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MAKING A HOME IN CRESTED BUTTE IS CERTAINLY A DREAM COME TRUE.

This issue of The Peak might be my favorite yet. This year, we looked outside the normal perimeters of how we might define a home. A house in the mountains can mean many different things. It's all about what you want out of it, right? It's about what you dream up...

One homeowner we met dreamed of creating a tree house where he could roll his bed out under the stars. And with some determination and a team of expert builders, that big idea turned into a custom tree house. Now, every summer, he and his wife can lie in bed and stargaze.

A family from Kentucky aspired to one day have a home in the mountains of Colorado. Once they found Crested Butte they were hooked and put together a stellar team to create an adaptable and stunning home of their dreams.

We're taking you inside a classic Crested Butte home where a surprise meets you at the front door. It may be the most elegant home in town. The homeowner dreamed of the former miner's cabin becoming a Swedish cottage with a touch of glamour. And her dream became a reality.

Another project we're featuring is a "house" on wheels that Jeff Dixon built in his free time. Jeff and his wife, Jamie, just took their brand-new, custom tiny camper on the road, all the way to California. With its red door, rustic wood siding and metal roof, this tiny camper is turning heads wherever it goes.

It doesn't matter if an idea starts out as a passing daydream or a vision so big it never leaves your mind.

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PUBLISHERS.

JILL CLAIR & MELISSA FENLON

EDITOR.

MELISSA FENLON

WRITERS.

ALISSA JOHNSON
OLIVIA LUECKEMEYER
BETH BUEHLER
SETH MENSING
DAWNE BELLOISE
MELISSA FENLON

PHOTOGRAPHERS.

JAMES RAY SPAHN
LYDIA STERN
XAVI FANÉ
MELISSA FENLON

GRAPHIC DESIGN.

TYLER HANSEN
JILL CLAIR
NICKY O'CONNOR

ADVERTISING.

JEN NOLAN
ASHLEIGH CAHIR

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JAMES RAY SPAHN

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STORY SETH MENSING
PHOTOS XAVI FANÉ



A long way from his home in the city, perched above a mountain stream among the boughs of a spruce forest, Sam found a place he could dream. In some ways the trees there reminded him of the old oak trees where he would go as a boy. He grew up in Boston, where trees were his escape. Wrapped in the branches of a big hardwood on Cape Cod, Sam could lay back with a good book and go anywhere, be anyone and explore the far reaches of this world or any other. It was that power to transport that would give him an idea to build a cabin in the trees half a lifetime later.





Sam never let the trees leave his imagination. Even on his way to becoming a physician and Harvard research scientist, he learned the skills of arborism, climbing as high in the trees as his hands and feet could safely take him.

Along the way he discovered trees were more than just what he could observe with his five senses. They were magic, portals to a new perspective. From a platform he built at the top of the tallest hemlock on New Hampshire's Squam Lake, he could see the world in an entirely new way.

"That's one of the things I love about being in trees," he says. "They instantly remove you from the mundane, give you a dramatically new perspective, and put you in a different world without your having to travel anywhere." It was a view he would want to show his children someday.

So it wasn't long after he and his wife bought and remodeled a house outside of Crested Butte that he started searching the property for the perfect place for a tree house. He considered building his tree house in a single tree, perhaps in the style of the northwestern builders who wrap their structures around the trunks of giant evergreens.

"But," Sam says, "the problem with that is you're looking up into the branches of the tree. So if you want to see the stars, that doesn't work."

He eventually settled on building between two spruce trees that grew just far enough apart that their branches didn't overlap and spoil his view of the night sky. They came from the ground midway up a steep riverbank on the outside of a bend in the river just 40 or so feet from the house. They grow as straight and parallel as the tines of a fork from a point above the high water line and below the elevation of the house. On breezy days, Sam would lie down beneath the two trees and watch their tops sway in the wind.

The trunks, he thought, looked stable. Based on the ages of other trees on the property, he guessed they were between 100 and 120 years old. And a spruce would live another 250 years, on average. "This idea of the tree house

has been percolating in my brain for a really long time," Sam says. It was time to find someone who could build it.

Tony Veit had been building and remodeling homes to the highest standards in the Crested Butte area for 25 years. But his crew at TV Builders, Inc. had never encountered plans for a tree house like the one Sam was hoping to build. In fact, no one, as far as Sam could tell, had ever built a tree house in the Rocky Mountains like the one he wanted for his family.

By the time he met Tony, Sam had been thinking seriously about building a tree house for a decade or more. He wanted to be able to sleep under the stars with his wife with all the comforts

of home or curl up with a book beside his two daughters and daydream. Still, it was anyone's guess how the tree house would look.

His research had introduced him to builders and tree house designs from the hardwoods of New England to the big conifers of the Pacific Northwest and throughout the South and Midwest. But he couldn't find any evidence of a substantial tree house having been built in Colorado or the region.

To turn his childhood escape into a family retreat he'd break new ground in the pine and spruce forests of the Rockies. "That's where I gave the dreams to Tony and it was his job to make them a reality," Sam said.

For weeks before anything was built, Sam and Tony worked together, and even enlisted a structural engineer, to come up with a plan they thought would work in spruce trees in such an extreme mountain environment.

"One of the hardest decisions we had to make was about the design. This is sort of a more substantial tree house than most of them and it also snows more here than anywhere I've ever heard about a tree house being built," Sam said. "At the same time, this is a bedroom and I wanted to get my wife to sleep out there with me."

So if Tony had one design criteria to work from, it was that the tree house would need to shed or support a lot of snow and it needed to fit a king-sized bed. Plus, Sam says, "If we were

"There's no two ways about it: there is magic in trees, not just the trees but the world around trees."

“...it was anyone’s guess how the tree house would look.”



going to sleep out on the balcony under the stars and it started to rain, I needed to be able to roll [the bed] back inside while she was still in bed without waking her up and it needed to have a privy so when she woke up in the middle of the night when it was 35 degrees she wouldn't have to go back inside the house. Those were some of the things we were struggling with."

For Tony, there were a number of other challenges to overcome on a timeline dictated by the weather nearly two miles above sea level. And to give Sam and his wife at least one night in their new retreat before they left for the East Coast, he would need to work long days; seven days a week for seven weeks through the summer of 2014.

The first challenge was to devise a system to support the 16,000-pound structure between two trees without straining them. "If you compress around the tree, you stop the xylem and phloem that is the tree's circulatory system and the tree dies. They don't mind a single puncture, they can work around that," Sam says. "So the question is, how do you support something really heavy with a minimal amount of intrusion on the tree?"

The answer to that question came from Michael Garnier, one of the pioneers of modern tree house construction. One of Garnier's greatest contributions to the craft is the Garnier Limb, a specialized bolt that, when screwed into a tree, can support shear loads of up to 8,000 pounds apiece.

Best of all, installing the Garnier Limb wouldn't be overly traumatic for the tree and could support Sam's entire tree house with just six points of contact. Using the eight-inch anodized steel bolts to serve as the foundation for this one-of-a-kind construction, Tony attached a steel frame, custom-built by Gunnison's Brent Strauss of Strauss Design Studio, to each tree and then spanned the two with steel beams. Then he could use traditional building techniques to start his progress skyward.



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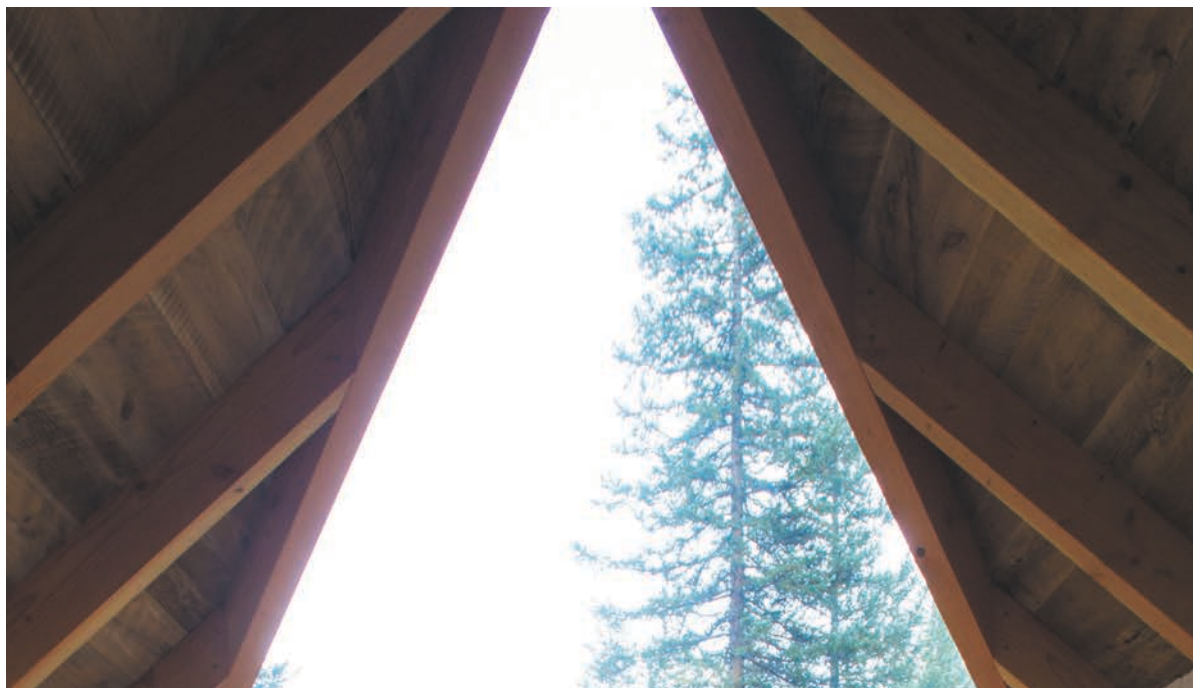
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“...[trees] instantly remove you from the mundane, give you a dramatically new perspective, and put you in a different world.”



