

MONTANA

2015 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON TOURISM AND RECREATION

Montana's Tourism Challenges & Opportunities Panel Members



Tom Kuntz, restaurateur, Red Lodge

Tom Kuntz is the owner and operator of several restaurants in Red Lodge, Montana, including Red Lodge Pizza Co., Carbon County Steakhouse and Bogarts. He is a member of Red Lodge's brand leadership team, and is a past board member for the Red Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce. He was selected as Red Lodge Citizen of the Year in 2008.

Tom Kuntz is the Fire Chief for Red Lodge Fire Rescue as well as a member of the State Emergency Response Commission and a board member for the Montana State Fire Chiefs Association. He has represented local government on the Wild Land Fire Leadership Council, and has participated on many advisory committees on national fire policy. Tom was selected as Fire Chief Magazine's Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year for 2006.

He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officers Program and has a BA in philosophy from Ithaca College.



Courtney McKee, Headframe Spirits, Butte

CEO of Headframe Spirits Inc. & Headframe Spirits Manufacturing Inc. Courtney McKee is the cofounder and coowner of Headframe Spirits and Headframe Spirits Manufacturing with her husband John. In her role at Headframe Spirits, Courtney manages vision and leadership for a team of almost 30.

In her previous life, Courtney ran an IT company where she did nerdy things for wonderful people in southwest Montana. Prior to that, she did nerdy things for wonderful people in Connecticut, where she was born and raised. She fell in love with Montana when she moved to Missoula to attend college where she earned a BA in English Literature—a perfect foundation for every job she’s had since.

Courtney is the mom of two wonderful children and Wylie, the Distillery Dog.



Marne Hayes, Business for Montana’s Outdoors, Big Sky, MT

Originally from Pennsylvania, Marne Hayes has called Montana her home since moving here after working summers in Yellowstone National Park starting in 1990. With a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland, Marne serves as an independent consultant and director to Business for Montana’s Outdoors, a statewide group of businesses focused on advocacy and education about the economic value of public

lands to Montana. Prior to that, she spent a decade serving as the Executive Director for the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and CVB, a job that helped build a foundation in non-profit management, economic development, business advocacy, and marketing and communications in an atmosphere that fosters the value of the resident and visitor experience. Marne currently lives in Big Sky, with her husband and two dogs who help her with first hand market studies of Montana's landscapes - via lots of time on the trails.



Rick Flotkoetter, World Famous Miles City Bucking Horse Sale, Miles City, MT

Rick Flotkoetter is the president of the World Famous Miles City Bucking Horse Sale and has served in that role for four years. He's been involved with the Bucking Horse Sale for the last 10 years and is the owner and promoter of its annual Kick-Off Concert. In addition to his commitments to the Bucking Horse Sale, Rick is the owner of the Texas Club bar, located in Miles City. He is a Miles City native and obtained a bachelors of science in business administration from Eastern Montana College.