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# Finley Point Breeze

Winter Issue 2014 Volume XVII

## Spring Issue 2014



WELCOME TO SPRING  
2014  
FINLEY POINT BREEZE

Spring 2014 could not be any more welcome! As you will read elsewhere, we had one heck of a winter.....a ton of snow, wind and cold. While it made for fantastic skiing and our teenage boys had their first EVER snow day, the adults wondered at times if it would ever end.

2013 ended up with 59 sales on Flathead Lake. We expect about the same this year. With lake values down from market peak, buyers continue to jump in. As you have probably seen in previous issues, the Smith Team has sold a significant number of Finley Point properties, both on and off the lake. If you have considered selling, please let us know. We would be pleased to take a look at your place and provide you with a complimentary market analysis.

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*A special thanks  
to all who make  
the Breeze  
possible!*

## Winter Blues

By Jesse Barry

Man! What a winter! That's all I hear from every corner of Montana. I haven't heard this much complaining since Romney lost the last election to that fine Irish lad, O'Bama! I always thought Montanans were a tough breed. Seems as if a few softies have moved into the area. What's become of that old grizzled Montanan who trudged through 10 feet of snow barefooted to reach the outhouse he built a half mile down wind from the house? He never complained a bit when he was forced to make the trip again because his wife used up all the baby powder! And, who can forget the story about that pregnant woman from Butte who fought through a blizzard to reach her barn and helped a cow deliver a breached calf. Then she delivered her own baby and shoed a horse before returning to the main house to fix her husband a hot breakfast. She could have said it was just too darned cold out and made her husband make do with Cocoa Puffs! But no! She was a real Montanan! Where are these people? They can't have all been replaced by some fancy dude with his \$100 haircut, wearing a \$200 silk necktie, and driving around in his fancy sports car selling real estate, can they? I mean, you can't all have turned into Ric Smith, can you? Come on! Toughen up people! Winter only lasts 9 months around here, you know! It won't be long before winter turns into pothole season and you'll really have something to cry about!

Heck! You won't catch me and Claudia complaining about the cold. No siree Bob! You won't hear us droning on and on about the horrible winter we are having! We just man up and make the best of what Mother Nature brings us. We just hunker down and do what people have done since the dawn of Creation! My Mother used to say just pack up your troubles in your old kitbag and smile, Brother smile! And that's what the Barry's did! And I have to tell you! By the time we were finished smiling, we were back in Florida. And, you know what? I don't think this winter was SO bad. The sun shined a lot and the gray days weren't so gray! We spent a lot of time down by the Gulf and even managed to get in a few rounds of golf. And, do you think Claudia carped at all about standing in the cold damp grass watching a high school soccer game the other day? Not a peep came from her mouth, even though the dew was playing havoc with her new pedicure because she wore open toed sandals to the game. And, when the temperatures reached into the 80's last week, we didn't complain a bit about the heat! Nope, just turned the a/c up a little bit, put a little more ice in our maitais, and weathered the storm! Yep! Like the Montanans of old, we've just taken it in stride and, somehow, made it through one of the worst winters in recent memory. I have to say, it makes a fellow proud to be tough enough to survive this year! And I did it with a smile on my lips and a tan on my face. There's a lesson in there someplace.

And, now that this winter is finally drawing to a close and a smell of spring is in the air, like the swallows that are irresistibly drawn to Capistrano, we will soon begin that long migration to our home land. We will once again brave the elements in a mad dash northward to the Great State of Montana. Neither rain, nor sleet, nor gloom of night will keep us from our wonderful Polson home. Now, if I can just get somebody to go there and turn up the heat! After all! Haven't we suffered enough?

## **Fishes of Flathead Lake (Part 1): How we got here**

By Tom Bansak

Research Scientist, Flathead Lake Biological Station

When the first settlers of European descent arrived in NW Montana in the late 1800s, they found about 10 fish species in Flathead Lake. Native fishes of note were westslope cutthroat trout (Montana's state fish) and bull trout (top predator). Since Flathead Lake had been ice as recently as 15-20,000 years prior and ice is a tough place for a fish to make a living, this low diversity is not surprising.