Looking back on the project now, Tony thinks the tree house is one of the crowning achievements of his career. "As a builder I've built a lot of fancy homes, but I'm most proud of this," he said. "Nothing was easy and I just had to think differently."

From the house, you cross a 30-foot gangway that stabilizes the sway in the trees and anchors the tree house to the home's foundation. At the same time it provides convenient access to the tree house that's just a few solar-lit steps from Sam's daughters' bedrooms, should they need mom and dad in the night.

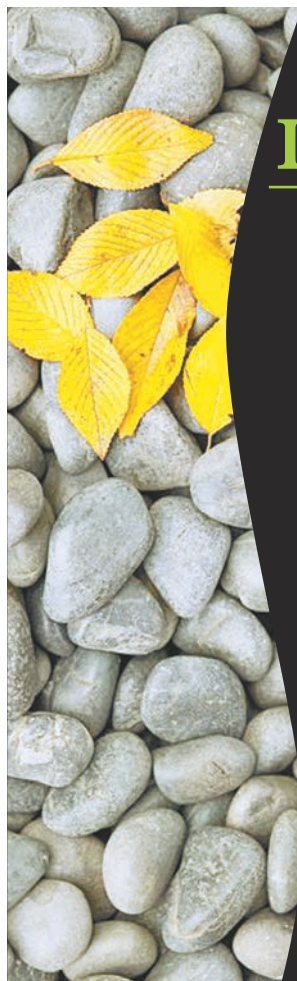
Inside, the 168-square-foot space is made to feel open and airy with bright hues of blue and yellow and the huge custom plate of glass covering an entire quarter of the hip roof. There's a vintage wood stove in one corner to keep the chill away and a big, pillow-lined oriel window that hangs out over the stream. Opposite a reading chair in one corner there's even a privy, complete with a crescent moon in the door.

Of course the huge bed in the center of it all is outfitted with a mattress warmer and sits on a solid frame with eight-inch rubber wheels that roll easily across the reclaimed oak floors. And on the side facing the Slate River, there's a 10-foot-wide folding wall of glass at the head of the bed that, on starry nights, gets pushed aside so Sam can roll the bed out onto a six-foot balcony.

But from the gangway or to people standing outside the entrance, the tree house remains a mystery kept hidden behind a solid wood front door. "It's like a secret. Sam didn't want a window in the door and I think that's my favorite element," Tony says. "When you walk in you enter a different realm." That is the affect Sam was hoping for; he wanted a house in a tree that could take him anywhere.

On the one hand, the tree house gives Sam a place to spend cool nights under the stars with his wife and warm days reading with his daughters. But it also provides him with an immense and immediate departure from the normal. For someone who spends so much of his life studying the tangible parts of this world, what Sam really loves about being in trees is magic.

"There's no two ways about it: there is magic in trees, not just the trees but the world around trees," Sam says. "And the tree house we built is about that magic. When you are lying in bed outside on the deck with the Milky Way spread out above you between the silhouettes of huge old spruce trees standing like sentinels, with the occasional shooting star streaking across the view, listening to the sound of the creek coming in one ear and out the other—you feel like you are in a spacecraft moving through the night sky, no longer subject to the forces of gravity, no longer tethered to the ground. It is, pure and simple, magic."

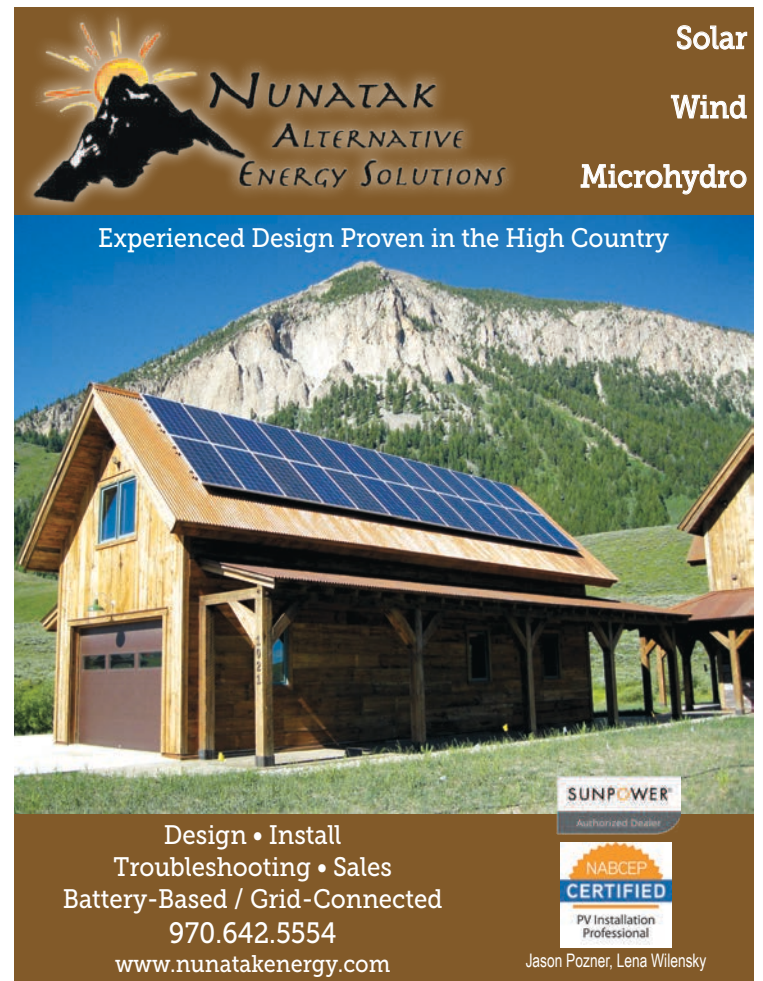


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ADAPTABLE LUXURY



STORY. *Olivia Lueckemeyer*
PHOTOS. *James Ray Spahn*

Tucked into the heart of downtown Crested Butte is a home born of a harmonious coterie of inventive and dexterous minds. Having lived in the same house in Kentucky for 28 years, the homeowners, who asked not to be identified, sought to build a home that was symbolic of their values and the time they had spent cultivating a busy, successful life. Specific needs related to a progressive health condition prompted all parties involved to think creatively, and what emerged was a space that is comfortable, yet adaptable.



After four sons and two active careers, the homeowners felt it was time to reward themselves with a home that fit their fantasy. They had heard of Crested Butte through their sons, and on a trip to Mt. Rushmore they took a wild hair detour to the Gunnison Valley to scope out real estate.

Her husband's plea of "Please don't call a Realtor" fell on deaf ears, and the homeowner found herself on the phone with an agent from Benson-Sotheby's. "What could it hurt?" the Realtor asked. At the time, nothing on the market fit her prerequisite for a home that could adapt to her illness. However, six months later the stars aligned and a colossal snow year resulted in a price reduction on a lot in town. Before she ever laid eyes on the property, her husband boarded a plane into Gunnison and purchased the lot. Not until the architect, builder and interior designer had been hired and the foundation had been poured did the female half of the couple finally encounter the project in the flesh.

"This was our midlife crisis," she explained in a half-joking tone. "We kept looking at each other like, 'Are we really doing this?'" But it was a total trust thing. If we hadn't met each of those people, it would have never happened."

The conveniences of modern technology played a huge role in the project's success. Decisions were made and plans were finalized over the phone, email and video chat. Topping their list of priorities were two main objectives: to build a home that could withstand the bedlam that often accompanies multiple sons; and to build a home that would be adaptable to any potential progressions of her chronic health condition. The builder, Don Smith of SmithWorks Natural Homes, was successful in delivering positive results on both fronts. He credits this to the relationship he formed with the homeowners, who he says were instrumental in making clear what worked for them as a family.

"What came up a lot was that their four boys are able to break almost anything," Smith recollected with a laugh. "It needed to be sturdy and functional."

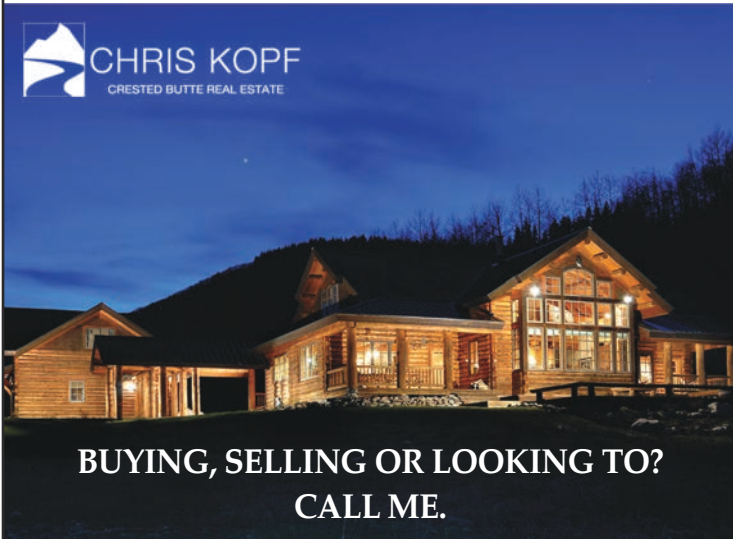
Originally the living spaces were to be located solely upstairs, but after taking the homeowner's health condition into consideration, Smith decided that a junior master bedroom, as well as the kitchen and the living area, should be located on the ground floor. At this point in her journey, the homeowner does not require a cane or a wheelchair, but in the case that her condition progresses, the couple wanted options. Features such as low stair risers, zero-clearance shower entrances, sturdy handrails and minimal steps to enter into the house were added to accommodate her potential needs.

