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### THE Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays! MONTROSEMIR ROR

Issue No. 157, Feb. 15 2016

### BRONCO TICKET SCHEME GONE AWRY BRINGS SUDDEN FAME TO MONTROSE RANCHERS

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-When Montrose rancher Jim Herberg's wife Rebecca decided to try and win Superbowl tickets for him through a Grand Junction television station last month, he agreed that it would be a pretty good gift if she won.

Unfortunately, "I think she sent her entry to the wrong station," Herberg said.

So instead of Superbowl tickets, the couple—who refer to themselves as "hermits" because of their rural lifestyle—found themselves suddenly enjoying their five minutes of fame.

"It was the FOX station that was doing a "Show us your Bronco Gear" contest," Herberg said. "But she contacted the CBS station." And while they were not running a contest, that station opted to come out and film a story on Rebecca's Bronco gear effort—hand knitting orange and blue sweaters Bronco for 150 baby goats to be born on the couple's Dancing Kid Ranch this spring.

"The Denver affiliate picked up the story," Jim Herberg said. "And it

went everywhere—I'm

Continued on page 4



Jim Herberg, above, ended up watching Super Bowl 50 at home this year, despite wife Rebecca's attempt to win tickets through a Grand Junction television station. The couple and their goat ranch ended up in a CBS video that went around the world instead. Courtesy photo.

### NEED HAS DOUBLED IN THREE MONTHS FOR DELTA'S ABRAHAM CONNECTION HOMELESS SHELTER



Since opening the doors of its new shelter facility Dec. 5, Delta's Abraham Connection has doubled the number of bed nights provided to homeless people. Courtesy photo. Bv Caitlin Switzer

DELTA-Delta's Abraham Connection is now in its sixth season of providing overnight shelter to homeless people, now with a new facility that opened on Dec. 5. As capacity to serve has increased, however, so has demand.

Last year, Abraham Connection provided 1,133 bed nights during a six-month period. The overnight shelter is open from November through April, said Board Chair Cheryl Oeltjebruns. "We've actually doubled our numbers," she said. "In three months this year we have provided 1,080 bed nights."

Those nights will be much more comfortable if Abraham Connection can raise the funds need to buy bunk beds, Oeltjenbruns said. "Right now we just have mattresses on the floor," she said. "We have just received a \$1,000 donation if we can raise a match for it—for bunk beds. If we had bunks we could get people off the floor."

Because Abraham Connection is still primarily run by volunteers, volunteers are *Continued on page 6* 

in this

Gail Marvel's Club Connection!

Coram Honors
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Regional News Briefs! Regional events Calendar!

Local Stories, Local photos!



### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

### CITIZENS TESTIFY ON WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION, BIOMASS ENERGY BILLS

With the adrenaline rush of the Superbowl victory by the Denver Broncos fading, but certainly not gone, legislative activity is picking up steam. I had four bills to present in committee last week and all four passed the initial test of their first committee vote.

I was able to arrange for constituents to provide remote video testimony on several of my bills from Durango's Fort Lewis College campus, bringing in perspectives from southwestern Colorado without the witnesses having to make the long trek to the Capitol to testify. I really appreciate Fort Lewis College making citizen engagement at the legislature easier for those from our corner of the state.

Nearly 20 people testified in support of the bill which would continue state funding of the wildfire risk reduction grant program. Witnesses represented a wide range of interests including "Firewise" community groups, environmental organizations like The Nature Conservancy, the realtors' state association and representatives from city and county government and the county sheriffs.

Also testifying in support of this important state program were many water utilities, including from the Front Range cities of Denver, Colorado Springs and Greeley, emphasizing the critical linkage of forest health and wildfire mitigation

with watershed protection issues. I'll now take the bill to the appropriations committee, seeking to provide this matching grant money.

My biomass energy bill, proposing to make use of the renewable energy standard multiplier already enjoyed by solar energy, also passed, with very strong testimony from the Colorado Renewable Energy Society and biomass energy experts along with the testimony from JR Ford, who has been working for years on this type of project in the Pagosa Springs area.

The ability to make full use of the woody biomass in generating electricity in relatively small projects located in high wildfire risk areas of the state makes a lot of sense, including helping to improve public safety and forest health.

Unfortunately, one environmental group, Conservation Colorado, opposed the bill and seeks to have the bill killed. The basis of the opposition is the use of the increased multiplier for woody biomass projects.

That position appears flimsy at best, since they strongly advocated to use multipliers for solar energy and other renewable energy projects previously and freely admit that the multiplier helped make those energy sources economically feasible.

As pointed out by the biomass energy experts, the production of carbon-negative

biochar from the woody biomass project provides carbon dioxide removal. No other renewable energy source can claim that benefit and reducing the fuel load through an electricity generation plant surely is a much preferred alternative to the devastating impacts of poor air quality suffered during a catastrophic wildfire.

The nonpartisan, scientific experts also vigorously disputed Conservation Colorado's claim that the multiplier would dilute the renewable energy standard now in statute

One further point they made was that biochar provides the added benefit of being an excellent soil additive for agricultural production as it can restore nutrients to the soil that used to come naturally from the fire-adapted Colorado landscape. I've offered to work with the opposition to this bill, but so far, not a single alternative approach has been suggested. As you can see, political sausage-making includes advocacy groups, too, and I hope that common sense will prevail as to the many benefits of this bill.

Senator Ellen S. Roberts, Senate President

Pro Tempore

State Capitol, 200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO 80203

Phone: (303)866-4884

Email: <u>ellen.roberts.senate@state.co.us</u>
Website: www.ellenroberts.com



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### TAXPAPERS GET A BREAK THIS YEAR: TAKE A FOUR-DAY REPRIEVE ON FILING 2015 INCOME TAX RETURN!



In his 49<sup>th</sup> year of preparing tax returns, H & R Block Senior Tax Advisor Ray Miles occasionally feels like a counselor as he discusses financial issues and situations with his clients. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel MONTROSE-The 2016 tax season has an

additional four days added to the normal filing date of April 15<sup>th</sup>. Leap Year 2016

puts Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> back on the calendar and that, coupled with Washington D.C. celebrating Emancipation Day on Friday April 15<sup>th</sup>, means the filing deadline to submit 2015 tax returns will be April 18, 2016.
Ray Miles, Senior Tax Advisor for H & R Block said, "This year we got off to a slow start, but it's starting to pick up. A lot of documents were slow in coming out and some documents from investment brokers still won't be out until Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. The extra four days may help some people."

Ray, along with his corporation partners, own 10 H & R Block offices located throughout the western slope — Montrose, Delta, Grand Junction and Rifle.

"Some locations close their doors after tax season is over, but the downtown Montrose location is open year round."

Ray not only keeps his eye on the changing IRS rules and regulations, but also on the political landscape.

"Some of the presidential candidates are talking about a flat tax, so you don't know where taxes are going."

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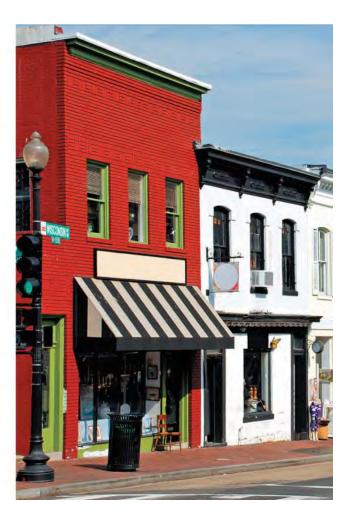
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### BRONCO TICKET SCHEME GONE AWRY From page 1





At left, Rebecca Herberg with the herd. At right, goat babies in Bronco sweaters. Courtesy photos.

kind of surprised it went as viral as it did. I had relatives in Anchorage who saw it on the news." Before buying their land and starting their ranch six years ago, the Herbergs lived a very different lifestyle, said Jim, who grew up in Aspen. "I was a land developer, building homes all over the country," he said. "We had been on the East Coast, but 2008-2009 were devastating years. I wanted to get back to Colorado, and Rebecca said 'Now's the time.""

In the end, Montrose was the natural choice. "Montrose seems like the town closest to what Aspen was like when I was growing up," Jim said. "Actually, I think it's even prettier here."

Since moving back, the Herbergs have found themselves "more pioneers than ranchers," he said.

