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# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays!

Issue No. 159, Feb. 29 2016

## NO BARRIERS? NOT YET.

### Disabled People Still Face Challenges in Rural Colorado

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-A cracked, broken sidewalk; lazy snow removal by local residents combined with relaxed code enforcement; a busy street with a crosswalk but no stoplight; a housing market in which wheelchair accessibility comes at a steep price...for an able bodied person, these may seem like small obstacles. To someone who uses a cane or wheelchair, these can pose almost insurmountable barriers.

When the City of Montrose was named an All America City in 2013, the honor was bestowed in part because of a grassroots effort spearheaded by a local artist and businesswoman, Melanie Kline. Kline, a silversmith by profession, founded the [Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans and the Warrior Resource Center](#) after watching a television documentary about America's returning veterans and the daily challenges they face as they transition to civilian life. That same year, Montrose welcomed 30 wounded veterans to town for the first Mission: No Barriers week, a week packed with activities that allowed veterans of



*Some Montrose sidewalks are all but impassable for people who have mobility challenges, even in dry weather. With snow and ice, the dangers are compounded.*

*Continued on page 10*

## “THIS PLACE IS A MESS”

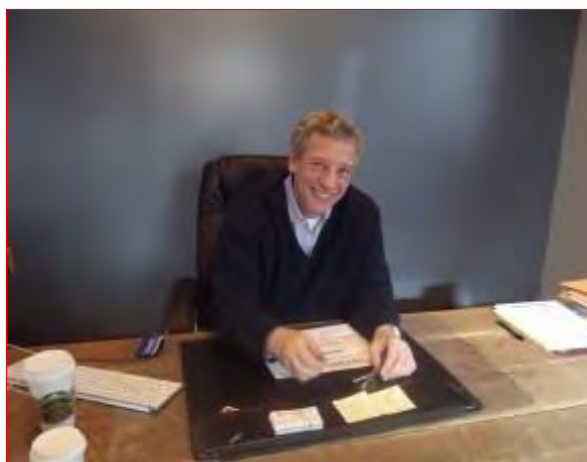
### Neighbors Say Smoked Pet Treat Plant Has Ruined Their Lives

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The little house on West South First Street has been in the family since the 1930's, and has been a comfortable home for Robert Morales and his family for most of his life. That changed three years ago however, with the opening of the Prairie Dog Treats smoked pet treat manufacturing facility a few yards away.

When the City of Montrose voted to amend the zoning of a neighboring property to allow the factory to locate there in 2013, it was a decision that would have major impacts on those living nearby. Though the zoning change from B2 to B2A for the building at 146 West Main Street was initially denied, City Manager Bill Bell cited economic development as a reason for the change, which he personally requested on behalf of the business. [The minutes of the Jan. 2, 2013 City Council meeting](#) reveal that Montrose City Council, which at the time consisted of Bob Nicholson, Kathy Ellis, Thomas Smits, Judy Ann Files and Carol McDermott, then

*Continued on page 9*



*Though the Mirror was able to locate factory owner Ira Goldfarb to snap this file photo in 2013, neighbors of Goldfarb's Montrose factory say he is now impossible to reach. Goldfarb, who benefited from a zoning change requested by City Manager Bill Bell, lives in Texas.*

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Club Connection!

Christ's Kitchen  
Welcomes All!

Sen. Ellen Roberts :  
Column!

Regional news briefs.  
Local faces and places!

Regional events  
Calendar!

# A FREE HOT MEAL, SERVED WITH LOVE: CHRIST'S KITCHEN WELCOMES EVERYONE TO THE TABLE



**Kitchen Manager Jeremiah Quintin at Christ's Kitchen.**

*By Caitlin Switzer*

MONTROSE—Stop by Christ's Kitchen this week, and you will probably hear about a little girl who won hearts when she came to lunch there with her grandparents. Two-year-old Tobi Doyle, who lost her life in a homicide in the early morning hours of Feb. 13, was well known and well loved here.

"Tobi took her first steps at Christ's Kitchen," Kitchen Manager Jeremiah Quintin said, wiping away a tear.

A lunchtime ministry, Christ's Kitchen welcomes community members and visitors for meals Monday through Friday to its bright, welcoming space in the Penn Center Mall at 2305 South Townsend Avenue. After two years on the job, Quintin said that he knows half of the non-profit's customers by name, and is working to learn the other half. He cooks for 100 every day to ensure there is enough.

Volunteers are essential to the mission here, and they come for a variety of reasons. Some are inspired by reasons of faith—as a Christian ministry, Christ's Kitchen is supported by numerous churches. Volunteers come from Vista Charter School to learn food service skills and lend a hand, still others come to complete court ordered hours of Useful Public Service. "I never let a volunteer leave hungry," said Quintin, who is also a pastor.

"We have some great regulars," Volun-

teer Sharyn Bennett said, "We also prepare 16 meals on wheels two days a week—Eva Veitch at Region 10 vets our volunteers for us." In a City where 20 percent of the population lives below poverty line, the free, hot meals offered here are essential. According to a recent talk given by Bennett, kitchen costs run about \$5000 a month. This includes: rent, utilities, insurance, and a part-time paid manager.

"Most of our food is purchased from the Rocky Mountain Food Bank in Grand Junction," she said. "We also get donated food from Sharing Ministries, local farmers, local hunters, and restaurants. Our collaboration with Region 10 has worked very well; Region 10 provides the food containers, and the volunteers to deliver food to between 16-20 people a day who are home bound for age or medical reasons. The professionals at Region 10 take the applications for those seniors."

Christ's Kitchen customers include everyone from families with children to seniors on a budget and homeless people sleeping in cars of under bridges and in need of a meal. "We also transport people to Delta," notes Bennett. A minimum of 10 people meet at the library every night at 5 pm to be transported to the Abraham's Connection in the Methodist Church in Delta, and driven back to Montrose each morning, she said.

Christ's Kitchen prepares boxes for veterans on Tuesdays as well, and serves as a location where people who find themselves homeless can get the resources they need to survive.

"We can connect people with other services," Bennett said. "We can give them the names of staff, and phone numbers." "People who are sleeping in vehicles depend on places like this," Quintin said. "Some come back for seconds because it is the only meal they will eat that day."

Formed in 2005, the non-profit, volunteer-driven organization has been in the current space since 2011, and serves an average of 75 people a day, though in recent

weeks customer numbers have hovered between 85 and 115. Meals are cooked from scratch, and made fresh each day. Quintin takes pride in the special recipes that he and his volunteers bring to the table, and in the opportunity to serve. "I was a nurse for 24 years, but I lost the magic," Quintin said. "So I came here. This isn't work; this is fun." Specialties include meatloaf, Beef Stroganoff and Chicken Alfredo. Every meal includes beverages, soup made from fresh ingredients, an entrée, vegetable or salad, fruit or dessert, and bread. Some clients are sent home with food to eat later. And despite the appetizing choices, meal costs hover at \$1 per plate.

Food comes from a variety of sources, including Sharing Ministries, which delivers twice a week, and generous local farmers and retailers. Natural Grocers brings food items once a week. Community members hold food drives for Christ's Kitchen year-round.

Christ's Kitchen takes no government grants, so donations of all kinds are always welcome, Quintin said. Cash donations go farthest, however. "Our money goes further at the food bank," he said. "You might be able to buy \$10 worth of canned goods, where we could purchase \$100 worth."

Utilities and rent are the biggest expenses the non-profit faces, and they are very appreciative of the relationship they have with landlord Bill Steinmetz. "He is wonderful," Bennett said.

For Pastor Jeremiah Quintin, the chance to counsel people who may be struggling with substance abuse is important as well. After 38 years dry, he has walked the walk himself. "You have to listen and pay attention, and people open up," he said. "I have learned not to judge people by what they look like. When you walk in their shoes, you know what to expect. People are very grateful for what they get here; if you didn't love this work, you couldn't do it." Christ's Kitchen can be found online at [christss-kitchen.org](http://christss-kitchen.org).



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**THE MONTROSE MIRROR**



## MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT MASTER PLAN OPEN HOUSE



### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Representatives from CH2M Hill joined Montrose Regional Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold (at right) for an informative open house event Friday, as Montrose County kicks off an update to the airport's Master Plan. According to County statistics, the Montrose Regional Airport (MTJ) reached a passenger milestone in 2015 by marking over 100,000 people in both enplanements and deplanements. In both categories, this represents a nearly 30,000 passenger increase over the previous year's numbers. Regular updates to the Airport Master Plan are required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The update will address key issues, objectives and goals for the Airport. Public participation is essential to the process, Arnold said, noting that the plan will be developed over the next 18 months. "We have enjoyed good support from the public and the BOCC over the years," he said, adding that airport growth is something in which the community can take pride.

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## MONTROSE CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING




*Special to the Mirror*






**MONTROSE-**The Montrose Chamber of Commerce and many supporters came out to welcome Milagro Wellness to downtown Montrose! Milagro Wellness offers a whole health approach to pain management. Milagro Wellness is located at 205 East Main Street and can be reached by calling 970-209-4376.

