

PRINTMAKER RETURNS



SHANNA MADISON PHOTOS, MISSOULIAN

Kendall Quindry, a BFA printmaking student, helps make one of visiting artist Stella Nall's prints during class on Thursday, Oct. 31 in Missoula at the University of Montana.

Stella Nall back to her roots for UM artist residency

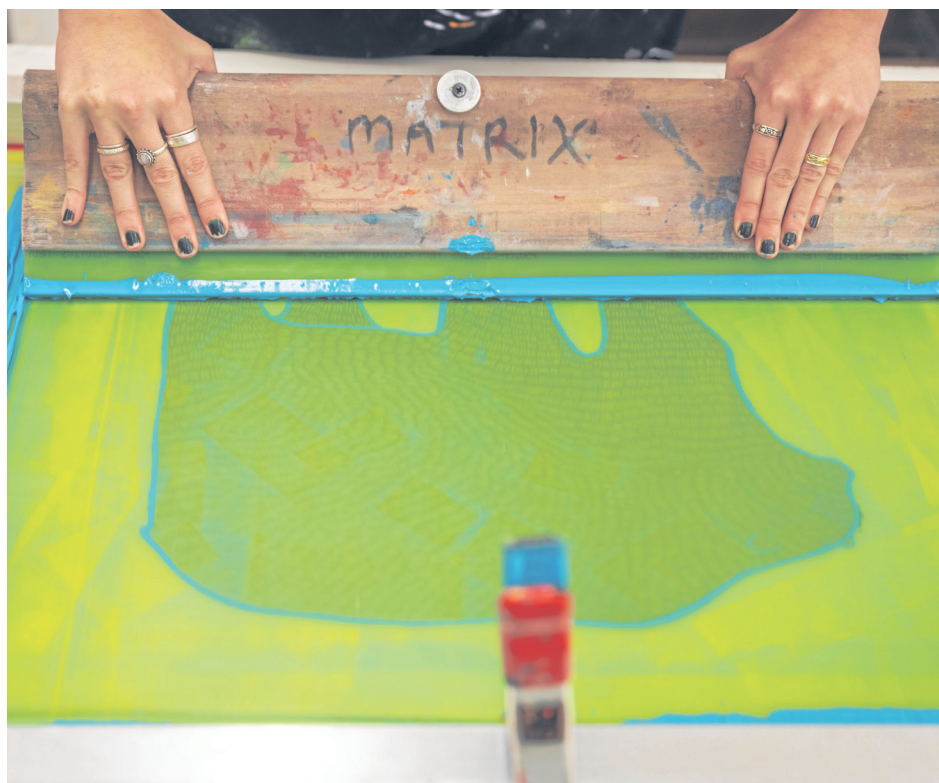
ANDY TALLMAN
andy.tallman@missoulian.com

Stella Nall's art, from beadwork to murals, has hung in museums across the state and country. But this fall, she returned to her roots at the University of Montana's printmaking studio to help pass her skills and creativity on to the next generation.

This semester, Nall is an artist-in-residence at her alma mater UM's Matrix Press printmaking studio, where she's helping teach students, and creating her own work at the same time.

During a recent class with students, Nall created a print design in Procreate, a digital art program that allows a drawing to be separated into layers. She had the students use the press to put down ink, layer by layer, until the full design of a bear emerged, featuring crosshatched blue lines representing fur texture over a dark background, with goldenrod-yellow claws, and a blue outline as the final touch.

Some of Nall's art explores her own Indigenous identity — she's a descendent of the Apsáalooke (Crow Tribe in English). Since she was a child, she's used a bird with handlike wings as a self portrait, which some may recognize throughout her work. "Apsáalooke" means "children



Kendall Quindry, a BFA printmaking student, makes one of visiting artist Stella Nall's prints during class on Thursday, Oct. 31 in Missoula at the University of Montana. This semester, Nall is an artist-in-residence at her alma mater UM's Matrix Press printmaking studio, where she's helping teach students, and creating her own work at the same time.

Please see **NALL**, Page **A2**.

HOLLAND LAKE LODGE

New owners seek operating permit with no expansion

JOSHUA MURDOCK
joshua.murdock@lee.net

The incoming owners of Holland Lake Lodge in western Montana's Swan Valley have applied for a special-use permit to operate the business on the Flathead National Forest, and their application did not request any expansion of business operations or physical footprint for the historic property at Missoula County's far north end.

