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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays

Issue No. 119 May 25 2015

ACA MAKES AN IMPACT FOR MANY



More clients with severe forms of mental illness are now seeking and getting treatment, thanks to the expansion of Medicaid, local experts say.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-Are you new to Montrose, or even Colorado? Lynn Carretta has something she wants you to know.

“People need health insurance,” said Carretta, who staffs the local branch of Volunteers of America [Connect for Health](#). —Ad if you have just arrived in Colorado, you have 60 days to become insured.” Helping newcomers and other newly-eligible health insurance clients take advantage of Colorado’s health insurance exchange has been the mission of Carretta and Colorado’s Connect for Health insurance exchange since the local office opened in 2013.

“More than half of the people who come through my office are retired,” Carretta said, —and they are moving here for the quality of life. The Affordable Care Act makes a positive difference for many—because the average advance premium tax credit is \$418, these folks now have an extra \$418 to spend on something else.”

Younger residents also benefit from affordable insurance, she said.

Continued pg 15

KICK UP YOUR HEELS!

RICK HURT WELCOMES SUZY BOGGUSS TO PAVILION JULY 6

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-For Rick Hurt, it’s not about the money but the music. A retired Montrose educator and music promoter, Hurt and his companion Margaret Freeman spend much of their time these days listening to, talking about, creating and sharing the music they love. And though Hurt is not as well-known as his former business partner Dave Bowman of Blue Sky Music Presents, he also knows a thing or two about bringing great acts to Montrose. On July 6 Hurt brings Grammy winner Suzy Bogguss here once again, this time to the stage at the Montrose Pavilion.

“I just would like for Montrose to hear some really good Country, top-quality Americana music,” he said. —So I’m kind of doing this by the seat of my pants.”

Hurt first welcomed Bogguss to Montrose two years ago, after making the artist’s acquaintance at the Moab Folk Festival a few years ago.

Continued on page 3



Grammy winning artist Suzy Bogguss takes to the stage at the Montrose Pavilion on July 6. Courtesy photo.

in this issue

Montrose Summer Music Series Update!

Q&A with Ricardo Perez of HAP (21)!

MTJ FBO breaks ground

Lark and Sparrow Opening photos!

Property Mis-management... When rentals go wrong! (19)

MTJ FBO BREAKS GROUND MAY 11



The symbolic ground breaking for MTJ FBO, Montrose Regional Airport's second FBO. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—Even though the Ground Breaking Ceremony for MTJ FBO Partners, LLC was an invitation only event, there was little pomp and circumstance.

On May 11, 2015 approximately 80 people attended a luncheon to welcome Montrose Regional Airport's second fixed-base operator (FBO).

Brief comments were made by Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Executive Director Sandy Head, Montrose County Commissioner Glen Davis and MTJ FBO primary principal Larry Danielle.

Sandy Head said, "This will have a great impact on Montrose. The project will begin with the creation of 22 jobs which is expected to increase to 50 positions."

On the drawing board is a 251,000 SQ FT concrete ramp to tie down aircraft, and future development investment in the airport is estimated at \$5M - \$6M.

Referring to the length of time it has tak-

en for a second FBO to be established, a laugh rippled through the audience when Commissioner Davis said, "Some [people] say government moves slow ... well 10 years may be a little ridiculous."

One Creative Place, the new home of MTJ FBO, is a 97,000 SQ FT facility which formally housed Scale Technology Works (1996) and Jet Away group (2004). In 2009 the building sat empty and barricaded.

A visual blight on the Montrose airport, developer Matt Miles said, "When you're flying into the Montrose airport it's like seeing a dead carcass. Now we are moving forward in a BIG, BIG, BIG way. We have the negativity behind us. This is positive and we're excited! Montrose is our town; this is such a good thing."

Matt owns a corporate airplane and for nine years has kept the plane in Grand Junction.

"I never brought it to Montrose because of the fuel prices. Now we're bringing the

plane home. We want to be a part of this party and a part of the solution." Matt's plane will officially be house in Montrose on May 26th.

Private pilot John Mack is also excited. "We need it ... we need competition in fuel pricing to put prices into perspective. Years ago we [Montrose Regional Airport] were a general aviation airport for the flying public, now we're more of a corporate airport and general aviation has moved to Delta."

Illustrating the importance of competition John said, "Fillig up an airplane is no different than filling up your car; you're going to go to the gas station with the lowest price. Pilots will go to another town to top off their tank if the prices are lower."

The second FBO with competitive prices becomes an incentive to buy local.

Long range plans for MJT FBO includes a flight training school on the upper floor of the facility, helicopter services, and a Part 135 charter service.



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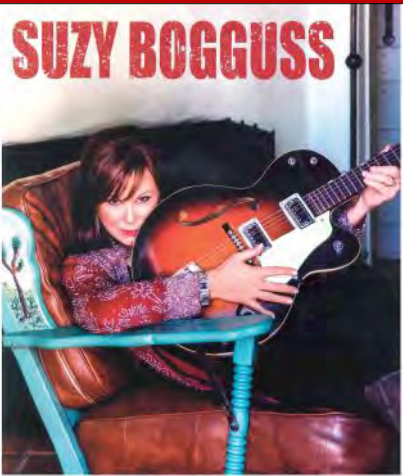
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KICK UP YOUR HEELS! SUZY BOGGUSS COMING JULY 6 From pg 1



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“Like Suzy,” he said. “She’s got a new album out called *Lucky*, which is all Merle Haggard covers. It’s very well done. She’s been on *Prairie Home Companion* and *Grand Ole Opry*, and she won a Grammy in 2005 for best traditional folk album.”

Bogguss has also won a Country Music Association (CMA) Horizon award (1992) and Album of the Year award (1994). So when she emailed Hurt in February to let him know that she would be coming through the region this summer, he sprang into action.

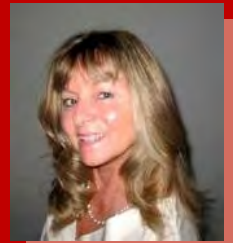
“Fickets are \$20,” he said, adding that he has just over 600 tickets for the show. Interested fans can contact Hurt at 970-249-2794.

June 13 -- MONTROSE GARDEN TOUR 9 am - 2 pm
 Self-guided tour of five private gardens plus Montrose Botanic Gardens. Live music, refreshments, plein air artists, garden information. Tickets \$15 or \$10 member/become member, available prior to tour at Pavilion & Around the Corner Gallery.
 Day of tour, tickets & maps at Botanic Gardens south of Pavilion. www.montrosegardens.org or 970-249-3577.

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EAGLE CANE PROJECT UPDATE



This eagle head is the creation of carver Jim Norfleet, an expert in intarsia. The wood varieties used are natural in color with a clear seal. The head is made from Maple, the beak is Osage Orange and the eyes are Osage Orange and Ebony.

Veterans honored at the Warrior Resource Center during the May 7th Eagle Cane presentation were, front row L to R: William Ewen, Alvin Collier, "Pug" Otto Davis, Gail Marvel, Derald Jones, and Russell Huglin. Back row L to R: Delmer Legar, Gary Pavel, Earnest Arebalos, Bill Marvel, Edward Abila, Robert Duncan, and Quimby Johnson. Courtesy images.

Bill and Gail Marvel each received a cane; and "Pug" Otto Davis celebrated his 90th Birthday with the crowd of about 50 people. The handcrafted Eagle Head Canes given to each Veteran are the result of the combined efforts and talents of the Woodworkers Guild of Western Colorado, the Montrose Area Woodturners and the Black Canyon Wood Carvers. Each of the one-of-a-kind walking canes is inscribed with the Veteran's name, branch of service, rank/designation and duty station. There is an opportunity for the community to participate in the Eagle Cane Project by helping the local craftsmen resupply their inventory of wood. Bob Hampton said, "Right now we're running low on wood blanks for cane shafts. We need hardwood that can be cut down to measure 36 inches long and two by two square. Carvers usually use a softer wood, like bass wood, for the heads." If you would like to support the Eagle Cane Project through donations of wood, financial donations, or memorials, contributions can be sent to: Eagle Cane Project, c/o Gary Gratton; 1241 Manchester Drive; Montrose, CO 81401. For any additional information contact Bob Hampton (970-249-7183), or Gary Gratton (970-29-2841). All Veteran are eligible to receive an Eagle Cane and applications are available at the Warrior Resource Center.

Special to the Mirror
 MONTROSE-On 07May15, thirteen area Veterans were presented Eagle Head Canes in recognition of their military service. Unique to the day, husband and wife Veterans

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OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

THANK YOU FROM MONTROSE KAYAK & SURF

To the Montrose Community and beyond: Montrose Kayak and Surf would like to say thank you to everyone involved with the fund raiser/grand opening at Montrose Kayak and Surf last Thursday May 16th.

What an amazing opportunity for MK & S to begin its journey down the riverways of Montrose, thanks largely to Melanie Kline of the Welcome Home Montrose Resource Center, Jared Bolhuis with the Resource Center and Tim Kenny at Toads Guide Service. If you have not had the opportunity to meet these incredible leaders within the Montrose community you owe it yourself to do so.

Because of the vision of these individuals the strength and back bone of future growth with healthy choices is becoming a beacon of light for other communities around the country to see shining from Montrose Colorado.

We would also like to thank Ryan Keyes of Team River Runner from Grand Junction with the idea to do a fund raiser barbe-

que in conjunction with our new shop's grand opening. Although we did not set any records raising dollars for the Montrose Resource Center it was still a strong success with letting the public know more about this incredible resource for our military veterans and the community as a whole.

And as a new business in Montrose we would like to acknowledge the incredibly warm and encouraging welcome we have received from the Montrose City Council, the Montrose business district and all of the regional press.

Congratulations to Seosaimh Keady a visiting wounded warrior for winning the grand opening raffle by claiming his new Astral life jacket donated by Montrose Kayak and Surf.

And no fund raiser could ever take place with out the generosity of others. So with a huge thank you MK & S and the Warrior Resource Center would like to thank the following donors. Rib City going big with

the meat, Park Avenue True Value Hardware for the grill, Wal-Mart with a \$100.00 gift card, Safeway for all the buns, Natural Grocers for wetting our whistles, Montrose Chamber of Commerce for their Red Coats program, and Montrose Kayak and Surf along with 4 Corners Paddling School for hosting and providing additional items and last but not least the Montrose Welcome Home Montrose Warrior Resource Center.

There are without doubt numerous individuals and organizations that worked hard to provide for the Mission No Barriers week, the fund raiser and the grand opening of the Water Sports Park.

So to all of you and the list is long and healthy, Thank You from the bottom of our hearts.

Montrose Kayak and Surf.
Bill Glasscock: Manager
Erik Dalton: Owner
Matt Wilson: Owner
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OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

CLICK IT OR TICKET...WEAR A SEAT BELT AND LIVE ANOTHER DAY

Dear Editor:

Sometimes drivers need a reminder that buckling up is the absolute best way to protect themselves and their passengers in a motor vehicle crash. Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death for Coloradans. This is why the Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition is joining with state and local law enforcement as well as highway safety officials to educate citizens on the importance of wearing seat belts through a nationwide Click It or Ticket mobilization occurring May 18-31. The minimum fine for not buckling up is \$65.

Unless you want to risk a ticket, or worse – your life, it is critical that you buckle up no matter how far you are driving. Fatal car crashes can and do happen every day, and each year hundreds of lives are lost in those crashes across the state. In 2014, the 156 people in Colorado that lost their lives in crashes were not wearing a seat belt. Those lives account for more than half of the 308 passenger vehicle fatalities that occurred on Colorado roadways in 2014.

While those may sound like just numbers, we know from personal experience they represent mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, and friends right here in our communities. Too many families are told about losses that may have been prevented had a loved one only worn a seat belt.

Stepped-up law enforcement activities will be conducted by law enforcement during the May —Click It or Ticket” enforcement mobilization which runs May 18-31.

Wearing your seat belt costs you nothing, but the cost for not wearing it certainly will.

For more information please visit SeatbeltsColorado.com.

Thank you,

Robyn Funk

Special Projects Coordinator

Western Regional Occupant Safety Coalition

A WATER SPORTS PARK IN MONTROSE? IS IT FOR REAL OR A WASTE?


Dear Editor:

I heard it all from the time the project was first proposed. —We don’t need it;” —What a waste of money;” and the catalog of negative comments was endless. Well, the Nay Sayers were dead wrong. During the Welcome Home Montrose week for bringing Veterans with disabilities here to kayak the new park, among other events, I served as a volunteer on the water rescue crew. I witnessed a remarkable display of patriotism, courage and community commitment by Montrose residents and visitors alike. The W.H.M. week-long program was a rousing success for everyone, not just the vets. There were no —disabled vets” in attendance. These former military people were and are heroes, not just for their military service but even more importantly for the manner in which each has dealt with what could easily be overwhelming disabilities—loss of sight, loss of limbs, PTSD and other personal tragedies which would have crushed lesser people. These brave men and women did not let their losses define them. In fact, those personal losses inspired these remarkable former soldiers. I experienced the same feeling in visiting with them as I did when I made annual visits to the Walter Reed Hospital and the Arlington Cemetery in D.C. for a multi-national hunting and conservation organization.

My rope-rescue partners and I —anded” our daily limit of kayakers separated from their boats each day and even that was exciting. Watch for an article in the Readers Digest and numerous other outdoor magazines and recreation guides that are forthcoming extolling the park. Montrose is growing in stature and popularity. Welcome Home Montrose, the Water Sports Park and the remarkable transformation of the wilderness between Riverbottom Park and Sunset Mesa have all become new jewels in the Montrose Crown. The Disc golf course, skateboard arena, dog park and riverside trail are all positive achievements on behalf of those who live in or visit the Montrose region. Personally, I have no intention to venture into the rapids, mount a skateboard or throw a Frisbee but I will take advantage of the beautiful scenery, hiking trails and river fishing. My compliments to everyone involved in creating this marvelous outdoor adventure area.

If you have not visited this new attraction and the remarkable transformation of this area, please do so. It is truly awesome.

