

SPOKE TALK

JUST A SWINGIN'



Plan B: Cycling motivation in the time of coronavirus

The subject of the email: Event canceled. And just like that, the air went out of the proverbial balloon. Are you someone who is goal-oriented and finds extra motivation to stay fit by training for summer cycling events? Or, are you just not finding your usual motivation to ride due to this pandemic? Perhaps participating in a local event will reinvigorate you.

Plan B for cyclist Rebecca Rusch took place recently when she created a challenge to cyclists around the globe, called the Everest Challenge, which gave her a training goal in the face of events that were canceled and also raised money for COVID-19 relief. The riders raised over \$135,000 during their solo event, and Rebecca was connected to hundreds of other cyclists achieving the same goal at the same time.

In Routt County, Plan B looks different depending on the event. First, the Moots Ranch Rally was canceled early on. Hopefully, it will be back in 2021.

Tour de Steamboat's "COVID-19 Edition" considered every way to accomplish the ride with a unique twist — you have two weeks to do it beginning on July 18 and ending Aug. 2. The event does have some registration spots open, and if you register by July 17, you'll be eligible for their prizes — one of those custom Titanium bikes. Check out their website for other prizes. And knowing that by registering you're helping out some of our local nonprofits is perhaps the only motivation you need to participate.

For the inaugural Emerald Mountain Epic, formerly Steamboat Stinger, organizers are working on their COVID-19 contingency plan. Organizers said the event "will likely be able to take place with scaled-down numbers from previous years and with a virtual offsite option for folks to support Routt County Riders and Partners in Routt County from afar."

They will potentially stagger riders at the start as well as have participants ride similar distances closer to hometowns. Stand by for more plan B developments there.

For SBT GRVL, the race itself has been canceled, but the inaugural SBT VRTL is now taking place on the same day, Aug. 16. Registration is free, which says



SHELBY REARDON/STAFF

Ella Snyder, 2, surveys the view from the swing set at Dry Creek Park in Hayden on Friday.

City approves camps

Council greenlights budget request for Parks & Rec's Adventure Bound

Shelby Reardon
Steamboat Pilot & Today

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS — It isn't summer without summer camp, and with COVID-19 restrictions slowly loosening, the summer of 2020 won't be without that experience. The Steamboat Springs Parks and Recreation Department announced this week that Adventure Bound Summer Camps will begin July 6 after Steamboat Springs City Council approved a budget request on Tuesday.

Day camps will be offered Monday through Thursday for six weeks. The weekly cost per child is \$175, with partial scholarships available to eligible participants. Enrollment will be based on need, income, residency and a few other factors.

Adventure Bound will run on a weekly basis to maintain consistent groups of participants, as per current health orders. There will be no daily registrants or prorated costs for partial attendance. Since health orders are constantly changing, activity schedules will go out the week before each camp. So, the activity calendar for the July 6 camp will be available June 29.

A major difference in the summer's camp structure will be that field trips will be contained to Routt County, rather than



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traveling to Denver, Glenwood Springs and elsewhere as in years past. The camp will also avoid pools for the time being, focusing water activities on rivers and lakes.

Adventure Bound will cost the city \$65,000 to operate. The money City Council approved to support the camps was originally built into the budget to cover the cost of hosting Triple Crown Sports events throughout the summer.

On Tuesday, council decided Triple Crown will not come to Steamboat for the first time in nearly four decades, and council member Michael Buccino suggested using the funds previously budgeted for the tournaments to support local youth summer camps. The measure was unanimously approved by council.

"I'm not surprised the council funded it," said Parks and Recreation director Angela Cosby. "They've been talking about it for almost two months over the course of three different meetings, saying, 'We need a source of recreation programming. How are we going to do that?'"

Putting on camps this summer comes with new costs for the city.

Youth and Teen Recreation Supervisor Megan Troiani said the Parks and Recreation Department expects to go through 300 pairs of gloves a day, just based on having to change gloves after applying sunscreen to each camper. She's not sure how they'll be able to frequently purchase and stock up on that amount of gloves.

"Not having enough gloves in town is a new issue I didn't see at first," she said. "Thinking more into everything, we're finding now we have a few more obstacles to figure out."

Troiani also expects the requirement that campers keep masks on throughout the day will be a challenge. She said she's spoken with local preschools and learned that young kids are getting used to wearing them.

