

*The*

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**SILVERBOW**

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### **All About Jill Ramiel and Ken Alper**

Ramiel was born in Flushing, Queens, New York and attended the State University of New York at Binghamton. After two years at Pratt Institute, she transferred to University of Washington in Seattle, where she earned a Masters Degree in Architecture.

While in Seattle, she met Ken Alper, a fellow East Coast native and masters degree candidate at University of Washington, who was involved in economic study evaluation of suburban sprawl and infrastructure in the Mendenhall Valley.

The couple was engaged and moved to Juneau, Alaska in 1997, where they bought and opened Silverbow Inn. Ramiel does not come from a hospitality background, but credits her "hospitable mother" for her sparked interest in the industry.

Ramiel and Alper have been married since 1998 and have a 6-year old son. "Raising a child in a small business has been rewarding," shares Ramiel. "We have a very social and amiable youngster who we've already put to work bussing tables." Ramiel finds the community safe, urban, and yet small enough where she and her husband have a say in affecting the quality of education their son receives. The active Juneau community members adds, "We have art classes and guitar lessons within a few blocks, and for a small town, there is a tremendous arts and music scene,"