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## **Mountain Sky Guest Ranch and Paradise Valley Pop Stand Award \$254,000 in Non-Profit Grants**

EMIGRANT, MT – (July 30, 2010) – [The Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund](#) and the [Paradise Valley Pop Stand Fund](#) have approved more than \$254,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations serving Montana youth and families in Park and Gallatin counties.

The awards include a three-year \$50,000 grant to Crazy Mountain Productions to transform the former East Side School building in downtown Livingston into a Community Center for the Arts. Crazy Mountain Productions is currently moving its operations from the Firehouse 5 Theatre to the East Side Arts Center, and will open the new facility with a production of Cats on October 22.

Other grants include a \$25,000 award to the Greater Gallatin United Way to support the KidsLink after-school program, which serves nearly 1,000 youth across Park and Gallatin counties, and a three-year \$45,000 award to support the work of the Park County Community Foundation. The Park County Community Foundation works to increase philanthropy and support nonprofits in Park County.

“The local nonprofit community is doing a terrific job of stepping up to meet the increased demand for services,” said Tawnya Rupe, director of the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund. “Our associates at Mountain Sky Guest Ranch and the Paradise Valley Pop Stand are honored to be supporting these partner organizations.”

A full list of the 2010 grant awards is attached.

The Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund and the Paradise Valley Pop Stand Fund are affiliated funds of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. The Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund has contributed more than \$2 million to local nonprofits since Arthur Blank, co-founder of The Home Depot, acquired the ranch in 2001.

The Paradise Valley Pop Stand Fund began its charitable giving program in 2008 and supports youth sports and volunteerism. Drawing on nominations from the community, every month the Pop Stand recognizes a local “Hero” for outstanding volunteer work and makes a donation to the nonprofit of that individual’s choice.

## Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund 2010 Grant Awards

Please remember that the Pop Stand wanted to attach its name to Crazy Mountain Productions, the barbershop camp and Middle School Football. I've made the correction.

Organization	Grant	Purpose
Big Sky Institute	\$5,000	To conduct an organizational assessment of Child Care Connections, the first phase of the Montana Nonprofit Connections capacity building program.
Big Sky Youth Empowerment	\$8,000	For a youth development program serving at-risk kids.
Bozeman Schools Foundation	\$5,000	For the Spark Grant program, which provides innovative and enhanced student programming.
Children's Museum of Bozeman	\$8,000	For a youth internship program and scholarships for underserved rural children.
Community Mediation Center	\$10,000	For the Low Income Mediation Program, which assists divorced families with parenting plans within the judicial system.
Gallatin Historical Society	\$4,000	To enable the museum to continue providing free admission to children ages 12 and younger.
Gallatin Valley Food Bank	\$5,000	For the KidsPack program, providing food for low-income students in Gallatin County. The grant requires a \$5,000 match.
Greater Gallatin United Way	\$25,000	For the KidsLink after-school program, serving 960 kids throughout Park and Gallatin counties.
LINKS and HOPA	\$8,000	For a youth mentorship program in Livingston.
Livingston Food Pantry	\$8,000	For the Backpack Program, which provides healthy food to youth in Park County.
Manaia Youth Program	\$7,500	For the Stride Program serving at-risk youth.
Montana Conservation Corps	\$5,000	For the Expeditions program serving at-risk youth.
Montana Nonprofit Association	\$20,000	To hire a staff member that will enhance capacity programs for MT nonprofits. The grant requires a \$20,000 match.
Museum of the Rockies	\$4,000	To provide free memberships to families with children in Head Start, a preschool program serving low income children in Bozeman.
Park County Community Foundation	\$45,000	For general operating support, over three years.
Philanthropy Northwest	\$3,000	To support activities of the Montana and Wyoming Funders Networks
THRIVE	\$6,000	For the Girls for Change program.
Trout Unlimited	\$5,000	To Support the Fleshman Creek restoration and outdoor classroom project, over three years.
Western Sustainability Exchange	\$2,500	For a youth entrepreneur program utilizing the "Biz n a Boxx" curriculum.
Yellowstone Country Guardians	\$6,000	For a youth conservation education program.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$194,675</b>	

**Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund and Paradise Valley Pop Stand Fund  
Joint 2010 Grant Awards**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Barbershop Quartet	\$3,000	For the region's only <i>a capella</i> vocal music camp.
Crazy Mountain Productions	\$50,000	For the renovation (over three years) of an old school building into a Community Center for the Arts in downtown Livingston.
Livingston Baseball Association	\$3,000	To supply new equipment for the middle school football program. The grant requires a \$3,000 match.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$56,000</b>	

**Paradise Valley Pop Stand Fund  
2010 Grant Awards**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
City of Livingston	\$500	For recreation department
City of Livingston	\$500	To sponsor Summerfest
American Legion Baseball	\$200	For field upkeep
Livingston Baseball Association	\$200	To sponsor youth baseball teams
Park County	\$200	For volleyball Hero award
Park County	\$300	For volleyball scholarship funds
MDA	\$200	MDA Hero award
MDA	\$200	For MDA operating support
Sister City	\$150	For sponsorship
Carve	\$200	For Carve Hero award
Carve	\$100	For improvements to the skate park
She Can!	\$200	For She Can! Hero award, which supports a running group for girls
Animal Shelter	\$200	For Animal Shelter Hero award
Bozeman Adult Soccer League	\$200	For team sponsorship
Farmers' Market	\$200	For Farmers' Market Hero award
Livingston Youth Soccer League	\$200	For team sponsorship
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,750</b>	