But early fisheries managers saw opportunity. Opportunity to 'improve' Flathead Lake and the waters of Montana. So they did what fisheries managers of that era did, they stocked nonnative fishes. They did so widely- from buckets, from backpacks, from mule trains, railroad cars, tanker trucks and even helicopters. Between 1890 and 1950 state and federal fisheries managers intentionally introduced roughly 25 fish species into Flathead Lake to see what would take. They predominantly stocked fish that were fun to fish and tasty to eat. These included rainbow trout from the west coast in 1914 (the most widely stocked fish in the world), brook trout from the east coast in 1913, and lake trout from the midwest in 1905.

Many of these fishes did not survive the low nutrient, cold waters of the Flathead. Others did well, reproducing naturally after initial stocking and becoming what biologists term "naturalized". Today we have 21 species of fish in Flathead Lake of which 10 are native. And the most abundant fishes are nonnatives: lake trout, lake whitefish and yellow perch. (Detailed information about the fishes of the Flathead can be found at [www.umt.edu/flbs/AboutFLBS/FlatheadLake.aspx](http://www.umt.edu/flbs/AboutFLBS/FlatheadLake.aspx)) So how did we get here? What happened along the way?

To understand this we must talk about salmon and shrimp. One of the fish that managers introduced to the Lake was kokanee salmon (1916). Kokanee is a landlocked sockeye salmon. Salmon typically are born in freshwater streams and after a year or two swim to the ocean to take advantage of abundant food resources. There they get significantly larger and after several years (depending on the species) they head back upstream to the place that they were born, reproduce and die. However, salmon stocked in interior areas cannot reach the ocean, so they adapt to what is available. In the Flathead they used the Lake as their "ocean" and traveled up the Flathead River to reproduce. Subsequently, each fall there were large salmon spawning congregations in streams such as McDonald Creek in Glacier National Park.

These kokanee salmon were very popular. During the "Kokanee era" (c. 1940-1980), they were very abundant (more than 300,000 in Flathead Lake), fun to catch and delicious. You could fillet them, you could grill them, you could smoke them, you could can them. In short, you could survive a winter off of them. So people caught lots of them. Additionally, wildlife recognized their value. During the fall they were accessible in shallow spawning streams to bears seeking out fatty and protein-rich foods in preparation for hibernation. Bald eagles came from afar to feed, resulting in the largest congregations of eagles in the US outside of Alaska. Subsequently, camera-toting tourists came to witness this internationally renowned wildlife spectacle.

**Continued on next page**

## Fishes of Flathead Lake (Part 1): How we got here Continued

So what do you do if you are the manager of such a popular fishery? You try to make it better, of course. Starting in the 1950s, fisheries managers across the West widely stocked a freshwater shrimp, *Mysis*, in lakes. Native zooplankton (small aquatic animals eaten by many fish, incl. kokanee and cutthroat trout) are typically barely visible with the naked eye, whereas *Mysis* are large- adults are over 1/2 inch. The rationale for *Mysis* stocking was that a larger food package would yield more and larger fish for people to enjoy. In the Flathead, managers noted that just 4 hours to the north Kootenai Lake in British Columbia was yielding world record kokanee. So between 1968 and 1975, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks introduced *Mysis* to 5 lakes in the Flathead including Whitefish and Swan Lakes. By 1981 they had drifted downstream and were found in Flathead Lake by the Flathead Lake Biological Station's young (at that point) monitoring program.

Unfortunately, the shrimp did not boost the kokanee population in Flathead Lake as managers had hoped. Instead, it caused a total population crash of the species that it was supposed to enhance. Between 1984 and 1989 kokanee in Flathead Lake went from more than 300,000 to zero, the *Mysis* went from roughly 5 per square meter of lake to nearly 130 per square meter, the bears were forced to search for other rich foods in the fall and the eagles went elsewhere. What happened? Well, *Mysis* shrimp eat zooplankton so they became a competitor for food with kokanee. As the shrimp population exploded they gobbled up all the large, nutritious and tasty zooplankton, leaving little for kokanee and other fishes. Additionally *Mysis* vertically migrate, spending the day on the bottom when kokanee were feeding near the surface, and coming up at night to eat zooplankton, the salmon food. So kokanee never had the chance to feed upon the shrimp, and the shrimp ate all of their preferred food. Bio Station researchers documented these species interactions known as a "trophic cascade" in a scientifically famous paper in 1991.

