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FRESH NEWS FOR BUSY PEOPLE...WEEKLY ON MONDAYS!

THE MONTROSE MIRROR

Issue No. 196 Nov. 21 2016

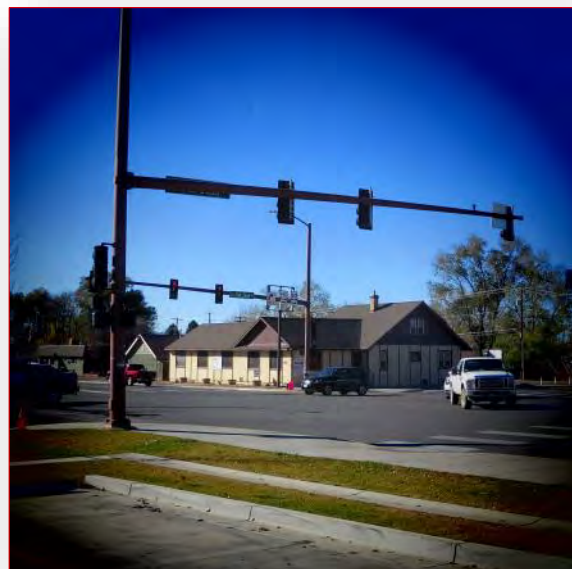
MOTORISTS: PAY ATTENTION, SAVE A LIFE!

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-When a 15-year-old youth was struck by a vehicle while crossing in a crosswalk with the green light at San Juan Avenue and Main Street on Nov. 14, he was fortunate enough to survive with bruises, bumps and a broken wrist. However, residents of this same East Montrose (EMO) neighborhood remember all too well the loss of another life less than a block away just two years ago this month; local Tim Major, 59, was struck while crossing Main Street at Cedar Avenue in 2014, and later died of his injuries. A longtime Montrose resident, Major had been well liked in the neighborhood for his smile and friendly wave.

How can we avoid more deadly disasters in this area, where Highway 50 connects to the San Juan Bypass? Pedestrian traffic tends to be heavier here than elsewhere in town, thanks to travelers, schoolchildren, and the presence of numerous multi and short-term housing

Continued on pg 5



Above, a 15-year-old was struck at this intersection on Nov. 14. Montrose Police urge caution and undivided attention for motorists and pedestrians.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS UPDATED ON MAYFLY URA, CITY TO PAY FOR SIDEWALKS, STREETS UP FRONT

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-An overview of the Colorado Outdoors Project was presented to Montrose City Council during their work session on Nov. 14th. The same presentation was given to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) later that afternoon and then to the Special Districts the following day on Nov. 15th. This report includes information disseminated during the three meetings.



Mayfly Outdoors is an investment company that has acquired 158.2 acres of property along the Uncompahgre River. The phased development plan includes river restoration, high-end commercial,

Continued page 14

Pictured at left: Special Districts identified as being in the Urban Renewal Authority boundary were given information on the proposed Mayfly Outdoor Project. The development is designed to attract businesses and fly-fishing enthusiasts from all over the world. Photo by Gail Marvel.

in this
issue

*One Vine Family:
New Market Opens!*

*Local government
Coverage!*

*Local stories,
Local photos!*

*RnR Hosts Thank you
Lunch for Veterans!*

*Notorious Con Man Nabbed
Again in Aspen!*

ONE VINE FAMILY: THE VINE MARKET AND BISTRO OPENS ON MAIN STREET, PROMOTES WEST SLOPE FARMS



Photos by William B. Woody. From left, chef Nick Rinne and two-year-old daughter Eva. Tyler Mize with wife Josie Anders-Mize and three-year-old daughter Emi; at right, family memorabilia inside the Vine Market and Bistro, located at 347 Main Street. Street in Montrose.

By William B. Woody

MONTROSE —There is something growing on Main Street that is wholesome, fresh and best of all, local. The Vine Market and Bistro opens Monday at 347 Main St. and the buzz around town has already been significant.

For locals, it's just another chapter in a century-old legacy of local agriculture and the Anders family.

Under the tin ceiling inside, coolers, shelves and various containers hold cheese from Olathe, apple cider from the North Fork valley, meats from across Colorado and locally canned vegetables. All of this is showcased beneath historic photos, which are hung on the brick walls and depict family members working the earth since the early 1900s.

The market is designed to act as a "Farm Hub," to promote local growers by shelving and marketing their goods for a larger, centralized, consumer audience.

"We provide the marketing and selling of

a local, farmed product so they (farmers) can focus more on farming themselves, versus trying to grow and sell their products at the same time," owner Tyler Mize said.

Mize and his wife Josie Anders-Mize, represent a young generation who wish to preserve and promote agriculture from across the Western Slope through their downtown location. Tyler is a Colorado transplant who grew up on a 200-acre eastern Tennessee tobacco and produce farm, Josie is the daughter of well-known Montrose farmer and merchant Mike Anders.

The pre-Thanksgiving opening is a chance to sell winter squash, potatoes, onions and various other products from 25 to 30 small farms that dot the Western Slope from Rifle to Colony.

"The market is set up with primarily local influence," Mize said. "So I'd say 60 percent local and 40 percent outside. Obviously Colorado is a seasonal growing area.

Mize said the market will serve as a bridge between West Slope farms and local chefs who "don't even know these farms and don't know how to get in contact with them."

If anything, the Vine is a tribute to the former Mike's Market, a local market operated for years by Mike Anders on Miami Road. What made Mike's Market so unique was the effort to educate consumers on local foods and cooking methods. For years, Anders taught classes all over town, his soups had cult followings, and macaroons were made fresh daily before he sold the market in 2000s.

When the time was right, Anders passed along the family's one-to-two-acre plot on Miami Road to his daughters, Sara and Josie. Sara and her husband, local chef Nick Rinne, with Josie and Tyler, will continue to use their operation, La Familia Gardens, as an additional food provider.

Josie remembers fondly working in her father Mike's Market with her sister Sara.

"We grew up working in the market for my dad, he always had a positive reputation in the community, Anders-Mize said.

Continued on page 26



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THE
MONTROSE MIRROR
MONTROSE

OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHERE'S THE FUNDING FOR CONTINUOUS STREET MAINTENANCE IN TOWN?

Dear Editor:

1) The City has funds for the streets that the City Manager favors....the roundabouts and the new Oak Grove connection to the Rec Center. Where's the funding for continuous street maintenance in town? I've asked Councilor Files and her response is "it's in next year's budget,"...but next year, like tomorrow, never comes! This issue should be a concern for every citizen....some of the ignored streets, curbs and potholes are dangerous and an embarrassment to our All America City. How can we welcome wounded veterans to a City that does not emphasize accessibility?

2) Before former Parks Planner Dennis Erickson and Parks Superintendent Thordy Jacobson were forced out of city employment, they both attended the then existing Parks Board meetings...at one of these meetings it was mentioned that the

City Manager intended to change all the current city signs, stationary, etc. costing some \$80,000 at that time.

Apparently some backlash occurred. It didn't happen then but if you've noticed, the old ones are now being replaced with the ugliest maroon/brown icons on our city signs that represent nothing about our town...the old icon included the San Juans, the forest, the Uncompahgre River, the Gunnison Tunnel and the blue sky.

If memory serves me correctly that icon and sign was a collaboration among local artists. The new signs are reminiscent of Lady Gaga's boobs and probably are costing considerably more now since that was some four-five years ago. In addition, nothing was wrong with the old ones, so why spend those funds to install ugly?

3) Many of you may not know that the City's Public Works Director John Harris, who lives in Delta and whose yearly salary

(the last time I checked) hovers in the \$110,000/per year neighborhood, also has a city vehicle without any City identifying marks in which he commutes to work in Montrose...we also pay for the fuel, maintenance, insurance, etc.

The reason for that little perk according to the City is because he needs a city vehicle in case of an emergency during which he must hurry to Montrose!

My guess is that Mr. Harris' own personal vehicle will make the trip just as fast! This perk needs to stop....and perhaps he should move to the City that pays his salary! My suggestion is that Montrose city residents question the City Manager and Council concerning these issues....it seems that Numbers 2 and 3 are unnecessary and certainly a waste of taxpayers' money.

*A Concerned City Resident--
Marge Morgenstern*



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Montrose Motorcycle Holiday Toy Run



Donate and ride! Dec. 3, 2016

Help us brighten the holidays for our
community's children and teens in need.

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By Dec. 1, drop off a new, unwrapped gift for
boys and girls, toddlers to teens:

Tri-State Montrose Maintenance Center
2200 S. Rio Grande Ave., Montrose

or

Donate and Ride

On Dec. 3, bring a new, unwrapped gift for boys and girls,
toddlers to teens and ride with us:

9:30 a.m.

Tri-State Montrose Maintenance Center
2200 S. Rio Grande Ave., Montrose
meet in the south parking lot

10 a.m.

Kickstands up! Ride and deliver gifts to Olathe and Delta.

If there is snow on the ground, we will deliver gifts by car.

QUESTIONS? Contact volunteer toy run coordinator Mike Bahr at 970-216-1822 or mbahr@tristategt.org

www.tristate.coop/montrosetholidaytoyrun

UNDIVIDED ATTENTION URGED FOR DRIVERS, PEDESTRIANS From page 1

options nearby. Automobile traffic has also increased.

"Traffic has risen sharply," Montrose Police Commander Gene Lillard said. "There are a lot more people in town than in the past. We want our motorists to be safe, as we do our pedestrians. We are in business to protect lives so you can enjoy the community we live in."

Pedestrians can be pro-active simply by paying attention, he said. "Don't take anything for granted. Instead of texting or being inattentive, pay attention when you are crossing the street."

Taking care to always cross in designated crossing areas is also very important, he said. "Using the signal is always best."

Also, drivers must stop when a pedestrian steps from the curb to the crosswalk, Lillard said.

"The motoring public needs to be aware of pedestrians; you must yield the right-of-way."

There are active school zones of which drivers must also be aware in the morning and afternoon, and other intersections along the San Juan Bypass that can be problematic for drivers as well. "The state regulates speed on the Bypass," said Lillard.

"We worry about that—if you have to cross the street it is at a hard angle, so do it carefully.

He pointed out that the speed limit along Main Street through town is 25 miles per hour.

People just need to drive a little more courteously," Lillard said. "They seem impatient, with a little bit of rage—people are always passing our unmarked police cars. We just need more patience and humility, and courtesy to mankind—that's what Montrose should be about."

Many problems can be avoided when drivers do not divide their attention, Colorado State Patrol Trooper Eric Carlton said.

"Still, with the knowledge we have, most people have a cell phone within reach when they are driving, that they are thinking about.

"Our busy lifestyle isn't going to prevent many people from running errands with their cell phone."

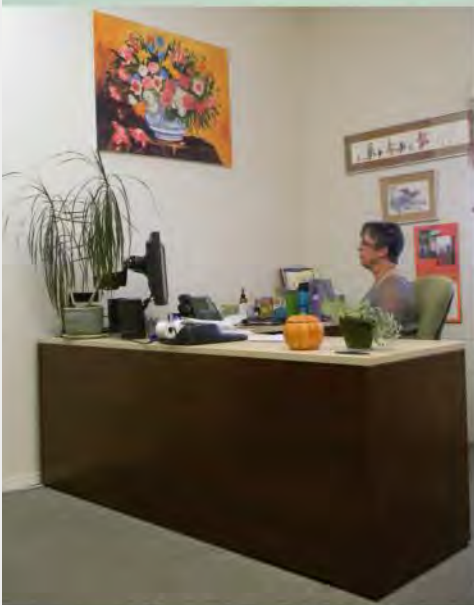
Unfortunately, "Even thinking about that phone divides your attention," Carlton said. "It has to do with a driver's ability to perceive and react to something coming your way.

"Seeing someone pull out in front of you is not the whole equation; you also need time to react."

A driver's speed and following distance are also considerations, he said.

"You can travel a lot of feet per second—in the time it takes to glance away, to change the radio station, you can travel 100 feet," Carlton said.

