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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

A Monday News Blast Serving West Central Colorado

Issue No. 100 Jan. 12 2015

"TRANSPORTATION IS THE BACKBONE" CDOT IN TRANSITION...WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR WEST SLOPE?

By Caitlin Switzer

WEST CENTRAL REGION--When the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) unveiled its first-ever, state-owned and operated bus system connecting major populations, employment centers and local transit entities along the I-25 front range and I-70 mountain corridors last week, officials also told the [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#) that ultimately, the service will reach Grand Junction.

According to a news release issued prior to the launch of the new "Bustang" service, the bus system will help further CDOT's multi-modal mission and fulfill a key responsibility outlined in Colorado's 2009 FASTER legislation, which established CDOT's Division of Transit and Rail.

However, the launch of Bustang also reflected an awareness of the needs of the state beyond the heavily populated Front Range, something that has been a hallmark of the leadership the statewide transportation entity has shown over the past four years.

So when Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper appointed Shailen Bhatt Director of CDOT Jan. 5 to replace outgoing Director Don Hunt, it raised concerns on this side of the divide. Though it was clear that Bhatt is well

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CDOT crews work to mitigate the rockfall on Red Mtn. Pass in January of 2014 with help from Siolverton Mountain Guides. CDOT Courtesy photo.

HARRIS: PUBLIC WORKS TO ADD HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAYS, MORE EFFICIENCY



Construction of the new Montrose Water Park on the Uncompahgre River continues. Design engineers have already tested drops despite the cold, officials say.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--Expect public works to pick up the pace on snow removal now that the holiday vacation scheduling is over, keep that overflowing trash container in front of the post office emptied, and accomplish great things when the new Montrose Water Park is unveiled in coming months, City of Montrose Public Works Director John Harris said last week.

"We actually received a complaint about that trash can through the new "A Better Montrose" phone app," Harris said. "It was a holiday glitch; the guys are out catching up this week."

This year will see a number of improvements to operational efficiency, he said.

"We're going to be more streamlined," Harris said. "We'll be consolidating some divisions and adding additional services."

The newly approved City contract with Waste Management for solid waste landfill and material recovery facility services will save \$200,000 a year,

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Shop Now Open!*

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*Sandra Tyler
City Beat!*

*Flag Set to Fly Over
New Montrose VA Clinic!*

"WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER" ...TIME BANK OF THE ROCKIES



An image from Time Bank of the Rockies Facebook page.

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-For people who have a to-do list a mile long, or a desire to help others and receive something for their efforts, the Time Bank of the Rockies may be just the thing.

According to their website Time Banks "are about people helping other people in a system where everyone's skills are equally valued and where everyone benefits. One hour you spend helping another creates a time credit that can be used to get help or purchase goods available from other members. Time credits can also be used to donate time to friends, family or charities."

Just a few examples of services that might be available to members include: animal care, arts and crafts, automotive, computer assistance, construction and home repair, editing and word processing, elder care and companionship, errands and shopping, health and wellness, housekeeping, language lessons, massage and physical therapy, music lessons or performances and transportation

Cynthia Harwood, executive facilitator of the Time Bank of the Rockies, is the founder of this local Time Bank. A couple years ago she heard author David C. Korten on the radio talking about his book 'Agenda for a New Economy.' It struck a chord with her, so she soon read the whole book and found the idea for a Time Bank. "With Time Banks, it is a new way to deal with the economy and help with income," she explained. "It is an alternative econo-

my, where people get their needs met without a cash economy."

Harwood worked for about a year on the ground work for the Time Bank of the Rockies, gathering interest, seed money, etc. "I just got really excited about it," she said. "It is an amazing way to build an economy where young kids can join (with parental supervision), help others, and get something for it. They can walk a dog and get guitar lessons, perhaps from someone much older, so there is a cross generation mix."

The way a person joins this non-profit organization is by signing up on [their website](#), providing two references, signing a Release of Liability, and then checking out the software on the website that lists all the offers and requests for people to pick from. "It doesn't work if you don't offer something and if you don't put out a request," Harwood explained. "For some people it is harder to receive than to give, but for the program to work, you need to be giving and receiving."

With currently 210 members, the Time Bank continues to grow, but Harwood's goal is to get more members in 2015 and beyond. "We need more tradespeople in the Time Bank," Harwood explained. "Handy men are popular. A lot of people need all kinds of things done around their home. I also love having younger people part of the Time Bank because of their computer skills. I once had a young person spend two hours showing me how to use my new Smartphone and our website was built by a young man with time."

The stories about how people have benefited from the Time Bank abound, but one in particular shows the benefits of the Time Bank to both young and old. "There was an older man that used to be a plumber, but he could no longer work due to health issues," Harwood said. "He had some plumbing that needed done and was able to find a young man who wanted to learn plumbing. The older man sat and directed the young man on what to do. The older man gained self-worth and the young man learned a skill. There was also a relationship built."

"That is what time banking is all about,"

she added, "people connecting in meaningful ways while something is accomplished."

Harwood says that what makes the Time Bank different from other types of programs, such as RSVP or Sharefest, is that the whole system is reciprocal. "You are not just giving your time, you are banking hours so that you can get something done at a later date," she said.

Individual participants in the program benefit by making connections with new people and getting things accomplished. "People also get the feeling of self-worth," Harwood said. "Older people say that they have 'nothing to give', but maybe they can make a pie for an event or sew buttons on to a shirt. There is a lost art of seamstresses and fixing clothes."

Organizations and businesses also get great benefit from participating in the Time Bank. "We had one organization that paid \$500 to join, and by using the time bank to get a grant writer, were able to get a grant of \$200,000," Harwood said. "We have several organizations, 11 in Ridgway alone, that already have volunteers. By having their volunteers log hours at the time bank, they will then be able to use them to get help in return. The idea is to bring in more volunteers and enrich people's lives."

Harwood believes that the friendships with people are the best part. "One time I needed branches cut down from some trees," she said. "A man came and did it, and was able to take all the wood home to use for himself in his wood burning stove. We ended up forming a friendship, and one time I went and helped him with his porch and visited with his home-bound wife for an hour. How can you put a value on that?"

One thing that Harwood hopes the Time Bank will do is change how people think about time and work. "I want to change the perception that people have of 'I have nothing to offer'," she said.

"We all have something to offer and we all have needs. This way we can help others." For more information and to sign up with the Time Bank, call 970-209-6886 or visit timebankoftherockies.com.

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

The Montrose Mirror is your source for community news and information.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

14TH ANNUAL PARTNERS SUPERBOWL AT VALLEY LANES JAN. 31

Special to the Mirror

DELTA--Please join us in celebrating partnerships for our 14th annual Super-Bowl at Valley Lanes in Delta on Saturday, Jan. 31, a fun and unique way to support Partners programs and the children we serve.

Sign up yourself and a young "Partner" to bowl in the morning Youth Tournament, or put together a team of four for the Adult Tournament in the afternoon.

The morning Youth Tournament begins with check in at 9 a.m. and is a Scotch Doubles Tournament (two bowl as one, with the youngest bowling first). There will be prizes, pizza, and a drink for the

kids. Registration is \$10 for the adult bowler, but the kids bowl free!

The afternoon Adult Tournament is a 9-pin, no-tap, handicap competition that begins with check in at 12:30 p.m. There is a \$500 cash prize, sponsored by Alpine Bank, awarded to the highest scoring team. Registration for the Adult Tournament is only \$25 per person.

Registration forms are available from both Partners offices in Delta and Montrose, Valley Lanes in Delta, Rose Bowl in Montrose, and online at www.partners-west.org.

Your participation in this event supports the Partners mentoring programs, which

match youth in Delta, Montrose, and Ouray Counties with a screened and trained adult volunteer in a structured and supported one-year mentoring relationship. This is a great family event! Don't miss this chance to support the amazing children in your community and have fun at the same time. Partner up for Partners, and register today!

For additional information on this event, please contact:

Partners
511 E. 10th Street
Delta, CO 81401
www.partners-west.org
(970) 874-4661

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION AWARDS



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Ten students from Montrose High School were awarded the Division Award for January. The Division Award recognizes students for their outstanding citizenship, efforts and academic achievement. Nominations are made by teachers from each department and a special recognition ceremony is held each month. Pictured: Front Row: L-R Hannah Wenman, Brooke Cayo, Morgan Omer, Emma Cooper and Brianna Hale. Back Row: L-R Kourtney Keltz, Colby Rocha, Fernando Torrero, Andrew Eggers and Sara Gladding.

SHOE REPAIR... BEYOND SHOES



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SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH- 6PM

MONTROSE PAVILION

\$50 MEMBERS/ \$60 NON MEMBER*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6-7 PM- COCKTAIL HOUR

ALL NIGHT- GAMBLING

6-9 PM- SILENT AUCTION

7-8:30 PM- FOOD STATIONS AND LOCAL MAGICIAN TY GALLENGECK

8:30 PM- BUSINESS AWARDS

9-11 PM- DANCING WITH DJ SCOTTY KENTON

EACH TICKET INCLUDES \$100 OF GAMING MONEY. ADDITIONAL GAMING MONEY CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.

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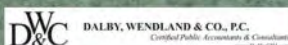
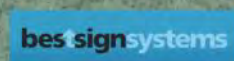
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The Mirror

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Sparking Conversations ...