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"If my health condition got worse, I wanted to still be a part of the family," she explained. "We wanted to build for the future, and while it's not completely handicap-accessible, it's adaptable."

Due to the homeowner's high chemical sensitivity and propensity toward environmental consciousness, Smith was also careful to use only non-toxic finishes, natural plasters and reclaimed timbers throughout the home. While it is standard practice in his builds, Smith took special care to ensure that all of the paint consisted of zero VOCs, or volatile organic compounds. For superior insulation, Smith opted for dense-pack cellulose with a mineral wool wrap.

Composed of recycled newspaper and binder, dense-pack cellulose is better than conventional spray foam insulation because it is totally non-toxic. It also allows for the permeation of vapor from the inside of the house out, and because of its mass it can also withstand a small absorption of moisture without releasing it.

"High-density spray foam is really toxic and as builders, we should move away from it," Smith explained. "For this house we had to use a little bit in the roof to meet code, but the wall system didn't need it."

Smith also used a mineral wool wrap in the framing of the home. For this specific build, the wrap, made from inorganic mineral material, was in sheet form and provided improved insulation.

"What's good about mineral wool is that it doesn't absorb moisture, it's vapor permeable and it's hypo-allergenic so there are zero VOCs and nothing toxic about it," Smith explained.

Smith purchased a high-performance house wrap from a company in Brooklyn, N.Y., again with the intention of improved insulation, air quality and moisture control. In order to achieve a "tight" home, the walls must be both vapor-permeable and airtight. Smith says that, in theory, the conventional Tyvek house wrap is supposed to be breathable one way and airtight the other, but that isn't always the case and "smart-house wraps are 100-fold better."

The homeowners were especially pleased with the way the house was framed. They boasted of its efficiency and air tightness, even claiming to pay less to heat their home in Colorado than they do in Kentucky.

"There are no drafts," she exclaimed. "I can't believe how solidly it was built. We lived in northern New Hampshire for years, so we understand cold and drafts. My heating bill in Kentucky is always higher than it is here."

For the homeowner, cultivating her dream house extended beyond the reaches of structural efficiency and quality of the build; she had vivid aspirations about the home's interior design. She enlisted the help of local designer Carolina Fecino-Alling of Interni Design Studio to transform her vision into reality, and once again, it was the perfect match.

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continued on page 30



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HITTING THE ROAD

words. alissa johnson | images. lydia stern



When husband and wife Jeff Dixon and Jamie Booth took their hand-built, tow-behind tiny camper to California, they weren't thinking about the reactions it might get from passersby. They were simply glad it was road-worthy. What started as a passing idea had turned into a full-blown project, and when the couple test drove the rig two days before hitting the road, it didn't have a door.

"This thing was so close to being unfinished when we left for California that Jamie was painting the door in front of the fireplace. We put on the last coat on Thursday night, let it dry overnight, installed the door Friday and left for California Friday night," Jeff said.

This is the nature of many home projects. What sounds like a great idea becomes a challenge to complete on top of work and in lieu of distractions like skiing—Jeff built the camper over four months, working primarily on weekends, with the hope of finishing it by the couple's February trip to California. Once completed, few home projects get as much attention as this one. From the moment the couple left Crested Butte, the tiny camper was a hit.



"People love it, and I think they love it in second three or four. The first couple of seconds they're like, what is that? It started in Gunnison at the City Market gas station. This woman was giving Jeff the thumbs up, saying, 'That's so great,'" Jamie said.

It didn't stop there. There were slow drive-bys on the freeway. At a California campground, a park employee drove by every morning and called, "Good morning! Love your rig!" And an elderly man saw nothing but business potential when he said, "I want in!"

Even after Jamie and Jeff completed their tour of Big Sur and Santa Barbara, the camper garnered attention. When Jamie posted photos on Instagram, new followers jumped on her feed, all with names like Tiny House Culture or Tiny House Traveler.

"We were blown away by it," Jamie said.

For the couple, the camper grew out of a comment Jeff made in passing after he'd acquired a rickety, rundown trailer last spring. "Wouldn't it be cool," he said to his wife, "to make a tear-drop camper trailer?"




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Jamie loved the idea, and Jeff realized he might have to follow through. Yet he also knew that the trailer he'd acquired wasn't up to the task of supporting a camper and it took some time to figure out a plan. By fall, he replaced it with a second, sturdier trailer and sketched out rough plan.

A carpenter by trade, Jeff jokes that he knows a lot about building houses but nothing about building trailers. "So I built an ultra-tiny house in the same



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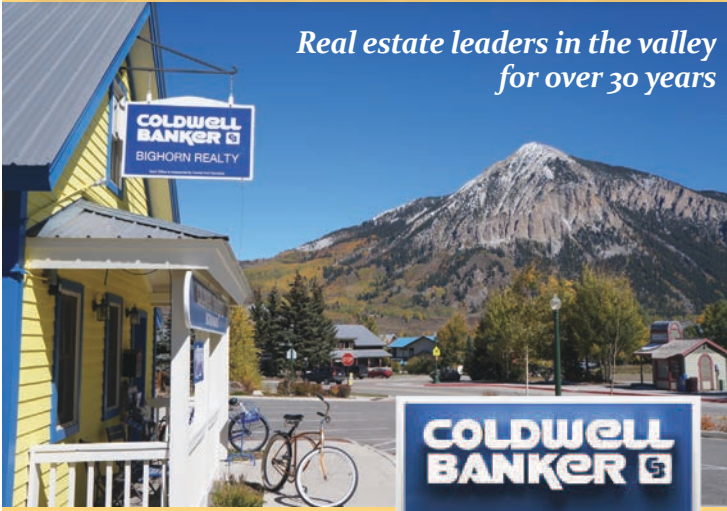
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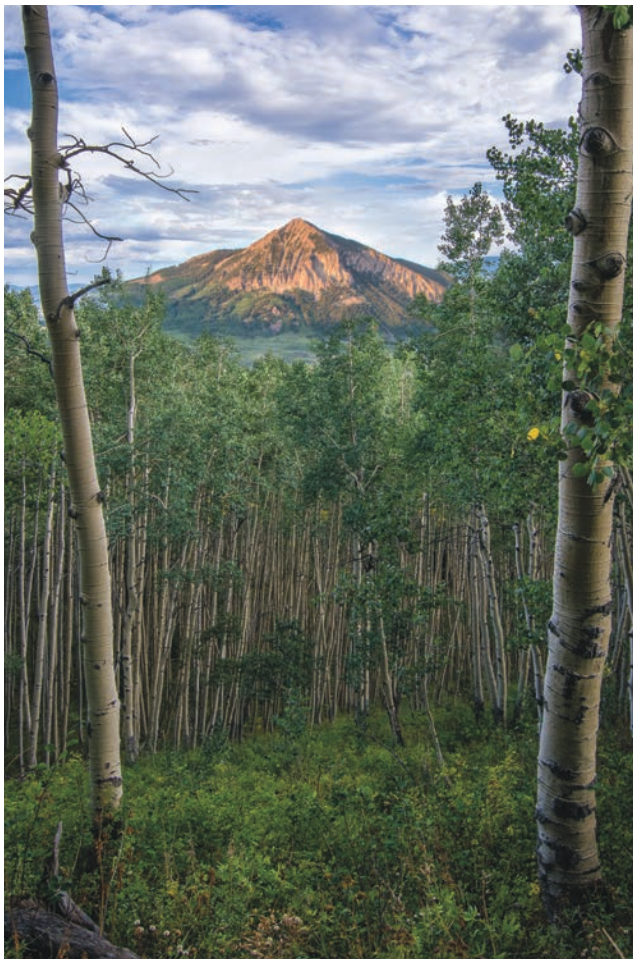
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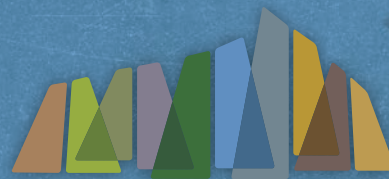
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way that a conventional house is built," he said.

Forgoing the teardrop shape for a simpler design, Jeff built the 5x8 camper with a framed floor covered in plywood, just like a house. The walls are framed with studs, and the roof has rafters. The finishing touches are reminiscent of a home as well. The door came from a salvage yard in Gunnison, cut to fit by Jeff and painted red by Jamie. Jamie and her mom made curtains with material Jamie had been hanging onto for several months, waiting for the perfect use.

Perhaps most distinctive is the siding, which looks reclaimed but is actually made from a burnt wood called Shou-sugi-ban yakhisugi. According to Jeff, "It's an ancient Japanese technique where they burn wood. It has a wild aesthetic value to it but it also acts as a preservative for the wood."