"That's more than enough time for something bad to happen."



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FOCUS ON INCLUSION HELPS ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVE



In addition to offering support in high school, RE-1J staff works closely with Colorado Mesa University (CMU) officials to help bridge the gap between high school and college for ELL students.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE—Earlier this year, Research Director Sarah Hughes of the Colorado Children's Campaign (CCC) shared information from a Stanford University study that found the single-most powerful predictor of racial gaps in educational achievement to be segregation of minority students.

One finding of the study was that of the 50 U.S. school districts with the largest

achievement gaps between white and Hispanic students, seven were located in Colorado. [Information released by the U.S. Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) in May found that school segregation is on the increase](#) nationwide.

In Montrose County, [US Census Bureau Quick Facts note that 20.5 percent of the local population](#) is of Hispanic or Latino background. Learning opportunities for all children, including those who may be new to America or the

English language remain a priority in RE-1J schools, English Language Learning (ELL) educator Patricia Voorhis said. "We include them in everything," she said, "All activities, events, and academic opportunities. And we have an active Hispanic Parent Advisory Committee (PAC).

"Last year, we had a student who earned a full ride scholarship to Notre Dame, and our PAC was able to give him \$1,000 for travel and expenses. It just comes in

handy. And we have helped other students with things like lunches, and transportation."

Active, participating students can earn recreation district scholarships as well, she said. Montrose High School hosts a regular family night for Hispanic and Latino families, and Voorhis also works closely with Colorado Mesa University (CMU) officials to help bridge the gap between high school and college for students who need some assistance.

"I have recommended to the new CMU director to hire someone who speaks Spanish to explain about college in detail," Voorhis said. "We have a student who is really great in meetings; she tells her story and tells parents how we can help.

"We try to inform and educate our parents in all aspects."

HOLA Family Night events are organized by the HOLA Committee, and include dinner and a presentation. The next family night will be held on Dec. 2. "We are going to have lasagna," Voorhis said, "and the kids will play music. All of the information our counselors give us will be translated to a PowerPoint, and we will interpret and ask the administration to answer any questions."

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Art by the Park -- Susan Clark pastels, small art gifts, jewelry. Local artists all weekend.

Cafe Ridgway a la mode -- Treats and local handmade wares, gift cards for stockings!

Cascade Bicycles -- Come test your power!

Cimarron Art Glass -- Glass blowing demonstrations.

Cimarron Coffee & Books -- Discount grab bag, special treats, local art gifts.

Colorado Boy Brewing Company -- Noel Night special cask ale, 42 pints...dark & delicious!

Eatery 66 -- Local farm fresh food, firepits and marshmallows for the kids.

Element Pet Nutrition -- Locally sourced pet foods and treats.

Glow Day Spa & Salon -- Holiday gift certificates available.

Heart & Sleeve Boutique -- Christmas Party while you Christmas shop!

Lupita's Bizarre Bazaar -- Friends, Laughter, Discounts! New artists' works. Christmas Cards.

Mountain Market -- Get your stocking stuffer treats while enjoying cookies, cocoa & coffee.

Pea Pods Uneekaties -- New shop at 1C Cora Street... handmade whimsies.

Ridgway Gallery/Meredith Nemirov Art Studio -- 282 B South Mary on Moffat Street.

Ridgway Liquors -- The Original!

Ridgway Yoga Shala -- Third Eye Visionaries & Singing Springs Botanical Herbs. Discounts.

Rigs Fly Shop -- Quality guided fishing & equipment.

Taco del Gnar -- Tacos...the gift that keeps on giving!

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Willowcreek Floral -- Now at 145 North Cora... look for the red door!

520 Burgers -- Noel Night treats...cider! donuts! hot chocolate!

Christmas Bazaar at Town Hall

12/2: 5-9 p.m. & 12/3: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jane Dupree, fiber arts • Laura Gerse, cloth baskets, quilted items

Ilene Greene, paintings, ceramics, jewelry • Natalie Heller, award

winning photography • Annette Henry, canvas photos &

calendars • Tanya Jackson, fun winter wearables • Butch Karl,

wooden toys • June Kirchner, pet art • Lisa Knight,

handmade hats • Sharon Lichthardt, aprons & throws

Nina Rea, Waldorf inspired dolls & fairies, jewelry

Joyce Withrow, rosemaling & Nordic design



Shop locally this year!

RNR PARTNERS WITH BUSINESSES & WELCOME HOME ALLIANCE, HOST VETERANS LUNCH

By Rachel Boschen

MONTROSE-The smell of Lasagna and sounds of dicing filled the air of RnR Sports bar Nov. 14, as RnR Sports Bar owners Tom Wyjack and Brenda Houston told me how passionate they are about veterans. They partnered with City Market, their distributors Shamrock and Sysco, True Value and Welcome Home Montrose, to throw a Veterans Day Luncheon. "Tom himself is a veteran," says Brenda, "and of course everybody from every walk of life has a veteran in their family at some time or another. They are why we have the freedoms we have today; they need to be respected for what they have put in, what they've sacrificed. We have joined the Welcome Home Montrose group with a fifty percent off on meals and that does include their spouse... It's been great... Just our way to say thank you."

Leanne Stout, an employee of the resource center, which will be changing their name to Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans, says, "Welcome Home Montrose is a resource center for all veterans." They can get housing food Tae kwon do, traveling gym, fishing trips, hiking trips, and ski trips.

Welcome Home is a community-funded non-profit, and works with the VA but is not funded by them. They also offer Veteran Coffees, Wives of Warriors, spouses luncheons once a month, history and community projects, knitting, and donation of blankets for warriors.

Tom Wyjack, an Afghanistan veteran,



Pictured at the RnR Veterans Lunch are Veterans Mike Azevedo of the U.S. Airforce, with Tom Murphey and Joe Holt of the U.S. Marines. Photo by Rachel Boschen.

and his family have a long history of service. His grandfather served in the army during the late part of WW2, his father served in Vietnam and Korea, and his step father also served in Vietnam. "It's a big deal for people to remember that we're free to do the things we do, to open any business we want, to say what we want but it didn't come for free; people had to fight for that and you just can't forget those people. You can't. It's a big deal."

Tom received services himself that helped him adjust after serving his country, and has known others who also received services. He says we can't just throw them aside.

Employees of RnR volunteered to serve

the veterans at lunch last Monday, including Cody Green, Chris Artrup, and Rachel Boschen. Warrior Resource Center representative Leanne Stout also volunteered to help make lasagna, and serve veterans coffee, tea, desert and salad. She feels a responsibility to give back as her son, James Alexander Tofflemayer, is currently serving and just re-enlisted for another four years.

Leanne says, while holding her heart, that having a son in the military makes her heart swell with pride and has turned her son into a man.

When I asked Tom and Brenda what they would say to all veterans out there they responded, "You are not forgotten."

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MONTROSE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS & MONTROSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION WARM UP THE COMMUNITY

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MONTROSE – While the need for cold weather outerwear has never been greater, it has also never been easier to meet this vital need in our community. The Montrose Young Professionals (a committee of the Montrose Chamber of Commerce) and the Montrose Community Foundation (MCF), invite area residents to join them in an effort to ensure that no one goes without a warm coat this winter.

The 5th Annual Montrose YP & MCF Coat Drive kicks off November 14 and runs through December 16. We are collecting clean, gently used warm coats, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and even blan-

kets. The collected items will be distributed and delivered to people in need. The coat drive program provides an easy way for individuals and families to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors by simply passing along coats, jackets, and other items that are no longer needed. Montrose YP & MCF invites you to bring your clean, gently used coats and other cold weather outerwear November 14 until December 16 to the following drop-off locations: Montrose Chamber of Commerce (1519 East Main Street), Alpine Floral (1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit G), Dalby, Wendland & Co., P.C. (501 East Main Street) and Timberline Bank (1561 Oxbow Drive). The process is simple: you drop off

your extra items and we will take care of the rest! All donated items will be given to a Montrose resident for distribution to local people in need, this donor requests to remain anonymous.

Montrose Young Professionals is a committee of the Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of Montrose Young Professionals is to connect, empower, and engage the young professionals of Montrose by providing educational, social, and philanthropic activities that include community and civic involvement to help actively shape the future of Montrose. For more information, please call Ashley Pietak at 970-417-0041 or email in-vonne@montrosechamber.com.

CITY PUSHES URA, LOOKS AT 2ND BROWNFIELD GRANT

By Gail Marvel

Summary Report of Montrose City Council
Work Session Nov. 14, 2016

Introduction of New Employees:

Adam Conway, Golf Course Superintendent

Dominic Lovato, Part-Time Golf Course
Maintenance Worker

Mason Blair, Parks & Special Projects Division
Worker

Hannah Bass, Part-Time Guest Services
Assistant

Discussion Items:

Colorado Outdoors Project Overview –

Attorney Paul Benedetti and Economist Mike Anderson; developers Doug and David Dragoo. A 60-minute PowerPoint presentation with handouts.

Mayfly Outdoors is an investment company that has acquired 158.2 acres of property along the Uncompahgre River. The planned development will include river restoration, high-end commercial, industrial, and residential development.

In order to make the project viable the city will establish an Urban Renewal Authority (URA) which will then implement Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to be used for infrastructure (**See page 1 story**). The developers talked in terms of a 10-15 year buildout for the project; however, the TIF has a 25 year lifespan.

Benedetti indicated that the Uncompahgre River property slated for development meets nine of the 12 qualifiers for



Mayfly Developer David Dragoo uses a PowerPoint presentation to explain the proposed development along the Uncompahgre River. Photo by Gail Marvel.

the blighted area designation. He said, "The city council has the exclusive right to designate it as a blighted area. This is a unique project that could serve as a destination [project] ...more like a State regional tourism project."

Once established the URA will negotiate with each of the property taxing bodies (special districts). Anderson said, "We're looking for a general sense of feeling [from council] if we should move forward with talking to the other entities."

2017 EPA Brownfield Grant Application –

Program Coordinator Erica Weeks. This is the second grant application of its kind; the first grant of \$400,000 focused

on the river corridor. Weeks asked council for permission to pursue another \$300,000 grant, "The new grant would be for inventory of all previous gas stations in town. The assessment doesn't cost the property owners."

Supplemental Budget and DDA Mill Levy Resolution –

Finance Director Shani Wittenberg. Discussion on Resolution # 2016-24 to fix the tax levy for the Montrose Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2017.

Discussion on the supplemental budget for 2016.


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CITY SELECTS CPC SOLUTIONS OF GRAND JUNCTION TO PRODUCE 2017 VISITOR GUIDE



Ceremony opened the Montrose City Council Meeting, with Mayor Rex Swanson making a Hospice and Palliative Care Month Proclamation. Pictured with Swanson are Hopewest CEO Christy Whitney and Montrose Hopewest Director Nancy Hoganson. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose City Council Meeting held on Nov. 15, 2016 opened with a ceremonial flair.

Hospice Month Proclamation - Hospice and Palliative Care Month Proclamation was announced by Mayor Rex Swanson.

Eagle Head Cane Presentation - Six Veterans were thanked for their military service and presented Eagle Head Canes. Purple Heart Veterans were honored with a special cane that incorporates purpleheart wood in the shaft of the cane.

Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) – Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph and OBT Operations Manager David Spear.

The city used a \$25,000 grant to produce short videos for the Montrose Brand Channel and social media. On social media viewers of the videos have surpassed those of Glenwood Springs and Ouray and are within 400 views of overtaking Grand Junction promotional efforts. Joseph said, "After that we are going after Telluride."

Call for Public Comment:

Mr. Allen R. Story (Delta) spoke on behalf of his friend Michael Ostrowski, owner of Hylander Automotive Services. Mr. Story began by reading a lengthy letter from Mrs. Ostrowski concerning an incident that occurred on July 11, 2012 which involved the Montrose Police Department.

Mr. Story went well beyond the three-minute time limit allocated for public comment and was asked by the mayor to follow-up with the city staff about his concerns.