TRIM YOUR TREES PROPERLY...WITH GREG'S TREE SERVICE!

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-A lifelong Westerner, Stacey White doesn't always tell folks that her husband Greg is from "Back East." She doesn't have to--Greg's skills as a tree trimmer reveal his East Coast heritage.

"He has been trimming trees since he was 17," White said, "and where he is from, they take their trees severely seriously. If you do bad work--top off or plume a tree--you could get sued!"

Though Colorado has fewer trees than New Jersey, the ones we do have are important and should be taken care of, White noted.

"A properly trimmed tree will have a really good shape and full canopy, and will look nice," she said. "You can't take too much off the bottom, and you never nip the tips. If you need to take a branch off, take a branch off--but never top off a tree.

"It's very important to trim and maintain them properly," she said. "For example, if they get diseased and you don't spray them, the disease can spread and infect your neighbor's trees."

White, a 1993 graduate of Delta High School, said she and Greg have had their business, Greg's Tree Service, for 11 years now. "But Greg has been trimming trees for more than 30 years," she said.



Greg White of Greg's Tree Service trims tall trees in the Ikie's Mobile Home Park last October. White has been a professional tree trimmer for more than 30 years, the past 11 of them here in Montrose.

Greg's Tree Service is on the City's list of providers, and the company has the equipment and capabilities to handle everything from shrubs to large trees--they can even grind the stumps. Greg has donated countless hours of work to local nonprofits, and emphasizes safety and attention to detail on the job.

"Now is the time to get your trees done," White said. "We are locally owned and

operated, and we are licensed and insured. Always ask about insurance--it really does matter in this industry. Unlicensed and uninsured tree trimmers can cost you more money than you save."

Greg's Tree Service offers pruning, clearing, removal, maintenance, stump treatment and spraying. The company also offers a 24-hour emergency service. Reach Greg at 970-240-1872.

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NEW ATTORNEY SWORN IN, PACKED COUNCIL AGENDA

By Sandra Tyler
City Beat Reporter

MONTROSE-The City Council of Montrose had a busy, full agenda to present Tuesday after their work session Monday, including swearing in another attorney before the City Council, presenting awards to two volunteers, appointing a City Council Representative to the Montrose County Housing Authority Board of Directors, receiving a gift from Papua New Guinea, taking care of three liquor licenses, approving two contracts--both highlights of the evening--passing the first two Resolutions of 2015, and singling out the Police Department re two items.

The first highlight of the Council meeting was the approval of the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Contract with Waste Management and the Material Recovery Facility Services Contract, local known as the recycling endeavor. Kudos to John Harris, Public Works Director for his excellent work on both of these contracts especially the "Recycling" contract. Mr. Harris has seen the recycling service accomplished by four providers in just two years! He has been very open with his work with the six-member Montrose Recycles Committee: Volunteers include Jayne Bilberry, Leslie Hallenborg, Cynthia Harwood, Nancy Kelso, Karen Nicholson and myself. Ms. Hallenborg expressed the one concern of the contract that establishes yearly what can be recycled as changing items to be recycled from year to year can be confusing and a detriment to those recycling.

The second highlight of the Council meeting was the acceptance of the Municipal Fiber Optic Network Resolution 2015-01 presented by Virgil Turner, Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement for the City of Montrose. With this unanimous decision the council has made a commitment to bring our small but strong and innovative town of Montrose, CO. into the 21st century in their goal to be a gigabyte town. The City will take advantage to lay fiber optic infrastructure for the future in current construction renovations, zoning changes, area improvements, and projects, possibly as in the Oak Grove Road improvement.

Key Citizen awards were presented to Judy Wind and Frank Casey for their years of service on the Planning Commission, Judy at 13 years, Frank at 10 years. Both were Chairpersons at times which said to me at least twice each. Their dedication and work was highlighted. The Planning Commission, comprised of seven members

chosen from among the qualified electors who serve at the pleasure of the City Council and are appointed for four-year overlapping terms, is an Advisory Board to the City Council re Zoning, Building, Subdivision codes and meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the City Council Chambers.



Key Citizen Awards.

Presentation of a picture of the First Lady of Papua, New Guinea, Lynda Babao O'Neill with City Council members, was done by Josh Freed, Sharing Ministries Board of Directors President and Planning Commission member, and Geoff Ila, a 13-year resident of Montrose from Papua, New Guinea and member of Papua New Guinea (PNG) Tribal Foundation.



Presentation of a gift from PNG.

Ms. Connie Pittenger was approved by the City Council as the City Council Appointed Representative to the Montrose County Housing Authority Board of Directors for a volunteer term expiring Jan. 1, 2019.

Andrew Boykin was sworn in as assistant city attorney before the City Council.

Minutes from Dec. 16, 2014 were approved and are posted on the website. Official posting places are both the interior and exterior bulletin boards in City Hall lobby and the exterior bulletin board just west of the main entrance to the City Hall.

A Tavern license was approved for Yvonne Meek's The Lark and The Sparrow, as was the transfer of the liquor license for the Chang Thai Cuisine restaurant, formerly Asii Restaurant (the interior of which has been redecorated with elephants all around per Councilperson Judy Ann Files) and the renewal of the liquor license for The Bistro, serving Mediterranean food, formerly Sushitini Restaurant.

The roof of Police Department building was the subject of Resolution 2015-02. The roof will be reconstructed with the new three foot facade "facelift" as it is not only leaking badly but is an uneven roof with slopes and valleys and ponds. The City is matching funds obtained through an Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Grant application for a total cost of \$357,594. This resolution was unanimously passed.

With that City Council member, Rex Swanson, asked the police staff present to stand as he read:

"Over the last few months, police departments across the country have encountered a lot of negativity. While we understand the issues and concerns that have been raised, we must remain mindful of the basic function of the police department in a city like Montrose. Our department is organized around providing public safety for all of our citizens and visitors."

The City of Montrose Police Department has instituted a program called community policing that promotes the use of partnerships and problem-solving technique to address public safety.

This program, which is really based on trust, is designed to avoid many of the problems that have recently been reported in some cities.

Our Police Department maintains a high degree of training and professional management. They are very careful in their hiring process and back that up with consistent training and career development.

We are proud of our professional and capable police department in Montrose, Colorado and believe that all in our community should be, too.

As a council, we want to say we have faith and trust in all of the city departments, especially the Police Department. They reach consistently for excellence and we respect their commitment to public safety. Again, we want to say nice job, we support you, and we thank you!"

With that, those present stood while applauding to recognize those present representing all of the Police Department.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CHILDREN'S WINTER STORY AND ACTIVITY SEASON KICKS OFF AT MONTROSE LIBRARY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Marguerite H. Gill Children's Room begins its "Winter Story & Activity Season" on Monday, January 12. These regular storytimes and activities will run through March 20.

On Mondays at 10 a.m., iStories blends technology with more traditional storytime activities and is geared towards families.

On Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., children who are just beginning to read can sign up to read to a canine friend for 15 minutes during "Reading to Rover." Call 249-9656, Option 2 to reserve a space.

"Baby and Me" storytime for birth through 36 months will take place every

Wednesday from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m., incorporating short books, scarves, bouncing, and tips for early literacy practices to do at home.

Elementary kids can drop in on Wednesdays any time between 2:00 and 3:30 for "Techsplorations," a hands-on activity time exploring different technology topics. See the MontroseKids Facebook page for each week's theme.

A story and play time called "Jumping Beans" will occur each Thursday at 10:00 for preschoolers. Families and childcare groups are both welcome.

On the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 10:00, everyone is invited to join

the seniors at Colorow Care Center, 750 8th Street in Olathe, for stories, poems, and songs and to visit the Bookmobile between 10 and 10:45 a.m..

STEM Play, an age-appropriate science/technology/engineering/math activity program for 3-5 year olds is scheduled for Jan. 22, Feb. 12, Feb. 26, and March 12 at 1:30 pm. Dress for a mess!

Visit www.montroselibrary.org for a print-out of this schedule and information about other activities.

Announcements are also made on Facebook (MontroseKids) and Twitter (@MontroseLibKids), or call the Children's Room at 249-9656, Option 2.

ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2015 GOVERNOR'S CREATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Special to the Mirror

DENVER -- Colorado Creative Industries (CCI) has announced that nominations are being accepted for the 2015 Governor's Creative Leadership Awards. These awards recognize organizations and individuals that have demonstrated a significant commitment to Colorado's creative landscape through civic leadership and volunteerism including advocacy, vision, collaboration or innovation.

Nominations are being accepted under the following categories:

* **Arts and creative placemaking:** Presented to individuals or organizations that use the arts to envision new futures through activities such as activating a public space, animating a community or sparking redevelopment.

* **Arts and community action:** Presented to individuals and organizations that have demonstrated selfless service, inspired others to take action or catalyze change in their community using the arts.

* **Arts and social change:** Presented to individuals or organizations that work to

solve a critical social problem such as homelessness, drug prevention, abuse, poverty or racism using creativity and/or arts.

Nominations will be accepted online through Feb. 6, 2015 at 4 p.m. Awards will be announced April 24, 2015 during a ceremony hosted in conjunction with the 4th annual Colorado Creative Industries Summit in Fort Collins. Online nominations can be found

here: www.coloradocreativeindustries.org/communities/nomination-instructions.

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT...