John W. Nelson



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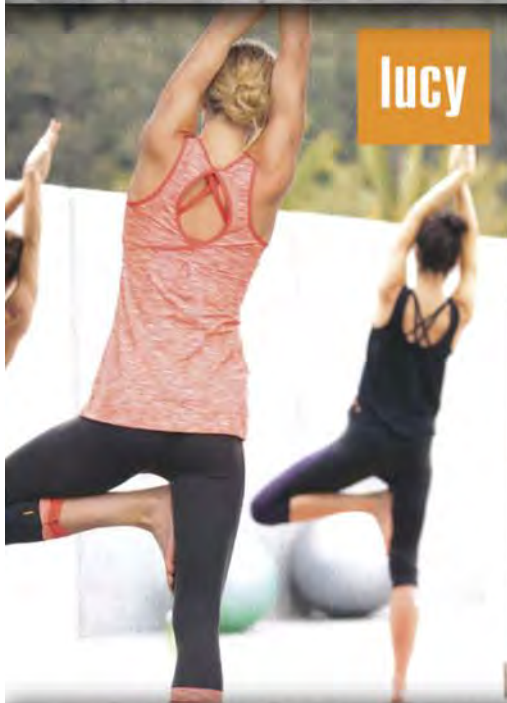
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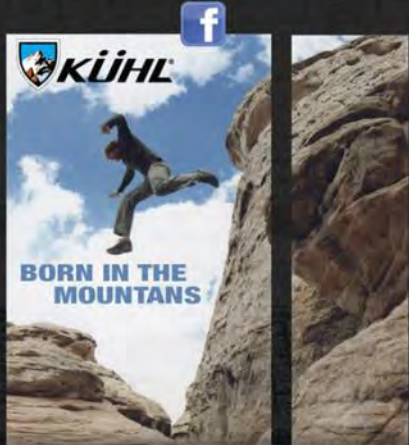


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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE SUMMER MUSIC SERIES KICKS OFF MAY 29!

By Rachel Boschen

MONTROSE—“I was sittin’ at the Bar drinkin’ with John Leu...” laughs Dave Bowman as he talks about the inception of his “lovechild,” the Montrose Summer Music Series (MSMS). It’s a kid-friendly, people-powered concert series with more than twenty Montrose Business Sponsors, the presenting sponsor being Horsefly Brewing Company. Dave Bowman and his committee of music lovers banded together to raise almost forty thousand dollars. “I think it’s time we have out of town bands playing here,” says Dave as the rain starts to sprinkle on the Horsefly patio. “I know how to do it, so I did it.”

Starting May 29, the series will begin. It includes four free concerts on the green at Black Canyon Golf Course. Montrose artists will open each night for the headliner, these bands include: The Blue Gators, The Johnson County Coroners, Donny Morales & Steamfunk, and Ascending Giants. Each

night we will see a different genre of music with the headlining bands including: Blues by the Ori Naftaly Band, Country by Parker McCollum out of Texas, Rock by Somebody’s Darling out of Dallas and American Horn Band by Chris Daniels and the Kings from Colorado. These concerts are “rain or shine” says Dave; the music won’t stop, but you might want to bring



Above, Music Promoter Dave Bowman with a banner for the Montrose Summer Music Series, which debuts at Black Canyon Golf Course May 29 with the Ori Naftaly Band. Photo by Rachel Boschen.

some blankets, chairs, and a flashlight. No need to BYOB, remember “free music, buy a beer!” Horsefly will be providing the beer and donating a percentage of beer sales back to MSMS. No need to bring food either, as there will be food available for purchase from Rib City Grill, the Snowball cart, Horsefly, the Thai cart, and Cynthia Harlow who will be selling hotdogs and nachos. This will be an all-out, good old-fashioned Colorado party, so bring the whole family down and enjoy a Colorado Summer.

MSMS would not have been possible without donations from businesses and citizens of Montrose community. “We’re still hoping to raise about another two-thousand dollars in just small donations from the community.” Says Dave. He has exciting plans for MSMS, including making this event annual and “creating a...non-profit” in 2016. The process “costs some money to create”, but with Dave’s track record for raising money for more than ten years, he can do it with our help and the help of his dedicated committee.

“There are people in this community who believe in what I do with music and want to support it and who are very generous with their money.”

Music enthusiasts and people interested in enriching Montrose culture can donate to MSMS at the show or on the website- www.montrosesummermusic.com.

So meet me in front of the tee boxes at BCGC, and bring your dancin’ shoes!

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CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING—EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Chamber of Commerce welcomed a new business to Montrose and to the Chamber of Commerce last week. The mission of Express Employment Professionals of Montrose is to help people find jobs and provide workforce solutions to businesses by providing a full range of employment solutions. Their office is located at 300 N. Cascade Avenue, Unit C-5 or they can be reached at 242-4500.



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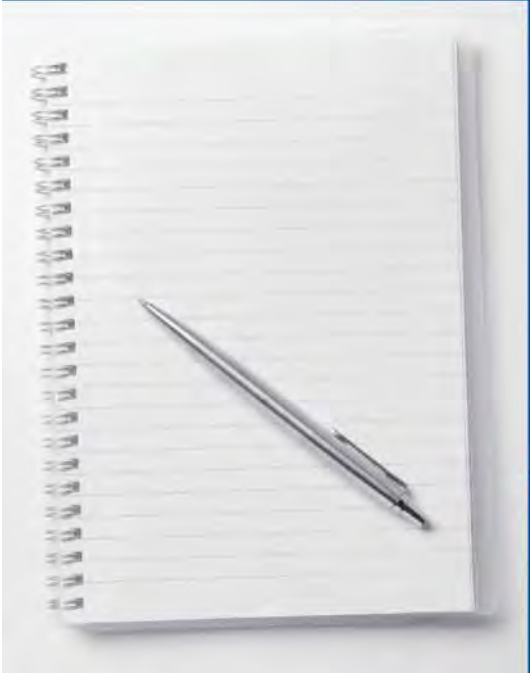
Mirror Staff Report
MONTROSE-We remember Shanon from her years at the Delta City Market, and for being a fellow Garnet Mesa Elementary kindergarten mom years ago...so it's fun to see her working at Montrose City Market South, where she continues to be helpful, friendly and a great customer service pro! Shanon has been with the company for 20 years, the last two here in Montrose. "I love working at this store," she says.
Thank you Shanon!



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FAREWELL TO AROUND THE CORNER ART GALLERY!



Pat and Bob Brown. Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

DOWNTOWN MONTROSE-After seven years, Montrose's most visible art gallery will close its doors. Bob and Pat Brown's Around the Corner Gallery, which has been a Downtown anchor since opening seven years ago, will close its doors in July, Pat Brown said.

"When we first opened, there were six other galleries here," Brown said.

"Gradually, the others have closed. We had really hoped this would become an arts district; we worked really hard because this was a dream of ours."

The financial realities are impossible to ignore, however.

"We can't stay open any longer, because the money just isn't there," Brown said.

"We are paid through July, so unless (landlord) Ralph Walchle finds a tenant before then, we will be here."

Local artist Gina Grundemann, who has shown her sought-after paintings at Around the Corner for years, said that working with Bob and Pat Brown has been a great experience.

"They are really good people, and good for our community," she said. "All the First Friday art happenings have been fabulous; everything has seemed to center around the Around the Corner Gallery."

Around the Corner Gallery has been a wonderful tenant, and the Browns have in many ways been instrumental in the growth of the Downtown business district, said Ralph Walchle, who had restored the historic building with the idea of welcoming an art gallery to the corner, street level space.

"For us, remodeling and having a gallery there was sort of a dream come true," Walchle said. "We even put waferboard behind all of the drywall so there would always be a place to drive a nail in. Bob and Pat have been just super neat to work with, the greatest folks. That place of theirs has arguably become the center of Downtown."

Countless community events have taken place at the Gallery, and some of the re-

gion's greatest artists have been showcased there. However, it is time to move forward, Pat Brown said.

"I will have no trouble filling my time," she said. "I can garden, I can re-join the botanical society, we can visit the grandkids, I can paint—though I won't have any place to hang my work. We have worked really hard here; this was a dream, and we have done it."

A sale begins tomorrow, she said.

"Not all of our artists' works are going on sale, but many of them are," she said. "We will also hold a sale the second week in July, to sell the furniture, fixtures and decorations."

Brown said she and Bob have greatly appreciated the attention that the Walchle family brought to the project when they restored the building at 447 East Main that has housed the gallery for the past seven years. "They had a vision," she said.

That vision remains, Walchle said. "Bob and Pat have worked unbelievably hard," he said. "We are hoping to get the right folks in there, because the Gallery has been really positive for our Downtown. Bob and Pat are the same age as Karen and I," he said, "so we do understand."

"But we sure will hate to see them go."

Around the Corner Gallery can be reached at 970-249-4243.

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MONTROSE SENIOR CENTER

LOCAL BIOGRAPHIES: NELSON JENNETT



By Winifred Tappan
Montrose Senior Center
MONTROSE-Many of us at the Montrose Activity Center have heard Nelson Jennett speak about his career as a special agent with the FBI and senior agent with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI). He always keeps us on the edge of our seats as he tells us about some of the cases he has worked on. It is obvious to us, as we listen, that he has been meticulous in everything he has done. This attention to detail in his notes recently aided law enforcement here in Colorado to solve a cold case from about twenty years ago. The case was about the murder of a mother and daughter. A suspect was never found back then, but a blood spot had been safely preserved. Because DNA matching was now available, that blood spot was put

Nelson Jennett
Courtesy photo.

through the now available data base, and lo and behold – a match! The suspect was arrested and convicted of murder. He had evidently also killed others, and that’s why he was in the data base. Nelson said that the best part was getting to meet the victim’s relatives and see their relief that justice was finally done.

Nelson began his career in law enforcement in 1954, as a Deputy Sheriff in Johnson County, Kansas. He later became a special agent with the FBI, and eventually was appointed as a senior agent to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI). He resigned from the CBI in 1980 to establish the Hairs, Fibers and Textile Laboratory in Montrose, Colorado. He finally managed to retire from that by shredding everything he used in the business. People had kept asking, —. . .just one more case, please?”

Nelson has an impressive educational background, including a Master’s Degree

in Human Resources Management from the University of Utah. He has also taught junior and senior high school science, and was employed by [Arapahoe Community College](#), Littleton, Colorado, as an instructor in the Department of Law Enforcement and Administration. He has also traveled extensively, studying, attending conferences, and speaking in many far away places over the years (South America, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Singapore, Russia, Malasia, and Egypt.)

Since retiring he has been extremely busy consulting with those who need his expertise, but his main enjoyment is his work with young people.

We at the Activity Center treasure our acquaintance and friendship with Nelson Jennett. He is a daily attendee at our lunches, and a never-ending source of fascinating stories from his career in law enforcement and forensic science.

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM PRESENTATION JUNE 3

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-June 3 , 2015, 7 pm, Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds, 1001 N. 2nd. *Montrose County Historical Society Presents: —Recent Archaeological Investigations at H. S. Barlow Homestead,*” by Mike Prouty. The public is invited to attend this free program and learn about this Uncompahgre Plateau study. For information call 323-6466.



Dr. Mike Benzinger, MMH Pathologist works with Montrose High School Student Chase Darling

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

RIDGWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS RAISE 13K FOR PLAYGROUND!



Special to the Mirror
Ridgway Elementary School students take turns throwing whipped cream-filled sponges at Principal Trish Greenwood on May 15, in celebration of raising more than \$13,000 for the construction of the playground. The students participated in a Fun Run and collected sponsorship money for the playground, which will be constructed this summer. Courtesy photos by Tanya Ishikawa.



LOCAL GARDEN CALENDAR!



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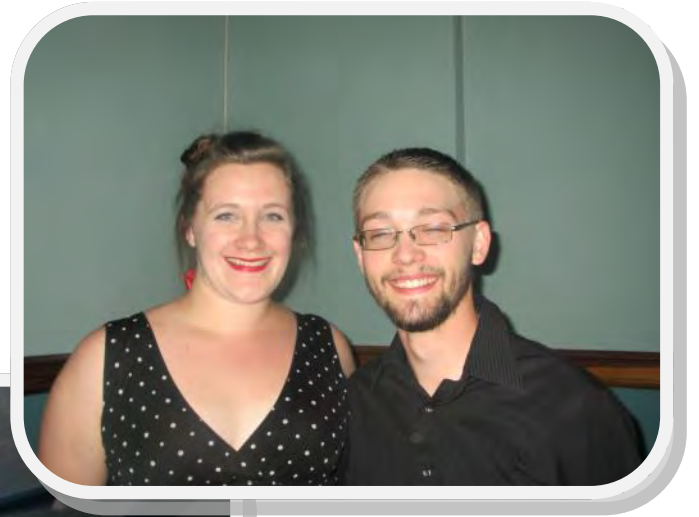
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MIRROR IMAGES...LARK & SPARROW TAKES FLIGHT!



From top right, Yvonne Meek breathes for a moment while welcoming guests to her new venue, the Lark and Sparrow LLC on May 23; Paige Keller and Marcus enjoy the show; the ballroom was packed for the Lark & Sparrow's first concert; Terri Leben encourages guests to join the Lark & Sparrow Social Club...J'taime Swing.



Support cultural events at the Lark and Sparrow, LLC by joining the Skylight Social Club... [Click here for more info!](#)

ACA INCREASES LOCAL HEALTH COVERAGE From pg 1

—A guy who was teaching an exercise class was experiencing stomach pain and symptoms of appendicitis,” she said. —He was told to go to the hospital, but he had no insurance, so someone told him to come and see me.

—He came in, got on Medicaid within 30 minutes, and by 2 p.m. was undergoing emergency appendectomy surgery,” she said, noting that the Affordable Care Act also —raised the bar” for Medicaid.

—If you earn \$15,500 a year or less you are eligible for Medicaid,” she said, —so lots more people who are on fixed incomes are now eligible for coverage.” According to the [Colorado Trust](#), the Affordable Care Act will save the average Colorado family

\$2,543 per year through delivery system reforms and \$1,373 each year because of expanded coverage options by 2019. The average worker in Colorado will save \$1,274 each year because of delivery system reforms and \$688 annually through coverage expansion. Here in Montrose and the surrounding region, one surprise has been the increase in people with severe forms of mental illness who are now seeking treatment, said Janey Sorenson of the Center for Mental Health.

—The ACA has had a tremendous impact; our Medicaid numbers are way up,” Sorenson said. —We thought we would see more people with the less severe types of illness, because we assumed we were al-

ready seeing most of the folks with severe forms. So we have been quite surprised, and we believe this is due to the expansion of Medicaid.

—We are scrambling,” she said, —and we are thrilled with the ability to help more people.”

For Lynn Carretta, it’s not just about helping others get insured—it’s also personal. Before Connect for Health was created, a past knee replacement had made it tough for her to get coverage. —I was spending \$800 a month because of the knee replacement,” she said. —Now, I can get coverage.”

To learn more, call 970.252.0660
voa@connectforhealthco.com.

