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# THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Fresh News for Busy People-Weekly on Mondays!

Issue No. 165 April 11 2016

## CITIZEN OBJECTS TO REX SWANSON'S COMMENTS THAT CITY NEEDS TO "SHUT DOWN" AND "DEFUSE" HER

### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE-Montrose City Council approved a number of important contracts, issued a proclamation in support of the Dark Skies initiative (see related story), and revised the City's Zoning Map at the regular meeting of March 4. The greatest level of citizen participation took place at the beginning of the meeting, however, during the time allotted for comments from the public.

The first person to step forward was Steve Putnam of Ridgway Valley Enterprises, who presented a check back to the City for a project completed near Pomona Elementary School. "We did very well on this project, and we are happy to present this check back to the City for \$2,000," Putnam said.

Next was Anne Gibbins, who spoke of a recent experience being ticketed in rarely used Cedar Park for allowing her dog to be off leash. "I pick up after my animal and others, and I take pride in Montrose," Gibbins said. "On March 1 I was given a ticket, and treated disrespectfully...I am a fifth generation local, and I would like to see part of Montrose designated as a dog-friendly



Montrose resident Anne Gibbins would like to see the City allow dogs off leash in certain portions of local parks, like the rarely used Cedar Park, above.

Continued on page 4

## LIBRARY DECLINES PEACE POLE OFFER, ADOPTS POLICY ON SERVICE ANIMALS ALLOWED IN THE LIBRARY



The Montrose Regional Library will no allow only trained ADA service animals in the library from now on, rather than companion or therapy animals.

By Gail Marvel

NATURITA-The Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) Board of Trustees meeting on April 4 was held at the Naturita Branch Library. All appointed trustees were present, however there still remains an open seat on the board. Executive Director Paul Paladino reported that three applications are pending and he anticipates the seat will be filled by the June meeting.

Following the approval of the March 7 minutes the meeting was opened up for public comment. Val Burnell, spokesperson for the Western Colorado Friends of the Himalayas, addressed opposition to the installation of a Peace Pole on public library property, "I did not expect opposition. It is a peaceful project...it is not religious or political." Burnell separated the Friends of the Himalayas from the Spiritual Awareness Center and any religious connotation that might be implied. Currently there are 11 Peace Poles in place, with eight pending, one of which will be

Continued on page 5

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Gail Marvel's  
Cruisin' in Style!

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German...

Letters to the Editor!  
Regional news briefs!

Local stories,  
Local photos!

Regional events  
Calendar!

# *Gail Marvel's Cruisin' in Style*

## COLLECTOR SPOTLIGHT: ROBERT AND ANNE FLANAKIN



*By Gail Marvel*

MONTROSE—On their return trip home to Montrose Robert and Anne Flanakin stopped and spent the night in Wichita Falls, TX. The next morning their GPS took them on a scenic route back to the highway and the heavens opened. Right before Robert's eyes was a pristine red and white 1957 Ford Fairlane two-door hardtop with a for sale sign in the window. Robert said, "I've never had a Ford, I'm Dodge and Chrysler guy. The car was so beautiful that we fell in love."

The Fairlane, with a 312 Thunderbird engine, automatic transmission and 137,000 miles, was completely restored 12 years ago. It was only after the car was delivered to Montrose and put up on a rack that the rotted tires were noticed. Robert said, "It had been stored for 10 years and the previous owner didn't get it out often. The tires and lots of rubber [hoses] had to be replaced."

The car is equipped with factory air conditioning and electric seats; however, the motor for the electric seats was missing, "It took me five months before I finally found the motor and it cost me an arm and a leg!"

Confessing that he retired from Chrysler after a 30-year career Robert said, "If my buddies knew I had a Ford they'd roll over!"

*Watch for more of Gail's Cruisin' in Style series...in the Mirror and  
in Publisher Janine Bush's new Western Weekend Blast on Fridays!*

*Be sure to find the [Western Weekend Blast on Facebook](#) for regular updates!*

*To reach the Mirror contact us at 970-275-0646*



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**THE  
MONTROSE MIRROR**  
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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### TIMELY RANCH MANAGEMENT SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN GRAND JUNCTION

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION-Re-tooling Ranch Management is a new seminar developed by Master Stockman Consulting to help guide producers through the decision making process on a ranch. The seminar expands on previous seminars developed for Wyoming and Utah producers and takes a unique approach to teaching ranch management skills.

Two key factors make this seminar different from many other national ranch management seminars. First, we are confident that producers know and understand their ranch better than we do.

Given this fact we do not teach a turnkey solution, instead we focus on tools that ranchers can use to make better decisions

on their operations. Second, we believe in a multiple-instructor approach and are confident that participants benefit from multiple areas of expertise.

Profitable ranchers actively manage their ranches in an effort to control costs. By scrutinizing spending they are able to create sustainable ranches.

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ment. Ranchers participating in past programs have utilized these tools to improve their decision making abilities. Decisions on a ranch can result in profit or loss of thousands of dollars. Master Stockman Consulting as worked with many producers during the seminar helping them make decisions that created or saved from **\$500 – \$20,000** or more. The seminar will be in Grand Junction, CO on May 4-6. If you would like more information about the seminar, or to get registered, go to [www.masterstockman.com](http://www.masterstockman.com). This seminar is partially funded through grant funds from USDA Risk Management Agency and offered in Grand Junction in partnership with Colorado State University Extension.

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## CITIZEN OBJECTS TO SWANSON'S COMMENTS From pg 1

area, where they can socialize and exercise with other dogs."

When City Councilor Rex Swanson informed Gibbins that the matter was already being considered by the City Manager, and "we want your input," Gibbins replied that she was put off by comments made by Swanson about her initial request to appear on the Council agenda. "You said that you need to shut me down; that I need to be defused."

The next commenter, whose name was hard to discern, told a similar story of being ticketed. "I was stopped with my dog at my side," the woman said.

"I was told he was running at large. But I also want to be part of the solution—the area where we walk is cleaner than any other area in town. Why pick and choose where you ticket people? And when I questioned the number of tickets being issued for dogs defecating, they told me 'zero.' And yet that is where disease comes from. I come from a long line of police officers, and I know the laws and the rules."

Jack Griffin also spoke, noting that he lives above Hillcrest Drive and has walked Labradors in the area for ten years. "They hunt, and they need water," he said. "It is the perfect park."

Montrose resident Tasha Todak, who took over the funds and ownership of the non-profit that manages the Montrose City Dog Park in 2015, spoke as well. "I am the owner of the non-profit working on the dog park," she said. "Tourists look for areas with dog parks, I am here to introduce myself and give you my card." Today's associate, Amanda Wilkins, also spoke.

"I am working with Tasha to fix up the dog park," she said, stating there is immense support for the effort and that she and Todak are still working to organize a

clean-up day. "We have ordered industrial vinegar to clean up the fox tails, and our goal is to order agility equipment and hold dog training classes."

City resident Whitney Silva also commented. "I know you are working on it," she said. "I was born and raised here, and moved back. Many of us have dogs, and want to live a lifestyle where we can enjoy our pets within our community. When I moved back here, I was disappointed in the state of our dog park—young people want to feel that the City is invested in something they are interested in. I took my puppy to the Delta Dog Park yesterday, and I realize that the park is as much for the humans as for the dogs. I met people I never would have crossed paths with; it provides an opportunity for community members to interact with and help one another."

"I hope the City invests time, energy and heart." Mayor David Romero said that it costs money to operate a dog park, and said that the City needs participation from citizens. "Our City Manager is working on it," Councilor Rex Swanson said. "It's a complex issue."

When contacted after the meeting, Gibbins informed the Mirror that she has no intention of helping to raise funds to operate a City-owned dog park and questioned the need for volunteers to maintain a city-owned facility in the first place. However, Gibbins said she would like to see underused areas in local parks allowed for off leash activities. And though she lives in the county, the presence of mountain lions makes town walks far more attractive, Gibbins said. "When I walk my dogs, I really don't want to have to worry about mountain lions, or dog catchers."

In other business, Council approved proclamations in support of Earth Week and

the night sky preservation effort; and in support of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Council approved a new Beer and Wine Liquor License application for Trattoria Di Sofia at 110 N. Townsend Avenue for consumption on the licensed premises; as well as Ordinance 2367 on first reading, vacating a strip of land being the alley in Block 93 of the Selig's Addition to Montrose.

Council awarded the Wastewater Treatment Plant Headworks Upgrade Engineering Design to JVA Consulting Engineers for the total amount of \$59,500, and a bid for the Columbine-Pomona Safe Routes to Schools Project to Ridgway Valley Enterprises (RVE) Inc. in the amount of \$307,217.52 including \$27,928.87 for contingencies. Council awarded a contract to Jacobs Engineering to design Phase II of the West Side Arterial Project, in the amount of \$217,216. Finally, two ordinances will be considered on second reading as well: Ordinance 2364, authorizing the release of a dedication of real property; and Ordinance 2366 repealing and reenacting the City's zoning regulations and Official Zoning Map. Staff reports were presented by Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph, due to City Manager Bill Bell being away on vacation.

Joseph said that the City Beat newsletter will be reduced to two pages rather than four, and sent to customers via email every other month. The City's expanded recycling efforts have begun, but are available only to City residents, who must present a Driver's License or ID card to take advantage of the service.

April 29-30 will be the City's Annual Spring Cleanup, and informational session on upgrades to the Hillcrest Drive corridor will take place April 12, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Council chambers.

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## **LIBRARY DECLINES PEACE POLE OFFER, ADOPTS POLICY From pg 1**

installed at Pomona Elementary School during Earth Week. Burnell said, "We wanted to do this [Peace Pole Project] as a gift to the people of Montrose. We'll abide by your [board] decision."

The decision on installation of the Peace Pole at the library location was held for later in the meeting. However, when the agenda item was discussed the board determined that the Peace Pole did not promote the library, nor did it fit the library mission statement. The board voted unanimously against placement of a Peace Pole on public library property.

Naturita Library Branch Manager Susan Rice gave the library board an overview of their programs and community outreach. "In 2015 we had 308 programs and 3,089 people attend; with an average attendance of 10 people in each program." Between 2010-2015 the population of Naturita has declined, "We've lost 72 people. The high school now has 49 students (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades). The library is a tremendous asset to our schools and community...it's priceless to the schools."

The Naturita Branch relies on grants and fundraising for many of their projects, "Five years ago we bought sewing machines for our kids. There are no Home Ec Classes [Home Economics] anymore and we wanted to teach them to sew so they could make their own clothes."

The MRLD contracts with the Paradox school and the Naturita branch collaborates with them on adult and children's programming. The town of Nucla is not included in the MRLD. Ms. Rice said, "In 1970 they chose not to be a part of the district. Nucla supports their own library." A member of the audience asked about a possible merger of the libraries. Rice said, "A merger is not feasible right now. We have different philosophies." The Nucla library does not allow games to be played on computers, while Naturita views computer games as having a technology component.

The Friends of the Library book sale was

not as successful as in the past, which was attributed to the library now closing on Friday. Board President Anne Gulliksen said, "The book sale runs on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We were closed on Saturday and now we're also closed on Friday."

Under new business Executive Director Paladino reported he has invested time in responding to patrons on the phone, in person and on social media about the Friday closure. He said, "I've spent several hours a day responding to misinformation on social media. [Closing on Friday] is not a good thing and not something we wanted to do, but most people understand the necessity." Library employees dwindled from a high of 42, to the current staffing of

28. While the public side of the library is closed on Friday, the staff continues to work and use that day to catch up on their work load.

A policy on service animals in the library was presented and adopted. The policy distinguishes between trained ADA service animals and other pets referred to as companion or therapy animals. Only service animals are allowed in the library facility.

