

# Hello again

Our newsletter is back!

The Business Incubator Center (BIC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that for more than a quarter century has been supporting the launch, growth, stabilization, and long-term success of business enterprises in Mesa County and the surrounding region. Our goal is to stimulate the local economy and retain/create the greatest number of sustainable jobs possible.

Founded in 1986 as part of initiatives to diversify the economy after the 1982 economic bust, BIC was funded with a \$75,000 grant from the Department of Local Affairs. The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) opened an office at BIC in 1993 to

provide classes, workshops, and business coaching. BIC moved to its current 46-acre location in 1999, increasing total square footage to 60,000 square feet, with over 35,000 square feet of mixed use space available for lease to tenant clients.

### What We Do

BIC consists of seven programs, each providing entrepreneurs and small businesses access to different resources to grow their business. Programs include: the Incubator Program; the Commercial Kitchen Program; the Small Business Development Center (SBDC); the Business Loan Fund; the Enterprise Zone; GJmakerspace; and FWorks Coworking.

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### Our Mission

*The Business Incubator Center supports the launch, growth, stabilization and long-term success of business enterprises in Mesa County and the surrounding region. We measure success by our ability to guide entrepreneurs through sound business decisions and our positive influence on economic growth in the region.*

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**BIC is home** to seven programs each with a different focus that share the same mission — to support the success of businesses.

## Who We Are

**Jon Maraschin**  
Executive Director

**Helen Roe**  
Commercial Lender

**Julie Morey**  
Director of the Small  
Business Development  
Center (SBDC)

**Daphne Rotolo**  
Loan Fund Assistant

**Laura Mercier**  
Incubator and Commercial  
Kitchen Programs Manager

**Bob Weiler**  
Accounting

**Karie Byerly**  
Accounting

**Dean DiDario**  
Loan Fund Manager

**Rebecca Johanson**  
Front Desk and Chaos  
Coordinator

**Terri Benson**  
Mesa County Enterprise  
Zone Administrator and  
Marketing Director

**Joe Elliot**  
Special Operations Director;  
GJmakerspace

**Greg Stephen**  
Accounting Manager

**Camber Westphal**  
Incubator and SBDC  
Assistant; FWorks Coworking

**Ken Short**  
Facilities Manager

# Singletrack Trails Takes the Plunge

Established in 2004 by owner Greg Mazu, Singletrack Trails (StT) is an outdoor recreation development company specializing in design and construction of sustainable, shared-use trails which preserve the surrounding natural environment.



Photo courtesy of Singletrack Trails

Mazu travels all over the U.S. with StT, managing the construction of some of the largest trail projects in the country. The Palisade Plunge, his most recent venture, is a 34-mile, 6,000' vertical drop trail that begins on top of Grand Mesa and ends in Palisade. The trail will be available to hikers, mountain bikers, trail runners, and other non-motorized users.

The Plunge was first envisioned by local outdoor enthusiasts more than a decade ago, and the \$3.4 million project is finally coming to fruition. StT is currently constructing Phase 1, a 17-mile stretch at the lower end, with a crew of up to 15 builders and trail specialists. Due to the remote staging, the crews camp near their location, putting in 1,000-1,200 feet of trail per day. StT has three specialty trail excavator machines on the job, and hand-finishes every foot of trail.

**Singletrack Trails** has three excavators on site and hand-finishes every foot of the trail. Due to the remoteness of the location, the dedicated team camps near the site and complete approximately 1,000-1,200 feet of trail construction per day.

Completion is expected in 2020, depending on weather and funding.

Mazu states, "Being one part of the chain that will get this project on the ground is amazing."

Singletrack Trails is based out of the Business Incubator Center, along with Mazu's other two businesses: Tools for Trails, an online store, offering high-quality tools and accessories for

trail building; and Desert Rat Tours, providing guided bike tours on some of the Grand Valley's best trails.

*At the Business Incubator Center, we are always thrilled by each of the successes our client companies achieve. Being part of the development of an outdoor recreation venue to boost the local economy and increase the visibility of the Grand Valley is definitely a success worth celebrating!*

■ [www.singletracktrails.com](http://www.singletracktrails.com)

## Biz Updates

**Ghost Rock Farm** is now

a featured supplier for the newly opened Pêche.



Restaurant in Palisade. Their fresh cheese is served on homemade flatbread, and their buttermilk is being used in making buttermilk gelato.

■ [www.ghostrockfarm.com](http://www.ghostrockfarm.com)

**Fixture Studio** completed the

design and styling of a home featured in the 2019 Parade of Homes. Check it out the first two weeks of October.



House #6-Agave Sky  
2196 Knowles Canyon Ave.  
Grand Junction, CO

■ [www.fixturestudio.com](http://www.fixturestudio.com)

**Rooted Gypsy Farms** has

joined the Incubator Kitchen Program, packaging farm fresh produce, meats, eggs, and specialty items from local sustainable farms in the Grand Valley. They have been working with other Commercial Kitchen clients to include their products in each delivery.



■ [www.rootedgypsyfarms.com](http://www.rootedgypsyfarms.com)

**B&C BBQ** recently joined

our fleet of food trucks working out of the commercial kitchen. They will be based out of De Beque serving up savory BBQ and sides.



■ [www.b-cbbq.com](http://www.b-cbbq.com)