

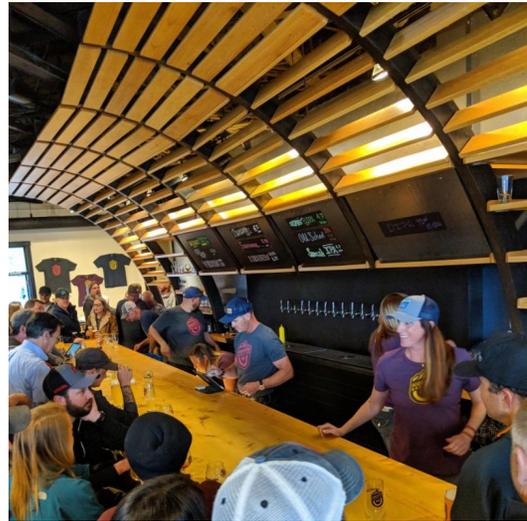
News & Success Stories from Around the Region

May 2019



Highside Brewing A Northwest Loan Fund Success Story

Germany is known for having beer gardens everywhere and many years ago when David Axelrod known as "Ax" was teaching skiing there, he noticed that the atmosphere in the gardens was a way to bring people together - families, friends, old and young- around a thing he loved, Beer. People gathered, ate, drank beer, and chatted with each other instead of staring at rows of TV's. To David the sense of fun and community just felt right.



When he moved to Summit County 22 years ago, he reinvented himself several times from being a ski instructor and a rafting guide, to then getting his MBA in sustainable business and starting a business in Mozambique as well as being a collaborative change consultant. Finally he started Broken Compass Brewing. He opened Broken Compass with the express intention of creating a place reminiscent of brew pubs in Germany - where people gathered to be with each other - and not be distracted from a sense of community with walls of streaming live TVs. Broken Compass was a huge success and it was bursting at the seams, and when Frisco's Backcountry Brewery came up for sale, Ax decided to purchase that location and turn it into another Broken Compass.

But life happens, and the partners went their separate ways so a new brewery was born. Ax pulled together an amazingly experienced team of experts to open HighSide Brewing and they wanted to experiment with new beers and create a community based sustainable brewery. Highside was the perfect name for this new venture. It is a rafting term used to keep a boat from flipping when you've taken a new line or hit a rock and bounced off course. The team at Highside prides itself on being experimental, doing the fundamentals right and having fun. One beer is called "Swim" beer. This is the beer that you buy for your friends or fellow guides when you flip and they help you pick up the pieces.

Even though he'd had the experience of owning and running a successful brewing tap room, when he wanted to start HighSide Brewing on the corner of Main St., and Summit Boulevard in Frisco, it was as if he was starting over again. Traditional lenders considered HighSide as startup and financing was more than difficult to attain.

Enter the [Northwest Loan Fund](#) and Anita Cameron Director of Business Lending with the NWCCOG. Dave's banker had worked with Anita on other loans and thought she might be able to help with a financing solution. Working together, NLF and HighSide were able to come to terms for a loan that helped with equipment and working capital to hire staff.

The location is a huge advantage; the 2,100 square feet was perfect for the large seating area, and the 300 square foot stage was made for live music. The views are spectacular from the spacious back deck, and there is plenty of free parking.

HighSide offers a diverse lineup of beers that changes frequently to reflect the tastes of the

community including IPA's, Lagers, Ales, Browns, and Stouts. It also serves up several non-alcoholic options that are divine thirst quenchers. The Highside Kitchen provides just the right variety of munchies sure to satisfy any palate. Their event calendar is always full, and live music is a regular occurrence. Their space will be growing this spring with triple the space. Private event rental, a great upstairs deck, a game room and yes TVs in part of the space for you beer and sports fans out there. Check out their website here.

Ax is extremely grateful for the help that the NLF and Anita provided during the start-up period. He says, "Without her dedication and passion, we would not be where we are today."

Vail Valley Partnership 16th Annual Business Success Awards Congratulations to the Winners!

source: Vail Valley Partnership eNews 5/15/19

The 16th Annual Vail Valley Partnership Success Awards held on May 10 was filled with celebration, laughter, and even tears. It was an awe-inspiring day with many wonderful people who are leading (and winning awards) through community partnerships and collaboration.



One standout moment was Molly Fiore receiving a standing ovation for her efforts on Mental Health Awareness with StandUp ReachOut. Another was Colorado Mountain College winning Organization of the Year, and when receiving the award, Kathryn Regjo asked the crowd to raise their hand if they have ever taken a course at CMC. All 180+ people in attendance raised their hands. She then stated, "We are not just a community college, we are a COMMUNITY college." [Click here](#) for more information including a video clip on the event.

The winners:

- Member of the Year: Lexi Mossman, MountainFit
- Healthy Workplace Award: RA Nelson, LLC
- Actively Green Award: Bonfire Brewing
- Best Place to Work: Venture Sports
- Community Impact Award - Individual: Molly Fiore
- Community Impact Award - Organization: Eat Chat Parent (Eagle River Youth Coalition/ Vail Health)
- Young Professional of the Year: Laura Hartman
- Small Nonprofit of the Year: The Cycle Effect
- New Business of the Year: Village Bagel
- Small Business of the Year: Riverwalk Theater
- Organization of the Year: Colorado Mountain College

NWCCOG 2019 Regional Economic Summit

The second annual NWCCOG Regional Economic Summit held May 2nd at the Silverthorne Pavilion was a great success! Over 130 attended the event, including elected officials, town and county managers and staff, business owners, chambers of commerce, federal and state



Healthcare panel Jill Hunsaker Ryan, CDPHE; Chris Romer, Vail Valley Partnership; Tamara Drangstveit, FIRC/Peak Health Alliance; Jennifer McAtamney, Building Hope

agency partners, and non-profits. The focus of the day was to provide information and best practices on Ingredients for a resilient economy. These ingredients include diversification strategies to grow higher-paying jobs; supporting our workforce with affordable housing, healthcare, and mental health services; and sustaining our tourism-based economy by managing public lands and public services in the wake of surging population and visitor numbers. Jon Stavney, NWCCOG Executive Director, welcomed the group, followed by a welcome from Rick Garcia, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). Many thanks to DOLA for providing funding for this event for the second year in a row through an Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance grant. DOLA continues to be a valuable partner with NWCCOG in assisting our member jurisdictions with their economic and community development needs. All presentations from the summit can be found on the [NWCCOG EDD website](#). A summary from the summit recapping the highlights can be found [HERE](#).

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