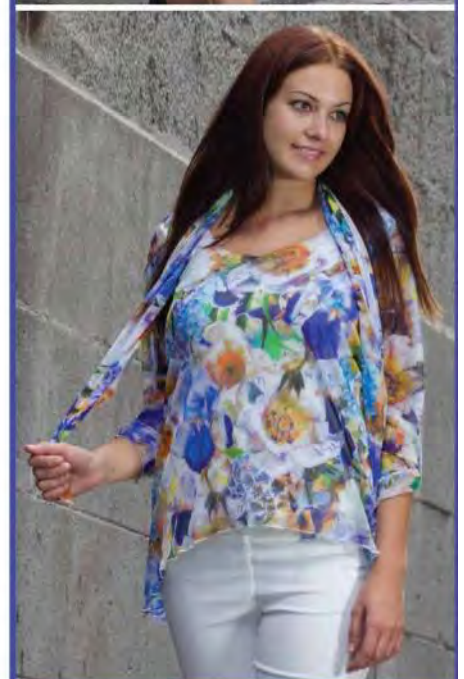
Also discussed under new business was the upcoming board retreat and training sessions. Topics of discussion at the retreat will include a future mill levy increase.

The next board meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 3 p.m. on May 2 at the main Montrose library.

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## CONTROVERSY ERUPTS AFTER MPD OFFICER SHOOTS LEASHED AVALANCHE DOG



*A memorial outside of 222 South Park Avenue was covered during Saturday's rain. The memorial honors an avalanche dog named Zeus, who was shot three times by police on April 4.*

### Mirror Staff Report

MONTROSE—Hours before an upset Montrose resident spoke at the April 4 City Council meeting about her experience with a City police officer who she said had ticketed her aggressively for having a dog off leash but under control (see related article ) in Cedar Creek Park, an off-duty Montrose police officer shot a leashed but unattended avalanche rescue dog near 222 Park Avenue three times, fatally, for allegedly

exhibiting signs of aggression.

Anne Gibbins and several other citizens had attended the Council meeting later that same night to voice concerns, and question the City's recent focus on writing tickets for unleashed dogs but not for dog waste.

It was also on April 4 that the Montrose Police Department released the following statement:

"Today, while on his way to work, one of our officers observed a German Shepard (sic) dog at large and with a leash attached to his collar. The officer did not see anyone near the dog who might be able to control or claim ownership of the dog. In an effort to keep the dog from traffic and from interacting with citizens, the officer radioed into Dispatch and asked that Animal Control respond to help secure and transport the dog safely. The officer then approached the dog and attempted to establish a friendly rapport so that the dog could be secured safely.

Once the officer obtained control of the dog's attached leash, the dog turned and charged the officer while barking, growling, and showing its teeth. Our officer began to back away to create space but found that the dog quickly closed the gap and was about to attack. The officer was forced to shoot the dog in order to protect himself

from unnecessary harm.

"Unfortunately, the dog did not live through this encounter. We at the Montrose Police Department are all saddened by this incident but relieved that our officer observed and intervened before an unsuspecting Good Samaritan or even a child could fall victim. Our deepest sympathies go out to the dog's family, the involved officer, and anyone else affected by this incident." The name of the off-duty police officer was not released, and is protected from release even through the public information request process.

The information on the shooting was shared with the public Facebook group Montrose Message Board however, where it has generated thousands of comments arguing both sides of the incident. Montrose business woman Lynn Whipple was among the most eloquent, in a public Facebook post.

"It is very disturbing to a few residents that witnessed a Montrose Policeman shoot a dog today at 222 Park Ave. What happened to using MACE or other less violent measures? The dog was a six year old avalanche trained German Shepherd owned by a new resident in the area. The dog crossed a street from the owner's business on a leash.

*Continued on page 21*

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A photograph of a lineman working on a distribution line at sunrise. The lineman is in a bucket, silhouetted against the bright orange and yellow sky. The distribution line and its cross-arms are visible. The background shows a dark landscape with some trees and hills under the rising sun.

# NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

In 2013, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution designating April 18 as National Lineman Appreciation Day. It's our honor to celebrate the hard work, innovation, and dedication of electrical lineworkers nationwide. At DMEA, we feel that our linemen are the backbone of our cooperative. National Lineman Appreciation Day is a time to express our utmost appreciation to the great men and women who work so hard for us every day. To honor DMEA's linemen, we invite members to take a moment to thank a lineman for the work they do. Use #ThankALineman on social media to show your support for the men and women who light up our lives, or take a moment to drop a card of thanks in the mail.

*Above: A DMEA lineman works on a distribution line in the early morning hours near Austin, Colorado.*

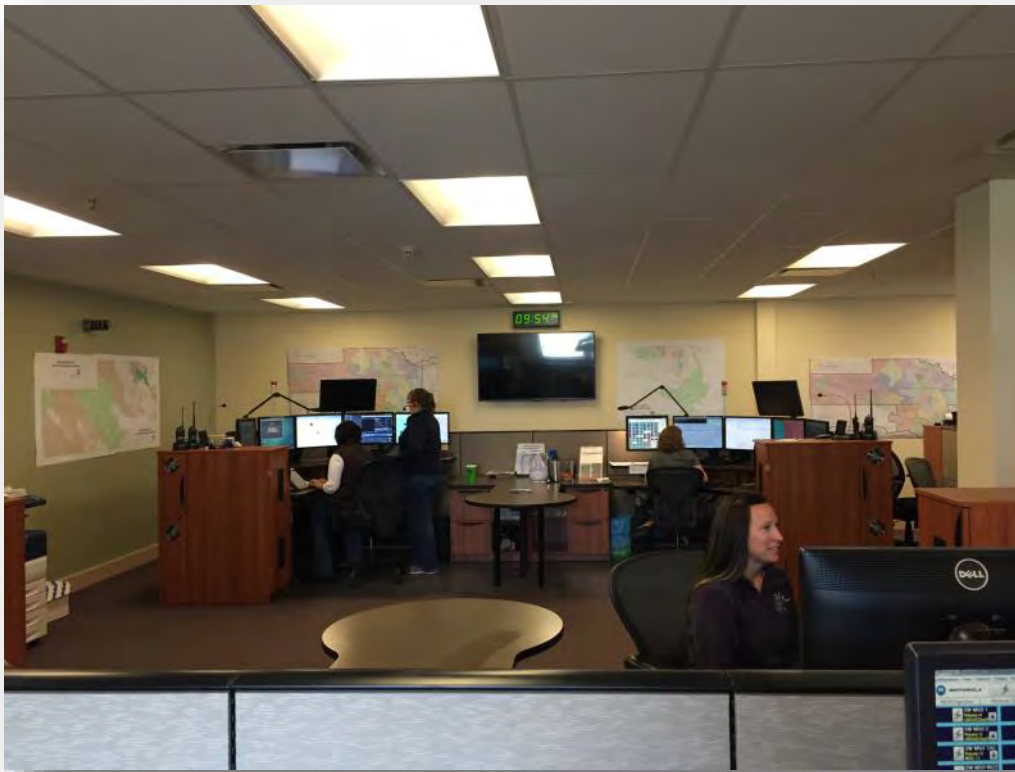


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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**IN HONOR OF NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK: APRIL 10-16**



*Special to the Mirror*  
**MONTROSE**-Montrose County says "Thank you" to the men and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators, otherwise known as 911 dispatchers.

*You are a vital link to our emergency responders, the calm voice on the other end of the line, and unsung heroes in the world of first responders. Thank you for your service to our community!*

*Montrose County and Montrose County Sheriff's Office would like to recognize the men and women of the Montrose Regional Dispatch Center: Kim B., Troy Z., Kari M. David L., Steve A., Karen S., Jenny F., Shelby R., Bridget C., Lauren O., Amy A., Jessica G., and Susan B. Courtesy photo.*



# THANK YOU!

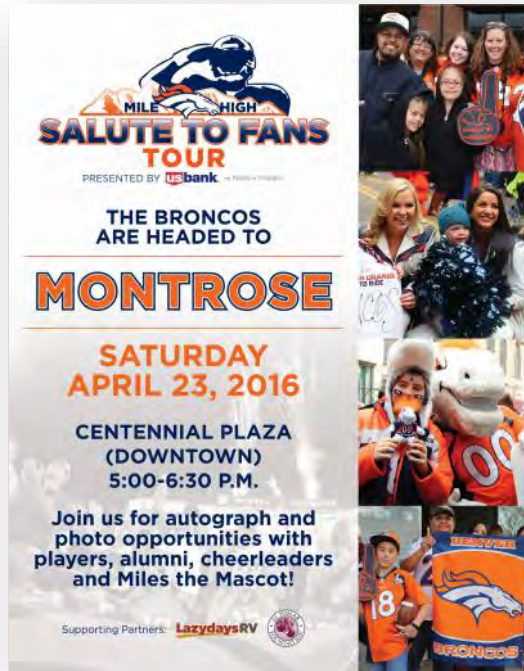
*Montrose City Councilor Judy Ann Files*

**THANK YOU** for your continued trust and confidence in allowing me to represent you for the next four years on Montrose City Council. Working together we can make the Montrose Community even better.

*Judy Ann Files, District IV*



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS



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### FANS GEAR UP FOR BRONCOS MONTROSE STOP

#### Mirror Staff Report

**MONTROSE**—The Denver Broncos Salute to Fans Tour will stop in Montrose on Saturday, April 23, in Centennial Plaza from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Stop by to have your picture taken with Miles and the Denver Broncos Cheerleaders, and celebrate your state's greatest professional football team.

Montrose dignitaries will be there to welcome the Broncos, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Director Lance Michaels said.

"They're coming with cheerleaders, players, and alumni—even Miles the Mascot," he said. "And people come from all over to see them. I expect to see a thousand or more people Downtown that day."

One fan who intends to show up for the event is Harry Switzer, 8. "I have gotten so into football this last year, I would love to meet some of the Broncos and other teams," he said.

"Finally, the Broncos are coming to town! I am so eager to meet them!"

Cherry Creek Radio will be providing a live remote broadcast from Centennial Plaza, Michaels said.

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# WRITER GAIL MARVEL'S CLUB CONNECTION

## MONTROSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: KEEPING LOCAL HISTORY ALIVE

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE—Established in 1972, the mission of the Montrose County Historical Society is, “To preserve, display and interpret the historic and cultural legacy of Montrose County and its surrounding region.” While the Historical Society operates the museum; the museum itself is housed in the 100 plus year-old Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Depot, which is owned by the City of Montrose.

Located at the corner of Main Street and Rio Grande Avenue, the museum will open for the season on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. Research times are available by appointment.

Current Historical Society membership numbers 105 individuals and 15 businesses. However, the organization is in the midst of a membership drive and business renewals usually average about 40. Supporting businesses are recognized during meetings and society members are encouraged to patronize those businesses. Dues are \$25 for individuals, \$40 for families and \$50 for businesses. Society President Zilla May Brown said, “Membership is open to everyone, we welcome anyone who has an interest in history...and who pays their dues!”

In community outreach Brown said, “The community knows that the museum is the depository of history in this area. We also get a lot of research requests. We are viewed as the archives of the community. We have an extensive collection of historic photographs.” The society participates in parades, invites schools to bring children to the museum for field trips, and once a year honors a pioneer family. The Flowers family was honored in February for the 2016 calendar year and the event had more than 200 attendees.

In reaching out to the schools Brown said, “A timeline of local history has been provided to teachers. In the fourth grade, when the focus is on Colorado History, we hope the teachers will include some local history.”