But the story doesn't end there. It turns out that two fish species introduced from the Great Lakes in the early 1900s, lake trout and lake whitefish, evolved with *Mysis* and feed on the bottom. Until the advent of the "*Mysis* era", lake trout and lake whitefish had survived but had not become abundant in Flathead Lake, as there was not much food down deep. When *Mysis*, one of their favorite foods, showed up their populations grew. Lake whitefish eat *Mysis* and other bottom-dwelling invertebrates for their entire lives, whereas most lake trout eat *Mysis* when small (up to 24 inches) and then switch to fish when they are larger. So the introduction of the shrimp (an abundant food source on the bottom) removed the bottleneck for growth and survival of juvenile lake trout and lake trout numbers increased dramatically.

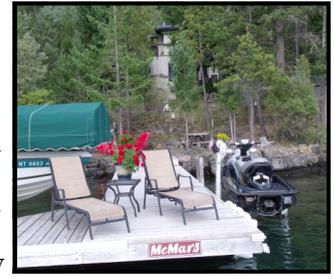
Lake trout are voracious and indiscriminant predators. They can eat a fish more than 50% of their own body size and will even eat their own kind and their own young. So, as the population of a large predator increased in Flathead Lake, other fishes were consumed. This included our native trout and the kokanee. In particular, young kokanee salmon that were stocked in the 1990s by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks during an unsuccessful reestablishment effort were tasty morsels for the growing lake trout population. Netting in Yellow Bay during kokanee stocking yielded lake trout with distended bellies and kokanee tails sticking out of their mouth.

**Continued on next page**



### 29971 Westside Drive

Pristine Lakefront offering ideally suited for quiet daily living as well as carefree entertaining. Two custom homes sit on level frontage to Finley Point's clear, deep water. Main home features chef's dream kitchen, open living/dining, stunning master suite & spacious office. Guest home offers 2 bedrooms, 2 baths & large kitchen/living area. Enjoy the serenity & privacy of the main residence while your company and guests make themselves at home in the unique yurt shaped back house. Waterfront offers sunny south/west exposure, boat and Jet Ski slips, lovely sitting area with fire pit at waters edge. Bay is protected yet still offers expansive 180\* views to the south, west, and north. This property offers year-round or summer living.



**\$1,170,000 MLS 322160**

### Fishes of Flathead Lake (Part 1): How we got here

So today, Flathead Lake is dominated by nonnative species who evolved together in the Midwest: lake trout, lake whitefish and *Mysis* shrimp; while most native fishes have declined. In fact, native bull trout are listed as threatened by the Endangered Species Act and cutthroat trout are a state "species of special concern". Recent estimates put Flathead Lake lake trout numbers at over 1 million and bull trout below 20,000. The *Mysis* population fluctuates but has generally stabilized at about 50 per square meter as they are now preyed upon heavily by lake trout and whitefish. In short, through intentional species introductions a Rocky Mountain Lake has essentially been turned into a Great Lake. This 100 year story of Flathead Lake's community changes was published by Bio Station researchers (plus others) in a 2011 scientific paper (available at [www.umt.edu/flbs/People/Ellis~590/Ellis%20PNAS%202011.pdf](http://www.umt.edu/flbs/People/Ellis~590/Ellis%20PNAS%202011.pdf)).

We will examine where we go from here in the next issue of The Finley Point Breeze.



### Finley Point Lane

Smuggler's Cove lakefront! Private, protected cove off of Skidoo Bay is a lovely setting for your new lake home. Property is comprised of 4 separate lots totaling 4.86 acres. Plenty of foliage to assure privacy. Gravel beach. Many beautiful building sites add to the appeal of this offering. Quiet road, fantastic location.

**\$595,000**

**MLS 313277**

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## SNOW PACK, WEATHER, AND OTHER FUN STUFF

By Ric Smith

Well we certainly had snow this year. I can't recall a winter with as much snow and cold. There were even a few days when the Finley Point Road was barely passable. You definitely needed a four wheel drive for any hope of getting out.

We had a huge blast of cold and snow that dumped a solid two feet over the course of a few days in late February. It then turned warm (40\*) and we had a huge runoff. Part of the Finley Point Road collapsed, creating a four foot deep crevasse. Pretty wild!