According to Flathead National Forest Public Affairs Officer Kira Powell, Utah businessmen Eric Jacobsen, originally from Great Falls, and Thomas Knowles, his

niece's husband, submitted an application for Holland Lake Lodge Inc. Powell wrote in an email to the Missoulian Friday afternoon that "The Forest Service is currently reviewing this application to determine if it meets screening criteria, including the necessary technical and financial capability to operate the lodge."

"The application is for continuing the existing use within the existing footprint with no proposed expansion," she wrote. "If the application meets the screening criteria and is accepted, an environmental



BEN ALLAN SMITH, MISSOULIAN

Please see **HOLLAND**, Page **A2**. An aerial view of Holland Lake Lodge.

US Justice Dept. to monitor voting rights compliance in Blaine County

NORA MABIE
nora.mabie@missoulian.com

The U.S. Department of Justice on Election Day will monitor compliance with federal voting rights laws in 86 jurisdictions in 27 states,

including in Blaine County. Located in north central Montana, Blaine County overlaps with the Fort Belknap Reservation and is home to 6,899 people, 50% of whom are Native Amer-

ican. As of Oct. 31, 72.8% of absentee ballots sent out in Blaine County had been received.

The Justice Department regularly monitors elections nationwide to ensure eligi-

ble individuals can vote, according to a news release. The release did not state why Blaine County or other counties were selected.

On Election Day, people can submit questions and

complaints related to possible violations of federal voting rights laws to the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division at civilrights.justice.gov or by calling 800-253-3931. Complaints

related to disruptions at polling places should be reported to local election authorities. Reports of violence or voter intimidation at a polling place should be reported to local police.



Advanced printmaking students work with resident artist Stella Nall on Thursday, Oct. 31 at the University of Montana in Missoula.



SHANNA MADISON PHOTOS, MISSOULIAN

Stella Nall works with advanced printmaking students during a visiting artist residency on Thursday, Oct. 31 at the University of Montana in Missoula. Nall is an alumnus of the university's printmaking program.

Nall

From A1

of the large-beaked bird," so when she heard stories of her ancestors, she envisioned them as those birds, she said.

Nall's work hangs in the printmaking studio for students to reference. In one of her recent designs that didn't end up getting printed, her self-portrait hand-bird flies after a larger beak, representing what she feels she can't live up to.

Another print references local regulations.

For the past year, Nall has been trying to get Missoula's Animal Control and city council to change regulations for potbelly and American miniature pigs, which are currently classified as livestock and can't be kept as pets. On a white, 100% cotton paper background stands a red pig filled with daisies.

"The pig is full of flowers to symbolize how they're so nice and not full of evil," Nall said with a smile.

Another design was "just a friendly bear," Nall explained.

Nall graduated from the University of Montana in

2020 with a BFA in printmaking, and served as an assistant at Matrix Press. Since then, her work has been featured in the Montana Museum of Arts and Culture, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, and the IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts.

"I was really excited to be invited back," Nall said.

Matrix Press was started by UM professor James Bailey back in 1998, and invites about two to four resident artists every year. It's both a learning experience and creative process, he said. Part of why he chose

Nall for a residency was that he thought how much she'd achieved so soon after graduation would be an inspiration to the younger students.

"Stella is so creative," Aydrin Harden, a 22-year-old BFA printmaking student, said. "She's really just a fun person to work with."

Harden said she's learned a lot of problem-solving during Nall's residency.

"I probably have learned as much about screen-printing in the last two weeks as I have in the last two years," said Rob

Spradlin, 53, a Matrix studio technician.

Spradlin's BFA concentration is in sculpture, but printmaking is where he gets to let his creativity play, he said, adding that the other artists are more technically skilled at printmaking than he is, which means he's constantly learning.

"The ability to iterate and create multiples is really satisfying," Spradlin said. "Being in a flow state with four other people is extraordinary."

The residency also helps

Nall make a lot more prints than she'd be able to alone without a studio.

"It's a very process-intensive medium," Nall said.

The prints made during the residency will be split evenly between Matrix and Nall. Nall will use her prints to create a body of work for exhibitions. Matrix will keep some prints, give some to the students and sell some to raise money for future residencies.

Andy Tallman is the education reporter for the Missoulian.

Holland

From A1

analysis will begin. Before a decision is made to issue a special use authorization, there will be an opportunity for public involvement."