2017 Budget Approval – Finance Director Shani Wittenberg.

Ordinance 2395 (second reading) provides appropriating funds for defraying the expense and liabilities during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017. Approved unanimously.

Resolution 2016-22 to adopt the 2017 Municipal budget. Approved unanimously. City Manager Bill Bell acknowledged the contribution of the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) in preparing the 2017 budget, "It's good to have lay people look over [the budget]. They may see some things we miss." The CBAC are an advisory committee to the city manager and not appointed by the council. The CBAC members are Dee Laird, Kevin Williams, Ron Ewing, Audrey Cook and Jim Anderson.

Resolution 2016-23 encourages Congress to address deferred maintenance needs in America's Park System. Assistant City Manager Rob Joseph said, "There is a \$6.5 M repair backlog at the Black Canyon." Approved unanimously.

Bid Approval – Assistant City Manager

Rob Joseph.

In previous years the vendor for the Montrose Visitors Guide was the *Montrose Daily Press*. For the 2017 guide the Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) chose to send out a Request for Proposal (RFP). In a previous meeting Joseph explained that the city wanted to have more hands on with the product, "We're putting it together in-house."

Nine qualified bidders were evaluated and CPC Solutions out of Grand Junction was recommended for printing services and being awarded an estimated total contract value of \$85,533.00.

Prior to the vote the mayor called for public comment. *Montrose Daily Press* Publisher Vincent Laboy addressed council, "I'd like to ask the council if the bid is approved that it become public record and that the *Press* receive a copy."

Councilwoman Judy Ann Files said, "This is not a quick decision. It has been presented over the last two weeks." There was no discussion on preference consideration for local vendors. Council voted unanimously to approve the contract with CPC Solutions.

Staff Reports:

Sales, Use and Excise Tax Report – Shani Wittenberg.

Compared to 2015, Retail Sales Tax is up 5.5 percent (\$545,000).

Third Quarter Budget Review – Shani Wittenberg.

Report given on an information only basis.

Public Information Officer Report – City Manager Bill Bell.

The Planning Commission is in need of applicants. The next session of the City Police Academy will start in January and citizens can contact Chief of Police Tom Chinn for more information. The annual Christmas Tree lighting will take place the Friday after Thanksgiving. Santa's cabin will open and refreshments will be served. The theme for the annual Parade of Lights is "Public Lands" and the parade will be held on December 3rd. The city manager will be attending the National League of Cities Conference next week.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS UPDATED ON MAYFLY URA, CITY TO PAY FOR SIDEWALKS, STREETS UP FRONT From page 1

industrial, and residential development. Developer David Dragoo said, "Think of it as Riverbottom Park extended through the area." The proposed development of the land has many moving parts that are needed to make the project viable.

The city is proposing an Urban Renewal Authority (URA) for the designated 158.2 acres which will allow the funding mechanism Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to be used for infrastructure. Mayfly Attorney Paul Benedetti said, "This is a way to implement the city's comprehensive plan." In order to use the URA the city council will designate the riverfront property as blighted.

Benedetti said, "One stipulation for a URA is it has to be one of the more blighted areas of the community. This land would not be developed without this project. It's a white elephant." Benedetti said the property meets nine of the 12 qualifiers to be designated as blighted.

The suggested governance structure for this URA is a board consisting of city council (five seats, plus an appointed seat), county (one seat) and the collective special districts (one seat). The make-up of council has potential to change every two years and one can anticipate that the appointed position, for the purpose of continuity, will go to the city manager.

Once the URA board is established they negotiate the TIF with the special districts. In essence the TIF establishes a "new" pot of money which does not exist today. The special districts will be asked to pledge any future revenue they might have received from the proposed development for the 25 year lifespan of the TIF. The taxes generated from the development, rather than going to the special districts,

will go into the TIF for infrastructure and those funds will be managed by the URA board.

The entities within the URA boundary whose future revenues will be impacted by the TIF are: The City of Montrose, Montrose County, Montrose Schools RE-1J, Montrose Rural Fire District, Montrose Metropolitan Recreation District, Montrose Library District, Tri-County Water Conservancy District, Bostwick Park Water Conservancy District, and Colorado River Water Conservation District. Revenues that can be captured by the TIF come from property tax (all taxing entities) and onsite city sales tax and city lodging tax.

The special districts negotiate with the URA and if they can prove their entity will be impacted by the loss of revenue, they can ask for a percentage of the TIF to be returned to their organization. For instance, when the fire district shows that the development increases their service territory they can request a portion of the TIF be returned to them in order to pay for the additional services. As the governing authority the City of Montrose will negotiate with itself.

The entities most impacted by the TIF will be Montrose Rural Fire District, Montrose County, Montrose County School District RE-1J and the City of Montrose. The City and Mayfly, who are hoping for 100 percent buy-in from all the special districts, are anxious for negotiations to move forward as soon as possible.

Benedetti said that some school districts are not supportive of a TIF, "If you want to play hardball and hurt the project you can do it. We have to get your written approval. This is like partnering...we want to create this new wealth."

During the meeting with the special districts, fire district representatives Chief Tad Rowan and attorney David Reed indicated they would recommend support for the project at their upcoming board meeting. County Attorney Teresa Williams anticipated it would be after the first of January before the county would make a determination. School board members and Montrose County School District Superintendent Steve Schiell gave no public indication as to their leaning, or when they would present the TIF request to their board. City Manager Bill Bell said, "We want to get started...council will move forward quickly if we get the head nod here and at Heidi's [Forum]."

The need to form the URA is scheduled to appear on the council agenda for Dec. 6th and a public hearing is scheduled for Dec. 20th.

Once the URA is established and the TIF put in place, the project will begin.

Mayfly Economist Michael Anderson said, "The city is going to put in and front [the costs for] streets to start the project." The city will be reimbursed from the TIF revenues.

Phased One of the project will be to consolidate the Able Reels and Ross Reels operations.

Phase Two will be river restoration and extending the West Main Trailhead through the property. Phase Three is industry; creating commercial space and building residential housing.

The build-out of industry is not planned until Phase Three and County Commissioner Glen Davis said, "When money goes for landscaping I worry about what goes back to the county, the fire district and the schools."

THANK YOU FOR READING.

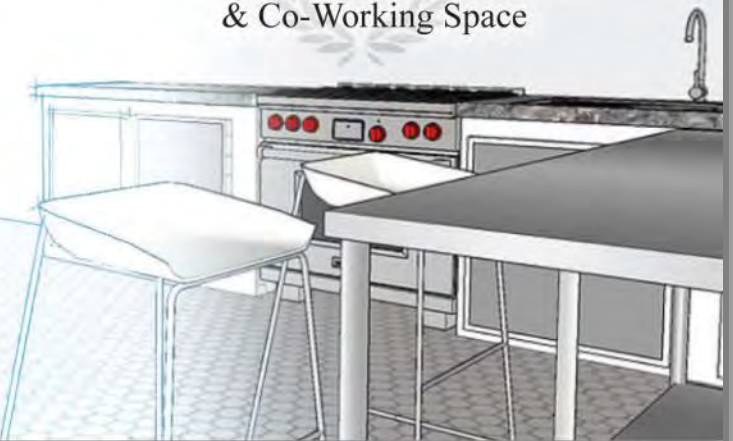


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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2017 CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— Montrose residents are invited to participate in the 20th anniversary of the Montrose Police Department's (MPD) Citizens' Police Academy.

The academy will begin Monday, Jan. 9. The thirteen-week course will be held on Monday nights in the City Council Chambers (107 S Cascade Avenue). Each session begins at 6:30 p.m. The two-hour classes

are each highly interactive and designed to provide a special, first-hand opportunity to learn about local law enforcement operations. Course content includes: the history of the MPD, traffic contacts, criminal investigations, community oriented policing, traffic laws, pursuit driving, support staff/clerical/records, school resource officers, hiring processes, Internal Affairs Division, SWAT, firearms at the range,

officer survival, police officer's spouse perspective, the Drug Task Force, patrol procedures, animal services and victim advocacy. Interested persons may stop by the Montrose Police Department to complete an application for participation. Applications are due to the MPD by 6 p.m. on Jan. 5, 2017 (145 S. Cascade Avenue). Please call Commander Gene Lillard at 252-5257 for further information.

THANKSGIVING DAY TRASH COLLECTION SERVICE AND CITY OFFICE CLOSURES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— The City of Montrose will observe Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, Nov. 24. Residential trash collections falling on a city-observed holiday will be rescheduled to occur on another day of the same week.

Trash collection regularly scheduled to occur Thursday, Nov. 24 will be picked up Tuesday, Nov. 22 for all residences west of Townsend and Highway 550.

Trash collection for residences east of Townsend and Highway 550 will occur Wednesday, Nov. 23.

City offices to be closed in observance of the holiday include Montrose City Hall, Elks Civic Building, Visitor Center, Montrose Pavilion, Animal Shelter and City Shop. Police Department offices will also be closed; however, officers will be on duty and responding to calls.

Remaining 2016 city-observed holidays

include: Christmas, which will be observed Monday, Dec. 26.

To view the "Holiday Schedule and Routes Map" document for information about holiday collection schedules and for additional information about the city's sanitation and recycling services, please visit CityofMontrose.org/trash.

Customers with questions about holiday collection schedules may call [\(970\) 240-1480](tel:9702401480).



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NUVISTA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION HIRES SENIOR MORTGAGE LENDER



Senior Vice President of Construction & Mortgage Lending
Gaye L. Cox. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-NuVista Federal Credit Union is pleased to announce its decision to hire Gaye L. Cox as its Senior Vice President of Construction and Mortgage Lending. Recognizing a changing economy, NuVista felt it important to have a trusted senior mortgage lender on staff ready to assist members with all their home buying dreams. New construction and the real estate market in general have boasted strong numbers in recent months and NuVista is now poised to

meet the growing needs of its members and community. Cox brings thirty plus years of local banking experience to the Credit Union; twenty five of those in Real Estate lending. She is a Montrose native.

RE-1J TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR COLUMBINE SCHOOL DESIGN GROUP

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Montrose County School District RE-1J will begin seeking applications for the Columbine Middle School Design Advisory Group.

MCSO wants to make sure that everyone who wants to, has a voice in the upcoming Columbine construction project, so we are assembling a Design Advisory Group (DAG) consisting of school officials, educators, students, parents and/or citizens of Montrose to help provide feedback, suggestions and guide the design of the planned school improvements.

Please check the Montrose County School District website at www.mcsd.org or contact Superintendent Stephen Schiell at 970-252-7902 for more information.

Artwork by Lella Young - 2016 Contest Winner

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Parade applications are available at the Delta Chamber office, 301 Main Street or at delta.colorado.org

Entries are FREE thanks to our sponsor.
Applications are due by November 22.

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY FOLLOWING PARADE

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SMPA TO HOLD RATE HEARING ON PROPOSED 2017 RATES

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-On Nov. 29, the San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) Board of Directors will hold their monthly meeting, in Ridgway, at which it is expected that they will decide whether to adopt a proposed rate structure for 2017. Earlier this year, SMPA received notice that its wholesale power rate would increase by 4.2%. Since then, the SMPA Board has been considering recommendations on how to cover the increased revenue requirement while re-balancing SMPA's member access charge and energy rate. Both of these considerations are included in the proposal.

As a member-owned cooperative, SMPA values the input of its consumers. The board of directors invites members to attend a special rate hearing before their board meeting on the 29th at 9:30 AM at the SMPA office in Ridgway. Members interested in attending the hearing are encouraged to RSVP at [970-626-5549](tel:970-626-5549). Members may also view a comparison between the current and proposed rate structures at www.smpa.com.

