaching various youth sports, especially basketball.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

I love the people and community feel of



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Tom Boyle is a residential real estate lender with Clearwater Credit Union.

southwest Montana, especially Butte. I also love that there are so many wonderful places to visit and enjoy, in a short distance, every direction. My family and I had to spend 2 years out of state to realize that there is no place we would rather be than Butte, America!

What else should people know about you?

That I was born and raised in Butte by great parents, Bernie and Peggy, and grew up 1 of 4 boys. I also have a beautiful, supportive wife Cris that has done most of the work raising 3 kids in Butte, since we moved back 8 years ago.

Butte-Silver Bow Department of Reclamation CONGRATULATES



Abby Peltomaa

and the 2022 20 under 40 recipients.
We appreciate your dedication to
Butte and the region.

Congratulations Tom Boyle

On your 20 Under 40 Honor

Thank you for all you do for our
Community and the Knights of Columbus



CONGRATULATIONS

to all of the 20 Under 40 Winners from
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butte

This year **Tom Boyle** (Board Member) and
Megan Bristol (Former Volunteer), will be
honored and joining the 20 Under 40
Honorees in 2022, in addition to the below:

2021 Honoree:
Laci Ridder
Executive Director

2020 Honoree:
Debra Ellings
Board Member

These honorees speak volumes for the
organization as a whole and the work you
are all doing in our community.

Proudly serving our
community since 1967

Big Brothers Big Sisters
OF BUTTE-SILVER BOW

“We simply fell in love with the Montana way of life. There is nothing more relaxing than a few minutes in the fresh mountain air after a long day at work. The beautiful scenery seems to melt away your stress!”

Lynnsey Moen

MOEN

From 9

years and served in Hawaii and deployed to Afghanistan in 2011-12 where she worked with the Afghanistan Police Officers to train them in security and community policing. Moen was then stationed in Colorado and eventually transitioned into the U.S. Army Reserves where she says she was privileged enough to combine her passions as an instructor for military police officers. She deployed to Poland for a year from 2019-20 where she worked with the Polish military to improve force protection throughout the country. Moen also served as the sexual assault response coordinator throughout the country. She

was also able to spend time in the Polish elementary schools. Moen added that she has a tremendous amount of pride in her time in the service and will always be grateful for the life experiences during that period of her life.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

My husband and I chose southwest Montana to call home after having the opportunity to live all over the country. We simply fell in love with the Montana way of life. There is nothing more relaxing than a few minutes in the fresh mountain air after a long day at work. The beautiful

scenery seems to melt away your stress!

What else should people know about you?

I would not be where I am today if it wasn't for my patient husband, Trent. He is always supportive of the time that I dedicate to doing what I am passionate about. My parents instilled a strong work ethic and sense of pride in me from the time I was little, and I would not have attempted the things I have without that foundation! My co-workers and service members that I served with here have been extremely welcoming and encouraging as I have made southwest Montana my home and continued my journey to become a better teacher, soldier, and leader. I truly appreciate the love and support!

MULLEN

From 11

community. It's exciting to be part of a motivated, younger group of patrons seeking ways to step up in Southwest Montana and it energizes me to further my service work.

What else should people know about you?

I am, first and foremost, a husband and a father but I pride myself on being an involved member of my community. I recently joined a joint board between the City of Deer Lodge and Powell County that advocates for our families who work at Montana State Prison. It's my belief we've taken our government employees for granted in this state for too long. Our

teachers in public schools, our employees at the State Hospital and the State Prison deserve to have everyone in Southwest Montana working together to protect these institutions or we may lose a part of ourselves that impacts and guides our way of life, and has for generations. We owe it to future generations to preserve Montana and our way of life, in this way, giving back to our community drives me.

THATCHER

From 15

and understanding each time he goes out in the field. His passion has always been to work in corrections because he enjoys the law enforcement side of things as well as the case management work. Thatcher feels that it is a great way to help and protect the community of Butte.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Thatcher has been a volunteer with the local Special Olympics organization, Butte Cares, Butte DUI Task Force, and

the Boulevard Fire Department. He also helps coach East Middle School wrestling. Thatcher tries to stay active with many of the organizations in Butte and help out whenever he can.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

I love Butte and I am proud to have grown up here. I had a wonderful childhood and a great education. As for my volunteer work, it is important for me to give back to my community and see what I can do to help others. I enjoy helping with organizations and raising funds for any

cause, because I feel that helping someone is always the right thing to do.