"We started with sage brush and cactus, and we put in fence and built a house," he said. "And we bought our first herd of 63 goats from a fellow in Nebraska. It seemed like a good idea at the time! They're relatively easy to take care of, and fun to raise. Goats come in different flavors—there are milk goats, fiber goats, and meat goats—

we raise meat goats."

And land that would not appeal to a cattle rancher is good living to a goat, he said.

"They are pretty smart, and family friendly," Jim said. Today, the family ranch is home to a growing herd of 300 Boer goats.

Rebecca had raised goats before starting the ranch, and had always enjoyed their individual personalities and intelligence. "I've had goats off and on since I was a kid," she said. "We've got some that are friendly, some that are skittish. Some hate us, others are very personable. They don't really care for grass, but they are the perfect solution for weeds. And infrastructure is easier for goats; all of our goats can escape, but they stay here because they want to. They are very territorial, and they're not going to leave if they are happy, get fed on time, and their area is clean.

"The worst thing they ever do is jump the fence to get at the hay pile," Rebecca said. "But they jump back in the yard when they see us coming—they know they're not supposed to do that."

There is generally a baby goat being bottle fed at the Dancing Kid Ranch, and six or seven newborns end up in the house each time babies are born, she said.

"I even had one who was potty trained-Maybud," Rebecca said. "I had been keeping her in the house, and I would run her outside whenever she had to pee. It got to where she would stand at the door and let me know. "They're like family," she said. "Every life is just precious." Knitting orange and blue sweaters for the babies to be born this spring is actually a practical way to keep the little ones warm—while celebrating the Denver Broncos.

"They're a team we can really be proud of," Rebecca said.

And though Jim and Rebecca ended up watching Super Bowl 50 on television at the ranch, it could not have been a better day. "I had been to the Super Bowl when Elway was playing," Jim said. "Any time I would go, they would lose—I see causal relationships where others don't. And the two of us are running a ranch; we can't leave at the same time, and it would be no fun at all to go without her.

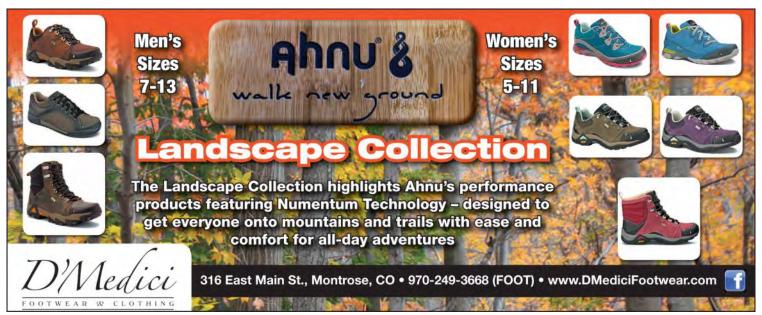
"The view is better, and it's more comfortable at home," he said.

For Rebecca, sudden fame is just one more surprising and fun life experience to take in stride—like a Super Bowl win.

"I am such a hermit," she laughed. "And suddenly, because I tried to win Super Bowl tickets we were hermits on parade!"

Even the goats enjoyed Super Bowl 50 in the end, she added. "During the game I popped some caramel corn," she said. "Every time the Broncos scored, I went out and threw 'em some caramel corn. Usually, I pop it for us, but this was the Super Bowl. They love it too—that's good living!

"They were happy goats."



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Also visit <u>www.voadementiacare.org</u> for more information on Validation.

Thursday, February 4, 2016: 12:45 pm-1:30 pm - Montrose Senior Center (Montrose Pavilion), 1800 Pavilion Drive, Montrose

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016:** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Region 10 Building, 300 N Cascade Ave, Sneffels Conference Room

### ABRAHAM CONNECTION HOMELESS SHELTER From page 1

also an essential resource and ongoing need. "I think our volunteers are so invaluable to what we do," she said. "And you end up feeling good—nobody will be disappointed after volunteering here."

While the shelter's current wish list is located on its <u>Facebook page</u>, ongoing needs include volunteers capable of assisting with case management. With demand on the rise, those who can assist in guiding clients through the system are very welcome. "Our numbers are so high," Oeltjenbruns said. "But our mission is a hand up, not a hand out, and we provide some level of help to everyone. Just help-

ing someone to get a valid identification card and apply for benefits qualifies as a success."

Shift volunteers are always needed, with three shifts available around the clock. Training is provided periodically. Because Abraham Connection does not restrict services to anyone, but serves singles as well as families, the organization has been part of an ongoing conversation about bringing similar services to Montrose. Since the new facility opened, "we have seen a tremendous increase of people coming from Montrose, because there is no overnight shelter there," Oeltjenbruns said, noting

that she has been speaking with an interested local group that met at the Montrose Church of the Nazarene last week.

In the meantime, supplies have been running low after a long, cold winter. Abraham Connection can use help with cash donations, as well as items such as laundry supplies; snack bags; warm socks, and personal hygiene items like deodorant. Abraham Connection is a 501c3 nonprofit, and all donations are tax deductible.

Mail donations to Abraham Connection at Post Office Box 910, Delta Colorado 81416. To volunteer, call 970-773-8290. Visit them online on Facebook.



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### OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NOT AN APPROPRIATE USE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS

Dear Editor:

Over the last decade, we have seen several convoluted schemes proposed in the name of "economic development", that always hold out the promise of "good paying jobs" for Montrose. Unfortunately, those schemes have never come to fruition.

The City just voted to participate in another of those convoluted schemes, that involves the County, and the State as well. And, once again, MEDC's fingerprints are all over this next "great economic deal", that involves over \$661,000 in taxpayer dollars. The City's portion alone exceeds \$341,000 for jobs and marketing.

Voiced taxpayer concerns were not directed at Mayfly per se, but the enormity of the scheme in tax dollars, to essentially bribe Mayfly to move their plant here from California and create local jobs.

Traditionally, companies such as Mayfly, when contemplating a move, play one municipality against another to get the best economic deal they can. With over \$661,000 in play, that ultimately filters to the private company's bottom line, it certainly seems that our local government has been out negotiated at taxpayer expense. As a result, Mayfly will be laughing all the way to the bank.

Many taxpayers feel that those vast sums would be better spent on local infrastructure like the whitewater park or the proposed indoor arena at the Fairgrounds, that certainly make Montrose a more attractive community. Judicious use of tax dollars simply must become the primary factor in future economic development plans.

City Council candidates would be advised to articulate their positions on the best use of tax dollars for economic development in the coming City Council election.

Dee Laird, Montrose

#### **BOWMAN BUILDING MONTROSE INTO DESTINATION, VOTE BOWMAN**

Dear Editor,

With all the attention that the national political race is attracting its easy to forget that there are very important local races happening as well. The at-large seat on our city council has 2 very different people running for the position.

I have had the honor of knowing Dave Bowman for many years. First as an educator, than as a coach, eventually as a coworker at Pahgre's restaurant, where we worked as servers, and now I have the privilege to know and work with him as a community leader. Dave is not your typical politician. He is someone that truly cares and helps build a better Montrose. Mr. Bowman's vision seeks to capitalize on the fact that Montrose should be and is quickly becoming a destination. He believes that our local government should be encouraging and promoting more local events that many of our community organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Boys and Girls Club, Hospice, farmers market, and many more depend on. These organizations are what make Montrose a wonderful place to live and helps give it its soul. He believes in building an industry around Montrose as a destination while still staying true to Montrose's farming and ranching past. An industry that would support a strong Main st economy and put our people back to work in a thriving tourist economy.

Marjorie Morgenstern is running a very one note campaign in my opinion. She and her supporters seem to be more interested in pointing fingers at people that they feel slighted them and dwelling on problems than looking for solutions and how to move Montrose forward.

Dave Bowman has ideas that will move Montrose forward and unfortunately Ms. Morgenstern just represents more in fighting and the perspective of old ways and establishment politics.

Vote Dave Bowman 2016!