Monthly business meetings are relatively short and the announcements on March 2



*Montrose County Historical Society President Zilla May Brown introduced Karl Schaffer, President of Ridgway Rail Museum, for his March 2, 2016 presentation, “Railroad History of the Uncompahgre Valley.” Photo by Gail Marvel.*

included the upcoming yard sale scheduled for May 6-7 and recognition of supporting businesses. The main program segment “Montrose County Historical Society Presents” drew a crowd of about 50. Ms. Brown introduced Karl Schaffer, President of Ridgway Rail Museum, for his presentation, “Railroad History of the Uncompahgre Valley.”

Schaffer began, “Thank you for inviting me here to preach the gospel of Otto Mears!” Mears, 1840-1931, was famous for building Colorado railroads.

The slide presentation, along with Schaffer’s engaging narration, walked the audience through history; made them a part of restoration and preservation; and ignited their treasure hunting spirit. Who would have thought you could find a never-used 100-year-old steam injector for a compressor on EBay?

The Galloping Goose, officially known as “motors,” was a series of seven railcars built by the Rio Grande Southern Railroad between 1931 and 1936. The rail cars were a composite of ingenuity, salvaged parts and creativity. Classic car collectors would no doubt cringe at the thought of a Buick sedan, a Pierce-Arrow and a Wayne bus

being combined with war surplus GMC engines and truck axels of unknown heritage.

Making documentation even more complicated is the fact that parts were salvaged from Galloping Goose #1 and installed on Galloping Goose #6. Schaffer pointed out that preservation is, “Preserving what it was [the composites].”

While locomotives run on steam, the Ridgway Rail Museum runs on volunteers. Schaffer said, “We need volunteers...and we train!”

The Montrose Historical Society too is always looking for volunteers to help at the museum. Those interested may call the museum at 970-249-2085 and leave a voice mail.

The meeting concluded with friends and neighbors visiting with one another over refreshments.

**Contact Information:**  
Montrose County Historical Society  
Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month  
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**Tuesday, April 5 ~ 11:00 am -12:00 pm**

## **Validation Dementia Communication for Caregivers**

Validation is a way of caring for and communicating with older adults who are often diagnosed as having Alzheimer's-type dementia. Developed by Naomi Feil, a social worker known throughout North America and Europe for her breakthrough approach to elderly care, Validation promotes empathy on the part of the caregiver, communication to reduce stress and increase happiness, and dignity during the final stages of life. Real life examples will be given as well as information on the stages of Validation classification of dementia symptoms. Presented by Brandi Garcia, memory support director, Valley Manor Care Center.

**Tuesday, May 3 ~ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

## **Parkinson's Disease Physical and Voice Therapy Techniques**

The LSVT BIG & LOUD therapy program is a standardized exercise approach developed from 20 years of research and has shown documented improvements in balance, trunk rotation, faster walking with bigger steps, as well as speech volume and clarity. The program trains patients to make bigger movements and teaches the amount of effort required to produce normal movements and voice in real world, everyday activities. Learn more about this therapy and how it can help you or a loved one. Presented by Suzie Stramel, Physical Therapist and Christi Masimer, Speech-Language Pathologist, Horizons Healthcare & Retirement Community





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CITY PLANS EARTH WEEK, ARBOR DAY ACTIVITIES, SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO TRANSPLANT TREES IN SEEDLING NURSERY APRIL 29

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Montrose celebrates its 27th year as a Tree City USA community this year. To celebrate, the Montrose City Council will proclaim Friday, April 29, 2016, as Arbor Day.

Dating back to 1872, Arbor Day was first proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture by Sterling Morton as a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees. Since the first observance of the holiday when more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world.

The fourth annual Montrose Earth Week event, April 18- 23, teams up with the year-long celebration of the National Park Service (NPS) Centennial with the theme, Big Country: Water, Land, and Sky, to highlight responsible land stewardship and the shared obligation to preserve our natural resources — land, air, water, and biodiversity.

Arbor Day festivities provide educational opportunities to explain and improve current urban forestry practices. The city's parks department and local Colorado State University Master Gardeners will plant trees with local elementary school students on April 22, including Northside Elementary School, Oak Grove Elementary School, Olathe Elementary School. The department will also teach students from

the Pomona After School Program about tree planting, tree care, and the value of trees in the landscape as part of their Project Learning Tree curriculum.

The department's Earth Week efforts start early this year. On April 11, a group from the Youth Conservation Corps will work to remove invasive plant species and infuse 20-30 new native willow, cottonwood, and buffalo berry plants at a local park site on Marine Road. This work is made possible by a grant from Great Outdoors Colorado. "The Marine Road site has tremendous ecological value. It is truly unique within the city parks complex," explained City Parks Superintendent John Malloy.

"Along with Taviwach Park, Cerise Park, and Riverbottom Park, the Marine Road site offers intact riparian arrangements. These support a huge number of species," he continued. "In fact 75-80 of the species in Colorado utilize these riparian areas for survival, so the fact that these areas are designated as parks is all the more significant." The site is focused on wildness and conservation, is located within minutes of downtown, and sits next to the Uncompahgre River.

"The property hosts two small ponds that stay open throughout the year, and the local Audubon chapter has helped us extensively to quantify the number of bird species that use this area." Malloy indicated that the chapter is invested in helping fur-


ther the refinement of the property.

Following Earth Week, on April 29 at 9 a.m., the Parks Division will also enlist help from the Park Ambassadors volunteer group to help transplant dozens of seedling trees.

"We'll meet at the Niagara Community Garden and transplant seedling trees into larger compostable pots," explained Malloy. The Parks Division established its first ever tree nursery at the garden as a means to foster young trees for planting later in and around the city. For information on this activity and information about the Parks Ambassador Program, contact the Parks Division at [970-240-1411](tel:970-240-1411).


Arbor Day celebrations are a part of Montrose's designation as a "Tree City USA." To qualify for the designation, the city is required to have tree board or department that is responsible for management of city trees, a tree care ordinance, an Arbor Day proclamation, and a tree program with a budget of at least \$2 per city resident, dedicated to tree care.

The city has received six Tree City USA Growth Awards and has applied for another this year. The Growth Award recognizes especially significant improvements concerning trees. For a complete schedule of related Earth Week events for all ages, visit [CityofMontrose.org/EarthWeek](http://CityofMontrose.org/EarthWeek). For more information about Tree City USA, visit [ArborDay.org](http://ArborDay.org).



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### COLORADO BEARS EMERGE FROM HIBERNATION

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER – Colorado's bears have begun emerging from hibernation across the state. Colorado Parks and Wildlife, charged with perpetuating the wildlife resources of the state, reminds outdoor recreationists, city dwellers and rural homeowners to be responsible and take steps to minimize contact with bears, for the health and safety of both humans and bears.

"About 60 percent of our collared bears have already emerged from their dens, which is pretty normal for this time of year," said Heather Johnson, a CPW mammal researcher, who studies bears in Colorado. "Most of the bears that are still dened are the sows with newborn cubs. They should emerge within the next few weeks."

The black bear, Colorado's only bear species, lives primarily west of I-25. They prefer forested or tall, shrubland habitat but may move through open landscapes as they disperse and enter adulthood.

Bears are omnivores and primarily eat vegetation such as grasses, forbs, berries, acorns, and seeds. They also eat insects or scavenge on carcasses, but can occasionally prey on newborn calves and fawns, beaver, marmots, deer, elk and even domestic livestock or agricultural products. When a localized natural food failure occurs, black bears from the affected area become increasingly mobile and persistent in search of human food sources like trash, fruit trees, pet food, bird feeders, livestock and agricultural products.

As bears emerge from hibernation, CPW reminds the public to take precautions to reduce potential for negative interactions with bears.

"Bears that seek out human food resources are at a higher risk of mortality due to lethal removals by landowners or wildlife managers, vehicle collisions, elec-

trocutions, and other factors. It's best for both bears and people if the bears continue to forage on natural foods, and avoid human development," Johnson said.

Other tools, employed by CPW when human safety and bear mortality concerns arise, include altering bear hunting licenses, implementing aversive conditioning techniques, increasing education and outreach activities, relocating nuisance bears and reducing the accessibility of human foods to bears.

The statewide bear population is difficult to estimate because it is costly to observe this solitary and elusive species. All inventory efforts in Colorado involve extrapolating information about known bear densities in small geographic areas and applying them to larger areas.

But more recently scientific sampling methods and advances in genetic analysis from the late 1990's have enabled wildlife managers to use DNA from "hair snag" samples to estimate bear populations. As a result, the current, conservative, statewide estimate is 17,000 to 20,000 bears.

Bears have an extremely keen sense of smell and excellent memories. Once they have learned about a reliable source of food, they will often return.

Once this occurs, it requires significant diligence on the part of people to keep these food-conditioned bears from coming back and creating conflicts.

Tips for outdoor recreationists: Make noise while walking or hiking to prevent surprising a bear. Clap, sing or talk loudly.

Travel in a group if possible. Pay attention to the surroundings and watch for bear signs, such as tracks or claw or bite marks on trees.

Review CPW's recommendation in an brochure at <http://cpw.state.co.us/.../Liv.../CampingHikingInBearCountry.pdf> Tips to prevent human/bear conflicts for



homeowners include:

Keep garbage in a well-secured enclosure and only put out garbage on the morning of pickup.

Take down all bird feeders -- birds don't need to be fed during the summer. Bird feeders are a major source of bear/human conflicts.

Don't leave pet food or stock feed outside--never provide food for any wildlife.

Review CPW's fact sheet at <http://cpw.state.co.us/.../LivingWithWildlife/BearproofingYourHome.pdf>

Conduct a home audit to be sure you are not attracting bears to your property.

Bears are constantly on the move. Recreationists, residents and visitors are reminded to contact Colorado Parks and Wildlife or call 303-866-3437 to file a report of injured or problem wildlife.

For more information about Living with Wildlife visit: <http://cpw.state.co.us/.../Pages/LivingWithWildlifeBears1.aspx> Read CPW's Human-Bear Conflict Report at <http://cpw.state.co.us/.../LivingWithWildlife/CPW-Human-Bear-...> Learn more about CPW's mammal research at <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/ResearchMammalsPubs.aspx>.





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### SECOND ANNUAL CINCO-CINCO 5K WALK/RUN TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LATINO STUDENTS

*Special to the Mirror*

GRAND JUNCTION-On May 5-the Second Annual Cinco-Cinco 5K Walk/Run fundraiser for Latino student scholarships takes place, sponsored by the Western Colorado Latino Chamber of Commerce and the Latin Anglo Alliance, check-in 7:30-8:30 am, at Eagle Rim Park Shelter, 2746 Cheyenne Dr., Grand Junction, 9am start, course runs along the Colorado River Front Trail, \$20 adults, \$8 children under 18, closing ceremony at Cinco de Mayo festival main stage. Info: [nicoleruiz@hapgj.org](mailto:nicoleruiz@hapgj.org) or [info@wclatinochamber.org](mailto:info@wclatinochamber.org).



The poster features a yellow background with a blue border. At the top left is a white house icon. Below it is a logo with a large blue 'S' and a black 'W' with a spring-like bottom, followed by the text 'Spring Expo Presented By DACC'. To the right is a large daisy flower. Below the flower is the text 'Formerly the HOME & GARDEN SHOW' in a mix of script and bold sans-serif fonts. In the center, the event details are listed: 'At the Bill Heddles Rec Center', 'Friday April 15th 9A-5P', 'Saturday April 16th 9A-3P', and '80+ Vendors'. At the bottom left is a Facebook 'f' icon. At the bottom right is another daisy flower. The bottom section has a dark blue background with a white house icon and the text 'DELTA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE' in white serif font.