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Columbine Middle School will be hosting a college information night for Columbine Middle School parents and students on Thursday, January 22, 6:30-8:00pm at Columbine Middle School –Cafeteria.

NEW ATTORNEY SWORN IN, PACKED COUNCIL AGENDA *from page 8*



Police Department Recognition.

At the end of the meeting City Manager Bill Bell, as the Public Information Officer, provided a report of two items.

1-shovel your sidewalks per City Ordinance found on the website

[cityofmontrose.com, Department Services tab, Public Works, Snow Removal, down to Sidewalks, click on city ordinance] but especially to put the snow you shovel onto your own property area vs the street or elsewhere.

2-Want to know everything about what our police staff do? Consider registering for the 18th Annual Citizens Policy Acad-

emy that starts 1/12/15 for 10 consecutive weeks on Monday evenings 6:30-9 pm in the City Council Hearing Room at 107 S. Cascade Ave.

So far 19 are registered and Chief Tom Chinn would like to fill the room! If you are interested in attending the academy, call 970-252-5200.

Citizens Police Academy Application 2015.docx Fax: 970-252-5216

mail: glillard@ci.montrose.co.us or type the following in your search engine, www.cityofmontrose.org/documentcenter/view/1642.



Department of Health & Human Services
Environmental Health
1845 South Townsend Avenue
Montrose, Colorado 81401
970 252 5000



Food Safety Classes

Offered by Montrose County Health and Human Services

Our 2 ½ hour class provides basic food safety knowledge in order to prevent food borne illness. You and your staff will learn how to keep your food and customers safe.

2015 Schedule

Tuesday, January 13th

Tuesday, February 10th

Tuesday, March 10th

Tuesday, April 14th

Tuesday, May 12th

Tuesday, June 9th

NO July class

Tuesday, August 11th

Tuesday, September 8th

Tuesday, October 13th

Tuesday, November 10th

NO December class

Steps to Follow

1. Preregister by calling 252-5043 or 252-5067.
2. Bring \$10 payment per person to the class, either check or cash.

Class Location and Time

In Friendship Hall kitchen - Montrose County Fairgrounds
2:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Those completing the class will receive a wallet size class participation certificate.



PUBLIC WORKS TO ADD HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAYS from pg 1

he said, and citizens with e-waste will see more disposal opportunities in 2015 (see related *City Beat* article in this issue).

"We are hoping to do more household waste collection days, for things with screens and appliances with Freon, and old tires," Harris said. "These events are expensive to put on--they cost around \$20,000 every time--but there really is no other place to dispose of this kind of waste. So if we can save a few hundred thousand in other areas, we can do these more frequently."

Also new for this year is the shared services agreement with Montrose County Public Works, which is currently being finalized, and a new City parks supervisor to replace longtime supervisor Thordy Jacobsen, who retired in 2014.

"I am very excited about our new parks supervisor," Harris said. "We should see our parks get some polishing up. And it makes sense to work with Montrose County--we have two public works departments that serve our community, so why shouldn't we work together?"

Perhaps most exciting for this year will be the unveiling of the new water park on

the Uncompahgre, Harris added.

"We will be out of the river before the irrigation water comes on in the spring," he said, "and there will be a continuation of the trail. Our design engineers have already taken their kayaks and paddle boards out to test the drops, and we hear that people are already using the water park itself--competitive kayakers actually get in the water this time of year."

Stakeholders were given a site visit last week to ascertain any changes needed, and there will be a ribbon cutting event to celebrate the Water Park's official unveiling, he said.

"I hope this will be a huge draw for

Montrose," Harris said. "I am so excited about the water park--I can imagine All Points Transit holding their annual Oktoberfest event down here in the future.

"This is going to be fun!"



Crews were still hard at work moving big rocks at the Montrose Water Park on the evening of Friday, Jan. 9.



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Find us on Facebook at "Delta Area Chamber of Commerce."



“TRANSPORTATION IS THE BACKBONE” from pg 1



CDOT staffers assess the damage to Hwy 65 after a rockfall in spring of 2014.
Courtesy image.

for the top job--having served most recently served as Cabinet Secretary for the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) where he directed nearly a billion dollar budget and managed 2,800 employees and the state's transportation system--unlike his immediate predecessor Hunt, Bhatt has not spent his career in Colorado, getting to know and understand the issues that face not only the Front Range, but the rural Western Slope.

Will the transition in leadership impact the momentum that CDOT has achieved on the Western Slope over four years that Hunt was at the helm?

According to Nancy Shanks, Durango-based communications pro for CDOT's Region Five, "All signs indicate continued momentum."

Because while leadership is changing at the top, regional transportation directors Kerry Neet (Region Five) and Dave Eller (Region Three) will remain the same, Shanks said. Transportation commissioners Doug Aden of Grand Junction (Dist. 7) and Sidney Zink of Durango (Dist. 8) will also continue in their roles, she noted.

"Both of our regional transportation directors have been with CDOT for more than a decade, and have not just jobs but strong roots in our communities," Shanks said. "Our commissioners are very committed as well, as are our regional transportation planners." Here in West Central Colorado, regional transportation planning is overseen by Vince Rogalski of Gunnison, who heads Region 10's Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region (GVTPR).

"Vince is from our neck of the woods," Shanks said, adding that as a longtime CDOT staffer, she understands why the Front Range commands such a large share of the pie--but also the importance of Western Colorado's rural roadways.

"The Front Range has more highways, more lane miles, and many, many more drivers," she said. "There are a lot of bridg-

es over there that need attending to. So proportionately they get more, because there is simply a greater need.

"However, recent events have put us back on the map," she continued. "Particularly the closure of Red Mountain Pass, and damage to the state highway bridge in Bedrock--because when something occurs on one of our highways here, often it leaves no viable route.

"CDOT fully appreciated when the Bedrock Bridge closed, and kids from Paradox had to go to school in Nucla and vice versa," she said, "same thing with the Pastor in Ouray who was trying to get to Silverton when Red Mountain was closed--he had to take a 100-mile detour.

"It's not just tourists who can't get through when these things happen," Shanks said, "but also people doing their daily work, getting to doctors' appointments and getting the kids to school--their lives are highly impacted, far more than someone's on the Front Range would be."

CDOT may be a statewide, governmental agency, but in recent years they have shown the flexibility and innovative approach that more often characterizes a well-run private company. Just ask Ouray--where CDOT played a leading role in re-opening Red Mountain Pass after a rockfall closed the Million Dollar Highway last January.

"CDOT had a very immediate response to the rockfall," said Heidi Pankow of the Ouray Chamber and Resort Association (OCRA). "They met with the City, the County and local businesses, and went right to work on mitigation and getting the roads cleared as quickly as possible. What was interesting was they accepted help from local business and from the staff at Silverton Mountain, so they finished the mitigation very quickly.

"While the road was closed, they were extremely responsive--they even adjusted the road closure signage at the Hwy 550 turnoff from Ridgway to Telluride so that people would know it was OK to drive on to Ouray from there," Pankow said. "And their communications were fantastic--we got regular updates, and information was shared widely on social media. Their PIO's were really great--they communicated with local authorities and with local business, let us know the progress, and they even listened to the community.

"They really helped us make the best of the situation."

The four years that Hunt served as CDOT director were marked by major accomplishments, according to a CDOT news release issued Jan. 5. These included spearheading the first improvements to the I70

corridor in 30 years, and launching the Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP) program which makes use of more effective cash management to increase construction and improvements to Colorado's roadways by \$300 million a year for the next five years. This year, Ridgway will use RAMP funding to construct improvements to Hwy 62 through town and to the Downtown core.

"The RAMP program may not last forever," Shanks said, "but we will continue it as long as there are funds. And there will always be an emphasis on innovative funding."

Hunt will remain at CDOT through the end of February to transition with Bhatt and then will return to his project development and advisory firm, The Antero Company. He will also join the Buechner Institute for Governance, School of Public Affairs, CU-Denver as a Senior Fellow and lecturer in transportation and infrastructure.

"Don Hunt has been a remarkable executive director for the Colorado Department of Transportation," Governor Hickenlooper said.

"Leading CDOT for the last four years has been the highlight of my career," Hunt said. "Transportation is the backbone that helps to drive our state's economy and the quality of life for Coloradans. Our success over the last four years is a result of the vision set out by Gov. Hickenlooper as well as the incredible dedication of CDOT's employees and our local community partners to the people of Colorado."

Hickenlooper, who called Bhatt "a consensus builder," noted that the incoming Director's experience in disaster recovery, transportation planning and innovative project delivery will help build on Hunt's successes. Region 8 Transportation Commissioner Sidney Zink echoed that confidence. "Over the past several months approaching Don Hunt's departure, the Commissioners have had the opportunity to offer our thoughts on what qualities we think are most important in that role," Znk said. "Knowing that Don was a key part of the search process gives me confidence that Mr. Bhatt is an excellent choice."

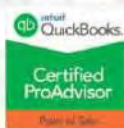
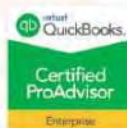
According to the Jan. 5 release, CDOT maintains, repairs and plows more than 23,000 lane miles of highway and 3,437 bridges while keeping over 35 mountain passes open year-round. This system handles more than 28 billion vehicle miles of travel annually. CDOT manages an annual budget of \$1.2 billion and has 3,000 employees who focus on multi-modal programs including aeronautics, transit and rail, project construction, environmental, planning and safety.



