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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays!

Issue No. 151, Jan. 4 2016

A LEGACY OF STATE'S EARLIEST DAYS, TOURISM INDUSTRY REMAINS AT FOREFRONT OF CHANGE

By Caitlin Switzer

COLORADO-They come to Colorado with high hopes—and these days, thanks to the legalization of marijuana in the state, with occasional hopes of getting high. But what do we really know of these folks called tourists?

In 2014, Colorado's tourism industry generated 33.6 million visitors, and retained its substantial lead among states as a destination for ski travel with 21 percent share of all overnight ski trips nationwide, according to a [detailed state visitor report](#) compiled by Longwoods International on behalf of Colorado's tourism industry. However, visitors have been packing up their gear and heading for Colorado—including the Southwest portion—from the state's earliest days.

Author Paul M. O'Rourke, who penned the Bureau of Land Management's excellent "[Frontier in Transition: A History of Southwestern Colorado](#)," notes that the tourism industry acted as a tonic in the economic revitalization of areas once solely dependent on hard rock mining." That change came largely with the turn of the twentieth century, O'Rourke wrote, —. when people learned that it was

Continued on page 8



A group of tourists sit in, or stand near a large Jeep truck with an open bed close to one of the Alta Lakes in San Miguel County . Courtesy photo Denver Public Library Western History Collection.

HEAD, HEART, HANDS, AND HEALTH...4H FOR RURAL, URBAN YOUTH Agent Nicole Goza Brings After School STEM Programming to Olathe Middle School



4H kids with their projects at the Montrose County Fair. Photo courtesy [Montrose-Ouray 4H](#).

By Caitlin Switzer

REGIONAL-So you think 4H is just about livestock projects and farming...better think again. Like the communities it serves, [4H is a dynamic organization](#) that responds to change with new ideas and new strategies. With more than six million members nationwide, 4H continues to be the country's largest youth development and mentoring organization.

4H was born along with the nation's system of land grant universities, as the youth development program of America's Cooperative Extension System and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). However, the venerable program has adapted over the years, offering urban extension opportunities today as well as rural.

[Here in Montrose](#), 4H could not be stronger—enrollment is currently a healthy 300 kids, and while traditional programs and skills continue to be very popular, membership is by no means limited to those lucky enough to live on a farm or ranch. —We are trying to keep the old ways, the

Continued on page 4

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTES TO MOVE FORWARD AS BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDER

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-The Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) Board of Directors has voted unanimously to proceed with a fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) business in order to bring reliable broadband internet service to the citizens and businesses in Montrose and Delta counties. The DMEA board approved a phased deployment, which will begin with an initial pilot phase. Work on the development of the pilot phase begins immediately. This first phase is an important milestone for the cooperative, and will be used to prove the business model and test assumptions, such as take-rate.

—We have an obligation to protect the financial and operational integrity of the cooperative for our members. Using a phased approach will allow us to minimize our risk by only building each phase once we have met specific take-rates,” said

DMEA CEO, Jasen Bronec.

After hearing of requests by local citizens to find a solution for the poor internet service in the area, DMEA’s board of directors began researching options. Recognizing that reliable high-speed internet service is now paramount to advancing economic development and quality of life, just as electricity was in the 1930’s, the cooperative has been conducting in-depth research on broadband business models and case studies since late 2014. —Because we were already deploying fiber-optic infrastructure for internal purposes, it made sense for us to explore the opportunity of expanding broadband services to our membership,” said DMEA President, Bill Patterson.

—Since my arrival at DMEA, I can’t remember a time when broadband internet wasn’t on the minds of our members. Our communities are underserved and looking for help. It’s a story not unfamiliar to co-

ops. Co-op’s were instrumental in lighting up rural America once. Now we’re doing it again,” said DMEA CEO, Jasen Bronec.

—This is a momentous decision for DMEA members, employees, and communities. We are only at the beginning and have a lot of planning and work to accomplish before all of our members have access to our fiber. We ask that our members are patient with the process and support our efforts as we enter this new business,” concludes Patterson.

DMEA is a rural electric distribution cooperative, located in Montrose, Colorado. DMEA was originally founded in 1938, as Delta-Montrose Rural Power Lines Association. A board of directors from nine districts covering three counties governs the cooperative. DMEA serves approximately 32,000 residential, commercial and industrial meters, on over 3,000 miles of cooperative owned distribution line.

AGREEMENT REACHED PRIOR TO DISPATCH SERVICES INJUNCTION HEARING

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE —The Dec. 29 injunction hearing was vacated following an offer by Montrose County and Montrose County Sheriff Rick Dunlap to continue to provide 911 emergency dispatch services for the City of Montrose, Telluride Marshal, Mountain Village Police Department, and Telluride Fire Protection District (plaintiff agencies of the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (WCRDC)). As part of the agreement (pending official approval by each agency's board), non-essential dispatch services for the City of Montrose and the above listed entities will be provided by WCRDC from a temporary location in the county's emergency operations center until the WCRDC is able to assume dispatch services independently. The resolution was made possible because of all agencies' concerns for public safety.

HONORABLE MENTION

To Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA), for choosing to proceed with a fiber-to-premise business plan for broadband in their service region...

In memory of Lori Clark Perpar, a fearless warrior and a beautiful lady...

...and in memory of Russ Duree, former Attorney for the City of Montrose. Both will be greatly missed.


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Post Office Box 3244,

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970-275-0646

www.montrosemirror.com

editor@montrosemirror.com

THE
MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

GLIDE BACK INTO HISTORY: HISTORIAN LEADS RED MOUNTAIN MINING DISTRICT TOUR

Special to the Mirror from the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership

RED MOUNTAIN—More than 12 million dollars in silver ore was produced by the Yankee Girl Mine up Red Mountain Pass between 1882 and the late 1890s. Today, the mine is defunct and only a few visitors reach it each winter — usually by snowshoes or skis.

Stories about the mining legacy in the San Juan Mountains as well as the peaks' names will be shared during a guided tour of the Red Mountain mining district on Saturday, Jan. 30. The special outing is hosted by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP), a Ouray County-based nonprofit protecting the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed, and the Ouray County Historical Society.

—The winter scenery is beautiful and the structures in the snow make for very outstanding photos,” said tour guide and Ouray County Museum Curator Don Paulson. —If you love history and being outdoors in the winter this is the trip for you.”

A retired California State University professor, who led research projects and taught organic chemistry, Paulson has always been interested in narrow gauge railroads and Colorado mining. He began

coming to Ouray and researching the area's history in the mid-1970s, and moved here in 2006.

On the mining district tour, —Will tell about the history of the area including the mines, the town of Guston, the Silverton Railroad that ran from Silverton over Red Mountain pass down into the Iron-ton Valley, and I will identify the mountain peaks and explain how they got their names,” said Paulson, who has authored several books, articles and talks on the area's history, including —Mines, Miners and Much More” published by Twain Press in July 2015.