The couple's ultimate goal was to make the camper comfortable and keep it simple—big enough for a bed, equipped with an outdoor solar shower, and weatherproof to stand up to storms. The end product—which they call the Moshé, or the "modern shed on wheels"—rose to the occasion.

On the way out to California, they stayed warm camping in snow and dry camping in Big Sur. There, a storm blew in off the Pacific Ocean, and according to Jamie, it rained so hard and at such an angle that one side of the trailer's exterior was wet and the other dry. All around them, tent campers scrambled for their cars but Jamie and Jeff rolled up their bed and made dinner inside.

And while Jeff and Jamie do have plans to improve the trailer, they want to keep things simple. They want to elevate the mattress to create storage, add hooks for coats and fold-up shelves, install a screen door, and add some provisions for indoor cooking during inclement weather. But they don't want it to function like a full-service camper.

"We want to keep it simple on the inside. We don't have visions of building out some super fancy convertible kitchen on the inside. Part of camping is cooking outside," Jeff said.

Rather than create a home on wheels, the couple wants to use the camper to extend the camping season. It's the perfect addition to their Crested Butte lifestyle—one that just happens to be part of a well-loved trend, the tiny house movement. More and more people are becoming intrigued by the idea of downsizing and simplifying their homes.

"If we had built it ten years ago, people would have thought it was weird," Jeff said. "But it's just timely, in that tiny houses are so popular right now."



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ADAPTABLE LUXURY

continued from page 20

"When we first heard Carolina on the phone, she had so many ideas and so much panache, she was so excited," the homeowner recalled. "She was really clear and she understood us."

A careful balance of blending into the mountain landscape while forgoing the faux-lodge look was of the utmost important to the homeowner, and she found Fechino-Alling's design aesthetic to complement her vision. Clean lines, warm spaces and a mixture of materials are hallmarks of a Fechino-Alling-designed home.

"We live in the mountains, so I don't want dark spaces," Fechino-Alling said. "A lot of people use the clay and the log, and it goes a little overboard. In my designs there is always going to be some streamline—simple and serene but mountain-like."

Because the homeowner spends a lot of time inside, an uplifting ambiance was key to keeping her comfortable. Light and bright were the two adjectives she hoped would describe the space, and Fechino-Alling delivered.

"I like things very soft, not cozy, but very clean looking," the homeowner explained. "Carolina came up with the color palette and would send me fabric samples and then we would Skype and hold them up together."

In the living room, a soft color palette juxtaposed by a variety of eclectic patterns lends itself to a serene but upbeat atmosphere. Black and white ikat armchairs flank the fireplace and face the opposite side

of the room, where the walls are lined by grey couches accented by an assortment of patterned throw pillows. Beautiful end tables constructed of asymmetric bands of wood border the couch, just to the right of two faux-fur ottomans that perfectly tie the room together with their subtle edge. An adjoining kitchen boasts gorgeous cabinetry and woodwork, courtesy of Pete Peacock of Peacock Designs.

Fechino-Alling's penchant for balancing materials is seen throughout the home, where clay and reclaimed wood and metal come together seamlessly to produce a stimulating but serene atmosphere. Varying design elements grace each of the four bedrooms and three and half bathrooms, but somehow the aesthetic remains coherent. The furniture, Fechino-Alling said, is made up of both new and antique pieces obtained through trips to Denver and New York City, or vendors she regularly works with.

"The master bedroom is my favorite part of the house," the homeowner said. "It is, to me, nicer than any hotel we have every stayed in. The furniture, the colors—my husband and I love it."

For a project that took just under one year to complete, the homeowners were ecstatic with how seamlessly everything came together. During a time in her life when she needed something to be easy, the combined forces delivered a product that checked every box on the family's list. Whether all of the kids are in town or they find themselves empty-nesting, the couple finds their house perfectly suited for their needs, and they credit it all to an impeccable partnership.

"They heard what we were saying, and they were so respectful of my values," she said. "Besides my marriage and my children and my dogs, this was the best thing we ever did; it's a dream come true. I see a little bit of everybody who worked on it in this house, and I have so much respect for each of them. They always push themselves to be the best."



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A bedroom with a vaulted ceiling and walls covered in light blue wallpaper featuring a delicate pattern of birds and foliage. A white, multi-arm chandelier hangs from the ceiling. A large bed with a white textured blanket and a matching bed skirt is the centerpiece. The bed has a headboard with a thin gold border and is adorned with several pillows: two with vertical stripes and two with the same bird pattern as the wallpaper. To the left of the bed is a small white nightstand with a lamp and a vase of flowers. In the foreground, two upholstered chairs with the bird pattern are visible. A white door with glass panes leads to a balcony, and a window is visible above the door. The floor is covered in a light-colored, textured rug.

surprise!



SOPRIS AVENUE HOUSE OFFERS MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

STORY BY BETH BUEHLER
PHOTOS BY JAMES RAY SPAHN

W

hen guests step inside Travis and Sherri West's historic home on Sopris Avenue, they receive a surprise dose of elegance and see a continuous wave of warm French blue walls and draperies that provide a seamless flow through the main floor. After all, this 1905 home started out life as a miner's cabin in Irwin and is fairly unassuming from the outside, except for a splash of rust red on the front door, gingerbread white trim along the roofline and a small picket fence.

Like most Crested Butte homes of this vintage, what started out as the original space has been built onto and around as finances and materials allowed. The little cabin is now the middle of the home and its original character is not visible, as front and rear portions have been added over the years, explains architect Dan Murphy of Crested Butte. His firm worked closely with the Wests to develop a more open floor plan for what had become chopped-up space. He says, "It was not so much a vision for the space but an evolution."

The Wests enjoy restoring historic homes and were searching for a quaint and cozy home in town. "We wanted to be able to truly take a break from our busy-paced life at home in Austin, Texas. We love the ease of getting around town and enjoy the experience of small-town life," Sherri West says. "The lot size and large side yard sealed the deal."



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Sherri worked closely with interior designer Jan Showers of Dallas-based Jan Showers and Associates to help turn their ideas into reality. "I wanted it to feel as if you were walking into a cottage in Sweden. I wanted it to be comfortable and cozy with a touch of glamour," says Sherri.

With some golds and taupes used on the walls upstairs in the bunk room, a guest room and bath, and a return to the blues and grays in the master suite, the home has a soft and soothing feel and provides the perfect place to relax and unwind for the couple and their three children: Tyler, 25, Jackson, 14, and Georgia, 11, and more recently, a new granddaughter.

"The kids definitely influenced our choice in location," Sherri says. "We like for them to be independent and to take off to the park or for a bike ride on a whim."

While the front of the house remained much the same with careful restoration, the rear was raised up to make an attractive family room with a marble bar along one wall on the main floor and a large master suite directly above. The master bedroom walls, ceiling, bedding and furniture are all upholstered in a blue and white toile, creating a quiet sanctuary that is accessed through a lovely bathroom in cool tones of blue, gray and white and with two sinks, a clawfoot tub and a shower. A lamp, bowl and vases blown from yellow glass sing a cheerful note from a long bureau in the bedroom.

"We decided to did not create a mountain house that you would see in Colorado but the rooms do look like they could be in a Swiss chalet with a definite touch of glamour. You might say chalet glamour," explains Jan Showers, author of *Glamorous Rooms*. "It is very small, so everything had to be scaled down because of the size of the rooms; scale is everything in any



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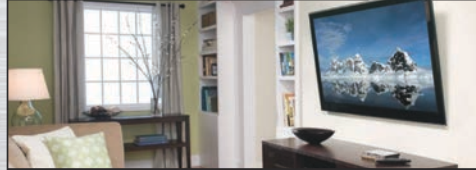




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interior—if you don't get it right, the design is never successful."

Showers and her clients were also careful to stay true to the home's architectural history. "The Wests and my team had worked together on their primary residence in Austin, which is a historic house in old Austin and quite beautiful. I knew Sherri's style and we speak the same design language and have become good friends over the years, so it was easy to determine their vision."

An avid cook, one of Sherri's most-loved rooms is the kitchen with a custom range and kitchen island with marble top, both by La Cornue. "One of my favorite things is shopping at the farmers market. On Sundays, I'll make a day of it," she says. "The kitchen is amazing and, combined with fresh farm produce, makes it a simple and pleasurable task. My daughter Georgia also loves to cook, and this is a wonderful way to spend time with her."

Travis has long ties to Crested Butte, making memories with his family here since 1979. Sherri's first Crested Butte experience was in 1997, and the following year Travis proposed at Timberline Restaurant. "Travis and I enjoy the pace of Crested Butte. He's an avid skier along with Georgia, and the boys have taken a liking to snowboarding and fly-fishing." She adds, "We are members of the Club at Crested Butte, and Travis and the kids like to golf with Travis' father. Crested Butte is a great escape from Texas' hot summers."

Murphy credits the Wests for having a vision for the property's potential and recalls walking through the home with Travis before the purchase was complete. Raising the house up to put in a new foundation, taking it down to the walls and rebuilding the roof structure were key steps in the project. "We rebuilt the trusses to



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support the roof but the overall floor structure was in pretty good shape. We rebuilt it with new steel beams and floor joists but left the outside walls intact."

The result is a solid, nicely insulated house with a lot of charm that the Wests have been enjoying since 2012. "We started with nothing and turned it into something," Murphy says. "BOZAR [the Board of Zoning and Architectural Review] worked with us to make a successful project happen."