DELTA, COLORADO JANUARY 2015

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OPINION/EDITORIAL

EXPERIENCE COUNTS IN CLERK AND RECORDER'S OFFICE

Dear Editor:

The recent vacancy in the office of the Montrose County Clerk and Recorder has given our BOCC the opportunity to demonstrate to Montrose County residents their commitment to excellence in County government by ensuring that Fran Long's replacement is well-qualified and has the necessary experience and requisite knowledge to continue the excellence in this office that Fran Long brought to it. The office was vacated in a manner that would save the County the expense of another election.

As Clerk and Recorder, Fran had a team that worked with her in carrying out the responsibilities of that office:

- * *Issuing and recording marriage licenses*
- * *Recording all real estate transactions*
- * *Issuing liquor licenses*
- * *Registering voters*
- * *Conducting all primary, general, and County elections*
- * *Operating motor vehicle divisions in Montrose and Nucla for titling and issuing license plates*

All of these are important functions of the County Clerk's office but two of them are extremely important, conducting all primary, general and County elections and registering voters, to ensure that all eligible Montrose citizens have the assurance that when they vote that the voting process is free from manipulation and that their vote will count. Fran brought integrity to this office after the County was placed on the watch list by the SOS's office following the 2005 election. There has been a team working in the elections division that has many years of experience and two of those team members are well-qualified to step into the position of County Clerk and Recorder until an election can be held in 2016. These individuals are well-qualified, have the necessary experience in this office and have the requisite knowledge to continue the excellence in this office. This is not an office for an amateur.

Fran knew this and submitted a recommendation of a person to fill this position. The BOCC, after urging by a few citizens, is considering opening this position up for anyone. It is the opinion of this writer that the BOCC would be derelict in ignoring the recommendation of Fran Long who knows better than anyone else what it takes. The elections office is very important for the sustaining of democracy...citizens can determine if this person should continue in this office in the 2016 general election.

Karen Connor

Montrose

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC-LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC will be on Wednesday, Jan. 28th, 2015 and the last Wednesday of each month, from 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Montrose County Court House (in Leslie German's Self Help Center), 1200 North Grand in Montrose. LOW INCOME RESIDENTS, and SENIORS, WHO NEED

ANSWERS TO FAMILY LAW QUESTIONS, can talk with a lawyer FREE. Clients will first be screened on a first come, first served basis to see if they qualify for these services. A volunteer lawyer will then be available for brief consultation on divorce/parental responsibility & other Family Law issues. The lawyer CANNOT discuss any other types of cases. Please

bring any court papers or other documents related to your legal problem. If you need an interpreter, please let us know in advance.

For more information, call 970-249-7202. This service is sponsored by the Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association on a monthly basis.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE NIGHT-SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The FREE LEGAL ADVICE NIGHTS are on the second Thursday of each month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Region 10 Enterprise Center, 300 North Cascade Avenue, (corner of North 3rd and North Cascade) in Montrose. Please enter the Main door, all other doors will be locked, and proceed to the Sneffels conference room.

LOW INCOME RESIDENTS, and SENIORS, WHO NEED ANSWERS TO CIVIL LEGAL QUESTIONS, can talk with a lawyer FREE. Clients will first be screened to see if they qualify for these services. A volunteer lawyer will then be available for brief consultation on divorce/custody/child support, landlord/tenant problems, debt/consumer problems, etc. The lawyer CANNOT discuss traffic,

criminal or fee generating issues.

Please bring any court papers, leases, letters, or other documents related to your legal problem. If you need an interpreter, please let us know in advance.

For more information, call 249-7202. This service is sponsored by the Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association on a monthly basis.

FREE LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM: HANDLING ESTATE MATTERS AFTER SOMEONE DIES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-There will be a Free Legal Education Program: Handling Estate Matters after Someone Dies, Tuesday, January 13, - Time: 4:30-5:30 pm; sponsored and presented by Region 10 & Brown and Brown, P.C.

The workshop will cover the following

topics: Probate vs. Non-Probate, Creditor claims? How and when to distribute the assets? What taxes may be owed? What if they didn't have a will? What if there is a will? What happens if the family starts fighting? Does the court need to be involved?

The small classroom size allows you to

get your questions answered in a casual setting. The workshop includes informational handouts. Location: Region 10, 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffels room.

Registration required: Register online at www.region10.net or call 249-2436. <http://www.region10.net/event/lunch-n-learn-what-to-do-when-someone-dies/>.



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WEST CENTRAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE...MELANIE KLINE



Melanie Kline. Courtesy photo.

Interview by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-A metal smith and bench jeweler for more than 50 years, Melanie Kline wasn't looking for a new career when she saw an opportunity to support veterans. Founder and CEO of Welcome Home Montrose (WHM), Melanie is not your traditional leader. "Growing up I've always had lots of ideas. My brain is an idea factory." She laughed, "They're not all good ideas, but they are abundant!" She describes her creative process as creating something from nothing. "I don't know if that is the bud of leadership, but when I sit in meetings and on committees, I always have ideas to put forth. Not to say that I don't channel some idiots [bad ideas]!"

Three years ago Melanie embarked on a mission to support our military veterans

and she gave birth to Welcome Home Montrose (WHM). "I don't 'own' Welcome Home Montrose, but it was an opportunity. I saw a need, potential and a way to put the pieces together."

Interestingly, Melanie works with little structure and doesn't consider herself a good manager. "But I'm a good leader because I get excited and inspire others. My enthusiasm trumps my experience!"

As to her style of leadership, Melanie is a motivator who recognizes that everyone has a strength to bring to the table.

"My style is not unique. When you're working as a team the path you're on should be easy. It [the goal] shouldn't be a struggle if it is meant to be."

Many people approach a project saying, "If I only had this or that ..." Melanie has a completely different perspective.

"Everything I need is right in front of me; everybody I need is right in front of me. I have it, I just have to open my eyes."

In communicating with other communities who want to replicate WHM, the first thing they ask about is funding. However, funding is the last thing on Melanie's mind, "The mission should be the first thing you think about. If you can communicate your mission clearly, the money will follow; someone will give you a building, equipment and in-kind services." She laughed, "I don't think about the practical, because it will all fall into place."

Melanie's experience with the media has been supportive and very positive.

"Occasionally I wish I could fix a misquote, but overall the media experience has been great."

Before moving to Montrose Melanie served on the Ouray City Council and when asked if she might seek higher office she laughed, "Kill me if I ever try for another elected position! Political views are driven by different belief systems. It boils down to discussions about what the government should be doing ... government often treads on free enterprise. I found that very immobilizing."

Comparing her Council experience to the WHM experience Melanie said, "The public doesn't understand and they lump elected officials into a category of someone to blame, rather than someone to support. With WHM it's about supporting a mission."

Melanie attributes much of WHM's success to the fact that it is local. "Many people are turned off by national organizations with high administrative costs, but we help local vets in a visible way."

Melanie's leadership advice: "We all have gifts; don't minimize or hide them. They are there for you to pass on to others. Being shy, afraid, or self-deprecating is self-sabotage. We are meant to shine; not shine as bright as the next guy, but shine! "Don't dim your light."



Valerie Meyers' Weekly Monday



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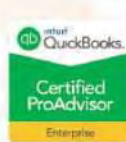
*Click here to catch Valerie's weekly Monday
Real Estate Market Report video...from the road!*



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Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE--On Sunday, July 13, 2014, I attended services with the Christian Science Society. I took the initiative to introduce myself to the man at the door, who said his name was Norm. I then asked if the church had a bulletin, or an order of service, and Norm handed me a copy of the Quarterly Bible Lessons and a supplemental song book.

As I took a seat in the small sanctuary the pianist sent a Mona Lisa smile in my direction and a gentleman seated in a pew turned and gave a nod. Waiting for the service to start I thumbed through the hymnal index and found one hymn I recognized, "I Need Thee Every Hour."

On this Sunday a total of nine were present. Although no one made any personal contact, I didn't take offense because these folks didn't even fellowship with one another. I was somewhat bewildered. There was nary a, "How was your week? It's good to see you, glad you're here."

Without a bulletin to introduce leaders and speakers, a visitor must rely on the Quarterly Bible Lessons for the order of

service, which was structured entirely around scheduled readings. The various readings followed a pattern of Bible verses followed by correlative, or explanatory readings from the Society's founder, Mary Baker Eddy. For instance, the Lord's Prayer was broken into phrases. The speaker read, "Our Father which art in heaven," (Bible quote) and the audience responded with Eddy's interpretation, "Our Father-Mother God, all -harmonious."

This particular Sunday, Communion Sunday, deviated from the normal order of service and is held only two times a year. However, this is not communion in the traditional sense of emblems representing the body and blood of Christ, but rather a quiet moment of kneeling in prayer and worshippers communing with God.

Two unnamed women led the service and I later learned they are referred to as Reader One and Reader Two. Reader One began the service with a hymn, but even here, all verses of the hymn were read aloud before they were sung. The ladies in leadership then dug into the meat of the lesson, their voices remained consistent

and constant as they alternated reading the prepared script. With little variation in voice — volume, pacing, or rhythm, I can only describe the speech as poetic-monotone.

The presentation was void of personality and lacked pauses in the readings; hence no time for the listener to reflect, contemplate, or read along with the Bible passages.