**Spring Expo**  
Presented By  
DACC

Formerly the  
**HOME & GARDEN  
SHOW**

**At the Bill Heddles Rec Center**  
**Friday April 15th 9A-5P**  
**Saturday April 16th 9A-3P**  
**80+ Vendors**

**DELTA AREA**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





# **WEEHAWKEN DANCE SUMMER IN MONTROSE! JUNE 6-JULY 27 AT WEEHAWKEN MONTROSE 310 S. 9TH, MONTROSE**

## **MONDAYS WITH MISS LEEANN**

3:45-4:30 Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5)

4:30-5:15 Pre-Primary Ballet (ages 4-6)

## **TUESDAYS WITH MISS NATASHA**

10:45-11:30 primary ballet (ages 5-8)

11:30-12:15 Tap 1 (ages 6-10)

12:15-1:15 Ballet 1 (ages 8-10)

1:15-2:15 Ballet 2 (ages 10-11)

2:15-2:45 Pre-Pointe (ages 10-12)

2:45-3:30 Tap 2 (ages 11-14)

3:30-4:15 Pre-Ballet (ages 3-5)

4:15-5:45 Ballet 3/4 ballet (ages 12 and up)

5:45-6:15 Pointe (by approval only)

6:15-7:15 Pilates Mat Class

## **WEDNESDAYS WITH MISS SHAWNA**

11-12:00 Kid's Yoga

12:00-1:00 Wee Hip-Hop (ages 4-6)

1:00-2:00 Jazz and Hip-Hop 1 (ages 7-10)

2:00-3:00 Jazz and Hip-Hop 2 (ages 11-13)

3:00-4:30 Ballet 3/4 (ages 12 and up)

4:30-5:30 Jazz and Hip-Hop 3 (ages 14 and up)

## **MONTROSE CLASS DESCRIPTIONS**

AVAILABLE ONLINE AT  
[WWW.WEEHAWKENARTS.ORG](http://WWW.WEEHAWKENARTS.ORG)

## **MONTROSE DANCE CLASS PRICING SUMMER 2016**

**45-60 MINUTES:**

**\$125 FOR THE 8 WEEK SESSION**

**90 MINUTES:**

**\$187.50 FOR THE 8 WEEK SESSION**

**30 MINUTES:**

**\$62.50 FOR THE 8 WEEK SESSION**

**PILATES MAT:**

**\$10/CLASS (DROP-IN)**



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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### SARAH CURTIS CHOSEN AS ALL POINTS TRANSIT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE -- All Points Transit is pleased to announce that Sarah Curtis has recently accepted the position of Executive Director. Curtis comes to the position with nine years of experience working in non-profit organizations and five years of transit experience. She has worked as Mobility Manager for All Points Transit since 2011, connecting seniors and people with disabilities with regional options for transportation. Curtis has a BA from Fort Lewis College and is certified as a Community Transit Manager by the CTAA (Community Transportation Association of America).

"I am very happy that the Search Committee has selected Sarah as my successor," said Sharon Fipps, outgoing Executive Director. Fipps announced her retirement in January. She is moving to the Front Range to be closer to her children and grandchildren.

All Points Transit is a 501c3 non-profit organization providing transit services in communities throughout Montrose, Delta and San Miguel Counties. More information at [www.allpointstransit.org](http://www.allpointstransit.org).

### MONTROSE REGIONAL AIRPORT MASTER PLAN MEETING APRIL 13

#### *Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE-Montrose County is hosting a public meeting to discuss the Airport Master Plan for Montrose Regional Airport on Wednesday, April 13. The Airport Master Plan process includes a thorough public and stakeholder involvement program.

This is the second public meeting for the Airport Master Plan, which will include a

project status update, review of the existing conditions and presentation of future aviation activity at the airport. Additionally, an open discussion will be held to gather public and stakeholder input on current Montrose Regional Airport issues and opportunities.

Montrose Regional Airport Master Plan Public Meeting No. 2

Boardroom, Office of County Manage-

ment, 161 S. Townsend Avenue  
Wednesday, April 13, 2016. 3:30 PM to 6 PM. The public is encouraged to attend.

Those unable to go to the meeting may view meeting materials on the Airport website, <http://www.montrosecounty.net/194/Montrose-Regional-Airport>. In case of inclement weather, see the Airport website for cancellation announcements.

# Thank You!



**"We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time."**

**– T.S.Eliot**

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ELECTION CAMPAIGN**



## MARGE MORGENSTERN for City Council

Thank you to all my friends, neighbors, and former students for your conversation, encouragement, and support. A special thank you to my accountant, for without her, the City and State would probably demand an audit!! Thank you to all for your advice, design, guidance, and help, who know me now because I became a City Council candidate...you know who you are! To those who opposed me: your involvement has made me a wiser, more compassionate person!

**Thank you!**  
**Marge Morgenstern**



# OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

## RULES OF ENGAGEMENT PLUS POLITICAL CORRECTNESS PRODUCE A FATAL CANCER

Dear Editor:

Rules of Engagement (ROE'S) restricting operations of our military proved to be lethal to our warriors in the Vietnam War. Designed and promulgated by politicians and military yes-men with no combat experience, these ill-conceived rules of war were responsible for killing and maiming thousands of our warriors. Just ask my Air Force bomber friend who spent over six years in the Hanoi Hilton due, in no small part, to this insanity.

The consequences of imposing ill-conceived R.O.E.s on our patriotic military, and now law enforcement officers, against enemies who operate without any rules, is a formula for disaster. The Administration and politicians have learned nothing from the Vietnam disaster. Now, having emasculated our current military, they seek to require our dedicated and well-trained law enforcement to perform their duties under restrictive rules while the scum they often deal with act unfettered. In Afghanistan, our service men and women fight an ideology which employs behead-

ings of its enemies and destruction of historical relics while our military leaders consume their energy consulting on legal issues more than engaging our enemies.

Bills like the one recently introduced in the CO. legislature which refrain those who protect and serve the populace from using certain choke holds on suspects is just another example of the continuing attack on the conduct of our law enforcement professionals.

Like military R.O.E.s, such unrealistic operational restrictions are needlessly putting these civil servants at risk of deadly consequences when encountering thugs and lawbreakers who have neither consciences nor morals. There is no intelligent reason to put unreasonable restraints on those to whom we have entrusted our safety. Mainstream anti-law enforcement media and ignorant politicians seem to ever increasingly rail for "politically-correct" restrictions on law enforcement. If we hope to keep our dedicated protectors safe, alive and well, needless operational restrictions must be curtailed if not eliminat-

ed. Existing procedures for oversight, particularly with the use of Critical Incident Teams from unrelated agencies, are already in place to examine alleged excessive use of force situations.

Even so much as a tenth of a second in hesitation may result in yet another death of a law officer. The applicable adage to apply in that short span of time available when responding to a deadly threat of threat of great bodily injury is "I would rather be tried by 12 than carried by six."

Being politically correct in a moment of threat is more likely to result in the wrongdoer being safe. Our society should not tolerate giving such an advantage to those who truly pose harm to ANY others.

In our region, we have exceptionally well-trained law enforcement personnel.

It makes no sense to tie one hand behind their backs by Rules of Engagement and Politically Correct mandates while insisting that they do their duty to enforce our laws. To do so is less morally correct.

*John W. Nelson*

*Montrose, CO*

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### ALPINE BANK HOSTS ANNUAL FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAYS

#### *Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE** – Are you overwhelmed with papers you would like to get rid of? Do you have old tax documents, bank statements, credit card solicitations, medical records, and other personal documents needing to be destroyed? Then, join Alpine Bank and Colorado Document Security for the Annual Free Community Shred Days at our Alpine Bank locations in Montrose, Ridgway, and Delta:

**Montrose**

Saturday, April 16

2770 Alpine Drive

1400 East Main Street

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Donations Welcome for Montrose Lacrosse Foundation

**Ridgway**

Saturday, April 23

119 Liddell Drive

9:00 AM – Noon

Donations Welcome for Voyager Youth Program

**Delta**

Saturday, May 7

1660 Highway 92

8 AM – 11 AM

Donations Welcome for Delta High School Football Team

All documents will be shredded on-site by Colorado Document Security; we do limit

the number of boxes to 5 per person or business. No need to remove papers from file folders, take out staples or remove paperclips as they can run through the shredder. Participants will be able to watch as their documents are destroyed and leave with peace of mind, knowing their personal information will not get into the wrong hands.

In addition to the free paper shredding services, donations are welcome to youth organizations at each event, individuals from these groups will be present at the events along with Alpine Bank staff. Donations for Montrose Lacrosse Foundation, Voyager Youth Program and Delta High School Football are appreciated; Alpine Bank will match all donations collected at the event.

In 2015 at these locations, over 44,000 pounds of paper was collected, shredded, and then later recycled. According to the EPA's Waste Reduction Model, this saves about 378 trees and over 155,800 gallons of water. This is the equivalent of 66.7

cubic yards of landfill space. Andrew Karow, Alpine Bank Regional President, states, "Alpine Bank's Environmental Policy encourages community participation in our environmental efforts."

"The shred event offers a valuable service to the community and ensures that what might have ended up in a landfill is recycled."

#### **About Alpine Bank**

Chartered in 1973, Alpine Bank is an employee-owned organization with assets exceeding \$2.8 billion. With headquarters in Glenwood Springs, Colo. and 38 banking offices across Colorado, Alpine Bank employs nearly 600 people and serves more than 130,000 customers with retail, business, wealth management\*, mortgage and electronic banking services. Alpine Bank has a 5-star rating for financial strength by BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation's leading bank rating firm. The 5-star rating is BauerFinancial's highest rating for financial institutions. Learn more at [www.alpinebank.com](http://www.alpinebank.com).

#### **AWARE WALK APRIL 30 TO RAISE FUNDS FOR DOLPHIN HOUSE**

#### *Special to the Mirror*

**MONTROSE**—For a small \$25 donation, you can take part in the "Aware" walk April 30, and enjoy tickets to a comedy show later that night. But most important of all, you can raise awareness and support to fight back against child abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. The event takes place April 30 at 9 a.m., and will leave from Calvary Chapel.

"We will walk down Townsend, turn right on First Street, and go to Dolphin House," organizer Lucretia Church of Byforce Ministries said. In order to register and receive low price do before April 15 included with registration will get comedy night \$25 donation proceeds will go to Dolphin House.

To register and receive the lowest rate, visit <http://byforceministries.com/> by April 15.



#### **Volunteers Make A Real Difference**

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**[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOAWESTERNSLOPE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VOAWESTERNSLOPE)**

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### BLACK CANYON JET CENTER GETS TOP U.S. RANKING FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW



*Customer service reps Kenn Kline and Kathy Hagel at the front counter in the lobby of Black Canyon Jet Center. Open 365 days a year, the fixed based operator terminal is 4,500 sq. ft. with 50,000 sq. ft. heated hangar space. Courtesy photo.*

#### Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – For the second year in a row, Black Canyon Jet Center (BCJC), located at the Montrose Regional Airport, received top industry ranking by being recognized as the #1 fixed-based operator (FBO) in the Rocky Mountain area and among the top 5% in the Western Hemisphere (USA, Canada, Mexico, South

American, The Caribbean), according to the Aviation International News’ (AIN) annual survey which received more than 27,000 evaluations from pilots, aviation professionals, crew, customers and other industry insiders. The Rocky Mountain area consists of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. Black Canyon Jet Center bettered their ranking this year from last by moving from the top 10% to the top 5%.