A back patio with a hot tub connects the rear of the house to a new garage that has an office/media room and a half-bath upstairs. In true Crested Butte form, the front porch has become "a great place to sit and enjoy coffee in the morning or a cocktail in the evening," Sherri says. "The view from there of Mt. Crested Butte is pretty special."

Sherri is quick to point out that finding the right partners for a project like this is essential. "A key component to all of it coming together was our team: Dan Murphy & Associates, Bob Huckins and his team, Rocky Mountain Trees and Landscaping, and Jan Showers and Associates. There were so many talented people that helped pull it all together," Sherri emphasizes. "I appreciate the town's commitment to preserving homes like ours."





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COLLABORATION GIVES NEW LIFE TO HISTORIC SHED IN TOWN

story: **Melissa Fenlon**

photos: **James Ray Spahn**

Standing on the dirt floor of a century-old former horse barn, a group of locals began to dream up a new life for this decaying structure next to the Slogar Restaurant.

Megan and Cjay Clark, owners of the Slogar, knew it was time to save the historic outbuilding just next to their restaurant. The Clarks, their architect, designer and builder's collective vision began to take shape last year when the plans got under way to turn the shed into a modern short-term vacation rental.

"We realized that this could be a really cute building," says Megan of the 509-square-foot structure.

The shed was constructed in the early 1900s next to the Slogar building. According to stories Cjay has heard, in the 1970s someone was in fact living in the shed. Then in most recent history the shed served as the Just Horsin' Around stable. "It's kind of been everything," says Cjay. "It served the miners, the hippies and then the horses."

Megan's brother, architect Jim Barney of Freestyle Architects, oversaw the plans for the project. He actually worked on the first version of this renovation back in 2009 with then-local architect Alicia Davis, but the plans were put on hold until last year when Cjay and Megan decided it was the right time to take on the building project.



***“It’s kind of
been everything...
It served the miners,
the hippies and then
the horses.”***

According to Barney, the design idea was simple—create a single-level short-term rental space. “We wanted to use the existing architecture, use the existing openings without destroying the historic nature of it, but also provide more usable space on the inside,” Barney explains.

But the decaying building was sinking into the ground. This renovation was going to be a total rehabilitation project.

The Clarks brought builder Deuce Wynes of Blueline Builders on as general contractor to launch the renovation. After meetings with the town and going through its historic review process, a plan was set in motion. With a renovation like this, the process includes meticulously dismantling the building piece by piece so it can accurately be put back together. The building was dismantled and a new foundation was poured.

“The goal is to save as much of the whole structure as possible,” explains Wynes. “I bought new framing lumber, but all the trim, and siding, all of the timbers, were saved from the original structure.”

Part of the challenge of a major historic renovation like this, says Wynes, is trying to keep as much of the historic value as possible while bringing the building up to code and making it a structure that will endure another century.

Another challenge is how to make a 509 square-foot one-bedroom structure feel larger than it actually is.

Jim Barney says the goal with space planning for a small space is to have rooms that flow into each other. They used custom sliding barn doors built by another of Megan’s brothers, John Barney of Raven Woodcraft, on the bedroom so that it could open up easily into the kitchen and living area.

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It's also important to create spaces with dual functions. For instance, the kitchen island also serves as the dining table in this house.

One of the design highlights of the new property is the window trim that was fabricated from the original wood flooring salvaged from the barn.

The kitchen is a mix of old and new with beveled subway tiles, and painted tin on the island, which also lends the space a pop of color. "It's modern, historic and country all mixed together," explains designer Heidi Sherratt Bogart of Interior Visions.

"There's beautiful natural light with a nice balance of light and dark so the small space doesn't feel too heavy," Bogart says.

Reclaimed oak floors by Renick Wood Floors give the space a pleasant richness and variety of colors. "We wanted to balance the grey and white in the kitchen and the floors to give us the warmer tones," Bogart says.

Wynes is proud of the project, which was named one of BOZAR's (the Board of Zoning and Architectural Review) projects of the year. "This project exceeded everyone's expectations," says Wynes.

The one-bedroom vacation rental has already welcomed guests. "We feel honored to have saved something in Crested Butte," Cjay says. "It's worth it."



Molly Minneman, the town of Crested Butte's Design Review and Historic Preservation coordinator, stressed the importance of preserving outbuildings within the town's historic district. "Outbuildings provide a window into Crested Butte's history. Each building had its own character and relationship with the people and properties where they are situated. When given a new life, they continue to serve property owners, and sustain the context of the property, the neighborhood and the district as a whole."

Jim Barney is also proud of the collaborative project that brought new life to a decaying building. "There are buildings that are worth saving for their charm and character, and this was definitely one of them. This project in particular helps maintain the heritage of Crested Butte's mining past," he says. "We are a throw-away culture now, but one of the things we shouldn't throw away is our history."

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WORDS **ALISSA JOHNSON**

PHOTOS **MELISSA FENLON AND LYDIA STERN**

Like summer, Crested Butte's growing season can feel fleeting. High elevation, cool nights, and summer's short duration keep gardeners on their toes. Even the most bountiful outdoor gardens can't escape the early arrival of snow and subzero temperatures. A new farm in Crested Butte South, however, is redefining what it means to grow and eat local produce in the Gunnison Valley.

Tassinong Farms produces microgreens all year round, including mini-lettuces like romaine, red oak leaf and butterhead, baby kale, basil and even edible flowers. General manager Kate Haverkamp pulls it off by growing inside, in refurbished shipping containers retrofitted with hydroponic growing equipment.

The result is something that doesn't look or feel like your typical farm, but then Haverkamp doesn't look like a typical farmer. Depending on the season, she looks more like a ski bum than an agriculturalist, wearing a trucker's hat and ski jacket. But her hat features an illustration of a head of lettuce and says, "Lettuce Head, Tassinong Farms," and she supplies local families, restaurants and shops with something of an anomaly most times of year: greens grown right down the street.

NOT YOUR AVERAGE SHIPPING CONTAINER

Imagine shipping containers and stacks of well-used, multi-colored containers might come to mind, perhaps sitting on the deck of a ship. This is not what you'll find at Tassinong Farms, where the containers are painted white and green with the words "Freight Farm" on the side. Located just down the block from Camp 4 in Crested Butte South, they have a modern, sleek feel that has been adapted to the feel of a mountain town by adding wood siding on three sides and roofs.

A chalkboard sign hangs on the bright green door of a one of the containers, welcoming visitors to the farm. Inside, it feels like a combination commercial kitchen and laboratory. A stainless steel counter lines the wall across from the door, where tiny seedlings no larger than Haverkamp's thumb line germination trays. The rest of the space is taken up by hanging metal towers lined with a growing medium made of recycled plastic bottles and embedded with mini-lettuces, baby kale and herbs.

Strips of LED lights hang between the towers—they're turned off during the day, but at night they fill the container with a reddish-purple light. "Their daytime is our nighttime," Haverkamp explained of the plants, and it's easy to see why. Planting and harvesting under florescent lights rather than the colored electric glow makes sense.

Haverkamp started growing in mid-December. The farms arrived on a Tuesday, and after two days of training and set-up with a representative from the manufacturer, Haverkamp planted the following Thursday. One week later, the seeds had germinated and tiny green leaves lined the tray.

At three weeks, Haverkamp transferred the seedlings to the towers, sticking each plug into the growing medium so it was angled toward the lights. A watering system circulates through the plants and a computer monitors the nutrient and pH levels, adjusting as needed. It also turns the lights on and off and monitors things such as CO2 levels and temperature.

Most of what Haverkamp plants is ready for harvest within five to six weeks, and she began selling produce about two months after the farm's launch. By March, her greens graced the shelves of markets in Crested Butte and Gunnison, local restaurants had introduced her produce to their salads, and she was experimenting with different types of herbs for bars to use in their drinks. Families had also begun ordering variety boxes on a weekly basis.

A DIFFERENT WAY TO GROW

Unlike traditional farms, Haverkamp can harvest and sell on a year-round basis. While she spends a good deal of her time at the farm planting and harvesting, she can also monitor the containers using an app on her phone. In some ways, it feels futuristic, and many proponents call it just that: The way of the future.

In a remote community with a short growing season, Haverkamp's produce has a small environmental footprint; it uses 90 percent less water than outdoor farming and the produce is herbicide- and pesticide-free. Rather than being trucked in from hundreds or thousands of miles away, it has grown just down the valley (in some cases just down the street) from the families and restaurants that use it.

Using data from existing farmers, manufacturer Freight Farms estimates that the containers yield the equivalent of 12 full harvests over the course of the year. Compared to the yield of a one-acre outdoor farm—75 percent of which tends to be marketable—93 percent of the yield will be sellable. And whereas one acre of a traditional farm could yield 23,760 mini-heads of lettuce in a year, a leafy green machine can yield 48,468 mini-heads of lettuce.

For Haverkamp, the approach makes sense in a high-altitude region with a short growing season.

"This is high-tech farming, and if you follow a lot of the articles right now, this is the wave of the future. I'm not cutting-edge because people have been doing this for many years now. Twenty years from now I might be considered one of the first, but with our climate, climate change, trucking, and how bad it is for our environment to go so far to bring food in, this is a solution," Haverkamp said.

There is, of course, a learning curve with any new venture. In addition to spending two days with the Freight Farms rep, Haverkamp traveled to Boston for training and continues to communicate with the company. Yet she was the first person to purchase two leafy green machines at once, whereas most people buy one and have two farm managers.