At the conclusion Reader One welcomed me to the service, but I felt awkward not being able to address her by name. When I told her the congregation

seemed to lack identity she was thrilled. Paraphrasing she said, "Oh, that's good to hear. That means we've accomplished our purpose. We want the service to be impersonal! We don't want anyone to hear or see personalities, we want them to hear only the message."

Reader One then introduced herself as Susan, and Reader Two as Linda. I learned these folks do have fellowship with one another, but it takes place *after* the service. Linda and I discovered we have a friend in common and she then volunteered her last name. Susan followed suit by offering to give me her last name, but we laughed together when I said we'd just let her stay incognito.

Evangelism is not a concern for this congregation and when asked about average attendance they said, "Numbers and attendance are not important. Even globally we don't count numbers [membership]."

Contact Information:
Christian Science
129 South Park Ave
Montrose, CO 81401

Speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist, Jesus said, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see ..."
(Matt 11:4 NIV).

To our readers: Though Montrose writer Gail Marvel does belong to a local church, she is interested in the other houses of worship here in town as well. With this column, Gail will share her experiences as she visits local churches and congregations to learn more about them. Gail wrote a church newsletter for years, and has published her work in a number of Christian publica-

FLAG READY TO FLY OVER NEW VA CLINIC IN MONTROSE



At right, Workers from Ridgway Valley Enterprises work to get the flagpole set up at the new Veterans Administration Health Care facility at 154 Colorado Avenue.

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The move is complete, and as of today the flagpole is ready to fly the stars and stripes.

Even the name is new--local Veterans Administration Medical Centers are now part of the Grand Junction Veterans Health Care System, which includes three other regional clinics.

Officials at the Montrose Veterans Administration Clinic say that their new facility at 154 Colorado Avenue, though no larger than the previous location at Main and Hillcrest, has a more efficient layout and better possibilities for expansion. For now, the clinic offers patient care by clinical providers as well as a full slate of tele-health options.

"We have expanded quite a bit, mostly through our tele-health system," VA Public Relations Specialist Paul Sweeney said. "We are offering specialty care, and a dermatology clinic, and we are doing a lot of lab blood draws here; having these done at our clinic is less stressful and reduces travel for a patient who is in fragile health. "Anything we can do, any service we can provide through our community clinics



mean big savings, not just for vets but for the taxpayer as well," Sweeney said.

The Tele-health system is effective in an area where distances between clinics are great, Sweeney said.

"With tele-health, attendance at appointments is better than when patients have to travel fairly long distances," he noted.

Under the "CHOICE" Act, funded by Congress for three years, veterans located more than 40 miles from a clinic location or "point of care" can be entered into a Choice Care database, Sweeney said. While Montrose is considered a "point of care," the choice system kicks in for them as well if they cannot be seen at the Clinic within a set time frame.

At least one local advocate for veterans sees the changes as positive steps forward when it comes to caring for the region's

wounded warriors.

"I think the new location is great and veterans will be well served there," Welcome Home Montrose and Warrior Resource Center Founder Melanie Kline said. "I am also thrilled about the new VA Choice Cards, which entitle rural Veterans to receive their healthcare needs through local providers instead of traveling far distances to a VA facility...hoping that both the new clinic and the Choice Cards result in exceptional care for our Veterans."

The dedication event will be held around Jan. 23, though the date has not been confirmed.

"We plan to invite folks for an open house, and include our local stakeholders, elected officials and veterans," Sweeney said.

**CLICK HERE FOR THE
MONTROSE COUNTY WINTER
GARDENING CALENDAR!**



A GOOD 'DIEHL' FOR MONTROSE.... THE LEGACY OF CHARLIE, CHARLEY AND "UNCLE BUD"



Like Denver's Tabor Grand Opera House, the Buddecke and Diehl Opera House of Montrose (left and above) is now just a memory. Photos Colorado State Historical Society.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE--Memories and black and white photographs are all that remain of the thriving enterprise that once was Buddecke and Diehl--but if you live in or around Montrose today, you are following in the footsteps of these early-day entrepreneurs.

A. E. "Uncle Bud" Buddecke and R. C. "Charlie" Diehl were once the lifeblood of the community, pioneer outfitters who brought goods and supplies to local settlers via oxen and mule trains and who constructed some of the town's important early buildings (including the brick dry goods building still standing today at 345 Main Street and the former Buddecke and Diehl Opera House at North First and Townsend, which was built in 1887 and later served as the town's first armory before being razed in 1959 for "a glittering new gas station," according to *100 Years-1882-1982-Montrose Colorado*, edited by local journalist Dona Freeman.).

Montrose author Elaine Hale Jones, in *Many Faces, Many Visions* (Western Reflections 1995) notes that Buddecke and Diehl first met in Hays City, Kansas and struck out for Western Colorado in 1882.

"When they reached Gunnison, Colorado, each man purchased a six-mule team," Jones wrote, "loaded their wagons with groceries and merchandise and set out for

the Uncompahgre Valley, just recently opened for settlement after the removal of the Ute Indians."

According to the *Montrose Press* (Jan. 10, 1910), Buddecke and Diehl delivered \$300,000 worth of merchandise in their first year as outfitters, built their business not only throughout Montrose County but into the mining camps of the San Juans, opened one of the first general stores in Montrose, and expanded into lumber and road building before eventually dissolving the partnership in 1892. Old timers even remember a Buddecke & Diehl road.

"They built the first store building in Montrose out of logs and started a store, in what is known as 'old town' about where South Tenth is located," notes Freeman. "Charlie was a first class bookkeeper and salesman."

Both men were active, engaged citizens as well--R. C. "Charlie" Diehl was a founding member of the local Masonic Lodge, and according to Freeman, it was also Charlie Diehl who served as Montrose's first Deputy Postmaster, opening the first sack of U.S. mail to reach Montrose and sending out the town's first sack of outgoing mail because Nate Hunter, the very first Montrose Postmaster appointed by railroad builder Otto Mears, could neither read nor write.

When the Town of Montrose was formed

in 1882, Diehl, who went on to open a dry goods store at 345 Main in 1886, was on the first board of trustees. When Montrose County was formed in 1883, A.E. Buddecke joined O.D. Loutsenhizer and S.H. Nye on the first board of county commissioners.

Both men owned ranches north of town; Diehl in particular was a man of "firsts."

"Charlie Diehl and family have taken up their residence in a new house on the ranch, one north of town..." Freeman notes in her book for the year 1884, after a newspaper blurb the previous year noted that Mrs. R.C. Diehl was one of three local mothers (also including Mrs. Dave Wood) who started Montrose's first Sunday school. In 1888, Freeman writes, the *Montrose Messenger* carried the following item: "Mr. Diehl dug the second well in Montrose near his home. The Diehls own the first bathtub to be installed. It is made of wood and tin, and half the people of Montrose come to the Diehl home to take their baths..."

The "Silver Crash" of 1893 took its toll on Diehl's finances, however, inspiring him to leave Colorado briefly for Alaska, where he constructed a building that stands to this day in the town of Wrangell. An online history of Wrangell notes that, "At the top of the Biehl building are letters which say, 'Biehl 1898,' but this is an error which has occurred over time. The building was originally constructed in 1898, by R. C. Diehl, a pioneer and merchant from Montrose, Colorado. He was only in Wrangell for a few years and left

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BLACK CANYON BARBERSHOP CHORUS INSTALLS 2015 OFFICERS



Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The Black Canyon Barbershop Chorus recently installed their Officers for year 2015. Complete information on the Chorus at

www.BlackCanyonChorus.org

Back Row: left to right, Bill Sutton Communications, Chuck Frush Secretary, John Thrasher At Large, Larry Wilkinson Immediate Past President, Bob Brethower At Large Front Row: left to right, Dennis Olmstead PR, Rex Pierson Treasurer, John Taylor President, Larry Cooper Program, Carol Morrell Music, MaryAnn Rathburn Director.



A GOOD 'DIEHL' FOR MONTROSE....from page 20

shortly after the building was erected."

R.C. Diehl returned to Colorado in 1908, dying in 1910 at age 59 following complications from gall bladder surgery. His wife Sarah died later that same year, at age 57, of "apoplexy" while canning fruit.

However, his family continued to play a role in the history of the town he helped to start. A younger brother, C.J. Diehl, had arrived in Montrose in 1884 and was also well known as a local merchant and served as an early town trustee, according to *Where Apple Was King*, a reprint of a local souvenir booklet from 1905 published by the Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society: "He was successful in business from the start...Mr. Diehl conducts one of the largest groceries in the county and carries the largest stock, buying by the carload, and in his basement one will see a veritable wholesale grocery. Aside from the general retail grocery business he does an extensive jobbing business in poultry and dressed meats in this and surrounding counties, shipping thousands of dollars' worth of this produce each month. Mr. Diehl owns a fine ranch of 85 acres near town, all cultivated. He is one of Montrose's most substantial business men and is at present serving the town as one of its trustees. The entire Diehl family are early settlers of the county, have grown up with the town and have been identified with many of its substantial improvements."