San Miguel Power Association, Inc. is a member-owned, locally-controlled rural electric cooperative with offices in Nucla and Ridgway, Colo. It is the mission of San Miguel Power Association to demonstrate corporate responsibility and community service while providing our members safe, reliable, cost effective and environmentally responsible electrical service. SMPA serves approximately 9,600 members and 13,300 meters and supports local communities with \$300,000 annually in property taxes and \$400,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy rebates. SMPA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

RE-1J SELECTION COMMITTEE NAMES THE BLYTHE CO AS COLUMBINE CONTRACTOR

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Montrose County School District selection committee has instructed the school district to initiate contract negotiations with Blythe Group. Formal contract approval will be by the Board of Education pending successful contract negotiations.

The Blythe Co. is out of Grand Junction and was one of two firms interviewed for the Columbine Middle School rebuild project. Local members that will be teaming with the Blythe Group include: Motley Architecture, Montrose; Del-Mont Civil Engineering, Montrose, and Julie Wolverton, Landscape Architecture, Montrose. No local architecture firms applied for this position.

Montrose County School District looks forward to working with this team.



Xavier Casasnovas
Former Marine
Rehabilitation Technician
MMH Employee for two years

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MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HOMESTEAD AT MONTROSE WINS ENERGY OUTREACH COLORADO GRANT, WILL SAVE 24K IN ANNUAL COSTS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The Homestead at Montrose, a program of Volunteers of America, has received a grant totaling \$44,000 from Energy Outreach Colorado, Nonprofit Energy Efficient Program (NEEP).

Residence Director Denise Swanson originally applied for the grant to help secure funds to replace the 50-apartment assisted living building's boiler system.

"It was time to replace our boiler and to do so would have been very costly, so we worked with a local grant writer to help us search and apply for funding options," Swanson said.

"Not only did we receive \$30,000 towards the boiler, but they also sent us over \$14,000 in LED light bulbs and sink aerators. With these bulbs and aerators in place, it is estimated we will save \$24,356 per year in energy costs."

All of the bulbs and aerators have been installed by the community's Maintenance Director, Randy Lehmann.

Energy Outreach Colorado sent The Homestead at Montrose 113 5W LED Candelabra bulbs, 1,438 9W LED A-19 bulbs,



and 550 16.5 W LED tubes.

The cost to purchase these items without grant assistance would have been approximately \$28,000 at retail pricing.

The Homestead at Montrose will contrib-

ute \$51,613 towards the purchase of the new boiler system.


For more information on the Homestead at Montrose, visit

www.homesteadatmontrose.org.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DEDICATES HOME TO SINGLE DAD



Matthew and Mike Cascia. Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror
MONTROSE- Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans announced this week the completion and celebration of their 51st house within their service area of Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel counties.

The non-profit organization is inviting the community to the dedication celebration at the home located on 230 Bluegrass Court in Montrose on noon on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

This latest build was made possible thanks to donations to Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans, the DreamBuilders Club (a monthly giving subscription program offered by the organization), ReStore sales and numerous volunteers that took part in the project. Now that the house is complete, homeowner [Mike Cascia](#), who contributed 500 sweat equity hours to building his home, will be taking up resi-

dence and paying the mortgage. Cascia, a single dad, is already looking forward to the weekends and summers when his son, Matthew, will visit from Durango, where he is currently studying Business Management at Fort Lewis College. Since 1991, Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans has offered affordable non-profit mortgage loans and home repair assistance. They are currently looking for applicants for housing projects in Ridgway and Montrose. To learn more about the Cascia Home dedication on Tuesday, or about how to donate, volunteer or apply for a housing project, visit buildinglives.org.

MONTROSE EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS \$10,000 IMPACT AWARD TO CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL'S CREATION CENTER STEM LAB

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- At the Annual American Education Week reception at the Montrose Pavilion Nov. 17, the Montrose Education Foundation (MEF) awarded its annual Impact Award and a \$10,000 check to the Centennial Creation Center, a permanent lab for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) at Centennial Middle School (CtMS) in Montrose.

MEF created the Impact Award in 2011 to support innovative projects that enhance educational opportunities in the Montrose and Olathe School District. Under the Award guidelines, only recipients of the MEF Teacher of the Year award can apply.

The Centennial Creation Center project will convert an unused classroom and several "pods" to create a state-of-the-art STEM lab, and then outfit it with cutting-edge engineering tools and equipment. The new lab will be used as a "Makerspace" facility for engineering and shop students. CtMS has seen engineering class enrollment double in the past year. The project also implements a summer camp geared toward Makerspace ideals, including learning, collaboration, problem solving, and self-expression.

"Montrose Education Foundation is excited to support Centennial Middle School's efforts to impart skills that will inspire careers in engineering," said Amy McBride, MEF Impact Award coordinator. "We are investing in the makers of the future."

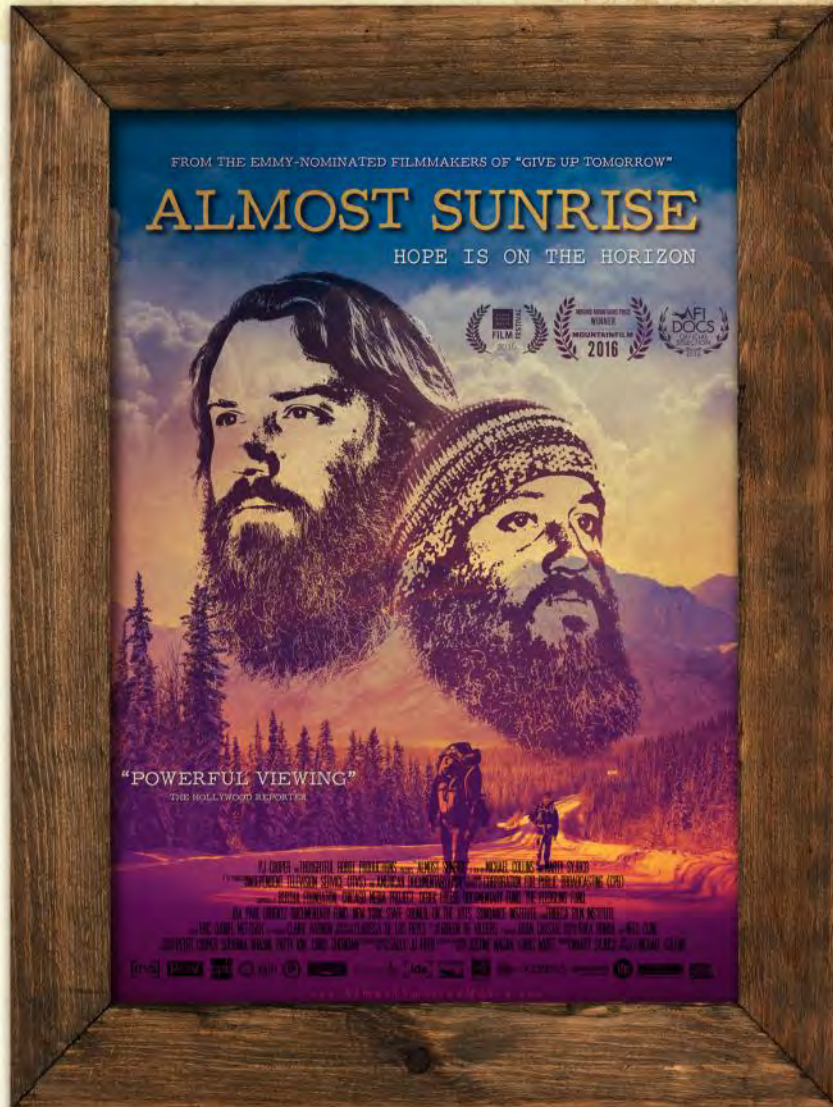
Formed in 1985, the Montrose Education Foundation supports the Montrose and Olathe School District to meet the learning needs of students and to celebrate and recognize the contributions of local educators. Learn more at www.montroseeducation.org.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION JOINS COLORADO GIVES DAY, DEC. 6

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE – Montrose Community Foundation (MCF) is providing more value to individual donations through its participation in Colorado Gives Day.

MCF is asking for local support in their effort to continue to provide grants and resources to local non-profit organizations by donating to MCF on Colorado Gives Day, Dec. 6, 2016.

This is the first year MCF has participated in the statewide online one-day philanthropic movement and the foundation hopes to unlock additional dollars through the program's \$1 Million Incentive Fund.

"All donations made to the foundation are enhanced through our strategic use and placement of donations depending on the wish of the donor. But, Colorado Gives Day is an opportunity for us to pro-

vide even more value to individual donations. The cumulative donations made to Montrose Community Foundation and other local, participating nonprofits could unlock even more funding. This is why we decided it was important to join this online movement and we are hopeful the community joins us," says Sara Plumhoff, MCF Executive Director.

Colorado Gives Day is powered by ColoradoGives.org, a year-round, online giving website that helps make fundraising simple for local organizations and easier to contribute for donors. Colorado Gives Day is one of the most successful events of its kind in the nation.

Last year, \$28.5 million was raised for Colorado nonprofits in just 24 hours.

Since its inception in 2010, \$111 million has been donated on Colorado Gives Day.

Donations can be pledged any time, not just on Colorado Gives Day.

The website is easy to use and easy to search for the Montrose Community Foundation profile page.

Or, to search for other Montrose nonprofits participating in Colorado Gives Day, type in the zip code or Montrose in the search field.

Other Montrose not-for-profits participating in Colorado Gives Day include Black Canyon Regional Land Trust, CASA of the 7th Judicial District, The Center for Mental Health, Community Options, The Dolphin House, Dream Catcher Therapy Center, Habitat for Humanity of the San Juans, Haven House, Hispanic Affairs Project, and HopeWest.

Colorado Gives Day makes donating across many local organizations effortless.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FOREST SERVICE AND COLORADO DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES RELEASE COLORADO ROADLESS RULE SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Special to the Mirror

GOLDEN – The Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service and the Colorado Department of Natural Resources announced today the availability of the Colorado Roadless Rule Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS). The SFEIS evaluates three alternatives for reinstating the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception as written in the 2012 Colorado Roadless Rule. The SFEIS will be published in the Federal Register on Friday, November 18, 2016. The Record of Decision and Final Rule will be published in the Federal Register after a 30-day SFEIS review period.

The 2012 Colorado Roadless Rule is a state-specific rule that provides management direction for conserving and managing roadless areas on national forest system lands for current and future generations while allowing certain activities that are important to the citizens and economy of Colorado to continue. The Colorado Roadless Rule was finalized by the Forest Service in 2012 after seven years of collaboration with three governors and diverse stakeholders and careful consideration of hundreds-of-thousands of comments from

the public. The rule:

- Conserves 4.2 million acres of pristine backcountry in Colorado's eight National Forests, nearly 400,000 more acres than the rule it replaced.

- Provides increased protection for 1.2 million acres of high-quality roadless areas. Protecting these vital natural areas are an important climate adaptation strategy as roadless areas provide critical refuges for wildlife in a warming climate and protect headwaters that provide Coloradans drinking water.

- Provides flexibility for potential expansion of ski areas on about 8,000 acres
- Provides flexibility for temporary road construction and placement of methane vents associated with underground coal mining on about 19,000 acres in the North Fork Coal Mining Area.

Three alternatives were examined in detail in the SFEIS. Alternative B was selected as the preferred alternative, which reinstates the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception as written in the 2012 Colorado Roadless Rule and will apply to about 19,700 acres. Furthermore, boundaries associated with the Colorado Roadless Area and the North Fork Coal Mining Area

were corrected and aligned based on more accurate road inventories.

The SFEIS complements the May 2012 Rulemaking for Colorado Roadless Areas Final Environmental Impact Statement and addresses the deficiencies identified by the District Court of Colorado in *High Country Conservation Advocates v. United States Forest Service*. The coal lease modification decisions vacated by the Court will be addressed by subject matter experts in a separate environmental analysis.

The reinstatement of the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception addresses a State-specific concern for managing roadless areas while providing opportunities for energy development and other benefits such as supporting local economies.

The Colorado Roadless Rule exception would not authorize any new leases; it would simply allow for the construction of temporary roads, so the option for coal mining is not foreclosed.


Any proposal for mining activity would be subject to a separate leasing and public comment process.