SEVENTH ANNUAL PICKIN’ IN THE PARK ANNOUNCED

Special to the Mirror

PAONIA-Pickin' in the Park – Paonia's 7th Annual FREE Summer Concert Series in Paonia Town Park – Every Thursday in August – 6 pm until dark. Free live music featuring: National Touring Acts, a family friendly environment, with an on-site kids' activity area. Local food vendors, local wines & Paonia's own Revolution Brewing available, as well as non-alcoholic beverages. Bring a lawn chair, blankets, coolers, picnics, but no glass please! All shows are broadcast LIVE on KVNf (90.9) starting at 7 pm (89.1 Montrose). Presented by Pickin' Productions & co-presented with KVNf Public Radio: www.pickinproductions.com

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Montrose, CO

The Homestead at Montrose
Montrose, CO

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DELTA MONTROSE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION (DMEA) CANDIDATE FORUM TRANSCRIPTION

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Members of Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) will soon be asked to cast their vote for their director representatives. In an effort to encourage informed votes and member participation, the co-op partnered with the League of Women Voters of Montrose and Delta Counties to host two candidate forums last week. DMEA realizes that many members are often unable to attend the forums. Therefore board candidates are also asked to answer a variety of interview questions in their official nomination packets.

This year, there is one contested election in District 2. The candidates are Kyle Martinez, Mandy Norris-Snell, Tammy Theis, and Richard Harding. Their responses to the interview questions are transcribed below.

Q. Where are you from originally?

Kyle Martinez: Born in Montrose. Raised in Olathe, CO.

Mandy Norris-Snell: Born and raised in the Montrose/Olathe area.

Tammy Theis: Native of Colorado, born in Denver, transplanted to Western Slope as a teenager.

Richard Harding: Dayton, Ohio

Q. What is your educational background?

Kyle Martinez: Graduated Olathe High School. Graduated w/ Bachelor of arts Political Science from University of Colorado. Pursuing Masters in Health Care Administration from Colorado State University – Global Campus.

Mandy Norris-Snell: I have a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Colorado Mesa University with a concentration in Business Management. I graduated from Olathe High School as Valedictorian.

Tammy Theis: 1976 Cedaredge High School, Delta County, Colorado
1983 University of Scranton, PA – Electrical Engineer Technician

Richard Harding: Graduated from Chaminade High School 1972. Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio 1972-1974, Metropolitan State College, Denver, Colorado 1974-1976, IRS Training Schools, Dallas, Texas 1975, School of Live Insurance Marketing – Lafayette, Louisiana 1981, CLU Classes Tyler, Texas 1982-1984, NASD Training Course, Dallas, Texas 1984, Real Estate Sales Training Course, Montrose, Colorado 1994-1995, Colorado Water Rights Training Course, Montrose Colorado 1997, Real Estate Bro-

ker Training Course, Montrose, Colorado 1998.

Q. As a board member you would have a fiduciary responsibility to the members of the cooperative, what is your financial background?

Kyle Martinez: Started and operate farm in Olathe that grows –Olathe Sweet” sweet corn, silage, grain corn, hay, onions, and pinto beans. Helped start and operate Homecare Agency that serves parts of this Rocky Mountain Region. (Touch of Care)

Mandy Norris-Snell: I own and manage a successful small business in Montrose and have served as a board director on two other local boards. While an employee of Xcel Energy, I helped prepare and facilitate corporate budgets and also managed business budgets for company operations and properties. While attending Colorado Mesa University, I completed numerous financial courses covering a wide variety of topics from managerial finance to operations management. At Norris-Snell Real Estate, I manage large and small commercial and residential property transactions that all deal with a variety of financial issues.

Tammy Theis: Over 35 years of Rural Electric Cooperative and Rural Utility Services Experience including construction & maintenance of transmission & distribution power lines.

Decades of diverse background as an officer of elected governing boards & leadership throughout Colorado & Wyoming. Served as Vice President of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers #111 over 5,000 Members for 16 years. And President for Western Colorado Trades & Labor over all Construction Trades & Labor for Western Colorado, 8 years.

Richard Harding: I worked for the Internal Revenue Service and then went into private practice preparing accounting documents and tax returns. I had accumulated enough college credits and professional experience to qualify to sit for the CPA Exam in 1977. A large part of my practice was representing individuals, groups and businesses in disputes with the IRS. I was the Financial Director for the first school in Colorado to address learning disabilities and one of the original partners of what is now a multi-national environmental testing equipment manufacturer. I owned and operated an Insurance Agency and worked on estate planning and health insurance. I completed the educational requirements to

sit for the NASD Securities Dealer Exam, which I successfully passed. I prepared the feasibility study for the largest affordable housing project in Montrose County history and implemented the plan, which included creating a mortgage product to assist homeowners. I prepared a budgetary comparison of fifty counties in Colorado in preparation for the twin sales tax ballot questions in Montrose County in 2007. Spent three years consulting on a feasibility study for west end medical services, and was a subcontractor for the Economic Advisor Study for the west end of Montrose County.

Q. What unique ability or knowledge do you think you would bring to the DMEA board?

Kyle Martinez: Farming and business experience, in very diverse fields.

Mandy Norris-Snell: As a native of the area, a small business owner and previous right-of-way contract agent, I am constantly in touch with other people throughout the Montrose and Delta areas. I work hard at being approachable and maintaining a high standard in which I chose to do business. By bringing my past experience from Xcel Energy (the largest electric utility in the state) in Denver with my past Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (the second largest electric utility in the state) right-of-way experience, I have a solid knowledge of the power business that I am eager to share. With both Xcel Energy and Tri-State I have developed valuable contacts at the executive and operational levels. As a Gen-Y Millennial, I understand the importance of networking and working in team environments. I believe that the greatest achievements come from individuals bringing ideas together.

Tammy Theis: I have over 35.5 years of Knowledge & experience of this rural electric cooperative. I know the operations of DMEA in Dispatch, Substations, Engineering, Warehouse, Line Work, Construction/Maintenance, Finance & Accounting, Metering & all things related to Customer Service.

Richard Harding: My combination of educational and practical experience would hopefully enhance the DMEA Board in providing the best possible delivery of products and services to the DMEA Members. With my primary focus being in the areas of economic development and affordable housing for the past 20 years, I would hope to offer balance to the Board

DELTA MONTROSE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION (DMEA)

CANDIDATE FORUM TRANSCRIPTION From pg 16

in helping to achieve these objectives in the DMEA service territory. Having served as the Co-Chair of the Colorado Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils and President of Painted Sky Resource Conservation and Development Council, I was a delegate to Washington D.C. to work on Federal Legislation involving USDA. I have worked closely with State elected officials and drafted the sixth piece of legislation signed into law by Governor John Hickenlooper, dealing with economic development.

Q. Please list your involvement in community organizations, or boards on which you currently serve or have served in the past.

Kyle Martinez: Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach @ Buena Vista High School, 2013-2014, Colorado Wrestling Officials Association, Wrestling Official Denver Area (2009-2012), Touch of Care Governing Body (2012-Present)

Mandy Norris-Snell: I currently am serving my 3rd year as a director on the Montrose Association of Realtors Board. I am also serving as a director on the Colorado Real Estate Network (CREN) board and I have served as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Montrose.

Tammy Theis: I have decades of non-profit business, education, governance, leadership & community involvement. I am known for my philanthropic skills & duties with organizations that are sustainable locally & statewide.

Richard Harding: Montrose County Republican Central Committee – District Captain over Olathe Precincts, Montrose Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees, American legion Post #24, Co-Chair Colorado Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils, President Painted Sky RC &D, Montrose Committee For Funding Our Future, Montrose Model Aircraft Association – Life Member, House District 58 Blue Ribbon Panel on the Best Interest of the Child, RE-IJ Montrose School District Accountability Committee, Montrose County Subdivision Regulation Revision Committee, Montrose Association of Realtors – Storm Water Drainage Committee, Sharon Shrine Temple – Sharon Temple Horse Patrol, St. John York Rite Bodies – Waco Scottish Rite Bodies, Tyler Masonic Lodge #1233, District Governor-Order Of DeMolay, Founding Board of Directors – Denver Academy,

Board of Directors – Colorado Association For Aid To Battered Women, Co-Chair Community Adolescent Resource Extension Committee, C.A.R.E., RE-IJ School Based health Clinic Advisory Board, Montrose County Homeless Teenage Task Force, CC4FF – Citizens Committee For Funding Our Future, TFC – Transportation Funding Committee, Montrose County Growth Impact Committee, Olathe Valley Lions Club, Friends of the Olathe Library, Olathe Outdoor Earth Science Environmental Laboratory.

Q. What do you think is the biggest challenge facing electric cooperatives nation wide?

Kyle Martinez: Wisely utilizing new technologies for distributed generation of energy, all the while, developing business strategies to keep the coop model relevant.

Mandy Norris-Snell: I think that the biggest challenge is keeping rates low while embracing innovative and new technologies. The power industry is changing very quickly and how cooperatives chose to adapt with the times is critical. New technologies can mean large investments up front but also greater long-term pay-offs. I think it is extremely important for electric cooperatives to investigate and consider new opportunities and to make sure that they meet the feasibility test before they are implemented.

Tammy Theis: Keeping our electric rates affordable through innovative research/development/management of renewable energy that is safe, reliable & sustainable.

Richard Harding: I would state that I believe the biggest challenge facing electric cooperatives is finding a balance in both the regulatory and environmental arenas. Between the national agenda to eliminate coal burning power plants and the Colorado agenda to increase power produced from alternative sources, more resources are going to be required to achieve that balance.

Q. What do you think is the biggest challenge facing DMEA?

Kyle Martinez: Ability to increase generation of power locally while keeping rates affordable for consumers.

Mandy Norris-Snell: As an electric cooperative, DMEA must keep rates at a reasonable cost while ensuring adequate and reliable power to its members. Because roughly 70% of DMEA's power is from

wholesale power, we need to be diligent in our governance of Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association through our appointed Tri-State Director from the DMEA Board.

Tammy Theis: Continuing the Cooperative Goal through interagency utility, city, county & State regulatory statutes/legislation processes to provide our customers Safe reliable power.

Richard Harding: Ultimately biggest challenge facing DMEA is to remain competitive in the rates charged to members. This is a function of being able to adapt to whatever regulatory and environmental constraints are placed on the industry and at the same time being able to purchase electricity at competitive rates. Adverse rulings affecting electric service rates affect the core of the community in being able to attract new businesses, which drives residential relocation.

Q. What does the word cooperative mean to you?

Kyle Martinez: Individuals working with a common goal, specifically to effectively provide affordable energy to the members.

Mandy Norris-Snell: A cooperative is a member-owned and operated organization that benefits all members. All members have an equal interest in keeping the organization strong. To me, a cooperative is a collaborative group all working toward the same goal which is protecting the member-owner's best interests.

Tammy Theis: The synergy of the past – present – future of basic energy source & end use. Common interests/needs through the DMEA association. A rural electric power company serving the region –*“We Energy & Serve our Communities.”*

Richard Harding: The word –“cooperative” comes from a Latin root meaning –*“worked together.”* It differs from a traditional corporate model in that the owners are receiving a product or service in exchange for their membership. Where a corporate model would be governed by the ability of an individual to acquire multiple shares of stock and having multiple votes, in a cooperative the governance is based upon one member having one vote to determine how the organization operates.

Q. Do you agree with the cooperative business model? Why or why not?

Kyle Martinez: Yes, we are very fortunate to live in an area where our electricity is provided by a member owned coop.

DELTA MONTROSE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION (DMEA)

CANDIDATE FORUM TRANSCRIPTION From pg 17

Mandy Norris-Snell: I absolutely agree with the business model. Cooperatives do not make a profit as do other forms of electric companies, thereby keeping electric rates as low as possible. Being a cooperative also ensures the rate payers that they have a say in how the organization is run which creates a high level of transparency in the business operations.

Tammy Theis: Rural Electric Association (REA) was established in our Nation with a common goal to energize Rural America, now called Rural Utility Services (RUS). Technology & modernization has changed how the goal is achieved & delivered. Co-ops develop or should develop & continue the Electrification of Rural America.

Richard Harding: Having worked with several business models, I agree that the cooperative model suits the Rural Electric Association business structure. It is the ultimate democratic form of structure in that it places the members closest to its management.

Q. What do you think is the most important of the seven cooperative principles and why?

Kyle Martinez: Community (7) Important to focus on member needs, taking member concerns and needs into consideration w/ any and all decisions concerning the coop.

Mandy Norris-Snell: I think that all seven principals are equally important. A cooperative must allow for each of the seven principals to occur in order for it to operate at its highest capability.

Tammy Theis: #6 Cooperation Among Cooperatives is the umbrella covering & strengthening the "coop" movement in the community/education/technology/training/safety/information. Democratic Voluntary members in control of the source/future of energy services.

Richard Harding: All seven of the Cooperative Principles are equally important and not mutually exclusive. Personally, I believe the "Concern For Community" is the most important of the seven Cooperative Principles. The policies adopted by the members and carried out by the Directors will determine the sustainability of the development of our community. These policies extend beyond the primary function of DMEA to include assisting with valuable economic development projects, providing scholarships, and providing financial assistance to other organizations.

Q. What do you feel is the primary function of DMEA?

Kyle Martinez: To provide electricity in a

manner that is dependable affordable, and provides a safe and good working environment for those who work for the coop.

Mandy Norris-Snell: The core function of DMEA is to provide reliable and adequate power to all of its members at a reasonable cost. Along with this is the need for DMEA to distribute power in an environmentally friendly way and to collaborate with other organizations in the community and to further the well-being of the community.

Tammy Theis: Energize & Service our Customers Safely.

Richard Harding: The primary function of DMEA is to generate, purchase, and distribute electric power to its members.

Q. What is your vision for DMEA?

Kyle Martinez: To provide electricity at a low cost, while developing more local generation. Also, implementation of an affordable and effective broadband service.

Mandy Norris-Snell: My vision for DMEA is to keep common sense at the board of director's table and to make fiscally responsible decisions to keep DMEA sustainable and affordable for its members for years into the future. It is also important to maximize the employees' full potential by empowering them and providing them with the tools necessary to make DMEA a stronger organization.

Tammy Theis: Maintain our reliable core service of electric energy. Economically & Safely with efficiency/sustainability of customer services as needed. Continue R&D of renewable energy & technological advances from our customers.

Richard Harding: My vision for DMEA is for the cooperative to become the benchmark that other cooperatives strive to achieve. Utilizing the latest technology to provide member services to assist members in controlling their electrical usage so it is not wasted through improperly insulated homes and businesses. Expand the last mile internet capability by working with other like minded organizations so the cooperative service area has state of the art connectivity.

Q. How would you describe the roles and responsibilities of cooperative board members?

Kyle Martinez: Board members must work to serve the members of the cooperative, while providing reliable and affordable electricity.