Tour guests will join him on cross country skis and snowshoes on a route that is about two miles each way on County Road 31 from Highway 550 to the Yankee Girl Mine. The area's most prolific silver producer in the late 1800s, Yankee Girl's head frame is an often-photographed, iconic structure and visible for miles across Red Mountain Pass. The head frame is the building on top of the 1,500-foot deep shaft that raised and lowered the ore and miners from the mine.

Tour participants will also visit the site of the town of Guston, which has several very photogenic buildings. —The tour takes

place at 10,000 feet so participants should be acclimated to the altitude. It can be taken by any age as long as you're in good physical condition. We have had people from toddlers to 80 year olds on previous trips,” he said.

UWP Project Coordinator Agnieszka Przeszlowska added, —It's a nice way to safely explore the mining district in winter-time. It's also a great way to meet people that enjoy getting outside in the winter.”

TOUR DETAILS:

Date & Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Meeting Place: Ouray Visitor Center, 1230 Main St., Ouray, CO 81427 (from there we will carpool to CR 31)

What to Bring: snowshoes, cross country or touring gear, appropriate clothing & accessories to keep you comfy & happy, lunch, water, sunscreen, friends, kids, but please leave your furry friends at home. What we'll bring: refreshments and cookies to complement your lunch.

Registration: spaces are limited to 20. Do not delay, sign up now! we kindly request a \$25 donation to support our organiza-

tions: UWP & OCHS. Go to uncompahgrewatershed.org/event/2016wintertour

Questions: Contact Judi at UWPcoordinator@gmail.com or 970-325-3010.

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HEAD, HEART, HANDS, AND HEALTH...4H FOR RURAL, URBAN YOUTH from pg 1

plows and cows,” 4H Extension Agent Brandon Creamer said. “But we’re also moving to bring in a different atmosphere. There are more kids in the City these days; so we’re expanding into after school programs, and trying to help teachers bring in 4H curriculums.”

In a community that is urban as well as rural, offering meaningful programs for youth of all backgrounds requires understanding the need for both traditional and modern approaches. “4H is a lot more than livestock and farming,” said Creamer, who participated in the program throughout his own youth. “I think we all have different things we want to do in life. So we also have rocketing, robotics, engines, gardening, baking...and if you are interested in sewing, we have that.” 4H has always been about teaching kids leadership skills, something that Brandon found helpful when he was in the program. “4H helped me with speaking skills, and with leadership,” he said. “Being part of a club, becoming an officer, and expanding to the 4H Council really helped me.”

4H Extension Agent Nicole Goza also grew up on a local ranch, and gained a new appreciation for the rural lifestyle as an adult on the Front Range. “You look at things differently when you are older,” said Goza, who earned her degree in environmental horticulture at Colorado State University. “And you realize what a great thing 4H is to do.”

Part of her mission as an Extension Agent is to support local teachers with STEM programming. To that end, Nicole is working with teachers at Olathe Middle School to offer afterschool STEM programming for middle school aged students. “On the Eastern Slope there is a big push for STEM, and here on the Western Slope we are just taking that on,” she said. “I have the 4H STEM curriculum, and I am able to provide that to teachers. Whatever unit they have, we have something to go along with.”

The after school STEM program began last semester, and is open to students at Olathe Middle School after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Checking out an entomology exhibit at Back to 4H night in 2015. [Photo courtesy Montrose-Ouray 4H.](#)



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CELEBRATES 12 DAYS OF MERRIMENT!



Members of the MMH Business Office pose with Santa Claus and his Christmas elf on Dec. 24. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Employees and patients of Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) were met with merriment this holiday season thanks in part to a 12 Days of Christmas program.

Coordinated by MMH employees Kitty Guillory, Pat Chaloupka and Susan Smith, the program featured an activity of care or giving for each of the 12 days.

The program included distinct days for donations, acts of kindness, sharing or serving sweets, wearing Christmas garb, caroling, and a visit from Santa Claus to both the night and day shift workers.

“We just wanted to brighten the holidays for our staff and community. Giving back is MMH’s way of sharing the joy of Christmas!” said Kitty Guillory, Pharmacy Director.

The program was deemed a great success. Hundreds of pounds of pet food and people food, tons of hats/gloves/scarves, over 40 books, and scores of toys were collected for the program and donated to the appropriate organizations around Montrose. Donations were distributed to the Montrose Animal Shelter, Sharing Ministries, Christ’s Kitchen and Helping Hands toy round-up.

Many patients enjoyed the festivities: on Dec. 21, patients in the Acute Rehab Unit, Intensive Care Unit and other patient care areas welcomed Christmas carols sung by

staff who volunteered to participate. Everyone who entered the hospital lobby between 1-4pm on December 23 was offered a free cookie and hot cocoa to warm their visit.

Santa’s visits on December 23 and 24 were very popular, visiting virtually every area of the hospital to greet patients and employees with holiday sweets.

Some parents in the Family Center—having just welcomed a new addition to their family—posed with their newest “ift” next to Santa Claus for a memorable photo.

The community returned the favor to the hospital with their own acts of kindness. On December 16, Girl Scout Troop 10384 left candy canes on the windshield of cars parked in MMH’s parking lot.

On Christmas Day, employees—including some who were on site unexpectedly due to the need for clearing heavy snowfall from the premises—were greeted by a local family with children who came bearing gifts for hospital employees in an act of graciousness that touched many.

After receiving pleasant compliments and feedback for improvements, the 12 Days of Christmas program is expected to return in 2016.

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

About Montrose Memorial Hospital (www.MontroseHospital.com)



From left: Human Resources Director Kathy McKie and Pharmacy Director Kitty Guillory pose with a hot chocolate and cookie, offered to people in the hospital lobby on Dec. 23. Courtesy photo.



From left: Education Coordinator Mary Rasmussen, HIMS Receptionist Connie Robinson, and COO Joyce Beck singing a carol to a patient on Dec. 21. Courtesy photo.

Montrose Memorial Hospital is a 501(c)3 nonprofit healthcare system serving Montrose, San Miguel, Ouray, Gunnison, Delta, Hinsdale and San Juan counties.

The health system offers a 75-bed hospital and an extensive range of inpatient & outpatient health care services, including cardiology, oncology, minimally invasive surgery, laboratory, medical imaging/radiology, Mountain View Therapy, Level III Trauma Center and the family birthing center.

The health system partners with regional providers on joint ventures to meet local healthcare needs, including CareFlight air ambulance service, San Juan Cancer Center and Black Canyon Surgical Center. Montrose Memorial is the second-largest employer in Montrose County, with more than 600 employees and 100 physicians who represent 23 medical specialties.

The hospital has received patient satisfaction ratings exceeding 90% since 2010.

MEREDITH NEMIROV

THE SECRET LIFE OF DRAWING



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TOURISM A LEGACY OF STATE'S EARLIEST DAYS *From pg 1*

more profitable to work tourists than ore bodies." However, the concept was not a new one even then, the author states. Tourism in Southwestern Colorado actually began when explorers perceived both the economic potential and the rugged beauty of the region's natural resources. The first recreational publicity received for southwestern Colorado was made in the official report of Captain J.N. Macomb of the United States Corps of Topographical Engineers in 1859, when he predicted fame for the mineral and hot springs at Pagosa Springs. By the late 1860's, journalists and artists were intrigued by the many rumors of potential adventure, and began to inspect the entire region's scenery with a thought to its possible exploitation." The arrival of the railroads—complete with advertising budgets—made an escape to Colorado's curative climate more accessible to visitors, and the southwestern portion of the state became a mecca for the tubercular, the sightseer and the adventurous," O'Rourke wrote.