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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

### COLORADO YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL BRINGS FUTURE LEADERS TO THE TABLE

The Colorado Youth Advisory Council (COYAC) met this past weekend, working hard on their policy recommendations to present to the legislature in another month. I'm the legislator co-chair of the council, so rather than heading home, I joined them in their efforts. Since carrying the bill creating COYAC, now 9 years ago, I continue to be impressed by the incredibly in-depth and thoughtful conversations and questions that I'm hearing from our young people on difficult public policy matters. We met in Colorado Springs in an effort to occasionally have meetings outside of Denver. This helps them see and experience different parts of our wonderful state from a public policy perspective. This also increases the ability of different legislators to visit with the council while at home for the all-too-short weekend during the session. The youth council members heard from Sen. Lambert, who has served on the Joint Budget Committee for a number of years, and were able to vet their ideas and ask questions regarding state finances of a very knowledgeable member of that powerful legislative committee.

Rep. Joshi, also from the Springs area, met informally with the council members and Senate President Cadman had dinner with the students, quizzing them with his own youth policy questions and hearing a

preview of their recommendations.

President Cadman told the council members that while he originally doubted the value of the COYAC when first presented with the proposal in 2008, he's now a true believer in what the youth council provides to the legislature. He noted that the council members will be the kind of future public servants that we need in our state and country.

In this era of heightened partisan division, it's very refreshing and encouraging to see two council members, one an ardent Bernie Sanders supporter and another, equally ardent about former President Reagan's leadership, sit together at a table, debating some points fiercely, but also finding areas of common agreement.

It does my heart good to witness such capabilities and I'm grateful knowing that these young people are indeed some of our future leaders. A couple of past COYAC members, now graduated from college, are working as legislative aides at the Denver Capitol.

Each year, the youth council picks the topics of greatest interest and concern from their viewpoint, often different than what legislators might think. They then research those issues and formulate state-level policy recommendations. Sometimes, they'll suggest legislation be passed

or recommend agency or local governmental action.

Preventing teen suicide and better ways of identifying and dealing with teen depression often comes up, but so do other topics like promoting better access to vocational learning, highlighting the need and value of life skills courses, and the student perspective on the frequency and type of testing in high school.

Teen drug and alcohol use is another valuable topic of conversation, especially in light of Colorado's legalization of recreational marijuana.

Many dollars are being spent in the public sector to discourage youth marijuana use, especially because of the negative impacts on brain development, but the critical question is whether the money is well spent on effective efforts.

COYAC members provide valuable input on this challenge and I expect that they'll hear more questions from legislators on this topic when they come to the Colorado Capitol in April.

*Senator Ellen S. Roberts, Senate President Pro Tempore*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BEGONIA ROAD CLOSURE TO BEGIN MARCH 2

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE Montrose County Road & Bridge will be closing Begonia Road between 5675 Road and 5700 Road on March 2, 2016, for culvert replacement. Motorists are asked to use alternate routes. For more information please call 970-249-5424.

### MHS AUTO MECHANICS CLASS DOMINATES AT SKILLS USA

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The Montrose High Auto Mechanics class competed in the District 7 Skills USA automotive competition, where Montrose students took all three top spots placing first, second and third. Montrose High students taking the top three spots were Michael Ridgel First, Robert Holbrook Second, and Austin Justman Third. The competition was hosted Monday, Feb 21st, in Grand Junction at Western Colorado Community College, a two year technical school branch of Mesa State College. The competition was attended by one hundred and three auto mechanic students from Rifle, Montrose, and all Grand Junction area high schools. The Montrose High School team, consisting of juniors and seniors from Montrose High School, competed in seven events related to automotive diagnosis and repair skills. The district competition is held annually with the top 3 winners continuing on to the state competition. It is conducted as an individual effort and no team scores are kept. In Automotive Service Technology, students received a combined score for a written exam and a "hands-on" portion. In the "hands-on" the competitors demonstrated skills on brakes, air conditioning, alignment, transmissions and drivetrain, vehicle drivability, engine construction, electricity, electronic waveforms, and precision measuring.

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## DISPATCH SERVICES, METSA ON CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Four new City employees will be introduced at the [Montrose City Council Work Session](#) on Feb. 29. New staffers include Patrol Officer Peter Vandenhoeck; Part-Time Animal Shelter Technician Rachel Lund; Fleet Mechanic C. Dustin Willoughby; and Part-Time Building Inspector Chad Gartman.

Items up for discussion at the Work Session include a bid for pump station at Black Canyon Golf Course and fleet replacement recommendations from Public Works Director John Harris. Council will also discuss a Montrose Police Department VOCA Grant Resolution; a School Safe Radio Project Justice Assistance Grant

Resolution; a Transfer of Real Property; Agreement for Dispatch Services; and a METSA (Montrose Emergency Telephone Service Authority) Resolution and Ordinance. Council will also discuss a transfer of ownership for a right-of-way parcel at 9192 Odelle Road to Gregory Fulks and Benjeana Hadley.

Reports included in the Feb. 29 Work Session packet include a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) report; a Gunnison Basin Roundtable report; a Project 7 report; and a Black Canyon Golf Course Advisory Committee report. Topics for upcoming work session discussions include a special work session for Planning and Zoning Code Revisions on March 8;

an Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) Report on March 14; a Youth Council Report to City Council on March 15; and swearing in of new City Council Members on April 19. Selection of a new Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem will be April 19, and Community Leaders Fellowship Project Final reports will be April 19.

Items up for consideration at the [Montrose City Council meeting of March 1](#) (which will begin at 5 p.m. rather than 6 p.m.) include an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Montrose and the Montrose County Sheriff's Office for continued dispatch services. According to the IGA, the agencies involved are being assessed the following daily rates from Jan. 12 through the opening of the new Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (WCRDC): Montrose Police Department, \$1,477; Mountain Village Police Department, \$115; Telluride Town Marshall, \$233; Telluride Fire Protection District, \$69.

Council will also consider the appointment of alternate planning commissioner Gary Seitz to a permanent position on the City of Montrose Planning Commission; and approval of a \$334,000 2016 Justice Assistance Grant application on behalf of the Montrose Police Department. This funding would be used to purchase School Safe Equipment, providing first responders and trained school staff with better communication in an emergency situation.

In addition, Council will hear a report on the Niagara Community Garden from Parks Superintendent John Malloy, as well as Sales Use & Excise Tax and Public Information Officer reports. [Also included in the meeting packet is a fourth quarter budget review.](#)

### MONTROSE WOMAN'S CLUB FLEA MARKET SEEKS VENDORS

#### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Montrose Woman's Club is sponsoring their annual Flea Market at the Montrose County Fair Grounds, Friendship Hall on Saturday, April 4th, 2016 from 8 am to 4 pm. There will be 100+ tables full of new/used items. Breakfast and lunch will be provided by Big Head BBQ. There is no admission charge and all proceeds from this event go to local charitable organization here in the Montrose. If you would like to be a vendor, please call Paulette Wells at 249-6381.

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## ***“THIS PLACE IS A MESS” From page 1***



***Waste is allowed to wash from the factory into the City's storm drains every day, Prairie Dog Treats facility neighbors say.***

then approved Ordinance 2313, amending the zoning district designation for the 146 West Main property from B2, Highway Commercial District, to B2A, Regional Commercial District.

Morales, 65, lives just across the small alley from the manufacturing facility. While he has complained to every local and state agency that he can find that his quality of life has been ruined, no action

has ever been taken. And yet, on a recent Tuesday afternoon, the smoke and odiferous grease emanating from the facility and running into the street were plainly evident to a reporter on foot. Morales believes that it is no coincidence that the City experienced a waterline failure at Water Street and West South First on February 19. The break lifted the pavement and saturated the ground beneath, throughout the area, according to a city news release.

A retired 44-year City employee and former Montrose streets superintendent himself, Morales said, “West First Street has been closed for days now—what’s the big deal? There never was a problem over here until that factory opened. They put a new sewer line in our alley last winter, but it still smells terrible. There is chemical smoke everywhere, non-stop—but you can really see it in the evenings. And there is constant traffic in the alley at all hours; a truck will pull up, idle until someone comes out, and then another truck will take its place. When we try to sit and eat on our patio, they are right there—and they can

see right into the house through the patio door.

“But I got a letter from City Manager Bill Bell a year ago, denying that there is any nuisance here.”

Morales said he is pleased to see so many workers being employed at the facility. However, three years after its opening no landscaping has even been completed at the factory, and his home’s property value has plummeted. Prairie Dog Treats owner Ira Goldfarb, who resides in Texas, is impossible to reach or speak with, he said.

“Mr. Goldfarb needs to understand that while he is impacting Montrose with jobs, he is also impacting our community with the dead animal smell, the chemical smoke and the grease,” Morales said, and added that a recent noise meter reading registered 74 decibels in the alley behind his home and 54 decibels inside his house.