The SFEIS is available for review online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/roadmain/roadless/coloradoroadlessrules>.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SUSPECT IN OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING IDENTIFIED

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE— At approximately 3:45 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, a Montrose County Sheriff's Deputy was injured in an officer-involved shooting in the west end of Montrose County. The deputy in the officer-involved shooting is a three-year veteran with the Montrose County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Bruce Schmalz is currently on paid administrative leave pending the results of the investigation from the Seventh Judicial District's Critical Incident Team, which is standard procedure for any officer-involved shooting. The Montrose County Sheriff's Office is also conducting an internal investigation, which is standard procedure for any officer response-to-resistance situation. The suspect of the officer-involved shooting has been identified as William Ray Score Jr., 47, of Loveland, Colorado. Following an autopsy at Montrose Memorial Hospital, the cause of death is a distant gunshot wound to the head and the manner of death is a homicide under investigation by the Seventh Judicial District's Critical Incident Team.

ONE VINE FAMILY: THE VINE MARKET AND BISTRO OPENS ON MAIN STREET, PROMOTES WEST SLOPE FARMS *From page 2*

"I think it's really exciting, I'm very proud of Tyler for all the work he has done in moving this forward. Tyler was sort of trusted to take over those relationships with restaurants in Telluride and all of my dad's accounts ... just makes me really proud of him.

Anders-Mize said her father will continue to be involved in the market because of his years of institutional knowledge of local agriculture.

"He's definitely been a mentor to us, and will continue to guide us," Anders-Mize said.

Anders-Mize said the market will accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits or SNAP, so low-income residents will have the option to explore and buy local ingredients.

"We want it to be a market for the entire community," Anders-Mize said.

"A fine, affordable food market," Mize said, adding that the Vine will continue the educational legacy of Mike's Market by informing shoppers about the products they are buying and the farms they are buying from.

In addition to the market, a 38-seat restaurant will be located in the back portion of the building. The Bistro is a continuation of local chef Nick Rinne's vision on



In addition to the Vine Market, a 38-seat restaurant, The Bistro, will be located in the back portion of the building. Photo by William B. Woody.

Main Street. Rinne is moving from his current location on West Main Street into the Vine Market. Rinne said The Bistro will continue a Mediterranean style menu with a new breakfast menu.

"Breakfast, lunch and some early evening stuff like appetizers, sandwiches," he said.

Rinne said by using produce from local farms, The Bistro will be able to use ingre-

dients right from the display cases which will help promote local farms while making his dishes better. The Vine Market and Bistro will be open daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sundays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The market will be closed on Mondays until the restaurant opens in mid-January.

Follow William Woody on Twitter & Instagram: @woodyCO

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

NEED HOLIDAY MONEY OR A YEAR-END TAX DEDUCTION? CRIME STOPPERS CAN HELP!

Dear Editor:

Crime Stoppers pays cash for reporting criminals and criminal conduct. Montrose Regional Crime Stoppers, Inc. is a Colorado non-profit corporation that does not care who you are, but wants you to turn in criminals and solve crimes anonymously for cash. To earn a cash reward, all anyone has to do is report a crime or criminal anonymously by calling **970-249-8500**, use the mobile app, **P3 Tips**, or the website, **P3 Tips.com**. The Tipster's identity is by Colorado statute non-discoverable and totally secure. Crime Stoppers wants your information on a crime or criminal, not your name. If the Tipster's information results in the arrest of a fugitive or criminal, it will pay the Tipster cash. Payment is made at the south Townsend branch of Alpine Bank. The Tipster receives information on how to collect the reward by calling the anonymous telephone number or by means of a response on their mobile device or desktop computer. The Tipster may be a minor, a non-resident, an illegal alien or even a criminal him or her self. Crime Stoppers does not care about the Tipster's legal status. It only seeks to remove criminals and fugitives from the streets of Montrose and the surrounding region.

Crime Stoppers is totally dependant on tax deductible donations made to it at 434 South First Street, Montrose, CO. 81401. While it receives mail at the Montrose Police Department, Crime Stoppers is unaffiliated with any law enforcement agency. It pays rewards upon an arrest, not a conviction. Receive a cash assist for your Christmas shopping by submitting a Tip by a telephone call or sending a message on a mobile device or desktop. Crime Stoppers has paid out nearly \$1,500 in rewards in just the past two months. Receive a tax deduction by making a monetary donation before the end of 2016. Please help keep this totally volunteer community organization operational and effective by making a monetary donation. Each successful Tip makes ours a safer community and region in which to live and work.

John W. Nelson

*President, Montrose Regional
Crime Stoppers, Inc.*

CLARIFICATION: HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

Editor's Note:

MONTROSE-In order to have Health Care coverage in place through Connect for Health Colorado by Jan. 1, a change or re-enrollment must be confirmed by Dec. 15th. To contact the local Connect for Health Assistance Site, please call 252-0660.

The Mirror:

*For coverage that never leaves
our readers out in cold ...*



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LOCAL OBITUARIES

JOSE' HORACIO ABEYTA May 28, 1949 - November 15, 2016



JOSE H. ABEYTA was born of May 28, 1949 in La Puente, New Mexico to Jose Dario and Manuelita Abeyta. He was their fourth child.

Jose moved with his family from La Puente to Delta Colorado in 1957. This was where Jose attended school and graduated from Delta High School in 1967.

In 1969, Jose was drafted into the United States Army where he received training as a fixed wing aircraft mechanic. Jose com-

pleted one tour in Vietnam before being honorably discharged in 1971. Later that year, Jose married his high school sweetheart; Loretta Espinosa on May 1, 1971 and made their home in Colorado Springs. From that union came two sons; Lenny and Juan.

Jose worked fulltime and went to the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs; where he earned a degree in Sociology. After getting his degree, Jose worked as both a parole officer and a probation officer.

In 1978, Jose and Loretta moved to Montrose, Colorado where they lived until the time of his death. While living in Montrose, Jose became a probation officer and rose to the position of Chief Probation Officer for the 7th Judicial District. He served on numerous committees and boards during his career. In 2006, Jose was elected to the Montrose City Council and in 2009, Jose became the Mayor of Montrose.

Jose had a passion for working on his farm and raising his cattle and sheep. He

also had a passion for helping people in need and would do anything in his power to make sure those needs were met.

Jose is preceded in death by his parents; Jose Dario and Manuelita Abeyta, and one brother; Jose Dario, Jr. He is survived by his wife of forty five years; Loretta Abeyta, sons Lenny (Laura) Abeyta and Juan Abeyta.

Jose is survived by his grandchildren; Brittany and Joshua Abeyta and John Bailly. He is also survived by one sister; Leontina (Leo) Covert, brothers Milton (Rosie) Abeyta, Robert (Carmen) Abeyta and Allen (Mary) Abeyta. Jose had many nieces and nephews and several godchildren.

A rosary and visitation were held at St. Mary Catholic Church on Nov. 17, and a funeral mass was held at St. Mary's on Nov. 18. Internment was at Cedar Creek Cemetery. Visit the tribute website and send condolences to his family at www.SunsetMesaFuneralDirectors.com. Arrangements are being handled under the direction of Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors (970) 240-9870.



**THE MONTROSE MIRROR DOES NOT CHARGE FOR
COMMUNITY OBITUARIES OR DEATH NOTICES.
Please send to Editor@montrosemirror.com.**

ISSUE 72 Nov. 21, 2016

ART & SOL

NATURAL GROCERS TEAMS UP WITH CUSTOMERS, DONATES 18 NATURAL TURKEYS TO SHARING MINISTRIES, HOUSE OF PROMISE



Natural Grocers staffers (left to right) Bob Becker, Lori Armendariz, and Rhea Flora with Steve Okeson of Sharing Ministries (second from right). Courtesy photo.

By Liesl Greathouse

MONTROSE-Natural Grocers in Montrose is all about giving back and helping out the local community, and they recently joined forces with their customers to provide 18 families with a healthy turkey for Thanksgiving dinner.

In their second year of doing this turkey fundraiser, the store raises money by

providing a container at each cash register so people can choose to put their change or whatever donation amount they wish to put towards the program. "Some customers will put in their nickels and dimes, while others will put in their \$10 or more," explained Store Manager Rhea Flora. "We started collecting money at the first of October, when we started taking pre-sales for Thanksgiving turkeys. Even our customers

who do not eat meat were more than happy to help."

While there are company wide fundraisers through Natural Grocers, individual stores do their own fundraisers as well. This turkey fundraiser is one such individualized program here in Montrose, with customers and employees working together to raise money. "I don't remember the

exact moment we came up with the idea," Flora said. "It was an aha moment where we thought 'why don't we get customers to participate?' We wanted to see if we could help the community out. Turkey season is our busiest time of year in the store, as we try to get as many out as we can."

Donations go a long way, with just \$30 securing one turkey for a family. Most of the turkeys are passed on to Sharing Ministries to distribute and a few given to House of Promise. Last year enough money was raised for 12 turkeys, growing to 18 turkeys this year. "We love helping out our local community and it is a way to get healthy birds out to the community," Flora said. "We enjoy spreading the love."

Flora is pleased with the amount of turkeys they have been able to donate so far and hopes to continue to grow the program next year. "I would love to see it doubled next year, so that we can help 36 families instead of just 18," she said. "I love helping families that would not otherwise have a turkey at Thanksgiving. Plus, the turkeys we provide are non-GMO, free range and use no antibiotics or growth properties, making for a healthy and tasty bird."

Continued next page

NATURAL GROCERS TEAMS UP WITH CUSTOMERS, DONATES 18 NATURAL TURKEYS From previous page

Even though the turkey donations only happen around Thanksgiving, Natural Grocers offers another way for customers at any of their stores to easily help their local food bank all year long. \$0.05 for every customer that brings in their own reusable shopping bags is donated to food banks across the country.

"We also donate 'damaged' goods, like dented cans, to Sharing Ministries," Flora added. "I haven't seen any numbers on money from the bag donations recently, but it all adds up."

Feedback from the organizations regarding the turkeys has been positive and the birds are greatly appreciated. "Sharing Ministries was way excited to have us help out," Flora said. "They told us, 'you do so

much for us already, this is awesome.' House of Promise is excited to be able to help feed some of their women and children."

Opened in Montrose in 2009, Natural Grocers is an all-natural, full-service grocery store, offering all organic produce, grocery, supplements, and body care. "We would love for you to make us your one stop shop for Thanksgiving," Flora added. "We have everything from cranberries to stuffing to turkeys and even geese if you want to try something different. We have quite a few extra turkeys, so get them while they last. "

While the store is wrapping up the turkey donations, if people still wish to donate they are welcome to. Just stop by and put

your donations in the containers at the cash registers. All their turkeys come in fresh and are sent to customers fresh, but if more donations are gathered then some turkeys will be frozen then donated to Sharing Ministries who will distribute them around Christmas time.

Flora is grateful to the community for making this program a success for a second time.

"Customers have been very willing to help and are excited to help," she said. "Anything we can do to help our local community is a great way to be part of the community."

For more information, visit Natural Grocers at 3451 S. Rio Grande Ave. next to Ross or call 249-2724.



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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

MONTROSE'S SIMON REPTON TAKES SILVER @ WING SUIT WORLD CUP

Special to Art & Sol

NATIONWIDE-Montrose resident Simon Repton and his team, Wicked Wingsuits, won the silver medal in the acrobatic flying event at the 1st Fédération Aéronautique Internationale Wingsuit Flying World Cup last week at Skydive City Zephyr Hills in Florida.

With the growth of wingsuit skydiving over the past few years, more skydivers are taking up this exciting discipline. In wingsuit skydiving, jumpers wear technologically advanced suits that are specially designed to increase their horizontal glide across the ground, allowing them to soar like birds through the sky at horizontal speeds approaching 200 mph. The acrobatic flying event includes teams of three skydivers—two performers and a camera flyer—playing a thrilling game of aerial tag while gliding across the sky.