Mandy Norris-Snell: The board members have a duty to protect the members by

making sound decisions using the knowledge they collect while being a part of the board and by each bringing his/her own unique skill-set to the group. The board members should work well together and look out for the needs of the members. Board members should also reach out to the members and keep major information transparent and readily available to the public.

Tammy Theis: Work as a team to fiscally manage the DMEA resources for the Cooperative Members.

Richard Harding: I don't think I could describe it any better than it is outlined in the Bylaws. Specifically in Article III, the board members exercise all the powers of the cooperative except such as are by law, the articles of incorporation or these bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the members. Appoint the Chief Executive Officer, maker diligent effort to see that electric service is extended to persons within the cooperative service area and meet all reasonable requirements established by the cooperative as a condition of such service."

Q. Is there anything about DMEA you would like to change? If yes, what and why?

Kyle Martinez: Continue to develop the coop to provide electricity at the lowest cost, while continuing to pursue other services that would only make the coop stronger and further meet the needs of the community.

Mandy Norris-Snell: I would like to improve employee morale and productivity while being fiscally responsible in all planning, construction and operational areas.

Tammy Theis: Restore customer service in all areas of our service territory. Continue innovative services & energy.

Richard Harding: There isn't anything I would like to change other than who is sitting the District 2 seat.

DMEA's ballots will be mailed on May 26, 2015. All mail-in ballots must be completed and returned by June 15, 2015 to Survey and Ballots Systems (SBS) in Eden Prairie, MN. DMEA has contracted with SBS to function as the co-op's independent election manager. Members that choose not to vote by mail can vote in person at the DMEA Annual Meeting of Members on Wednesday June 17, Cedarledge Assembly of God Church, 1596 SW. 9th St.

Member registration and polls will open at 8 a.m. and close promptly at 9 a.m. with

PROPERTY MISMANAGEMENT...WHEN RENTING GOES WRONG!



An open rental unit in Montrose, where renters and landlords alike are advised to protect their rights with photos and a paper trail.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—When Dustie Johnson moved into a rental in the American Village subdivision on Sept. 5, she was encouraged by the fact that the property management firm who was renting the place to her took part in an initial walk-through.

“I actually walked through with him, told him about all the issues, and he said they would be fixed before I moved in,” she said.

“But I signed, moved in—and nothing was ever done. And I still don’t have a copy of the walk-through.”

As months passed, Johnson and her high-school aged child also found themselves living with black mold, a failing water heater, and a roof that turned out to be “shot.”

“In February, a maintenance person climbed up into the crawl space and found mold—and mice,” Johnson said. “Now I understand that it happens, but the property manager told me the mice were my problem. And at one point, the electricity



Montrose mom Dustie Johnson took this photo of a corner with mold problems in an American Village rental. Courtesy photo.

was shut off without notice, because the bill was being sent to the landlord instead of to me.”

After some heated discussions with the property manager, who Johnson says

also delayed roof repairs to force her out after she complained, she has moved, and has been promised the return of her \$950 deposit pending any bills she may owe. However, her eight-month experience in what she believes to have been a dangerously-neglected rental property inspired her to speak up.

“They have a pattern of bullying tenants,” she said of the company, which manages a number of local rental properties and which did not return *Mirror* calls regarding the matter. Colorado Housing Connects offers a toll-free contact number, but does not mediate disputes between landlords and tenants or enforce housing codes: 1-844-926-6632. The US Office of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) does offer a “renters kit” with links to essential resources, and the [Colorado Public Interest Network](#) web site also offers some tips for tenants: “Before You Move In: Inspect the premises for dangerous conditions and defects,” the site advises. “Notify the landlord because after you move in,

you may assume the risk of obvious dangers/defects and the landlord may not be held liable for such injuries. Take pictures of the premises and make note of all things missing, broken, etc. Make a list of what you have found, send a copy to the landlord and keep one for yourself. Try to get all requests for repairs, promises, etc. in writing. Keep copies of the lease and other important documents for your own records.”

As an educated tenant, Dustie Johnson did most of those things, including taking photos. However, the condition of the home was such that it forced her and her child to move twice in less than a year, and she hopes by sharing her story that others can avoid a similar experience.

Landlords can also protect themselves from problem tenants by taking pictures of the premises before and after it is occupied. To reclaim appliances and other items that disappear with the rental occupants, it is always a good idea to write down serial numbers, police advise.

For landlords, the best advice can also be to realize that not everyone is going to be happy with the decisions you make, but to maintain consistency when it comes to the rules, retired Montrose property manager Ben Alexander said. Alexander still owns Colorado West Property Management, a local company that is not the one involved with Dustie Johnson’s complaint.

“It’s better for the tenants and the landlords in the long run if you lay out all the rules,” Alexander said, basing his advice on experience. “I developed the system we use at Colorado West over 30 years, and we enforce it, so you don’t have a surprise here, a surprise there.

“People do get mad at you, but that’s part of the business.”

CANDIDATE FORUM TRANSCRIPTION From pg 18

the start of the business meeting. All DMEA members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting in order to meet their director representatives, ask questions, and learn about the co-op’s activities over the past year. This year, the theme of the meeting is “Empowering Innovations,” and DMEA is focusing on the role technology plays for the co-op and its members. Com-

plimentary coffee and pastries will be provided.

All members in attendance will also have the opportunity to win a door prize. For more information about the annual meeting visit www.dmea.com or call 1-877-687-3632.

DMEA is a rural electric distribution cooperative, located in Montrose, Colorado.

DMEA was originally founded in 1938, as Delta-Montrose Rural Power Lines Association. The cooperative is governed by a board of directors, from nine districts covering three counties.

DMEA serves approximately 32,000 residential, commercial and industrial meters, on more than 3,000 miles of cooperative owned distribution lines.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HISPANIC AFFAIRS PROJECT RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED TO OFFER LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

Community Support Sought for HAP Program

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Effective April 15, 2015, two employees of the regional non-profit, Hispanic Affairs Project are accredited to provide immigration assistance with family-based petitions to low-income families and individuals living in Western Colorado. The recent approval of HAP's request for recognition and accreditation from the Board of Immigration Appeals in the Department of Justice will enable immigrants who cannot afford legal fees to receive qualified representation with immigration applications. The unauthorized practice of law by people who purport to provide legal assistance but who jeopardize the future of many families is an ongoing problem in the area. Limited financial resources often prevent immigrant families from applying for the immigration benefits for which they may qualify. The HAP Board took steps to found the legal assistance program to address these issues, supporting family unity for many across the region.

HAP leader and past board member Joel Flores said, "This program will help many families to save money and receive trustworthy help with their petitions. It will help keep many families together. People often wait to file petitions because they cannot afford the expensive legal and application fees, and things happen while they wait to save the money, and the families end up being separated. Through this program, the help is coming from HAP, an organization that is already known and trusted for serving the community. When a family gains legal status, it brings great happiness, because they know they can stay together."

Hispanic Affairs Project employees, Ms. Marketa Zubkova of Crested Butte and Ms.

Nicole Bernal Ruiz of Fruita, received legal training over the past two years in preparation for the request for partial accreditation to represent immigrants with family-based petitions; they will begin offering services in May. Ms. Zubkova, who holds a Master's Degree from Prescott College and a Bachelor's Degree from Western State College, in addition to degrees from her native Czech Republic, has been a HAP leader for nearly a decade; in 2013, she received the 8th Annual Immigrant Liberty Awards presented by the Colorado Chapter of the American Association of Immigration Lawyers for her extensive volunteer outreach with H2A range workers. Ms. Bernal Ruiz holds an MA and a BA from the University of Notre Dame, and has worked for HAP on immigrant advocacy and integration projects since 2009. The women will provide services in Montrose at the HAP office, located at 300 N. Cascade Ave. Ste. C-4, and at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Grand Junction at 790 26.5 Road.

The BIA accreditation of HAP's legal assistance program comes as the Firth Circuit Court of Appeals considers whether or not a preliminary injunction will hold, which has halted President Obama's November 2014 announcement of Administrative Relief.

The two major pieces of Administrative Relief, Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and the expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), would provide work authorization and deferred action for an estimated 4.5 million immigrants living in the U.S. Since Obama's 2012 announcement of the

original DACA program, hundreds of thousands of so-called 'dreamers' have been granted DACA, enabling many to work legally, attend a university, or pursue vocational education. Across the region, hundreds of youth have received assistance with DACA through HAP, with the support of local immigration attorneys, including The Law Office of Imelda Mulholland, LLC, and the San Luis Valley Immigrant Resource Center, and accredited agency based in Alamosa.

Those whose DACA applications were approved have been able to work legally, obtain a social security number, and apply for a Colorado driver's license. If DAPA is implemented, HAP will be able to assist hundreds with the application process, in addition to assisting with family-based immigration processes, including citizenship and adjustment of status, among others.

The Hispanic Affairs Project (HAP) is a grassroots organization serving the immigrant community in six urban and rural counties in Western Colorado, including Mesa, Delta, Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray and Gunnison.

HAP programs include: Immigration Legal Assistance (BIA Accredited), Migrant Outreach, Combating Human Trafficking, Welcoming Colorado Initiative, Leadership Development & Community Organizing, Supporting Pro-Immigrant Policies, and Community Resource Center.

The Hispanic Affairs Project will begin representing clients in May. Community members are encouraged to support the new program by making a tax-deductible donation to the 501c3 organization.

Online donation and more information is available at www.hapgi.org.

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QUESTION AND ANSWER:

RICARDO PEREZ OF HISPANIC AFFAIRS PROJECT (HAP) SPEAKS ON ACCREDITED IMMIGRATION ASSISTANCE AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



Ricardo Perez. Courtesy photo. The Hispanic Affairs Project will begin representing clients in May. Support the new program by donating to the 501c3 organization. To donate visit www.hapgi.org.

IS IT GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO HELP ALL OF OUR CITIZENS ACHIEVE THE ABILITY TO WORK LEGALLY HERE?

Most of the immigrants are already working, investing and paying taxes. There are business owners, and others who are working in sectors that most of the Americans are not willing to do, for example in the Ag business. Gaining an immigration status or work permit is good for our economy. Sadly, the conversation about immigration is not based on "economic prosperity", but on political interest. According to statistics, the majority is supporting the immigration reform, but having this decision in the hands of politicians is delaying the economic opportunities and common sense.

WHY IS IT NOT IN OUR BEST INTERESTS TO ALLOW UNQUALIFIED PEOPLE TO OFFER HELP? WHAT CAN HAPPEN IF IMMIGRANTS FALL INTO THE HANDS OF AN UNQUALIFIED "ATTORNEY?"

The main problem we identified is the fraud on immigration. Many people applied for some immigration status and their cases fell down for malpractices in law, including immigration attorneys and notaries who are playing the role of immigration attorneys.

On one hand, the lack of immigration attorneys and BIA agencies on the Western Slope gave the chance to individuals to play that role. To provide legal advice with no authorization is a crime. Additionally, the high cost of attorney fees, plus the cost for application to USCIS, may be cost thousands of dollars. Many families cannot afford this service, especially when it involves more than one person in the family. We know of many cases rejected by USCIS for unqualified legal representation and fraud. It's hard and also impossible to fix many cases whose applications were submitted with errors.

One specific case is coming that involves unauthorized practices of law with notaries. USCIS keeps a huge list of businesses and individuals that have received warnings or legal complaints for engaging in this illegal practice, and there are Western Slope names on that list.

HOW WILL THIS DEVELOPMENT CHANGE THE WAY OUR WESTERN SLOPE COMMUNITY LOOKS IN THE FUTURE?

The main goal for HAP is the social and economic integration of the immigrant community, giving us a chance to improve the quality of life, the public safety and the cultural diversity in our communities. More welcoming communities create better conditions for investment and entrepreneurship.

DO OUR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY MEMBERS BRING SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ENTHUSIASM THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR RURAL WAY OF LIFE?

There are gray areas in this conversation. There are many skills among immigrant and refugee communities. I remember the case of a high-technology business owner with more than 5,000 employees in California; he was undocumented for long time. To bring the cases closer, in rural areas as Montrose, immigrants are doing high-skill jobs. Why many non-immigrants are unable to work in the field is that not only because they are expecting more payment, but they don't have the skills and physical capacity to do this job. There is a good poster in my office: "farm workers needed". The United Farm Workers project is offering training for non-immigrants to supply the shortage of people looking for work in the ag sector. No one is applying.

WHO HAS HELPED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS?

HAP is a grassroots organization with great community leaders. The organization started in 2006 and is growing in programs and services. It took four years to accomplish the goal of having the BIA accreditation and recognition, which means we are working under the Department of Justice's supervision in providing legal representation. Good example of immigrant entrepreneurship and the capacity for doing the right thing to serve our families.

WHY ARE PEOPLE FROM OTHER NATIONS WILLING TO COME, CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMY AND BUILD LIVES HERE?

We have immigrants coming from places all over the world, but we recognize for the Western Slope of Colorado that the biggest and last wave of immigrants happened after the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) of January 1, 1994. One year later, millions of Mexican peasants were negatively impacted when their country, with no such infrastructure, had not capacity to compete with the USA and Canada subsidies Ag sector. In that interpretation, most of the immigrants are economic refugees and the root of the problem was and is baked in the market. In consequence, a strong economy demands a strong public policy. This is why we are asking for immigration reform.

IN WHAT OTHER WAYS CAN WE HELP THEM TO ADJUST TO LIFE IN THE U.S.?

We need to get the conversation about integration. To gain immigration legal status is an important component of integration but it's not enough. There are many topics like civic engagement, rights and responsibilities, opportunities for all, equity and cultural acceptance. The most important is to share and exchange the great values we bring and we can put together to create a most perfect society.

*Hispanic Affairs Project is located at
300 North Cascade in Montrose.*

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DELTA NURSES' 5K DRAWS A CROWD!



Above, more than 100 people registered and lined up for the Nurses 5K Fun Run/Walk in Delta; Noah Richmond with proud Mom and Dad. At right, Noah won the 5K Run with a time of 25:49! Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA—More than 100 registered to run or walk in the Delta County Memorial Hospital Nurses 5K Fun Run/Walk held on Saturday, May 16th at Confluence Park on a cool rainy morning that transformed into a warmer sunny morning by the time runners and walkers arrived back at Lion's Pavilion.

Noah Richmond, son of Radiology Director Jeff Richmond came in first to win the 5K with a time of 25:49. Second was Greg Medill with 25:55 and third went to Deb Vigil with 25:56.

Janel Webb, ICU Coordinator and her

husband Jake Webb came in as the first walkers at 43:42; second was Nysha Wilson at 46:04 and Linda Wood posted a third with 46:05. Drawings were also held for several give away items.