However, others were inspired to visit the region by an interest in ancient civilizations. Following the passage of the Antiquities Act in 1906, which imposed criminal penalties for destroying, excavating or injuring any historic or prehistoric ruin, monument or object of antiquity situated on U.S. lands, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Mesa Verde Park bill to protect Mesa Verde's archeological ruins. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Parks Act into law, creating the National Park Service. Hovenweep National Monument in Montezuma County was designated in 1919, and Yucca House in 1923. The Black Canyon of the Gunnison was proclaimed a national monument in 1933, and designated a National Park in 1999.

Today, Colorado is home to more than 500 heritage tourism sites, according to [2014 Office of Economic Development and International Trade \(OEDIT\) statistics](#). Average annual employment in the state's tourism-related industries tops \$177.7 mil-

lion, according to OEDIT, and with 25 ski and snowboard resorts, Colorado attracts more out-of-state skiers than any other state. According to the United States Forest Service, national forests occupy nearly 22 percent of Colorado's state land area, the third-highest percentage in the nation. Colorado's more than 55 national and state parks, substantial wilderness and recreation areas, and the greatest number of 14,000-foot mountain peaks in the nation are significant in attracting visitors as well, the Forest Service notes. Colorado also boasts 18 of the top U.S. mountain biking trails, serving an active and adventurous demographic.

Here in Colorado's Southwestern District, which includes Montrose County, overnight travelers generated earnings of \$223 million in 2014, 5.1 percent of total earnings within the district, according to information compiled by [Dean Runyon](#) for the Colorado Tourism Office. The Dean Runyon report also notes that here in Montrose County, spending by travelers jumped from \$63.9 million in 2000 to 115.4 million in 2014. Travelers are increasingly planning their trips using online resources: According to Longwoods International, six in 10 Colorado visitors indicated they used the internet to help plan their 2014 trip to the state, and to actually make a booking.

Meanwhile, as [Forbes contributor Julie Weed points out](#), there is the new element of THC tourism. "Recreational sales of Marijuana became legal in 2014 in Colorado and Washington State, and the decriminalization is attracting visitors," Weed writes. —Hotels.com found that Denver hotel searches went up 73 percent compared to the year before, for the Marijuana festival weekend of April 2014, the first to be held following legalization of marijuana sales." Weed also noted that two entrepreneurs have teamed up to create a web site designed specifically for the marijuana tourism market, www.travelTHC.com.

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WRITER GAIL MARVEL'S CLUB CONNECTION

MONTROSE AREA WOOD TURNERS



Above, Clarence Fivecoate from Delta turns a footed bowl with a live-edge. A live-edge is a natural edge in which the bark of the tree, or the natural inclusions are maintained. Photos by Gail Marvel.



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose Area Woodturners, a member of the American Association of Woodturners, opened their doors in January of 2013. Today the membership for the chapter numbers 27, three of whom are women. Club president Dave Kaufmann said, "When we first started we had some members who had never turned and a couple of them didn't even own a lathe." The membership, which is made up mostly of retirees, come from diverse backgrounds. Dave said, "We have an attorney, a builder and a cake decorator...we all draw from each other's knowledge." Some members drive from Ridgway, Delta and Cedaredge; however, there are a couple of snowbirds who attend only during the summer.

Each meeting lasts about two hours and

begins with a brief business meeting, followed by a raffle. The members contribute a chunk of wood suitable for turning and raffle tickets are sold. As tickets are drawn the lament over not holding the winning ticket for a choice piece of cherry, mesquite or alder can be heard.

Money collected from the raffle, as well as the \$60 yearly dues, has been used to purchase video equipment for demonstrations. Dave said, "Without cameras only a few people can stand close enough to see the demonstration. The cameras let everyone actually watch how the tool is being used. It's a good teaching tool." Funds are also used to bring in professional turners to do workshops and demonstrations. "We'd like to bring in one or two professionals every year and in 2015 we brought in Jimmy Clews. We're still working on some-

one for 2016."

At each meeting a member is scheduled to give a 45-minute demonstration. Dave said, "We can actually watch members doing demos of their projects — bowls, canes for Veterans, off-center turning, and boxes with lids."

Members who are hesitant to do a demonstration in front of the entire club might find the open-shop environment more comfortable. "At least twice a month we send out an email for an open-shop that is on a Thursday from 9 am until noon. Guys drop in and out and we discuss finishes, sharpening tools and projects. We do simple projects in smaller groups, more one-on-one with peers. Sometimes guys just stand around and visit and exchange ideas."

The woodturners maintain a library of books and videos that members can check out. An important component of the club meetings is a focus on safety and safety equipment. "We want our members to keep all their fingers." Outreach in the community includes meeting with the high school woodshop class, live demonstrations at the Montrose County Fair, and the Ridgway Rendezvous. Members are able to sell their creations at both the fair and the Rendezvous. Dave said, "We'd really like to get more young people involved. This year at the fair we'll demonstrate turning bowls, toy tops and canes."

The Montrose Area Woodturners is a 501c3 and accepts donations to help purchase hardwood blanks needed for turning canes for the Veteran's Eagle Head Cane project sponsored through the Wounded Warrior Resource Center.

Contact Information:

Montrose Area Woodturners

3411 Mahogany Dive (Brown's Ranch)

2nd Thursday of each month beginning at 1:30; Club President Dave Kaufmann 970-238-0661

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YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW...HISTORICAL SOCIETY BRINGS EARLY MONTROSE TO LIFE

Fifth Annual Pioneer Social to Showcase Flowers Family



Like today's popular tree lighting at the Courthouse, there was also a tree lighting on Main Street back in the day, where Wells Fargo Bank is now. Courtesy photo Montrose County Historical Society.

By Liesl Greathouse

As we head into the New Year, and the cold winter season, people are often searching for fun things to do both indoors and outside. We recently chatted with Sally Johnson, coordinator at the Montrose County Historical Museum, about not only some of the upcoming events at the Museum, but also what people used to do back in the day for fun before cellphones and cars.

Montrose had a lot of interesting activities to do outside. One such activity included hooking up a sled or toboggan to a horse and being pulled down the side streets and alleys of Montrose. "People also went skiing on Cerro Summit, [where] there was a tow rope to the top of the hill," Sally explained. "They found some of the tow engine articles when they did a historical survey a couple of years ago for the new trail system."

With the cold temperatures we expect here in Colorado, ice skating was a popular activity for locals to enjoy, and ice harvesting in general was an important industry. "It was cold enough here that we had two ice plants, one by where Russell Stovers is called Boslers and the other being Lakeside on Spring Creek," Sally said.

"They would harvest ice blocks and store them for the Summer (before we had refrigerators)."