R.C.'s older brother William, a blacksmith and Civil War veteran, also moved

to Montrose and raised a family here, as did several other siblings (one source, *Montrose Take a Closer Look: a Walking Tour Guide* by authors Cathleen Norman and Marilyn Cox (Preservation Publishing, 2006), states that five Diehl brothers came to Montrose and each made their own mark on the town). According to the *Montrose Daily Press* (April 24, 1925), "Bill came to Montrose March 5, 1885, and started in business as a blacksmith and manager of a lumber yard. He was well known for the Studebaker Wagon, of which he had sold many hundreds."

Bill Diehl's business, Diehl Carriage Works, also had ties to famed fighter Jack Dempsey. While it is well known that a youthful Dempsey trained at the carriage works (now relocated and on display at the Museum of the Mountain West), what is not so well known is that William Diehl's son, also known as Charley, played an inspirational role in the fighter's drive to succeed.

Author Toby Smith recounts an incident from 1911, in his book, *Kid Blackie: Jack Dempsey's Colorado Days* (Wayfinder Press, 1987): "After about six months of earning small but steady wages in Montrose, Dempsey encountered Charley Diehl...Dempsey remembered that Diehl had an interest in boxing. In fact, Diehl was one of the more knowledgeable athletic buffs in Montrose. A part-time chef and ore freighter, Diehl for a year had studied in Battle Creek, Michigan at Bernarr

McFadden's Physical Training School. He wanted to become an exercise director.

"...Do you think I could ever become a champion fighter?" Dempsey inquired of Diehl one day on a Montrose street. "Of course you can," said Diehl, if you work hard enough."

Diehl ended up sparring with Dempsey, helping Dempsey arrange some of his early professional bouts, and even serving as referee when Dempsey fought Andy Malloy (who later became the fighter's manager) for the second time in Telluride in 1913. And it was Charley Diehl who gave America's most famous fighter his "name." Dempsey, whose parents named him Harry, was fighting as "Kid Blackie" when he knocked Malloy out at Davis Park in Telluride, notes author Smith.

"I declare Kid Blackie the winner!" Diehl is said to have shouted, and in response to a fan's query as to the fighter's real name, "Dempsey!" answered Diehl with a smile. "I declare 'Jack' Dempsey the winner!"

After selling his share of the business to his partner, A.E. Buddecke enjoyed a peaceful life in Montrose, according to the 1905 book, *Progressive Men of Western Colorado* (A.W. Bowen & Company). The book notes that Buddecke lived alone in a neat cottage home, continued on as manager of the Montrose Opera House that he and R.C. Diehl had built, and remained "an unflinching Democrat." Buddecke, known to locals as "Uncle Bud," died in Denver in 1925.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

VISTA CHARTER SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Vista Charter School will be holding their winter graduation ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015 at 7 pm at Montrose Pavilion (1800 Pavilion Drive) where fifteen Vista Students will be receiving their accredited high school diplomas. The public is invited to attend.

Vista Charter High School is a successful educational opportunity for students who seek an alternative means to earn a high school diploma. Since Vista's establishment in 1984, more than 890 students have graduated from the program. Vista provides a flexible class schedule that al-

lows students to secure employment while attending school. Course work is individualized, and credit is earned at a self-paced rate. Vista offers both computerized courses and more traditional textbook courses to students. Credit is awarded based on completion of course work. When students earn the required number of credits, they graduate immediately. Two formal graduation ceremonies are held each school year to honor the graduates and award accredited high school diplomas. For more information visit: <http://www.vistacharter.org>

The following students are scheduled to graduate:

Leighandra Bailey
Coltin Baize
Luis Carrola
Brady Davis
Colby Foster
Rochelle Garduno
Cody Hauser
Shayna Kittell
Austin Loveless
Raevyn Moxley
Katlyn Palmer
Jessie Smith
Daemon Stapp
Noah Winders (Walking in May)
Thad Wood

REGION 10, ALL POINTS TRANSIT PRESENT "TRANSPORTATION GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES"

Transportation Gaps and Opportunities; Tuesday, January 27, Time: 11:00 am -12:00 pm;
Sponsored and presented by Region 10 & All Points Transit. Transportation is always an ongoing concern for older adults and persons with disabilities. All Points Transit and Region 10 are committed to finding solutions for the transportation gaps in our area. Meet Sarah Curtis Mobility Manager, who will discuss free mobility orientation on how to use public transportation and the following topics; gaps in service, public transportation, dial a ride, volunteer transportation program. Location: Region 10, 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffels room. **Registration required:** Register online at www.region10.net or call 249-2436.

Caregiver Support & Networking Group – Sponsored by Region 10; This unique Caregiver Support and Networking Groups is designed for Montrose and the surrounding areas. The meetings are structured to be an all-inclusive support/networking groups for those who care for someone with Dementia or any disability/illness in any living environment. Groups meet the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of every month from 1:30 - 2:30 at Region 10 300 N. Cascade. Call Amy Rowan 249-2436 ext. 203 for more information.



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MIRROR IMAGES...TREE REMOVAL



T&I Construction took down an enormous weeping willow tree, which was rotted and had been damaged in a recent storm, for a homeowner at South First and Pythian last week. Company owner Phillip Velasquez said it took careful planning, but crews were able to get the majestic tree, which has probably graced the corner for half a century, down in a matter of hours. Now, Velasquez will haul the wood, let it dry, and recycle it through his other company, which sells firewood.



HONORABLE MENTION

To Ouray, for bringing a world class ice climbing festival and people from all over the world to the Ouray Ice Park every year in January...

To the [Telluride Fire Festival...](#) a community celebration of excellence in interactive fire arts, Jan. 15-19...art cars, fire performances and more...

To Western Colorado Interpretive Association (WCIA), for taking over operation of Fort Uncompahgre, Delta's historic replica of the trading post established a few miles away by Antoine Robidoux in 1828, and for moving forward with plans to establish a National Historic Trails Interpretive Center there in honor of the Old Spanish Trail...

To emergency first responders and SAR teams everywhere...thank you!

For Sale: Kids stuff. Yakima bike trailer, Kelty kid-carry backpack, baby strollers, crib, play-pen. All items are in excellent condition! Call 970.249.8250.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OPENS URGENT CARE CLINIC



DCMH's new Urgent Care Clinic is located at 155 Stafford Lane. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA-A new Urgent Care Clinic opened by Delta County Memorial Hospital is now open for business. It is located directly across from the hospital at 155 Stafford St. Hours are Monday-Friday from Noon

until 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. The phone number for the clinic is 970-874-7696.

Two experienced professional Certified Nurse Practitioners are the providers for new the urgent care Facility. Gina Justus, NP-C and Jane Rosen, NP-C. Rosen has worked in Colorado and Wyoming clinic settings for some 16 years in both family practice and internal medicine. She has a Master's in Nursing from the University of Nebraska School of Nursing and a BSN from Clarkson College of Nursing.

Justus has worked in healthcare since 1982. After working for 20 years as a Registered Nurse, she entered graduate school and received her Master's of Nursing (MSN) from Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Practice Nursing in Hyden, KY. She received National Certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner from The American Academy of Nurse Practitioner's. Since receiving her Certification as a Nurse Practitioner, Justus has worked in Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Colorado. She has specialized in Family Practice, Emergency Room, and Urgent Care settings. In addition to practicing full-time, she continues to serve as a faculty Preceptor to graduate students working toward their Nurse Practitioner degrees.

Most insurance is accepted, as well as uninsured patients who wish to pay out of pocket for their visit. No appointments are needed. All patients are served on a first come and first served basis.

The need for the Urgent Care clinic became apparent when patient numbers in the DCMH Emergency Department increased substantially due to recent health care changes that arrived with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

"In order to improve access to care for Delta County residents, DCMH felt it was time to offer an alternative to the Emergency Department for patients with less severe or non-emergent health issues," commented the hospital CEO, Jason Cleckler.

"The goal of the Urgent Care Clinic is to provide timely access to high quality care with alternative hours of operation to better serve the community," added Cleckler.

The Emergency Department and the Urgent Care Clinic across the street will each triage patients and assist them to get to the most appropriate treatment at the most cost effective location, added Cleckler.

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IS PLEASED TO PRESENT

MOUNTAIN VIEW THERAPY AT HAWK PARK

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Visit **www.voavalidation.org** for more information on Validation and **www.voahealthservices.org** for a list of providers in Western Colorado.

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A WILD MUSHROOM MOMENT



The author holds a King Bolete, also known as porcini, cep or stempilz, one of the most sought-after of all wild mushrooms.

By Slade Hubley

MONTROSE--I carefully arranged the collection of wild mushrooms on the picnic table at my campsite so that each of the 20 or so different species I had picked would be clearly visible in the photo I was about to take. There were brown ones,

white ones, red ones with white spots, ones that looked like a bird's wing and many others. I held my breath and pushed the shutter release button; this was in the pre-cell phone days or I would have taken a selfie of me and my fungi friends.

My plan was to send the photo to Gary, my former high school classmate who lived in Phoenix. I knew he was somewhat of a fungophile and I figured he would get a kick out of the picture. So, when I got back to Montrose, I took the film to City Market for processing; I requested double prints by checking the appropriate box in the film envelope. When the prints came back, I promptly mailed a couple to Gary with a note saying, "Get a load of this," or something like that.

About three days later, I received a phone call from a feverish-sounding Gary inquiring about the fabulous fungi photo.