Thanks to the sponsors of the first annual DCMH Nurses 5K: Pepsi Distribution Center in Montrose for the donation of 10 cases of water; RoadID donated gift certificates for the run/walk winners; Hotchkiss High School for the use of the megaphone; Bill Heddles Rec Center for the Lion's Pavilion and help in publicizing this event; 1440 Apparel and Steve Morrison of American Business Solutions for the t-shirt

design and printing of the t-shirts. Appreciation and gratitude also go to the Rural Physician's Group, Delta County Medical Society and DCMH Medical Staff for underwriting the costs of putting on the first DCMH nurses 5K Fun Run/Walk.

The Delta County Memorial Hospital nurses are already setting their sights on a Second 5K Fun Run/Walk Turkey Trot around Thanksgiving.

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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.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TAKE THE PLEDGE FOR BOATING SAFELY THIS SUMMER

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - Colorado Parks and Wildlife recommends you take the pledge to make this summer safe as part of National Safe Boating Week May 16 to 22.

According to the U.S. Coast Guards 2014 Recreational Boating Safety Statistics more than \$11 million boats are registered in the United States and more than \$38 million has been lost in property damage in 2014.

Property loss and personal injury can be prevented, said Kris Wahlers, CPW boat safety program manager. Pledging to boat safely means saving money and lives. A boat safety class helps too. Fifty-five percent of operators involved in boating accidents in 2014 did not take a boating safety course, and were between the ages of 21 - 30. A boat safety course can train and refresh boaters on the skills necessary to be safe all summer long, added Wahlers.

Schedule and view available boat safety courses at www.register-ed.com.

Pledge to boat safely means always boating responsibly by:

- Wearing my life jacket and ensuring that everyone on board wears their life jacket (when in a small boat, or operating in rough water or threatening weather conditions)
- Remaining sober and alert - remembering that the use of alcohol contributes to accidents on the water;
- Staying in control of my craft and respecting the right of others enjoying the waterways;
- Knowing and obeying navigation rules, operating at a safe speed and maintaining a proper lookout.

Go to <http://www.safeboatingcampaign.com/national-pledge-card.pdf> to access the card, and fill it out with the family. In addition to taking the pledge, be sure to operate your boat

safely by practicing good seamanship. Take action in ample time to avoid a collision. Keep a sharp lookout and maintain a safe speed on the water.

For more information about safe boating go to <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/BoatingSafety.aspx>. Read the 2015 Colorado Boating Statutes and Regulations [here](#).

CPW is an enterprise agency, relying primarily on license sales, state parks fees and registration fees to support its operations, including: 42 state parks and more than 350 wildlife areas covering approximately 900,000 acres, management of fishing and hunting, wildlife watching, camping, motorized and non-motorized trails, boating and outdoor education. CPW's work contributes approximately \$6 billion in total economic impact annually throughout Colorado.

For more news about Colorado Parks and Wildlife go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us>
For more information about Colorado Parks and Wildlife go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us>.

Free Summer Concert Series

Bring your chairs or blankets to sit on the lawn!

2377 ROBINS WAY, MONTROSE



Live Entertainment Lineup:

May 29 : Beth Williams June 26 : Blue Gator

July 31 : Thin Air Aug 28 : Donny Morales

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Concession Food Available for Purchase

Proceeds Benefit the Living Legacy Program

SPONSORED BY:



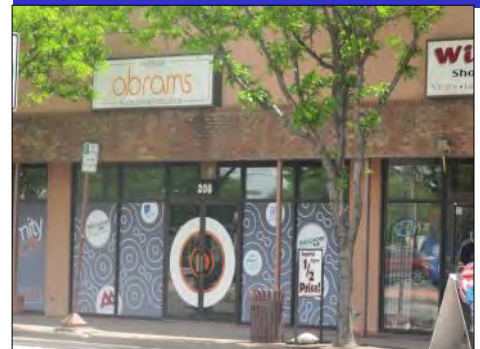
Home Health of Western Colorado

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MONTROSE PRESS

CITY MANAGER PROMISES TO MINGLE AT ABRAMS PROXIMITY SPACE



Mirror staff report

MONTROSE-We don't know much other than that this is a "public-private" partnership involving the City of Montrose, Region 10, some local businesses, and the Abrams company. However, City Manager Bill Bell talked the Proximity project (which was never put out for public bid) up at the most recent council meeting, and promised to hold "Mingle with the Manager" events there in June...despite an abundance of City office space in the neighborhood. Stay tuned...

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ERA ENDS FOR HOPEWEST, HOSPITAL PARTNERSHIP

Pictured at right are Nancy Hoganson, Director of Community Relations for HopeWest, Starla Bacon, RN and Steve Hannah, MMH CEO. Courtesy photo.



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE--For 20 years, MMH provided various services for HopeWest including space, cleaning services, security, electricity—and phone lines. With HopeWest finishing construction on their new location, they're readying themselves for a new era of independence. That era will unofficially begin with the purchase of the phone lines they've been sharing with the hospital for decades.

—HopeWest's partnership with Montrose Memorial Hospital over the years has made all the difference in our ability to provide outstanding care to our communities. Together we've built a continuum of care, supporting patients and families in need. We are excited to have our office right across from the hospital and continue our partnership," reports Starla Bacon, Montrose Clinical Director and Nancy Hoganson, Director of Community Relations.

MMH has a history of partnering with various community agencies to help provide needed health services in the Montrose area including partnerships with St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction to launch the San Juan Cancer Center in 2006 and CareFlight air ambulance services in 2015.

HopeWest will be moving into their new facility in June, 2015. HopeWest also has locations in Delta, Collbran, Grand Junction, and Meeker.

For more information, contact Leann Tobin at (970) 240-7344.

FREE

RE-1J 2015 SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM
BREAKFAST AND LUNCH FOR ALL Kids ages 1 to 18



THIS PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE TO ALL CHILDREN IN THE MONTROSE AND OLATHE COMMUNITIES

Open Sites

The Montrose RE-1J School District- Nutrition Services is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the sites and times as follows:



MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY - JUNE 1, 2015 THROUGH July 31, 2015

Closed July 3rd due to Holiday.

LOCATION	LUNCH	Monday thru Friday
Olathe Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club <u>Open to all children 1 yrs to 18 yrs</u> Hap Court, Olathe	12:00am to 12:30pm June 8 th thru July 31 st	
Montrose Recreation Center <u>Open to all children 1 yrs to 18 yrs</u> 25 Colorado Avenue, Montrose	12:00pm to 12:30 pm June 1 st thru July 31 st	
Montrose Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club <u>Enrolled children only</u> 2900 Sunnyside Road, Montrose	12:00am to 12:30pm June 8 th thru July 31 st	
Centennial Middle School <u>Open to all children 1 yrs to 18 yrs</u> 1160 S. 5 TH Street, Montrose	12:00am to 12:45pm June 1 st thru July 31 st	
Rocky Mountain Service <u>Migrant Head Start- Enrolled Children only</u> 290 Hap Court, Olathe	12:00am to 12:30pm June 1 st thru July 31 st	

SPONSORED BY:

MONTROSE & OLATHE SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J NUTRITION SERVICES
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL NUTRITION SERVICES AT 970-252-7912

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



MONTROSE LIBRARY "BOOK REVEAL"

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Kids through 6th grade are invited to the Montrose Regional Library's "Book Reveal Open House" on June 3 in the Marguerite H. Gill Children's Room. Drop by any time between 1 and 3 p.m. to get a peek at the many brand new children's books that are ready to be checked out! Start your Summer Reading Program with fresh, new books and learn about recent staff favorites. Enjoy free snacks while browsing some of the latest and best titles. Find more information at www.montroselibrary.org/SRP or www.facebook.com/montrosekids. "Every Hero Has a Story," the children's summer reading program, officially begins May 26. You can sign up online starting May 20 at the library's website.

MIRROR IMAGES...BY SARAH BERNDT



Droplets and Blue by Mirror Photographer Sarah Berndt.

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WEST CENTRAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE...

Marci Miles



years-old, they started a roofing company. Marci said, “I did office work, as well as cutting and preparing metal for welding and getting flashing ready for the next day’s job.”

This entrepreneurial couple are owners of Leadership Circle, LLC, which encompasses building subdivisions, property development and property management. Local projects include the River Landing shopping center and Cimarron Creek Golf Com-

munity. Their projects reach throughout the western states and they are the main developer for all the Natural Grocers stores. Marci said, “River Landing is probably our biggest development. We’ve tried to raise the bar and improve the communities where we developed and redeveloped properties.”

When asked about her title Marci laughed and said, “No, I don’t have a title. I’m a wife and a mother.” A behind the scenes type of person, Marci describes herself as, “Beige, unrecognizable, obscure ... I’m a good second banana and a good teammate.”

With an efficient staff in place Marci is no longer needed in the office. “Early on I was blessed to be able to stay at home and work. Now I’m doubly blessed with a staff that takes on the brain-draining work.” Marci’s higher education path is determined by the needs of the various family

business interests. “I take classes and courses that pertain to specific areas we are working on [real-estate classes].”

At one time Marci thought she would make a good veterinarian, but she found a way to be around animals without becoming a vet. “God often puts animals in my way and I’ve nursed a few back to health.” The menagerie of animals that are a part of Marci’s everyday life include four dogs, three cats, chickens, cows, goats, riding horses and six Percheron working horses. “It’s like Old McDonald’s Farm around here.” Secure in her own position Marci is not concerned with what other people think, nor does she seek acknowledgement or accolades. “That’s not what I’m after. I am a satisfied person. I’m happy wherever I am — I’d be happy in a hut in Africa, or in a palace.”

Although some might consider Marci to be shy, she is comfortable in her own environment, “I’m outgoing when I have a job or a mission to accomplish, but I think my time is better spent making sure all the parts and pieces are in order.”

Even though Marci thinks she can do anything a man can do, she’s not a feminist. “I’m old fashioned. I don’t need to be the captain of the ship, I’m fine with being the first mate.”

Marci’s leadership advice: “You can overcome anything if you rise above yourself and try until you succeed. Encourage others, rather than knocking them into the dirt. Find happiness in your circumstances.”

Interview by Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—At age 13 Marci Miles moved to Montrose where she and her siblings were raised by a single father. Growing up, Marci thought of herself as a “the range child,” and didn’t consider herself a leader. She laughed and said, “It was more like a pack of wolves, but with every man for himself. I was independent; not a follower or a leader, just an individual.” A tom-boy by nature, Marci liked to work and stay busy doing the jobs the boys got to do.

A 1984 graduate of MHS, Marci knew fellow student and future husband Matt in school, but the couple didn’t start dating until after graduation. Early in their marriage the Miles’ lived out of state for a few months, but for all practical purposes, Montrose has always been home. In 1986, when both Marci and Matt were only 21

GREAT SPRING/SUMMER GIVEAWAY THIS SATURDAY!

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The Spiritual Awareness Center will hold the seventh annual Great Spring/Summer Giveaway on Saturday, May 30th from 10 am to noon at Lions Park, 602 N. Nevada. Donations will be accepted beginning at 7 am. Everything is free to those in need. No large items, TV’s or electronics will be accepted. In past years the Giveaway has provided not only household items and clothing to those in need in Montrose, but has also provided warm clothes to people in Nepal and the Philippines. College students just setting up their households have been helped, as well as people who have lost their homes to fire and the homeless. The Giveaway provides a way for people in the community to help take care of each other through donating items in good condition that others need. Any items remaining go to other charities for continued support. Volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up. This is a community outreach project of the Spiritual Awareness Center. To volunteer or for more information, call 252-0908.



Just in thyme for spring ...

The Mirror

Homegrown content with flavor.

Experiencing the (local) Church

WRITER GAIL MARVEL VISITS HOPE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



with explanations and expository preaching. The sermon text, taken from (Ge 4:1-15; Eph 2:1-10; and Luke 18:9-14) highlighted the stories of Cain and Able, salvation by grace, and the Pharisee and the tax collector. The reverend spoke about true religion saying, —Religion of the law [Old Testament] is by your own effort — you work your way up to God. Religion of the Gospel [New Testament] — God comes down to you.” Under the law you justify yourself, but under the Gospel, it is God who justifies you.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—On Aug. 31, 2014 I visited Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church: A Confessional, Sacramental and Liturgical Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. As I entered the foyer, the greeter as well as Rev. Darryl Hannenberg and a large visitor’s guestbook welcomed me to fellowship.

The Reverend quickly ascertained my faith background and noted the church practice of closed communion. As defined in the bulletin, closed communion is, —... distributed only to those who have publicly accepted the Apostolic teachings of the N.T., as explained in the *Lutheran Confessions* and summarized in *Luther’s Small Catechism*.”

Similar to accent pillows on a living room couch, a variety of lumbar cushions were scattered about on the wooden pews for those who needed a little back support. The cozy sanctuary was void of video screens and sound equipment and songs, sung from the hymnal, were accompanied with a piano and organ. Although there was no worship leader per se, the reverend’s strong voice could be heard above that of the congregation. The children, who made up

about a third of the 50 in attendance, remained in the sanctuary during the service.

Between the large bi-fold bulletin, the baptismal program, the hymnal, and my Bible I did a bit of a juggling act as I tried to follow along with the worship structure. A greeter, noticing I couldn’t find one responsive reading, came to my rescue and helped me locate the text in the hymnal. In a similar manner, a woman left her seat to sit with another visitor, a young man who also appeared unfamiliar with the order of service.

The order of service began with, —Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution,” which is the formal act of the reverend forgiving sins. A special event this day was the —Sacrament of Holy Baptism.” This denomination practices infant baptism, and the congregation participates in the ceremony by confessing together and speaking on behalf of the baby. The congregation not only declares their belief in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but they also publicly denounce the devil, his works, and his ways.

Much of the worship service was scripted and read verbatim, however Reverend Hannenberg also supplemented liturgy

Addressing the issue of sin the reverend said, —Don’t hide your sins. Own your sins — because they are yours. Don’t justify yourself before the cross of Christ.” The audience was reminded that God forgives sinners, not saints.

Transitioning seamlessly from one element to the next, Reverend Hannenberg presided over and performed all duties in the worship service. Worshippers participating in the Lord’s Supper are dismissed pew by pew to go forward and kneel at the altar for sacrament. Individuals were given a wafer, representing the body of Christ. A single chalice containing the fruit of the vine was served and after each person sipped from the shared cup, the reverend wiped the rim. Those unable to kneel at the altar remained in the pew and the emblems were brought to them.

At the conclusion of the service refreshments were available and the children were first in line for ice cream.