Repton's team earned their slots on the U.S. Wingsuit Flying Team by winning the

silver medal at the U.S. Parachute Association National Championships of Wingsuit Flying in August.

Repton, 42, has completed more than 1,100 skydives, including 800 in a wingsuit.

Interviews with Repton and aerial photos and video of his team in action are available upon request.

About USPA

Founded in 1946 and celebrating its 70th anniversary this year, the United States Parachute Association is a non-profit association dedicated to the promotion of safe skydiving nationwide, establishing strict safety standards, training policies and programs at more than 240 USPA-affiliated skydiving schools and centers throughout the United States. Each year, USPA's 39,000 members and hundreds of thousands of first-time jump students make more than 4 million jumps in the U.S. USPA represents skydivers before all levels of government, the public and



Montrose resident Simon Repton (far left) and his team, Wicked Wingsuits, won the silver medal in the acrobatic flying event. Courtesy photo.

the aviation industry and sanctions national skydiving competitions and records.

For more information on making a first jump or to find a skydiving center near you, visit www.uspa.org or call 800.371.USPA.

JOIN TRI-STATE MONTROSE DONATE & RIDE HOLIDAY TOY RUN DEC. 3!

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Donate & Ride Dec. 3! Join the Tri-State Montrose Employees' Holiday Toy Run! Bring a new, unwrapped gift for boys or girls, toddlers to teens, to the Tri-State Montrose Maintenance Center (2200 South Rio Grande) at 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 3. At 10 a.m. we ride to deliver toys in Olathe, Montrose and Delta. If the weather does not permit we will deliver the gifts by car.

CHERRY CREEK RADIO AND ALPINE BANK TO HOST SEASON OF GIVING TOY DRIVE

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Cherry Creek Radio and Alpine Bank are teaming up to support and sponsor the 2016 Toy Drive to benefit The non-profit PIC Place for Montrose and Delta counties.

Please consider donating unwrapped toys for girls and boys from age's newborn to 12 years of age.

Donations may be dropped off at the following locations:

Alpine Bank Locations in Montrose

Monday – Friday 7am-6pm

Saturday 9-noon

2770 Alpine Drive; Montrose, CO
(970) 240-0900

Monday – Friday 9am-6pm

Saturday 9-noon

1400 East Main Street; Montrose, CO
(970) 249-0400

Alpine Bank in Delta

Monday – Friday 9am-5pm

Saturday 9-noon

1660 Highway 92; Delta, CO

(970) 874-0922. Toy donations will be collected until Friday, Dec. 16 to allow for time to sort the gifts to families in need.



Delta Area Chamber of Commerce Presents

Parade of Lights

Saturday Nov. 26, 2016 ~ 6:00pm

Sponsored by:  **Volunteers
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Come Downtown For Small Business Saturday!

- ❖ Small Biz Saturday SALES all day
- ❖ Spend \$ in local merchants for chance to win some GREAT prizes!
 - ❖ Window Decorating Contest
 - ❖ Kids' Scavenger Hunt and Kids' Crafts
 - ❖ Pictures with Santa!
- ❖ Mac & Cheese Cook-off to benefit the Abraham Connection
 - ❖ Music and carolers starting at 4:00pm
 - ❖ Parade at 6:00pm
- ❖ Tree Lighting Ceremony to follow the parade



Artwork winner: Lella Young, Delta

Kick-off to Christmas Community Event

Sponsored by:



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2017 SAN JUAN RURAL PHILANTHROPY DAYS TO BE HELD IN MONTROSE

The San Juan Rural Philanthropy Days Conference is excited to announce that the event be held **June 14-16, 2017** in Montrose, Colorado. Over 300 nonprofit, government, and grantmaking institutions and individuals are anticipated to attend. The event will feature nonprofit development workshops and networking opportunities with foundations and government leaders for three days of capacity-building workshops and funder roundtables. Registration will begin on **April 10, 2017**. Nonprofits can register for just \$125 for the first month of registration. Stay tuned for more exciting details!

Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) is a statewide program that aims to promote excellence in Colorado's rural communities by providing nonprofit leaders access to resources they need to make a stronger impact. RPD has been working in partner-

ship with rural communities for 25 years. The program works to bring financial support and professional development opportunities to community, arts, and environmental organizations in the region, featuring Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties. This event, coordinated with Community Resource Center and Anschutz Family Foundation, allows grant seekers from the region to build partnerships with foundations based out of the Front Range. A Steering Committee of local nonprofit professionals, regional funders, and community leaders will meet regularly to coordinate and execute the event. This diverse group will identify quality program offerings, conduct outreach, and garner local support.

The RPD program provides a powerful opportunity for the state's most influential funders to meet one-on-one with local

and regional grantseekers. This results in stronger partnerships, increased access to resources, the development of long-term relationships, and the opportunity to build professional skills. Meeting the needs of our rural Colorado communities is what RPD is about.

To follow the progress of the San Juan RPD Steering Committee and learn more about upcoming conference details, please like us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/SJRPD](https://www.facebook.com/SJRPD). You can also check out conference information and learn more about SJ RPD at www.sanjuanrpd.org.

Rural Philanthropy Days is a statewide program of Community Resource Center (CRC). CRC is a Colorado nonprofit that creates opportunities, tools and strategies to develop nonprofits and community groups to strengthen Colorado.

OURAY COUNTY CARES ANGEL TREE INFORMATION

Special to Art & Sol

Nov. 14-Dec. 9-Ouray County Cares Angel trees are located at Ouray and Ridgway Schools, the Ridgway Library and both Ridgway and Ouray locations of Citizens State and Alpine Banks.

Choose an angel ornament to buy a gift to brighten a Ouray County resident's holi-

day and return your gift accompanied by a gift receipt before Dec. 9.

Dec. 15-Volunteer to organize and set up food items for Ouray County Cares holiday boxes.

Please arrive at Ouray County 4-H Event Center at 2 p.m.

Dec. 16-Volunteer to fill Ouray County

Cares gift and food boxes. Ouray County 4-H Event Center at 9 a.m.

Please telephone Jennifer Jossi 970-626-3693 or Anise Herod 303-810-8593 to volunteer. Lunch will be served.

If you can bring cookies or brownies, please call Vonnie Kuijvenhoven 970-209-3822.



Struggling to care for a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer's?

**Dementia Care – Validation Support Group
Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month
2:00 – 3:00 pm**

Bring your loved one and activities will be provided while we meet.

Our group is open to anyone wanting to learn more about dementia or Alzheimer's disease, caregivers taking care of a loved one at home, or friends and family members who want to lend extra help from time to time.

Valley Manor Care Center Memory Care Community

1401 South Cascade Ave., Montrose

Led by Brandi Garcia
Certified Dementia Care Validation Instructor

970-249-9634 or 970-275-6115

Email: bgarcia@voa.org

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

FAMILY GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING WORKSHOPS SET FOR DEC. 3 IN OURAY

Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Buckets of candy, oodles of frosting, sticky fingers, heaps of smiles, and a kajillion sugar-coated photo ops. That just about sums up Weehawken Creative Arts' annual gingerbread house decorating event, offered every December to families from all over the region in either Ouray or Ridgway. For more than 11 years, Weehawken has presented the "Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Workshop," and this fun, memorable family event serves more than 50 families and is a wonderful holiday tradition.

Families must reserve a house in advance (\$15 each) and will arrive to the Ouray School on Dec. 3rd to find a fully assembled house that just needs the magic of imagination and decoration. Once families check-in, they peruse bountiful tables of candy and goodies that can be added to the structures with oodles of frosting. As a team, families decorate their house and then get to take the house home for en-



joyment during the holiday season. Additional donations are gladly accepted and appreciated for this program as it runs well over \$1,000 to provide the service to participants.

Both of the 2016 workshops are set for Saturday, Dec. 3rd in Ouray: one will run from 10 am until Noon and a second session will run from 12:30 pm until 2:30 pm. Registrations are being accepted now and will be taken until the spaces are filled. Registrations are taken through Weehawken Creative Arts by phone at 970.318.0150 or online at www.weehawkenarts.org under the "special events" tab.



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INSTRUCTOR: ANN CHEEKS

"THE ARTFUL GIFT" SERIES FOR ADULTS IN MONTROSE



DEC 2: THE ARTFUL NOTECARD
DEC 9: THE ARTFUL MOSAIC
DEC 16: TINY TREASURES MINI PAINTING

A R T S W O R K S H O P S

DECEMBER 2, 9, AND/OR 16

FRIDAYS 10 AM - 2 PM AT PRECEDENCE ART ACADEMY

INFORMATION: WWW.WEEHAWKENARTS.ORG OR 970-318-0150

STUDENTS MAY REGISTER FOR A SINGLE CLASS, OR FOR THE ENTIRE 3-CLASS SERIES AT A DISCOUNTED RATE. **REGISTER FOR THREE-CLASS SERIES: \$105** (INCLUDES ALL SUPPLIES). OR, **REGISTER FOR A SINGLE CLASS: \$40/CLASS** (INCLUDES ALL SUPPLIES). MINIMUM 6 STUDENTS PRE-ENROLLED TO MAKE THE CLASS A "GO". MAX = 12.

DECEMBER 2ND: THE ARTFUL NOTECARD - USING MONOPRINTING/MONOTYPE TECHNIQUES, STUDENTS WILL MAKE THEIR OWN ONE-OF-A-KIND SEASONAL NOTECARD SETS.

DECEMBER 9TH: THE ARTFUL MOSAIC - THE TREASURE KEEPER - USING REAL GLASS AND MOSAIC TECHNIQUES, ARTIST ANN CHEEKS WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH A *COMPLETED MOSAIC PROJECT ON A WOODEN CIGAR BOX (NOTE: FINISHED PROJECT WILL NOT BE READY FOR PICK-UP UNTIL DECEMBER 16TH).

DECEMBER 16TH: TINY TREASURES ORIGINAL MINIATURE PAINTINGS - WORK WITH ACRYLIC PAINT AND YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS OF A LANDSCAPE OR OBJECT TO CREATE AT LEAST ONE MINIATURE PAINTING MASTERPIECE

REGISTER TO ENSURE THE CLASS HAPPENS: WWW.WEEHAWKENARTS.ORG

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970-318-0150

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

SHOP THE MONTROSE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Montrose Library Meeting Room. New Days, new Hours. Sunday Dec, 4 noon to 2:30 PM. Members only, you may join and shop, 2:30 PM until 5 PM everyone welcome. Monday Dec 5, 9 AM until 6 PM. Tuesday Dec 6, from 9 AM until 6 PM. Bag Sale Tuesday, Dec. 6, 4 – 6 PM, free reusable bag Fill for \$4. Questions call the Library 249-9659.

WEEHAWKEN TO OFFER 'DRAWING (AND PAINTING!) THE JOURNEY' A COLOR OR SKETCH JOURNAL CLASS WITH MEREDITH NEMIROV



Ridgway Artist Meredith Nemirov. Courtesy photo.

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-On Friday, Dec. 2nd, students of all levels are invited to explore the world of color or sketch journaling with Meredith Nemirov in Ridgway in "Drawing (and Painting!) the Journey." In this Weehawken Creative Arts class, students will surely add a new dimension to their next trip by really looking at their new environment with different eyes: keep a "color journal" or capture a scene a day!

The instructor, Meredith Nemirov, was born and raised in New York City and received a BFA from Parsons School of Design. She was a figurative painter and worked as a freelance illustrator. After Lawrence Alloway made a studio visit to jury her work into the inaugural show at The Queens Museum, she devoted herself to painting full time. Her work has been exhibited in one-person and group shows at museums around the country. In 1988,

Color or sketch journals are a fun way to keep a visual diary of your surroundings. Whether you're a habitual sketcher or just starting out, this class will teach you how to improve your observational sketching, indoors or outdoors, whether you're drawing still-lives, environments, or scenes.

The class covers sketching with different media, from a simple pen or pencil to using watercolors or paints on the go. Students will learn basic drawing (and painting) methods that will make it easy to create memories of your time away from home.

Meredith moved to Ridgway.