I told him to try to remain calm as I was having a hard time understanding his excited utterances. Ultimately, we began to chat about mushroom types that I had picked and photographed; Gary rattled off Latin-sounding names that were strange to me: *sarcodon imbricatum*, *amanita muscaria* and *boletus edulis* to name a few. Then he focused on a large, brown mushroom in the center of the photo; he told me that it

was a King, a King Bolete. He then asked me if I remembered where I had picked that mushroom, to which I replied, "Yes, I do." Gary then said something that, at the time, seemed funny to me. He said, "Don't tell anyone."

He then gave me a short primer on the King which is also known as porcini, cep and stempilz. Gary advised that porcini are one of the most sought-after wild mushrooms because of their complex flavor and versatility in a variety of dishes. "Plus," he added at the conclusion of his tutorial, "they're fun to hunt; even if you come home with an empty basket."

"The most that happens is you have nice walk in the woods," he added.

While that is generally quite true, I must disclose that, during a mushroom foray on the back of Pikes Peak last fall, Gary tore his Achilles tendon while jumping over a small stream; he recently informed me that he has just gotten rid of the limp.

So, some folks may be wondering where I found the selection of wild mushrooms that were the focus of the photograph I sent to Gary so many years ago. Well, like a skillet full of sliced mushrooms, I will let you simmer on that question while I add some spices to the mix. Besides, I told you it was near my campsite.

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WAKE UP AND GRAB A CUP WITH LIESL...ALL INFUSED TEA SHOP!



Nathan Compton poses, at left, in the gluten-free tea shop he owns with wife Deanne. Photos by Clay Greathouse.

By Liesl Greathouse

For those who love hot tea, coffee and delicious gluten-free food, they will find all that and more at All Infused.

Owners Deanne and Nathan Compton opened All Infused as a Tea Shop/Gluten Free Cafe in December of 2014. "We are a Tea Shop that serves coffee," Deanne explained to me. "We don't do espresso drinks, though we can get pretty creative with teas and coffee. As far as I know, we are the only exclusively gluten-free establishment on the Western Slope. If there is another one, we haven't been able to find it."

When I went there for a visit, I enjoyed quick service at the front counter. I do not normally order tea when I go out, but Deanne was helpful and directed me on which tea I would enjoy on a sunny Winter day. I ended up ordering a Moroccan Mint Tea and a Chicken Salad Sandwich, making a decent lunch for a fair price.

The menu for tea and coffee covers a wide range of flavors, and their food menu is short but sweet, with soups, sandwiches, quiches and more available.

"Most of the food ingredients are local, but the teas come from different suppliers," Deanne said. "Our main tea supplier is Maya Tea in Arizona, and our coffee is from Raven's Brew, out of Alaska. All food we serve is prepared in our small kitchen, with our own recipes."

My drink and food came quickly and the owners were friendly and served everything with a smile. Their demeanor made me feel instantly welcomed, a plus in this world where sometimes customer service is at a premium.

The couple have a love for teas and herbs and decided to take those interests and do something with them. So far they are enjoying their new adventure as a family.

"We have no employees, we are just a husband and wife, with occasional help from our kids and a parent," Deanne said. "We love talking with the customers. It's always interesting to get other folks' ideas and thoughts."

The shop has a homey atmosphere, with a variety of furniture and accessories. The upbeat background music is at just the right volume to enjoy it, yet still be able to carry on a conversation comfortably. The furniture varies in style and size, so you can gather with a group of friends over a cup or settle in a corner to work on your laptop.

They also have a small room in the back that people can use for a small meeting or just to have some privacy while they get work done.

The atmosphere does not feel rushed like some coffee/drink shops. You come in casually and enjoy your stay. That is definitely a plus for anyone looking for a place to work, write, or just think and ponder life.

The hours of operation are easy to remember and run early enough to pick up a drink on your way to work and go long enough to get a snack when you pick up your kids from school.

I love it when local shops offer coupons or frequent buyer cards, and All Infused will definitely be on my list when they get theirs up and going soon.

The Moroccan Mint Tea had a wonderful flavor and the mint helped give me a boost as I worked.

The Chicken Salad Sandwich was good, with a variety of flavors, including celery and onion. The bread was delicious, and while many gluten free breads are thin and flaky, this was thick and hearty. A rare treat when eating out gluten free.

I actually saw a friend of mine at the

shop, who is a fellow gluten-free eater.

The gluten-free community is small, but close knit, so I am sure that this shop will start to get busier as the community gets word of their gluten free delicacies.

The importance of having a gluten-free facility is a big reason for why the couple started up their business. "Over the past year or so we have heard a lot about the gluten-free movement," Deanne explained. "Neither of us has ever been diagnosed as Celiac or even Gluten Intolerant, but we have experimented with a gluten-free diet, and lo and behold, we felt better. We tried the Gluten-Free offerings at some restaurants, and while some were great, others left something to be desired. The main concern, though, was cross contamination. Nathan has worked in many restaurants over the years, and saw a big issue for the customers who truly needed to eat gluten-free: cross contamination. It's great to offer the items on the menu, but if they are prepared in the same area, with the same equipment and utensils as food containing gluten, the chance of getting gluten in your food is pretty high. So here we are; no gluten in the kitchen, period. No chance of cross contamination."

If you do not eat gluten free, you will still enjoy their warm baked goods and filling food items.

As word gets out about this new little shop, the owners look forward to whatever may come next in their adventure. Deanne said, "We are just excited about All Infused, and hope to be able to serve the community good quality teas and gluten-free food for many years to come."

Overall, good food, good tea, plus a relaxing atmosphere to enjoy. But don't take my word for it! Check them out for yourself at 760 Spring Creek in Montrose. They are open Tuesday-Saturday, 6 a.m.-5p.m. For more information, call 970-417-4388.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DCMH CLINICS IN PAONIA AND HOTCHKISS ADD PROVIDERS



Shown are clinical staff from DCMH's clinics in Hotchkiss (above) and Paonia (left). Courtesy photos DCMH.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The families of the North Fork are beginning to see improved access to family providers since Delta County Memorial Hospital partnered with the North Fork Clinics in Hotchkiss and Paonia on July 1st of this year. DCMH has added more providers and now there are two providers at each clinic, some familiar faces and some new ones in both providers and medical staff. Patients may call in and get appointments the same day at the DCMH Primary Care Clinics in Hotchkiss and Paonia.

Dr. Timothy Meilner, is a board-certified family physician who is well known in Paonia and surrounding communities. He is based out of DCMH Primary Care - Paonia. Dr. Meilner has served the families of the North Fork for the past 18 years.

Joining him since the first of August at the DCMH Primary Care Clinic in Paonia is Physician's Assistant-Certified Shawna McElroy. She is nationally certified as a Physician Assistant and is licensed in Colorado. McElroy communicates well in Spanish. Her professional background also includes being an office manager, legal assistant and yoga instructor. The Medical staff at the DCMH Primary Care Clinic in Paonia is composed of mostly medical professionals who had also worked for the North Fork Clinic. The friendly and very familiar welcoming face of Tori Branson greets patients as they approach the window to check in for their appointments. Tori has been with the Paonia Clinic for a total of seven years, is a Medical Assistant and is also a certified EMT. Maia Weber works in medical records.

Julie Stevens, nurse assisting Shawna McElroy, has an Associates degree in Medical Assisting, is fluent in Spanish and sign language, and is a Certified EMT/IV. Julie is a CAPP Certified doula and provides lactation consultation. She also is a pre-natal and post partum doula.

LPN Yvonne Hinton has served 12 years at the Paonia clinic and is now part time. Sue Poulos, Medical Assistant-Certified and EMT has worked at this clinic for 28 years. Kathy Linnell manages the Paonia Clinic who knows the patients and families of the North Fork well, having dedicated her skills as a manager for 23 years.

At DCMH Primary Care in Hotchkiss, board-certified family physician Dr. Michelle Hundley is a familiar physician to many families. She has been serving patients in the North Fork since 2008, for the past six years.

In June Adam Zerr, who is a family nurse practitioner-certified, joined Dr. Hundley. He holds a Master's in Nursing. He has 480 hours of working with physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in four busy family practice clinics in Castle Rock, Englewood, Highlands Ranch and Ken Caryl. He also has clinical experience in emergency room, orthopedic and in-patient settings. Zerr has been a Registered Nurse since 2003 in a variety of clinical settings.

Many area residents have noticed that there are new faces in the medical staff at the Hotchkiss Clinic as well. There is a new receptionist, Sarah Andregg, an outgoing and friendly receptionist will also serve as a Medical Assistant, having just graduated from a Medical Assistant program and attained a bachelor's degree in

Healthcare Management. There are now Landra Darnall, LPN, and part time Yvonne Hinton, LPN. Patients recognize Kathy Linnell who was with the North Fork Clinics some 23 years prior to the acquisition by the Delta hospital. She continues to be Clinic Director of Hotchkiss and Paonia medical clinics. Michelle Pagone who does Medical Records is also a member of the previous clinic for the past eight years.

Increasing provider access and same day appointments are some of the major and more noticeable improvements in the DCMH Primary Clinics in Paonia and Hotchkiss. Improvements have been made at the Hotchkiss Clinic and Paonia Clinics.

"Delta County Memorial Hospital is committed to the families of Delta County to provide quality medical care to everyone, and that has been the reason for acquiring primary care clinics," commented DCMH CEO Jason Cleckler.