“This place is a mess,” Morales said. “This whole thing has really messed up my life. It’s ridiculous. Bill Bell and his bunch have put us in a situation we shouldn’t be in—we should be enjoying our lives.”

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## ***NO BARRIERS? NOT YET. From page 1***



***Small barriers such as curbs that do not have cuts can create big challenges for people who face mobility challenges.***

all abilities to engage in outdoor recreation and connect with other vets and with community members.

Kline's vision was one of a community united in support of wounded warriors, and committed to removing the barriers that prevent people of all abilities from living life to the fullest.

In 2016, however, many barriers remain—not only for veterans, but for all residents who face mobility challenges and the need for accessible housing, sidewalks and services. Welcome Home Montrose and the Warrior Resource Center continue to serve veterans with a variety of resources, programs and appropriate services. However, for those not already living in Montrose, finding a place to live and getting around town may pose difficulties.

Disability Program Benefits Manager Tracy Morton works for the Center for Independence, a non-profit organization based in Grand Junction, with a satellite office at the Region 10 League for Economic Assistance & Planning. Like those she serves, Morton is disabled. "Fifty-one percent of our staff and our board of directors have disabilities," Morton said. "Our main focus here in Montrose is on Social Security; I have helped clients obtain more than \$200,000 in benefits between July of 2015 and December.

"But when I first came here three and half years ago, there were no curb cuts near our

building."

After Morton called the City of Montrose, curb cuts were made on the entire block around Region 10, which is located at 300 North Cascade Avenue. However, she is well aware that there are places in the City that remain all but inaccessible to someone in a wheelchair. "There is a sidewalk at Second and Park that is terrible," she said. "But when I went to a public meeting, they told me there is only so much money."

Finding housing that is truly accessible, both indoors and out, is not easy either. One local resident, who uses a wheelchair at home, said that she has had a hard time finding a rental here that costs less than \$1,200 a month. Morton said that the Center for Independence has a staff member dedicated to housing issues. "As soon as we know of an accessible unit that will be open, we let people know and we try to get someone in," she said. "Because there are so few of these units, we don't like to see them rented to people who do not have disabilities."

Eva Veitch, who heads Region 10's Community Living Services division, acknowledged that finding housing can be problematic for people with disabilities. "We are well aware that there is a need for affordable and accessible housing in the area," Veitch said, "and we facilitated a community meeting last month to get some input from stakeholders."

The most recent housing assessment for the six counties served by Region 10 (Montrose, Delta, Ouray, San Miguel, Gunnison and Hinsdale) was completed in 2009 and has a ten-year shelf life, Veitch said.

"Our involvement was to get some stakeholders together and offer some input from the perspective of the disabled and older adults," she said. "Housing issues are not an area we have much control over, and for which there is no funding. But the meeting was very helpful in getting current stakeholders together."

Veitch noted that other local housing resources include the Montrose County Housing Authority. "Montrose was issued 14 vouchers for veteran housing, and to date 10 of those have been used," she said. "None needed accessibility modifications."

Military Veteran Terri Wilcox now chairs the Welcome Home Montrose board of directors, and also serves the City of Montrose as Human Resources Director. "The Warrior Resource Center has ongoing relationships with local area agencies to pinpoint where individuals might go for their particular needs on a case-by-case basis," Wilcox said. "In reference to your question about rent that is prohibitively expensive, particularly for accessible housing, again the Warrior Resource Center staff may be able to assist."

In addition to providing resources, Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans has 14 vouchers from the Housing Authority with three currently available for use by qualified veterans, she said.

"Also, the Housing Authority and Health and Human Services should have information on available housing, discounts individuals might be eligible for and other services that they might be able to take advantage of."

In addition to the Montrose County Housing Authority, some assistance can be obtained from the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, which has access to the needs assessment that was completed in 2009, Veitch said, adding that the Aging and Disability Resources Council for Colorado (ADRC) is working every day to improve services in the region.

Terri Wilcox pointed out that the City of Montrose budgets for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements at intersections, ramps and sidewalks every year.

"We budget and spend at least \$50,000 per year on ADA improvements specifically, and much more on sidewalk projects each year," she said. "And as the Board Chair, I can say that the Welcome Home

*Continued next page*



## NO BARRIERS? NOT YET. From page 10

Alliance for Veterans serves as a centralized resource for programs designed to assist veterans from all branches and eras of the United States Military. "The founder, Melanie Kline, had a lofty goal of creating a no-barriers environment for all veterans," Wilcox said. "We are striving toward this goal through passionate, constructive, community-wide collaborative efforts. We are making positive progress, especially at the Warrior Resource Center, with veterans and their families on a daily basis. We will continue to assist in removing barriers, and in doing so the entire community will benefit."

"Through our dedicated Warrior Resource Center staff and volunteers we provide resources, and develop and initiate programs that assist veterans and their families in the community in search of jobs, homes, services, recreation and much more." Meanwhile, the community itself can make life a little easier for those with mobility challenges, Tracy Morton said.

"Just realize when you see an older lady trying to cross the street, if you are there you can help her stop traffic," Morton said. "Just be nice to each other. Or at the very least, pray for her."

When you see a person panhandling, do not give money, she said. "Buy them

food," Morton said, "or have them do a job. You can lead a fish to water but you can't make him drink—by giving someone work to do, you empower them. And if you see someone who is a schizophrenic talking to himself, while it can be scary for you, realize that for them, it is not easy to trust. Because most of the time, people want to lock them up, make fun of them, hurt them, or medicate them so much they turn into zombies." People with physical disabilities can make a difference by going out into the community as well. Morton and her clients go to lunch once somewhere a month, or they come to her office to learn a new skill. Having a disability doesn't stand back," she said. "People with disabilities can do anything anyone else can do; you just work harder. But that doesn't mean it's the end."

What makes a community truly accessible? According to [Christopherreeve.org](http://Christopherreeve.org), which lists [Denver as the nation's fourth most accessible city](http://Denver as the nation's fourth most accessible city), it is a combination of things. "First we looked at how hospitable a city's climate is for those living with paralysis and tried to avoid cities with extremes in temperature or snowfall," notes the web site. "Then we ranked the cities based on their air quality, number of physicians, rehab specialists and rehab centers,

accessible fitness and recreation facilities and paratransit systems. We also looked to see if the city population contained large numbers of physically disabled people and whether those people have been able to get employment. Lastly, we examined the age of the city (old buildings are harder to make accessible) and checked out the spending and eligibility requirements for Medicaid."

Colorado's communities vary greatly in how they serve people with disabilities, Tracy Morton said. While the City and County of Denver are among the nation's most accessible communities, compliance can be more difficult in small, rural areas. "If you think Montrose has challenges, Gunnison can be very tough," Morton said. "There was a blind lady up there who was basically trapped in her house whenever it snowed—it was very unsafe."

"But there is also Telluride," she said. "You might not realize this, but it can be the absolute coolest place to live. They don't see your differences there—they take you for who you are, at face value. There is a lot of good in these six counties we serve," she said. "I want everyone to embrace everybody's differences that way, and not to judge someone by their disability."

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# WRITER GAIL MARVEL'S CLUB CONNECTION

## LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL OF MONTROSE



Locating the first of two hidden scents, K-9 officer Oxx sits motionless until Sgt. Keith Sanders rewards him for a successful search of the Lions Club house. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Lions Club International, established in 1917, is looking forward to celebrating its centennial in 2017. The Montrose club, which was established in 1921, disbanded during the Depression and re-chartered in 1937. The Lions motto is "We Serve" and they are known for their sight preservation — eye screenings for children, glasses, guide dogs, and assistance to the blind.

Local membership is currently at 31 and is open to both men and women. Club dues are \$50 every six months, which includes a bimonthly magazine. Lion Bob Strong said, "Years ago we met every week and served home-style meals. Now we meet twice a month and have dessert."

Pennsylvania Bob introduced himself and said, "When I first joined they told me the club already had too many 'Bobs,' so I became Pennsylvania Bob. We've lost one Bob, but there are still four others."

Meetings normally last an hour and a half and begin with the ring of a bell, the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer. Each meeting honors freshmen students from Montrose and Olathe High

Schools as "Students of the Week" and the honoree for Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> was MHS student Logan Ancell. The Lions Club encourages education and offers scholarships.

In areas of community outreach club president Jim Elder spoke about the upcoming Kids Sight Program in April.

"One of our main projects is visiting different schools with a special camera used for vision screenings. We screen kids ages two to 10 years-old and if there is an eye problem we refer them to an optometrist. Last year we screened 585 children."

Lions Club members volunteer at the health fair, ring bells for the Salvation Army during the Christmas season, and hold hamburger fry's and pancake breakfasts. Their big fund raiser is the Lions Carnival held in May.