As I write today, March 26, spring is on the way. The Tundra Swans are having their annual spring visit in East Bay. They are very noisy at night, playing along the lake's edge. Our lawn has some green in it and there is a ton of clean up from the winter.

Montana snow packs are pretty much normal or above normal state-wide. As of today, the Flathead is 111% of normal. So we will have plenty of clean refreshing water this summer.

### FINLEY POINT SKIDOO BAY



Located in the heart of Skidoo Bay on Finley Point sits this very special 4 bedroom/4 bath home with 97.85' of walkout Flathead Lake frontage. Home features stunning stone exterior in fantastic condition. Also offered is a chef's dream kitchen, plenty of decking, picturesque views of bay and mountains. Call Ric and Sarah today for your private showing!

**MLS 321211**  
**\$2,250,000**



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## REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

By Ric Smith

As you may have read earlier, we expect 2014 to follow in the same footsteps as 2013, which was actually quite a strong year, with unit sales (volume) being healthy. Lake values have held steady for the past 24 months. However, until our inventory decreases dramatically, we do not see any appreciation for lake properties. In the Polson area, residential properties off the lake in the \$150,000 to \$350,000 range are selling. Sales of residential lots off-lake are very slow with what we estimate to be a 12-15 year inventory at the current absorption rate.

The Internet's impact on real estate sales has been revolutionary. Buyers are educated and know their market segment like pros. Buyers know what is for sale, what has sold, and in some instances know the selling price. Sellers in all market segments need to price their offering properly. The good news is that if properties are priced to the market, it will likely sell. The Smith Team ensures your offering will look spectacular on the Internet. We take ample pictures and also offer virtual tours and video walk-throughs. We provide what the buyer demands....as much information as possible on your property. Call the Smith Team today!

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### Finley Point Roads

Dear Finley Pt. Road Users.

Welcome back for another exciting summer of dodging potholes, bumping over asphalt humps, and driving along broken shoulders. Look at it as a new kind of amusement ride. It is possible, based on a recent washout, that there could be a bypass through McCrumb's front yard. I hope the rest of you enjoy the road surface as much as I do.

Apparently Commissioner Barron's bucket list is deep. Finley Pt. roads must be on the very bottom. It's really too bad we can't all get together on this issue towards some kind of resolution. But without making it a common cause, nothing will ever happen.

Bouncing along, regards,

Pothole Hewitt



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## Flathead Lake Activity – RESIDENTIAL

### Activity since January 1, 2014

*(This data is from the Northwest Montana Association of Realtors Multiple Listing Service)*

#### ACTIVE LISTINGS

	As of April 1,	As of July 1,	As of Oct 1,	As of Dec 31,
Up to \$500,000	19			
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	55			
\$1,000,000+	49			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>123</b>			

#### PENDING SALES

	As of April 1,	As of July 1,	As of Oct 1,	As of Dec 31,
Up to \$500,000	2			
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	5			
\$1,000,000+	2			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>			

#### SOLD/CLOSED

	As of April 1, 2014	As of July 1, 2014	As of Oct 1, 2014	As of Dec 31, 2014
Up to \$500,000	3			
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	4			
\$1,000,000+	1			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>			

## Flathead Lake Activity – LAND

### Activity since January 1, 2014

*(This data is from the Northwest Montana Association of Realtors Multiple Listing Service)*

#### ACTIVE LISTINGS

	As of April 1, 2014	As of July 1, 2014	As of Oct 1, 2014	As of Dec 31, 2014
Up to \$500,000	20			
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	21			
\$1,000,000+	8			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>			

#### PENDING SALES

	As of April 1,	As of July 1,	As of Oct 1,	As of Dec 31,
Up to \$500,000	0			
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	0			
\$1,000,000+	1			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>			

#### SOLD/CLOSED

	As of April 1, 2014	As of July 1, 2014	As of Oct 1, 2014	As of Dec 31, 2014
Up to \$500,000	0			
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	1			
\$1,000,000+	0			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>			



**31293 Mt-35 Polson**

Two separate adjoining lots on Flathead Lake totaling over 7.36 acres, over 265' of sunny gravel beach frontage, Lindal cedar home plus guest house, all at the right price! Located on scenic Skidoo Bay, this private 3 bed/1.5 bath home overlooks Skidoo Bay and offers limitless views north. Home is well-maintained. Guest home is a 1 bed/1 bath. Wonderful investment opportunity!