Sincerely,

Ryan Hyle, Montrose



### OPINION/EDITORIAL-LETTERS

#### CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE DEMANDS TO KNOW COST OF OPPONENT'S AD

Editor:

I see an ad for Marge Morgenstern for City Council in today's mirror. I'm sure you're aware that all candidates must, by Federal Law, be treated equally. Please send me your political ad rates or are you running free ads? Please send me an invoice showing what the Marge Morgenstern campaign paid for their ad. thanks,

Dave Bowman Candidate - Montrose City Council Candidate

#### **DON'T BE FOOLED: PAY EQUITY IS ALREADY A COLORADO POLICY**

Dear Editor,

The pay equity battle strikes again at the Colorado State Capitol, but don't be fooled by the outdated statistics often presented by those advocating for the unnecessary legislation. Pay equity is an issue of the past, and both men and women alike can see the extraordinary changes that now ensure equal pay for equal work. The current statistics surrounding this issue prove that the legislation that is already in place has been effective in creating a fair and equal playing field.

The Equal Pay Act was one of the first pieces of legislation that was put in place to guard against unequal pay and abolish wage disparity based on sex. The Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act also serves as a guard against discrimination based on sex.

Pay equity is already a Colorado policy. Creating additional legislation is a waste of time that serves political posturing more than it does the strong and hardworking women of this great state. As a woman, a minority, and an elected official this legislation is certainly not on my agenda. Last year House Bill 15-1133, also known as Pay Equity Commission, was killed in the Senate State Affairs due to being "unnecessary and not having met its statutory mandate." If any individual, man or woman, believes they are a victim of pay inequity they have every right to address this with their employer, and they have the right to take legal action if the issue cannot be resolved.

It is my sincere belief that we live in a world of opportunity in the greatest nation, and any man or woman can pursue their career goals and ambitions so long as they have the drive and perseverance to do so. It is because of this that I intend to focus my efforts on reducing the size and scope of government and a myriad of other issues that will have a positive impact on Colorado families. I urge your readers to contact their legislators, and ask them to do the same.

Sincerely,

State Representative Clarice Navarro <u>Claricenavarro47@hotmail.com</u> / 719-469-3484

### **HONORABLE MENTION**

To Montrose High School NJROTC...for excellence!

...and to the family and loved ones of Mesa County Sheriff's Deputy Derek Geer, a

Western Slope hero shot multiple times Feb. 8 while investigating an incident involving a 17-year-old suspect. Funeral services are taking place today at 1 p.m. If you would like to help Deputy Geer's family, please watch and share the video... Geer was a 15-year veteran of the Sheriff's office, and father of two. He leaves behind his grieving wife and children, and a heartbroken community.





Benefitting the Black Canyon Animal Sanctuary in Crawford, Colorado, the event begins with Love Your Pet Day and ends with 22+ Miles or More.

Donations will be collected at the following locations:

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Chow Down and Alpine Bank together will match all donations collected.











#### **MONTROSE FAIRGROUNDS WELCOMES DIVERSE EVENTS THIS SPRING!**

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-The Montrose County Fairgrounds Event Center is booked year round these days. Though the new Indoor Arena is still in the planning stages, the Fairgrounds and Friendship Hall will be hosting an array of great shows and fun events in coming months. Some highlights: On March 10, Back to 4H Night returns to Friendship Hall. "It's going to be a fun night," 4H Extension Agent Brandon Creamer said. "There will be different demonstrations of projects, and the different clubs will have their own activities. We are trying to make it interactive for all the kids who show up this year—there will be a cake walk, an area where they can fish, a dog demonstration area where the kids will have their dogs doing tricks, I think shooting sports will have a place where kids can practice archery, and a petting zoo."

4hers will also be demonstrating skills such as sewing and leather craft, he said. "Kids can sign up for 4H that night if they want to," Creamer said.

Back to 4H Night is a great opportunity to

check out the local clubs and see where you fit in, said Montrose County Fair & Rodeo coordinator Cynthia Harlow. Also scheduled at Friendship Hall in March will be the annual Rod and Gun Club Show, Harlow said.

"People bring in their rods and guns to sell, and there will be the normal vendors' booths and things like knife sharpening," she said. "It's always a really big event." March 25-26 will bring Jack's Auction, with plenty of antiques and farm items, and April 2 marks the very popular Montrose Woman's Club Flea Market. "They put on a fantastic show every time," Harlow said.

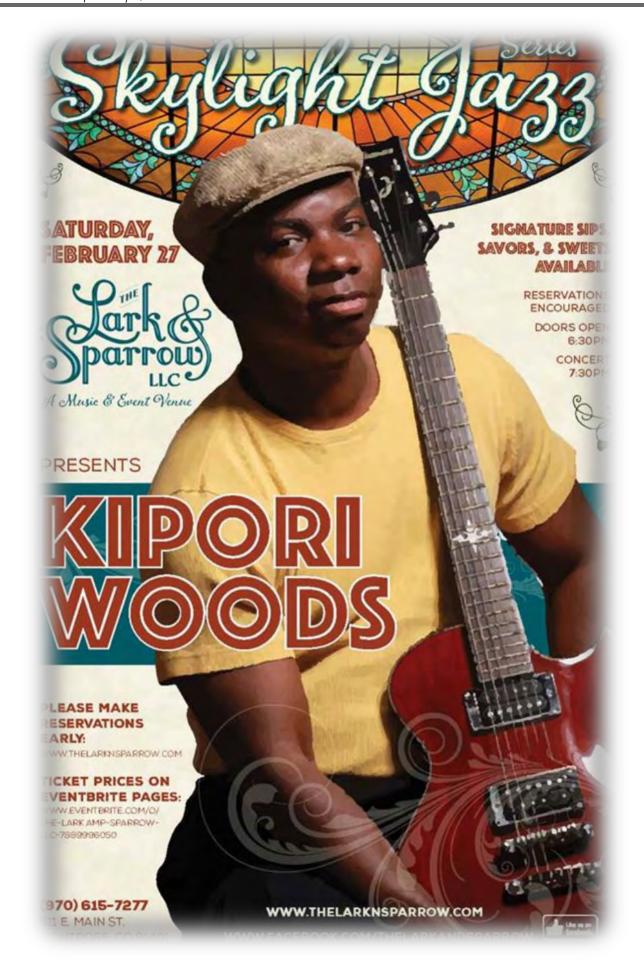
The Fairgrounds will also host a number of new barrel racing events this year, she said.

In May, the Lions Club Carnival returns May 5-8, and the US 50 Yard sale will be May 21. June 18 marks the return of Hang with Dad for a Day, and the long awaited Montrose County Fair & Rodeo will be July 22-31, 2016! Visit the Montrose County Fairgrounds Events Calendar to learn more.



Back to 4H Night, above, is one of many fun, family events planned at the Montrose County Fairgrounds in coming months. Courtesy photo.





### WRITER GAIL MARVEL'S CLUB CONNECTION

### **BLACK CANYON VOICES TOASTMASTER CLUB!**



Black Canyon Toastmaster Club President Richard Rogers at the podium and Tom Condos seated to his left. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Bv Gail Marvel

DELTA-If you've ever been at a loss for words, the Black Canyon Voices Toast-master Club can help you find them. "The mission of a Toastmaster Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth." The Delta club was established in 2011.

The Black Canyon Voices draws members from Delta, Montrose, Cederedge and Olathe, and their demographics include retirees, home schoolers and young professionals. Currently the club has 11 active members. Dues are \$36 every six months, which includes instructional material, the monthly Toastmaster magazine, and access to online videos and training material. Meetings last an hour and are held over the lunch period in order to accommodate those in the community who work.

Tom Condos, Vice President of Education, said there is some misunderstanding on exactly who a Toastmaster is. "My friends thought I was trying to learn to



The Black Canyon Toastmaster Club meets at the USDA Delta Forest Service facility in Delta. Photo by Gail Marvel.

give toasts at parties."
He laughed and said,
"They would tell me,
'But Tom I thought you
didn't drink.' I have to

explain that Toastmasters is for people who want to improve speaking abilities and leadership skills."

For Tom the Toastmaster experience has helped him lead conversations that take place in the public sector. "I still ramble, but not as much. It helps with my thought process so I don't throw everything but the kitchen sink into a conversation."

According to club president Richard Rogers, "It totally depends on the individual member on how fast they want to grow. You have to be involved in giving speeches if you want to progress. The club is an environment where you can fail and you still have the support to do better next time."

One would not think that Rogers, a pastor of 44 years who preaches every Sunday at the Olathe Church of Christ, would need help to improve his speaking technique. "I've discovered some quirks in my speaking that might be distracting. It's important to look for ways to present your message so it will be heard and understood. For me being a Toastmaster is a good form of continuing education."