For more indoor-related activities, local groups kept themselves busy, including sewing clubs and quilting groups. "There were various ladies groups, including the Reviewers Club, who did quite a bit of good things in town," Sally explained. "There was also the Cliolian Club, started in 1895, who helped get the library going and other community services."

Before the library, Montrose had a place called the Reading Room, where people would go to read and exchange books. Then it was decided that we needed an official library. "The first library card cost \$1 and the head librarian, Mrs. Collins, was the mother of Dr. Harriet Collins, the first woman doctor in Montrose," Sally added.

For people looking for a party, The Moynihan House on Main Street--where Crippin Funeral Home is today--had lots of parties and was where the upper class of Montrose went to have a good time.

Like today's popular tree lighting at the Courthouse, there was also a tree lighting on Main Street back in the day, where Wells Fargo Bank is now.

Looking to present excursions and fun, the Museum has a couple recent highlights to mention and future events to talk about.

A great honor came to the Museum this year, when it was announced that the Museum's nomination for the Keuffel & Esser, Thacher Cylindrical Slide Rule had been selected as one of Colorado's 2015 Top Ten Significant Artifacts. "It was the only artifact on the Western Slope [that was] a top ten significant artifact," Sally explained. "You can see the slide rule at the local Montrose Library until February."

While the Museum itself is closed for the season, Sally keeps busy with requests for research from people and doing programs on the unknown stories of Montrose at local schools. "I also read history books and get ready for the upcoming season, with new displays and ways to get the word out about the Museum," Sally said.

The Museum has various events and new displays in the works for 2016. One such event will be the Fifth Annual Pioneer Social on Feb. 20, this year honoring the Flowers family. It features history on the family, tea and snacks, and while volunteers are always welcome, Sally simply asks for people to "Come hear about the family's history."

Continued next page

YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW...HISTORICAL SOCIETY BRINGS EARLY MONTROSE TO LIFE Fifth Annual Pioneer Social to Showcase Flowers Family...From page 10



The Keuffel & Esser, Thacher Cylindrical Slide Rule was selected as one of Colorado's 2015 Top Ten Significant Artifacts. Courtesy photo.

One of the things Sally is preparing for is the National Park Service's Black Canyon display for the Park's 100th birthday. "I'm excited about the celebration of 100 years," she said.

"The Gunnison Tunnel is down there and is an important part of history. [We will hopefully] be displaying artifacts from the Park Service that have not been seen in years.

They are great treasures." The Montrose County Historical Museum is located at 21 N. Rio Grande Ave and is open May to



The Fifth Annual Pioneer Social on Feb. 20, and will honor the Flowers family. Courtesy photo.

October, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Other times

by appointment for research. For more information, call 249-2085.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CUSTOMER SERVICE RECOGNITION...CASHIERS!



Mirror Staff Report
MONTROSE—Working at Dollar General last week, Raymond was caught multi-tasking—ringing up sales, but at the same time offering to find roadside assistance for a stranded shopper whose car had ended up in a ditch as a result of icy weather conditions.

The Mirror welcomes news releases and kudos for outstanding customer service... email us at editor@montrosemirror.com. Thanks for reading!



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ALPINE BANK INTRODUCES BARBARA WOLFE AND TAMMY ANDERSON



Alpine Bank is pleased to announce the relocation of long time employee, Barbara Wolfe (Assistant Vice President/Branch Manager), to our Delta branch as well as welcome Tammy Anderson to the Alpine Bank family.

Special to the Mirror

DELTA—Alpine Bank is pleased to announce the relocation of long time employee, Barbara Wolfe (Assistant Vice President/Branch Manager), to our Delta branch as well as welcome Tammy Anderson to the Alpine Bank family.

Barbara Wolfe is a Colorado native, growing up on a ranch in the Eastern

Plains of Colorado. Barbara's career in banking began in 1981, she has worked in the financial services industry ever since. Barbara joined the Alpine Bank family in 1999, and has worked in many capacities within Alpine Bank, most recently she was the branch manager of the Ouray location for eight years.

Alpine bank is family and community oriented; these are both very important to Barbara. "I'm excited to become involved in the Delta community." In her spare time, Barbara enjoys tracing family genealogy, spending time with family and friends.

To contact Barbara Wolfe for comments, questions, or suggestions please call her directly at 970-986-3700, or email barbara-wolfe@alpinebank.com.

Tammy Anderson is also a Colorado native, she and her husband, Jeff, raised their 2 children in Delta over the last 22 years. Tammy comes to Alpine Bank with over 21 years of experience in the banking industry.

Tammy has a heart for service to others; she finds the most joy in giving back to

others and regularly practices "random acts of kindness".

Tammy is a fantastic addition to the Alpine Bank team, "I look forward to reconnecting with customers, bringing enthusiasm to the workplace and helping Alpine Bank grow in the community"

Barbara Wolfe and Tammy Anderson join a fantastic team at the Delta Branch include Tami Hale, Vonnice Piotrowski, Robyn Casias, Cheryl Cumnock and Gena Cooper.

About Alpine Bank

Alpine Bank is a \$2.7 billion, employee-owned organization chartered in 1973 with headquarters in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. With 38 banking offices across Colorado, Alpine Bank employs nearly 600 people and serves more than 130,000 customers with retail, business, wealth management*, mortgage and electronic banking services. Alpine Bank was recently elevated to a 5-star rating for financial strength by BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation's leading bank rating firm. The 5-star rating is BauerFinancial's highest rating for financial institutions.

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

BIPARTISAN POLICY SOLUTIONS SHOULD MATCH EXPECTATIONS, POCKETS

Sitting at my home desk preparing to write this column, I couldn't be happier to see the mounds of snow outside the window. May El Nino be all for southwest Colorado that's been promised. For those not fans of winter weather, remember what this moisture will do for us in the spring and summer.

While I wish I could stay at home to enjoy winter, it's time for me to head back to Denver for the next legislative session, starting mid-January. It's highly possible, though disappointing from a policy-focused perspective, that this session will be dominated by antics stimulated by election cycle 2016. However, my work will focus on a few specific areas. I'm sponsoring bills from the water and wildfire interim committees, a couple of others related specifically to my district and, finally, several bills focused on Colorado's biggest budgetary challenge, containing healthcare costs.

I've heard from constituents who are extremely alarmed that their health insurance, which they're now required by federal law to carry or pay a penalty to the IRS, costs as much or more than their home mortgage. Others absolutely refuse to be put on Medicaid, especially since they know that there are too few healthcare providers able to take below-cost payments from governmental pro-

grams.

I wish I was shocked that health insurance costs have not gone down as promised, but continue to climb skyward. The new federal or state laws didn't deal with the critical challenge of escalating costs. Consequently, the costs of an expanded Medicaid population and the level of mandated coverage by the federal — "Affordable Care Act" are eating up Colorado's state budget and raising premiums for those not on governmental programs.

With a state balanced budget requirement, healthcare expenditures are crowding out essential funding for education, roads, and the long list of to-do's for Colorado's infrastructure, critically needed for the population growth Colorado expects to gain. This is where our focus should be in the next legislative session.