*Aviation International News* is the leading corporate/business aviation publication and is considered the industry’s best read and most authoritative news publication. Between December of last year and February of this year, qualified subscribers were asked to evaluate FBO’s they had visited in 2015. With a new rating scale, this year’s survey shows the cumulative average rating from responses collected over the past four years. The categories evaluated were based on a scale of 1 to 5 and included line service, customer service, passenger amenities, pilot amenities and facility. Overall, BCJC received an average

score of 4.80 out of a total of 5.00. This rating placed Black Canyon Jet Center at the top of the industry pack surpassing leading FBO’s such as Vail Valley Jet Center and XJet in Centennial (KAPA). Not only did Black Canyon Jet Center rank in the top in the country, but they were able to achieve the highest individual category score (4.94) for their customer service. “It’s a tremendous affirmation of our never ending drive for excellence,” said general manager Ken Watson. “The other FBO’s who scored in the top three are much larger operations in much larger markets. Black Canyon Jet Center received the highest customer service score, placed in the top three out of over 3000 FBO’s, and who’s operations manager was named among the 20 most important service professionals in the FBO industry. This is the equivalent of ‘filling up the box score’. I couldn’t be more proud of everything we’ve accomplished.”

Signature Flight Support president and COO Maria Sastre was quoted saying, “I’ve always said that at the end of the day, what we are trying to do is create better value for our customers. This isn’t always driven around the price of fuel. This is driven around what they see as an overall value proposition, which is a combination of the service they receive and the value point.”

In addition, BCJC operations manager Katy Brink was again voted in the top 20 “Above and Beyond” for customer service. “There are three keys to make successful, happy customers: price, value and service. Being among hundreds of customer service reps in this industry, to be recognized for the second year in a row in the top 20, makes me very proud of the work we do,” said Katy Brink. “I could not have done it on my own. The entire BCJC team has a hand in our success through exceptional service.” Independently owned and operated by Jet Center Partners, Black Canyon Jet Center (KMTJ) has been doing business in Montrose County since 2006. Celebrating its 10 year anniversary this year, Black Canyon Jet Center can attribute much of its success to the employees. Five out of the 17 full time staff have been with BCJC since it opened and provide a wealth of aviation knowledge, experience and customer service. “We have had a great 10 years so far at the Montrose Regional Airport (KMTJ) and we are excited and looking forward to the next 10 years,” said Ken Watson. *For more information about Black Canyon Jet Center, visit: [www.blackcanyonjet.com](http://www.blackcanyonjet.com).*

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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Phone: 970.249.7751



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## CONTROVERSY ERUPTS AFTER MPD OFFICER SHOOTS LEASHED DOG From pg 6

A city police officer driving by saw the dog in the front yard of another business, who stopped and got out of the car. Allegedly the dog lunged towards the officer and he shot it three times in front of a local business doorstep. This was a horrific experience to the people at their place of business and seems to be an unacceptable use of force to an intelligent family dog. The owner has only lived here a week and stated his dog was not an aggressive dog. This concerns me about my dog's safety in this town if that is the first reaction by local police. To shoot the dog three times, why even once? This was a tragic death of a pet and very sad to those that were there, that this dog did not pass away quickly. RIP Zeus and our hearts go out to his owner."

Also weighing in was Montrose resident Doug Glaspell, who shared the following on the Montrose Police Department Facebook site: "I'm sick and tired of people thinking and treating dogs like they were people," wrote Glaspell. "These are animals, treat them like animals treat them nice but not as humans. Keep them on a leash and under your control at all times. I don't want to be bothered by your pet. If the officer felt threatened by this unattended dog I support him fully."

The dog's owner Chris Larsen, who by all accounts was very attached to his pet, was working on remodeling the new Rose Memorial Parlour building at the time and was

reported to have let go of the dog's leash briefly to assist with something.

A GoFundMe site seeking \$25,000 in damages was created by Rose's owner Mattie Boyle, with the following story:

"On April 4, 2016 my employee and dear friend, Christopher Larsen, was preparing for a morning walk with his loyal, faithful, tender-hearted companion. A full-bred, avalanche rescue trained German Shepherd, 'Zeus.' Upon getting distracted by work, as we all do, Chris dropped Zeus' leash to tend to a work activity.

"Chris and I have been renovating a funeral home for six months and Zeus had just gotten to move in with Chris full-time one week earlier. Zeus wandered about 50 yards down the alley, taking in the scents and sights of his new neighborhood, which also happens to be across the street from the police station.

As one of the off duty police officers made his way to work, he happened to notice Zeus, alone with no one else around, sniffing his way around some bushes outside of a neighboring business. This officer felt compelled to make it his job--even though he was off duty and Zeus was obviously not a stray, due to his leash being on still-to park his car, aggressively approach Zeus (who was not bothering a soul and peacefully waiting for Chris who was making his way down the alley to retrieve his pal) to supposedly "intervene before Zeus attacked a citizen or even a

child" as the police department states on their Facebook page. This officer then began to follow Zeus and before Zeus could escape this stranger whom Zeus obviously felt was threatening HIS safety, the officer stomped on Zeus' leash to gain control of him, and Zeus was startled and scared looked back at the officer, who Zeus felt was there to harm him, only to have three bullets fired into his head and upper torso. As he lay on the pavement dying, Chris finally made it there just in time to say goodbye to his murdered servant."

City Manager Bill Bell was on vacation and could not be reached for comment. However, Bell is ultimately responsible, as he is Police Chief Tom Chinn's supervisor. Dog owner Chris Larsen posted the following comment on the Montrose Message Board on April 4.

"Thanks to all my new neighbors in Montrose who have extended sympathy to me and my extended family of Zeus' offspring. I'm devastated and grieving the loss of my best friend and family protector. Zeus was seven years old and still very much a puppy at heart.

"He was a hero and loyal friend."

Since losing his pet, Larsen said he has struggled with post-traumatic stress caused by the violent incident. Larsen also said that he intends to organize a memory walk in Zeus' name, and to speak to the Montrose City Council about his experience.



**April is National  
Child Abuse  
Prevention Month.  
Report child abuse  
and neglect today at  
**1-844-CO-4-KIDS!****

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### NEW DIMENSION ADDED TO GRAND MESA ONCOLOGY & INFUSION



**Dr. Helen Goldberg.**  
Courtesy photo.

*Special to the Mirror*  
DELTA-A new dimension to oncology care has recently been added to the expanding Grand Mesa Oncology and Infusion Center with the addition of a third oncology physician, Dr. Helen Goldberg who offers credentials in integrative oncology along with 23 years as an oncology physician and six years as an oncology nurse.

She also has an extensive professional background in working as a hospice director in palliative care. "There are a number of modalities that have a role in cancer care. We can engage the patient and family with choices for acupuncture, massage, meditation, aromatherapy, nutritional and herbal products" commented Dr. Goldberg who completed a two year fellowship with Dr. Andrew Weil at the University of Arizona in Tucson in Integrative Medicine. She also had a fellowship at Duke University Medical Center in Hematology/Oncology.

Dr. Goldberg belongs to the Society of Integrated Oncology, American Botanical Council, American Institute of Holistic Medicine and the Association of Oncology Naturopathic Physicians as an associate

member.

With estimates up to 60-80 percent of cancer patients are using some type of complementary medicine, Dr. Goldberg started with Delta County Memorial Hospital's Oncology Center as a contract oncology physician in January and quickly negotiated a contract as the third oncologist physician for this growing practice.

"Complementary medicine can be a safe avenue to coordinate with traditional care in order to formulate customized care plans for each patient," stated Dr. Goldberg.

She also has plans to create a survivorship program for cancer patients that will begin the day they are diagnosed, with a focus on nutrition and lifestyle modifications.

Prior to joining DCMH Dr. Goldberg had an oncology, hematology and integrative oncology practice in San Antonio, TX for 20 years. She also practiced in Boulder, CO in the early 1990s. As an oncology nurse she worked at M.D. Anderson Hospital's Leukemia Unit and at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital's Leukemia Unit.

Dr. Goldberg is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Oncology and is licensed in both Colorado and Texas. Her residency and an internship were in internal medicine from Duke University Medical Center, where she also served as the Assistant Chief Resident of internal medicine. Dr. Goldberg earned her MD degree from

Medical College of Pennsylvania magna cum laude in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Goldberg will be working at the hospital-owned clinic full time with Dr. Schmidt and Dr. Alan Miller working part time.

Grand Mesa Oncology & Infusion Center officially started in 2006 with Dr. Eric Schmidt, who had a residency at Yale University, New Haven, CT bringing his oncology credentials and friendly patient manner to cancer patients in the Delta County area.

He said there has been a skilled group of professional oncology nurses and the pharmacy professionals that helped build this oncology practice for the past 10 years. Dr. Schmidt has served oncology patients in Montrose and Gunnison in addition to Delta County over the years.

He commented that some cancer patients seek out a second opinion at Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, AZ, or the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX and that those cancer centers have confirmed the treatment plans for Western Slope cancer patients being treated by Dr. Miller and himself, and that they also have referred patients to Grand Mesa Oncology and Infusion Center.

Dr. Alan Miller, who is a Harvard University graduate, was added to the oncology practice in 2009 and came from Sky Ridge Medical Center in Lone Tree, Colorado, a front range Highlands Ranch suburban area.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### CDOT TO RESUME REPLACEMENT OF CRIB WALLS BELOW US 550 ON RED MTN. PASS

*Special to the Mirror*

OURAY & SAN JUAN COUNTIES –

After a winter suspension of work, the Colorado Department of Transportation will resume a project on April 13, 2016, that is repairing five crib walls (retaining walls) on the hillside below US 550 on Red Mountain Pass. Work was completed at two work sites last summer (with replacement of two crib walls and reinforcement of one existing wall). The estimated total cost of this work, from design through construction, is \$5.7 million. The construction contract was awarded to Rock & Company of Brighton, CO. This is a two-season project, scheduled for completion by August 31, 2016. The first season of work began on July 7, 2015, and continued into November 2016.

This project consists of repairing and replacing five crib walls and repairing/reinforcing one at the following work sites:

RESUMES APRIL 13: Site 1 MM 79.5 to MM 79.4 – Just south of Red Mtn. Pass summit, about 13 miles south of Ouray – 3 crib walls

Began: September 1st 2015/Ended for season: November 15<sup>th</sup> 2015 (resumes April 13, 2016)

Rock excavation and blasting, replacement of three crib walls below the highway

COMPLETED: Site 2 MM 88.5 to 88.6 – Approx. 4 miles south of Ouray near snow shed- 2 crib walls

Began: July 7th 2015/Ended: November 2015

Replacement of two crib walls, excavation, culverts, retaining wall construction, minor paving

COMPLETED: Site 3 MM 89.5 to MM 89.7 – Approx. 3 miles South of Ouray – Repair of crib wall and placement of concrete “cap” over the wall for reinforcement  
Began: September 2015/Ended: November 2015

Excavation and roadway stabilization that included installation of a concrete “cap” over the existing crib wall, drainage improvements and paving  
This stretch of US 550 receives an average annual daily traffic count of 2,164 vehicles a day. The repair and reconstruction project will improve the safety and integrity of the highway by reinforcing these under-highway slope-side walls.

ANTICIPATED TRAVEL AND ACCESS IMPACTS: From April 13-April 15, there will be lane closures controlled by flaggers as crews mobilize and bring in equipment and set up work zones. Beginning April 15 and ending August 31, anticipated travel impacts are single-lane, alternating traffic 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, con-

trolled by flaggers or portable traffic signals. Delays should be minimal on evenings and weekends when no work is underway; possibly five minutes. During daytime work, with hours varying through the summer, motorists may be delayed up to 20 minutes, depending upon traffic queues. Please note - there will be some blasting operations later in the summer at this work site; this will require full traffic stops in each direction, with delays exceeding 30 minutes as longer traffic queues are cleared. Further notice of the blasting schedule will be sent when details are known, likely in early June.