"That's been a challenge for all of us coming to work, day-to-day, wearing a mask for such a long period of time," Troiani said. "I see all the children struggling to wear the mask when we're inside, the whole time."

Parks and Recreation is still looking for summer camp group leaders since there can only be so many people in a room, and there is a required adult-child ratio. Those 18 and older can apply at steamboat-springs.net/jobs.

The first round of applications for camp will be reviewed next week, so all materials must be submitted by 8 a.m. Monday, June 22. Families will be notified of acceptance by June 29. To apply and learn more, go to steamboatsprings.com/summer.

SPORTS

List of SSWSC award winners for 2020 season

Staff report
Steamboat Pilot & Today

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS — At the end of every winter season, the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club announced awards to athletes and coaches who had particularly special seasons.

The club had been presenting awards through videos that are posted nearly every day on its Facebook page, and now, every award has been announced. Here is a cumulative list.

ATHLETE AWARDS

■ **Bea Kirby Trophy:**

Tess Arnone

■ **Asher Award:** Nathan Rind

■ **Ashley Stamp Memorial Award:** Kinsley Jacobson

■ **Barrett Burch Memorial Trophy:** Arthur Keller, Mathilda Spaustat

■ **Buddy Werner**

Bronze: Chris Inglis, Caley Goforth

■ **Charles Abernathy Memorial "True Grit"**

Award: Axel Kovach

■ **Chris McNeill Memorial Award:** Ellory Kearns

■ **Cross-Country Outstanding Performance:**

Wally Magill

■ **Erika Mueller Snowboard Spirit Award:** Dana Albers

■ **Flying Further and Faster Award:** Alexa Brabec

■ **Freeskier Vision Award:** David Schlicht

■ **Freestyle Coaches Cup:** Katie McLaughlin

■ **Freestyle Pursuit of Excellence Award:** Teus Deering

■ **Henry Hall Award:**

Annika Belshaw, Erik Belshaw

■ **Hobart Freestyle Award:** Riley Hodges

■ **Mary C. Magill Memorial Ski Meister Award:**

Cole Contois

■ **Ned Grant Memorial Trophy:** Cooper Jones, Nick Unkovskoy, Camden Wilkinson

■ **Scott Blair Character Award:** Jacy Werner

■ **Skeeter Award:** Emma McHaffie

■ **Snowboarding Excellence Award:** Aimee Wild

■ **Snowboarding Outstanding Performance:**

Izzy Hamric

■ **Stahly Award:** Anabel Ayad

■ **Telemark Reipe-lykkje Award:** Hudson Merlina

■ **Tyler Gooding**

Award: Riley Grosdidier

■ **Wilbur Madsen Memorial Award:** Aspen Bennett-Manke

■ **Woodside Foundation "Cowboy Up" Athlete Award:** Chase Seymour

AWARD WINNERS

■ **John Fletcher Honorary Sustaining Member:**

Dave Zink

■ **Ritter Memorial Courage Cup:** Millie Flanigan

COMMUNITY AWARDS

■ **Woodside Foundation Coach Excellence Award:** Noah Freed

COACH AWARDS

■ **SSWSC Alpine Competitive Coach of the Year:** Chantal Knapp

■ **SSWSC Cross County Coach of the Year:** Tasha Trasher

■ **SSWSC Freeskier Coach of the Year:** Andy Michnay

■ **SSWSC Freestyle Coach of the Year:** James Mac

■ **SSWSC Nordic Combined - Coach of the Year:** Josh Hanson

■ **SSWSC Snowboard Coach of the Year:** Trevor "Apple" Mekelburg

■ **SSWSC Youth Coach of the Year:** Linda Curzon

DOWSKI

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we should all be doing it community-wide, and there are four routes to choose from ranging from 37 to 144 miles. They have incredible sponsors and prizes, and the ride supports five local nonprofits. You can choose where to donate on the registration website. The organizers have been striving to encourage everyone to ride



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more, and local nonprofits were chosen with that goal in mind.

For those of you who just want to get out there, maybe, just maybe, there's never been a better time to be out cycling, and donating, in Routt County. The snow has

melted, the trails are open, the mag chloride has been dropped on most of our 650 miles of gravel, and Routt County Riders has been out cleaning up the asphalt and the dirt. Check out the Routt County Riders' website for more cycling motivation at routtcountyriders.org.

Barb Dowski is a long-time Yampa Valley resident and serves as Routt County Riders' Board Secretary.

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