Contact Information:

*Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
600 North 2nd
Montrose, CO 8101
970-249-8811*

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 publications including *The Lookout*, *Christian Standard*, *Discipleship Journal* and *The Christian Communicator*.*

ALZHEIMER'S EDUCATION SERIES

Living with Alzheimer's for Middle Stage Caregivers: April 9, 4:00-5:00pm

In the middle stage of Alzheimer's disease, those who were care partners now become hands-on caregivers. Join us for this class and hear caregivers and professionals discuss helpful strategies to provide safe, effective and comfortable care in the middle stage of Alzheimer's.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose
RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

Living with Alzheimer's for Late Stage Caregivers: April 23, 4:00-5:00pm

In the late stage of Alzheimer's disease, caregiving typically involves new ways of connecting and interacting with the person with the disease. Join us for this class to hear from caregivers and professionals about resources, monitoring care and providing meaningful connection for individuals with late-stage Alzheimer's and their families.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose
RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's Disease: May 14 & 21, 4:00-5:00pm

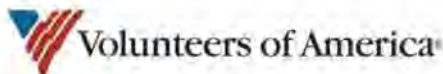
In this class, you will have a chance to learn about important legal and financial issues to consider, how to put plans in place, and how to access legal and financial resources near you. Topics include: Making legal plans that fit your need - Legal documents you'll need and what they mean for you - How to find legal and financial assistance - Practical strategies for making a long-term plan of care - Tax deductions and credits - Government programs that can help pay for care

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose
RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org

Understanding & Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors: June 11 & 18, 4:00-5:00pm

Behavior is a powerful form of communication and is one of the primary ways for people with dementia to communicate their needs and feelings as the ability to use language is lost. However, some behaviors can present real challenges for caregivers to manage. Join us to learn to decode behavioral messages, identify common behavior triggers, and learn strategies to help intervene with some of the most common behavioral challenges of Alzheimer's disease.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Colorado Mesa University, Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. Montrose
RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220 or eberge@voa.org



OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

MORGENSTERN SPEAKS OUT ON CITY REPRESSION OF FREE SPEECH, CITIZENS



Above, scenes from the City Public Works retirement party at Turn of the Century May 22. Thordy Jacobson thanks all who worked with him during his many years as Parks Superintendent; Paul Gottlieb of Olathe and retired City staffer Frank Mesaric honoring the service of dedicated staffers; a glaring City Councilor Kathy Ellis, who said in Sunday's *Montrose Daily Press* that the bullying and forcing out of more than 50 staffers by the current City Manager over the past three years was ordered by Council in the name of "efficiency," but who nevertheless attended the public works retirement party at the Manager's request. Photos by Marge Morgenstern.

Dear Montrose Citizens:

I have a request for those of you who own a computer and have access to email and Facebook: would you kindly ask any of your friends and relatives to share my original Montrose Mirror Facebook post-letter (of May 15, 2015) concerning the rotten stuff going on by the City Manager and City Council? In addition, would you print a copy and give it to those without computers? The *Daily Press* refuses to print my letter because it's longer than 300 words; however, I could pay \$850 then it would be an advertisement, which it is not. The news editor that called me at 9 pm Thursday evening, 20/May/2015, said he talked with the city manager and to some council members before he called me and they had a very different story from mine! I bet they did!

The folks In Montrose need to know about the underhanded activities and corruption that are occurring among the administration of your and my City. I told that reporter if he refuses to print my letter, the *Daily Press* is protecting Bell and the city council. He disagreed, of course. The contents of that letter are accurate and true: the information came from Bell himself and City Hall. The immediate response and denial from Bell is an indicator of the letter's accuracy and his concern.

1] I am unaccustomed to blowing my own horn; however, I will tell you this: I have been involved in this community for 45 years....taught at Montrose High School for 22 years. Many people know me and they will tell you if you ask them I do not lie, I am humane but firm, am ethical, and convey my concerns accurately. For this city manager and council members to call me a liar is beyond the pale. In ad-

dition, the Press reporter's article about the December Parks Board meeting is inaccurate, biased for Bell and city council, and is accusatory without support. Did that reporter check with other former Parks Board members for information? Obviously not. Bell only came to one Parks Board meeting which was to notify us that Thordy Jacobson was "absolutely delighted to retire!" The Parks Board wasn't buying the story. When I commented that "severance pay means you've bought someone off to shut up" Bell denied it and became agitated. I find Judy Files' commentary laughable...she was on the Parks Board until she ran for council....then she left and her husband, Ralph, just appeared as the new member. As for minutes not being presented to the Council, this council never voiced any interest; this accusation is handy to validate the firing of the Parks Board. Bell couldn't cut our pay or our hours; he was in a dilemma. The only way he could eliminate the Board was by using the excuse of no minutes to the council to dissolve us. The real reason was he doesn't accept criticism. The agendas for the Parks Board came from the top administration down. A telling comment from Bell was at a Sunset Mesa field trip that he attended where I overheard him say "Everything that happens in the city goes through me!" I believe it.

2] I attended the Party at Turn of the Century this past Friday evening. Why did four Council members, Kathy Ellis, Dave Romero, Bob Nicholson and Rex Swanson, attend? Since the city council announced at the May 19, 2015 council meeting that they, in fact, run the city, then they are partially responsible for some 60 people losing their jobs since Bell has

been city manager! To attend a fun, positive celebration for most of these employees who did not leave their jobs by their own choosing, smells of hypocrisy in its most egregious form! Is it possible that the City Manager gave direction to the council members to attend? My intuition tells me he did. I noticed Bell, Joseph and Harris were absent. Was that coincidental or was that to make sure that all attendees behaved in a manner approved by the Administration which could be achieved by "encouraging" aliases to attend? Since I attended, I imagine the city manager and council were concerned that negative commentary might occur. Directing council members and department heads to attend eliminated any responsibility or accountability for Bell, Joseph and Harris.

3] All the former employees that I know who have resigned, retired, whose hours were cut, whose salary was cut, who were moved to another position, relegated to a lower position or who were given a negative evaluation had little opportunity for input. Nevertheless, they are gone because they could not endure the stress.

4] I am writing this for all the employees, families and friends who have been impacted by despicable city administration decisions and who have no voice because some former employees were "encouraged" to sign gag orders or because current employees fear for their jobs. I am free to speak out of concern for them. I can expose autocratic bullying and threats from an administration who abuses its power because that group cannot hurt me. Thank you for reading my essay again and know that the situation will change.

Marge Morgenstern
Montrose Citizen

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

JOIN CPW'S FREE FISHING WEEKEND JUNE 6 TO 7



Taking kids fishing is a great way to spend quality time together. Courtesy photo Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Special to the Mirror

DENVER - Join Colorado Parks and Wildlife for Colorado's Free Fishing Weekend June 6 to 7, when anglers of all ages can fish without a license anywhere in the state.

CPW encourages anglers to get out and take advantage of the opportunity to experience fishing Colorado's more than 2,500 lakes and reservoirs, many within beautiful State Parks, and 10,000 miles of fishable streams and rivers including 300 miles of Gold Medal streams and approximately 3,200 acres of Gold Medal lakes.

"Family and the community play an important role when it comes to outdoor experiences," said CPW Director Bob Broscheid. "Fishing is one of the many ways the whole family can enjoy the outdoors together."

According to CPW's [2013 Outdoor Recreation Participation Public Survey Summary Report](#) fishing is one of the most popular activities in Colorado.

Some reasons for this, Broscheid says, is the connection and memories made with others.

"Creating a connection through shared outdoor experiences, like fishing," adds

Broscheid. "Not only helps you learn about the sport of fishing, but also provides a unique bond for friends and families to remember for years to come."

There are plenty of options to get started.

"Fishing is easy to learn and fun to enjoy, so give it a try," said CPW's Anger Education Coordinator, Howard Horton. "This free event can get people acquainted with the sport and offers a way to enjoy time outside and develop a hobby in fishing."

Not sure what fly, lure or equipment to use? Horton offers advice.

"When trying to get into the sport of fishing, it can be easy to get overwhelmed, but there are many resources that CPW provides to get you started," said Horton.

CPW has multiple web resources such as the fishing report, fishing atlas, stocking report, and call center (303) 297-1192 where outdoor recreation questions are answered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and fishing clinics available throughout the state.

For more information about Colorado's Free Fishing Weekend visit the CPW website at <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/Free-Fishing-Day.aspx>.

Upcoming fishing clinics for kids and adults who want to learn more about fishing and for those interested in becoming a fly fishermen include:

May 24th- European Nymphing Techniques, South Platte River near Deckers, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Register Today <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61876>;

June 13th- National Get Outdoors Day, South Platte River near Deckers, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., no registration required;

June 18th- Introduction to Fly Tying, Hunter Ed. Building (6060 Broadway), 6 p.m.-8 p.m., <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61397>;

June 20-21st - Let's Fish! Family Fishing and Camping Clinic, Golden Gate Canyon State Park, <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Calendar.aspx> (Find in the Calendar and fill out application.);

June 25th- Introduction to Fly Fishing, Lake Lehow, 6 p.m.- 8 p.m., <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61880>;

July 8th- Introduction to Fly Fishing,

Lake Lehow, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61881>;

July 23rd- Let's Fish! Family Fishing Clinic, Jefferson Lake (parking lot), 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61882>;

July 26th- Let's Fish! Family Fishing Clinic, Urad Lake, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m., <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61884>;

Aug. 2nd- Let's Fish! Family Fishing Clinic, Lake Lehow, 8 a.m.- 1 p.m., <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/61885>.

Interested in learning about fishing rigs and the essentials to get started fishing? Watch this Colorado Outdoors "Quick Tip" video about bait fishing basics: <http://coloradooutdoorsmag.com/category/colorado-outdoors-quick-tips/>.

The CPW Fishing Report, is online at <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/FishingReports.aspx>. The report details fishing conditions throughout the state on a weekly basis from April until October.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds the public that although a license is not required on Free Fishing Weekend, all other rules and regulations will apply.

Anglers should consult the 2015 Colorado Fishing Brochure for specific regulations and restrictions. To view the 2015 Colorado Fishing Brochure, go to <http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Brochure/fishing.pdf>

Fishing licenses can be purchased at any Colorado Parks and Wildlife office or from one of the more than 600 license agents across the state. Licenses can also be purchased [online](#) or over the phone by calling 800-244-5613. For more information go to www.cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/Fishing.aspx.

Last year over one million fishing licenses were sold in Colorado. The sale of fishing licenses allows for CPW to maintain and conserve fish habitat that promotes better fishing in Colorado.

For more news about Colorado Parks and Wildlife go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us>

For more information about Colorado Parks and Wildlife go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us>.

*Thanks for reading the Montrose Mirror.
Call 970-275-5791 for ad rates and information!*

ARTS AND CULTURE

BURKEY WINS \$1,000 MARK FISCHER POETRY PRIZE!



*Jill Burkey.
Courtesy photo.*

Special to the Mirror
TELLURIDE – Jill Burkey of Grand Junction received the \$1,000 Mark Fischer Poetry Prize for her poem, “Beginning Mind,” at a ceremony May 16, 2015, during the Talking Gourds poetry program segment of the Telluride Literary

Arts Festival.

Mark’s widow, Elaine Fischer presented the award at Arroyo’s Wine Bar and Gallery. A San Miguel County Commissioner, Fischer talked of her time with Mark and of how rewarding it was to read his poems in his personal handwriting.

She praised Burkey’s winning poem and explained how the expansion of the reach of the contest – open to all poets west of the Mississippi – and the increase of the size of the contest award had made even more people aware of her husband and his amazing talents.

“It was over the top,” explained Burkey. “Everyone at the award ceremony was so warm and welcoming, the setting at Arroyo’s was intimate and friendly, and it was a pleasure to accept an award that I

feel like I’ve worked towards for a very long time.” She added, “The fact that my husband and kids were there to share the experience with me was wonderful.”

Burkey is a member of the Western Colorado Writers Forum. Her work won the 2009 Denver Woman’s Press Club Unknown Writers’ Contest and received honorable mention in the 2009 Mark Fischer Poetry Contest.

Her poems have appeared in a number of literary journals as well as the Grand Valley Magazine, IMPROV Anthology of Colorado Poets, The Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, in downtown Grand Junction’s “Poetry in the Streets” project, and aired on KAFM 88.1 Community Radio. She is currently working on a collection of poetry, titled *Between*.

Growing up on a three-generation cattle ranch in western Nebraska only miles from the homestead where Mari Sandoz and her famous father, Old Jules, once lived can partially account for Jill’s vivid imagination and curiosity about the past, which fuel her writing. She attended a one-room schoolhouse through fourth grade and spent many carefree afternoons riding her chestnut mare, Pet, bareback across the pastures surrounding her home.

Jack Mueller, the celebrated North Beach poet now residing near Ridgway, who was named winner of the Karen Chamberlain Award for lifetime poetic achievement at this year’s LitFest, cited Burkey’s winning poem for its “clarity” – as he was the final

awards judge who chose Burkey from among 91 poets who participated from 11 states and over 200 poem submissions.

First Runner-Up award of \$100 went to Donald Levering of Santa Fe. He also attended the awards ceremony and read his winning poem, “Barrelhouses.” Second Runner-Up was split into two \$50 prizes between two poets, Jose A. Alcantara of Carbondale for his poem “Beep Beep” and California poet Paul Fericano for “The Howl of Lon Chaney, Jr.” Alcantara attended the LitFest and read his poem at the awards ceremony.

Finalists included Curt Anderson, Devreaux Baker, Paula C. Lowe, Nicholas Karavatos, and Nancy Shiffrin of California; Holly Coddington of Denver, Robert King of Loveland, Jean Bower of Montrose and Julianza Shavin of Colorado Springs (CO); Robyn Hunt and Barbara Rockman of New Mexico.

LitFest is a collaboration among the Telluride Institute’s Talking Gourds program, the Wilkinson Library, Between the Covers Bookstore, Ah Haa School for the Arts, Telluride Arts and Arroyo’s Telluride.

Talking Gourds is indebted to grants from Commissioner Elaine Fischer, the Telluride Institute’s Audrey Marnoy and San Miguel County Poet Laureate Peter Waldor for seeding this year’s Lit Fest poetry program and the Mark Fischer Poetry Prize. For more info, visit < talkinggourds.weebly.com >

HONORABLE MENTION

To US veterans everywhere, and to those who lost their lives fighting for our freedoms...thank you...

To Bob and Pat Brown, for seven years of operating Around the Corner Art Gallery, and working to support a thriving business and arts district Downtown in Montrose...

To Haven House for successfully purchasing the Olathe dormitory...the deal closed last Friday. “Now we can look forward to building our program to meet the needs of those less fortunate than us,” said board member Larry Fredericksen. “And, importantly we can begin to adapt the building to meet our needs.”