Jacobsen and Knowles agreed in early October to buy the lodge from longtime owner Christian Wohlfeil and Utah-based ski resort corporation POWDR, the latter of which had purchased a stake in the company and proposed a massively unpopular — and ultimately rejected — expansion of the lodge. The Forest Service was notified Oct. 11 of a purchase agreement between buyer Jacobsen and sellers Wohlfeil and POWDR, Powell previously told the Missoulian.

Holland Lake Lodge Inc. — the business, the buildings and other infrastructure — is a private company. But it's located and operates on federally owned public land in the Flathead National Forest. That dynamic means that whoever owns Holland Lake Lodge needs a special-use permit (SUP) from the Forest Service to



SHANNA MADISON, MISSOULIAN

Eric Jacobsen answers Swan Valley residents' questions regarding the potential sale of the Holland Lake Lodge during a community meeting at the Condon Public Library on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024.

operate the business.

The sale of the treasured property at Missoula County's far northern end, and now the new owners' application for a permit to operate the business, is the latest development in a now yearslong saga that began when POWDR's since scuttled proposal sparked widespread public outcry in late summer 2022.

The company's proposal envisioned 32 new buildings — including a 28-room lodge, a restaurant and 26 cabins — and the removal of 10 structures around the lodge. The plan would have expanded the business' permitted area from 10.53 acres to about 15 acres. The Forest Service ultimately rejected POWDR's proposal and the company announced last fall it would

scuttle its full purchase of the lodge from Wohlfeil, who put the property back up for sale.

The SUP is one of two critical documents any owners of Holland Lake Lodge need to sign on to with the Forest Service. The other is a master development plan, or MDP, is a crucial component of operating the lodge.

Any owner of Holland Lake Lodge is required to submit an MDP to the Forest Service, and have it approved by the agency, to receive an SUP.

Whereas an SUP details the level of operations and improvements currently allowed, an MDP lays out a permit holder's long-term future plans. An MDP isn't a specific project proposal — it's essentially a preview of projects a permit holder may propose in the future.

It wasn't immediately clear Friday evening whether Jacobsen and Knowles had also submitted their own MDP.

But the application for a permit with no expansion represents, at least for now, a granting of the wishes of a vast majority of locals and others who have since POWDR's proposal expressed vehement opposition to any significant expansion of the lodge.

At public meetings Jacobsen held in Condon in September and October, nearly all attendees voiced strong opposition to a physical expansion of the lodge footprint, with some also opposing any increase in events like weddings or activities like boating.

Most said they believed the lodge should be left as-is, other than completion of long overdue maintenance on the buildings. Some said they would like a return to year-round operations, or more community oriented offerings like burger nights, holiday gatherings or local author talks.

Jacobsen said in a mid-September meeting that he didn't have a firm idea yet of what he would do with the business. But, he said, although he believed some expansion is necessary to make the operation financially viable, he was strongly opposed to expansion on the scale of what POWDR proposed. And, he said at the time, expansion could come in the form of expanded business and event offerings, not a physical expansion of the lodge property.

Joshua Murdock covers the outdoors and natural resources for the Missoulian. He previously served as editor-in-chief of the Boulder Monitor in Jefferson County, Montana, and has worked as a newspaper reporter and photographer in rural towns in Idaho and Utah.

Missoulian

FOUNDED SEPT. 15, 1870

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 8029, Missoula, MT 59807-8029.

WHOM TO CONTACT

- **General information:** 406-523-5200
- **Executive Editor Steve Kiggins:** 523-5250, steve.kiggins@lee.net
- **News department:** 523-5240, 1-800-366-7186, Fax: 523-5294
- **Sports department, Bill Speltz:** 523-5255, bill.speltz@missoulian.com
- **Subscriber Customer Service:** 1-866-839-6397; custservice@missoulian.com
- **Classified advertising:** Missoulian.com/place_An_Ad_or_classifieds@missoulian.com
- **Obituaries:** obits@missoulian.com or 406-523-5281
- **Advertising, Chris Arvish:** 406-523-5236

CORRECTIONS

If you find a factual error in the Missoulian, tell us about it. Contact the newsroom at 523-5240 or 1-800-366-7186; email newsdesk@missoulian.com; or fax 523-5294.

Copyright 2024, The Missoulian. All rights reserved.

Reproduction, reuse or transmittal in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or through an information retrieval system is prohibited without permission in writing from the Missoulian.

IDENTIFICATION

The Missoulian (ISSN: 0746-4495), a Lee Enterprises Newspaper, is published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 2291 W BROADWAY ST STE 5 A, MISSOULA, MT 59808. Periodicals Postage Paid at Missoula, MT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to 500 E 3RD ST, DAVENPORT, IA 52801.