During a Toastmaster meeting there are

many different rotating roles, all of which are designed to enhance leadership skills. They include grammarian, timer, evaluator, and an ah-counter.

Condos said, "The ah-counter will buzz people and count the number of times they use repetitive words and phrases such as "ah, and, and so." I'm really bad about saying "and so" when I transition from one thought to another."

Table Topics is one of the more beneficial elements of Toastmasters. Rogers said, "It helps build impromptu speaking skills. A topic is presented and participants have two minutes each to speak on the topic." Rewards for learning impromptu speaking skills are to think fast on your feet and have the ability to fearlessly slide into any ongoing conversation.

Rogers said, "We're always open for visitors to come to a meeting and see what we're all about. We're in the process of helping Montrose establish their own club, so there will be another location where people can learn to become competent communicators."

Contact Information: Black Canyon Voices Toastmasters Meets at USDA Delta Forest Service 2250 Highway 50

Delta, CO;  $1^{st}$  and  $3^{rd}$  Thursday, from 12:15-1:15 p.m.

President Richard Rogers 252-7218

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### **FAMILIES NEW TO AMERICA FACE IMMENSE CHALLENGES**

Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-All families face challenges. For those new to America, the challenges can seem overwhelming. We took time to ask Ricardo Perez of the Hispanic Affairs Project (HAP) about the challenges that face Latino families and others who may be new to America. Some of the issues he shared are discussed below.

"Living in poverty: We need to recognize that the immigrant community in general has many challenges: language; integration; access to social services; low paying jobs; a lack of health insurance; and difficulties navigating the education system. For example, many families in Montrose have one or both parents working in the service, factory, construction and agriculture sectors. Most of the time, they are without health care insurance and burdened with irregular schedules and/or working out of the county. I know of several families in Montrose in which the husband is working in the oil industry in North Dakota. This impacts childcare. In the United States, middle class kids spend the day in the school and during the afternoon or evening may participate in other

activities including sports and recreation, etc.

**Pre-school education:** Families cannot afford day care or pre-school. It is possible to find one to four children in a particular house under the care of the relative or friend during the time the parents are in the work place. The child care situation is critical in general.

Dual education: Immigrant families have the opportunity to promote two languages for the children, but it is not very simple. Educational support for the kids to become fluent in the parent's language and the second language are essential. There are good experiences with elementary schools that have a focus in dual-language education. This approach is a plus for all societies in any part of the world.

**Nutrition:** Most first-generation immigrant families are very healthy, but their new life style can dramatically impact health and well-being due to the availability of inexpensive food or junk food consumption.

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values and cultivate traditions. This is important for cultural identity, and because the immigrant community needs to establish itself before it can integrate into another society, especially when that society is culturally diverse. I remember meeting with teenagers a few years ago, and their



Ricardo Perez. Courtesy photo.

biggest concern was how to understand their culture: "Who are we?" I was expecting very different concerns, to be honest. **Resources for success:** We need to see immigrants as families and as a community. The problems parents face impact kids, and vice-versa. Our society and its institutions must pledge for equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for all, no matter where people are coming from, the color of their skin, or their faith. We use to say, we don't need too much, just a fair chance. When this blessed and rich land has families with parents with full jobs and living under the poverty, something is wrong and something needs to change."

For all parents, there are resources available locally that can help to establish a support system.

In addition to the many services available through Montrose County Health & Human Services, Hilltop Community Resources offers a number of supportive programs and opportunities in the areas of Child and Family Services and Youth Services (for ages 11-21). "We have four divisions," Hilltop Montrose Deputy Service Director Josie Mize said, noting that those are Child and Family Services, Youth Services, Adult Services and Senior Life Options.

Hilltop works with Montrose County to provide some services, offers a variety of parenting classes, a mentoring program and developmental resources, and can help clients navigate to obtain the services appropriate to their needs. Those interested in learning more can call 970-252-7445.



### THANKS FOR READING!

Call or email us at 970-275-0646 Or editor@montrosemirror.com

nor contributions from corporations. If you prefer

not to donate, you may send an email to me at

snooks@bresnan.net simply endorsing my

candidacy for the At-Large City Council seat.

Thank you for your encouragement!

**Marge Morgenstern** 

### **MIRROR IMAGES...LOCAL BUSINESS!**





Above, Lark & Sparrow owner Yvonne Meek welcomes guests to Linda Nadel's art exhibition last Saturday...top right, Jim from Jimmers BBQ on North Townsend, now open for breakfast...and Dr. Buck Buchanan and the team at 1HourEyeDocs of Montrose, because sometimes you need a new pair of glasses, TODAY! Thank you! Dr. Buchanan is pictured with Teresa, left, and Adriana. 970-615-7210.







Like transforming grains, hops, yeast, and water into the prize-winning beers at Colorado Boy Brewery. But its most important job is right at home: your morning coffee, hot showers, movie nights, and . . . your life. New technologies, Energy Star appliances, conservation measures, and renewable energy options make it easier, cheaper, and environmentally-friendly to power your life. Plus, San Miguel Power will give you money back for using these energy-saving products in your home or business.

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### MONTROSE & OLATHE SCHOOLS ANNOUNCE KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Kindergarten registration for the 2016-2017 school year will be held in your neighborhood elementary school on Thursday, March 3, from 8:00-3:30 pm. Your child can attend kindergarten next year if s/he will be five years old by September 15, 2016.

In order to prepare our classrooms for next fall, it is VERY IMPORTANT that you register your child on March 3. If you are unable to attend on this date, please call your school and set up an appointment to complete the registration materials.

If you will be requesting a transfer to a different school, the form for that purpose will be available at your neighborhood school. Please note that transportation is <u>not</u> guaranteed and transfers are not approved until mid-August, when class sizes are known and the district can determine if space is available to honor your request.

Plan on arriving to your home school with the following documents: Your child's birth certificate Immunization records Proof of Residency (a driver's license will not be accepted)

Bank statement in your name with the address showing

Page 17

Utility bill in your name with the address **IMMUNIZATIONS AND BIRTH RECORDS** 

For kindergarten registration, parents are required to bring an official record of birth (birth certificate, hospital record, or baptismal record) and immunization records. The state law requires that children cannot be registered without bringing an immunization record with them at the time of registration.

### Ready to Grow Your Business In 2016? Let us Help!



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### MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA EXCEL AT DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN GRAND JUNCTION FEB.8



Special to the Mirror **GRAND JUNCTION- 1st Place** Anabel Diaz – Job Interview Madison Treichel - Word Processing and Business Law 2nd Place Maribel Diaz – Client Service Kaileigh Lyons - Business Communi-Emmanuelle Nocas – Public Speaking II 3rd Place Alex Hanley - Computer Applications and Business Calculations Ang Sherpa – Accounting Christina Terrazas – Job Interview 4th Place Kaileigh Lyons - Computer Applica-Ang Sherpa – Personal Finance 5th Place Marcus Catlin – Economics All students listed have qualified to attend the State Leadership Conference to be held in Vail in April. State Qualifiers Picture: L to R: Maribel Diaz, Ang Sherpa, Anabel Diaz, Emma Nocas, Alex Hanley, Marcus Catlin, Christina Terrazas, Madison Treichel, Kaileigh

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> Foster parents receive formal training and support from professional staff and other foster parents.

 The typical monthly stipend is \$799 per month per child, but can be higher depending upon the specific needs of the child and training of the foster parents. Brought to you by:



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- \*Eczema, etc...
- \*Find out why the lifespan of cats and dogs has doubled while the human lifespan has remained unchanged.
- Discover how farmers keep their livestock from getting sick.
- Learn why it's impossible to get everything you need from the foods you eat.
- \*Find out why Americans rank 48th in the world in health and longevity.
- \*There are over 70,000 people in the US over the age of 100. Learn what you can do to become one of these.

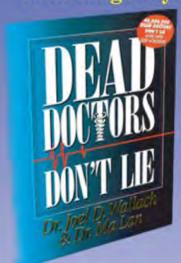
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### FACT:

Americans spend the most on healthcare, but are not even in the top 40 in longevity



Tickets: \$5 each

Montrose, CO

Thur., March 3 @ 7pm

Holiday Inn Express 1391 S. Townsend Ave.



### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

### GRAND VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT RECEIVES NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION AWARD





Pretreatment area, at left, treated area at right. Courtesy photos.

Special to the Mirror
DELTA – The Grand Valley Ranger District's Calamity Basin Area Habitat Improvement Projects have been selected to

receive the Making Tracks Habitat Management Project Award to be presented at the 2016 National Wild Turkey Federation Convention on Friday, Feb. 12th in Nashville, Tennessee.

The National Making Tracks - Habitat Management Program award recognizes program accomplishments that benefit wild turkeys over multiple years. The Calamity Basin habitat improvement projects are located on the northwestern part of the Uncompander Plateau, on the Uncompander National Forest.

Through various treatments enhancing the health and vigor of the vegetative communities, habitat in the area has been improved with long

term roosting and production areas along with better-quality winter range for turkey populations.

Over the past five-years several projects

were implemented that treated approximately 2,000 acres both mechanically and with the use of fire to promote the growth of understory forbs and shrubs, and increase the diversity and age groups of ponderosa pine, gambel oak, pinyon-juniper, sagebrush and other plant species. These treatments reduced fuels and the threat of a catastrophic wildfire, and increased the resiliency of the vegetation to beetle infestation.

"Calamity Basin provides excellent yearround habitat for a variety of species on the plateau, particularly the Merriam's Turkey, "explains Eric Freels, U.S. Forest Service Wildlife Biologist.

"By enhancing growing conditions for shrubs, grasses and forbs in the understory, more forage will also be available for elk wintering in this area, as well as improving overall habitat for other species," he added. Treatments on an additional 500 acres are planned over the next few years.

#### "SHERB NERDS" TRIVIA NIGHT RETURNS FRIDAY, FEB. 19

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Sherb Nerds features several rounds of trivia questions with varying topics such as history, film/TV, science, music, and geography.

Teams may have up to 6 people, with a variety of prizes up for grabs throughout the night. A cash prize will be awarded to the first place team at the end of the night.

"Sherb Nerds" trivia nights will be monthly on Fridays from 7-9pm, (doors at 6:30/ trivia starting at 7 pm). Admission is \$5 per person and \$3 for students, and the cash bar is open!!!! Half the proceeds from admissions go toward the cash grand prize for the winning team of each night, and all other proceeds will benefit the Sherbino Theater. YOUTH WELCOME!!! \*\*New session of "Sherb Nerds" has begun, and there will be an overall grand prize for the team with the most points after the Sherb Nerds between February and April. Study up, get a team, and see you at the Sherb... for "Sherb Nerds!"

### Many Older Adults Need Our Help... in the most fundamental ways.

• **FOOD:** In the most affluent country on earth, seniors have to choose between food and medicine.

• **SHELTER:** Imagine having to find a decent, secure place to live on an income of \$800 per month.

 SAFETY: For older adults, home can often become a dangerous place without proper repairs.

 SUPPORT: Sometimes we all need a little help from our friends.

 CARE: When living at home is no longer an option, we can help.

 CONNECTIONS: When you outlive all of your friends and family, who do you turn to?

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### OPINION/EDITORIAL-COMMENTARY

#### SCHOOL BOARD SETS 2016-2017 GOALS FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

By Stephen Schiell, RE-1J Superintendent MONTROSE-The Montrose County School District School Board has four goals this year. I want to briefly discuss one of them: "District Student Achievement will be in the top half of all School Districts in the State." With our student achievement scores being flat for over ten years it is time for a transformation on how the Montrose County School District does its business of educating our students.

The new programs (all-day kindergarten, one-to-one technology devices, and STEM) that are being put into place for 2016-17 will help in obtaining this goal. I know that we need to accelerate our change process: each of our students deserves the best. Our students don't have the luxury of time to wait for change to occur.

Curriculum. What is it? Curriculum is what a school is responsible for. Curriculum is what we do. Curriculum is what we teach. Curriculum is math, reading, science, social studies, music, art and much, much more.

Our teachers have the responsibility to ensure that what we teach is aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards. These are our standards! Standards are broad concepts that identify what student should know and be able to do at a given point in their education. Our teachers determine how to deliver the content so that students can master these concepts. The job of developing and aligning our curriculum is a never-ending process. We have prioritized curriculum alignment as a focus so that our teachers are supported in this work.

Curriculum goes hand-in-hand with student assessments and to the Colorado Academic Standards. Our curriculum must be aligned to these standards because the mandated state assessments measure how well students have mastered the Colorado Academic Standards. The Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) identify what we need to improve upon inside the classroom. Having all of our students take the upcoming CMAS is imperative so the parents, community, and our staff know how to make improvements. We are striving to meet this goal: "District Student Achievement will be in the top half of all School Districts in the State". Without full participation in CMAS, we as a community and school district will not know how we compare to

the rest of the state. This spring, we encourage all of our students to participate in CMAS: we want to measure student achievement and understand how the school district is doing in preparing students for life!

Instruction. What is it? Instruction is what our teachers do! Instruction is a skill! How many times have you heard: "I would never want to be in a classroom with 25 children... I could never do that!" I have heard this comment many times over my career. As a school district we are always looking for the best and brightest teachers to have in our classrooms.

Without the best teachers, our school district cannot succeed in teaching our children and preparing them for their fu-

Putting interactive boards, one-to-one technology devices, and high speed Internet into the classroom will do nothing unless we have excellent teachers. These are

only tools that will enhance excellent teaching, instruction.

Our teachers are also expected to learn new skills. That is why the district supports a robust professional development program for our staff. Instruction doesn't improve without professional development. Dr. Jessica Beller and her team are constantly developing quality professional development programs for our staff.

We accept the challenge of this goal: "District Student Achievement will be in the top half of all School Districts in the State." Your School Board and school district wants and needs your support of encouraging your students to take the CMAS this spring. The assessments are different, more reliable, and will take considerably less time than the past year. If you have any questions please contact the principal of the school where your student attends, Dr. Beller, or myself in the District Office.



### **LOCAL LEAGUE MEMBERS HONORED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Two members of the Montrose County League of Women Voters have been recognized for their achievements. **Susan Welk deValdez** has been appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to serve on the State's Minority Business Council. Susan is co-owner with her husband Martin Valdez Gonzalez of the *La Voz del Pueblo* newspaper, the Western Slope's Spanish language newspaper. Susan also serves as editor and feature writer. The newspaper is available free at communities across the western slope and every edition is also available on line at <a href="https://www.lavozspanishnewspaper.com">www.lavozspanishnewspaper.com</a>.

Susan Chandler-Reed has been elected President-Elect of the Society for American Archaeology. Susan served as President of Alpine Archaeological Consultants in Montrose before her retirement. The society leads the archaeological community by promoting research, stewardship of archaeological resources, public and professional education, and the dissemination of knowledge. <a href="https://www.saa.org">www.saa.org</a>

### RESTORING OUR NATION

AND STATE BEGIN
IN MONTROSE COUNTY ON MARCH 1...
AT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY COUNTY CAUCUS!

JOIN YOUR FELLOW REPUBLICANS AT THE FOLLOWING MONTROSE COUNTY CAUCUS LOCATIONS AT 7 PM, TUESDAY MARCH 1:

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA, 600 S SELIG AVE, MONTROSE CO PRECINCTS 1,2,3,4,6,7,9,12,13,14,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28

NATURITA COMMUNITY LIBRARY, 107 W 1 AVE, NATURITA CO PRECINCTS 5,8,10,15,16

MAHER-ONION VALLEY COMMUNITY CLUB, 3996 CLEAR FORK ROAD, CRAWFORD CO PRECINCT 11

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### **WOODGATE ROAD TRAFFIC ADVISORY UPDATE**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – A detour map is now available for the upcoming construction on Woodgate Road.

Contractors working for the City of Montrose will close Woodgate Road between the Ogden Road roundabout and Oxbow Drive starting Monday, February 15 as part of the Woodgate Road construction project.

Access for local delivery traffic to the east side of Wal-Mart and to the recreation center construction site will remain open during the road closure. The closure is expected to last through the end of the construction project which is scheduled for completion in mid - to-late summer 2016.

Motorists and pedestrians are asked to exercise caution around the work area and to please respect all coned-off areas. Questions regarding the project may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at (970) 901-1792.