What else should people know about you?

I attended West Elementary, East Middle School and Butte High School. I played football and wrestled for BHS and developed lifelong friendships with my teammates. I am the proud son of Gene Thatcher and Kathleen Foley who raised me to be the person I am today and always believed that I could do just about anything. I have three older brothers, Sean, Justin and Chris (“Homer”) Thatcher that I look up to because I appreciate everything they have done for me. I am one lucky guy!

PELTOMAA

From 20

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

I like that I can get a pasty whenever I need one.

Of course, there's the beauty of our area. I mean every day I am in awe at something new here in Butte and southwest Montana. Whether it's talking with someone in our community or looking at something historical on our landscape or simply looking at the cleanup that's occurred, I love learning something new every day.

What else should people know about you?

I was born and raised in Butte and love all things Butte – the history, the people, the food but really, I love that we all take care of each other here and I can go anywhere and say hi and start a conversation.

I have two wild, crazy, and smart kids, Casen and Cameron, who make me laugh with their wit and marvel at how smart they are.

I also have a small jewelry business that I have had for a few years now – Blu Pickle, which was named for my kids.

I have a village behind me. If it weren't for my family, my friends, my co-workers (Julia thank you for this), my children's friends' parents who help run my children, my mentors, all of you...I could not have become who I am and do all of these things that I love. Seriously, I wish I could name all of you – if you think you are one of them, you are, if you don't think you're one of them, you still probably are. I also have to give my parents, Mike and Debbie Leary, major kudos – they raised my sister and I to work hard. My sister, McKenna, made the Pittsburgh List (features Pittsburgh professionals and local businesses) in 2019 – she makes me so proud!

So, thank you to my village – here in Butte and everywhere else!

“I have a village behind me. If it weren't for my family, my friends, my co-workers (Julia thank you for this), my children's friends' parents who help run my children, my mentors, all of you...I could not have become who I am and do all of these things that I love.”

Abby Peltomaa

JESSICA WICKS

Age: 39

OCCUPATION

Jessica Wicks is a member of the Montana State Senate, representing SD39, and is the Teamsters Local No. 2 business agent and political coordinator. She was appointed to fill the vacant seat of SD39 when Senator Mark Sweeney unexpectedly passed. Although her term is short, Wicks says that she has been meeting with workers, consultants, union leaders, other legislators and the State of Montana in order to seek a path forward specifically for Montana State Hospital and for higher wages for state employees. The senate position is just an intersection with her job as a business agent for Teamsters Local No. 2. Wicks' daily job and passion is to stand up for working people in Montana and give them a voice. She has sat across the negotiations table from friends and foes and has managed to come to a deal. Wicks has welcomed new hires and celebrated retirees. She has fought on behalf of workers that didn't get



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Jessica Wicks is a member of the Montana State Senate, representing SD39, and is the Teamsters Local No. 2 business agent and political coordinator.

a fair shake. She has been on the shop floor when workers found out that the business was closing and there wouldn't be a job to go to. She has gone to the Montana State

Capitol and stood with her union brothers and sisters in the fight against right to work and other anti-worker legislation. Wicks has even been fortunate enough to go to

Washington D.C. and lobby on behalf of the working Teamsters across the country. In all of this she has learned many important lessons and continue to do so.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Wicks is commander of the Anaconda Pintler Search & Rescue, secretary of the Deer Lodge County Democratic Central Committee, election judge and a youth soccer coach in Anaconda. She has proudly served as the commander of the Anaconda Pintler Search & Rescue for two years and nominated for a third. Wicks says that this honor has been one of the most rewarding in her life. Through this organization she learned how to be a better Montanan. It gave her the tools and training to be prepared and how to enjoy Southwest Montana's wilderness in a safe and respectful way. On the events when we have been called out by the chief of police, it serves as an on-the-spot test. It tests her willingness, skills, teamwork, strength, endurance, compassion and limits. At the end of every callout there is a debrief; what went right and what could have gone better? These moments and challenges push Wicks to do better.