However, instead, the governor's budget proposal does some fancy footwork around TABOR rather than looking for long-term, bipartisan solutions. His proposal stretches the imagination to justify tucking away \$100 million of collected hospital fees rather than paying TABOR refunds to taxpayers as required by our state constitution in this comparatively flush time of state revenues.

To me, it's incredibly shortsighted to deepen citizen cynicism by skirting the constitutional requirements of TABOR for

a woefully inadequate fix to our budget challenges. Instead, we should place infrastructure funding as a higher priority by seeking to reduce or eliminate state programs that don't support the basic functions of state government. Many Coloradans are struggling to make ends meet in their households and legislators should accept the same challenge. I'm committed to working on this and hope to have company.

More budgeting gimmicks, frustratingly similar to recent years of swiping away \$500 million in severance taxes for programs totally unrelated to the tax's statutory purpose of mitigating energy development impacts and addressing water infrastructure needs, are not the answer.

Many pundits and political observers are perplexed at what is going on in the presidential primaries, on both sides of the aisle. The Colorado legislature would do well to absorb that not-so-subtle messaging from voters and work harder to find bipartisan policy solutions that match people's expectations and pockets.

Senator Ellen S. Roberts, Senate President Pro Tempore

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COUNCIL TO DISCUSS MAYFLY, COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, PIC PLACE GRANT APPLICATION

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council members will discuss an incentive agreement with the Mayfly Outdoor Group, LLC (dba Mayfly Outdoors) at their upcoming work session of Jan. 4, 2016.

The incentives package includes a combination of grants, accommodations and abatements, including a \$50,000 cash grant for marketing; \$5,000 in broadband reimbursements for cable upgrades at Mayfly Outdoors' existing facility; and up to \$270,000 in disbursements for the addition of second-shift full time permanent (FTP) staffers, at \$5,000 per FTP. For the entire package read the Council work session packet city web site.

City Council members will also hear from Board President Kaye Hotsenpiller and Executive Director Sara Plumhoff of the Montrose Community Foundation. According to presentation materials, Montrose Community Foundation serves as a fiscal incubator and manages 54 component funds with combined assets of \$3.1 million; provided \$200,000 in grants through those funds in fiscal years 2014-2015; provided \$21,000 in community enhancement grant funding in fiscal years 2014-2015; administers scholarships with nine awarded each year (MCF awarded more than \$400,000 in scholarship funds in 2015); and provides support and training to non-profit organizations.

Montrose Community Foundation awarded \$10,000 in community enhancement grant funds in 2015. Hilltop Community Resources received \$2,500 in grant funds to support homeless clients; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the Seventh Judicial District received \$1,800 in grant funds to help pay for a case manager; Montrose Coalition on Homelessness was awarded \$2,500 to provide placement and services for homeless people; Kids Aid of Montrose received \$2,500 to purchase food for children; and Sharing Ministries of Montrose was awarded \$700 for food and general operating support. (The report notes that MCF also released \$2,300 in 2014 community enhancement funds in June for Sharing Ministries to purchase food from Food Bank of the Rockies to meet a severe food pantry shortage.)

Upcoming plans are for the Montrose Community Foundation to fund a Matching Grant for \$10,000 to HopeWest for the non-profit's Kids Program; as well as a new community-wide initiative to "promote and eventually instill Character and Civility in the local Community;" and

an Immediate Need granting program.

Also at the work session City Councilors will discuss a resolution to partner with the Community Dental Clinic, Center for Mental Health and other community organizations to apply for \$600,000 in community development block grant (CDBG) funding through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to relocate, expand and remodel the Community Dental Clinic and create an entity called PIC Place.

PIC Place would provide socio-economically vulnerable individuals with access to quality dental, medical, and behavioral health services in an integrated care setting, according to the proposed resolution, which reads in part, "WHEREAS, the Community Dental Clinic, which currently serves 8,000 patients annually, will serve 12,000-15,000 people at the new 9,400-square-foot PIC Place location; and WHEREAS, 100 percent of income-eligible patients served at PIC Place will be under 250 percent of Federal Poverty Levels in Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, Ouray and San Miguel counties; and WHEREAS, the City of Montrose

wishes to assist the Community Dental Clinic in securing funds to complete the proposed project."

If approved, the City of Montrose would also provide \$10,170 in fiber optic connections; building permit and plan check fees; and grant administration to the project.

City Council will also discuss the Interim Agreement that City attorneys reached last week with Montrose County for temporary use of the County's Emergency Operations Center; and a discussion of the Colorado Municipal League Advisory Committee.

Items scheduled for possible discussion at future work sessions include: the City's 2016 Annual Plan of Annexation and Three-Mile Plan on Jan. 18; Sharing Ministries CDBG Grant Agreements on Jan. 19; Key Citizen Awards on Jan. 19; Amendments to City of Montrose 401(a) Money Purchase Plans on Jan. 19; a Montrose Regional Airport Discussion on Feb. 1; M.P. 350.27 to M.P. 351.43 on Feb. 1; a Fourth Quarter Police Department Report on Feb. 11; a Fourth Quarter Budget Review on Feb. 16; and a City Manager/City Attorney Evaluation Process Discussion on March 14.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

TELLURIDE HELITRAX OFFICIALLY OPENS FOR THE 2015-2016 HELICOPTER SKIING SEASON!

After nearly six feet of snow, Helitrax is flying and clients are skiing the goods



Photos: courtesy of Telluride Helitrax and Jeff Cricco.



Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE– Telluride Helitrax, Colorado's Ultimate Helicopter Skiing Experience, is now open for the 2015-2016 winter heli-skiing season. The San Juan Mountains experienced one of the deepest Decembers in recent history, and nearly six feet of snow fell in Helitrax terrain in the last two weeks. Needless to say, the skiing is great. Telluride Helitrax has been in operation for 33 years and remains a family-owned guide service, providing tailored and personalized guest experiences. Helitrax utilizes small, intimate group sizes of four guests to one guide to maximize safe-

ty and efficient skiing. Helitrax operates in spectacular terrain that includes over 200 square miles of high alpine basins, cirques and summits in the San Juan's. A day with Telluride Helitrax is the ultimate ski or snowboard experience, a memory that lasts a lifetime. Helitrax has something for everyone, offering single day trips, multi-day packages, private and custom tours, Aspen & Vail heli-ski charters, Denver heli-ski charters and scenic flights. A day with Helitrax includes six runs (10,000 – 14,000 vertical feet), powder skis and poles, avalanche transceiver, avalanche airbag pack, lunch and snacks, and water throughout the

day. Safety orientation, helicopter briefing and avalanche protocol are covered in a morning meeting and the day ends with après ski. To book with Telluride Helitrax, visit www.helitrax.com, call 970.728.8377 or email powder@helitrax.com. –Telluride Helitrax was an amazing experience and a fulfilling of my dream to go heli-skiing. It was the perfect day with beautiful weather, a great professional guide and a fun group of four. Telluride Helitrax has amazing service and they care about the customer in a fantastic way. Best regards and a big THANK YOU!" –Jens Schepers, Telluride



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

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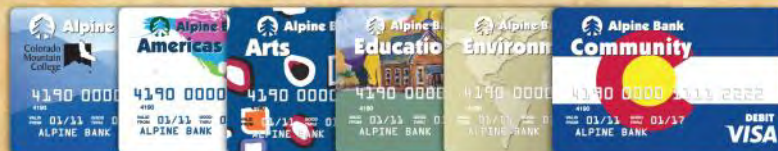
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FOUR CANDIDATES APPLY FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE BOARD SEATS

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The resignation of Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) Board Vice-President Tim Garvey was effective Dec. 31, 2015. Garvey's term would have expired in 2018.