PROJECT INFORMATION: For updates or to ask questions, the public may call the contractor’s project information line at (970) 209-3332. To sign up to receive project information and/or lane closure updates on state highways in the area of your choice, visit CDOT’s website at [www.codot.gov](http://www.codot.gov) and choose the envelope icon at the bottom of the page. Or, to see CDOT’s lane closure reports for projects statewide, visit [www.codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html](http://www.codot.gov/travel/scheduled-lane-closures.html). A brief on all upcoming projects (titled “Summer Construction Books” or soon “Traffic Watchers”) in CDOT’s Region 5 (SW Colorado) is posted here: <https://www.codot.gov/programs-projects/>

## HONORABLE MENTION

*To our seventh grade neighbor Eric Bauer, for putting so much effort into giving his little brother a ride in a bike trailer over Spring Break...see photos on our back page!*

*To Ikie’s Mobile Home Park on East Main Street...for being great neighbors, running a clean and crime-free park, and for hiring a licensed and insured contractor to cut back the old trees that overhang neighboring properties...Thank you!*

*To the Seventh Judicial District for making it possible for even the self-represented to get a fair chance in court...see Liesl’s story on Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator Leslie German in this issue of the Mirror...*

*And to Publisher Janine Bush, for producing the Western Weekend Blast on Fridays! Watch for it this week, and be sure to support her new business!*

## OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

# CALL BEFORE YOU DIG, AND CIRCLE THE WAGONS!



*The One-Call Notification System Act, which requires owners and operators of underground utilities in Colorado to join the statewide one-call notification center (811), was passed into law in May of 2000. Photo by Gail Marvel.*

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-In a small community it is not unusual for people to call local newspapers and journalists wanting them to do an investigative report. It's not that reporters don't want to investigate, but often people, organizations and entities are evasive and not forthcoming when questions are asked.

Case in point, on March 21 while walking on the bike path I stumbled across what seemed to be a suspicious and hazardous situation. At first blush it appeared someone was trying to tap into a light pole and help themselves to unmetered electricity. A trench had been dug over a designated gas pipe exposing an electric cable that had been cut and partially pulled out of the ground. There was no indication the project was being handled by professionals, or

a licensed electrician. Wires were left exposed and the ground was absent any spray painted line locates for gas, electric, sewer or water.

The morning of March 22 I contacted the Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) dispatch center, who told me that decorative lights on the bike path belongs to the City of Montrose. The next call was to city Public Works Director John Harris who affirmed the city was in the process of replacing heads on light poles. Mr. Harris wasn't sure if the work was contracted out, or done by city employees; however, he did go to the site. When ask if the city had requested a line locate he indicated that the waterlines were marked with blue dots on the sidewalk, but there were no line locates from Source Gas, now known as Black Hills Energy. Harris didn't know why the gas company failed to mark the line with paint, but he felt the gas company had made a site inspection because they dug down and located the pipe.

In a personal visit to the local Black Hills Energy office the receptionist could not readily find the line locate information on the computer. However, upon learning that I was a journalist she limited her words and referred me to the Denver office and Manager of Community Affairs, Carly West.

The question was simple, "Was there a request for a line locate?" Ms. West first had to check to see if she could release the information and when she called back she

said, "You'll have to get that information from the Utility Notification Center of Colorado (UNCC)."

The UNCC provides assistance in locating all underground utilities — electric lines, gas pipes, telephone cables, water and sewer lines. The One-Call Notification System Act, which requires owners and operators of underground utilities in Colorado to join the statewide one-call notification center (811), was passed into law in May of 2000. The motto for UNCC is "Call before you dig." I contacted UNCC call center manager Jacquelyn McClure, who sidestepped the question of a line locate request with, "If you want the ticket number [of a request] you'll have to have a subpoena. If you just want a yes or no answer about a line locate request, I may be able to give that to you...but I can't give you the ticket number without a subpoena." *Seriously, a subpoena...surely a CORA (Colorado Open Records Act) request would cost less than a subpoena.* Ms. McClure said she would call back after she first checked with supervisors to see if she could give me a yes or no answer. At the time of this publication she has not returned my call.

The lack of response to the inquiry is not one of red tape and bureaucracy. Please excuse the clichés, but this is a situation of municipal government, state government and a public utility gas company passing the buck, closing ranks and circling the wagons to avoid public scrutiny.

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saturday, may 7th  
9am - 11am at cerise park



# Family MOVIE NIGHT

**Help Our Community Stop Child Abuse, Call 1-844-CO-4-KIDS**



**May 6th**

**at The Montrose County Fairgrounds  
1001 N. 2nd • Montrose, CO**



**\* Free Dinner at 6pm • Free Movie at 7pm \***

- **Featuring the Family Favorite Film Kung Fu Panda 3**
- **Free Meal Provided** (Hot Dogs, Chips, Beverage, & Dessert)
- **Community Resources will be on-hand to answer questions and provide educational materials**



**APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**



*Help Our Community  
Stop Child Abuse Now,  
Call 1-844-CO-4-KIDS*





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY OBSERVATION AND FREE PLANNING MATERIALS

*Special to the Mirror*

MONTROSE & ECKERT – Senior Community Care PACE, Valley Manor Care Center and Horizons Health Care & Retirement Community, along with other national, state and community organizations, are leading an effort to highlight the importance of preparing advance healthcare decision-making plans around the observance of National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD).

NHDD exists to inspire, educate and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning and is formally observed every April 16<sup>th</sup>. NHDD is an initiative to encourage patients to express their wishes regarding healthcare and for providers and facilities to respect those wishes, whatever they may be. The theme for 2016 is *"It Always Seems Too Early, Until It's Too Late."*

According to the NHDD web site, [www.nhdd.org](http://www.nhdd.org), a key goal of this ob-

servance is to demystify healthcare decision-making and make the topic of advance care planning inescapable. Among other things, NHDD helps people understand that advance healthcare decision-making includes much more than living wills; it is a process that should focus first on conversation and choosing an agent.

Volunteers of America's Senior Community Care PACE, Valley Manor Care Center and Horizons Healthcare & Retirement Community are participating in NHDD awareness by providing a free copy of the "Five Wishes" booklet to the public.

"Five Wishes" is the first living will that addresses personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well as medical wishes. It is available for anyone to use to communicate about their wishes with family, friends and healthcare providers, and execute written advance directives (healthcare power of attorney and living will) in ac-

cordance with Colorado state laws. The process requires checking a box, circling a direction, or writing a few sentences. Once it is signed and witnessed, it becomes a legal document.

"Our goal in participating in National Healthcare Decisions Day is to stress to families that knowing each other's wishes when faced with a long term, chronic health issue or a sudden, life-altering event or disease is very important," Volunteers of America's Regional Director of Operations Craig Ammermann said.

"As providers of healthcare services, we want to be better able to honor patient wishes when the time comes, especially if the patient is unable to speak for themselves," he said.

The three Volunteers of America facilities are welcoming the public to stop by and pick up a free Five Wishes booklet at their front reception desks between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

These free resources are available at Senior Community Care PACE, 2377 Robins Way, Montrose, Valley Manor Care Center, 1401 S. Cascade Ave, Montrose and at Horizons Health Care & Retirement Community, 11411 Hwy 65, Eckert.

#### About Volunteers of America

Founded in 1896, Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need live healthy, safe and productive lives. Through hundreds of human service programs, including housing and health care, Volunteers of America touches the lives of more than 2 million people each year.

### 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?



**We provide a connected network of services that make a significant difference in our part of the world.**

**Join us in supporting our vision to enrich and uplift the lives of our local older adults.**



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### PARTNERS AUCTION WILL BE ONLINE APRIL 18-23!

*Special to the Mirror*

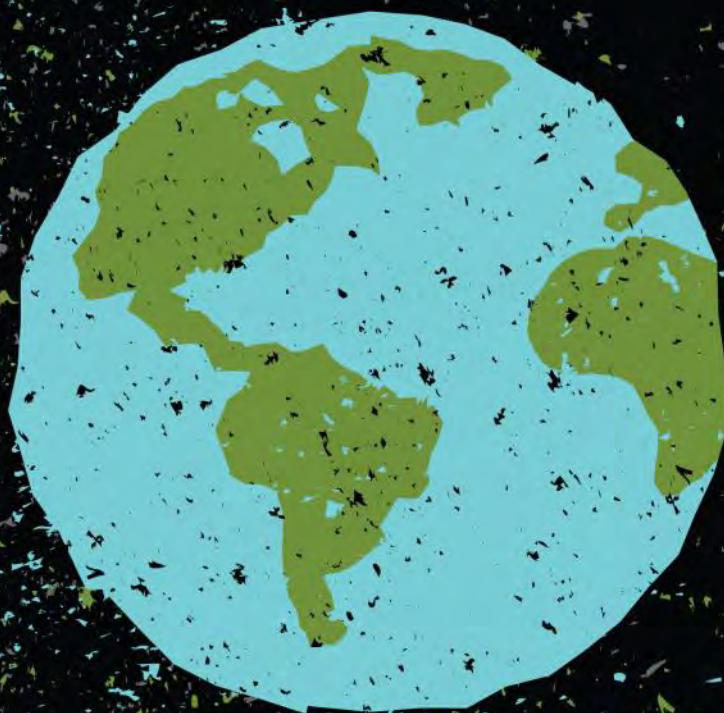
REGIONAL-April 18-23-The 27th Annual Auction Partners Auction will be online this year for a week from April 18-23.

They have items from car washes to ski tickets, dirt to Denver attractions. Bidding starts at 8 AM on April 18 with items closing daily at 8PM, and week-long items closing on April 23 at noon.

Go to [www.partners-west.org](http://www.partners-west.org) for the auction link.



# ***Earth Day Dance***



***Live Music***

***THE STUPID BAND***

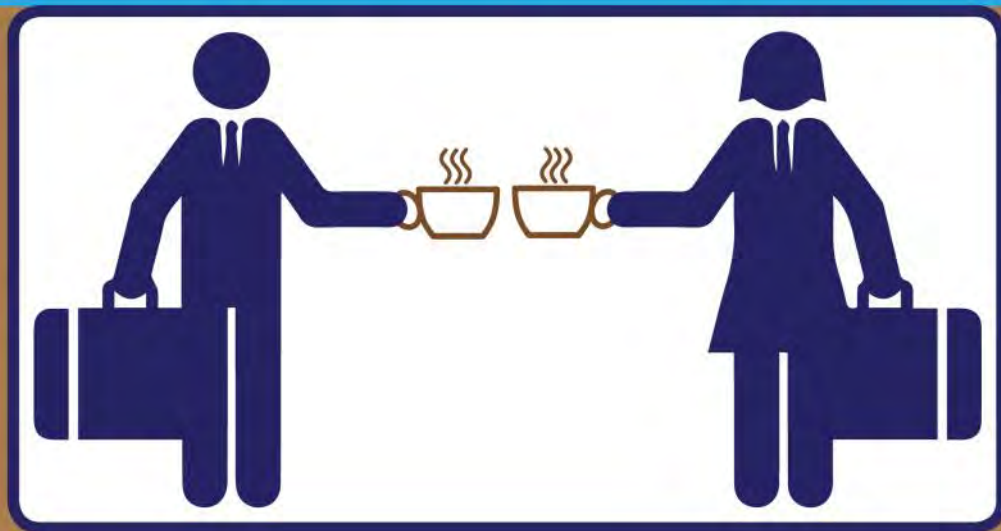
**April 23, 2016, Saturday**  
**Turn of the Century**

**\$10 and 2 non-perishable food items  
for the Local Food Bank**

**Doors at 7:30 pm**



# Coffee & CONNECTIONS



**April 19th at 8:30am**  
**Proximity Space**

A great start can put your day on the right track, and what better way to do that than with a hot cup of coffee and some cool conversation with the Business Resource Partnership. This casual networking meeting can put you on the path to better business relationships.