KATE HAVERKAMPF



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That has admittedly made for some long harvest days, but growing interest in the farm's produce has allowed her to hire two part-time employees. And it's clear to Haverkamp that she's filling a niche with repeat customers. Her favorite part of the job—which she undertook in part to create a meaningful career—is the feedback she gets from customers.

"Every day I'm really grateful that I started this farm. It's even more gratifying when people tell me that the only lettuce they want to eat now is mine," Haverkamp said.

Here are some of Kate's favorite salad recipes to try with Butterhead lettuce, sweet basil, Mini Romaine and Mirlo Green Lettuce.

LEMON BUTTERHEAD SALAD

adapted from Martha Stewart

Ingredients

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
 ¼ teaspoon sugar
 Coarse salt and ground pepper
 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
 1 head Butterhead lettuce, torn into bite-size pieces, washed and dried
 1 cup lightly packed fresh sweet basil

Directions

Whisk together lemon juice and sugar and season with salt and pepper. Whisk in the olive oil until incorporated. Add butterhead lettuce and basil leaves; toss to coat with dressing. Serve immediately.

TRUCHAS GREENS WITH GRILLED SALMON

Ingredients

Head of Mini-Romaine
 Red onion
 Wild salmon, grilled

Directions

Toss a head of Truchas Mini-Romaine (red/green leaves) with locally-made Rachel's Finest Salad Dressing, then top with thinly sliced red onion and top with grilled wild salmon.

continued on page 58



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Over the threshold and through the door you cross into an olden era as the furnace roars and the rhythmic clanking of metal hammer on metal anvil forces a glowing hot chunk of steel into its new shape.

Ben Eaton wields a large ball-peen hammer, continuously striking the smoldering rod as he turns it over and over, sparks flying against his leather chaps as he stands in his blacksmith shop, Get Bent.

Fired white-hot to 2,800 degrees, metal comes out of Eaton's forge ready to be pounded and reshaped into an architectural and artistic purpose. He has three propane forges of various sizes inside that thunder like a gale wind when fired up. In his yard outside stands a traditional cast metal forge with three open sink-like

vessels. The middle and largest one is full of coke, a high-grade coal that gives off more heat, higher BTUs. The coke is porous and as light as popcorn.

The traditional forge utilizes an open, localized heat with a crank fan underneath that fuels the coke to create about 3,100 degrees, higher than his propane forges. Eaton works with a variety of metals—recycled steel, silicon bronze (97 percent copper and 3 percent silica), and on rare occasion, iron, which, Eaton points out, isn't made anymore.

Metalworking in general has been around for a very long time. The famous mummified iceman named Otzi, who was found frozen in the Italian Alps in 1991 and dated to 5,300 years old, carried an axe that was cast as molten copper and then hammered into its edge and shape. Blacksmithing, an ancient process,

began around 1,000 BC during the Iron Age. The switch from using iron to steel happened around 1920.

Eaton's studio is like a historical curio shop, fascinating even for those who aren't intrigued with giant belted industrial-age machinery, long steel rods, metal pieces in every size and shape, and delicately curled and twisted works of practical art. There are hefty tools, just as beautiful, hanging from the equipment, tables and walls—vice grips, hammers, and mallets—most with antique wooden handles smoothed and worn through decades of use and made before there were electrical grinders and saws.

STORY *dawne belloise*

PHOTOS *lydia stern*



PROFILE BEN EATON

GET BENT
BLACKSMITHING
CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO

Oftentimes, depending on his project, Eaton will make the tools needed to do a project. "That's a key part of being a blacksmith," he explains. "It's a lot of problem-solving. You might not have a solution when you take on the project but you have to come up with a way to build something that you've never built before and that's really where the joy comes into it for me. It's all about logic. You have to figure out the best way to do it," and Eaton's been solving those puzzles for 22 years now.

He emphasizes that he's a blacksmith, not a welder, and he doesn't consider himself a metallurgist—he's an artist. He tries to stick with the original, traditional blacksmithing techniques used for thousands of years.

Eaton was born in Coral Gables, Fla., and then his family moved to New England, and most of his childhood was spent in Waterville Valley, N.H., where he skied and competed in racing from a young age through high school and college. He graduated from high school in 1990 and enrolled in Saint Lawrence University (SLU) in upstate New York as a fine arts major in photography and sculpture, working mostly in cement with iron armature.

He soon realized that he enjoyed doing the skeletal metal framework more than working with the tedious cement, and he especially liked working with metal more than with wood. Then he discovered he was allergic to the sawdust by-product of construction jobs or wood sculpturing.

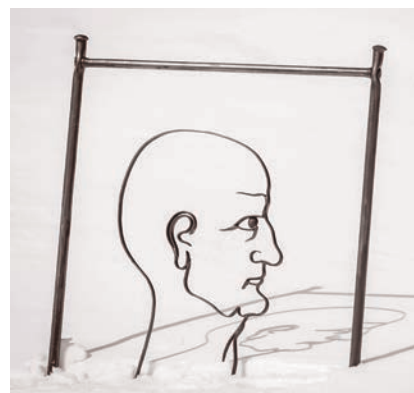
He moved to Vail after college graduation in 1994 to be a ski coach, and met up with a master blacksmith Steve Zorichak (who was also a brewmeister and responsible for creating Coors Light).

Knowing he wanted to do metal work more than teach skiing, Eaton studied and apprenticed under his master for three years. In 1997, he moved to Crested Butte. He's been in his shop in Riverland for 16 years now. He met his wife, Christy Kong-Eaton, in 1999 at her restaurant, Kong's Asian Cuisine in Crested Butte (before she wisely decided that she didn't want to be in the culinary profession). They married in 2002. She's now an investment advisor and owns Red Lady Capital Management.

Most of his work is contracted from construction companies and builders, for whom he creates architectural working parts and even features like rosettes and hinges. He takes on many private commissions as well, but he's leaning more in the direction of art these days—architectural components like fireplace screens and doors, bed headboards, lighting fixtures and gates, to name a few.

Eaton works even in his down-time, keeping up his strength for the rhythmic swing of hammering by making smaller pieces, such as ornate bottle openers, that he gives to his clients.

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photos by Lydia Stern

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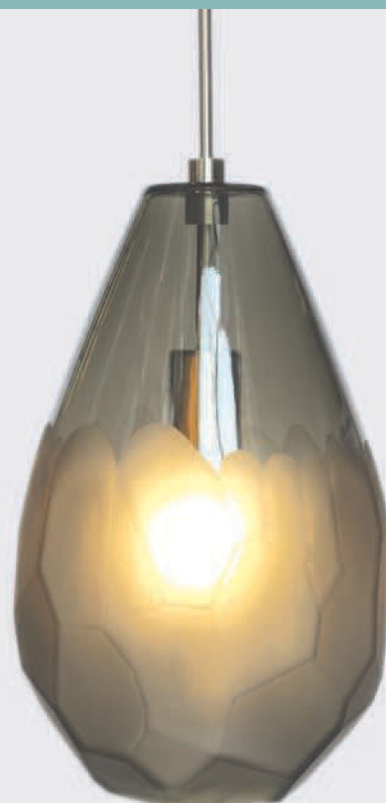
BY MELISSA FENLON



The trend of glass and filament bulbs is still on trend, but they are not the most functional fixtures because of how often they need to be cleaned, along with how bright the bulbs are to look at," explains Raines. "This fixture from Kichler gives you the same effect, but without the glare. It has the functionality of a brighter bulb with the layered glass." This fixture works well over the island in the kitchen.



This modern fixture that is perfect for a stairwell or entryway is from New Zealand sustainable company David Trubridge. "It's dramatic," says Raines. "The shadows it throws are great in a stairwell or against a wall for the light to bounce off of. This fixture is multi-dimensional art." She adds that the pop of color is fun, but still subtle.



This frosted glass pendant from LBL Lighting has a bit of a contemporary feel. "I see this over a kitchen island, as oversized pendants are so in right now," says Raines. "It takes up a lot of vertical space, but that's where the trend is going." Raines loves that this light's power source is frosted, giving you the ability to put a 100-watt bulb in there, but not be overwhelmed.

We asked lighting expert Kim Raines, who owns Mountain Colors Paint & Design, to highlight some of today's light fixture trends.

"Overall trend for the kitchen island is going oversized with your lighting. We're seeing two bigger pendants or even one large fixture. Bigger is better now," Raines says. The days of multiple small pendants over the kitchen island are gone. The kitchen has become more of a living and gathering space, so the lighting in the kitchen has become more of a focal point in a home. Let your pendant lights be both functional and statement-making.

Raines believes lighting fixtures help define a home. "A lot of times in Crested Butte, the houses are rustic. Even if you try not to make it rustic, you're drawn to reclaimed beams. So lighting is a way to define your space, put a modern or traditional touch on your home," she explains.



"The industrial trend is still going strong," says Raines. "And this fixture by ELK Lighting plays on that feel with perforated mesh on the top." Raines pictures this fixture over a kitchen island. "It's a little oversized, but works really well in a kitchen and is bright enough for your task lighting."



"This light is a great example of the industrial trend that is so in," explains Raines. "To me, this fixture is historic and works very well in this town. It's what would have been installed in the old miner's cabin, which makes it a play on history." This flush-mount fixture by Hi-Lite Manufacturing works down a hallway or as a fun accent in a bedroom. "It allows you to play on that trend of color, but also works well with reclaimed wood," says Raines.