During the MRLD board meeting of Dec. 10, 2015 Garvey reported that four applications for the position of trustee were received and all the candidates were interviewed by the personnel committee. The trustees instructed Executive Director Paul Paladino to forward all four applications to the Montrose County Commissioners for appointment consideration. The names of the trustee candidates are: Edward Hagins, Caroline Evans, Emily Schneider, and Tim Conner.

CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER AWARDING WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY RIVERBANK STABILIZATION BID TO HAYNES EXCAVATION

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Following approval of Consent Agenda items at its [regular meeting](#) of Jan. 5, Montrose City Council will consider voting to award the bid for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Riverbank Stabilization Project to Haynes Excavation in the total amount of \$376,433.75. Council will also consider approving an Interim agreement with Montrose County for use of the Montrose County Emergency Operations Center.

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OBITUARIES

RONALD “RON” LEE WORKMAN 1937-2015

Montrose resident, Ronald “Ron” Lee Workman, age 78, passed away in the early morning hours of December 25, 2015.

MONTROSE-Ronald Lee Workman, the son of Lawrence Workman and Marguerite Elizabeth (Windsor) Workman, was born on October 13, 1937, in Ava, Missouri. Ron lived and attended school in Ava, Missouri until his family relocated to Fresno, CA when he was about 7 years old. Ron attended school, graduated from high school and grew to adulthood in Fresno, CA. While he was in high school Ron developed a love of airplanes and even took flying lessons for a time. Ron proudly enlisted in the Air National Guard of California on October 8, 1958, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant, and was honorably discharged October 7, 1961.

Ron worked for J. J. Newberrys for 41 years as a store manager in Visalia, Reseda and Burbank, California. Three times he was elected Manager of Year. Ron was known as a perfectionist but always fair. His employees adored him and many of them remained his lifelong friends. In 1980, Ron would meet the woman he would happily spend the rest of his life with, Helen Theresa (Murray) Birawer, when she began working at J. J. Newberry. Helen would often joke that Ron “picked on her” so that other employees would not know that Ron and her were more than just employer-employee, which didn’t fool anybody. On April 6, 1984, Ron and Helen

were married in Las Vegas, Nevada and would be blessed to spend 31 years together. In December 1996, they moved to Montrose, Colorado. In March 1997, Ron began employment with Russell Stover where he worked in the warehouse box factory until his retirement in 2011.

Ron was an avid animal lover and had the joy of raising bees and pigeons during his lifetime. He was especially devoted to his beloved chocolate lab Molly. Ron took Molly to dog training classes when she was young and later they participated walking in various parade routes in Montrose, Delta, Ouray and other local cities and towns. Ron’s love of classic cars led him to join the Black Canyon Classics Car Club. He would proudly display his 1969 Ford Mustang at various car shows along the Western Slope. Through the car club Ron and Helen met some exceptional people, many of whom are considered their dear friends.

Ron was a man of quiet strength, fiercely loyal, had an understanding of right and wrong, was always there to lend a helping hand to a friend or family member and never said an unkind word about anyone.

Ron was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence Workman, mother, Marguerite Elizabeth Davis, stepson, Robert James Birawer, step-daughter-in-law, Susan Marie Birawer, one step-granddaughter and two step-grandsons.

Surviving family members who were

honored to share Ron’s life include his wife, Helen Theresa Workman of Montrose, CO; sons Brian Workman of Santa Clarita, CA and Randall Workman of Palm Springs, CA; sister Stacy LaVerne Davis Schroeder (Brian) of Clovis, CA; step-children, Christine Birawer of Lancaster, CA, Margaret Kassan of Valencia, CA, Theresa Birawer of Montrose, CO, Patricia Albert of Winnetka, CA, Michael (Colleen) Birawer of Montrose, CO, Kathleen Yamin of Windsor, CA, John (Theresa) Birawer of Simi Valley, CA, James (Bonnie) Birawer of Montrose, CO; step-daughter-in-law, Cheryl Birawer; 12 step-grandchildren, 17 step-great-grandchildren and one great-step-grandchild due in May, 2016.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Humane Society, In Memory of Ronald L. Workman.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 1 P.M. at Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors in Montrose, with a funeral service to celebrate Ron’s life to begin at 2:00 p.m.. A reception will follow immediately after the service at Signature Events, next to Sunset Mesa.

Visit the tribute website and send condolences to Ron’s family at www.SunsetMesaFuneralDirectors.com. Arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors.

DECEMBER DEATH NOTICES

Mrs. Marilla Audrey Schaefer, 82, passed away at Valley Manor Care Center in Montrose Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2015. Arrangements are pending with Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors (970) 240-9870.

Mr. Walter Melvin Evenson, 92, passed away in Montrose Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2015. Arrangements are pending with Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

Ms. Cynthia L. Jennell, 48, passed away at San Juan Living Center in Montrose Saturday, Dec. 26, 2015. Arrangements are pending with Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

Mr. Ronald Lee Workman, 78, passed away at Valley Manor Care Center in Montrose Friday, Dec. 25, 2015. Arrangements are pending with Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

Mrs. Eleanor Ann Pietrzyk, 81, passed away at her home in Paonia Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015. Arrangements are pending with Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

REGIONAL NEW BRIEFS

TIPTON NOMINATES 3RD DISTRICT STUDENTS TO U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

Special to the Mirror

WASHINGTON—Congressman Scott Tipton (CO-03) announced 24 students from Colorado's 3rd Congressional District have received a nomination from his office to attend U.S. Service Academies in 2016. The students were selected based on meeting or exceeding the stringent requirements of the respective academy and of Tipton's office, which uses a merit-based, competitive nomination process.

"It takes hard work, intelligence and determination to meet the high entrance standards of our nation's Service Academies, traits that are critical for success as a leader in the Armed Forces. To earn a nomination, these students have met or exceeded these high standards and demonstrated a true passion to serve our country," said Tipton.