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## SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT COORDINATOR LESLIE GERMAN MAKES A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY



**Leslie German.**  
*Courtesy photo.*

*By Liesl Greathouse*  
REGIONAL-  
Navigating the court system can be difficult, especially if someone is self-represented. In recent years, the court system was beginning to feel the toll of having so many self-

represented people with no knowledge of the necessary paperwork and procedures. So three years ago the state of Colorado implemented a new resource for people in the form of a Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator SRLC (Pro Se Litigants), the position in our area being held by Leslie German.

"I work with folks trying to maneuver the court system on their own by helping them with forms and procedures," German explained. "I help take some of the mystery out of it."

According to the 7th Judicial District website, the Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator helps people in many different ways, including: "Provides information to self-represented (Pro Se) litigants regarding state statutes, rules, policies and procedures; assists self-represented litigants in effectively processing court cases through interactions in person or over the telephone; determines and communicates appropriate forms to be filed by self-represented litigants; explains the processes of scheduling hearings and mediation, status checks, court limitations and general follow-up to self-represented-litigants; engages in community outreach initiatives to strengthen resources for self-represented

litigants; provides detailed customer service to self-represented litigants to assist in case processing to ensure implementation of proper procedures and eliminate unnecessary delays in the courtroom; provides customers with instructional packets explaining contents and answers questions from self-represented litigants; acts as liaison between self-represented litigants and other court personnel; Reviews procedures and recommendations from court personnel, judges and magistrates to improve court representation and case processing advice provided to self-represented litigants; follows-up with outside agencies, courtroom personnel and internal offices to check on case progression.; corresponds with incarcerated, self-represented litigants seeking modification of court orders; assists in making arrangements with case managers for inmate telephone testimony; and educates self-represented litigants on courtroom procedures and policies within legal limitations."

German has been in the position for the three years it has been in our area, having been an attorney in a private practice for five years prior to that. "The part of my job as an attorney that I enjoyed most was working with people," she said. "When I saw this new position open up, it had all the parts I really enjoyed as an attorney, with mostly working with people rather than the other parts that were not my favorite."

The desire to help people is what drew German to law in the first place. "I always had an interest in pursuing law and I was drawn to public interest law," she said. "During school I was at an internship in Arizona at the Arizona equivalent of the Colorado Legal Services, and I saw attorneys that were passionate about what they were doing, so that prompted me to seek that out."

A normal day for German is mostly made up of scheduled appointments where people meet with her for 30 minutes at a time. Her main job is to connect people with resources and help explain how things work in the court system. "A lot of people don't have any idea where to go or what to do next, so a big part is connecting people with resources," she said. "In addition to legal issues, people will often need help with public assistance or domestic violence, so we address the legal issues and refer them to other agencies[to help in those other areas]. My main goal when someone comes in is to get an understanding of what their issue is, present options and any additional resources. I can't give legal advice, but I can explain options and the ramifications of each of them to people."

To help people in other legal matters, they also provide events for people in the area, including Family Law Day, a 'one-stop shop' for divorce and custody cases, which provides consultation with attorneys, parenting classes, and more. In addition, they have provided an informational session called Legal Resource Day. "We want to get legal information to as many people as possible," German said.

What German hopes people will understand about her job is simply that it is here. "People are slowly learning that we're here as a resource for the community," she explained.

"I love supporting people...sitting down to talk one-on-one all day and getting to know them. I often get calls or notes from folks, regardless of the outcome of their case, thanking me for my assistance. I appreciate that. It makes me feel like I am making a difference."

The Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator is a free service. For more information, call 252-4312.



# OBITUARIES

## ANDREA TERESA BLACK

**ANDREA TERESA BLACK** passed away on the 24th of March at Montrose Memorial Hospital. There will be a funeral this coming Saturday, April 16 at 11 a.m. at Sunset Mesa. Burial will take place afterwards at Valley Lawn, with lunch and a get together. Andrea leaves behind one son; Scott Haupt, and three daughters; Elizabeth Haupt, Emily Bisbee, and Laura Johnson; as well as grandchildren Jayden Anderson, Layla Anderson, Aubrey Johnson, TamaRae Michele Bisbee, and Lydia Grace Bisbee, and her husband of 16 years; Christopher Ray Black.

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Eckert, CO



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# **INCOME INEQUALITY:**

**Is it destroying our democracy?**



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 12:00pm  
MONTROSE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM**

**GUEST SPEAKER: PAUL JANZEN**  
**Minimum Wage vs Living wage**

Rhetoric vs. Numbers: the economic case illustrating our income inequality and the economic effects with our current minimum wage and the effects of a minimum wage increase.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, go to [www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org](http://www.montrose.co.lwvnet.org) and click on *Calendar of Events*.

## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### 2016-17 CPW LICENSES, PERMITS AND REGISTRATIONS NOW ON SALE

#### *Special to the Mirror*

DENVER – Colorado Parks and Wildlife licenses, permits and registrations for boating, fishing, hunting and off-highway vehicle use are available now for 2016-17 at license agents, CPW offices and online at <http://cpw.state.co.us/>.

Anglers are reminded that they must purchase a 2016 fishing license, which are valid through March 31, 2017.

A resident annual fishing license costs \$26. Youth 15 and under are not required to purchase an annual license; however, if they plan to fish with a second line, they must buy a second-rod stamp for \$5. Resident senior annual licenses for those 64 or older cost just \$1.

A resident combination fishing-small game license is available for \$41. A resident small-game license costs \$21, and \$1.75 for those under 18.

Anglers should pick up a 2016 fishing brochure to check regulations to see what's new. You must know the regulations for the waters you are fishing. Brochures are available at license agents, any Parks and Wildlife office, and online at <http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Brochure/fishing.pdf>.

Mountain lion licenses for April 1 - 30, are available now to new 2016 hunters who meet hunter education requirements, and also to prior season hunters who did not harvest during the Nov. 16, 2015 - March 31, 2016 season.

However, all interested hunters must purchase a new \$41 license for the April time period. Licenses purchased in April are valid through March 31, 2017. Read the brochure at <http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Brochure/MountainLion.pdf> and visit <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/MountainLion.aspx> for more information.

[cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/MountainLion.aspx](http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/MountainLion.aspx) for more information.

Spring turkey over-the-counter (OTC) licenses are unlimited in number and available over the counter for the season beginning April 9.

A resident license is \$24 and residents under the age of 18 is \$14. Licenses can be purchased online, via telephone (1-800-244-5613), license agents and Parks & Wildlife offices. For more information, view the Spring OTC turkey map. Go to <http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Brochure/turkey.pdf> for details. Resources for turkey hunting is available at <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/Turkey.aspx>.

Hunting and angling license buyers between the ages of 18-64 also must buy a \$10 annual Colorado Habitat Stamp. Money collected from stamp purchases is used to preserve and protect wildlife habitat throughout the state. Learn more at <http://cpw.state.co.us/buyapply/Pages/HabitatStamp.aspx>.

OHV registrations are valid from April 1 through March 31 each year. The annual off-highway vehicle registration fee is \$25.25. Registrations may be renewed online at <https://ivrs.parks.state.co.us/>. The flat, administrative transaction fee cannot be prorated for a partial year's registration, and will not be subject to refund if the vehicle is sold or stolen. Learn more at <http://cpw.state.co.us/buyapply/Pages/RegistrationsOHV.aspx>.

Any boat with a motor or sail, operated in Colorado on any public waters, must be registered with CPW. Boat registrations may be renewed online at <https://ivrs.parks.state.co.us/>. New boats may be registered by completing this form. Fees vary based on boat length. Registrations are effective Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 each year



and cannot be prorated. Fill it out and return it to: Colorado Parks and Wildlife -Registration Unit, 13787 S Highway 85, Littleton, CO 80125 or stop in at any CPW location. Mandatory boat inspections and decontaminations occur at 52 locations around the state. Information about the state's extensive boat inspection program can be found online at <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/BoatInspection.aspx>. Resources for boaters can be viewed at <http://cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/boat.aspx>.

Now is also a good time to buy a Colorado State Parks pass. A pass, good for entry at 42 state parks, costs \$70 and is good for one year from the month of purchase. Buy a pass at a Parks and Wildlife office or online at <https://parksstore.state.co.us>. Daily passes are also available.

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## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIRD ANNUAL NURSES 4 NURSING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Special to the Mirror*

REGIONAL-Applications are now available for the third annual Nurses 4 Nursing Memorial Scholarship. The goal of this scholarship is to help others find the true love of nursing by offering a \$500 scholarship to a qualified individual seeking education in the nursing field. This is an all-

ages opportunity for Western Slope students seeking further education in nursing fields.

Recipients will be announced at the 8th annual Nurses Day Celebration on May 11, 2016 at Canyon Creek Bed and Breakfast.

For application: Please send email re-

quest

to [nurses4nursing@yahoo.com](mailto:nurses4nursing@yahoo.com) subject Application Request. Deadline for return is on or before May 1, 2016.

If you need any further information please contact

Tina Wilson at 970-249-5454 or email [twilson@montrosehospital.com](mailto:twilson@montrosehospital.com).

### RIDGWAY PHOTO GROUP TO HOLD FIRST EXHIBIT AT WRIGHT OPERA HOUSE

*Special to the Mirror*

RIDGWAY-The Ridgway Photo Group will hold their first exhibit at the Wright Opera House in Ouray. The exhibit is titled "Colorado Through the Lens," and will showcase the beauty of our state as well as the talents of the group. The Ridgway Photo Group, an informal group of photographers of various skill levels, share their

common interest and knowledge of photography. The RPG is pleased to collaborate with the Ouray County Arts Association and the Wright Opera House in the upcoming exhibit. An opening reception for the exhibit will be held Sunday April 17 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Wright.

"Hosting art exhibits is a new venture for the Wright. Our first collaboration was the

Ouray County Arts Association's 'Snow Show' which convinced us we had a perfect venue for exhibits, and was in sync with our mission to provide an excellent space for all arts in Ouray County," said Dee Williams, Friends of the Wright Opera House board member. The photographs will be exhibited through the middle of June.