Please see **WICKS**, Page 23



PROVIDED PHOTO

Matthew Enrooth is the chief deputy county attorney in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County and the owner of Enrooth Law, PLLC.

MATTHEW ENROOTH

Age: 36

OCCUPATION

Matthew Enrooth is currently the chief deputy county attorney in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County and the owner of Enrooth Law, PLLC. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of North Dakota. After graduation Enrooth clerked for the Honorable Ray. J. Dayton for the Third Judicial District Court. After his clerkship ended, Enrooth moved to Bozeman where he accepted a job at the Public Defenders Office of the State of Montana. After working as a public defender for two years Enrooth says he was lucky enough to find a job back in his hometown of Butte. Enrooth returned to Butte, where he worked as an associate attorney at the Vicevich Law Firm for two years where he primarily practiced criminal and family law. After being with the Vicevich Law Firm for two years, a position at the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Attorney's office opened

up. Enrooth accepted the position and has been working as a deputy county attorney since the beginning of 2020. Enrooth has been at the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Attorney's office for almost three years now and he says that with all honesty, the people he works with in the office and in the

Courthouse are first-class people and he couldn't picture himself working anywhere else. While working as at the Anaconda County Attorney's Office, Enrooth was also able to open a small civil law practice where

Please see **ENROOTH**, Page 23

Congratulations

Matthew Enrooth

On being selected as one of this year's "20 Under 40" Honorees! Anaconda-Deer Lodge County is proud to have you on our team!



ENROOTH

From 22

he primarily practices in the areas of real estate and construction law.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

After returning to Butte, Enrooth has served as the MAHA representing the Butte Amateur Hockey Association and sat on the BAHA hockey board. He is currently working with the Silver Bow County District Court as Guardian Ad Litem for youths in need of care. Enrooth says working as a GAL has been one of the best decisions of his life and career. He adds that he truly enjoys being able to work for the youth of the community he grew up in and make sure that their best interests are also put first, and that they are taken care of and loved.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

Living in Montana for me is all about taking advantage of what our outdoor recreational opportunities have to offer. When I am outdoors, whether it be camping, hunting, or fishing, by myself or with friends and family, I truly feel

“Living in Montana for me is all about taking advantage of what our outdoor recreational opportunities have to offer.”

Matthew Enrooth

at home. While recreating outdoors, especially with my family, I know I am where I belong and that I truly have a blessed life.

What else should people know about you?

I was born and raised in Butte, Montana. Butte is my home, and I cannot think of a better place to raise my children with my loving wife Brittany. With her, and my three children, Lincoln, Grant, and Mattie-Lynn by my side, I cannot think of a better place to live.

I also want to thank all the people who nominated me. Some of you are family and some of you are friends, but in my eyes, you are all my family and I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart.

Butte, Montana truly is the richest hill on earth, and that is because of the people that live here and support our community.

WICKS

From 22

She also coach youth soccer in Anaconda although Wicks has no children of her own. She loves it. She loves the game and the kids. If she's had a bad day at work it was forgotten by the end of practice or game. The kids help keep her feet on the ground and life in perspective.

Q&A

What do you like best about living, working and volunteering in southwest Montana?

The people. Our family, friends, and neighbors are some of the best people in the nation. We still have a sense of community. People know and care for one another unlike in larger areas where even though there are more people, there seems to be less connection.

What else should people know about you?

I enjoy traveling and going on adventures with my wife, Angie Galetti, and our two dogs, Stella and Arrow. I am the oldest of four siblings that I am very close with despite being spread out across the country. I make a friend everywhere I go and enjoy meeting new people even just for a moment. On quiet nights I like to sit and play the piano with the dog at my feet.

Anaconda

Is proud of our 20 Under 40 Honoree

Jessica Wicks

Anaconda Pintler Search & Rescue

Congratulations



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