Congressman Tipton's Academy Nominations for Colorado's 3rd Congressional District:

U.S. Air Force Academy

Alexandre Basagoita, Monte Vista, Sargent HS, currently attending Adams State University
Kobi Betts, Pueblo, Pueblo Central HS
Kyle Cox, Montrose, Montrose HS

Jonathan Hints, Pueblo, Pueblo West HS, graduated 2012, currently active duty AF
Lydia Knutson, Cedaredge, Cedaredge HS
Jessica Tuttle, Glenwood Springs, Glenwood Springs HS
Natalasha Weimer, Grand Junction, currently attending Northwestern Prep School
Noah Smith, Pueblo, Pueblo South HS
Kamren McKee, Fruita, Fruita Monument HS

Mary Hood, Alamosa, Sargent HS

U.S. Naval Academy

Connor Frasier, Steamboat Springs, Steamboat Springs HS
Samuel Samberson, Pueblo West, Pueblo West HS
Jacob Crouch, Steamboat Springs, Steamboat Springs HS
Nolan Butcher, Grand Junction, Hill School (boarding school in Pennsylvania)
Kyle Cox, Montrose, Montrose HS
Michael Tucker, Silt, Coal Ridge HS
Aileen Ojeda, Pueblo, Centennial HS
Joshua Hardin, Grand Junction, Hotchkiss HS
Grad 2013, currently attending Colorado Mesa University
Morgan Wright, Silverton, Ouray HS
Frankie Turner, Durango, Bayfield HS
West Point

Alexandre Basagoita, Monte Vista, Sargent HS, currently attending Adams State University

Allyson Ludewig, Gypsum, Eagle Valley HS

Aileen Ojeda, Pueblo, Centennial HS
Carter Ortiz, Pueblo, Pueblo West HS
Kamren McKee, Fruita, Fruita Monument HS

Connor Frasier, Steamboat Springs, Steamboat Springs HS

Frankie Turner, Durango, Bayfield HS
Silas Luke Stobbe, Grand Junction, Mesa Valley Community School

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Nathaniel Todd, Lewis, Life Independent School
Kaleb Todd, Lewis, Life Independent School

*Received nominations to multiple Service Academies Students who are residents of Colorado's 3rd Congressional District and are considering applying to a U.S. Service Academy can find more information on the nomination process at:

<http://tipton.house.gov/serving-you/military-academy-nominations>

Nominations from previous years can be found here: [2012](#), [2013](#), [2014](#), and [2015](#).

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SPECIAL TAX BILL INCLUDES EXTENDED HELP FOR CHARITIES

Provision Permits Tax-free Charitable Transfers from IRAs

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— On Dec. 18, Congress passed the PATH Act, which renews and makes permanent the Charitable IRA provision of 2006, making it easier for Americans to give to causes they care about. This provision has the power to help local charities strengthen their communities by allowing individuals to roll over up to \$100,000 annually from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to charity without being federally taxed.

Millions of Americans continue to save pre-tax dollars in their IRAs. The law allows taxpayers 70 ½ and older to share their wealth by giving retirement savings directly to charity—and bypassing income tax.

(source: <http://www.ici.org/research/stats/retirement/>)

This law is important to local charities operating as agents of philanthropy in order to continue to build community and improve social service programs that benefit people every day.

“It is a win-win—for people who would rather give to charity than pay taxes and for the nonprofit organizations they choose to support,” said Sara Plumhoff, Montrose Community Foundation (MCF) Executive Director.

Thanks to decades of deliberate saving, some of today’s retirees have more money in their IRAs than they need for daily living expenses and long-term care. Charitable individuals and couples have expressed an interest in giving the funds to charity, but income tax must be paid on all withdrawals, which reduces the value of the gift. A provision in the federal law extends this special option: transferring IRA assets directly to charity. By going directly to a qualified public charity such as the MCF, the money is not included in the IRA owner’s

income and—most important—is not taxed, preserving the full amount for charitable purposes.

Annually, holders of traditional IRAs who are at least 70½ years old can make direct charitable transfers up to \$100,000. Individuals may exclude the amount distributed directly to an eligible charity from their gross income.

The MCF can help donors execute the transfers and choose from several charitable fund options for their gift. Donor Advised Funds do not qualify for tax-free IRA transfers.

“This really is a powerful opportunity,” said Plumhoff. “For anyone interested in establishing a permanent legacy in this community, this is a chance of a lifetime to make the gift of a lifetime.”

Gift of a Lifetime: Shopping for Charity

Having more retirement money than you need is a great problem to have, and one that’s now easier to solve. But generous IRA donors still face multiple options for their gifts: Support the entire community? Underwrite a special cause? Shore up a favorite charity? Here are two ideas of types of charitable funds that the MCF suggests would benefit the community through charitable giving.

Montrose Forever Fund - Meeting ever-changing community needs.

IRA transfers to the MCF Forever Fund help address a broad range of current and future needs. MCF’s Board and Grant Committee evaluates all aspects of community well-being—arts and culture, community development, education, environment, health and human services—and awards strategic grants to select projects and programs from the interest and income earned on the Forever Fund.

“For people who care deeply about this

community and its people, this fund is an excellent way to address our most pressing needs, today and tomorrow,” says Plumhoff.

Agency Funds/Endowments — Helping local organizations sustain and grow.

IRA transfers to Agency Funds allow donors to support the good work of a specific, local nonprofit organization. In the MCF Family of Funds, the MCF has eight endowments for local organizations including: Academic Booster Club, Bosom Buddies, Habitat for Humanity, HopeWest, Magic Circle Players, Montrose Botanical Society, Montrose Regional Library Foundation, and United Methodist Church.

“For people who want to help secure the future of their favorite charities, our endowed Agency Funds give nonprofits a steady stream of income, plus planned giving and investment management services,” says Plumhoff.

About Montrose Community Foundation:

Montrose Community Foundation (MCF) is a charitable 501(c)3 organization committed to the development of the Montrose community. Established in 1994, to serve as a resource for its community, MCF has grown in participation and reach in the community. MCF is now a multi-faceted organization, with an Executive Director as its leader, an 11 person volunteer Board that meets monthly and serves on committees to oversee every aspect of the foundation, and a 10 person volunteer Advisory Board that meets quarterly and lends further support and ideas to the Foundation. Through philanthropic services, strategic grant making and community leadership, the Montrose Community Foundation helps people support the causes they care about, now and for generations to come. For more information visit www.montrosecf.com.

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ICE CLIMBER RESCUED NEAR TELLURIDE

Special to the Mirror

TELLURIDE – An ice climber was rescued by San Miguel County Deputies and its Search and Rescue (SAR) team after falling ill, cancelling the climb, and attempting to self-rescue Wednesday afternoon out of a backcountry area around Ames near Telluride.

A Colorado man in his twenties, and his climbing partner, a Utah woman in her thirties, began their trek in deep snow up the “Gallopig Goose Trail” just after 7 o’clock Wednesday morning with plans to hike a popular climb referred to as the —Ames Ice Hose.”

The climbers told Deputies they reached the base of the climb after 3 hours of hiking, but the man felt too ill to attempt the climb, and they turned around to head back. The man’s condition worsened during the descent with increasingly painful and relentless bouts of nausea and vomiting, which ultimately hampered their egress. They placed a 9-1-1 call at 12:15pm and provided GPS coordinates of their location.

Five SMSO Deputies were immediately dispatched and a —staging” area was established by the Ames power plant, about 10 miles southwest of Telluride.