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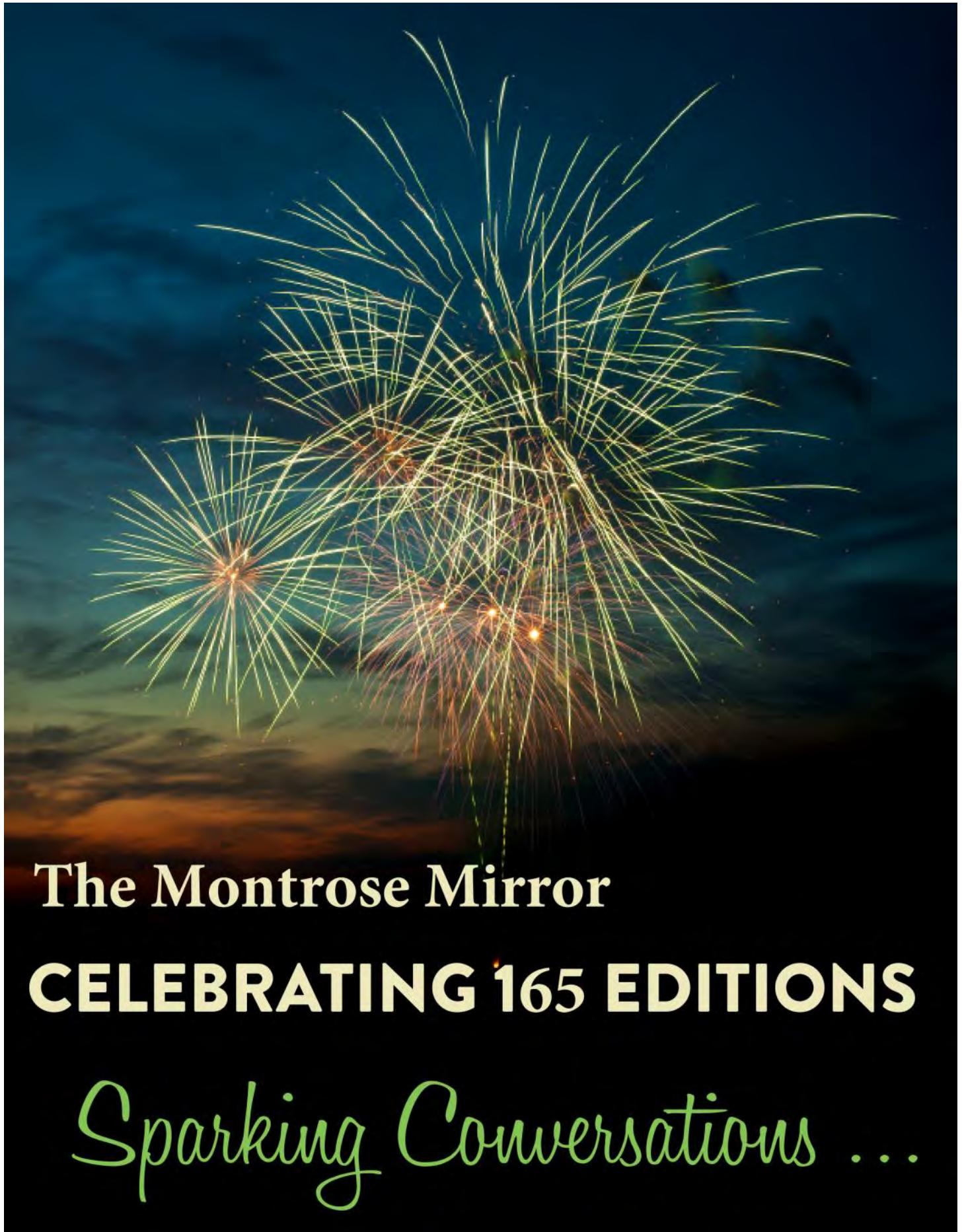
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## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY SENATOR ELLEN ROBERTS

### WORKING TO REPRESENT MY POLITICALLY DIVERSE DISTRICT

Last week, the Senate passed the 2016-2017 budget bill, also called the “long bill”, since it’s the most detailed and lengthy piece of legislation each year. Despite dire predictions from the governor that Colorado couldn’t find its way to an on-time, balanced budget without adopting more revenue maneuvers like the hospital provider fee changes, the Joint Budget Committee, (JBC), instead presented a bipartisan budget bill to the full legislature, rejecting most of the cuts in the governor’s November proposal.

Both Republican President Cadman and Democratic Minority Leader Guzman commented at the end of the senate chamber’s budget debates that, while neither party got all of what each wanted in the budget process, it’s a good and responsible budget bill. Nearly all of the senators agreed and voted to pass the budget bill, with only a few no votes from each party.

A special mention and tip of the hat is very deserved to this year’s six members of the JBC. They refused to go along with the governor’s proposed cuts to Medicaid providers, to K-12 and higher education funding, or to shift severance taxes away from energy development-impacted communities. It’s too bad the media doesn’t report these kinds of successes, because

they are indeed positive indicators of how Colorado legislators work hard to get the job of governing done, in a bipartisan manner.

I continue to seek ways to make progress on the biomass conversation. While my biomass energy production bill was killed in the House, I’ve since convened a meeting with a group of stakeholders so we could discuss what options might exist to encourage greater utilization of the unmarketable, dead timber and brush in many areas of Colorado.

Among the stakeholders who are participating in this effort are the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Colorado State Forest Service as well as those interested in greater development of markets for biochar and biomass products and energy generation. I’m also very pleased to have the environmental organization, The Nature Conservancy, participating in our conversations as they “walk the walk” in their on-the-ground efforts in wildfire mitigation and watershed protection.

From my vantage point over a decade, the USFS has become much more engaged and proactive at the state level, which I appreciate. The level of engagement varies by region, but the type of relationship I’ve had with our local land managers is

very beneficial when discussing the challenges we face together, for public safety and for good stewardship of the public lands we live in and around.

It’s likely that the biomass conversation will need to continue into the work of the interim committee on wildfire matters that I’ve been a member of for years. Hopefully, we will not have a devastatingly difficult wildfire season this year as we continue to sort through the challenges.

With the approach of an especially intense and divisive campaign season, even though I don’t have an election this year, I want to encourage my constituents to critically evaluate what is put out there about my votes or me.

If you want to see what a bill actually does or costs the state, you can easily find that information on the legislature’s website, [www.leg.state.co.us](http://www.leg.state.co.us). In the meantime, I’ll keep working to represent my politically diverse and wonderful district, to the best of my abilities.


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

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

Phone: [\(303\)866-4884](tel:3038664884)

Email: [ellen.roberts.senate@state.co.us](mailto:ellen.roberts.senate@state.co.us)

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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.

**SNOWSHADOW GYM**-Zumba classes with Maria Gonzalez week nights 5:30 to 7:30; Swing dance with Kevin Mears Mondays 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. 535 S. First St. Snowshadowgym-nastics@yahoo.com.

## MONTHLY-

**April 11-15**-Peak Virtual Academy Registration Week is April 11-15th from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Please come in and pick up an enrollment packet and schedule an interview. For more information, Parent Information Night is scheduled Monday, April 11 at 6 p.m. at 526 North 6th Street. We look forward to seeing you!

**April 12**-The City of Montrose will host an informational session on Tuesday, April 12, to present the results of intersection studies for Hillcrest Drive at Miami, Sunnyside, and Niagara Roads. The informational session, to be held in the City Council Chambers, will begin with a presentation at 5 p.m., followed by a one-on-one discussion period lasting until 6:30 p.m. Construction of improvements at the Hillcrest and Sunnyside intersection is scheduled to take place in 2016. Any questions regarding the project or the meeting may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at (970) 901-1792.

**April 13**-Searching for lost hunters, hikers and downed aircraft. Transporting doctors, firefighters or emergency personnel. Sound interesting, challenging and adventurous? On Wednesday, April 13th, the Forum at Heidi's will hear from the Montrose Chapter of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and learn about their role in all of this. 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Heidi's Brooklyn Deli, 1521 Oxbow Drive. Coffee is \$1.

**April 13**-Montrose Regional Airport Master Plan Public Meeting No. Two will be in the Boardroom, Office of County Management, 161 S. Townsend Avenue. Montrose County is hosting a public meeting to discuss the Airport Master Plan for Montrose Regional Airport from 3:30 PM to 6 PM. The public is encouraged to attend. Those unable to go to the meeting may view meeting materials on the Airport website, <http://www.montrosecounty.net/194/Montrose-Regional-Airport>. In case of inclement weather, see the Airport website for cancellation announcements.

**April 13**-Elijah BossenBroek to perform at the Lark & Sparrow Venue, 511 East Main Street in Montrose. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. concert at 7:30 p.m. Call 970-615-7277 for info and reservations.

**April 14**-Friendship Force International, non-profit organization, was founded and introduced to the world at a ceremony held at the White House on March 1, 1977. FFI provides opportunities to explore new cultures from the inside by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado's next meeting is planned for: Thursday, April 14 at 6:15 pm Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison. The meeting will feature a special presentation from Annie Gingerich, Associate Director, and Sam, an international student from Saudi Arabia, through CMU - International Programs and Services. **"Like Us on Facebook" - Friendship Force Western Colorado"** If you're interested in joining us please call Sue Palmer on 970-260-4653.

**April 14**-A Brilliant Young Mind to show at the Sherbino Theater. Movie Not Rated. Run time-111 min. Movie concessions, beer, and wine will be available for purchase throughout the film. Doors and cash bar at 7:00pm. FILM STARTING at 7:30 pm.

**April 15-16**-Delta Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Expo, Bill Heddles Recreation Center in Delta. 80+ vendors! Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**April 15**-The Sherbino Theater is showing the climbing film, "A Line across the Sky," on Friday, April 15. A film of Seven Summits, this documentary presented by Sender Films and Big UP Productions captures the first ascent of the Fitz Traverse that includes footage shot by the first ascensionists Tommy Caldwell and Alex Honnold. 3-D graphics and aerial footage tracking the team's progress across the seven major summits are also included throughout the film. Doors at 7 pm with the film starting at 7:30 pm. \$7 at the door.

**April 16**-Alpine Bank Shred Day at 2770 Alpine Drive and 1400 east Main Street in Montrose from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

**April 17**-The Ridgway Photo Group will hold their first exhibit at the Wright Opera House in Ouray. The exhibit is titled "Colorado Through the Lens," and will showcase the beauty of our state as well as the talents of the group. The Ridgway Photo Group, an informal group of photographers of various skill levels, share their common interest and knowledge of photography. The RPG is pleased to collaborate with the Ouray County Arts Association and the Wright Opera House in the upcoming exhibit. An opening reception for the exhibit will be held Sunday April 17 from 4 to 7 at the Wright. The photographs will be exhibited through the middle of June.

**April 18-23**-The 27th Annual Auction Partners Auction will be online this year for a week from April 18-23. They have items from car washes to ski tickets, dirt to Denver attractions. Bidding starts at 8 AM on April 18 with items closing daily at 8PM, and weeklong items closing on April 23 at noon. Go to [www.partners-west.org](http://www.partners-west.org) for the auction link.

**April 18-29**-The 8th annual Montrose County School District Art Show opens Monday, April 18, 2016, and runs through Friday, April 29. Everyone is invited to view paintings, drawings, ceramics and photography representing students in kindergarten through 12th grades. The show may be seen between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Region 10 Enterprise Building, 300 N. Cascade Avenue in Montrose. Contact person: Ann-Marie Fleming 249-6015.

**April 20**-7pm 2 Rascals brewery: documentary "Addicted to Plastic" History and scope of plastic pollution and solutions, free sponsored by Montrose Recycles.

**April 20**-The Suitcase Junket, a one-man-band, described as 'swap-Yankee music,' is playing the stage at The Sherbino Theater on April 20. Doors at 6:30 pm with music starting at 7 pm. \$10 cover at the door.

**April 21**-Delta-Montrose Electric Association Morning Buzz. Join us for good conversation, coffee and pastries with the DMEA Morning Buzz at the Busy Corner White Kitchen in Olathe (318 Main Street in Olathe) from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

**April 21**-The Sherbino Theater is hosting its third installment of the "Ignite Sherbino," series, and is opening up the Sherbino stage for another night of innovation, passion, and just down right cool presentations! At "Ignite Sherbino," individuals will have the chance to present on topics/subjects that they are passionate about, in a fun and welcoming environment. Doors and cash bar for the event are at 6:30 pm with presentations starting around 7 pm. Conversation and mingling is strongly encouraged after the presentations are over. Admission for the event is by donation only.





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Signs of spring from below right...bright tulips seen in town...Centennial seventh grader Eric Bauer, with neighbors Harry and Damon, working to get an old bike trailer up and going to give his little bro a ride during spring break...basket of gold alyssum...Eric's little brother ready to go...Mission accomplished! Kudos to Eric and all who helped him!



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