



# Whitefish Pilot

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GREAT FISH



Amelia Daniher takes in the messages at the Nate Chute Foundation booth at the Great Fish Community Challenge Launch Party at Glacier Bank Park on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026. The fundraising campaign runs through Sept. 11. (Kelsey Evans/Whitefish Pilot)

## Walkway renovations paving way for new ski exhibit

**Whitefish Pilot**

The Whitefish Ski Heritage Center and Museum will construct its outdoor ski lift history exhibit this fall alongside a renovation of its shared entry plaza with Mountain Trails Park.

The current surface of the walkway between the Ski Museum, warming hut and park playground is made of brick pavers installed in the 1990s. After three decades, the surface is ready to be revitalized.

The new surface will be a combination of concrete with brick pavers highlighting the walkway through the plaza.

“We are excited to get started on this project and to help support the Ski Heritage Museum’s

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Traffic whizzes by Whitefish’s Wasabi Sushi Bar after it closed permanently last week. (Kelsey Evans/Whitefish Pilot)

## Wasabi shuts

**By KELSEY EVANS**  
Whitefish Pilot

A beloved Whitefish establishment, Wasabi Sushi Bar and Ginger Grill, closed permanently on Aug 10.

“Due to unfortunate circumstances and a tragedy in our Wasabi family, we are forced to end our engagement with you all,” read a Wasabi Facebook post signed by owner Paula Greenstein and her sister, Sharon Katz.

“We are permanently closed as of today. Thank you for your patronage. It has been an honor to be part of this beautiful community.”

Greenstein moved to Whitefish in 2007 and, with Katz, bought the restaurant from Scott and Kerry Nagel the following year.

Showing raw determination and entrepreneurial enthusiasm for a cuisine unfamiliar to Whitefish, the Nagels opened Wasabi at 419 E. Second Street in December 1999.

With fresh fish on the menu, local artwork on the walls, Whitefish Pottery on the table, a 16-foot custom sushi bar and a cabaret license to boot, Nagel said in 1999 Pilot article, “It’s going to be cool.”

And cool it was, as thousands of locals and visitors would attest to over the next 27 years.

Greenstein did not respond to a request for comment.

“It’s been great, people have been wonderful, the food’s been fabulous,”

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## New gym opens south of Whitefish

**By KELSEY EVANS**  
Whitefish Pilot

A new family run fitness gym in Whitefish prides itself on being an accessible facility with an authentic training experience.

4 Seasons Fitness is owned and operated by Dave Macaluso, a certified trainer with over 20 years of experience in gym coaching and management.

With help from his wife Nicole, a physical therapist at Physio Whitefish, Macaluso renovated a building a mile south of U.S. 93 and Montana 40 and opened earlier this summer.

“Our biggest goal is to make people feel comfortable and welcome,” Macaluso said. “So people walk in and go, this is nice. The lighting, the smell, the equipment, everything is inviting and relaxing.”

A Billings native, Macaluso was a track athlete at the University of Montana before beginning his early career as a builder.

He was taking a boot camp at a large gym near Bellevue, Washington, when one of the instructors approached him and said, “You have what it takes.”

So Macaluso applied for a manager’s position at the large gym, where he would go on to work for 13 years. He left the position to open his own gym just south of downtown Seattle.

“It was fantastic,” Macaluso said. “Everything was flowing. We had a great



Dave Macaluso recently opened 4 Seasons Fitness south of Whitefish where he offers personal training. (Kelsey Evans/Whitefish Pilot)

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