...and to wingsuit pioneer Simon Repton of Montrose, for being invited to join the First USA National Wingsuiting Team ...and for taking part in the World Cup event in the United Kingdom last week!

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

WILDLIFE ON THE MOVE-CDOT ALERT!



Special to the Mirror
STATEWIDE – Springtime in the Rockies means wildlife are on the move again: deer and elk are migrating to their summer habitats, and that means they will be crossing highways in higher numbers. The Colorado Department of Transportation, Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and many non-government organizations statewide make efforts each migration season to remind motorists that wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs) are high this time of year. —Our engineers continue to build wildlife mitigation features into our projects where collisions trends are highest,” CDOT Chief Engineer Joshua Laipply said. —Still, it’s

up to all of us who drive these corridors to heed the wildlife warning signs, slow down, and do what we can to avoid these incidents.” Wildlife-vehicle collisions happen year round, 24/7. However, there is always an increase during migration seasons—typically November for fall and May for the spring—and the majority occur **during the hours between dusk and dawn**. These collisions are not only a matter of safety, but can be quite costly as well. According to the Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association, the insurance industry pays out nearly \$1.1 billion a year in claims for all wildlife-vehicle collisions nationwide. In Colorado there were 3,437 wildlife-vehicle collisions reported to law enforcement in 2013 (the most recent data), down from 4,016 in 2012 and below the 10-year average of 3,605. Of the 3,437 collisions, 3,183 involved vehicle damage, 250 involved injuries and 4 involved fatalities (*source: CDOT Traffic & Safety Division*). La Plata County tops the list for highest WVCs in the state at 252 in 2013; Jefferson County, 248; El Paso, 201; Douglas, 199; Garfield, 128; Moffat, 116; Larimer, 106; Montezuma, 106; (please see more county- and statewide data, here:

<http://www.coloradodot.info/programs/environmental/wildlife/wildlifeonthemove/data-and-charts>. (Numbers above came from the chart entitled —Reported Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions by Type and County.”) —We have the unfortunate distinction of having this high number of collisions involving wildlife,” La Plata County Living With Wildlife Chair Maureen Kielty said. —We don’t have the traffic issues here, as on the Front Range, but we do have the wildlife; watching out for them near our roadways is a critical part of living with wildlife.” The next CDOT project to mitigate wildlife-vehicle collisions in La Plata County will begin after the Labor Day holiday. Located on US 160 about five miles east of the SH 172 junction, the project will involve shoulder widening, fence installation and construction of a wildlife underpass. —Wildlife-vehicle collisions still remain one of the leading threats to the state’s wildlife this time of a year,” Colorado Parks and Wildlife Communications Manager Matt Robbins said. —We know where the migration corridors are and we work closely with CDOT to design mitigation features and place signage where they will be the most effective.”

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

UVEA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO OLATHE, MONTROSE SENIORS



Left, UVEA Scholarship Committee representative, Donna White, Taylor Gibson, and Caryn Gibson; right, UVEA Scholarship Committee representative, Barbara Head, Courtney Whitney, Lisa Whitney, and Christopher Whitney. Courtesy photos.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Uncompahgre Valley Education Association, the local teachers' union, is proud to award a \$500.00 schol-

arship to one Olathe senior and \$500.00 scholarship to one Montrose senior who wish to attend college and pursue a degree in the field of education.

Taylor Gibson, daughter of John and Caryn Gibson, was selected as the Olathe recipient for the 2015 Uncompahgre Valley Education Association (UVEA) scholarship award. Taylor plans to attend Otero Junior College or Western State Colorado University this fall and major in Physical Education and Special Education. Pictured from the left: UVEA Scholarship Committee representative, Donna White, Taylor Gibson, and Caryn Gibson.

Courtney Whitney, daughter of Christopher and Lisa Whitney, was selected as the Montrose recipient for the 2015 Uncompahgre Valley Education Association (UVEA) scholarship award. Courtney plans to attend Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction this fall and major in Elementary Education. Pictured from the left: UVEA Scholarship Committee representative, Barbara Head, Courtney Whitney, Lisa Whitney, and Christopher Whitney.

MONTROSE REC DISTRICT PLANS WATER SAFETY EVENTS FOR SUMMER 2015

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-With Summer upon us, and the likelihood of water related activities increasing, MRD is organizing several local family events related to Water Safety. Statistics show that many children do not take lessons, and/or are fearful of the water, due in part to a parent's own fear and anxieties. MRD wants to provide a fun, safe environment where participants, young and old, can enjoy the water together, regardless of their income levels.

Additionally, with the Water Sports Park coming online recently in Riverbottom, the urgency of this message is even greater. Many young people will be drawn to the river, which encourages recreation and appreciation. Skills to stay safe, therefore, become even more important.

Free summer water safety events organized by MRD include:

Water Safety Awareness Fair on Wednesday, May 27th from 10-12:00 pm. This is a free event hosted by the Montrose Recreation District that will engage participants in games and demonstrations that will allow children to have fun, while learning how to be safe in and around water. Door prizes, such as life jackets and goggles, will also be given out.

Free Family Swim Lessons on Wednesday evenings from June 3rd through June 24th. These lessons will focus on the basics such as floating, submerging and breathing, as well as safety in and around the water. Registration may happen at the Aquatic Center or online for up to three lessons. Each child will need to have an adult participating with them in the water.

The World's Largest Swim Lesson on Thursday June 18th at 9:30am. These events will be capped off by MRD is participating in an effort to set the Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Swim Lesson. Last year, the world record was set with 36,564 individuals participating in 22 countries worldwide. This year, swimming pools across the world hosting this lesson simultaneously on this date in an attempt to break the record, including a free lesson at the Aquatic Center. To participate, individuals must be at the Aquatic Center between 9am and 9:30, on the 18th. The official count will take place precisely at 10am. For more information, contact Liz Gracesun @ 249-7705.

–Drowning is the second leading cause of death in children under the age of 14", stated Liz Gracesun, MRD Aquatic Coordinator.

–Our goal is to get out as much information this summer as we can, to every family we can touch to prevent this tragedy, whether they are swimming in a local pool, a river, a back yard pool, on a boat, or near flowing water."

THANKS FOR READING THE MONTROSE MIRROR!

CALL 970.275.5791 FOR AD RATES AND INFORMATION!

CURRENT CIRCULATION IS 7,362 VIA E-BLAST AND 2,000+ ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

ARTS AND CULTURE

PICKIN' IN THE PARK ANNOUNCES 2015 PAONIA LINEUP



An earlier Pickin' in the Park event in Paonia Town Park. Courtesy photo Pickin' Productions.

Thursday in August – 6 pm until dark.

Free live music featuring: National Touring Acts, a family friendly environment, with an on-site kids' activity area. Local food vendors, local wines & Paonia's own Revolution Brewing available, as well as non-alcoholic beverages. Bring a lawn chair, blankets, coolers, picnics, but no glass please! All shows are broadcast LIVE on KVNF (90.9) starting at 7pm (89.1 Montrose).

Presented by Pickin' Productions & co-presented with

KVNF Public Radio:
www.pickinproductions.com

For more information or to request interviews with the artists:

Rob Miller, Pickin' Productions (970) 260-6493 pickinproductions@gmail.com

The 2014 Lineup:

Aug. 7 – *SHINYRIBS* (Lead singer from the Austin, TX based band, *The Gourds*) Opening set by *Locust Honey* (NC Oldtime Music)

Aug. 14 – *MISS TESS & THE TALKBACKS* (Brooklyn via Boston Songstress will provide the jazzy, swingy music, bring the dance shoes); Opening set by *Kipori Woods* New Orleans Blues

Aug. 21 – *DREW EMMITT BAND* (Leftover Salmon lead singer and mandolin master back to his bluegrass roots); Opening set by *Simpler Times* Gunnison, CO Bluegrass!

Aug. 28 – *BASKERY* (These three Swedish sisters play joyful, edgy, rocking Americana Music.); Opening set by *Mustered*.

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE-Pickin' in the Park – Paonia's 7th Annual FREE Summer Concert Series in Paonia Town Park – Every





WEEHAWKEN DANCE
MONTROSE SUMMER DANCE SCHEDULE
classes begin June 8



JAZZ Ballet TAP HIP HOP JAZZ FUNK

MONTROSE SUMMER DANCE
MONDAYS WITH MISS NATASHA

10:00-10:45 Story Book Ballet (ages 3-5)
10:45-11:30 primary ballet and jazz (ages 5-8)
11:30-12:30 Level 1 ballet and jazz (ages 8-10)
12:30-1:30 hip-hop/jazz funk (ages 8-11)
1:30-2:30 Level 2 ballet and jazz (ages 10-11)
2:30-4:00 ballet 3/4 ballet and jazz (ages 12 & up)
4:00-5:00 tween/teen tap (ages 11 and up)

TUESDAYS

1:45-2:30 pre-ballet with Miss Leeann (3-5)
2:30-3:15 Primary Ballet with Miss Leeann (5-8)
3:15-4:15 Primary Tap with Miss Jenny (ages 5-8)
4:15-5:15 Level 1 Tap with Miss Jenny (ages 8-10)
5:15-6:15 ballet 2 with Miss Autumn
6:15-7:30 ballet 3 with Miss Autumn
7:30-8 Pointe with Miss Autumn

pricing:
\$100 - \$150, depending on length of class
(ex: 45 minutes = \$100 / 1.5 hours = \$150)

www.weehawkenarts.org
970.318.0150

GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 5/18/15

By Sandra Tyler

Government Beat Reporter

MONTROSE-PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Citizen Roger Brown provided Counsel with a copy of a spreadsheet that showed expenditures from the month of April, 2015, in the amount of \$484,727.16 with \$300,00 to the Basin Clinic, \$92,000 to Region 10, and the rest to other entities out of the 250 #0100 General Fund. He is requesting information for each of the identified Service Agencies in reference to the reason for the expenditure and the justification behind each expenditure, via Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) as a verbal request.

CONSENT AGENDA: To access streaming consent agenda video [click here](#).

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

GENERAL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

PUBLIC WORKS-Director Ken Winckler and Mr. Dean Cooper

Authorization by the Board to terminate the agreement awarded to AM-PM Sweepers and Stripes on 04/20/2015, due to non-performance. Public Works solicited a publicly advertised invitation to bid for Paint Striping Services to be used for 2015 paint striping services throughout the county. Two bids were received. AM-PM submitted the lowest price bid. A contract was awarded to AM-PM on 04/20/2015. Since that date AM-PM has [failed to provide a Payment and Performance bond as required by Colorado Revised Statutes 38-26-106 and Section 7.5 of the contract](#). Deadlines were extended to AM-PM on three separate occasions. As reviewed by Counsel, staff is recommending that the Agreement with AM-PM be terminated due to non-performance effective immediately.

Commissioner David White asked if AM-PM Sweepers and Stripes had been notified of the cancellation of the contract. Attorney Teresa Williams stated that a letter was sent in regular mail service. It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve.

Authorization for the Chairman's signature on a bid award and contract with Stripe-a-Lot, Inc., for paint striping services throughout the County in 2015, effective 5/18/2015, as reviewed by Counsel in a work session, and represents a budgeted expense in the amount of \$116,325.00. Public Works solicited a publicly advertised invitation to bid for Paint Striping Services and two bids were received. Stripe-a-Lot was a responsive bidder. Public Works staff recommends the BOCC consider award of the bid to Stripe-a-Lot, Inc.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ms. Sandra Tyler asked for the amount of difference in the second bid to the first. Winckler stated that the difference of \$.06/linear foot to \$.063/linear foot resulted in an extra cost of \$525 for the 1,825 linear feet to be striped.

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve.

Authorization for a construction contract effective 5/18/2015 with Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. for the Montrose County 2015 asphalt overlay project, as reviewed by Counsel; this represents a budgeted expense. The project involves asphalt overlay of five sites: 6450 Rd, Kentucky Rd, 6530 Rd, Hillside Rd, and Heritage Estates; along with two alternate sites, Oakland Rd and Kinikin Rd. The Invitation to Bid was publicly advertised and two responsive primary bids were received from qualified asphalt contractors. Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. submitted the low primary bid in the amount of \$1,309,489.00 and the low alternate bid of \$434,926.25 (total of \$1,744,415.25). It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve.

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:
OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

1. **Tri-County Water Special Use (SU-15-0003).** Zoning: General Agricultural. Owners: Charles Bishop and Theresa Widmann. Proposal: To build a 100,000 gallon steel potable water storage tank at 71150 Hwy 50. Applicant: Tri-County Water Conservancy District.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve.

2. **McKnight Subdivision — Final Plat (MA-15-0010)**

Location: 8004 High Mesa Road. Zoning: General Agricultural. Proposal: Filing #1, five (5) lots Anderson Orchards, Inc. Owner: Steve Anderson. Applicant: Del-Mont Consultants, Inc.-Nick Barrett

The owner, Mr. Steve Anderson was present. All the water taps, school fees, etc. are already in per County standards and according to the HOA's of the subdivision rules and regulations and the one paved road has been well maintained for the past 7 years. Two of the five lots have already been sold and homes are planning to be built.

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve.

Meeting adjourned.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 5/19/15 WORK SESSION

DMEA BROADBAND

DMEA CEO Jasen Bronec, Steven M. Metheny, PE, LEED, AP, DMEA Chief Operating Manager, Mr. Mark Kurtz, DMEA Fiber Project Lead Member, and Mr. Olen Lund, DMEA Board President presented information about their intent to make broadband available for their members. Currently, when the internet is accessed, it is routed to Denver or to Albuquerque because Western Colorado is analog. After a technical presentation of fiber lines, dark or lit, the representatives requested a letter of support from the BOCC which will be provided in the generic sense. Mr. Davis asked if the BOCC could see a business plan prior to

the letter of support which the representatives felt needed to remain out of public eye.

URAVAN PROPERTY-Mr. Glen Davis has questions about the property of 35.3 acres that a ballpark is on. Once he was brought up to speed on the history of the property, he decided to not pursue his idea of a potential RV park business.

TOOL ALLOWANCE POLICY

Fleet Manager Dave Laursen presented an idea about the tool allowance policy. The concept came from one of his mechanics. The concept is that most mechanics have their own tools which they prefer to use, that after frequent use will need to be replaced. Replacement would be by the county. Currently, all the tools are county owned and available to use but there is no check-out/check-in system so the tools get misplaced or lost or left behind when out on a job. If the mechanics used their own tools, the lost would reduce and cost would be less. A check-out/check-in system would cost more and create the need for staff and all the related costs of that (leave time/sick time coverage, insurance, etc.)