The female climber is a former EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and has Wilderness First Responder training. She reported giving the man warm fluids and trying to keep him ambulatory in an effort to both help warm him and expedite extrication. However, she told Deputies that the man’s condition was deteriorating; he could not keep the fluids down, he was becoming non-ambulatory due to attacks of violent vomiting, and reportedly hypothermic. The temperature in the area was an estimated 0 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit.

Deputies sent in a —hasty team” of three, including a SAR volunteer, while equipment, including two snow machines, was brought to the scene.

—Hasty Teams” are designed to quickly go to the incident location, establish patient contact and perform interventions to stabilize the patient, and communicate patient condition and any resources and equipment needed.

A second team was dispatched on snow machines once the equipment arrived to the staging area. Patient contact was established just before 2pm, and the patient was transported, via snow machine, to the staging area where awaiting Telluride EMS personnel treated and transported the pa-

tient to the Telluride Medical Center. Sheriff’s Deputy Chris White served as Incident Command on Wednesday’s —quick and seamless” mission.

—The mission was accomplished rapidly in part because the patient was ambulatory for hours in their motivated attempt to self-rescue, as well as the solid decision-making and thorough communication from his climbing partner.” Sheriff Bill Masters also noted the good fortune of the patient.

—There were a confluence of factors working to his benefit, and without perhaps just one of them, this could have easily had a tragic outcome. Everyone engaged in backcountry recreation needs to be prepared for the day when factors like these do not come together.”

Additional SAR members were placed on stand-by in the event more personnel was needed for the mission, but ultimately stood down.

The San Miguel Sheriff’s Office, located in Telluride, Colorado and established in 1883, serves 7,800 residents and countless visitors across the 1,288 square miles of San Miguel County. Sheriff Bill Masters has been serving as the county’s elected Sheriff since 1980.

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Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

MONTROSE WINTER FARMERS MARKET 10 am - 1pm **Beginning Saturday Jan. 2, 2015**

Location: Behind Straw Hat Farm Kitchen Store

*514 S. 1st Street (Every other week through April 23) **January 2, 16, 31; February 13, 27; March 12, 26; April 9, 23.***

THE ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets every second Tuesday at St Mary's Catholic Church in the St Paul Room, 1855 St Mary's Drive, Montrose. The Public is welcome to attend. For more information, email alpinephotoclub@aol.com.

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.

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.

MONTHLY-

Jan. 5-Poets Jewell and Judyth Hill to perform at Talking Gourds Poetry Club. 6 p.m. at Arroyo in Telluride.

Jan. 6-Forum at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli, 1521 Oxbow Dr. 8 to 9 a.m. Presenter John W. Nelson to speak on Montrose Regional Crimestoppers, law enforcement. Coffee is \$1.

Jan. 6-*Montrose County Historical Society Presents*: "Exploring Western Colorado History through Livestock Brands" by Tim Force at Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2nd. St., 7 pm. Admission Free, Public Welcome, For more information call 323-6466.

Jan. 6-Talking Gourds Poetry Club poets to appear at Montrose Public Library, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 6-Film Night-Mediterranea to show at Wright Opera House, 472 Main St. in Ouray. Doors open 6:30 p.m. show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets for adults \$7.

Jan. 8-10-Mosaics Workshops for Adults, Weehawken Creative Arts. Instructor Ann Cheeks. www.weehawkenarts.org.

Jan. 8-Sherb Nerds Trivia Night at the Sherbino Theater in Ridgway, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 9-Ridgway Photographer Natalie Heller and Functional Artist David Cary are both well known around the area for their stunning work. Her medium is photography including gorgeous views of the San Juan Mountains, Ranch Life, Rodeo and Autos as Art. His medium is functional art including Lamps and Tables made of driftwood and hand painted rice paper. The two friends are teamed up in a joint exhibition of their work that opens at the Ridgway Library on Jan. 9 from 4-7 pm. For more information contact Rachel at (970) 626-5252.

Jan. 9-Canyon Creek Laff Inn Comedy Night featuring headliner Jill Bryan, Bridges of Montrose 7 p.m.

Jan. 10-Vocalist Deb Barr and Artist Kellie Day at the Sherbino Theater Living Room Lounge. 6 to 9 p.m.

Jan. 14-17-Second Annual Telluride Fire Festival. For more about the Festival, to become a sponsor, volunteer, or submit a fire installation for consideration, or subscribe to their enews, visit www.telluridefirefestival.org or email erin@telluridefirefestival.org.

Jan. 15-*The Last Lifeboat* opens at Magic Circle Theatre. This drama is the untold tale of the man who built the Titanic. J. Bruce Ismay, head of the White Star Line, was aboard the doomed ocean liner when it struck the iceberg. As the mighty ship began to sink, Ismay tried to save as many passengers as he could. At the last moment, he stepped into the last lifeboat — a decision that would haunt him for the rest of his life. The Last Lifeboat is a fast-paced, intense story about a good man forced to carry the guilt for the greatest tragedy of the century. This January, experience what history can't forget from a perspective it never considered. Tickets go on sale to the general public at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan.12, 2016.

Jan. 16 The KAFM RADIO ROOM Proudly Presents Robert Burns — Selected Works and the Music of Fifth Reel at 7:30 PM. Grand Junction's own Celtic band, Fifth Reel and friends will share many of Burns' most treasured songs and poems, and will play the hornpipes, jigs, strathspeys and reels that define Scottish Traditional Music. Fifth Reel is: Connie Smith, Norm Ashley, Mick Wilson, and Ron Young. They will be joined by special guests: Vocalist Kathleen Ruhleder, President of Clan Cameron Robert Cameron, Highland dancers Sarah Reed and Kim Kelleher, and piper Connor Wilson. Together they will create a multi-dimensional presentation truly honoring the star of this show, Robert Burns, and Scotland's traditional music. Scottish attire is admired but not required! Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door and may be purchased by calling (970) 241-8801, Ext 202 or online at www.kafmradio.org. The Radio Room is located at 1310 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Jan. 21-22-The 2016 Voices of Rural Colorado Denver Legislative Trip hosted by CLUB 20, Action 22, and Progressive 15 will be held on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 21st -22nd, at the Old Supreme Court Chambers at the Colorado State Capitol at 200 E Colfax, Denver. [For an updated agenda of meetings, click here.](#) [To register for Club 20's Rural Legislative Trip click here.](#)

Jan. 22-23-The Western Colorado 4th Annual Food & Farm Forum will be held all day on Jan. 22nd and 23rd. Register NOW to get the early bird special. This year's conference theme is *Farming the Future: Tools, Tips, Talent*. The conference has a wide array of breakout sessions which convey vital, regionally specific agricultural information in areas including maximizing crop and livestock production, innovative agricultural marketing and management strategies, and specialty crops. Tickets: \$30 Early Bird Pre-conference, \$45 Early Bird Forum, \$70 Early Bird Both.

For info visit foodfarmforum.org, or email vista@livewellmontroseolathe.org. Reach us by phone at: [970.249.0705](tel:970.249.0705).



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Editor@montrosemirror.com

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At left, progress continues on the new Montrose Recreation Center south of town...above, snow on the walking trail along Cedar Creek.

Do you need health insurance?

Open Enrollment ends January 31st!

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Friday, January 8th

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