Each meeting has a guest speaker and the program for this evening was Montrose County sheriff's officer Sgt. Keith Sanders and his K-9 narcotics dog, Oxx. Laughter rippled through the room when Bob Strong introduced the law enforcement team and said, "We shouldn't have to tell anyone, but if you have drugs on you, you've got a



Lions Club Historian Vern Jetley (at the podium), President Jim Elder, and Lion Bob Strong. Photo by Gail Marvel.

problem!"

Oxx, a six year-old Belgium Malinois, takes his commands in German and specializes in finding marijuana, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and ecstasy. Sgt. Sanders said, "We have permission to show up at the schools unannounced. When we first started Oxx would hit on 20 lockers, now it's maybe five to six. We also do searches around cars in the parking lot and can go into classrooms and check backpacks."

Sgt. Sanders and Oxx are on duty 24-7 and their service includes narcotics searches, criminal apprehension, area searches, tracking, and finding lost children and adults with dementia.

"In an apprehension the offender has three chances to surrender...after that they're fair game. We will send in the dog and he will bite!"

The sergeant clarified adding, "...but we never send in a dog to fight by himself." The cost of a fully trained dog is \$10,000-\$14,000 and the cost of his well-trained handler is an 80-hour course and continuing education.

When the meeting adjourned the approximately 25 attendees enjoyed refreshments of cake and ice cream.

Contact Information:

Montrose Lions Club  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Lions Club House  
600 North Nevada  
Montrose, CO  
970-249-6098



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TWO CLASSES AVAILABLE:

**Thursday, March 3, 2016:** 12:45 pm-1:30 pm - Montrose Senior Center (Montrose Pavilion), 1800 Pavilion Drive, Montrose

**Tuesday, March 15, 2016:** 4:00 pm- 5:00 pm - Region 10 Building, 300 N Cascade Ave, Sneffels Conference Room



Contact Erin Berge at 970-275-1220 or [eberge@voa.org](mailto:eberge@voa.org) for more information



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Silverton and San Juan County Vote to Pursue Superfund Cleanup of Mining Sites

*Letter from Town and County Requesting Superfund Sent to Gov. Hickenlooper*



*Silverton and San Juan County leaders, in a joint public meeting have unanimously voted to seek placement of 46 mining sites and two studies areas on the National Priorities List, known as Superfund. Courtesy photo Town of Silverton.*

*Special to the Mirror*

SILVERTON— Elected leaders of Silverton and San Juan County in a joint public meeting have unanimously voted to seek placement of 46 mining sites and two studies areas on the National Priorities List, known as Superfund, to improve water quality in the Animas River and its tributaries.

The vote came after months of negotiations between representatives of the town and county, and the Environmental Protection Agency. “Our main goals are to clean up the environment, protect our community and our downstream neighbors, and to ensure that a disaster like the Gold King spill never happens again,” said Ernie Kuhlman, chair of the San Juan County Commissioners. “Through our negotiations with the EPA, we will have a seat at the decision-making table throughout the en-

tire process going forward.” “Our team put in hundreds of hours negotiating with the EPA to ensure our community will be protected throughout this process. The team gained significant concessions from the EPA, including the Superfund boundaries and the name of the site,” said Silverton Mayor Christine Tookey.

“Silverton and San Juan County won’t be alone as we move forward through this process. We have been working closely with Gov. Hickenlooper, his staff and our congressional delegation, and they have said they will be with us as we work with the EPA moving forward,” said Scott Fetchenhier, San Juan County Commissioner and a member of the negotiating team. “On behalf of the commission and town board we want to thank the governor and the congressional delegation for their support in getting us to this point and their

help going forward,” Tookey said.

The Superfund area will be called the Bonita Peak Mining District Site. It was important to the community that the words “Silverton” and “San Juan County” not be part of the name. The EPA process requires that the governor send a letter to the EPA requesting that the area be listed on the National Priorities List. After the vote, the town and county sent a letter to the governor asking him to make that request. The governor has until Feb 29 to send his letter to the EPA.

Millions of dollars have been spent over the last 25 years to clean up acid mine drainage but the problem has persisted. The issue made national and international headlines on Aug. 5, 2015, when an estimated 3 million gallons of tainted water burst from the Gold King mine after an EPA contractor breached a bulkhead.

In the aftermath of that spill, Silverton and San Juan County worked with the State of Colorado and the congressional delegation to find money to do a large-scale cleanup of the mines in the watershed. It was determined that Superfund is the only program that has the resources to do such a cleanup. The letter to the governor, a letter from the EPA to the town and county, documents detailing the negotiations with the EPA, a list of the 46 mines and two study areas and a map showing those sites are posted on the Silverton town website – <https://www.colorado.gov/townofsilverton> – and the San Juan County website – [sanjuancountycolorado.us](http://sanjuancountycolorado.us).



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## OPINION EDITORIAL

### APPRECIATES COMMUNITY POLICING IN MONTROSE

*Dear Editor:*

Last week I was fortunate to be included in a Colorado legislative workshop. One of the sessions dealt with promoting engagement between communities and law enforcement.

The concept of Community Policing came up. I was surprised to realize community policing is not practiced throughout Colorado – but very proud that is practiced in our Montrose community.

So what is Community Policing? It is a proactive positive way for law enforcement to truly be a part of the community. Examples of how it is done in our community include the Heroes for Kids event where Montrose Police Department, Montrose Sheriff's Department, and Montrose Fire Protection District treat needy children to breakfast and a Christmas shopping trip, School Resource Officers in all of our schools, bicycle patrols visiting with users in parks and Main Street events, trained officers helping landlords with the crime free housing education and program thereby reducing the crime rate in those areas, and presenting helpful information and updates at community forums.

I am proud that I am fortunate to live and work where Community Policing is part of life.

*Judy Ann Files*

*Montrose City Councilor*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### DOWNTOWN COLORADO INC: VOTE BY 5 P.M. ON FEB. 29 FOR YOUR CRUSHING ON COLORADO PHOTO FAVORITE!



2015 winner Brian Crandall received the most on-line votes for his entry featuring himself hugging a New Belgium Fat Tire delivery truck. Courtesy photo.

*Special to the Mirror*

DENVER -- February 11, 2016 -- Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI), a nonprofit membership organization committed to building better communities through education and technical assistance, is excited

to invite Coloradans to participate in Crushing on Colorado, a movement to celebrate the people, places and objects that make Colorado a wonderful place to live.

DCI is asking individuals to share their love for our state by snapping photos of them "crushing" on their favorite Colorado institution.

Hug or kiss your favorite Colorado building, business, monument, natural resource, artwork, or person and snap a photo to upload to the Crushing on Colorado photo contest on DCI's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/DowntownColoradoInc> or on Twitter and Instagram with the hashtag #crushingoncolo. Participants should include a caption about the object of their affection. The photo that receives the most votes by Monday, February 29, at 5pm will receive a \$50 cash prize, \$20 in gift cards to Bingo Burger in Colorado Springs/Pueblo and Hopscotch Bakery in Pueblo.

The winner also receives a DCI Annual Conference Registration for the September 20-23, 2016 Vibrant Colorado Downtowns Conference in Pueblo, Colorado.

DCI is a statewide organization that strengthens communities across Colorado by supporting local governments and districts in their efforts to support small businesses and grow a sustainable local economy. "We work with communities across the state regularly, so we know that Coloradans are passionate about our state," said Katherine Correll, DCI Executive Director. "We just won the national championship and we want to give folks the opportunity to celebrate not just our great winning team, but the people and places they love that are also so uniquely Colorado. We hope that this movement will gain momentum and people will continue to share why they are crushing on Colorado."

Our 2015 winner Brian Crandall received the most on-line votes for his entry featuring himself hugging a New Belgium Fat Tire delivery truck.

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- ♦ 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.

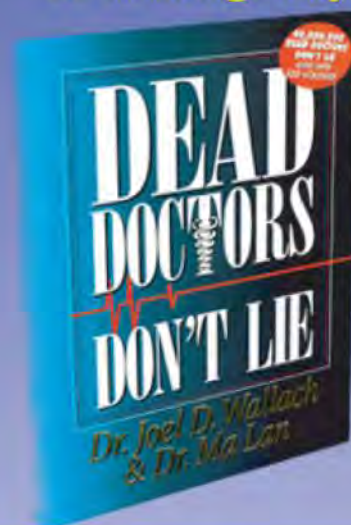
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### DMEA SEEKS MEMBER SUPPORT: LOCAL RENEWABLE GENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THREATENED

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-What's the issue? Last week, DMEA's power supplier, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Tri-State wants FERC to approve a rate penalty on utilities like DMEA when they buy energy from local renewable projects.

- What would this mean for Delta and Montrose counties? Tri-State's rate penalty would make purchases from renewable sources uneconomical. This threatens not just local renewable generation, but also the tremendous economic development that comes with it. •

- Didn't FERC already say DMEA must buy from local renewable sources? Yes. In a 2015 ruling, FERC said that DMEA must buy from renewable generation projects under a federal law called "PURPA" (the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act). Tri-State's new request to FERC would essentially undo FERC's 2015 ruling.