### **COMMIT TO CAUCUS!**

JOIN YOUR DEMOCRATIC PARTY NEIGHBORS TO CAUCUS TUESDAY MARCH 1!

NO FEAR, JUST ISSUES! JOIN THE COLORADO DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS AT 7 P.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 1:

CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL: 1100 SOUTH FIFTH STREET,
MONTROSE PRECINCTS 1.2.3.4.6.7.9.12.13.14.17-28
NATURITA COMMUNITY LIBRARY: 107 W 1ST AVE. NATURITA PRECINCTS 5.8.10.15.16
HOME OF SYDNEY SHAW: 78344 BLACK BEAR TRAIL, CRAWFORD PRECINCT 11

### HILLARY? BERNIE? O'MALLEY? UNCOMMITTED? DEMOCRATS HAVE GREAT CHOICES...VOTE!



### **REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **HORIZONS HEALTH CARE & RETIREMENT CENTER WELCOMES NEW DIRECTORS**







L-R-Lyn Lawhead; Ashley Krebs; Amy Bryant. Courtesy photos.

Special to the Mirror

ECKERT--Horizons Health Care and Retirement Center is pleased to announce the appointment of Lyn Lawhead as social services director, Ashley Krebs as admissions and marketing director and Amy Bryant as memory support director.

Lawhead has a masters in social work and is a licensed clinical social worker. She been working in field for over twenty years and has always had a passion for helping others.

Lawhead previously served as clinical director of a large counseling agency, has owned her own private practice and most recently was a clinical social worker with HopeWest Hospice. She enjoys the mountains and snow and likes to play golf, river rafting and camping.

"I applied for the position with Volun-

teers of America due to the quality of resident care," Lawhead said. "My goals are to implement effective systems to ensure quality control and to improve our resident's emotional and social health." Ashley Krebs was

serving as the Volunteers of America float team coordinator when she shifted into the role of admission and marketing director at Horizons. Krebs is a graduate of Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in human resources.

"I already felt like a member of the Horizons team as I worked so closely with the staff and it was an easy transition into my current role. Krebs said.

"Volunteers of America is a great organization to work for. The mission is to uplift all people and I feel honored to be a part of that mission. As admissions and marketing director, I work closely with area hospitals, agencies, and families to assist people with both short and long term placement in our facility." Krebs is also an ambassador

for the Delta County Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Delta County Senior Resource Council and the Cedaredge Rotary.

She is a member of the Silver Star Chapter 40 of the Order of the Eastern Star and loves to read and go to the movies with friends.

Amy Bryant has been in the health care field since 1987 when she became a CNA and QMAP in Indiana. She also has an associate's degree in Bible study and bachelor of arts degree.

Previously, she served as a CNA at Horizons. Bryant enjoys being a pastor's wife and spending time with her family.

"I chose to apply for the memory support director position because I love to work with elderly people and I enjoy the area of memory support. I want to make a difference in their lives," Bryant said.

"My goal is to make sure that the residents get the best care possible in all areas of their life - physical, emotional, spiritual and social. We will be doing hands on activities that will engage each resident in a manner that supports them. I want it to be an environment that will ensure that each resident will feel like they are home in a safe and happy environment."

Learn more at www.voa.org.





#### MONTROSE POLICE DEPARTMENT MOVES BACK TO 434 S. FIRST BUILDING

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE - The Montrose Police Department (MPD) has returned home to 434 S. First Street after an unanticipated sevenmonth displacement. Following rainfall that breached protection measures, extensive damage forced the MPD to temporarily move operations amidst an August 2015 re-roofing project.

The water damage prompted discussions regarding pre-existing spatial limitations within the MPD facility. The required restorations allowed the Facilities Department

to perform a cost-benefit analysis of upgrading the existing space versus purchasing an adjacent building to better meet operational demands. Ultimately, upgrading the existing facility proved to provide the best immediate benefit to MPD operations. Restoration upgrades allowed for a new and more operationally efficient floor plan, and included fresh paint, flooring and installation of more energy efficient lighting. The Montrose Police Department also welcomes the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center, which will be housed at

the newly renovated facility.

Virgil Turner, Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement stated, "We're happy with the work completed by Valley Restoration. The restoration work from the flooding was completed very well with a high level of detail and will serve the MPD for years to come." Regarding relocating back to the Montrose Police Department on First Street, Chief Tom Chinn stated, "We're just happy to be back where we belong and have the space to operate fully functionally."

### **NEW FOREST SERVICE DISTRICT RANGER IN NORWOOD**

Special to the Mirror

DELTA – The Grand Mesa, Uncompangre and Gunnison National Forests announced the arrival of Matt Zumstein to the Norwood Ranger District. Ranger Zumstein will start work on the District during the

week of March 21. He replaces Judy Schutza who retired as District Ranger in January. According to Zumstein, "I am looking forward to working with the communities and issues that are a part of the Norwood Ranger District." He added, "I

am also excited to explore the amazing diversity of landscapes that encompass this part of Colorado." Matt is transferring to Norwood from the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest



Ranger Matt Zumstein. Courtesy photo.

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

### Welcomes Dr. Smolin



Matthew Smolin, MD, FACC Cardiology **Board Certified** 

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Internship/Residency Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Aurora, CO

Fellowship Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC

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800 South Third Street, Montrose, CO 81401 970.249.2211 MontroseHospital.com where he has

spent the past few years as the Recreation Staff Officer for the Salt Lake Ranger District. Matt has worked and lived in many places. He graduated from University of California Davis with a BA in Communications. He continued his education at Michigan Technological University with a MS in Forestry. After a three year tour as an agricultural specialist in the Dominican Republic with the United States Peace Corps, Matt began his career with the Forest Service working as a biological scientist in environmental analysis.

Matt enjoys building strong relationships with partners and stakeholders, and brings extensive experience in special uses, dispersed recreation, trails, lands, winter sports and avalanche control. He is excited about working with the diverse, multipleuse programs that exist on the Norwood Ranger District. Matt will be moving to Colorado with his wife Viviana and two boys Andres (4 years old) and Teo (three months). They love being active in the outdoors and are eager to embark on this new adventure.

#### CITY COUNCIL RESCHEDULES FEB. 15 WORK SESSION AND FEB. 16 COUNCIL MEETING

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE—The regular City Council work session scheduled Monday, Feb. 15 at 11 a.m. and the City Council meeting scheduled Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. have been canceled.

The next work session and Council meeting will be held during regularly scheduled times:

Montrose City Council work sessions are held at 11 a.m. on work days preceding Council meetings. Regular City Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6 p.m. Both meetings are held in Council Chambers located at 107 S. Cascade Avenue

All meetings of the Council are open to the public. Meetings may be viewed live and on-demand from the <u>Video Center</u> on the City's website and are broadcast live on cable Channel 191. <u>Agendas and meeting minutes</u> are also available.

Please contact City Clerk Lisa DelPiccolo for more information at <a href="mailto:ldelpiccolo@ci.montrose.co.us">ldelpiccolo@ci.montrose.co.us</a> or <a href="mailto:(970) 240-1422">(970) 240-1422</a>.

#### **LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO HOST CITY CANDIDATE FORUM MARCH 3**

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Community members are invited to attend the LWV of Montrose County Candidates' Forum on Thursday, March 3, 2016 in the City Council Chambers, 107 South Cascade starting at 7 PM. Doors will open at 6:30 PM. Residents will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates either by submitting a

question on a 3x5 card or asking their question at the microphone. All four candidates have agreed to participate and this is an opportunity for residents to learn where the candidates stand on issues of importance to them. The Forum will be recorded live on the City's Channel 191 as well as recorded for later broadcast on the same channel.

For additional information please contact: Karen Connor, President League of Women Voters Montrose and Delta Counties 970-249-2135 kconnor1941@gmail.com 16301 6765 Road Montrose 81401

### KAFM RADIO ANNOUNCES GALLERY 88.1 - ART INTERPLAY EXHIBITION, WEEK LONG CELEBRATION OF GRAND VALLEY ARTS

Special to the Mirror

GRAND JUNCTION-KAFM Radio Announces Gallery 88.1 – Art Interplay Exhibition, A week-long celebration of Grand Valley art, music and culture. Regional artists, artisans and musicians are taking over the KAFM Community Radio building in Grand Junction for a week, from Feb. 27th to March 5. For a complete schedule of artists, musicians and artisans appearing each day visit the event pages at the KAFM Community Radio website at <a href="https://www.kafmradio.org">www.kafmradio.org</a>. The event will be held on the lower floor of the KAFM Community Radio building at 1310 Ute Avenue in Grand Junction. The public is invited to attend throughout the week to meet and interact with the artists, musicians and exhibitors. Contact Brian Gregor at (970)241-8801, extension 0 for more information.