**MLS 315149 \$475,000**

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**Sold /Closed Residential Properties Lakefront, Flathead Lake**  
 Compiled from Data provided by Northwest Montana Association of Realtors  
 Compliments of the Smith Team, Century 21 Big Sky

Sold/Closed	2010	2011	2012	2013
Up to \$300K	2	11	13	8
\$300,001 - \$500K	20	13	16	12
\$500,001 - \$700K	13	14	15	20
\$700,001 - \$900K	5	7	9	9
\$900,001 - \$1M	3	3	2	2
\$1,000,001 - \$2M	11	4	8	6
\$2,000,001 - \$3M	2	0	0	2
\$3,000,001 - \$4M	0	1	2	0
\$4,000,001+	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>59</b>



**119 Timber Shadow Trail**

3+ acre lot in the Finley Point Estates, a tasteful, well-planned community in the heart of Finley Point. Enjoy quiet privacy along with easy access, community water, septic approved, paved roads, streetlamps, lighted entryway. Lovely building sites for your dream home nestled in the trees. Community lake access just a few minutes away for boating and swimming.

**\$127,000**

**MLS 307122**

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### NHN S Finley Point

Delightful vintage Finley Point cabin, rich w/ history, sits upon expansive 240'+ gravel beach. Enjoy the retreat feel of approx. 4 acres w/ vegetation for privacy & beauty. 2 bedroom/2 bath cabin has been remodeled (baths & kitchen) and many original architectural accents restored. Sunny enclosed porch is perfect for overflow guests or lake-gazing. Revel in the classic splendor of The Lake.

**MLS 323273 \$1,150,000**

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## Grouse Springs Nursery

By Linda Hewitt

If many of you are like me, you're ecstatic to see spring weather approaching and itching to get your hands in the soil and start planting. I highly recommend you pay a visit to Grouse Springs Nursery, Highway 35 just south of Finley Pt. turn off. Owner Carolyn Clemans has a background in native plants and horticulture. Originally from Seattle, she was raised at the feet of renowned botanists, Art and Mareen Kruckeberg

In 1987 Four Winds Nursery found its present spot to call home. Seeing the huge cedar trees, they knew this was a place to grow plants.

It was rented to them by Clarence and Judy Nistler (and Olson and Zimmerman). All of it had been forested except two acres planted in Colorado Blue spruce seedlings by the Nistler group. Nistler also logged the property and milled some of the timber for personal use.

Ross Peters, a local contractor, built the house in 1952. Part of it was built with rough cut timbers from the property. The two acres previously mentioned had been planted to raspberries. Ross and his wife raised two daughters and a son on this special property.

The nursery grew over the years to eventually become Grouse Springs Nursery. It was named for the resident Ruffed Grouse and the many springs on the property. "You could be one of the lucky ones when you drive down the driveway and see one or two."

Caroline and Jim have many loyal customers and welcome all new visitors. The nursery offers trees, shrubs, fruits, perennials, and native plants. There is also a wide variety of blueberries. She'll offer suggestions and advice for landscaping, helping you decide what plants would grow best where... Give her a visit!



### Lots 6, 10 & 12 Finley Point Road Under Contract

Level 4.76 acre lot on Finley Point with picturesque grove of trees. Beautiful mountain and meadow views. Suitable to many needs, fabulous location! Certain commercial endeavors permitted, see "zoning" attachment.

**MLS 324269, 324281, & 324541**

**Each lot offered at \$99,500**

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## Ideas Galore

By Claudia Barry

It 's official, I've discovered Pinterest, an addictive website that offers endless ideas for everything from recipes and fashion to puppies and real estate. Honestly, if it isn't on Pinterest it probably doesn't exist. Some of my favorite categories are...

### *In the kitchen*

- 1) To keep pitchers of water cold and flavorful, make over-sized ice cubes in cupcake tins and add your favorite flavor to each tin, such as a thin slice of lemon, lime, cucumber or even a mint leaf.
- 2) Dunk blueberries into low-fat yogurt and freeze them on a wax paper lined cookie sheet. This super food makes a super snack.

### *Helpful hints*

- 1) Put dry tea bags into smelly shoes or gym bags to absorb unpleasant odors.
- 2) Deter deer from eating your garden by cutting up a bar of Irish Spring soap and distributing it around your plants.