- What is PURPA? Congress passed PURPA in 1978 to promote competition in generation and to support the development of local, renewable generation projects. PURPA requires utilities like DMEA to buy from local renewable generation projects (called "qualifying facilities")—regardless of whether those purchases are permitted under the utility's power supply contract (such as the one DMEA has with Tri-

State).

- What specifically is Tri-State requesting? Tri-State agrees that PURPA requires DMEA to buy from renewable generation projects, but wants to charge DMEA a penalty for revenue that Tri-State "loses" when DMEA buys energy from these projects instead of buying from Tri-State.

- What is DMEA's position on Tri-State's request? DMEA believes that FERC regulations prohibit these "lost revenue" penalties under the type of partial requirements purchase contract that DMEA has with Tri-State. If FERC approves Tri-State's penalty, it will stop any new renewable generation for DMEA members and will deprive our economy of jobs and millions of dollars in economic development.

- Can organizations or members of the public comment on Tri-State's request? Yes. DMEA encourages any person or organization wanting to communicate with FERC about Tri-State's request for a lost-revenue penalty to send a letter. To submit a paper copy: mail two copies of a paper letter to Kimberly D. Bose, the FERC Secretary no later than March 11, 2016 to this address: The Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, NE Washington, D.C. 20426. On the subject line, please write "Re: Petition for Declaratory Order of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., Docket No.

EL16-39-000." Please also email a copy of your letter to Virginia Harman at DMEA [virginia.harman@dmea.com](mailto:virginia.harman@dmea.com). Unique letters (instead of form letters or "cookie cutter" letters) are most effective.

- Can I submit my letter electronically? Yes. The Commission encourages electronic submission "eFiling" of protests and interventions in lieu of paper.

To submit an electronic letter (e.g., a pdf of a letter) follow the instructions below:

1. eRegister at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/eRegistration.aspx>
2. click on NEXT and fill in all three screens before clicking DONE
3. Using your new username and password, eFile at <http://www.ferc.gov/docsfiling/efiling.asp>
4. Choose the filing type "General"
5. Choose subtype "Comment (on Filing, Environ. Report, or Tech Conf.)"
6. Docket No. EL16-39-000. Do NOT use the "eComment" webpage. You must use "eFiling" process.

Please also email a copy of your letter to Virginia Harman at DMEA [virginia.harman@dmea.com](mailto:virginia.harman@dmea.com).

For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call (866) 208-3676. Questions?

Please feel free to contact Virginia Harman at 970-240-1262 or email her at [virginia.harman@dmea.com](mailto:virginia.harman@dmea.com).

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR 2016 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—The City of Montrose reminds residents that the April Municipal Election is fast approaching. Citizens should ensure their voices are heard by registering to vote and updating voter registration information. Additionally, a public Logic and Accuracy Test of election equipment will occur Wednesday, February 24 at 9 a.m. in preparation for the election.

Citizens must have resided within city limits for a minimum of 22 days prior to Election Day (April 5) to be eligible to vote. However, registrations and updates may occur up to or on Election Day, prior to the 7 p.m. voting cutoff. To register to vote or update your registration, visit the Montrose County Election Office (320 S. First Street) or update your record on the Secretary of State website ([govotecolorado.com](http://govotecolorado.com)).

The cutoff to register in order to receive the mail ballot at your address is March 21 at 4 p.m. Registered voters may also pick up a ballot at City Hall (433 S. First Street) if unable to meet the March 21 deadline. Anyone who does not receive a ballot in the mail and believes they are eligible to vote should contact the City Clerk's Office at (970) 240-1422.

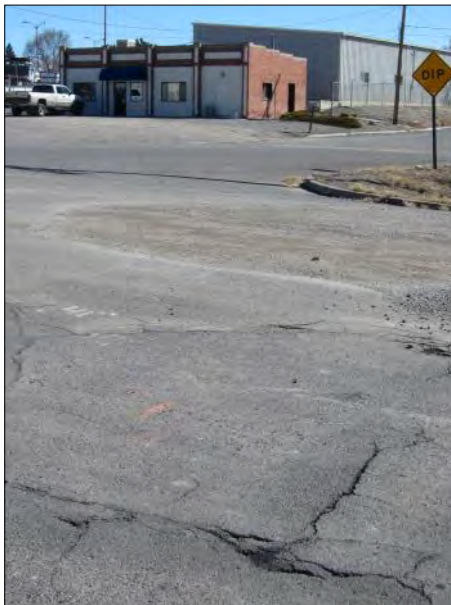
Return ballots by mail or hand deliver them to official ballot boxes located at City Hall or the Montrose County Election Office. Ballots must be received by the City Clerk by 7 p.m. on April 5 in order to be counted.

The public is invited to attend the Logic and Accuracy test of election equipment used for ballot tabulation. Those who would like to attend the testing will meet at Montrose County Election Office at 9 a.m.

The League of Women Voters is conducting a Candidate Forum on Thursday, March 3 at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers. The four City Council candidates will be participating. The forum will be broadcast live on Channel 191 and viewable on-demand following the meeting at [CityofMontrose.org/Video](http://CityofMontrose.org/Video).

Contact the Office of the City Clerk at (970) 240-1422 or [ldelpiccolo@ci.montrose.co.us](mailto:ldelpiccolo@ci.montrose.co.us) for more information.

### WEST SOUTH FIRST STREET REOPENS, ROADWAY STILL DAMAGED, CITY SAYS



*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—The City released the following statement Feb. 24: "South First Street, between Water and Willerup is now open, but the road remains damaged. Future paving efforts will require additional closures, but notification will be made in advance once plans are in place. Thank you for your patience as City crews progress in repairs from this damaged water line."

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 1-844-VOA-4YOU



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BOWIE RESOURCE PARTNERS ANNOUNCE IDLING OF THE BOWIE #2 MINE

*Special to the Mirror*

LOUISVILLE, Ky--- Bowie Resource Partners, LLC ("BRP") announced Friday that its wholly owned subsidiary, Bowie Resources, LLC, will be idling its Bowie #2 mine near Paonia, Colorado as a result of continued market deterioration. The mine will remain idle while the market for Bowie #2 coal is evaluated.

The Bowie #2 mine currently employs 108 full time employees and 1 contractor. "Some of the affected employees will be re-located where possible to fill vacancies in other parts of the business; however, layoffs are unfortunately unavoidable," said Gene E. DiClaudio, BRP's Chief Operating Officer. It is anticipated that 68 full time positions will be eliminated.



## **RESTORING OUR NATION AND STATE BEGIN IN MONTROSE COUNTY ON MARCH 1... AT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY COUNTY CAUCUS!**

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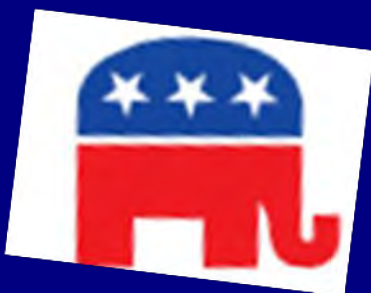
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# **Montrose County Republican Party**

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### MARCH 1 CITY COUNCIL MEETING TIME CHANGED TO ACCOMMODATE CAUCUSES

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-The March 1 City Council meeting will begin at 5 p.m. in order to allow citizens, council and staff to attend and participate in caucuses.

The Democratic caucus begins at 7 p.m. and will be held at Centennial Middle School (1100 South 5th Street) for the following precincts: 1,2,3,4,6,7,9,12,13,14,17-28.

The Republican caucus begins at 7 p.m. and will be held at Northside Elementary School (528 North Uncompahgre Avenue) for the following precincts: 1-4, 6,7,9,10,14,17-27.

For more information regarding the City Council meeting, please contact Lisa DelPiccolo at [\(970\) 240-1422](tel:9702401422) or [ldelpiccolo@ci.montrose.co.us](mailto:ldelpiccolo@ci.montrose.co.us).

**COMMIT TO CAUCUS!**  
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**CAUCUS TUESDAY MARCH 1!**

**NO FEAR, JUST ISSUES! JOIN THE COLORADO DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS**  
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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**

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# Montrose County Democratic Party





THE DURAY CHALET INN AND WEEHAWKEN CREATIVE ARTS PRESENT:

# THE WIZARD OF OZ

APRIL 30TH & MAY 1ST  
AT THE MONTROSE PAVILION

FEATURING OVER 145 DANCERS  
FROM MONTROSE & THE SURROUNDING AREA - AGES 2.5 - ADULT

\*TICKETS: \$16 ADULT, \$12 SENIOR, \$8 CHILD  
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## Weehawken Dance Families!

Please Note: based on our enrollments this semester,  
we have determined that we will be presenting  
TWO performances of "The Wizard of Oz"  
at the Montrose Pavilion this spring.