Raines loves this fixture by LBL Lighting for its varied textures. "It's a transitional fixture with its different textures," she says. It still has a historic feeling with the cloth cord, but is modern in its layered look. This pendant looks great over a kitchen island.

XAVIER FANÉ

PHOTOGRAPHY

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continued from page 51

MIRLO GREENS SALAD

Ingredients

Head of Mirlo Green Lettuce

Deep-fried capers

Homemade croutons

Basil Ranch Salad Dressing

Deep-fried Capers:

Rinse $\frac{1}{4}$ cup large capers in a sieve and transfer to a small bowl. Add enough water to cover capers by 2 inches, then soak 30 minutes. Repeat soaking method. Drain and rinse capers, then pat very dry between paper towels.

Heat $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of vegetable oil in a 1-quart heavy saucepan over moderately high heat until it registers 375°F on thermometer. Fry capers in 2 batches until golden, 30 to 45 seconds per batch. Transfer with a slotted spoon to paper towels to drain and return oil to 375°F between batches.

Homemade Croutons:

Melt about $\frac{1}{2}$ stick butter, add minced fresh garlic or garlic salt, minced fresh parsley or dried parsley, and sea salt to taste. Drizzle over 2 cups of cut up cubes of stale or fresh bread of any kind in a bowl and shake to coat. Cook in oven at 325 degrees until crispy and golden (probably about 15 mins), moving the croutons around with a spatula about half way to ensure even cooking. You could also just cook the butter coated bread cubes in a large sauce pan over medium-high heat until crispy.

Basil-Ranch Salad Dressing:

Ingredients

1 cup fresh basil leaves, packed

1 cup plain greek yogurt (0% or full fat is fine)

1 small shallot, halved

2 tablespoon capers

1 clove garlic, peeled or 1 tsp garlic salt

1 cup buttermilk, milk or milk alternative (soy, rice, almond)

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

2 teaspoon agave nectar

Salt and Pepper to taste

Throw all in a blender or food processor and blend until creamy. Drizzle over lettuce and top with deep-fried capers, homemade croutons and some left-over basil, minced, sliced or torn up.

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BEN EATON

continued from page 54

He also creates silhouette line sculptures, framed in a metal rectangle. "It's breaking down the essence of a composition to its smallest points. You can hang it on a wall where it creates a shadow of itself. I used to do a lot of figure drawings and sculptures of nudes and more recently I've gone toward really trying to dissect the face and show emotion and as much personality as I can through the silhouette, through a very simple design."

Having crested large-scale sculptures in high school, Eaton discovered that although they were fun to build, the pieces took up a lot of interior space and they didn't last long outdoors because they were worked by the elements. Up here in extreme winters, cement sculptures will last only two or three years. But Eaton verifies that those pieces of iron that were used in the 1800s may be rusted and pitted, but they're fine structurally.

In Colorado, he says, you can have a piece of metal that will rust but it's going to be fine in years to come, the degradation isn't going to be nearly as bad in our dry climate in contrast to the humidity of the East Coast. "Here in Colorado, for example, a steel crucifix for a cemetery will probably last seven or eight hundred years. I've built quite a few pieces, names and crosses for gravesites," he says, pointing out a large, four-foot-tall crucifix leaning against his wall.

Eaton identifies himself as a counter-culture-type person. "I've always wanted to do the opposite of what the norm would be. I've always tried to take influence from artists that I really admired but do everything I could to not copy, and to be original and do my own thing."

His influences in art come from classics like Michelangelo and Da Vinci, the latter who created things so far beyond his time that he never saw them manifested. Eaton says, "I'm a big history buff and the artistic influences that I get are from the Renaissance. It was a time of creation, a time of invention within the art. A lot of these great artists who were commissioned by the church to do

architecture and adorn the cathedrals with amazing pieces of artwork—much of it was ironwork, a lot of it was frescoes, and obviously the architecture itself, and none of it had been done before so they were just flying by the seat of their pants trying to make it happen. It's the essence of that creative spark that I try to capture a little bit of every day."

This year marks the anniversary of some of the heaviest battles of World War I (1914–1918) and Ypres, Belgium, is holding a blacksmithing conference and creating a memorial for the devastating trench warfare on their land. The memorial will be surrounded by 2,016 galvanized and painted metal poppies that have been forged by blacksmiths from all over the world.

Eaton picks up a smallish piece of flat metal, cut out with four propeller-like petals, a simplistic pattern, and in his other hand he holds the finished product—a realistic and delicate crepe-paper-petaline texture of a poppy. That's the exquisite creation, art imitating a fragile flower in nature by using an unlikely substantial material, and coaxed into full bloom by the artist.

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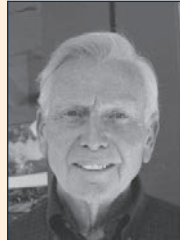
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Soma

970.349.6640
423 Belleview Avenue, Crested Butte
970.642.4120
500 West Hwy 50, Unit 101, Gunnison
www.somacolorado.com

ELECTRONICS

Electronic Solutions

970.349.7700
717 6th St, Crested Butte
www.electronicsolutions.info

GL Computer Service

970.641.4051
123 W. Tomichi Avenue, Gunnison
find us on Facebook: GL Computer Service

King Systems, LLC

Audio/Video Design & Installation
970.349.3425
222 Maroon Avenue, Crested Butte
www.theavkings.com

EXCAVATION/SNOW REMOVAL

King of the Mountain Earthworks Inc.

Hank DeRoche
970.275.5313
king@crestedbutte.net

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Colorado Mortgage Professional

Sarah Baskfield
970.596.4949
sarah@cbloanz.com

Crested Butte Bank

970.349.0170
116 6th Street, Crested Butte
www.crestedbuttebank.com

business listings

FLOORING & FLOOR COVERINGS

Quick Draw Cleaning

970.641.4247
106 S. Taylor, Suite #3, Gunnison
www.quickdrawcleaning.com

FURNITURE DESIGN & SALES

The Boom-A-Rang

970.641.3115
970.209.6046
221 N Main St; Gunnison
Boomarang221@gmail.com
www.boomaranggunnison.com

GARAGE DOORS

Blackjack Garage Door, LLC

Certified Raynor Dealer
970.275.8929
244 Buckley Drive Unit 1, Riverland
greg@blackjackgaragedoor.com
www.blackjackgaragedoor.com

HARDWARE

True Value

970.349.5305
607 6th Street, Crested Butte
www.truevalue.com

HOT TUB & SPA SERVICES

Diamond Blue Pool & Spa

970.349.6202
329 Bellevue Ave/PO Box 2666
Crested Butte
diamondbuespa@yahoo.com
www.diamondbluespa.com

Hot Water Productions

970.249.2566
2511 S. Townsend Ave
Montrose, CO 81401
info@hotwaterproductions.com
www.hotwaterproductions.com

INTERIOR DESIGN/CABINETRY

Everyday Kitchens

970.209.5616
110 Camino Del Rio, Gunnison
edaykitchens@gmail.com

Interior Visions - Defining Mountain Style

Interior Design Studio, Cabinetry & More
970.349.5352/970.209.6332
313 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
www.interiorvisionscrestedbutte.com

Interni Design Studio

Carolina Fechino-Alling, Designer
970.596.4586
interni_design@yahoo.com
www.idstudiocb.com

Laura Egedy Designs, LLC

970.901.6290
P.O. Box 2676, Crested Butte
laura@lauraegedy.com
www.lauraegedy.com

Kitchen Tune Up

970.306.2286
151 W US Hwy 50, Gunnison
(inside Sears Hometown Store)
ktu7218@kitchentuneup.com
www.kitchentuneup.com

kPd Studios | Kristine Pivarnik Design

NCIDQ Cert #24384
970.349.2453
www.kpdstudios.com

Studio West

970.349.7550
115 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
303.534.5185
1421 Larimer St, Denver
www.studiowestinteriors.com

Thurston Kitchen and Bath

970.349.5023
544 Riverland Drive, Crested Butte
www.kitchensofcolorado.com

KITCHEN RETAIL

The Elk in An Apron

970.349.7070
322 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
www.elkinanapron.com

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Alpengardener

970.349.0252
193 Gillaspey Avenue, Crested Butte South
garden@alpengardener.com
www.alpengardener.com

Gunnison Valley Landscapes

A design and build company
970.275.8827
www.GunnisonValleyLandscapes.com

Rocky Mountain Trees

970.349.6361
305 Buckley Drive, Riverland, Crested Butte
www.rockymountaintrees.com

Spring Creek Landscape Company

970.209.4918
738 Riverland Dr., Unit C, Riverland
springcreeklandscape@yahoo.com
www.springcreeklandscapecompany.com

Tree Tamers Inc.