This change in environment brought a change of theme as she faced the mountains instead of the rush of humanity on the streets. She started painting the landscape and also focused on the aspen tree that she considers the figure in the landscape. She has taught classes based on this body of work for The Smithsonian Institute through The Pinhead Institute, Weehawken Creative Arts in Ridgway, CO, the AhHaa School for the Arts in Telluride, CO, and through an NEA grant in Montrose, CO.

Meredith was an Artist in Residence at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass, CO in 2008, and received a grant from the Vermont Studio Center for a residency in April 2010.

No experience is necessary to take this class and all supplies are included in the cost of the class. This class will be offered at Weehawken Ridgway (1075 Sherman Street, Ste 201 - the "Old Schoolhouse Building") from 10 am until 4 pm. The total cost of the class is \$82 and students should save their spot with Weehawken Creative Arts at www.weehawkenarts.org or by calling 970.318.0150. A minimum number of students must be met in advance in order to make the class a "go", so interested students should sign up at least a few days prior to the class. More information can be found at www.weehawkenarts.org.



Angel Boxes

*Let Your Light Shine On Others
This Christmas Season!*

*Help us fill food boxes for
those who are less fortunate*



**The Homestead at Montrose
will collect non-perishable food
items until Dec. 7, 2016**

**Staff will deliver the Angel Boxes
to needy families the week of
Dec. 12th**

Anyone is welcome to donate



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NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

OPENING NIGHT @ THE OPERA...LIKE NO OTHER NIGHT

There is a feel to Opening Night like no other night. The level of excitement and anticipation has been ratcheted up a notch or three. Attendees are wearing their very best and will often be seen in outfits that match the theme of the evening's performance. Conversations are a bit louder and the clink of champagne glasses rings just a bit more clear. Lobby conversations are more animated and everyone seems to be putting on their game face. People are networking, socializing, laughing, and being seen in a place where like-minded people gather. This same scenario plays out in opera houses all over the world and the common denominator is always the same. Opening Night.

Just such an occasion occurred on Nov. 5th when Giacomo Puccini's opera *La Fanciulla del West* (The Girl of the Golden West) opened the 2016-17 season for Opera Colorado. The Ellie Caulkins Opera House was bustling with a crowd anxious to hear and see the not-often-performed Puccini masterpiece. The house was sold out and the crowd was anxious to see an opera set in their own backyard. All of this was viewed from box seats, which for an opera lover are like having seats behind home plate. The entire auditorium was visible with a simple head turn over the shoulder and there was a bird's eye view straight into the orchestra pit. Looking closely, the bow markings and pencil scratching could be seen on the music in the first violin section.

The first act is set in a saloon in a mining town in Colorado. The costumes are that of the old west and you know you are seeing a different kind of opera when the performers on stage say things like "Central City," and "Wells Fargo" in the midst of Italian dialogue. Yes, an opera set in Colorado sung in Italian. It definitely makes one take a second look and a second listen. All of the elements you would expect to see in a western saloon are present. Rowdy miners having a drink, lanterns, a bartender, glasses of whiskey, a



Giacomo Puccini's opera *La Fanciulla del West*. Courtesy photo Opera Colorado.

poker game, and mismatched wooden chairs around small round tables, creating a general feeling of a small Colorado mining town. It is during this first act that we meet the main characters Minnie, Dick Johnson aka Ramerrez, Jack Rance, and Nick. The tough as nails friend of all the miners, the bad(?) guy, the Sheriff, and the Bartender at the Polka Saloon. A classic quartet of opera characters, but with different titles and different costumes. The first act introduces the story of love, mistaken/hidden identity, protecting our own, and the goal of revenge and retribution. The action of Act II is set in Minnie's mountain cabin on a snowy night. The set is minimal and consists of a cross section of the cabin with snow gently falling on both sides. Although sparse, the set portrays the intimacy of the cabin and as well as the cold snowy night on the other side of its walls. The action of being hunted down by the Sheriff plays side by side with the lament of love and devotion between the two main characters. A plot line such as this is very typical of a Puccini opera and fans want and expect nothing less. The fate of Dick Johnson, identified as the bandit that he truly has always been, is

determined by a best out of three-blackjack game between Minnie and the Sheriff.

Act III offers images of revenge and forgiveness as the audience is presented with a very operatic back and forth of will he die or will he not. This scenario is played out over and over again in the opera repertoire but although it is expected audiences never seem to tire of the oh so typical stereo line. Puccini moves the story along through thick and sweeping melodies from the orchestra and characters that the audience buys into and believes in completely. As with many operas, this one ends in one of two places, the heights of passion and joy or the depths of human despair. To find out where this one goes, the reader will need to do some listening and/or reading on their own.

The most unique part of this production was the use of digitally projected images on a backdrop on the stage. These images were not made up but were actual images from the Colorado high country. Snow, trees, mountains, and maps enhanced the storyline in a modern way that seamlessly tied an early 20th century opera flawlessly with the technology of the 21st century.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE!

2016 PARADE OF LIGHTS THEME ANNOUNCED "WINTER, LAND OF WONDER"

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) is now accepting applications for the 2016 Downtown Montrose Parade of Lights scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 3, starting at 5 pm, along Main Street between Stough and Rio Grande Avenues. This year's parade theme is, "Winter, Land of Wonder."

All 2016 City of Montrose annual community events have honored the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service. The 2016 NPS Centennial tie-in for all holiday festivities — including the theme of the Parade of Lights — is "Winter, Land of Wonder."

The theme focuses on land stewardship and the fundamental idea of protecting, conserving, and preserving our land, landscapes, and heritage.

"The traditional Parade of Lights illuminates Historic Main Street," said OBT Pro-

gram Coordinator Stacey Ryan. "It's a fun, annual event designed to bring holiday cheer to the Montrose community."

The event is sponsored by Cherry Creek Radio, AmeriGas, and Montrose Pediatric Associates, and is presented by the OBT, Montrose Police Department, Montrose County Sheriff's Posse, and Montrose Lions Club.

The 2016 grand marshals include a variety of public lands organizations that serve the community through land stewardship, preservation, restoration, and conservation: National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and other associations and organizations that provide community partnerships.

"We are privileged to help celebrate the NPS Centennial and the Black Canyon National Park that draws people internationally to Montrose," explained Assistant City

Manager and OBT Director Rob Joseph.

All area clubs, churches, organizations, schools, performance groups/teams, businesses, and individuals are encouraged to take part in this popular community event. Judged on use of lights, use of theme, originality, and overall appeal, winners will receive Montrose Bucks: first place - \$250, second place - \$150, and third place - \$100.

Registration is required, and entry forms are due on or before Thursday, December 3.

Parade rules, regulations, and entry forms are available by visiting CityofMontrose.org/holidays and clicking on the "register" link, by contacting the OBT at 107 S Cascade Ave, [970.240.1402](tel:970.240.1402), or info@VisitMontrose.com. For ongoing updates and logistics on the parade, follow [Facebook.com/MontrosePoliceDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/MontrosePoliceDepartment).

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 1st 1 - 7 PM

THE HOMESTEAD AT MONTROSE

1819 Pavilion Drive Montrose - 970-252-9359

NOTORIOUS CON ARTIST NABBED ONCE AGAIN IN ASPEN

Mirror Staff Report

ASPEN-In the end, it was an attentive, high country library patron who brought the latest chapter in the life of an incorrigible imposter to a close earlier this month. When lifelong confidence man and identity thief James Hogue was arrested and charged in Aspen on Nov. 10, it was because someone at the Aspen Library spotted Hogue after his picture was printed in the local newspaper, and called police. Aspen Police Officer Dan Davis then arrested Hogue after a brief conversation.

This superb bit of police work was actually the result of a community working together, Aspen Police Assistant Sgt. Walter Chi said Saturday.

"This was a combined effort," Chi said. "People called in after recognizing him, and the Ski Company helped us too. It really worked out well."

Though he himself was not at first aware of the extent of Hogue's infamy, Chi said that Aspen Police Investigator Jeff Fain has been researching Hogue's extensive history. "Apparently, this guy has his [own Wikipedia page](#)," Chi said.

Hogue, 57, is no stranger to Western Colorado, though his career as a con man has spanned the entire nation.

His escapades have been covered exhaustively by newspapers from coast to coast as well in a lengthy *New Yorker* article, and he was featured in a 2001 documentary entitled, "Con Man."

Aspen Times' Reporter Jason Auslander [told the story](#) of Hogue's most recent capture: "Police were alerted to the cabin on Shadow Mountain on Sept. 19, but when officers hiked up and knocked on the door, the man inside fled out a window and disappeared into the woods...on Tuesday, Skiko employees saw Hogue digging a hole 100 feet west of the dismantled shack that appeared to be the beginning of a new cabin. They confronted Hogue and found tools that had been stolen from Skiko maintenance and told him to leave.

"They later saw him loading duffel bags into a Nissan Xterra parked in a parking lot near the Skier's Chalet. The car had a ski patrol parking pass hanging from the rear-view window, which caused Skiko employees to call police. Fain showed up, saw

Hogue moving stuff on the mountain and over a loudspeaker on his car asked Hogue to come down and talk. Hogue, instead, disappeared."

Auslander summed up Hogue's colorful career this way: "*Time Magazine* named Hogue one of the country's 'top 10 imposters' for posing as a high school student in Palo Alto, California, when he was 26 and a college student on a track scholarship at Princeton when he was in his early 30s. He also was arrested for stealing \$50,000 worth of jewels from a Harvard museum in the early 1990s, and then served time in Colorado prison after pleading guilty to stealing items in the Telluride area."

Former *Denver Post* Reporter Nancy Lofholm wrote an in-depth piece about Hogue shortly after he vanished from Telluride in 2006, a place where he had acquired staggering amounts of stolen personal property, but seemed almost to fit in: "Hogue used his real name here rather than any of the five fictitious names he is known to have used in the past. He said he was from Kansas — true — and had attended the University of Wyoming — also true."

Lofholm reported that Hogue was actually a native of Wyandotte County, Kansas, but had shed his family and his middle-class upbringing by 1985.

When he was sentenced to a decade in prison in 2007 by former San Miguel County District Judge James Schum,

Lofholm reported, "Over the six years he lived in San Miguel County, Hogue carried out a crime spree...One victim was Frank Sebree, who has feared for his family's safety since he found more than \$33,000 worth of furniture and antiques missing from his four-story home."

Montrose Public Defender Harvey Palefsky, Hogue's attorney, was quoted in the *San Jose Mercury News* later that year. "It's very sad...It's a waste of a lot of potential," Palefsky said. "He was bright enough, and athletic enough, that if he had gone about it the right way, he could have gotten what he was seeking."

In 2001, *New Yorker* reporter David Samuels (who later authored a book on Hogue) interviewed Hogue after the imposter's admittance to Princeton under a



A booking photo from Hogue's Telluride years. Courtesy photo from the Denver Channel *Many Faces of James Hogue*.

stolen identity. "Somebody invented whatever name you got. And, up to a certain point in life, that's all you have. And then you start obtaining your own things. So I guess I see it more as an evolution within the self. And I think it occurs in everybody," Hogue told Samuels.

"No one in the admissions office ever saw the article in the *San Jose Mercury News* mentioning that a thief had been applying to Ivy League colleges under the pseudonym of Alexi Santana," wrote Samuels. Following an interview in the *Trenton Times* that shared his fabricated story, "James Hogue, petty thief, was now Alexi Santana, a self-educated ranch hand, a gifted runner, and easily the most interesting member of the Princeton Class of 1993."

Samuels, who covered Hogue's early years of entering races under the guise of a much younger identity, shared his own thoughts on the subject of his extensive interview: "What I discovered by the end of our interviews was how difficult it would always be to disentangle the facts of his life from the fabrications. Some of the stories were verifiable. Others were not.

"...The story of his life would have little, if anything, to do with whatever version of that story I might choose to write."

Meanwhile, Aspen Police are still sifting through information to find the truth about a man whose life was built almost entirely on fabrications.