REHEARSAL/RUN THROUGH: Weds, April 27 in Ridgway

DRESS REHEARSAL: FRIDAY April 29th in Montrose

PERFORMANCES in Montrose:

Saturday, April 30th @ 6 pm / Sunday May 1st @ 2 pm

## ALSO PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES:

Tuesday, March 1st: NO MONTROSE Dance classes with Miss Natasha.  
All other classes are still on!

Tues., March 29- Mon., April 11: Spring Break! No Dance Classes!

Mon., April 18- Fri., April 22: Last week of dance classes (except Company Dance)

Sunday, April 24 All Leads and Company Dance Run-Thru at WCA Ridgway



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CPW REMINDS BOATERS OF INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS



#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER — As boating season approaches, Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds boaters once again to help prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species (ANS). Memorial Day weekend may officially kick off the 2016 boating season, but some lakes and reservoirs are slated to open as early as March 1.

The best way to stop the spread of ANS is to be sure your watercraft and all gear is clean, drained and dry in between each and every use. If it can't be drained (e.g. ballast tanks, inboard/outboard or inboard engines) it needs to be decontaminated when moving between locations within 30 days that are positive and negative for ANS. CPW regulation requires inspection for all boats that were launched at any time in another state, prior to entering Colorado's waters, and after boating in any waters positive for zebra and quagga mussels, non-native waterflea, New Zealand mudsnail, or Eurasian watermilfoil.

The 2015 season marked the highest number of infested mussel interceptions from out-of-state boats. CPW's inspection and decontamination program halted 24 infested boats from contaminating Colorado waters with zebra or quagga mussels.

"A zebra or quagga mussel infestation could make water delivery and infrastructure systems for homes, farms and businesses very expensive," said Elizabeth Brown, CPW's invasive species coordinator. "Keeping Colorado's waters free of invasive species is also critical to providing high quality fishing and boating opportunities for our residents and visitors." Many Colorado residents are familiar with the program and are well versed in watercraft inspection and decontamination procedures.

"Boaters active participation is crucial to not only keep zebra and quagga mussels out of Colorado, but also to keep other ANS from moving around within Colorado," adds Brown. "Each ANS negatively impacts water use."

"Active participation is easier when boaters know before they go," said Robert

Walters, CPW's invasive species specialist. CPW tools like the green seal with receipt program, and decontamination is a free resource for boaters available at 6060 Broadway, Denver, or any inspection station.

"The seals relate information to the next inspector about the boat and may enable boaters to get on the water faster. If a boat is returning to the same location or moving between negative waters with a seal and receipt, the inspection will only take a few seconds," added Walters. "The same is true if the boat has been out of the water for more than 30 days."

Mussels can survive out of water for 30

days. If boats move from positive waters to negative waters, the boat must be clean, drained and dry for 30 days or decontaminated to prevent the spread of ANS within the state.

"The system really works to prevent introductions and movement of ANS by recreational boats," said Brown. "In the last few years, Colorado has been able to take almost all waters off of the positive list for zebra and quagga mussels, while waters in other states, such as in Arizona, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, South Dakota and Lake Powell in Utah, without mandatory inspection and decontamination programs, continue to become infested."

CPW appreciates the active participation of boaters in protecting Colorado's waters and recreation from invasive species.

Learn more at <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/BoatInspection.aspx> or contact CPW's Invasive Species Program office at 303-291-7295.

Download the Boater's Guide to ANS and Protect Colorado's Land and Waters brochures.



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## MIRROR IMAGES...OUT AND ABOUT!



*Jesse, Dakota, Jack and Eric head to the Centennial Middle School dance on Friday, Feb. 26!*



*Jim Epling and Jill Shrock take a moment from serving customers at Delta's Valley View Bakery last week. Bakery owners Jim and May Epling, formerly of the Firehouse Restaurant in Montrose, are bringing their delicious cooking and baked goods to hungry locals and travelers once again.*




*Below left, Safeway Deli Manager Tracie makes it look easy as she fixes sandwiches for a crowd.*

**mental illness:**  
it's not just an adult thing

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FOR MENTAL HEALTH  
*Providing Help, Hope & Healing*



# *Gotta Be*

*“Welcome Home  
Lynda Alfred !!!”  
Dance Party*



*TURN OF THE CENTURY SALOON  
FRIDAY, MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>*

*7:30 P.M.*

*Donations at the door - all proceeds go to Lynda  
Special Opening Songs by Karen Mercer*

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### KEEP WILDLIFE WILD WITH 2015 COLORADO INCOME TAX CHECKOFF

#### Special to the Mirror

DENVER - Help threatened and endangered wildlife with a voluntary contribution to the "Non-game and Endangered Wildlife Cash Fund" on your 2015 Colorado tax returns through the income tax checkoff.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife diligently works to monitor and maintain these populations for the benefit of all wildlife in the state. The Non-game and Endangered Wildlife program supports species conservation for black-tailed, white-tailed and Gunnison prairie dogs, native cutthroat trout, bats, boreal toads, Gunnison sage-grouse, lynx, black-footed ferrets, Arkansas darters, and dozens of other species.

"Non-game species are indicators of a habitat's overall health," said Reid DeWalt, Assistant Director of CPW's Wildlife and Natural Resources branch. "CPW is vested in the long-term sustainability and balance of wildlife for future

generations. Doing so is not without cost, and will be done only with the support of all outdoor recreationalists."

Colorado's outdoors is home to more than 750 vital species of wildlife that are categorized as "non-game" species or animals that are not hunted, fished or trapped. Some of the ongoing work and success of CPW's conservation species program include:

- Innovative partnership with private land-owners facilitated black-footed ferret releases at six separate sites in Colorado;

- Winter snow tracking and camera traps in southwestern Colorado monitor the status of Canada lynx populations;
- Research, population monitoring, and habitat management for greater sage-grouse;
- Investigations of survival rates, movements, and reproductive success of white-tailed ptarmigan in Colorado has resulted in stable and healthy populations;

- Management of sylvatic plague to protect

all three species of prairie dogs (black-tailed, white-tailed, and Gunnison) in Colorado;

- Surveillance monitoring of Colorado's bat populations to keep tabs on their health due to prevalence of white-nose syndrome nationwide, and the loss of over 5 million bats in northeastern U.S.;

- Protection and restoration of Colorado's cutthroat trout, including a new wild population of the state's rarest, greenback cutthroat, and successful implementation of a conservation strategy for the Rio Grande cutthroat;

- Successful rearing and stocking of 13 species at CPW's Native Aquatic Species Restoration Facility, bolstering existing populations and establishing new ones;

- Establishing new populations of Colorado's most endangered amphibian, the Boreal toad.

CPW recently submitted a [Final Draft of the State Wildlife Action Plan](http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/StateWildlifeActionPlan.aspx) (SWAP) to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for approval. The SWAP identifies the top priority species and habitats that need conservation efforts in the state, as well as the potential conservation actions that can address the threats these species and habitats face. Learn more about CPW's SWAP at <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/StateWildlifeActionPlan.aspx>.

The "Non-game and Endangered Wildlife Cash Fund" checkoff box is located under the voluntary contributions section of the 2015 Colorado state income tax form 104A, line 50. Contributors specify the amount of their donation. Donations may be tax deductible. In 2014, Coloradans contributed more than \$150,000 to help a variety of species through the tax check off. In 2013, approximately 11,000 taxpayers contributed an average of \$13.83. Contact CPW's Communication Center at (303) 297-1192 for more information.

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

## Welcomes Dr. Smolin



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Thanks for reading!

Reach the Mirror at

970-275-0646,

or email us at

[editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:editor@montrosemirror.com).



