

# Alaska. BEYOND»

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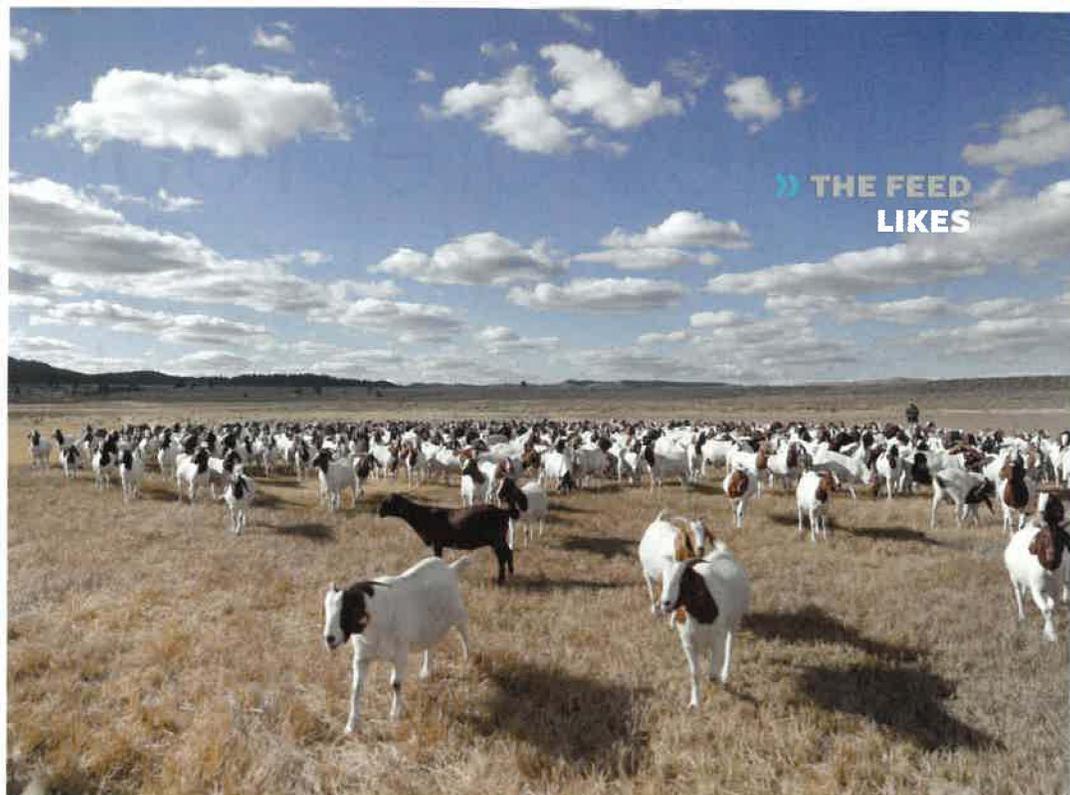
*Alaskan Kikkan Randall  
is an inspiring Olympic  
gold medalist*

# IKIKKAN'S METTLE

# GETTING YOUR GOAT

By Michaela Ware

» They're cute, fluffy, carry golf bags, clear land and keep you company while you namaste. Goats seem to be popping up everywhere. They just might be the mascot at your local coffee shop, wander through your yoga class or help to deliver your next bouquet of flowers. For those looking for more ruminants in their lives, the following places offer goat-centered activities and experiences.



» **Goat Caddies:** This July, the Retreat and Links at Silvies Valley Ranch, in the eastern Oregon town of Silvies, will unveil a new group of personal assistants: goat caddies. The retreat is training some of its herd of goats to act as caddies on McVeigh's Gauntlet, a new seven-hole course. The goats will be fitted with custom-designed golf packs, containing tees, golf balls, clubs and drinks, and will follow golfers as they walk the course. No word on tipping requirements.



» **Goats as Coffee Shop Mascots:**

Civil Goat Coffee, a coffee roaster and cafe in Austin, Texas, features an on-site goat named Butters. Owner Chris O'Brien opened the shop in 2016, and recruited his pet pygmy goat as a mascot. Butters is commonly featured on Civil Goat Coffee's Instagram page, where he has an extensive following. He also is a staple at the Civil Goat Coffee outdoor movie nights on Tuesdays.



» **Goat Yoga:** After dealing with an illness and a divorce, Lainey Morse, of Corvallis, Oregon, was inspired by the therapeutic qualities of goats, and began in 2016 what she maintains was the nation's first goat-yoga program. Since then, having goats cozy up to patrons while they are in the midst of a yoga position has become a fad and spread across the country. Morse has expanded her goat-yoga franchise to nine locations and counting.



» **Goatgrams:** Shrink Ray Farms, a small farm and miniature petting zoo in Washougal, Washington, near Portland, Oregon, offers the Goatgram, in which two Nigerian dwarf goats deliver a bouquet of flowers to someone's home in the greater Portland area. The delivery team will also help dispose of the bouquets, if desired. 🐐

**Rent-A-Ruminant:** Goat wrangler Tammy Dunakin began Rent-A-Ruminant LLC, one of the first goat-rental franchises in the world, in 2004 on Vashon Island, Washington. Her goats excel at clearing land of vegetation.