FRESH, LOCALLY PRODUCED NEWS DELIVERED STRAIGHT TO YOUR DESKTOP.

THE MIRROR,
COULD YOU ASK FOR IT TO GET ANY BETTER?

### **RE-1J SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Special to the Mirror

REGIONAL-Montrose County School District RE-1J is happy to announce that applications are now available for the following locally sponsored scholarships:

1. The Francis and Lucy Bockhaus Memorial Scholarship is a 5-year renewable award for 2016 graduating seniors from any Montrose County high school who demonstrate financial need. The due date

for this scholarship is April 8.

2.The Ruby Demoret Memorial Scholarship is a 4-year renewable award for 2016 graduating seniors who are residents of the Montrose or Gunnison counties of Colorado, have completed no less than three grades in attendance at schools in Montrose or Gunnison counties and who demonstrate financial need. The due date for this scholarship is April 9.

3.The Thomas & Jennie Hiebler Memorial Scholarship is a 4-yr. renewable award for 2016 graduating seniors who have attended Montrose High School for a minimum of two years and planning to attend a 4-yr. Colorado college or university. The due date is April 14.

4.The Frank and Esther Collins Memorial Scholarship is a 4-yr. renewable award for 2016 graduating seniors from MHS and OHS.

The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of academic ability and skill. The due date is April 22.

5.The Lee J. Proper Memorial Scholarship is a 4 yr. renewable award for 2016 graduating seniors from Montrose and Norwood high Schools who plan to enter a program

for nursing or other medically-related fields. The due date is April 22.

6.The Jerry Brown Memorial Scholarship is a 2-year renewable award for an MHS 2016 graduating senior, with preference given to students who plan to study music or are interested in political science.

The due date for this scholarship is April 15

7.The Kelly Frank-Shannon McKee Memorial Scholarship is a 2 year renewable award for a 2016 MHS graduating senior who has been active in MHS sports and activities. The due date for this scholarship is March 25.

8. The Shaun Peter Cassidy Memorial Scholarship is available to 2016 graduates, or students who have graduated within the past two years, from any Montrose County high school and who plan to pursue education or training in the field of auto mechanics. The due date for this scholarship is April 14.

9. The Patrick J Noonan Memorial Scholarship is offering two awards to 2016 graduating seniors in the Montrose RE-1J School District.

One is designated for a female student whose father is in the vocational/trade industry; the second is for a male who plans to pursue training in the vocational/trade industry. The due date is March 31.

10. The Albert J. Aldasoro / Woolgrowers Scholarship: One or more scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors from Montrose & Olathe High Schools who are presently enrolled in their school's Agriculture program and plan to enter an agri-

cultural program of study. The due date is March 1.

11. The Montrose Cattlewomen's Scholarship in memory of Eula Mae Seymour: One or more scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors from Montrose & Olathe High Schools who are presently enrolled in their school's Agriculture program and plan to enter an agricultural program of study. The due date is March 9.

12. The Cindy Watson Foundation Scholarship: Seven scholarships will be awarded to 2016 graduating seniors, one from each of the following: Central, Delta, Montrose, Norwood, Olathe, Ouray and Ridgway High Schools.

Applications must be planning to attend an accredited Colorado college or university. The due date is April 16.

13. The Didrickson-Niles Foundation Scholarship: One or more scholarships will be granted to 2016 graduating seniors from each of the following MHS, OHS; PEAK Academy, VISTA, and Passage High Schools.

Students must be planning to pursue a 2 yr. or 4 yr. degree or technical/vocational certification. The due date is April 16. 14. The Montrose High School Class of '61 Legacy Scholarship: One scholarship will be awarded to a Montrose High School 2016 graduating senior who is planning to attend an accredited Colorado college or university. The due date is March 28.

Applications and more information on each of these scholarships are available at the guidance office of each high school.



#### **UVWUA ANNUAL MEETING-MEMBERS SHOW UP, SPEAK UP**

Editor's Note: We are re-running Gail's story on this meeting due to the fact that I left half of it out of our last issue, Apologies!



By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Approximately 150 people attended the Uncompander Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA) 2016 annual meeting on Feb. 2, 2016. A luncheon was served at noon, followed by the business meeting at 1 p.m.

The number of proxy cards needed for the quorum was 27,619 and a total of 37,116.6 were submitted.

Local attorney Vic Roushar was honored for his 21 years of service as legal counsel for the UVWUA (1995-2016) and his replacement Jim Plumhoff was introduced.

Speakers included Ed Knight, Bureau of Reclamation; Jason Ullmann, Division of Water Resources; Jim Heneghan, Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA); and Frank Kugel, Gunnison River Basin Roundtable Representative.

In the president's report George Etchart spoke about upcoming items of significance — a soon to be published newsletter, ditch burning and right-of-way issues. "Some objects are obstructing ditches and impeding the work of crews. Notices will be sent to homeowners about garden hoses and black pipe [in ditches]. We want to protect personal property as much as possible."

In the manager's report Steve Fletcher discussed grants used for piping, Taylor Dam repair, bridge and canal repairs, canal cleaning and hydro construction. "When site five [hydro] is online the net profit over the next 20 years is expected to be \$3,750,000 - \$4,000,000."

Before opening the discussion up for unfinished business, board president George Etchart asked that questions directed to the board be presented in a calm and professional manner and that the board remain calm.

He said, "We will not be answering any question about past or present employees. Those are internal matters."

At no time did Mr. Etchart refer to water master Aaron English who has admitted in court documents that while on the job he built pipe bombs, defecated in employee's lunch boxes and put accelerants in milk jugs to cause explosions around coworkers. It was later reported by local media outlets that Mr. English, who is also a Trustee for the Town of Olathe, is no longer an employee of UVWUA.

When questions came from the floor the lack of microphones and bad acoustics left audience members straining to hear what was being said. In most cases those speaking from the floor did not identify themselves.

Following is a sample of comments and questions from the floor:

"What will the board do about the gross mismanagement..."

"When do you plan on an explanation?"
"I was afraid of Aaron English and was told, "You'd better get out of his face because you won't have any water at your place.""

"How much faith do your employees have in you as a board and as managers when you let this go by?"

"The advice of the attorney is to protect the board."

"You knew about it in July and did nothing about it."

"I'm embarrassed. It's management's responsibility, not the board's, but I can't hold you un-responsible. I'm embarrassed if we take a show of hands [vote of confidence]."

It should be noted that although UVWUA Manager Steve Fletcher has been in his current position for five years, he is a 30-year employee of the organization.

In response to member's frustration Mr. Etchart said that the Policies and Procedures Manual was being reviewed and that the board will meet in an executive session on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> to address the situation. Mr. Etchart admitted that he "forgot" to bring the issues before the board during the December board meeting. "I made a mistake. It was discussed at the January meeting... all the board has knowledge."

Association member Paul Sweitzer said that he read the monthly board minutes from September through December and there was no record of the situation, nor was there any record of the board going into executive session. In spite of the severity of the issues the board appears to limit itself to the monthly scheduled meetings rather than calling for a special meeting. Throughout the meeting attorney Vic Roushar tried to control the conversation and offer cover for the board. "I've advised the board that this is a private corporation and [they] must decline to answer some of your questions. The responsibility is as a direct result of my legal advice.

Because we are a private corporation we are not bound by any law [as in] Freedom of Information Act."

President Etchart stressed the fact that the board did not want to make any hasty decisions. "We have some very good people [employees] we need to take into consideration how we disrupt their lives."

On multiple occasions board president Etchart stated that from July through November 12, 2015 the situation was a matter of allegations. It was only through the court proceedings that the allegations were proven to be fact. In a sidebar conversation four table mates discussed the issue and one man said, "But why wasn't it settled out of court? It should never even have gone to court."