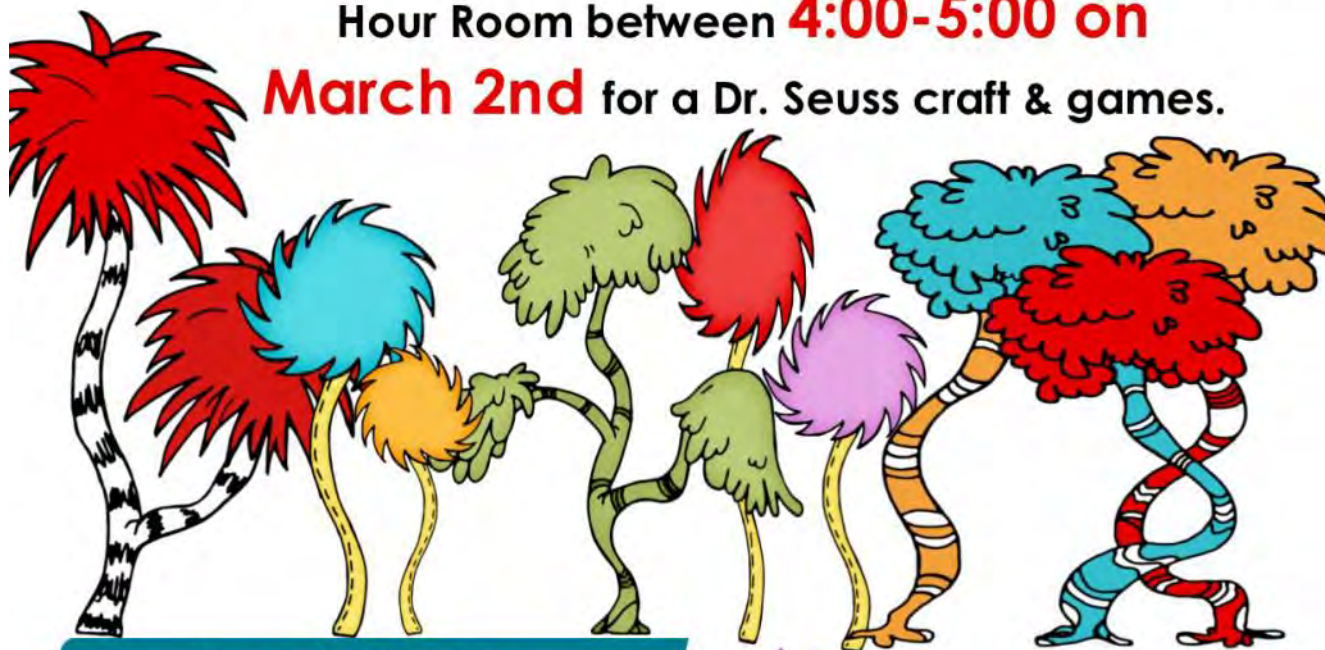


## Dr. Seuss' Birthday & Read Across America Day



March is the month  
The 2nd is the day  
Come to the library  
To have fun and play!  
There will be crafts and games  
And handouts galore!  
You can find it all  
Through the Story Room door!

Kids of all ages are invited to drop by the Story  
Hour Room between **4:00-5:00 on**  
**March 2nd** for a Dr. Seuss craft & games.



Marguerite H. Gill Children's Room  
970-249-9656, Option 2  
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Twitter @MontroseLibKids



MONTROSE REGIONAL  
LIBRARY DISTRICT

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### FOREST SERVICE CONSIDERS COAL LEASE MODIFICATIONS ON LANDS ADJACENT TO WEST ELK MINE

*Special to the Mirror*

DELTA – The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have announced their intent to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider two coal lease modifications on lands adjacent to the West Elk Mine near Somerset, Colorado.

In 2014 the West Elk lease modifications issued in 2012 were vacated by a Federal Judge. To remedy the deficiencies identified by the court, a supplemental Draft EIS and Final EIS will be prepared. The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a Supplemental EIS in the Federal Register provides official notice of the Forest Service's decision to resume analysis. The NOI was published in the Federal Register on February 23, 2016. Since the lease modifications are being re-evaluated in accordance with the judicial decision, they are exempt from [Secretarial Order 3338](#) - Discretionary Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to Modernize the Federal Coal Program.

Comments received during previous comment periods will remain as part of the public record and have been used to identify issues and develop alternatives. Comments will continue to be accepted while the Supplemental EIS is being prepared. The Supplemental Draft EIS is estimated to be released this spring with an additional formal comment period following its release.

Submitted comments should be specific to the geographic area above and should address specific concerns. Written comments can be submitted:  
By mail: Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests, Attn: Forest Supervisor, 2250 HWY 50, Delta, CO 81416;  
By email: <https://cara.ecosystemmanagement.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=32459>; or  
By fax: 970-874-6698.  
Additional information is available at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=32459>. If you have further questions, please contact District Ranger Levi Broyles at 970-527-4131 or [lbroyles@fs.fed.us](mailto:lbroyles@fs.fed.us).

### MONTROSE REGIONAL CRIMESTOPPERS ALERT

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers and the Montrose Police Department are seeking the help of citizens to locate and apprehend a potentially dangerous sex offender from the City of Montrose, CO.

During the month of February, the Montrose Police Department has investigated several incidents of a male seen masturbating in public while exposing himself to

unsuspecting female victims. These incidents have occurred at various times and locations in the city of Montrose.

The perpetrator is described as a white male, estimated to be 28 to 35 years of age with short brown hair. He has been seen wearing a brown jacket that might be leather or camouflage. He may be riding a blue bicycle. The Police have photographs of the perpetrator but they are of poor quality.

Anyone with information about this sex offender may call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 970-249-8500.

Crime Stoppers and the Montrose Police Department want your Information, not your identity.

If the Tip results in an arrest, the caller may receive a cash award. Make your community a safer place to live and work by removing this potentially dangerous sex offender from the streets.

## HONORABLE MENTION

*To RnR Sportsbar, for excellent food and beverages, superior service, and for featuring great, Colorado-grown rock and roll...*

*To Christ's Kitchen, for feeding people, and to Delta's Abraham Connection for providing overnight shelter during the cold months of the year...*

*To Montrose Regional Airport Manager Lloyd Arnold, for the leadership and team attitude that has helped build our local airport into an asset and economic driver that everyone in the community can take great pride in. Community input is welcome in the coming months as the Airport updates its Master Plan...*

*And to Tracy Morton of the Center for Independence, for speaking up for people with disabilities and advocating for a more accessible community.*





# Alzheimer's Disease

## FREE PROGRAMS

**March 21 ~ 1:00-2:00 pm**

**The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's**

Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. If you or someone you know is affected by Alzheimer's disease or dementia, it's time to learn the facts. This program provides information on detection, possible causes and risk factors, stages of the disease, and treatment.

**March 28 ~ 1:00- 2:00 pm**

**Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior**

Provides participants with a four-step model to address behavioral aspects of dementia. The program details the model and then applies it to some of the most common behaviors associated with the disease.

*Refreshments Provided*


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Presented by: Teresa Black, Alzheimer's Association Western Slope Director

Hosted At:

**The Homestead of Montrose**

1819 Pavilion Drive, Montrose



**Please RSVP to (970) 256-1274**



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# OBITUARIES

## HELEN "GINGER" SCHULTZ 1938-2016

**HELEN "GINGER" SCHULTZ, AGE 77**, passed away on February 23, 2016 at San Juan Living Center.

Helen Virginia King was born on September 4, 1938 in San Diego, California to parents, Neil and Theodora (Miles) King. She attended schools and graduated from high school in California.

Ginger was a loving mother, grandmoth-

er and great grandmother. She enjoyed her dog Daisy Mae, video poker, gambling and the color purple.

Ginger is survived by her three sons, Donnie Winder of Arizona; Dennis Winder of Montrose, Colorado; David Winder of Las Vegas, Nevada; grandchildren, Crystal Winder, Cassandra Ferguson and husband Derrick; Donnie Winder, Jr.;

Danny Winder, Dennis Winder, Jr. and great granddaughter, Kyla Ferguson of Montrose, Colorado.

Visit the tribute website and send condolences to her family

at [www.sunsetmesafuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sunsetmesafuneraldirectors.com).

Arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors (970) 240-9870.

## DENA MARIE PRESCOTT 1965-2015

**DENA MARIE PRESCOTT** passed away on October 27, 2015 in her home in Montrose, Colorado, from a sudden heart attack; she was 50 years old. Dena was born on June 26, 1965 in Riverside County California, to Georgana (Smith) Theobald and Harold Prescott. Both preceded her in death. Dena went to school in Norco, California. Dena married the love of her life, Ronald Distle and soon after, they had the joy of their lives, William "Billy" Distle was born. They both survive and are residing in Montrose, Colorado. Dena has three sisters, Doris (John Fister) Loco of Olathe, Colorado; Susan Wolf of California; Kimberly Sutterfield of Arkansas; nephews Vincent Loco (Kacie, Kendal, Ganon) and John Loco all of Montrose, Colorado; niece Mariah Loco of Delta; and numerous other family in California.

In 2000 Dena and her family moved to Montrose with her mother and step-father Bill Theobald. Dena was a very devoted wife and mother. She worked at Valley Manor for over eight years until her death. Dena loved helping people, anyone at any time. Her laughter was contagious, and she spread her charm and wisdom with everyone she met. True friendship was very special to her. Everyone that knew Dena, knows, without her silly stories, cheerful attitude and beautiful smile, our lives will never be the same. Dena will be dearly missed. On October 27, 2015, Dena sprouted angel wings, caught a ride on a shooting star, got a drink in the Milky Way, stopped in and had a word with the man in the moon, then stood proud and tall when she met God. Dena's heart was so pure she headed straight for heaven. Turn-

ing back to look one last time, shedding a tear for the ones she left behind. We can hear her say, "I will see you again, I'll be waiting for you all. I got here first to greet you and prepare a place to help one and all." Gone but not forgotten.

A celebration of Dena's life will be held 11 a.m. on March 5, 2016 at the New Life Church, 15 West Main Street, Montrose, Colorado. In Lieu of flowers a fund has been set up under Dena Prescott's name at the Wells Fargo Bank at 400 East Main Street, Montrose, Colorado 81401. Crippin Funeral Home & Crematory in Montrose are assisting the family.