Currently Delta County Memorial Hospital and associated medical clinics include: DCMH Primary Care - Hotchkiss and Paonia; DCMH Primary Care - Delta, with Pediatrics (formerly Delta Pediatrics) and Family Practice; Premier Women's Healthcare of Delta; Colorow Family Medical Clinic in Olathe and Delta; Internal Medicine Associates; Grand Mesa Oncology & Infusion Center; Grand Mesa Rheumatology and Delta-Montrose Home Health Services. DCMH Family Medicine (formerly Delta Family Physicians) joined the hospital in October.

DCMH Urgent Care opened in December, and is located across from the hospital at 155 Stafford Lane.

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

FREE FAMILY LAW CLINIC—LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH, Montrose County Courthouse (Leslie German self-help center) at 1200 North Grand, Noon to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE NIGHT—SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Region 10 Enterprise Center, 300 North Cascade. Sponsored by Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid and the 7th Judicial District Bar Association. Call 970-249-7202 for information.

MAGIC CIRCLE THEATRE—performances of Talley's Folly will be Jan. 16-17, 23–24. Sunday matinee Jan. 18. Ticket sales Magic Circle Box Office at 420 South 12th St. Call 970-249-7838 for information. Box office hours 2-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.

MONTROSE INDOOR FARMERS MARKET—Every other Saturday through April 25. 10 am -1pm, Centennial Hall and Behind Straw Hat Farms Store, S. 1st and Uncompahgre.

FIRST FRIDAY STROLLS MONTROSE DOWNTOWN—Monthly from 5:30 p.m.-8p.m. Artist Demonstrations, Free Wine Tastings, and in-store promotional events!

THIRD SUNDAY DULCIMER CLUB WITH HARPS & HAMMERS, 2 to 4 p.m. Please call Robin for information and directions to our new location as our club has grown! 970-275-8996. Guitars and Autoharps welcome too—the more the merrier!

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM—The last Saturday of each month will be "Montrose Day" at the Montrose County Historical Museum, 21 N. Rio Grande Street. If you live in the Montrose area, then you will receive a free pass to the Museum. So bring down the family to learn about our unique town and area history. For more information please call 249-2085.

MONTROSE STAMP (PHILATELIC) CLUB meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 420 Alta Lakes Dr. from 7-8pm. For Beginners to Pros! Please contact Brenda Moureaux at 970-765-6948 for more information.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT & NETWORKING GROUP—Sponsored by Region 10; This unique Caregiver Support and Networking Groups is designed for Montrose and the surrounding areas. The meetings are structured to be an all-inclusive support/networking groups for those who care for someone with Dementia or any disability/illness in any living environment. Groups meet the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of every month from 1:30 - 2:30 at Region 10 300 N. Cascade. Call Amy Rowan 249-2436 ext. 203 for more information.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE—Save on insurance, keep up on newer traffic laws, and learn defensive driving techniques. For details and schedule for Montrose and Delta, contact John 970-856-6924 or 970-424-1778.

TAIZE-STYLE SERVICES OF MUSIC, PRAYER AND MEDITATION on Scripture are offered on the first Thursday of the month, except June, July and August, at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome. Montrose United Methodist Church.

MONTHLY-

Jan. 10-March 13—Cheri Isgreen and Sabrina Soong present "Legacy," an art show at the Ridgway Library. Sabrena will show her mixed media abstract compositions, including pieces from her "Meditation" series. Along with the "Dream Horse" series, Cheri will show some landscapes in watercolor and pastel, and newer equine watercolors.

Jan. 12—Would you like to touch the life of a child subjected to abuse and/or neglect? Perhaps you could be a Court Appointed Special Advocate. To learn more about the volunteer opportunities available through CASA of the 7th Judicial District, drop in for a CASA Q&A on Jan. 12 from 5-6 pm at our new offices on the corner of N.3rd and Cascade Ave. in Montrose.

Jan. 12—Great Governing Boards workshop, 1 to 4 p.m. Montrose Library with Cathryn Saylor Peterson. The fee is \$30 for preregistration and \$35 at the door. Teams are encouraged.

Jan. 13—BOCC Commissioner Swearing-In Ceremony, BOCC Boardroom at 161 South Townsend Ave., 11 a.m.

Jan. 13—Free legal education program, Handling Estate Matters After Someone Dies, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Get your questions answered in a casual setting. The workshop includes informational handouts. Location: Region 10, 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffels room. **Registration required:** Register online at [www.region10.net](http://www.region10.net/event/lunch-n-learn-what-to-do-when-someone-dies/) or call 249-2436. <http://www.region10.net/event/lunch-n-learn-what-to-do-when-someone-dies/>

Jan. 13—Great Governing Boards workshop with Cathryn Saylor Peterson Noon-3 p.m. (bring your lunch), Whitman Building, Museum of Western Colorado, 248 S. 4th St, Grand Junction. The fee is \$30 for preregistration and \$35 at the door. Teams are encouraged.

Jan. 15-19—Telluride Fire Festival, a community celebration of excellence in Interactive Fire Arts.

Jan. 15—Great Governing Boards workshop with Cathryn Saylor Peterson Noon-3 p.m. Fred Field Center at 275 South Spruce St. in Gunnison. The fee is \$30 for preregistration and \$35 at the door. Teams are encouraged.

Jan. 15—Vista Charter School graduation ceremony, 7 pm at Montrose Pavilion (1800 Pavilion Drive).

Jan. 15—Montrose Memorial Hospital presents Mountain View Therapy at Hawk Park ribbon cutting ceremony, 4 p.m. 1404 Hawk Parkway, Suite 101. Open house to follow from 4:15 to 7 p.m.

Jan. 17—Montrose Chamber of Commerce Casino Nights Gala, 6 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. For ticket information or to RSVP, call 249-5000 or email information@montrosetchamber.com.

Jan. 20—Accounting Basics in Quickbooks. 10 a.m. to Noon. Quickbooks Online, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Presented by Region 10 and Delta Chamber at Delta Chamber of Commerce, 301 Main St. Delta. RSVP 874-8616 or www.region10.net. \$15 for Chamber members, \$25 for non-members.

Jan. 20—Long Term Care Legal Planning: Noon — 1 pm - Sponsored by Region 10 and Uncompahgre Volunteer Legal Aid, presentation by Elder Law Attorney Lincoln Anderson. Sign-in begins at 11:45 and we will promptly start at noon. Location: Region 10, 300 N. Cascade in the Sneffels room. Registration required: Register online at www.region10.net or call 249-2436. Cost: FREE <http://www.region10.net/event/lunch-n-learn-what-to-do-when-someone-dies/>.

Jan. 21—Accounting Basics in Quickbooks. 10 a.m. to Noon. Quickbooks Online, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Presented by Region 10 and the Montrose Chamber of Commerce at Region 10 Small Business Resource Center, 300 North Cascade Ave. Suite 1. RSVP to 249-2436 or www.region10.net. \$15 for Chamber members, \$25 for non-members.

Jan. 26—Winter Baseball Exposition, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Montrose Pavilion. Proceeds benefit Montrose Youth Baseball League.

Jan. 27—Transportation Gaps and Opportunities, with Region 10 and All Points Transit. 11 a.m. to Noon, Region 10 Enterprise Center Sneffels Room (300 North Cascade.) Register by calling 970-249-2436.

Jan. 28—How to Beat the IRS-Legally! 10 Most Expensive Tax Mistakes That Cost Business Owners Thousands. Taught by Michael W. Johnson, CPA. Region 10 Small Business Resource Center, 300 North Cascade, Suite 1, Noon to 1:30 p.m. \$15 for Chamber members, \$25 for non-members. RSVP 249-2436.

Jan. 31—Montrose Memorial Hospital Early Blood Draws at Ridgway's 4H Events Center, 7 to 10 a.m. Schedule phone appointments from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan.19-20 by calling 1-888-592-6255 or schedule online Jan. 18-28 at www.montrosethospitals.org.

Jan. 31—Western Slope Woolgrowers Banquet, Montrose Elks Lodge, 6 p.m. Music by the Anders Brothers. Call 970-249-0686 for 970-249-1417 or tickets and information.

Jan. 31—14th Annual Partners Superbowl at Valley Lanes in Delta. Call 970-874-4661 for more information.

Feb. 2—Montrose Memorial Hospital Early Blood Draws at American Legion Hall in Olathe, 6:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 4,5,6 and 7—Montrose Memorial Hospital Early Blood Draws, 6:30 to 9:30 a.m., Montrose Pavilion.

Feb. 7—Fifth Annual Winter Rim Romp, Black Canyon National Park. 10 a.m. to Noon. www.sjmr.club.



HOW TO BEAT THE IRS, LEGALLY!

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TAUGHT BY **MICHAEL W. JOHNSON, CPA**

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Michael W Johnson is managing member of Michael W Johnson & Associates, LLC, based in Montrose, Colorado. Michael is a CPA with 23 years' experience helping businesses as a CPA and Consultant. He also is an experienced Valuator, handling many litigation assignments in real estate and business matters. Michael helps businesses reduce their taxes, improve their profits, and better manage their cash flows.

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At right, Montrose artist June Estep updates her window designs for the New Year at Chow Down Pet Supplies.

Below, geese stretch their wings as they step off the icy lake at Baldridge Park.



Above, Margie Music enjoys walking the Sunset Mesa trail.

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