### *"Just for fun" quotes*

Old age is always 15 years older than you I am.  
 They said to follow your dreams, so I went back to bed.  
 Am I the only one who calculates how much sleep I can get before going to bed?  
 Remember, without sleep, we become tall two year olds.  
 I don't want to brag but I can still fit into the earrings I wore in High School.  
 If I had a dollar for every time I got distracted, I wish I had some ice cream.  
 And my all time favorite quote... I don't want to seem like I think I'm always right, but I am and that's why it comes across that way.



#### **Just Listed!**

#### **34547 Three Dock Lane**

Spacious, solid year-round lake home on warm sunny gravel beach awaits! Exquisite kitchen w/ granite counters opens into one of three large living areas. Master suite overlooks Flathead Lake w/ custom walk-in closet. Sprawling lower level offers 3 large bedrooms, 2 baths, recreation area & storage.

**\$847,000**

**MLS 325950**

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**Tarrs Lane**

Looking for level frontage steps from water's edge? Quiet setting offers 2.2 acres, 150' of frontage w/ sunny southern exposure, 2 BR/1BA, deck, landscaping, sprinkler system, shade trees, shed & shop, and barbecue/horseshoe area. Waterfront features new concrete headwall w/ dock, boat ramp, boat & jetski lift. New well private septic. Enjoy cabin or use as site for your dream home. Owner(s) are realtors.

**\$530,438**  
**MLS 305219**

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**Calendar of Events**

- April 26th:** CASA Golf Scramble . Info: Ann McNeel 883-0158/Mike Parker 887-2058
- May 2nd:** Spring Mack Days Begins Info: 883-2888 ext 7294
- May 2nd:** Clean Up! Green Up! Beautification committee planning the community wide clean up.
- May 15th:** Women 4 Wellness at the Joe McDonald Health & Fitness Center from 10-4
- June 15th: Father's Day Cruises:** On the KwaTuqNuks' Shadow from 4-7. Call 883-3636
- June 27-28th:** Mission Mountain NRA Rodeo Begins at 7:30 each evening Call Sharon Procopio 261-2861
- July 4th:** Arlee Powwow Celebration sponsored by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribal Nation and Yamnecut
- July 18th:** Ksanka Standing Arrow Paowow at Elmo Powwow Grounds
- July 19-20th:** Main Street Cherry Festival Saturday 9-6 Sunday 10-4
- July 25-27th:** Flathead Lake 3-on-3 Hoop Shoot For more info call: 883-5255
- August 2nd:** 6th annual Smokin' on the Water at the KwaTuqNuk from 11-6
- August 2nd:** 12th Annual Polson Bay's Water Daze Swim visit [www.mvaquatics.org](http://www.mvaquatics.org) for info
- August 15th:** 4th Annual Flathead Lake Blues Festival at Salish Point Contact David Venters at 885-2377
- August 23rd:** Polson Rotary Chili Cook Off More info to follow



**104 Lynx Drive**

Large parcel offered w/ lake-through-the-trees views in the beautifully planned Finley Point Estates community. Many desirable building sites. Paved roads, streetlamps, community water, septic approved, lovely rock entryway just a few of the amazing features of this neighborhood. Large lots ensure privacy and quiet. Finley Point State Park just a short drive for lake recreation, boat launch, etc.

**\$136,500**  
**MLS 311781**

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**Smith Team Real Estate**

Ric Smith—Broker/Owner  
Sarah Beck-Smith—Broker  
Liz Smith—Licensed Personal Assistant

***We Get the Point!***  
***Ask for us by name***

**Ric: 406-471-0377**  
**Sarah: 406-261-0641**

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406-883-5387

## Alpine Landscape and Design, llc Spotlight

By Joslyn Shackelford

At Alpine Landscape and Design, llc designing and installing outdoor living environments have become our specialty over the past six years. Many of our clients are dining, lounging, and entertaining during the summer months on Flathead Lake. Therefore, we wanted them to enjoy their outdoor spaces more and more. The landscape concepts have been evolving and are now extensions to their home. Think of it as additional rooms to your home such as an outdoor kitchen, a secondary dining room, and a secondary living room.