## FEBRUARY DEATH NOTICES

**MR. RODNEY SCOTT REED, 56**, passed away at the San Juan Living Center in Montrose Sunday, February 21, 2016. Funeral arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors' Colorado Cremation, Inc., (970) 249-1130.

**MR. HORST WOLFGANG KALIN, 81**, passed away at Delta County Memorial Hospital Sunday, February 21, 2016. Funeral arrangements are pending through Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

**MR. HARLEY LOGSDON, 71**, passed away at his home in Montrose Tuesday, February 23, 2016. Funeral arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors, (970) 240-9870.

**MR. JOHN WILLIAM THATCHER, 70**, passed away at San Juan Living Center in Montrose Friday, February 26, 2016. Funeral Arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors' Colorado Cremation, Inc., (970) 249-1130.

**THE MIRROR Welcomes Community  
Death Notices and Obituaries free of charge.**

**Please send to**

**[editor@montrosemirror.com](mailto:editor@montrosemirror.com).**

**To reach us call 970-275-0646.**



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### TELLURIDE MAN FOUND DEAD ON TOMBOY ROAD FROM APPARENT SUICIDE

*Special to the Mirror*

TELLURIDE – A local man was found dead off Tomboy Road near Telluride Friday morning from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. The victim was found and reported to authorities by a local man walking in the area. Sheriff's Deputies found a suicide note on the victim, Thomas Ralph Slocum, 57 of Telluride. Deputies used snowmobiles to access the area, approximately one mile up Tomboy Road. The road is currently closed to vehicles, and was closed to foot traffic for about 3 hours while law enforcement and the County Coroner processed the scene. 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.

### MONTROSE TODDLER'S DEATH RULED HOMICIDE

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE—On the early afternoon of Feb. 12, 2016 Tobi J. Doyle, a 2-year-old female toddler of Montrose, was brought to the Montrose Memorial Hospital ER by the Montrose Fire Protection District Ambulance in an unresponsive state. She was resuscitated and transferred by air to the Children's Hospital in Denver where she died in the early hours of the following day; February 13th. The Adams County Coroner's Office transferred the death investigation to the Montrose County Coroner's Office of Medical Investigation. An autopsy was performed which revealed the cause of death to be multiple cranial cerebral injuries due to blunt force impacts from non-accidental trauma. The manner of death will be certified as homicide. The death is being further investigated by the Montrose County Office of Medical Investigation and the Montrose Police Department.

**Home Health of Western Colorado**  
Montrose, CO

**The Homestead at Montrose**  
Montrose, CO

**Senior CommUnity Care (PACE)**  
Montrose, CO • Eckert, CO

**Valley Manor Care Center**  
Montrose, CO

**Senior CommUnity Meals**  
Eckert, CO

**Horizons Health Care and Retirement Community**  
Eckert, CO

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## 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.

**SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE @ THE GALLERY • MUSIC BY YOUTH**, Second Saturdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at Healthy Rhythm Community Art Gallery in Sampler Square.

**MONTROSE WINTER FARMERS MARKET** 10 am - 1pm *Location: Behind Straw Hat Farm Kitchen Store 514 S. 1st Street* (Every other week through April 23)

**Feb. 27; March 12, 26; April 9, 23.**

**THE ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB** meets every second Tuesday at St. Mary 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](mailto: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-

**Feb. 27-March 5**-Gallery 88.1 — Art Interplay. Gallery 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 [www.kafmradio.org](http://www.kafmradio.org). 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.

**March 1-3**-The Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds program kicks off a monthly three-stop Bardic Trails Tour on First Tuesdays at Arroyo in Telluride, moves to Montrose Regional Library on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (Mar. 2nd), and holds its finale at the Lithic Bookstore & Gallery in Fruita on Thursdays at 7 p.m. (Mar. 3rd).

**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 3**-An evening with Dr. Joel Wallach. \$5 admission, Holiday Inn Express. 7 p.m. Call 970-596-1920. Learn more at [seethedoclive.com](http://seethedoclive.com).

**March 4**-From 5 to 7:30 p.m., Keep Colorado Local reception at Bridges of Montrose. Event to feature local foods and beverages.

**March 5**-Saturday March 5th at 3 PM at the Montrose County Fairgrounds, Friendship Hall, Republican County Candidate Forum. All five Commissioner Candidates and the Clerk and Recorder Candidate will be taking questions from a Moderator, submitted by the audience.

**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 10-12** Second Chance Humane Society 9th Annual Wine and Whiskers Weekend! On Thursday March 10th 6:30--8:30 PM: Opening Night Fashion Cabaret; on Saturday March 12 at 5:30 pm midnight: Gala Event includes catered fare, silent & live auctions, the Fashion Cabaret - & dance party. Tickets are \$15 in advance for Thursday night (\$20 at the door) and \$40 in advance(\$45/door) for Saturday night. Both events will occur at the Ouray County 4H Event Center in Ridgway. Call 970-626-2273 or [www.adoptmountainpets.org](http://www.adoptmountainpets.org) for details or to volunteer. Tickets available online or at Second Chance Thrift Shops in Ridgway and Telluride.

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

**March 10**-Friendship Force of western Colorado, a non-profit Travel/Cultural Adventure club, has a new location for our regular meetings. Please join us for the meeting on Thursday, March 10 at 6:15 pm at the American Red Cross Building located at 506 Gunnison in the conference room.

**April 4**-The Montrose Woman's Club is sponsoring their annual Flea Market at the Montrose County Fair Grounds, Friendship Hall on Saturday, April 4th, 2016 from 8 am to 4 pm. There will be 100+ tables full of new/used items. Breakfast and lunch will be provided by Big Head BBQ. There is no admission charge and all proceeds from this event go to local charitable organization here in the Montrose. If you would like to be a vendor, please call Paulette Wells at 249-6381.

**April 28**-Leader Training - Healthier Living Colorado-This four-day class is for the person wanting to make a difference in the lives of those with chronic conditions! Participants will: illustrate following the Leader Manual content and process; recognize how to handle problem people appropriately; use positive reinforcement techniques with group members; apply strategies to encourage group participation and use effective modeling strategies. *PDA requirements. A CEU from COAW is equal to 10 contact hours (PDAs).* **Cost: \$650** *Scholarship funds are available.* Montrose County Health and Human Services (1845 S. Townsend Ave.), Apr 25, 2016—Apr 28, 2016, 8:30 AM—5 PM

**Registration:** Contact Pam Allen at 303-984-1845 or [pam@coaw.org](mailto:pam@coaw.org).

**April 28-29**-Leader Cross Training - Healthier Living Colorado-Diabetes. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of the 4-day Healthier Living. Colorado Leader Training and being a certified Leader of the program.* This is an evidence-based program from Stanford University and trains leaders to facilitate the Diabetes Self-Management class for adults living with type 2 diabetes in the community. Community classes are facilitated by two trained leaders and the topics covered include: 1) techniques to deal with the symptoms of diabetes, fatigue, pain, hyper/hypoglycemia, stress, and emotional problems such as depression, anger, fear and frustration; 2) appropriate exercise for maintaining and improving strength and endurance; 3) healthy eating; 4) appropriate use of medication; and 5) working more effectively with health care providers. **Cost: \$325** *Scholarship funds are available.* Montrose County Health and Human Services (1845 S. Townsend Ave.) Apr 28, 2016—Apr 29, 2016, 8:30 AM—5 PM. Contact Pam Allen at 303-984-1845 or [pam@coaw.org](mailto:pam@coaw.org).

**May 1**-The German American Club Maifest 2016 will be held again at the Edgewater Brewery, 905 Struthers AVE, Grand Junction on Sunday, May 1st from 4 to 7 PM. Music will again be provided by the Alpine Echo Band, there will be NO cover charge. GAC will provide some tables & a few chairs near the stage. It an outdoor concert, so everyone needs to bring their own outdoor chairs. Drinks and food will be ordered directly from the Brewery Staff. Their menu does offer a Brat plate. From 4 to 6 we will get Happy Hour prices on the drinks. 970-242-2657 or 970-209-9241.





# The Homestead Fundraising



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*Clockwise from top; the other side of the tracks; Montrose author and activist Winifred Tappan celebrated her 90th birthday with a joyride and celebration with friends at the Montrose Senior Center; retired FBI agent Nelson Jennett shares detective stories at the Montrose Senior Center. Senior Center photos courtesy of Marilyn Huseby.*



MOVIE NIGHT

“WE ARE THE BEST”

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH

DOORS @ 7:00 PM

FILM AT 7:30 PM

March's featured film: *We are the Best!* (subtitled): From Swedish auteur Lukas Moodysson, *We are the Best!* revolves around three girls in 1980's Stockholm who decide to form a punk band — despite not having any instruments and being told by everyone that punk is dead. Based on a graphic novel, *We are the Best!* is a paean to DIY culture and the power of rebellion.

This movie is not rated. Run time of 102 min.