The nomination committee recommended all three incumbents - George Etchart (Montrose), Ray Schlalz (Olathe) and Steve Shea (Delta) be considered for reelection. Nominations from the floor were made for Mark Youngwirth (Delta) and Seph Valdez (Olathe). While the proxies already submitted favored the incumbents, members in attendance could withdraw their proxy and vote for those nominated from the floor. All three incumbents were re-elected.

Various motions came from the floor – changes in bylaws as to who can collect proxy cards and a vote of confidence on the UVWUA manager. Confusion over the motions, as well as the fact that some in the audience didn't think the motions should even be entertained, resulted in the motions being postponed or withdrawn until the next board meeting. A concerned citizen, who wishes to remain anonymous, has informed the Montrose Mirror that they have contacted the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). A request has been made for OSHA to review the "Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order" in the Worker's Compensation Claim of Bill Bailey (Claimant) vs. UVWUA (employer) and Pinnacol Assurance (insurer). Taken from the official OSHA website: "The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 gives employees and their representatives the right to file a complaint and request an OSHA inspection of their workplace if they believe there is a serious hazard or their employer is not following OSHA standards. Workers do not have to know whether a specific OSHA standard has been violated in order to file a complaint. Complaints from workers or their representatives are taken seriously by OSHA. OSHA will keep your information confidential.'

### FEBRUARY DEATH NOTICES

Emma Lou Gist, age 94, died February 5, 2016 at the Homestead in Montrose, Colorado. Crippin Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

THE MIRROR Welcomes Community

Death Notices and Obituaries free of charge.

Please send to
editor@montrosemirror.com.

To reach us call 970-275-0646.



### **MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT!**







Above, Partners Mentoring of Montrose held an open house Feb. 9. Pictured are Case Manager Mary Taliaferro, guest Dana, and Lissette Riviere of Art Partners. Above right, LynnVogel and Cathy Langlois catch up at the Lark & Sparrow venue Feb. 13.

Below, State Rep. Don Coram took time to honor statewide competition champions, the outstanding cadets of the Montrose Naval Junior Officers Training Corps (NJROTC), Feb. 8 at Montrose High school.







### Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

#### **ONGOING-**

LARK AND SPARROW VENUE-Fridays beginning in February-Every Friday from 4:30 to 7 pm : Sparrow's Social Hour, Live @ 5 ... Music by Local Artists in Sparrow's Library. 7:30 pm : Lark's Skylight Jazz Club. Live Jazz Weekly : The House Blend Combo & Guest Artists. Every Third Friday : Cabaret "Open" Stage.

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) 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 Uncompanagre 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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-**

Feb. 16-Validation Method & Dementia-Learning to Communicate Better. Presentation by Brandi Garcia of Volunteers of America. Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning Building at 300 North Cascade. 4 to 5 p.m. For information call Erin Berge at 970-275-1220.

Feb. 17-Free Film Screening of "The City Dark", Feb. 17, 7 pm, Two Rascals Brewing Company, 147 N. 1st Street, Montrose. Sponsored by Uncompangre Valley Association. More information: uvadarksky@gmail.com.

Feb. 18-7 pm - 8:30 pm. College Readiness - presented by Heidi Waggoner with Colorado Mesa University. These classes are FREE to the public; childcare & food are provided also. Classes are at the Montrose Library in Colorado Mesa University room 206, 7 pm — 8:30 pm.

Feb. 19-Sherb Nerds Trivia Night at the Sherbino Theater in Ridgway, doors open at 6:30 p.m. Trivia at 7 p.m. 604 Clinton Street.

Feb. 19-Weehawken Dance presents Edward Scissorhands, at the Wright Opera House in Ouray at 6 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$15, for students \$12, and for children \$8.

Feb. 19-Annual 2016 MEDC Investor Luncheon, keynote speaker Toby Houchens of Travel Recon, Holiday Inn Express. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m., luncheon begins at Noon. Tickets \$30 for non-investors, \$25 for MEDC investors. RSVP by Feb. 17 to Patricia at 970-249-9438.

Feb. 20-Montrose County Historical Society and Museum Fifth Annual Pioneer Social. Featuring the Flowers family. For info call 970-249-2085.

Feb. 20- Weehawken Dance presents Edward Scissorhands, at the Wright Opera House in Ouray at 3 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$15, for students \$12, and for children \$8

Feb. 20-2 p.m. - Auditions for the Theatre for Children's musical "The Velveteen Rabbit" at Magic Circle Theatre, 420 S. 12th St., Montrose. Parts are available for ages 9 — adult, including chorus. For information contact the director, Pat Myers, at 249-6088 or email pm46moxie@msn.com.

Feb. 21-4 p.m. - Auditions for the Theatre for Children's musical "The Velveteen Rabbit" at Magic Circle Theatre, 420 S. 12th St., Montrose. Parts are available for ages 9 — adult, including chorus. For information contact the director, Pat Myers, at 249-6088 or email <a href="mailto:pm46moxie@msn.com">pm46moxie@msn.com</a>.

Feb. 24-Alcohol Inks Class. Vibrant colored painting, for people of all skill levels. Taught by Sandy Anderson, winner of the Ridgway Paint-In-The-Park competition. 1:00-4:30. Two session class, \$75. Call 249-4969.

Feb. 25-27-SOM Footwear Spring into Savings Event! 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the factory, 1006 North Cascade Avenue in Montrose. Up to 70 percent off select models, and our guests can get a free tour of the factory and meet the creators while they are here.

Feb. 27-March 5-Gallery 88.1 — Art Interplay 88.1 — Art Interplay exhibition will involve more than 70 regional artists, artisans and musicians representing the best of Grand Valley with art, music, food, wine and spirits. Each day of the exhibition will be a unique experience and interplay. For a complete schedule visit the event pages at the KAFM Community Radio website at <a href="www.kafmradio.org">www.kafmradio.org</a>. The event will be held on the lower floor of the KAFM Community Radio building at 1310 Ute Avenue in Grand Junction. Contact Brian Gregor at (970)241-8801, extension 0 for more information about the Gallery 88.1 — ArtInterplay event.

Feb. 27-Montrose Winter Farmers Market 10am -1 pm.

Feb. 27-Cerro Summit Winter Carnival, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Feb. 27-Montrose Memorial Hospital's annual Health Fair will be Saturday, Feb. 27 from 6:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Montrose Pavilion. Early Blood Draws, held in conjunction with the Health Fair, will be Feb. 3-6 from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Montrose Pavilion. Early Blood Draws will also be available on February 1 at the American Legion Hall in Olathe, from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. and on January 30 in Ridgway, at the 4-H Events Center from 7-10 a.m.Appointments for ALL three locations must be made for the Early Blood Draws. Appointments can be made at <a href="https://www.MontroseHospital.com">www.MontroseHospital.com</a> January 17-27th or by calling 1-888-592-6255 January 18 and 19 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 pm. Appointments are not necessary on the day of the Health Fair.

Feb. 27-Kipori Woods to perform at Lark & Sparrow. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. 615-7277 for info.

March 2--Alcohol Inks Class. Vibrant colored painting, for people of all skill levels. Taught by Sandy Anderson, winner of the Ridgway Paint-In-The-Park competition. 1:00-4:30. Two session class, \$75. Call 249-4969.

March 5- "A Taste of Mexico" Lunch Saturday March 5th at Delta Christian Church, 970-795-1600 Rd. Delta. Doors open @ 11:30, Lunch @ Noon. For reservations call 970-252-8110 or 970 874 3456. All proceeds benefit the Good News Chaplain at the Delta Correctional Center.

March 10-Back to 4H Night, Friendship Hall. 4 to 8 p.m. RSVP by March 8 to 970-249-3935.



### The Homestead Fundraising



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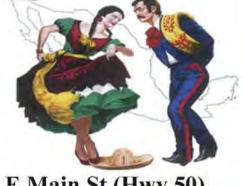
Come and enjoy delicious meal. Every 1st Wednesday of the month.

Over 200 entrees to choose from!

After dining, attach the flyer to the bill and deposit it in the box labeled "The Homestead". The 20 % of your total bill will be donated to The Homestead at Montrose Assisted Living.

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Signs of spring...above, a young dog waits outside the Montrose Post Office...RnR Sportsbar Bartender Thomas takes a quick break from serving crowds last Saturday. RnR has a new look for 2016, but the same great service!