2016 FLEET BUDGET

The idea appeared to die out so Mr. Dave Laursen moved to presenting the 2016 Fleet/Facilities Budget presentation for light fleet, heavy fleet (every vehicle that is not a passenger vehicle, i.e. posse vehicles), planning for the future and the request to purchase a \$60,000 mobile lift vehicle that will elevate vehicles needing repair and become stable when loaded. Having this will save half the repair time. HHS will be assigned another vehicle as they need it. It appears to be a well-done budget from the comments by the commissioners and is in spreadsheet format. Each department will be given the numbers they needs for their budgets. When equipment is sold, the received monies are credited to the department in charge of that vehicle.

LANDFILL-Public Works Manager Ken Winckler, Dean Cooper

Commissioner Henderson requested the topic of replacing the landfill should start as there is a lot of legwork to be done so there is "no scurrying around" that happened before the most recent site was secured. Mr. Ken Winckler recommended having reserve funding account to cover the expenses and to protect those reserve funds. If the current site is not feasible to be developed or expanded, choice of sites will have to be investigated far enough away from residential areas and the airport. Mr. Dean Cooper recommended looking for a consultant with knowledge and experience in establishing landfills to assist with site selection as topography is important to be evaluated. The permit process is all encompassing once started. To this, Commissioner Ron Henderson offered his time in a volunteer capacity as he has been through this. Commissioner David White interjected the methane gas issue to be considered. County Manager Ken Norris

GOVERNMENT BEAT REPORT From pg 36

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 5/18/15

stated that Grand Junction has the equipment to assess that issue if needed.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-Director Kristine Pulatie

In April there will be a county-wide survey in Colorado and 39 counties have agreed to be surveyed about which areas want case workers or not.

Attorney Jodie Behrmann discussed the current program called "Differential Response" becoming a mandate so as to avoid court regulation. This program requires case workers to work extensively close with parent(s) to achieve better parenting skills, obtain employment, and anything else they need to remain involved with the child. Current case workers have 16-18 families vs. the recommendation of this program to be 12 as the one to one is very intense. This means hiring another case-worker to reduce each case worker's caseload. This type of intense intervention between case workers and parents is the status quo and is getting worse due to meth addiction.

A discussion about meth and cocaine abuse occurred, recovery from which can be very hard to accomplish. Behrmann stated that meth is being made in homes and the items needed to make it are over the counter. It is in use in the middle class, even in Montrose. Meth destroys the ability to be happy in situations that the users were once happy in. Even after ten years of sobriety, the former user can go off in an instant. They just disregard the future of their child in favor of the drug. Without a treatment center in the area, recovery from meth or cocaine is not successful. Montrose would need a facility for holding 70-90 addicts and as many case workers for a length of more than two years to have a chance for recovery.

Pulatie stated that the contract for the Medical Officer is in process.

Delta Dental Insurance will provide funding for a dental hygienist to see rural health clients one day a week. The work area and the set-up needed will be provided by HHS using mobile equipment. Needs of the clients will be reviewed and then sent to the Community Dental Clinic for care. Training for the Cavity Free at Three Program will be at the facility. Children as young as age one should be seen by a dental hygienist who has received

training in working with the very young.

ONCORE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

County Clerk and Recorder Tressa Guynes was successful in replacing the auto-renew contract with Harris Recording Solutions (OnCore) with a contract that will require one-year renewals. The cost in the contract was increased by \$500 for this option. This will allow for receiving RFP's in the future for equipment updating or replacement as a bidding process.

INTERNAL COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Human Resources Director Corrinne Shearer recently completed the chart with names in all "slots". All three commissioners commended her on her extensive work and stated their appreciation for her accomplishing the much-needed task of keeping track of FTE's in the County. Ms. Shearer stated that the County has 391.95 total FTE's. HHS has 92.4 FTE's. She stated that IT will assist, the chart will be on the intranet but not the website, and updates will be monthly.

Staffer Jon Waschbusch-BLM is continuing with the Resource Management Sage Grouse Habitat Evaluation recommendations. Delta County has chosen to hire an attorney for \$6,000 or less whom they feel is appropriate to help. Mr. Waschbusch will assist with \$1,500 from his budget.

COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATE

At the June 1, 2015 BOCC meeting, Attorneys Teresa Williams and Carolyn Crawford, and Commissioner Ron Henderson will not be present.

Regarding the airport property, an appraisal will have to be done before purchase, there will be need for financing, and if with a bank, they need to be involved in the beginning 3-4 months.

Paradox Trail-the meeting with the homeowners has not happened for two months, one of which due to an illness. Her recommendation is to remove some of the signs, wait 30 days, and see what occurs.

The Jail is having issues. Recently enforced new jail safety procedures were implemented; the Public Defender was not pleased, Judge Morris got involved, and now Sheriff Rick Dunlap is not pleased.

The resolution of the road through the Cotton's property

issue is not clear. E-81 appears to be maintained for no purpose. It does access the dam and public lands. Commissioner Davis wants to look at the situation as vacating the road is not a good idea to him.

The Montrose Memorial Hospital mediation coming up will be binding upon conclusion.

The Dispatch users' contract is to be finished this week so it can be reviewed by the Sheriff and given to Cindy Bennet in Financing for review.

Missives from Montrose Emergency Telephone Service Authority (METSA) were received near the end of the meeting and distributed to the commissioners. It was stated that, "The request of the missive has already been provided; they have already answered some of their requests, and that is that."

Footnote: When I attended the METSA meeting at 10 AM on Thurs. the 21st, the BOCC provided a written response to the letter from METSA as mentioned being received during the 5/18/15 Work Session reported above. I do not have information about the contents of the METSA letter. The gist of the letter from the BOCC was as follows:

METSA "has admittedly not been following the requirements of its own Intergovernmental Agreement and Organizational (IGA) Bylaws as well as the state statutes governing Emergency Telephone Service Authorities, which has been brought to the attention of the board." Mention was made to "notices of meetings, posting fiscal audits, annual reports, complete financial documents, being an open and fully-transparent METSA" with the request to 1) Conduct a full audit for 2012-2014 and publish it; 2) obtain a new legal counsel who will make sure all legal requirements are followed; 3) "require that the member entities that have not appointed a METSA Board Representative within the past 24 months, identify and appoint a new and previously unseated METSA representative"; 4) "cease all discussions and actions related to amending the By-Laws and IGA to remove requirements of transparency and to add members that do not contribute fees to the maintenance of the County's 911 system"; and 5) "cease all actions related to increasing the level of fees to be assessed to the citizens unless and until items 1-4 have been completed."



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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

8TH ANNUAL FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES-Ridgway Town Park, Ridgway, CO, Thursdays in July, 6pm 'til Dark-**July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** ~ 2015 Free Music, National Acts, Family Friendly, Children's Activities

Local Beer, Food & Wine Vendors, Late Night After-Party at the Sherbino Theater

Live Broadcast on KVNF. www.ridgwayconcertseries.com.

PICKIN' IN THE PARK — Paonia's 7th Annual FREE Summer Concert Series in Paonia Town Park — Every Thursday in August - 6pm until dark

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 JAM SESSION AND SING ALONG, Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Montrose Pavilion Senior Center.

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-Phantom opens May 8, 7:30 p.m. 420 S. 12th St. Information and Reservations 249-7838, Find us on the web at www.magiccircleplayers.com.

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!

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM-“Montrose County Historical Society Presents” is held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2nd St. The public is invited to free programs based on topics of regional 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-

May 27- Spring into Yoga with CMU Montrose Campus club The MC Voice! Free yoga class at the Quad, 5:15 to 6 p.m.

May 27-Montrose Rec District

May 28-Public Hearing on Special Use Permit for Uncompahgre Pit. 6 p.m. at Friendship Hall.

May 29-Ori Natfaly Blues Band, Montrose Summer Music Series at Black Canyon Golf Course, Free admission. Shows start at 6 p.m., no glass or cans.

May 30-Silent Auction and Dinner to support dirt bike riders Steve Deines and Eric Rhoten, two of three Americans racing in the Red Bull Romaniacs Race in July. Happy Hour 4:30 to 5: 30 p.m., Turn of the Century Saloon Montrose, Dinner 6 p.m. Cash bar. Tickets are \$15.

May 30-Great Spring/Summer Giveaway, Spiritual Awareness Center, 10 a.m. to Noon, Lions' Park, 602 North Nevada.

May 30-Celebrate Cedaredge Festival. Rare to perform on Main Street from 11:45 to 1:45 p.m.

June 2-Ridgway Moonwalk 6 to 9 p.m. Figure drawing exhibition featuring regional artists.

June 3-24-Free family swim lessons at the Montrose Aquatic Center. Focus on the basics. Registration may happen at the Aquatic Center or online for up to three lessons. Each child will need to have an adult participating with them in the water.

June 3 -7 pm, Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds, 1001 N. 2nd. *Montrose County Historical Society Presents: "Recent Archaeological Investigations at H. S. Barlow Homestead,"* by Mike Prouty. The public is invited to attend this free program and learn about this Uncompahgre Plateau study. For information call 323-6466.

June 3- Montrose Library "Book Reveal;" Marguerite H. Gill Children's Room. Drop by any time between 1 and 3 p.m. to get a peek at the many brand new children's books that are ready to be checked out! Start your Summer Reading Program with fresh, new books and learn about recent staff favorites. Enjoy free snacks while browsing some of the latest and best titles. Find more information at www.montroselibrary.org/SRP or www.facebook.com/montrosekids.

June 5-7-Gears and Beers Fest, Paonia. \$75 package ticket. Wilson Packing Shed.

June 6-Volunteers of America Homestead at Montrose Fundraiser Golf Tournament, Black Canyon Golf Course, 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. For info call 249-4653.

June 6-Fourth Annual Ladies Invitational Rosebud Golf Tournament, Bridges of Montrose. Proceeds benefit Montrose Community Foundation.

June 6-Black Canyon Classics Car Show, Columbine Middle School.

June 6-Noon to 5 p.m., Montrose Malt Assault VIP Dinner and Brewfest, fundraiser for Habitat, 1601 North Townsend Ave. \$20 admission. Call 970-596-4631.

June 8-July 28-Weehawken Dance summer classes at Uncompahgre Yoga Studio, Montrose. Call 970-318-0150 or visit www.weehawkenarts.org to register.

June 9-Montrose County Food Safety Class, Friendship Hall Kitchen 2 to 4:30 p.m. Montrose County Fairgrounds. RSVP to 970.252.5067 or 970.252.5043.

June 11-14-Crawford Pioneer Days. Crawford Town Hall and Town Park. www.crawfordcountry.org.

June 11-Downtown Delta Fest, 5:30 to Dusk, Main Street in Delta.

June 11-Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior. Behavior is a powerful form of communication and is one of the primary ways for people with dementia to communicate their needs and feelings as the ability to use language is lost. However, some behaviors can present real challenges for caregivers to manage. Join us to learn to decode behavioral messages, identify common behavior triggers, and learn strategies to help intervene with some of the most common behavioral challenges of Alzheimer's disease. 4 - 5 pm Colorado Mesa University Classroom 106, 234 S. Cascade Ave. RSVP to Erin at 970-275-1220

ARTS AND CULTURE

TROMMER NAMED WESTERN SLOPE POET LAUREATE



Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer.
Photo by Kit Hedman

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE – Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer of Placerville was named the third Poet Laureate of the Western Slope during the Talking Gourds Poetry Performances Saturday, May 16, 2015, at the Ah Haa School of the Arts during the Second Teluride Literary Arts Festival (LitFest).

Emeritus Laureate Aaron Abeyta made the announcement after he read several of his own poems to great applause, the crowd calling for more. He spoke warmly of Rosemerry as one of the region's best poets. Abeyta himself has won a Before Columbus Award, a Colorado Book Award, and is a highly respected English teacher at Adams State University in Alamosa, as well as mayor of his San Luis Valley hometown, Antonito.

“The Western Slope has such a rich, talented, diverse, generous poetry community,” said Trommer in accepting the title. “I’m so grateful to be a part of this landscape of poets. I’ve always felt so supported, and I look forward to continuing that tradition.”

Trommer served two terms as San Miguel County Poet Laureate. She’s maintained a poem-a-day practice for almost a decade, sharing her work with students and friends on the Internet. At this year’s LitFest she catalyzed a Poetry Burlesque performance with several other women; premiered a poem video short with a local filmmaker, Suzan Beraza; premiered a neo-classical vocal composition she’d written and Robert McCauley had set to music (performed by an amazing vocalist and musicians at Arroyo’s Wine Bar and Gallery); and led a writing workshop titled “Walking in Two Worlds at Once” at the Wilkinson Library.

“I love what happens when people read, write, listen to and share poems with each other -- you can almost see the doors of the mind and heart swing open,” Trommer explained. “I’m really excited about collaborative projects that combine poetry with art, music, dance, theater or video. I’ve already started to imagine projects I might coordinate to encourage more people to participate in their own poetic endeavors.”

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8:00 AM REGISTRATION BOOTH FOR 5K EVENT WILL OPEN

8:45 AM OPENING CEREMONY FEATURING MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND & CHORAL SINGERS ROTC COLOR GUARD

9:00 AM VETERAN MOTORCYCLE GROUPS WILL LEAD THE START OF THE NO BARRIERS 5K RUN/WALK

9:05 AM SHOTGUN START FOR GOLFERS

9:45 AM CATERED SNACKS FOR 5K PARTICIPANTS PROVIDED BY REMINGTON'S

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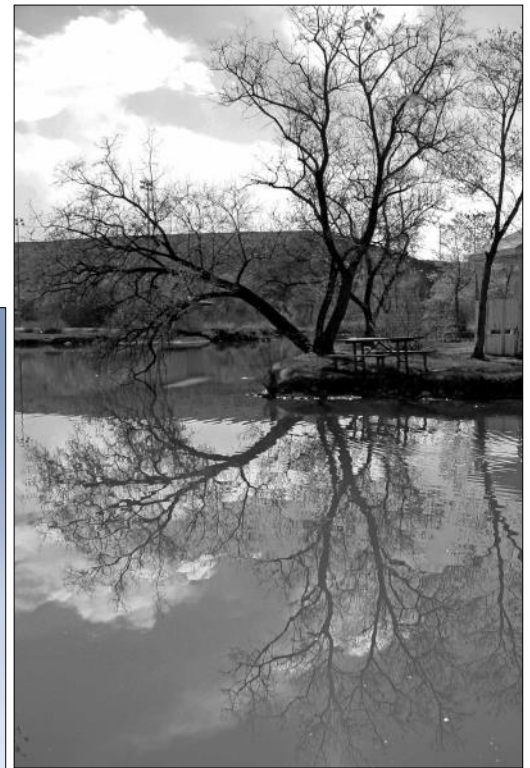
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*Red Winged Blackbird and Reflections
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