PRICING

Missoulian is a Lee Enterprises Newspaper and is published online daily, and three days per week in print (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays). The subscription price includes all applicable sales tax, and a Print + Digital subscription includes postage for mail delivery. To avoid delivery charges, call 1-866-839-6397 to arrange pickup of your paper at a local office. We reserve the right to change your subscription rate at any time. Contact 1-866-839-6397 or email custservice@missoulian.com for additional information.

SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS

All subscription offers available at missoulian.com, including those advertised through our email promotions, on-site messaging, social media, and any external means of promotion, are valid for new subscribers only. You must not have been a subscriber in the past thirty (30) days to register for a new subscription offer. You understand that delivery and billing will continue beyond the initial order period unless you cancel your subscription as detailed in the next paragraph. Rates may change after introductory offer period. There is a non-refundable one-time account set up fee of \$6.99 for all new subscribers.

AUTO-RENEWAL, CANCELLATION, REFUND, AND SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL POLICY

If you register for EZ Pay or debit banking (ACH) payments, your Digital Only or Print + Digital subscription service (your "Subscription") will automatically renew. On the last day of your current term (your "Renewal Date"), your Subscription will automatically renew for the same length of time, at the then-current Subscription rate, which we may change in our

discretion, unless you choose to cancel more than twenty-one (21) days before your Renewal Date (your "Cancellation Date"). YOU MAY CANCEL YOUR SUBSCRIPTION BY EMAILING US WITH THE SUBJECT LINE "CANCEL" AT custservice@missoulian.com OR CALLING US AT 1-866-839-6397. YOU MAY ALSO BE ABLE TO CANCEL ONLINE DEPENDING ON YOUR SUBSCRIPTION - PLEASE CHECK YOUR SETTINGS IN YOUR ACCOUNT DASHBOARD TO SEE IF THIS OPTION IS AVAILABLE TO YOU.

Prior to the Cancellation Date, we will send you a notice reminding you about the renewal of your Subscription. Subscribers who prefer to receive paper renewal notices in the mail will be charged \$6.99 for each renewal notice; this fee is waived for subscribers who sign up to receive their renewal notices via email. If you wish to receive renewal notices via email, please contact us at custservice@missoulian.com or call 1-866-839-6397.

IF YOU DO NOT AFFIRMATIVELY CANCEL YOUR SUBSCRIPTION BEFORE YOUR CANCELLATION DATE, YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION YOU INITIALLY SELECTED AT THE RATES IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF RENEWAL.

If you have provided us with a valid credit card number or an alternate payment method saved in your account, and you have not cancelled by your Cancellation Date, your Subscription will be automatically processed up to fourteen (14) days in advance of your Renewal Date, and the payment method you provided to us at or after the time of your initial Subscription purchase will be charged.

We reserve the right to change your Subscription rate at the next renewal period. If you are not satisfied with your Subscription rate or service, you may cancel your Subscription at any time. No refunds will be returned if remainder of the Subscription term is under thirty (30) days. The refund amount of any balance over \$25.00 will be returned minus an early termination fee of \$25.00. No refunds for Digital Only subscriptions are provided.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Print subscribers get the benefit of newspaper home delivery by mail as well as digital access. All subscriptions are subject to the Cancellation, Refund and Renewal Policy described above, and all EZ Pay or ACH subscriptions are also subject to the Auto-Renewal Policy, as well as the additional terms and conditions set forth below.

All Subscriptions include unlimited digital access, but there may be links to content on other websites owned by our parent company that can be accessed only through an additional paywall. In such cases, your Subscription to content behind a separate paywall will be governed by any additional terms that are associated therewith. To access these benefits, you must first provide your email address, register with missoulian.com/services, and activate your account online. To activate your digital account visit missoulian.com/activate. You can manage your account at missoulian.com/services.

We may, in our sole discretion, change features of your subscription, including without limitations frequency of and media/platform for delivery. We will notify you of any material changes to your subscription prior to your next renewal and send to you before your subscription renews with those changes. YOUR CONTINUED SUBSCRIPTION FOLLOWING SUCH CHANGES CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE CHANGES. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE TO ANY CHANGES, YOU MUST CANCEL YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

VACATION POLICY

Print Vacation holds up to thirty (30) days will continue to bill at regular rate while full digital access is maintained. Incurred vacations of thirty-one (31) days or more will not incur charges and all Subscription benefits will be suspended during that time.