"Apparently he was here for a few years," Assistant Sgt. Chi said. "It's an interesting case."

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

NUVISTA PARTNERS TO MAKE XMAS BRIGHTER FOR KIDS

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Several years ago Toys for Tots did an amazing job of collecting and distributing Christmas gifts to Montrose children. Since the program was discontinued in the area, the community has struggled to find a system to help grant the wishes of less fortunate children in Montrose and Olathe. NuVista Federal Credit Union and Proximity Space recognized this need and took action. "We already had a natural relationship with local elementary

schools through our Financial Literacy Program," said Chelsea Rosty, VP of marketing at NuVista, "so when we contacted them to see if they would partner with us on this endeavor, they were all in."

Employees at both NuVista and Proximity Space have been working behind the scenes to make this vision a reality. Select children at Northside and Johnson Elementary schools filled out wish tags with what they are hoping to receive this holiday season and the tags were collected by

the Credit Union. Both NuVista and Proximity Space have tags available in their lobbies for community members wishing to purchase a special gift for a child in need. Additionally, NuVista is offering a .25 percent discount on all new secured loans as an extra "thank you" to participants in this program. Tags are currently available at both locations. Suggested gift amount is \$30. Gifts should be purchased and returned unwrapped with the associated tag to either location Dec. 2.



LEARN THE ART OF THE ARTFUL GIFT @ PRECEDENCE ART ACADEMY

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-On Dec. 2, Weehawken Creative Arts will begin a new series with teaching artist, Ann Cheeks at Precedence Art Academy in Montrose. The series is called "The Artful Gift" and offers three separate classes for adults from 10 am until 2 pm each week, with a one-hour break for lunch. Students can register for a single class, or can register for the entire three-class series for a discounted rate. Classes will run on Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Register for three-class series for \$105 (includes all supplies). Or, register for a single class: \$40/class (includes all supplies). Each class must reach a minimum of six students registered in advance in order to "go," so pre-registration is highly encouraged. Interested students can find more information at Weehawken's website: www.weehawkenarts.org and can register online at weehawkenarts.org or by calling 970.318.0150.

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.
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- **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.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS: ARTS & CULTURE

WEEHAWKEN CREATIVE ARTS TO OFFER A NEW SESSION OF FENCING

Special to Art & Sol

OURAY-Did you and your friends sword-fight with sticks in the backyard, imitating the fights from Star Wars, the Princess Bride, Robin Hood? Of course you did. The modern sport of fencing differs from these movie duels, just as any martial art differs from stage combat, but the techniques are all the same. In fact, those movie duels were all choreographed by modern fencing masters.

The basic difference? Movie duels are slow. The audience has to be able to follow the action. Real swordplay is much faster, much more subtle. The goal is to hide your intention, to touch your opponents without their understanding how you got through their defenses. All the while, your opponents are scheming how to do the same to you. This trains the fencer for intense strategic concentration:

one nickname for the sport is "physical chess." It also trains strength and endurance: fencers have to be able to instantly close or widen their distance from an opponent, so their legs must be powerful engines. Finally, in the midst of this exertion, fencers learn to remain relaxed, precise, graceful, so that their hands can execute small, precise actions with the blade. It all happens faster than the eye can see: the tip of the fencing blade is the second-fastest object in Olympic sports... after the bullet. Faster than the arrow. Fencers learn to sense things their eyes can't see, make dozens of decisions within a breath.

John Kissingford, head coach of Weehawken's Ouray Swordplay group, has fenced for about 35 years. He studied with Maitre Michel Sebastiani, a French Olympian and US Olympic coach, for four years at Princeton University, where he was

varsity team captain. He has coached at Harvard University, Choate Rosemary Hall, Mesa State College, Denver Fencing Center, and various other clubs. An "A" rated foil fencer, John is presently ranked 2nd in the country in the Vet-40 division. His team, "Wildlife Fencing," was the 2015 national veteran foil champion and 2016 runner-up. He fences a little epee as well, and until recently was



ranked 10th among vet-40 epeeists. In his spare time, he teaches English at Ouray High School.

Kissingford will be heading-up a new session of fencing in Ouray on Nov. 30th and this session will run for nine sessions on Wednesdays until February 1st. Two classes are offered: "Introductory Fencing" (6-7 pm) and "Experienced Fencers" (6-8 pm). Classes will be held weekly at the Ouray Community Center.

In "Introductory Fencing," students will learn the rudiments of foil footwork, bladework and strategy, as well as the rules of the game. By week four, they will be able referee each other in bouts, and at the end of the session students will compete in a class tournament. Introductory Fencing is intended for ages 10 through adult and costs just \$80 for the nine sessions.

In "Experienced Fencers," students will build on what they have learned to become ever more skilled. Every class ends with free-fencing, either in foil or epee. Students may choose to become "Competitive" members of the USFA, and compete in tournaments in Denver and beyond. Experienced Fencing is intended for ages 10 through adult and costs just \$70 for the nine sessions.

Those interested in learning more about fencing should check-out www.ourayswordplay.com for more information about the sport. Or, to sign-up for this new session, students should head to www.weehawkenarts.org or call Weehawken at 970-318-0150.



Cherry Creek Radio and Alpine Bank are
Sponsoring The Pic Place 2016

Toy Drive

for Montrose and Delta Counties

Please donate toys for boys and girls
from newborn to 12 years of age (all
toys should be unwrapped)

Drop-off points

Alpine Bank locations - during business hours:
2770 Alpine Drive in Montrose
1400 East Main Street in Montrose
1660 Highway 92 in Delta

Happy New Merry Thanksmas

The toy and food drive will begin with this event, November 11 - 12
(drop off at the event itself), and will continue through December 16.

All toys must be donated by December 16 for sorting and delivery.
Distribution will occur at Alpine Bank, 2770 Alpine Drive,
on December 17 from 10am - noon.







NEW! FRIDAY AFTERNOON ART CLUB IN MONTROSE FOR YOUTH

AGES 2ND - 5TH GRADE WITH MISS ANN CHEEKS

at Precedence Music & Art Academy

Register for three-class series: \$70 (includes all supplies).

Or, register for a single class: \$28/class (includes all supplies)

Running weekly for 3 weeks on Fridays from 4 pm - 6 pm each week.

Minimum 6 students pre-enrolled to make the class "Go". Maximum, 12 students.



DECEMBER 2nd

December 2nd: The Artful Notecard - using monoprinting/monotype techniques, students will make their own one-of-a-kind seasonal notecard sets. Students will leave with at least 10-20 original handmade notecards!

DECEMBER 9th

December 9th: The Artful Mosaic Frame - using real glass mosaic techniques, students will create a mosaic design on a wooden frame that will perfectly embrace a favorite photo -- just in time for the holidays!



DECEMBER 16th

December 16th: Tiny Treasures Original Miniature Paintings - Work with acrylic paint and your favorite photos of a landscapes or objects to create at least one miniature painting masterpiece



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weehawkenarts.org
970-318-0150

REGISTER TO ENSURE THE CLASS HAPPENS: WWW.WEEHAWKENARTS.ORG

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business and Cultural Events

ONGOING-

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 by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado's regular monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m.

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.

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.

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.

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. Snowshadowgymnastics@yahoo.com.

MONTHLY-

Nov. 14-Dec. 9-Ouray County Cares Angel trees are located at Ouray and Ridgway Schools, the Ridgway Library and both Ridgway and Ouray locations of Citizens State and Alpine Banks. Choose an angel ornament to buy a gift to brighten a Ouray County resident's holiday and return your gift accompanied by a gift receipt before Dec. 9.

Nov. 21- Thanksgiving stories with Allen Beck, Montrose Pavilion Senior Center, Monday Nov. 21, 1p.m.

Nov. 21-Alpine Bank presents the film, "Almost Sunrise," at the Montrose Pavilion @ 6 p.m. \$10 suggested donation; benefit for Welcome Home Alliance for Veterans.

Nov. 21-The City of Montrose Office of Business and Tourism (OBT) wants to help you celebrate the holidays with some extra cash. Pick up an extra \$20 to spend in town when you buy \$100 in Montrose Bucks starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 21, at the Downtown Visitor Center — while supplies last. Payment by cash only. Limit \$200 purchase per person in \$100 increments. Must be present to purchase. Adults 18 and older are eligible to purchase. Bucks purchased during this promotion must be used by Dec. 31. Expired checks will not be re-issued. Montrose Bucks are not redeemable for cash. For more information and to order non-promotional Montrose Bucks year-round, visit CityofMontrose.org/Bucks.

Nov. 24-Montrose Community Dinners Thanksgiving meal Noon to 3 p.m. @ Friendship Hall.

Nov. 25-26-42nd Annual Basement Boutique Craft Show & Sale @ the Montrose Pavilion. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 4c p.m. Saturday.

Nov. 25-27-See the musical *Annie* at the Magic Circle Theatre, 420 South 12th Street, performances are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. Call 970-249-7838 for box office information.

Nov. 26-Garrett Estate Cellars is having an Open House on Saturday Nov. 26, from 11am- 4pm Music, food, specials and wine tasting. Questions and Details call Mitch at [970-901-5919](tel:970-901-5919).

Nov. 26-Delta Parade of Lights, 6 p.m. Downtown Delta.

Nov. 26-Montrose Parade of Lights, Downtown, 5 p.m.

Nov. 26-Ninth Annual Art Partners Chili Bowl Fundraiser, @ Lark & Sparrow Venue (511 East Main St.) 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dec. 1-Holiday Craft Fair at Homestead of Montrose, 1819 Pavilion Drive, 1 to 7 p.m.

Dec. 2-3-See the musical *Annie* at the Magic Circle Theatre, 420 South 12th Street, performances are 7:30 p.m. Call 970-249-7838 for box office information.

Dec. 2-Celebrate Noel Night in Ridgway! 5 to 9 p.m. Treats & Deals along the way, Light Parade around the Park @ 5 p.m.

Dec. 2-First Annual Holiday Reception, Cimarron Song Gallery, 901 East Main Street. 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Dec. 2-Cobble Creek 5th Annual Watercolor Show. Reception Friday 4pm -7 pm, Saturday December 3rd 10am -3pm. Upstairs at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse. 699 Cobble Drive. 249-5645 for more information.

Dec. 3-2016 Downtown Montrose Parade of Lights scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 3, starting at 5 pm, along Main Street between Stough and Rio Grande Avenues. This year's parade theme is, "Winter, Land of Wonder."

Dec. 3-Donate & Ride! Join the Tri-State Montrose Employees' Holiday Toy Run! Bring a new, unwrapped gift for boys or girls, toddlers to teens, to the Tri-State Montrose Maintenance Center (2200 South Rio Grande) at 9:30 a.m on Dec. 3. At 10 a.m. we ride to deliver toys in Olathe, Montrose and Delta. If the weather does not permit we will deliver the gifts by car.

Give Back Days

At Mi Mexico Mexican Restaurant

Come enjoy a delicious meal and we'll donate 20% *
of your total check to a local non-profit.

Every Wednesday...Every Month...All Day (11 am - 10 pm)

Over 200 entrees to choose from!

1st Wed: The Homestead at Montrose

2nd Wed: All Points Transit

3rd Wed: Montrose Rec Foundation

4th Wed: Valley Manor Care Center

5th Wed: Community Options Inc.

(Note: 5th Wed dates are: March 30, June 29, Aug 31, Nov 30, 2016)

After dining, attach the coupon to the bill
and deposit it in the box labeled
"Give Back Days." 20% of your total
bill will be donated to the
designated charity.

**SUPPORTING IS
NOW DELICIOUSLY
REWARDING.**



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Montrose, CO 81401
(970) 252-1000
(970) 252-1111 Fax

*Coupon must be present

Contact the Montrose Mirror:

970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com

www.montrosemirror.com



Shop Downtown Montrose this Holiday Season! Longtime local favorites include the Daily Bread Bakery, at left, while new offerings include the Vine Market & Bistro, opening today (pictured above.)

F A M E

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