Our outdoor kitchens are designed and installed to be just like your traditional kitchen with grills, side burners, sinks, refrigerators, wine coolers, icemakers, and storage. They are self-sufficient so you do not need to keep going back inside to get things from the indoor kitchen. Each outdoor kitchen becomes a focal point in the landscape with the beautiful finishes and options for details. Many have been designed to incorporate islands, extra space for eating, serving, and prep work. We have built a wonderful relationship with Brother's Construction Inc., also based in Polson, to complete the supply and installation of the units from concept to the first cheese burger.

In addition to outdoor kitchens, we supply the dining and lounging chairs, tables, and fire pits to keep your feet up and lake living lifestyle at its prime. Fresh for 2014 we are supplying the furniture from OW Lee [www.owlee.com](http://www.owlee.com), Summer Classics [www.summerclassics.com](http://www.summerclassics.com), and Tropitone [www.tropitone.com](http://www.tropitone.com). All three of these companies' furniture is beautifully crafted with design and finishes.

If you need help maintaining your property, outdoor living space, or planting your container gardens we are a comprehensive option for your summer season. We have grown our maintenance department over the past three years to accommodate our customers' needs. Many options are available for services including a week to week service or a contact seasonal task list.

Feel free to call or email with questions for your next outdoor room concept, maintenance items, or consult, and we will help you enjoy your landscape to its fullest potential.

Joslyn Shackelford 406-240-9707

Mark Shackelford 406-581-0293

Email: [alpinelandscapes@gmail.com](mailto:alpinelandscapes@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.alpinelandscapedesign.com](http://www.alpinelandscapedesign.com)



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406-883-5387



Spacious, nearly-new home on Finley Point. 3833 sq ft home features 3 bedrooms plus bonus room, 4 baths, two living areas, granite in kitchen, open kitchen/dining/living endless views from master suite, fireplace, decking, attached garage. Beach offers southern exposure (lots of sun!), gentle footpath, new dock, and beautiful views of the Narrows and islands.

**\$885,000**

**MLS 325949**

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## Finley Point Running/Walking

Bridget Novis, a summer resident of Finley Point would like to present the opportunity to start a training running/walking group for Finley Point residents on either Saturdays or Sundays. Bridget would also like to present the idea of starting a run/walk group as well. You can contact Bridget at 406-239-5190.

## What's Cooking???

**By Claudia Barry**

When eating out, I'm always impressed with the edible garnish decorating my entree. Here is an easy, tasty garnish you can impress your guests with.

### ***Parmesan Cheese Crisps***

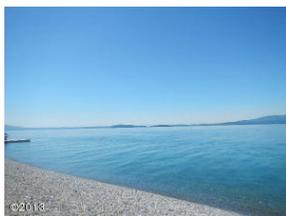
3 cups of finely grated Parmesan Cheese

Herb Options: caraway seeds, red pepper flakes, cracked pepper, fresh thyme.

1) preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cover a large cookie sheet with parchment paper.

2) using 2 tablespoons of cheese per crisp, form a mound of cheese on the sheet and flatten slightly with the spoon.

3) bake for 5 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle immediately with the herb of your choice. Cool before removing from cookie sheet. They are best when eaten the same day.



### **Sunset Point Lane**

Beautiful, peaceful gravel beach with sunny southern exposure. Property sits a good distance off the highway and has a beautiful building site near water's edge. 150' frontage, 1.71 acres. Endless views south, west, and north. Views look into Skidoo bay and into the expanse of Flathead Lake. Convenient to Polson and Bigfork for shopping.

**\$595,000**

**MLS 325272**

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Simply drop us an email with name and address, and we will be happy to add them to our mailing list.

Name:  
Address:  
Phone (optional):  
Email (optional):

Send to Sarah Beck Smith, Century 21 Big Sky, 119 Anchor Way, Polson, MT 59860, or call 406-883-5387 or email [sarah.smith@century21bigsky.com](mailto:sarah.smith@century21bigsky.com)

**Finley Point Homeowners Association**

Please check the local papers for upcoming events. If you are interested in joining, please fill out the form below and return to Barry Hansen, FPHA President.

Finley Point Property Owners Association Membership for Annual Dues, \$10.00

Name:  
Mailing Address:  
Finley Point Address:

**Mail (along with \$10) to: Barry Hansen, President**  
**33668 Lilac Hedge LN**  
**Polson MT 59860**