Certified, Insured, Professional Arborists
970.209.3916 | 970.707.4067
www.treetamersinc.com

LAND & HOME SALES

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970.349.6653 / 800.249.6653
401 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
www.BensonSothebysRealty.com

Channing Boucher

Benson Sotheby's International Realty
970.596.3228
channing.boucher@sothebysrealty.com
www.CrestedButteBroker.com
www.WildhorseatProspect.com

Chris Kopf

Previews® Property Specialist
Coldwell Banker Bighorn Realty
970.209.5405 - cell
ChrisKopf@BighornRealty.com
www.chriskopf.com

Coldwell Banker Bighorn Realty

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At the 4-way stop
305 Sixth Street, Crested Butte
www.bighornrealty.com

Colette E. Kraatz

Crested Butte Resort Real Estate
970.376.7304 - cell
ckraatz@cbmr.com
www.cbliving.com

Corey Dwan

Benson Sotheby's International Realty
970.596.3219 - cell
401 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
www.CrestedButteCollection.com

Crested Butte Resort Real Estate

970.349.4999
Located in The Lodge at Mtnr. Square
info@cbliving.com
www.cbliving.com

Heather Woodward

Keller Williams Realty
970.596.1394
211 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
Heather@TheHeatherWoodwardTeam.com
www.TheHeatherWoodwardTeam.com

business listings

Jesse Ebner

Keller Williams Realty Colorado Heritage
970.901.2922 - cell
211 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
JesseEbner@kw.com
www.JesseEbner.com

Maggie Dethloff

Red Lady Realty
970.209.7880 - cell
Maggie@redladyrealty.com
www.CrestedButteNow.com

Meg Brethauer

Crested Butte Resort Real Estate
970.209.1210 – cell
mbrethauer@cbmr.com
www.cbliving.com

Megan Clark

Sotheby's International Realty
970.209.3537
megan.clark@SothebysRealty.com
www.BensonSothebysRealty.com

Molly Eldridge, Owner

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215 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
molly@redladyrealty.com
www.MollyInCrestedButte.com

Red Lady Realty

970.349.5007
215 Elk Avenue, Crested Butte
www.redladyrealty.com

Sam Lumb

Benson Sotheby's International Realty
970.275.2448
Sam.Lumb@SothebysRealty.com

Wilder on The Taylor

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6337 Co Rd 742, Almont, CO 81210
www.wildercolorado.com

METAL WORK

Blackstar Ironworks

970.275.8460
321 Red Lady Avenue, Crested Butte
jabrethauer@yahoo.com

Get Bent Blacksmithing

Ben Eaton, Proprietor
970.275.5085
getbent81224@me.com
www.GetBentLLC.com

PAINTING

Altitude Painting | Jay Prentiss

970.349.1119
PO Box 3601, Crested Butte
altitudepainting@live.com
www.altitudepainting.com

Kooler Painting & Doors

Serving the Gunnison Valley
970.596.3696
info@koolerhomes.com
www.KoolerHomes.com

Mountain Colors Paint & Design

Kim Raines, Owner
970.349.9200
301 Bellevue Avenue, Crested Butte
mountaincolors@gmail.com
www.mountaincolorsincb.com

PERFORMING ARTS/EVENTS

Center for the Arts

970.349.7487
606 6th Street, Crested Butte
www.crestedbuttearts.org

Crested Butte Wildflower Festival

970.349.2571
409 Second Street, Crested Butte
www.crestedbuttewildflowerfestival.com

The Biery-Witt Center

(Mt. Crested Butte Performing Arts Center)
970.349.4769
PO Box 4403, Mt. Crested Butte
www.mcbpac.org

PLUMBING & HEATING

Mountain Fireplace Specialists, Inc.

970.641.6882
515 W. Tomichi Ave, Gunnison
info@mountainfireplace.com
www.mountainfireplacespecialists.com

RESTAURANTS/GROCERY

Mountain Earth Organic Grocer

970.349.5132
405 4th Street, Crested Butte

Kinikin Processing LLC

970.240.4329
1032 6450 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
www.kinikin.com

UTILITIES

Gunnison County Electric Association

CB Office
970.349.5385
116 6th Street, Suite 202, Crested Butte
Gunnison Office
970.641.3520
37250 W. Highway 50, Gunnison
www.gcea.coop

WEDDINGS

CBMR Wedding Services

1.844.296.7178
500 Gothic Road, Mt. Crested Butte
www.skicb.com/weddings

WELLNESS & SPA

A Polished Image Day Spa

970.901.2184
427 Bellevue, Suite 101, CB
www.Apolishedimagecb.com

Colorado Laser Spa

970.641.0149
234 N. Main St, Ste 2C, Gunnison
115 Elk Ave. Unit B, Crested Butte
tarah@coloradolaserspa.com
www.coloradolaserspa.com

Elevation Spa

970.251.3500
500 Gothic Road
Mt. Crested Butte
www.elevationspa.com

Living Journeys Community Cancer Support

970.340.2777
www.livingjourneys.org

Twist Nutrition

Jen Nolan, Holistic Nutrition & Wellness Coach
970.901.8906
jen@twistnutrition.com
www.twistnutrition.com

WINDOW TREATMENTS

Blind Faith Custom Window Fashions

970.349.2504
515 Riverland Dr., Suite 203, Crested Butte
info@blindfaithcb.com
www.blindfaithcb.com

Mountain Windows

970.641.2844
mountainwindows1@gmail.com

this place we call home



Eric and Annie Tunkey with their kids Josiah and Carly in 2014.

NAMES: Annie and Eric Tunkey

OCCUPATIONS:

Annie: Assistant director of the Crested Butte Arts Festival and administrative coordinator of the Crested Butte School of Dance

Eric: Owner/manager of the Gas Café

YEARS IN CRESTED BUTTE:

Annie: 16

Eric: 20

How did you find Crested Butte?

Annie: I first came to Crested Butte with my parents when I was in middle school. We were on a Colorado road trip escaping from the Texas heat. I revisited on a solo road trip in college, expecting to spend a few nights camping and ended up spending my entire two weeks exploring the valley. I was hooked.

Eric: I found Crested Butte when I came to ski during a college Spring Break trip back in 1990.

When did Crested Butte first feel like home?

Annie: Crested Butte first felt like home when I drove down the hill into town after being gone for an off season and I had the realization that felt like I was coming "home." That hasn't changed. I always feel a little thrill every time I pass the Community School and slow down to 15 mph.

Eric: It's always felt like home for me, from the moment I threw my mattress down on the floor of my future business partner's condo in 1995.

Why are you proud to call this place home?

Annie: I'm proud to call Crested Butte home because of our community. We really care about one another. We prioritize our friendships, we smile at one another and it's sincere. I haven't felt a sense of community like this anywhere else.

Eric: It's a lot of things. Our kids are safe walking around town, the speed limit is 15, and I still don't own a key to my house. That's pretty cool.

What sets Crested Butte apart from other communities?

Annie: Crested Butte is unique because of the character of the town. We live at the end of the road. Winters here are cold and it's not always easy to make a living; I've worked so many different types of jobs just to stay in the valley, but I'm not unique. The people who live here are tough, they are funky and we all value our unique valley. We have always had transplants. Some stay, many leave. Those who stay help define who we are and what we prioritize, which is evident to everyone who visits and what makes our valley so special.

Eric: What separates the upper Gunnison Valley from other ski towns or really anywhere else is our locals' belief that we work hard and we play hard. This is an extreme environment to set down roots and those of us who do tough it out and realize each other's sacrifices that we've made to live, work and play here. There is an unspoken sense of respect for one another and that is the foundation of this community. We may not all agree on everything but we all agree that this is where we want to be and that is what makes Crested Butte—well—Crested Butte!



11336 County Road 742 | \$695,000

4 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,709 SqFt | 10.00 Acres



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INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Borders National Forest with
Private Fishing Access



193 Larkspur Lane | \$4,250,000
5 Bed | 6 Bath | 6,976 SqFt | 35.24 Acres



18 Aspen Lane | \$1,900,000
4 Bed | 5 Bath | 4,110 SqFt | 1.02 Acres



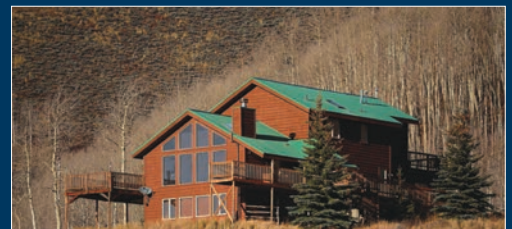
26 Whetstone Drive | \$1,495,000
4 Bed | 3 Bath | 4,285 SqFt | 0.85 Acres



300 Skyland Drive | \$1,198,000
3 Bed | 4 Bath | 2,969 SqFt | Unit 2



425 Whiterock Avenue | \$895,000
4 Bed | 2 Bath | 2,064 SqFt | 0.14 Acres



2600 Roaring Judy Ranch | \$795,000
4 Bed | 3 Bath | 3,216 SqFt | 40.11 Acres



Black Bear Lodge | \$750,000
4 Bed | 4 Bath | 1,788 SqFt | Unit 204

Land Offerings
665 Red Mtn Ranch Rd - 36.6 Ac - \$799,000
1363 Red Mtn Ranch Rd - 35.1 Ac - \$615,000
825 Skyland Drive - 0.47 Ac - \$350,000
Lot 7 - Summit - 0.37 Ac - \$299,000
TBD Lapis Lane - 0.45 Ac - \$275,000
6 Summit Road - 0.58 Ac - \$250,000
84 Stream View Ln - 0.49 Ac - \$199,000
43 Ruby Drive - 0.81 Ac - \$175,000



Mountaineer Square | \$555,000
2 Bed | 3 Bath | 1,357 SqFt | Unit 509



San Moritz Condos | \$319,000
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1,324 SqFt | Unit P202



Corey Dwan
Realtor

970.596.3219

Corey.Dwan@SothebysRealty.com



341 7th St, Irwin | \$315,000
1 Bed | 1 Bath | 1,550 SqFt | 0.77 Acres

CrestedButteCollection.com



OWL KACHINA AND FRIENDS



RED CARDINALS, GIANT LIZARD & BLACK WOLF



THE RAVEN

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970.275.4434

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